

The Evolving World of Foreign Missions

The Historical Saga of a World Missions Vision
by the United Pentecostal Church International

by Daniel Scott

From the Apostolic Movement, the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World, the Assemblies of God, the Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ, the Pentecostal Ministerial Alliance, the Pentecostal Church Incorporated, and the Pentecostal Assemblies of Jesus Christ, emerges the United Pentecostal Church International to reach a lost world!

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The Foreign Missions Division: A Story of United Resolve

An acorn-to-oak documentary
A dream to a reality
and
A global vision realized by local commitment.

Author's Note: While I have tried to acquire accurate information and this manuscript has been edited for accuracy, the bulk of the material came from individual reports made by personnel on location at the time. Thus in no way can I or the Foreign Missions Division accept any liability or responsibility for the accuracy or completeness of any information provided herein. Sincerely, Daniel L. Scott

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❧ Why a History of Foreign Missions? ❧

The North American United Pentecostal Church was born amidst a mentality of Christian hope! The constituency grew as each congregation strove to establish a church in the next city, town, or community, and Sunday school children learned Bible stories and verses. It was difficult for people living in this spiritual affluence to relate to a spiritually impoverished foreign world.

North Americans live and function in a materialistic society; from childhood the normal mind-set is self-centeredness. However, once in the church, converts' values shift to seeking the kingdom first and accomplishing the Lord's mission to evangelize His world. The church's lifestyle is geared to making disciples wherever they can be found! Its mission is to reach every nation with the gospel. An international missions-conscious church must begin with dedicated local action—every constituent is an indispensable part of the mechanism that effectuates world evangelism. The church is Christ embodied to reconcile the world unto Himself.

Not long ago I was impacted with a desire to study the United Pentecostal Church's foreign missions history. To my knowledge there was no such record in a single volume. Then another thought dawned on me: I have known most of the major leaders of Oneness Pentecostal circles and feel honored to have shared friendship with them. Why could I not serve my generation by compiling the history and documenting the steps that brought the church to this hour?

Having served in missions for nearly four decades, I understand the tremendous sacrifices missionary families make. It is no easy task to break into a new culture, learn a new language, and change the course of established religion. Some missionaries lie in lonely graves on foreign soil. Children are born—and some die—while their parents toil to bring a nation to the knowledge of Jesus Christ. In some cases, the tremendous stresses incurred by the enormity of the task break their health and they return to the homeland emotionally distraught because they do not want to forsake the land of their calling.

I began collecting every document I could find about the foreign missions story, and as the shelves and cabinets overflowed, I realized that I could claim every general director of Foreign Missions and secretary of Foreign Missions as a personal friend, except for G. T. Haywood who died the year before I was born, and W. T. Witherspoon. The general superintendents such as Howard Goss, Arthur T. Morgan, Oliver Fauss, Stanley Chambers, Nathaniel Urshan, and now Kenneth Haney, each knew me personally, some of them while I was a young minister. I recall that while I was youth president of the East Central District (West Virginia), during the UPCI General Conference I frequented the hotel restaurant in the early morning hours. A. T. Morgan had the same habit, and one morning he invited me to sit with him. I felt like Saul of Tarsus sitting at the feet of Gamaliel. Those cherished moments became a daily pleasure until Brother Morgan was suddenly taken from us during the 1967 General Conference in Oklahoma City. In fact, I sat with him the morning of his death. I have several pictures of the Morgans with my wife and me during those wonderful hours we shared together.

I have known most of the missionaries who have served the United Pentecostal Church International, and many of them influenced me greatly. Missionaries such as Bill Drost, Verner Larsen, Lewis and Sallie Morley, Sam Baker, Robert Norris, and James and Martha Burton of South America, E. L. and Nona Freeman, Mack Carpenter, Pauline Gruse, and Else Lund of Africa, Anton and John Huba of Europe's Slovak countries, and countless others were my heroes. I have also known many missionaries from sister organizations. Perhaps these personal associations will lend credibility to this documentary.

I recall vividly my friendship with Wynn T. Stairs and Oscar Vouga, directors of those early years of UPC missionary history. Later I served under my former international youth president, T. F. Tenney, who became the general director of Foreign Missions, and after his resignation, the amazing Harry E. Scism, under whom I served as a missionary and as a regional director. Still later I served under Bruce

Howell, the present general director of Foreign Missions. I consider him a renowned missionary and an intimate friend.

For these reasons I not only have the pleasure but also the duty to document this tremendous history for the United Pentecostal Church International. Perhaps it will satisfy a craving to understand the results of sacrificial giving to missions. It is my pleasure to present to you what I consider one of the greatest stories of achievement, *The Evolving World of Foreign Missions*.

Daniel Scott Sr.
May 2008

❧ Introduction ❧

During the Global Council sessions in Paris, France, on September 8–10, 1998, former general director of Foreign Missions, T. F. Tenney, reviewed many milestones of the Foreign Missions Division. Citing the various personnel that had directed the church’s world missions efforts, he painted a word picture of the many years of United Pentecostal Church world evangelism. Many attendees were visibly moved as Director Tenney’s verbal brush strokes depicted the missionary story up to that present day.

So remarkable were the highlights of FMD history that several regional directors felt they should be documented. One cannot know where he is going unless he knows where he has been. Therefore, this volume provides a systematic record of those who pioneered our foreign missions efforts.

This documentary places the events God used to create the UPCI vehicle for world evangelism against the backdrop of the religious political scene. And although I cite some events in our United Pentecostal Church history to show how they influenced the work of missions outside of North America, UPCI history is not the main focus.

A foreign missions division is an integral part of an international church structure, both as its product and its function. The UPCI is and has been an effective conduit to convey the whole gospel to the whole world. Its success is embedded deeply in the soil of the past. Its evolving doctrine passed through the dark valley of traditionalism and emerged indisputably apostolic. Biblical truths were pitted against man-made tenets until the present-day apostolic church mirrored the apostolic message of the early church fathers.

The church is the body of Christ in the world. While I readily acknowledge that the body of Christ consists of more than the organization known as the United Pentecostal Church International, it is a significant part of that body. It participates in the church’s ministry of reconciling to Christ all people groups, cultures, languages, and nations. This principle is the express purpose of the UPCI.

A Definition of the Term ‘Foreign’

The word “foreign” is understood from one’s vantage point. To a North American, Madagascar is the end of the world; to a Malagasy, North America is the end of the world. Therefore, since the church is a universal body, it must be concluded that those cultures are considered foreign that are located outside the local boundaries of any people living anywhere in the world.

Modern technology, transportation, and communication have shrunk the globe. Every nation is uniquely connected and interdependent; therefore, the time has come for the church outside of North America to begin networking within the program of evangelization for the success of the church’s common cause. The UPCI must view itself and have others view it as a major courier of the gospel. The church must understand that today’s activity is the flipside of the apostolic coin. Not only must each nation that has received the gospel get involved in evangelizing the lost, but it must also shoulder the responsibility of administering the results. The examples of Peter’s and Paul’s ministries must continue to guide the church as it effectuates the work of reconciliation throughout the world.

The Missionary’s Legacy

Some may think that a foreign missionary is a person who daydreams about traveling to exotic lands. Or perhaps he cannot achieve a certain level of homeland ministry, so moving beyond the scrutiny of his peers seems attractive. Admittedly, there have been a few—a very few—missionaries who have dreamed those dreams or taken unfair advantage of FM financial support to accomplish what otherwise

eluded them. As a veteran missionary, I assure you that the foreign field is a dead-end street to any person who is not definitely called of God.

Your missionary families' strengths and talents were and are carefully matched with the needs of their particular field in order to achieve God's goals for that area. God calls the person, and no matter what price must be paid, obedience to that call becomes an obsession. Like Stephanas of old, they become addicted to the ministry. (See I Corinthians 16:15.) A missionary's life is one of continual challenge; rough and menacing mountain crags seem to constantly loom above him. But he keeps climbing.

As you read this documentary, you will experience vicariously astounding achievements, only to see them shattered by civil war, world war, governmental edict, or death. When a missionary leaves the field, many times broken in health, he entrusts the work to others and exits the stage with nothing but memories. The homeland needs to understand this facet of missionary ministry. While many pastors are concerned about long-term financial security, most missionaries spend the most productive years of their lives until they, like Paul, are spent. Then they bestow the benefits not to themselves, but to the kingdom. Young missionaries who follow in a pioneer missionary's footsteps owe a debt of gratitude for the benefits they inherit from those who sacrificed to provide the legacy.

Several twentieth-century events that reestablished the apostolic doctrine and reshaped the North American church also affected foreign missionaries and the church throughout the world. Missionaries traversed the same valleys of traditionalism and organizational affiliation.

The Pentecostal outpouring at Topeka, Kansas, revived the truth that speaking with tongues was the initial evidence of the infilling of the Holy Spirit. When that revival spread through the central states to explode in the Los Angeles Azusa Street Mission, it led to a return to baptism in the name of Jesus Christ as revealed during the momentous camp meeting at Arroyo Seco, California. Missionaries serving in foreign lands kept in step and made decisions that required severe sacrifices.

After the rebirth of Pentecost at Topeka, North American church leaders returned to the apostolic practice of baptizing believers in the name of Jesus Christ, reestablished the apostolic truth of the oneness of God, and formed God-ordained mergers that ultimately organized the church we know today as the United Pentecostal Church International.

During this time—the 1940s—career missionaries experienced tremendous upheavals and severe illnesses due to exposure, emotional fatigue, mental distress, persecution, and personal injury. Civil wars raged, trampling underfoot the labor of years. World War II erupted, and its destruction devastated numerous churches established by missionaries. Following the war Communism threatened, frustrating the reconstruction of those devastated works. Missionaries in China were persecuted so severely that they finally were forced to abandon their life's work, leaving the churches in the hands of national leaders. The work went underground and still flourishes in the midst of constant danger.

Centuries of civil war between the Jews and Arabs have affected the church in the Middle East until this present day. Many of the missionaries serving there left large congregations behind as they fled for their families' safety.

Despite these small beginnings and tremendous struggles, the UPCI missionary endeavor has grown steadily to encompass most of the world's nations. The compassionate arms of the UPCI encircle all those who have been reached by its missionary efforts. This includes every local church established anywhere in the world. Any congregation established by a UPCI missionary has the right to fellowship with the total international church family as long as that congregation preserves the doctrines taught by Jesus, established by the apostles, and propagated by the church. The future calls for even greater efforts to unite the minds and hearts of the global constituency in order to fulfill the mandate of world evangelization before the return of our Lord.

To the UPCI constituency, my wish is that this documentary will educate you about the tremendous success of the UPCI's foreign missionary program. To the reader, my intent is that the missionaries you meet on these pages will come alive to you and that you will value their contributions to world evangelism. If this is accomplished, I will consider it sufficient reward for my efforts.

❧ Chapter 1 ❧

Organizational Developments That Shaped World Missions

To better understand the foreign missions endeavors of the UPCI, one must revisit the emerging church in the early twentieth century. The early leaders of this organization challenged the doctrines of denominational tradition and hazarded their reputations to bring the church to a rebirth of the apostolic doctrine of the Book of Acts. This rending was painful but necessary. Since the foreign missions story is the theme of this documentary, recounting the organizational politics that rocked North America will reveal the turmoil suffered by the missionary family as it kept pace with the home front. In many cases, what God was doing in North America was wrought on the various mission fields through spiritual revelation to praying missionaries.

The Apostolic Movement

Shortly after the momentous prayer meeting at Bethel Bible College, revival fires engulfed the entire state of Kansas. The conflagration spread eastward to Missouri and southward to Texas, then, in 1906, it set Los Angeles on fire in a revival known as the Azusa Street Revival. This outstanding meeting became the flash point that attracted the attention of the world at the turn of the century and ignited powerful spiritual explosions that ultimately spread around the globe.

Men of prayer and spiritual anointing sorted out doctrinal issues, but it soon became apparent that a leadership standard was necessary to guide new believers into solid foundational truth. Several brethren formed a loosely knit fellowship.

E. N. Bell, one of the powerful leaders of the early movement, had been a Baptist pastor in Fort Worth, Texas. He visited the North Avenue Mission in Chicago, Illinois, pastored by William H. Durham. Exposed to the Pentecostal message, Brother Bell returned to his church to proclaim it. He figured largely in the immediate future of the Pentecostal movement. He became the first chairman of the fellowship of Pentecostal ministers known as the General Council of the Assemblies of God.¹

The Azusa Street Revival and the Holy Ghost outpouring was a major step forward, establishing that speaking with tongues was the initial evidence of Spirit baptism. Then Jesus Name baptism was revealed at the camp meeting at Arroyo Seco, California.

Spiritually sensitive leaders decided that some kind of control was needed to guide overzealous converts, although organizational restraints were not accepted until they were viewed as the lesser danger. A meeting in Orchard, Texas, initiated efforts to unite the men who began to emerge as the spiritual fathers of the twentieth-century apostolic church. These leaders banded together on April 14, 1906, to form “The Apostolic Faith Movement”² under the leadership of men such as Howard Goss, W. F. Carothers, and (at a later date) Arch P. Collins and Eudorus N. Bell. These men formed a strong Pentecostal nucleus in the southwestern states. Another leader was Daniel C. O. Opperman who conducted scores of six-week Bible schools in the Midwestern states. Glen A. Cook, another of the early Pentecostal pioneers, was instrumental in introducing the message to many of the fathers of modern church history, including G. T. Haywood, a man powerfully gifted in teaching the Scriptures.

¹ Frank Ewart, *The Phenomenon of Pentecost* (Hazelwood, MO: Word Aflame Press, 1975), 87.

² Public Relations Department, *In the Last Days: An Early History of the Assemblies of God* (Springfield, MO: Assemblies of God, 1962), 7.

Several movements emerged as sincere men endeavored to provide credibility and structure for the massive move of God sweeping throughout the world.

The Church of God

February 1911 brought new changes as some twenty ministers met for a three-day conference at Slocomb, Alabama, forming a group called the Church of God. (This group had no reference or connection to the organization with roots in Tennessee or Indiana.) They elected H. G. Roberts as chairman and J. W. Ledbetter as secretary. They ordained four men, licensed seven, and issued home missionary certificates to two women.³

The Church of God in Christ

Rapid spiritual growth created a melting pot that boiled over on every culture and language of North America. “Shortly after the initial meeting in 1911, the group changed its name to the Church of God in Christ, in agreement with leaders of the Colored church with the same name and testimony. That fall the young organization met in Dothan, Alabama. About this time a merger was effected between this group and the Apostolic Faith Movement. By the time the Church of God in Christ met in Meridian, Mississippi, in June, 1913, the process of merger seems to have been complete. . . . E. N. Bell, editor of *Apostolic Faith*, began publishing the *Word and Witness* at Malvern [Arkansas]. Later issues speak of the Church of God in Christ and gradually omit reference to the Apostolic Faith.”⁴ Although no official record has been found, several aspects of early Assemblies of God history point to the union. E. N. Bell, Howard Goss, A. P. Collins, and Daniel Opperman, all leaders in the Apostolic Faith Movement, signed ordination credentials issued in 1912. In the official ministerial list, the names of 352 members indicate that the Church of God in Christ had indeed been established.

The Assemblies of God

“With 1913 about to close . . . [there was a] call for a general council of Pentecostal ministers to convene in Hot Springs, Arkansas, in the spring of 1914,”⁵ which resulted in the formation of the Assemblies of God. Howard Goss, Daniel Opperman, and E. N. Bell seemed destined to be the apostolic fathers of the modern-day church. During the meeting 120 pastors and evangelists represented twenty states and several foreign countries.⁶ These men designed an organizational structure that accommodated rapidly emerging biblical truths.

On October 13, 1914, delegates signed the incorporation papers to legally form the Assemblies of God. Applicants had to satisfy only one criterion: the name of someone who could recommend them. By the close of the second council in November 1914, the ministerial list had grown to 522 from thirty-five states, Canada, and six foreign lands.

From the very beginning, it was apparent that the underlying purpose of the emerging church was to evangelize the world. God was creating the vehicle to carry the gospel to every nation; therefore, world missions became a major focus of the infant church. Missionaries were supported financially without regard to organizational affiliation, and their numbers multiplied. Funds generated from local churches were used to construct buildings and open new works. There was no formal method other than a Spirit-led burden to spread the gospel. As the newly Spirit-baptized body began to support the missionary family, missionaries from various groups wanted to join the new fellowship. In order to meet the increasing growth of missions, E. N. Bell wrote in the August 22, 1914, *Christian Evangel*: “We therefore urge upon

³ Ibid., 8.

⁴ Ibid., 8.

⁵ Ibid., 10.

⁶ Ibid., 4.

our readers the necessity of laying aside a portion for the missionaries each week. . . . We will gladly forward, free, any sum whether it be great or small.”⁷

In 1915, E. N. Bell, general chairman of the Assemblies of God, was praying in preparation for an evangelistic/teaching trip when God spoke to him about being baptized in the name of Jesus. “The conviction was so irresistible that he called for evangelist L. V. Roberts, a Oneness believer, to baptize him. He and Brother Rodgers were baptized, and others followed their lead. Brother Bell met with a withering storm of opposition from his brethren, but Brother Bell stood his ground and defended his new position so unanswerably that many people were in doubt as to where it would lead. His article in defense of his action was so forceful and convicting that it was published and republished.”⁸ It is a mystery why Brother Bell, after his unswerving witness for the name of Jesus, later changed his mind concerning this great truth.

For two years conference sessions had rung with spirited debates on the oneness of God and the formula for water baptism. Despite opposition from some of the leaders, the baptismal issue had become a formidable force; many of the recognized church leaders embraced the Jesus Name message and “were baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.”⁹ Too long to mention each by name, the list included personalities such as Ben Pemberton, Frank Ewart, Howard Goss, E. N. Bell, Daniel C. O. Opperman, G. T. Haywood, and Oliver Fauss. Of this list, Howard Goss, E. N. Bell, and Daniel Opperman had been the primary promoters and organizers of the Assemblies of God.

During the Third General Council of the Assemblies of God at Turner Hall in St. Louis on October 1–10, 1915, the council passed a resolution stating that the use of a baptismal formula would not be a test of fellowship. However, the Fourth General Council of the Assemblies of God on October 1–10, 1916, reversed this position and passed a resolution requiring “ministers to accept the doctrine of the Trinity and the baptismal formula ‘in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.’”

“Where shall we go from here?” asked 156 Oneness ministers who retired to the foyer to generate a response to the conference. While they were discussing what steps to take and which way to turn, the remaining attendees in the conference hall began singing the old hymn “Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty, blessed Trinity.” This act closed the door on the Oneness brethren, many of whom were the founders of the very organization that rejected them.

By adopting the statement of basic Trinitarian beliefs, this 1916 council forced the Oneness adherents out of the AOG. Consequently the list of ordained AOG ministers shrank from 585 to 429, and the missionary giving dwindled proportionately. The 156 Oneness ministers who were expelled that day testified, “It was not because of not believing in healing, holiness, the coming of the Lord, or the baptism of the Holy Spirit with the initial sign of speaking in tongues, but because of the exalting of the name of Jesus according to Scripture.”¹⁰

While E. N. Bell decided to stay with the AOG, Daniel Opperman and Howard A. Goss took a Oneness stance. These two men resigned from their offices because they would not give up their convictions. They were to play a large role in Oneness history.

So the chapter the Oneness brethren had not wished to write was begun. Their convictions left them no other choice than to leave friends and ministers with whom they had labored to form the AOG.¹¹

The conflicting message published by the 1916 AOG conference was that there was “one true God who has revealed himself as the eternally self-existent ‘I am,’ the Creator of heaven and earth and Redeemer of mankind. He has further revealed Himself as embodying the principles of relationship and association as Father, Son, and Holy Ghost (Deuteronomy 6:4; Isaiah 43:10, 11; Matthew 28:19; Luke

⁷ E. N. Bell quoted in *In the Last Days: An Early History of the Assemblies of God*, 17.

⁸ Frank Ewart, *The Phenomenon of Pentecost* (Hazelwood, MO: Word Aflame Press, 1975), 103.

⁹ J. L. Hall, “The New Issue,” *Pentecostal Herald* (February 1995): 14.

¹⁰ Oliver Fauss, *Buy the Truth and Sell It Not* (Hazelwood, MO: Word Aflame Press, 1985), 34, quoted in Fred Foster, *Their Story: 20th Century Pentecostals* (Hazelwood: Word Aflame Press, 1981), 117.

¹¹ Fred Foster, *Their Story: 20th Century Pentecostals* (Hazelwood: Word Aflame Press, 1981), 18.

3:22).”¹² The issue was clouded by the explanation that, while the terms “trinity” and “persons” of the Godhead were not found in Scripture, they harmonized with Scripture when defining the doctrine of Christ. The statement of fundamental truth alleged, “We therefore may speak with propriety of the Lord our God, who is One Lord, as a trinity, or as one Being of three persons, and still be absolutely scriptural.”¹³

The council’s statement about water baptism was just as vague: “The ordinance of baptism by immersion is commanded in the Scriptures. All who repent and believe on Christ as Savior and Lord are to be baptized.”¹⁴ However, the floor debate left no doubt that Oneness believers were to be ostracized. There was no mention of Peter’s declaration on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2), the baptismal formula administered during the Samaritan revival (Acts 8), the baptism of Cornelius and his house (Acts 10), or the baptism of the Ephesian disciples (Acts 19). These omissions were ominous.

The AOG had stepped to a higher level as a Spirit-filled body, but stopped short of accepting apostolic doctrine. They could not lay aside long-standing traditions; they ignored the Spirit’s powerful nudges toward a return to apostolic truth. The AOG continued along the well-traveled Trinitarian path, while the Oneness leaders chose the divergent path of biblical, apostolic truth.

With each step Oneness believers took toward an apostolic doctrinal position, missionaries had to accept or refuse the issues decided on conference floors. These doctrinal stances placed tremendous pressure on missionaries because they depended on the financial support to continue their life’s work. Any breach in fellowship was taken seriously and prayerfully.

Pentecostal Assemblies of the World and the Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ

E. N. Bell re-embraced Trinitarian doctrine, but others chose apostolic truth. Organizational efforts produced fellowship groups such as the General Assembly of Apostolic Assemblies, which lasted only through 1918. The General Assembly of Apostolic Assemblies merged with the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World, which began as a fellowship in 1906 and was chartered in 1918. In 1919, with the addition of the General Assembly ministers, the new PAW was formed.

The issue of water baptism began to affect the way the North American church viewed the work of missions around the world. Local North American churches had been supporting the missionary family without regard to their affiliation or doctrine. However, as in North America, a great number of missionaries embraced Oneness doctrine.

One distressing aspect of church history was the many disparaging statements made about Oneness brethren. For example, the name “Pentecostal Assemblies of the World” was intended to indicate a global spiritual body with the goal of world evangelism. However, many statements from AOG pulpits about Oneness brethren twisted the phrase “of the world” to mean worldly in character.

PAW brethren considered Hispanics as “white.” In 1925 G. T. Haywood urged the Spanish brethren to escape the prevailing tensions by forming their own organization.¹⁵ After several convocations, they formed a Spanish Oneness organization, the Apostolic Assemblies of the Faith in Christ Jesus. Antonio Nava, one of the first of the Oneness believers to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ, was the recognized head of the group, though a charter legally establishing the organization did not come into effect until 1929.¹⁶

Also in 1925, three additional organizations were formed. W. H. Whittington and Ben Pemberton formed the Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ, while ministers aligned with Howard Goss formed the Pentecostal Ministerial Alliance. A Texas group formed Emmanuel’s Church in Jesus Christ.

¹² Public Relations Department, *In the Last Days: An Early History of the Assemblies of God* (Springfield, MO: Assemblies of God, 1962), 28.

¹³ Ibid., 28.

¹⁴ Ibid., 28.

¹⁵ For further explanation of the Spanish withdrawal from the PAW, see page 16.

¹⁶ Abraham Ruiz, “The History of the Apostolic Assemblies of the Faith in Christ Jesus” (MS, n.d.), 8.

By 1927, while the Apostolic Assemblies of the Faith in Christ Jesus struggled to secure legality for their Spanish-language organization, two of the recently formed organizations merged. In October 1927, the Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ and Emmanuel's Church in Jesus Christ became the Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ, a move that was consummated during the next General Convention in October 1928.

The Pentecostal Ministerial Alliance

In 1945, the following statement appeared in the Pentecostal Church Incorporated manual: "In the year 1924, in Chicago, a group united themselves into a body first called the Pentecostal Ministerial Alliance, which name was later changed to the Pentecostal Church Incorporated. The purpose was to preach the gospel of Christ Jesus; to publish and distribute religious literature; to establish new churches; to send forth missionaries, to perform any other duties connected with religious work, and to help in any way possible to meet the needs of local churches. To this end we pledge our prayers, our faith, our life and love, our earthly means of support, and our time, in the fear of God and for His glory alone."¹⁷ This best explains the organization's purpose. Included in this manual was a ministerial directory in which the names of many of the founding fathers of the UPCI appear.

District superintendents' names so well remembered appear in the ministerial list, such as N. J. Bibbs, Harry Branding, Odell Cagle, W. M. Greer, James R. Outlaw, Paul R. Price, G. S. Rody, Jack Scott, D. J. Whitten, M. J. Wolf, C. Haskell Yadon and Charlie Yadon, and many others. General officials such as Arthur T. Morgan, who followed Howard Goss as the general superintendent, and Oscar Vouga are also listed, as well as great leaders who blazed the pioneer trails for us, such as Clyde Haney, Arthur Clanton, Earl Toole, David Gray, George Glass, Chester and Mack Abbott, T. Richard Reed, Murray Burr, and future missionaries too numerous to list.

The Pentecostal Church Incorporated

In 1932, the Pentecostal Ministerial Alliance changed its name to The Pentecostal Church Incorporated and became a major organization of the Oneness movement until September 25, 1945, when it merged with the Pentecostal Assemblies of Jesus Christ in St. Louis, Missouri. This merger formed the United Pentecostal Church. The movement's central purpose was world evangelism. The ministerial constituency had grown from a small beginning to 1,838 licensed ministers and approximately nine hundred churches.

In many cases, foreign missionaries were supported by the joint efforts of the United Pentecostal Church and the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World. Sometimes, in order for a missionary to be more adequately supported, one Oneness organization transferred a missionary's ministerial license to another organization. This was true in the case of Pauline Gruse of Liberia, Africa.¹⁸

In 1942, Robert Hancock, foreign missions director of the Church of Jesus Christ, approved Sister Gruse for a three-year term to Liberia. During her missionary term, she became acquainted with UPCI missionaries, Otis and Rosette Petty. The three missionaries combined their efforts. After her term, Pauline returned to the United States to find that the Church of Jesus Christ had de-emphasized its missionary activity.¹⁹ Brother Hancock advised her to apply for a license with the UPCI if she wished to continue serving in Liberia. She met Brother Stairs and the UPCI Foreign Missions Board in DeRidder, Louisiana. She later said, "The thing I remember best about this meeting is that E. L. and Nona Freeman, outgoing missionaries to South Africa, met the Board at this same time also."²⁰

¹⁷ Ministerial Manual, *Pentecostal Church, Incorporated* (St. Louis, MO: Pentecostal Publishing House, 1945), 11.

¹⁸ Charles E. Clanton, *I Surrender All* (Moore, OK: Heartland Press, 1998), 183.

¹⁹ *Ibid.*, 182.

²⁰ *Ibid.*, 183.

The Pentecostal Assemblies of the World

The formation of the PAW played an indispensable part in the political events that led to the formation of the UPCI. Due to incomplete records, the PAW's inception is uncertain, but early leaders attest that the organization was formed in 1906. However, it did not obtain a legal charter until 1918.

Apostolic Faith congregations had opened in the Los Angeles area, and others were cropping up in cities across the United States. This prompted the need for an organized effort to administrate the spiritual potential that had been ignited at Azusa.

This milieu of varying ideas, personal differences, doctrinal debates, and conflicting fundamentals underlined the need for organization, bringing the PAW into existence in 1906 in Los Angeles, California. The late Bishop G. T. Haywood confirms this in the *Voice in the Wilderness* in 1921: "It [the PAW] was started in 1906 in Los Angeles, California."²¹

After this initial organizing action, the 1919 minutes of the PAW briefly record the events for the years 1907–1917: "On March 25, 1912, the General Assembly met in Los Angeles, California . . . and elected J. J. Frazee as General Superintendent, and John Mautz as Secretary.

. . . On January 29, 1917 the [PAW] met in Portland, Oregon, in General Assembly. J. J. Frazee called meeting to order. . . . The object of the meeting was the perpetuating of the Pentecostal and Missionary spirit. . . . The following elders were present: J. J. Frazee, General Superintendent; Elsworth Davidson, Secretary pro tem; George R. Farrow; Honrose Smith; B. F. Michaels; William Owens; H. R. Britton; R. S. Seercie; C. F. Crooks; R. Fields; and J. O. Church."²² From 1913 to 1916 the PAW held annual meetings in Indianapolis, Indiana.

The above facts show that the PAW existed as early as 1906 and was never a part of the organizational changes that involved the AOG. In 1921, Bishop Haywood, writing to defend his ministry, stated that "(1) he had not given up the 'new issue' [baptism in Jesus' name and the Oneness doctrine]; (2) that he had returned to the Council of the Assemblies of God, [saying], '[I have] never been connected with the Assemblies of God as a movement since its organization at Hot Springs, Arkansas, in 1914 but [have] carried P. A. of W. credentials since 1911. It would be impossible to 'go back' to a place you have never been. The Pentecostal Assemblies of the World is older than the Assemblies of God as a body by eight (8) years."²³

In late 1914, the PAW was a small group confined mostly to the West Coast, with headquarters in Portland, Oregon.²⁴ It was characterized by a fellowship that transcended all racial, social, and economic barriers.

The Apostolic Assemblies of the Faith in Christ Jesus (Spanish)

Because the UPCI in later years financially supported missionaries in Central America through the Apostolic Church of Mexico, and because of the agreements that were signed between the early church fathers of the twentieth century, the history of this Spanish organization is also important to this documentary.

While the emerging church in North America was a focal point to the English-speaking population, there was tremendous spiritual activity among the Spanish culture. Many migrant workers experienced Holy Ghost baptism in California.

Luís Lopez, a member of a church in Otay, California, was baptized in the name of Jesus Christ in 1909. Juan Navarro Martinez followed him in 1912. Brother Navarro witnessed to Francisco Llorente.

²¹ G. T. Haywood quoted in Hilda Reeder, *History of the Foreign Missionary Department of the PAW* (Indianapolis: Foreign Missions, 1950), 78.

²² Hilda Reeder, *History of the Foreign Missionary Department of the PAW* (Indianapolis: Foreign Missions, 1950), 10.

²³ Ibid., 78.

²⁴ Fred Foster, *Their Story*, 124.

Thus, Latin leaders emerged to direct the evangelization of those of the Spanish culture. The mantle of Spanish leadership settled upon Brother Llorente. As the early leaders of the Oneness Spanish brethren began to organize, affiliation with an organization seemed essential. They decided to join the PAW.

By 1914, Marcial de la Cruz was baptized in the name of Jesus Christ and joined forces with Brothers Llorente and Navarro, forming a very effective evangelistic trio. Their preaching impacted San Diego, Riverside, San Bernardino, and finally Los Angeles, where churches were established.

On February 25, 1917, the PAW issued a ministerial license to Marcial de la Cruz, signed by G. T. Haywood and E. W. Doak. In September 28, 1919, they issued a ministerial license to Antonio Nava, also signed by G. T. Haywood.²⁵

In a personal interview with the author in May 1988, Antonio Castañeda Nava revealed information pertinent to the development of the Spanish Oneness organization. He said that 1916 was pivotal because he met Marcial de la Cruz, who won him to the Lord while Antonio was working as a seasonal harvester. An Anglo preacher, Brother Brookhart, baptized Antonio in Jesus' name.²⁶

The import of this record is that these Spanish North American brethren were never a part of the Trinitarian movement; from the beginning they espoused the Oneness concept and baptism in the name of Jesus Christ. They were licensed members of the PAW. They worked faithfully within the framework of the organization until 1925, when the officials of the PAW and the Latin constituency both recognized the need for a change in administration.

Because of racial prejudice in the South, almost all PAW conferences were held in the North. This facilitated the mixing of color and culture in the conference but made it economically difficult for the Latin brethren from the Southwest to attend. This impeded fellowship for the Latin brethren. They could not understand the racial strife that separated the brethren of like precious faith. It became apparent to the leaders that a separation would benefit all involved. After consulting with G. T. Haywood, the Spanish withdrew from the PAW, but not because of trouble or rebellion. No one questioned their motives, nor was any effort put forth to forestall the action; everyone clearly understood that the reason behind their action was to enhance Latin evangelism.

The Spanish component held a convention in San Bernardino, California, on December 1–5, 1925. Twenty-seven ministers represented three states, and the name Apostolic Assemblies of the World was temporarily adopted.

In 1929, the 5th annual conference initiated proceedings to register a charter. Antonio Nava was elected as presiding bishop, a position he would hold until 1950. The official name for the organization was the Apostolic Assembly of the Faith in Christ Jesus.

In 1930, further steps were taken to advance the Latin church. Brother Nava stated, "The 15th day of March, 1930, the incorporation of the church was presented to the secretary of the state of California to be made official. The name 'Apostolic Assemblies of the Faith in Christ Jesus' (La Asamblea Apostolica de la Fe en Cristo Jesús) was registered. Therefore, the 6th annual convention will go down in history as the most important year in our formation. All the ministers were satisfied that the work was that of the Holy Ghost."²⁷

The Apostolic Assemblies of the Faith in Christ Jesus, along with the Apostolic Church of Mexico (Iglesia Apostolica de Mexico), evangelized in Mexico and Central America. Several ministers in the various Central American countries embraced Oneness doctrine and became affiliated with the Spanish organizations.

In December 1946, a year after the merger that formed the UPCI, representatives of the UPCI visited the 17th annual convention of the Apostolic Assemblies of the Faith in Christ Jesus. Howard A. Goss, UPCI general superintendent, "was received amidst great spiritual rejoicing by their Spanish

²⁵ Hilda Reeder, *History of the Foreign Missionary Department of the PAW*, 51–52.

²⁶ Antonio Nava (former presiding bishop of the Apostolic Assemblies of the Faith in Christ Jesus), in discussion with the author, San Diego, California, May 1988.

²⁷ Ibid.

speaking brothers.”²⁸ Brother Goss had attended the convention of the Apostolic Church of Mexico in Torreon, Mexico, in October of that year and proposed an agreement to work in harmony as sister organizations. Such an agreement already existed between the Apostolic Church of Mexico and the Apostolic Assemblies of the Faith in Christ Jesus, so all three organizations decided to work together.

On October 26, 1947, the delegates of the Spanish organizations working on both sides of the border attended the UPCI General Conference in Dallas, Texas. The pact was joyfully received and signed by Antonio Castañeda Nava, Arturo Y. Hermosillo, Epifanio M. Cota, Daniel Grijalva, and Daniel Morales as representatives of the Apostolic Assemblies of the Faith in Christ Jesus, and Felipe Rivas, José Ortega, Maclovio Gaxiola, and Manuel Gaxiola for the Apostolic Church of Mexico. Howard A. Goss and Stanley Chambers signed on behalf of the UPCI. It was called the *Alianza de la Amistad y Fraternidad* (Alliance of Friendship and Brotherhood).²⁹ Two of the main stipulations were to effectively evangelize North America by utilizing the language and culture of each participating organization in their immediate surrounding and to join forces to extend the apostolic message to the entire world. Since the UPCI was already deeply involved in foreign missionary activity, it would strengthen the position of the other two organizations. Representatives of each organization attended the general conferences of the others and were recognized as dignitaries.

Through the Alliance of Friendship and Brotherhood, the Mexican brethren focused primarily on Central America, and the UPCI focused on areas of the world where missions efforts had adjusted to the actions of the North American church.³⁰

Another effect on the church was the emerging issue of foreign immigration. North Americans spoke 340 languages. By implication, a myriad of cultures was within close reach of the North American church. In 1977, the UPCI Home Missions Division asked Lewis and Sallie Morley, retired missionaries from Colombia, South America, to reach the minority language groups of the United States and Canada. Though severely incapacitated physically, Lewis Morley began this ministry. By this time, Daniel and Joretta Scott had returned to North America from the mission field because of Brother Scott’s serious illness. In 1978 Brother Morley, with the approval of the Home Missions Division, recruited the Scotts to assist him. In 1981, Daniel Scott was appointed as coordinator of Spanish Evangelism, and in 1986, with the number of Spanish constituents exploding, he was appointed to serve as a full-time field representative of the Home Missions Division to the Spanish culture. This position was expanded in 1991 to include all language groups and cultures. Today this Home Missions program still has tremendous continual growth. To better identify its purpose, the name was changed to Multicultural Ministries. Donald Hanscom, former missionary to Pakistan, now directs this evangelistic effort.

The Pentecostal Assemblies of Jesus Christ

November 18, 1931, brought yet another merger as the church stepped closer to a united Oneness thrust throughout the world. The Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ joined forces with the PAW to form the Pentecostal Assemblies of Jesus Christ. Newly emerging leaders who became widely known among Oneness Pentecostal circles were W. T. Witherspoon, Oliver Fauss, Andrew Urshan, L. R. Ooton, Frank E. Curts, and S. N. Hancock. Two continuing factors were the apostolic doctrine and financial support of foreign missionaries. The missionary board consisted of W. T. Witherspoon, Andrew Urshan, and Hilda Reeder.³¹

However, some who felt that the merger was not the better move kept the PAW charter alive, and it continues to be a strong organization faithful to the Oneness doctrine, baptizing in the name of Jesus Christ, and propagating the gospel to the world.

²⁸ “History of the Apostolic Assembly of the Faith in Christ Jesus” (MS, n.d.), 10.

²⁹ “Apostolic Church of the Faith in Christ Jesus,” *Pentecostal Herald* (January 1948): 7.

³⁰ *Ibid.*, 7.

³¹ “Official Listing,” *Pentecostal Outlook* (April 1932): 4.

Chapter 2

The Early Years of Foreign Missions

As stated in the previous chapter, the settling of doctrinal issues caused the church to more faithfully mirror the New Testament church. Once the issues were resolved, the framework of Oneness organizational structures emerged. Innovative men led the movement. They quickly established a principle of world evangelism in each fellowship circle, and the foreign missions arm of the church became a reality. The PAW was the first organization that facilitated the Oneness missionary program.

While evangelizing North America seemed to be the primary objective in the beginning, the Oneness movement soon began to focus on foreign missions, understanding that the great commission included the whole world. As the Oneness world adjusted and reorganized, it supported many missionaries, but those who rejected the revelation of water baptism in the name of Jesus Christ were eliminated from the list. The names of those who adhered to apostolic doctrine appeared on multiple disbursement lists, as long as the objectives of world missions were being achieved for the Jesus Name message. It is admirable that organizational affiliation was not the main qualifying principle.

The Pentecostal Assemblies of the World

PAW churches began supporting missionaries who had served as early as 1896. At this time, Pearl Julia Graham, a young single lady, traveled to Liberia, Africa, with her mother and sister. Concerned for their people, the three decided to become independent missionaries. Around 1912, Aaron James Holmes, who was associated with the PAW, went to Liberia and met and married Pearl. They co-founded the Zoradee Pentecostal Mission. In later years Pearl Holmes was endearingly called “Mother Holmes.” (See chapter 5 for the story of these long-term missionaries.) Also around 1912, John G. Lake went to South Africa, Frank and Lillian Denny to Hong Kong, and H. L. Lawler to China. Records beginning in 1913 show that Hilda Reeder, G. T. Haywood’s secretary in the PAW foreign missions office, filed communications with those serving on the mission field. The missionary roster looked something like this:

1913: Brother and Sister C. W. Doney, Egypt; Fred and Anna Richards, South Africa; Miss C. B. Herron, India; Estelle Bernauer and Yoshio Tanimoto, Japan; Brother and Sister A. B. Schvoneich, Nicaragua, Central America; and H. E. and Faith Randall, Egypt.

1914: Ernest R. Bass and George M. Kelley, South China; Robert F. Cook, South India; W. D. Grier, Ceylon; Lucy M. Leatherman and R. S. McBride, Argentina; N. O. Gunstad, Chile; B. S. Moore, Japan; and Estelle Lake, South Africa.

1915: L. M. Anglin, George Hensen, and Adolph Hiencke, China; L. Hofer and Flora A. Halland, South China; Dorothy McCarty and Samuel Morar, India; Kenneth E. M. Spooner, South Africa; and P. R. Rushin, the Philippine Islands.

1916: Olive E. Maw, South China.

1920: Robert F. Cook, Margaret Clark, and N. John Joseph, Travancore, South India.

1921: Mae Iry, Brother and Sister Robert Sonnenberg, North China; and Brother and Sister Levi Bishop Sly and daughter, Ruth, Ecuador.³²

³² For more information on Levi Bishop Sly, see page 24 and Appendix.

1922: Clyde T. Miller and his son, Cleophas, Kisumu, Kenya, East Africa.³³ Brother Lloyd D. Brown and family, Nairobi, Kenya, East Africa.

1925: William B. Gregor and A. O. Moore, Bombay, India. Brother Moore was later elected to the position of chairman of the Foreign Missions Board.³⁴

Hilda Reeder, in *History of the Foreign Missionary Department of the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World*, provides a fairly thorough record of many early missionaries. She observed that G. T. Haywood was missionary-minded far beyond the average. His vision embraced the wide world. Haywood wrote in the *Voice in the Wilderness*: “Let us stand together and push the battle to the gate in order that the Gospel of the kingdom might be preached in all the world for a witness. Then shall come the end.”³⁵

In the 1920 *Voice in the Wilderness*, the list of missionaries on the field is as follows: Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Ramsey, Alma Hult, Elizabeth Stieglitz, Adolph Mingard, B. Bernsten, and Brother and Sister Heidal in North China; Carl and Mabel Hensley, Mr. and Mrs. John B. Norton, Anna Kob, Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Storey, Phoebe Holmes, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Phillips, Brother Nicholas Yest and family, Mrs. Addell Harrison, Albert Bateson, Mrs. Olden Bottomly, W. H. Burnside, Georgia Cound, Mrs. M. Booker, Brother L. M. Johnson, Alice Kugler, and Carry Anderson in South China; Mr. and Mrs. N. O. Gunstad in Chile, South America; A. Silverstein in Bulgaria; Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Randall in Cairo, Egypt; Mr. D. D. Georges in Salouia, Greece; H. C. Weaver and family, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Johns, Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Johns in Hawaii; Mrs. D. L. McCarty, Margaret Clark, Robert Cook, and N. John Joseph in India; Leonard W. Coote and wife in Japan; James M. Early in Liberia, W. Africa; George Moore in South Africa; Arthur Watson and Nina A. Stapleton in Jamaica; Louise Dickson and Mrs. Willard S. Biddle and son in Palestine; and Harry Condrajian in Turkey.³⁶

Liberia

James Early and Brother and Sister Samuel Grimes were among the first missionaries to go out under direct appointment by the PAW. Very little is known about Brother Early, but a personal letter to the office indicated that he was deep in the interior of Liberia, West Africa. Brother and Sister Samuel Grimes left for Liberia on January 10, 1920, and arrived there the latter part of February.

Brother and Sister Eugene Cheatham and their two sons, Eugene and Henry, left for Liberia in 1923 to take the place of Brother and Sister Grimes. Mrs. Elizabeth Porter went with them. Shortly after arriving in Monrovia, Sister Porter became ill with a fever and died after a two-week illness. Brother Cheatham initiated the construction of the missionary home that Brother Grimes had planned, but before it could be completed, Sister Cheatham’s poor health made it necessary for them to return to the States in November 1925. Brother and Sister Pekro Gray labored in Liberia from 1926 to 1927.

J. R. Ledbetter and his wife went to Liberia in 1913. Both had the Holy Spirit at that time. They were baptized in Jesus’ name by Samuel Grimes in 1922 and became affiliated with the PAW. He completed the missionary home that Brother Cheatham had begun. Soon after being baptized in Jesus’ name, the Ledbetters came home on furlough. After their furlough, they returned to Africa and continued there six more years. During their next furlough, Elder Ledbetter’s health began to fail, and in May 1931 he died. About a year after her husband died, Sister Ledbetter returned to Liberia alone but was unable to stay. She left the mission station under the supervision of Cordelia Tucker. Sister Baskins came a little later, but the date of her arrival is unrecorded.

When Sister Baskins left Liberia and went to England, Sarah E. Barclay, wife of ex-President Barclay of Liberia, took the oversight of the work. Mrs. Barclay built a church with her own money and

³³ After Clyde Miller’s son, Cleophas, died in Kenya, Miller went back to the States for a second furlough and did not return to the field.

³⁴ Hilda Reeder, *History of the Foreign Missionary Department of the PAW*, 8.

³⁵ G. T. Haywood quoted in Hilda Reeder, 14.

³⁶ Hilda Reeder, 23–24.

deeded it to the PAW for the use of those who lived in Monrovia. She kept things going with the aid of Mahonga Bennett and Gladys E. Poole until Ellen Moore reached Liberia in the spring of 1946.

China

In the early years, more missionaries seemed to have been called to China than to any other foreign field. It would be difficult to describe the work of all the early missionaries to China, so this information, while not at all complete, will be confined to those best known to the church in recent years.

Alfred Garr was one of the earliest missionaries to take a Spirit-filled message to the foreign field. He received the Holy Ghost at the Azusa Street Mission. He first went to India, setting the work on a solid Pentecostal foundation. Later, he went to China and supervised the work in Hong Kong.³⁷ However, like several of the missionaries of that time, when the Oneness message came to the front, he rejected it, causing a painful separation from many fellow ministers.

One of the earliest ambassadors in China was Alice Kugler, a single missionary. She worked in southern China, not far from Canton. While on furlough she married Daniel K. Sheets, who was affiliated with the PCI. They returned to China under appointment by the PCI.

Elizabeth Stieglitz went to North China in 1910. Her station was located in Kwohsien, Shansi Province. At the time she was working as an independent missionary. The PAW paid her fare home when she had to be evacuated from China after some thirty years there. She was the only foreigner in Kwohsien when the Japanese took the town. During the tumultuous war conflict, the British consul urged her to leave, but she refused. Her mission station filled with refugees as people sought safety. God renewed her strength and gave her courage. The American consul of China wrote George B. Studd, PAW foreign missions secretary, to recommend that great honor be awarded Elizabeth Stieglitz. She returned to China after the close of World War II but could get only as far as Hong Kong. She had to return home because of serious illness.

One record shows that Carl M. and Mabel Hensley went to South China in 1915, but other information indicates they had already served there for some time. The discrepancy may have been caused by the fact that they had served under a Trinitarian fellowship but received the Holy Ghost during Frank Ewart and Glen A. Cook's revival at 1915 Main Street, Los Angeles, California. The Hensleys returned to Lui Shui with the Oneness message. Frank Ewart wrote that "Carl Marvin Hensley and his wife received the baptism of the Holy Ghost in this meeting. The story of his heroism for the name of Jesus Christ in China is well known. . . . He was so eager to get back to his beloved Chinese that before the war ended and the high seas were clear of enemy ships and submarines, he secured a way across."³⁸ The context shows that the Hensleys' conversion happened in the Main Street tent meeting where Oneness brethren rebaptized a number of missionaries and Pentecostal ministers in Jesus' name. Ewart mentions a number of the missionaries in the PAW listing by name, which underlines the fact that the Jesus Name message was being received on the field.

Frank Ewart's periodical *Meat in Due Season* was sent to many mission fields, where it revolutionized thinking and brought revelation. Ewart wrote:

The message swept through China, Japan, and India, and the missionaries were baptized in the name of Jesus and then preached the message and baptized their converts. In North China this message through 'Meat in Due Season' challenged the missionaries, and most of them accepted it. In Tu Tung Fu, Shansi, North China, Missionary Ramsey accepted the message, and one of the mightiest revivals in modern times swept through the land. Six hundred Chinese were convicted, repented, and were baptized in Jesus' name, most of them receiving the gift of the Holy Ghost with speaking with tongues while still in the water. Missionaries came from all over North China to see the wondrous sight. Missionary Leonard Coote

³⁷ Frank Ewart, *The Phenomenon of Pentecost* (Hazelwood, MO: Word Aflame Press, 1947), 178–79.

³⁸ *Ibid.*, 100.

accepted the message and God gave them hundreds of souls. In Egypt, Africa, and South America, revivals also broke out in confirmation of the message.³⁹

Mae Iry was another outstanding missionary in North China. Her mission station was at Taiyoh in the Shansi Province. She and her daughter and son-in-law, Brother and Sister Robert Sonnenberg, went to China in 1921. They were all with the PAW. After several years the Sonnenbergs returned to the United States but Mae remained in China until the Japanese invasion forced her to leave. During the Sino-Japanese war, she sheltered, fed, and preached to hundreds of refugees who came to her mission station for protection. Since she was an American citizen, they were safer with her than in their own homes. Food was scarce, and financial support was often months arriving on the field because of war and censorship. Mae displayed cheerfulness, courage, and determination to do God's bidding in spite of seemingly insurmountable circumstances.

When Mae was forced to leave the Shansi Province, she still refused to leave China. When the Japanese entered the city, they sent her to Assembly Camp, a concentration camp in Weih sien, China. She lived in extreme difficulties from 1941 to 1944. The Foreign Missions Board received no word about her until January 1944 when the State Department informed them of her whereabouts. Released in 1945 and severely broken in health, she still refused to go home, embracing a dream to get back to her mission station and her children in the gospel. To her deep disappointment, she was never permitted to return. She remained in Peking doing what she could until ill health forced her to return to the United States in March 1947.

Elder and Sister F. R. Wheeler and their son, David, went to Canton, South China, early in 1939. At that time, the Japanese occupied that part of China. In his booklet "Answering God's Call," Brother Wheeler wrote:

We had to get permission from the Japanese to enter Canton, and also to bring some food in with us from Hong Kong. As we applied for our permits to enter, we prayed that the Lord would soften the hearts of the Japanese, and the authorities readily gave us permission to enter the city. There were no foreigners anywhere near the district where we felt led to open up a work. In fact there were only a few in the city at all.⁴⁰

After America entered World War II, the Wheelers' situation became acute. Food was scarce, and the poor quality of their rations made Sister Wheeler desperately ill. They were often in danger and witnessed the daily torture of helpless Chinese citizens. In the spring of 1942, they learned that their names were among those to be exchanged for Japanese prisoners. They returned to the United States in August 1942. In 1946, the Wheelers returned to Canton, but war conditions forced them to return home in 1949.

Henry McCune and his family served in Hong Kong. He too was forced to return to the United States as a result of the war in China. In 1947, they prepared to return, but the conditions were not favorable; communists were rapidly taking control of China. In 1948 the McCunes made it to Canton, but excitement was short-lived because the next year, after the city fell to the communists, all foreigners were evacuated from Canton. The McCunes did not return to the States but went instead to British-controlled Hong Kong. His reports reflect that he was determined to remain in the area to maintain his work.

Japan

Few Oneness Pentecostal missionaries seem to have been called to Japan until later years. There is a record of O. F. McAllister who served in Tokyo.

³⁹ Ibid., 102.

⁴⁰ F. R. Wheeler, "Answering God's Call," quoted in Hilda Reeder, *History of the Foreign Missionary Department*, 39.

May Heath sailed to Japan in 1902. There she later received in the mail a tract telling about the outpouring of the Holy Ghost in the Azusa Street revival. The tract created a desire in her heart for her own Pentecostal experience, which she received in a church in Pomona, California. She married Frank Gray January 4, 1910.

In 1914, Frank and May Gray went to Japan. May had the Holy Ghost, but Frank did not until 1920. When they went to Japan, neither one was aware of water baptism in Jesus' name, but Frank discovered this truth while searching the Scriptures. He was convinced it was important to baptize their converts in Jesus' name but wanted to be the first partaker. He said, "If it's the truth, I'd better walk in it." He found another missionary who admitted that he too saw this truth and agreed to baptize him.⁴¹

May was known as the "Mother of Pentecost" in Japan. She spoke Japanese more fluently than Frank and was therefore perhaps the better public speaker and preacher. Frank was a great Bible student and had a very productive teaching ministry.

The Grays came in contact with a successful businessman, Leonard Coote, and taught him the Word of the Lord. Because of May's ailing health, they turned the work over to Coote in March 1919 and returned to the States. May's physical problem was leakage of the heart and an enlarged heart.

David Gray, son of Frank and May Heath Gray, later became recognized as one of the UPCI's leading Bible teachers. Kenneth Haney, a grandson, was elected in 2002 as the general superintendent of the United Pentecostal Church International.

In 1935, the Grays returned to Nara, where they had labored many years. They were forced to leave Japan because of the war and sailed for America in July 1940.

Leonard W. Coote and his family went to Sugamo, Machi, and later to Osaka. He gave up his position with Lever Brothers in the States to serve as a missionary. His letters indicate a successful work. He organized a Bible school, working faithfully with the PAW until 1932. During the Sino-Japanese War, Coote brought his family to the United States to establish a church and Bible school in San Antonio, Texas. When Japan became safe, he returned there under appointment by the UPCI. The September 1950 *Pentecostal Herald* reports that "L. W. Coote is a member of the United Pentecostal Church and is our official representative with the Military Government in Japan."⁴²

In 1927, Elder and Mrs. R. A. Fleming of Missoula, Montana, went to Suginamiku, Tokyo, Japan. Both of the Flemings were commissioned officers in the Salvation Army. Sister Fleming received the Holy Ghost in 1919 and Brother Fleming in 1920. Both were ordained in the PAW, but they paid for their own passage. Once on location they taught English, both in the classroom and by private tutoring, taking advantage of these opportunities to preach Christ to their Japanese students. They remained on location until September 1934. In February 1936, they returned to Japan and stayed until May 1938. They returned home because of unsettled conditions. Brother Fleming died in the summer of 1944.

Paul H. Box refers to an observation by General Douglas MacArthur after World War II lauding the tremendous influence missionaries exerted on the Japanese, implying that if a more concerted missionary effort had been made, it might have averted the war.

General Douglas MacArthur was recently asked what message he would like to send to the American churches, and his reply was: "Tell them that the Christian Church has never met an opportunity in five hundred years as it is now meeting in Japan. Where they have sent one missionary, now let them send a hundred. And let them lay plans big enough for this task. Japan cannot have a democracy without Christianity. The door will be open for another ten years." What a challenge Douglas MacArthur has given to us. May God help us all to do our part.⁴³

⁴¹ Mary Wallace, *Profiles of Pentecostal Missionaries* (Hazelwood, MO: Word Aflame Press, 1986), 97.

⁴² Paul H. Box, "Leonard Coote, Our Official Representative in Japan," *Pentecostal Herald* (September 1950): 9.

⁴³ Paul H. Box, "Signs of the Times," *Pentecostal Herald* (January 1950): 4.

India

The PAW published a report that Dorothy L. McCarty was the first Jesus Name missionary to work in India, going there in 1909 to establish the Bharosa Ghar Mission Station in the Bhagalpur, Gorakhpur District. The mission then opened five outstations, an orphanage, and a day school. Among the first Indian Christian helpers to assist Sister McCarty were Samuel Morar and his wife. They were married at Bharosa Ghar, and a son, James Morar, was born. Brother Morar gradually assumed the business of the mission station, and Sister Morar supervised the affairs of the orphanage in order to free Sister McCarty to attend to spiritual matters.

In 1937, Sister McCarty expressed that she never expected to return to the United States to live but expected to die and be buried in India among the people she loved. After her furlough in 1938, Sister McCarty returned to India accompanied by Clara Peterson, who proved to be a blessing to the mission, but Clara Peterson's ministry was short-lived; she died within a year.

For several years before her death, Sister McCarty was feeble and almost blind. She died on July 18, 1947, at age eighty-three. The history of missionary activity in India has always been linked with Dorothy L. McCarty. She was an outstanding missionary for thirty-six years, held in high esteem, and supported by all the Oneness groups.

The 1920 PAW list of missionaries who served in India includes Robert F. Cook, Margaret Clark, and N. John Joseph, the latter in Travancore, South India. The 1924–25 list includes William B. McGregor and A. Otis Moore, both in Bombay, and A. Jacobs, an Indian, in Tinnevely District, South India.

South America

Levi Bishop Sly and his wife, Ida, did missionary work in South America. One of his letters reports that he went to Ambato, Ecuador, in 1913, remaining there until 1919. After a few months in the United States, they returned to Ambato in January 1921. They left Ecuador in 1925 to care for Levi's aging mother. They were still in the United States in 1931, serving as pastors in Illinois. In 1932, the record again places them in South America, but this time in Montevideo, Uruguay. They held open-air meetings, distributed tracts, and did personal evangelism. Brother Sly died in Montevideo on September 2, 1934. Ida Sly and Ruth, their adopted daughter, remained there until March 1935.

An excerpt from a letter dated September 8, 1933, from Montevideo gives insight about their work:

Our Sunday school is getting along fine. Many who are coming in now have never heard the sweet story of the cross before. I wish you could see their eager faces light up as we explain it to them. We are all well at present writing. Ruth is fighting her way through with her shorthand, and is a drawing card to our little ones; her sax playing is a wonder to them.⁴⁴

After the time of Brother Sly's death there are two extant communications from Ida Sly, one written in May 1937:

In six months after my husband departed this life, I was forced to leave because of ill health. . . . They [the established church] are going on with God and are being faithful. . . . God has sent a man and his wife from Poland, baptized with the Holy Ghost and having a wonderful testimony. . . . John [Drozdz] was filled with the Holy Ghost and called to the work. We were led of the Spirit, after fasting and praying and ministering to the Lord, to lay our hands on him, according to Acts 13:2-3. . . .

He is proving true and faithful, and is crying to God to send a missionary. . . . I read so much news from the different foreign countries, and I thank God that His truth is there, but South America is neglected, and needs spiritual help.⁴⁵

⁴⁴ Hilda Reeder, *History of the Foreign Missionary Department of the PAW*, 56.

⁴⁵ Ida Sly, "Our Gospel to South America," *Pentecostal Outlook* (May 1937): 16.

The next mention of her was a personal appeal to Wynn Stairs, who served as the foreign missions director for the PAJC. Pauline Tolstad, in *An Open Door*, relates Ida Sly's urgent and tearful appeal for a missionary to Uruguay. The result was Phil and Pauline Tolstad in 1952.⁴⁶

Letters from Brother and Sister N. O. Gunstad date as far back as 1914. The Gunstads were Norwegian. Their labor centered in Ancud, Chile, until 1923 when they moved to Pitrufguin, Chile. They express appreciation for all three of the principal Pentecostal papers: *Voice in the Wilderness*, *Meat in Due Season*, and *The Blessed Truth*, and for Brother Haywood's literature. They had accepted the revelation of Jesus' name and were affiliated with the PAW.

Their letter dated December 28, 1924, says, "Here in Pitrufguin the Lord has opened some doors of service." They reported home Bible studies and regular services in a Methodist Church, which was without a pastor; it was an evangelistic opportunity. The Gunstads were able to use the church without cost. In November 1925, Sister Gunstad died in Chile after a short illness. After her death, Brother Gunstad returned to Norway.

Foreign missions correspondence records that Miss Lucy Leatherman of Greencastle, Indiana, was a missionary in Buenos Aires, Argentina, from 1917 to 1920. Her letter dated May 29, 1919 states, "We have three missions in Ramos Mepia, one in Haedo and in Buenos Aires. Some are baptized in His spirit in Haedo and Ramos, suburbs of Buenos Aires. The Floresta mission in Buenos Aires has just opened the last few months. The Italians have a fine work in Villa De Vota more than sixty baptized into the Holy Ghost signs following. Praise the Lord! Our work and the Villa De Vota are the only Pentecostal works in Argentina." In 1920, Lucy left Argentina and went to Egypt.

In the *Voice in the Wilderness* Bishop Haywood wrote, "In London, England last June, we met missionaries from South America who state that many hundreds of the natives of South America are being filled with the Holy Ghost and speaking with other tongues as the spirit gives utterance."⁴⁷

Europe/Middle East

Peter Roth and his family labored in Bern, Switzerland, from 1922 to the close of 1925. Hilda Reeder quotes from his report:

We had the Lord's Supper Friday night with our little band of saints and we had a good time with the Lord. We are doing all we can for Jesus, but people are so awful self-righteous. It is a very hard battle. It's like Jesus said, a people is least accepted in his or her own country. So many in this country will not take the way of the cross, and so many refuse the water baptism.⁴⁸

Another missionary on the 1920 roster was D. D. Georges, listed as working in Salouia, Greece. In 1922, Brother A. Silverstein was in Bulgaria, and an Italian sister, Sebastiana Menza, served in Italy.

In December 1919, Harry Condrajian, his wife, Katie, and seven children sailed from New York for Constantinople, Turkey. They arrived on January 2, 1920. Brother Condrajian was an Armenian from Constantinople. World War I had just ended, and Turkey was under English military rule. Constantinople was full of refugees who had fled the Armenian massacres. The living conditions were nearly intolerable.

Jerusalem and the surrounding territory were called Palestine until 1948, when Israel was declared a state. Louise Dickson was a popular missionary serving in that area. Her earliest letter is dated October 30, 1920. She, Sister Willard Biddle and her small son, Homer, and a Canadian woman from Montreal prepared to go to Palestine that fall. Sister Dickson was a Canadian, and according to certain letters, had served in Palestine before this date.

⁴⁶ Pauline Mason Tolstad, *An Open Door* (Eureka Springs, AR: Ozark Mountain Press, 1990), 12.

⁴⁷ Bishop G. T. Haywood, "South America," *Voice in the Wilderness*, vol. 3, no. 3, 1927, quoted in Hilda Reeder, *History of the Foreign Missions Department of the PAW*, 59.

⁴⁸ Peter Roth quoted in Hilda Reeder, 60.

Sister Dickson's work seemed mostly to consist of personal contacts, distributing tracts, and holding village meetings. Hilda Reeder refers to her letter dated May 1927: "We get many disappointments in this land. It is in such terrible darkness and idolatry, full of churches and convents, priests and nuns; but thank God in many places there are signs of the Light breaking forth."⁴⁹ Dickson's letter states, "We are just about to start for Joppa to meet the party from Indianapolis. We are hoping to have a precious time together." G. T. Haywood and other officials traveling with him stayed in Sister Dickson's home while they were in Palestine.

Timothy David Urshan

The second son of David Urshan, Timothy David Urshan, served as a missionary to several countries. In *Survivor*, Benjamin Urshan recounts Timothy's story. His father sent him to the United States to check on the news that his brother, Andrew, had become involved with some fanatical religious group in Chicago that "spoke with tongues." Instead of "rescuing" Andrew, Timothy received the Holy Ghost.⁵⁰

Timothy and Andrew returned to Iran and were there during the march to Urmia. They then went to Russia and lived in the province of Georgia during 1915–16. The Russian people received the Jesus Name message, and approximately 180 people were baptized and received the Holy Ghost. In 1916, riots broke out to overthrow the czarist monarchy. The revolution became unbearable, so Andrew, along with two of his brothers and some cousins, left for the United States. Timothy and Benjamin, along with their father, returned to Iran.

In 1918, the Kurds came from the mountains to plunder and kill. One hundred and fifty thousand people fled the massacre in sweltering 110– to 115–degree temperatures. In the spring of 1919, Timothy arriving in Hamadan, where he received a letter from Andrew that changed his life forever:

Some of the brethren in the United States and I are sending money to help you with your missionary work. We feel it would be in God's will for you to go to Palestine. . . . You can continue your work there.⁵¹

There was no church organization to underwrite Timothy's ministry, so he found a job as a postal inspector for the British government. He could read, write, and speak seven languages: English, Arabic, Hebrew, Aramaic, Turkish, Farsi, and Pakistani. Timothy established several missions: a headquarters in Jerusalem, and branch missions in Bethlehem, Bert-jala (the twin city of Bethlehem), and Jaffa (ancient Joppa). With several works developing, the family went to church four times on Sunday. They had church in Jerusalem and then walked to Bethlehem.⁵²

Timothy later affiliated with the PAW and received missionary support. In 1948, Timothy came to the United States to attend a conference. While away from Palestine, his home was seized and he was not allowed to return. Nonetheless, he continued deputizing to raise funds for missionary work in Palestine until he became ill. He died in Evanston, Illinois, in 1954, as a result of a ruptured ulcer.

Many missionaries seem to dread the rigors of deputation, but the truth of the matter is that there is no better way for a local congregation to catch the vision of a "called missionary" and truly become a partner in missions. While travel schedules are exhausting, the dedicated missionary accepts this responsibility with the grace of an ambassador. In view of this, a missionary should temper his feelings with those of men such as Timothy David Urshan. He wrote several interesting treatises from Palestine, such as one written to Brother Doak:

⁴⁹ Louise Dickson quoted in Hilda Reeder, 66.

⁵⁰ Benjamin Urshan, *Survivor: The Life Story of Benjamin Urshan* (Hazelwood: Word Aflame Press, 1990), 188.

⁵¹ Ibid., 60.

⁵² Ibid., 189.

God has dealt wonderfully with us since the last war in Persia, and [the] terrible massacre of 1918. . . . We had to leave everything and flee. . . . The Lord miraculously delivered us, because, as I believe, He had a work for us to finish.

We missed my father, mother and the three children, as well as thirteen saints. Some of the latter died as captives; others, because of the awful trouble and distress which they suffered in their flight from city to city, and from country to country.

During our stay in Mesopotamia, at a camp for refugees, the Lord wonderfully healed us of serious illness and troubles, and kept us safely.

After I left the refugee camp . . . the Lord led us to come again to Baghdad, in Mesopotamia. Here we very soon met two Armenians . . . and we together enjoyed a nice meeting, after which they desired to be immersed in the name of Jesus Christ. We went to the Tigris River, and there baptized them. I have since heard from them that they are at Baghdad holding services.

Although I desired to remain at Baghdad, I felt a very urgent call to go to Jerusalem, so I obeyed the Lord and soon arrived at Bombay, India. . . . I suffered much from intense heat and heavy rains. . . . We were much blest to see our beloved Sister M. Clark, and enjoyed some excellent services.

After being compelled to depart from Bombay, India, we came to our faithful Sisters Dickson and Biddle in Jerusalem, Palestine. Since coming here, God has placed a great burden of prayer upon our hearts in behalf of this city of Jerusalem and country of Palestine. . . . At present we are not permitted to preach on the streets.⁵³

Some of Timothy Urshan's letters described scenes that could have been written 60–75 years later. One of his letters informs the headquarters staff that Jews were entering Jerusalem at an unprecedented rate:

I have rented a house for the work of God and for our living quarters. The rent is high now because the Jews are searching for every house they can locate. I have been forced to pay one year's rental in advance, in order to secure the house.

The hand of God is with the Jews in Jerusalem and Palestine. We hear the Arabs are very angry to know that the Jews may obtain the land of Palestine, and that they may secure the present site of the Mosque of Omar for their Temple area. Soon troubles may arise in this land between the nationalities. The Jews are building many new edifices, and every year it shall be so. All things here portend the soon coming of our King, Jesus.⁵⁴

Hawaii

Among the missionaries listed in a 1922 *Voice in the Wilderness* are H. C Weaver and family and Clarence Johns and wife who were working in Hawaii. Both were ordained ministers of the PAW.

C. D. Stiles also served in Hawaii. In a 1932 letter he wrote, "I am a missionary on the island of Hawaii, standing for Jesus Only message. We have a few saints here in Hilo who are baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ according to Acts 2:38 and also received the baptism of the Holy Ghost. I have been preaching this gospel in Hilo for over six years. I came here June 6, 1925. I have had much blessing and victory and much suffering and sorrow. We have a little mission hall. I have to pay \$25.00 a month rent on it. We have meetings every night but Friday and Monday. There are many churches here, but we are the only Jesus Only people on the island."

Jamaica

Several missionaries served in Jamaica and were supported by the PAW. Arthur Watson went to Jamaica in February 1919 and baptized a number of converts, believing they would receive the Holy

⁵³ Timothy D. Urshan, "Letter from Palestine," *Pentecostal Outlook* (January 1923): 22.

⁵⁴ Ibid.

Spirit when they came out of the water.⁵⁵ Lorna Halls, in her history of Jamaica, states that “Arthur Watson held revival services in Kingston, preaching the Apostolic message of baptism in Jesus name and the infilling with the Holy Ghost. . . . Elder Watson remained in Jamaica until his death in 1925.”⁵⁶

Nina A. Stapleton is also listed as having served as a missionary prior to Arthur Watson.⁵⁷

D. H. Georges went to Jamaica in the spring of 1925 and worked with Arthur Watson. Brother Georges’s letters reported progress with people being baptized in Jesus’ name and filled with the Holy Ghost. His last letter in the PAW file is dated March 20, 1929. He died in Jamaica.

In the early days, there was no organized financial support. “Every [local] mission or assembly sent out its own funds to whom it wished. The assembly was very missionary minded and took up large sums for its size each month. Elder Haywood was in correspondence with a number of foreign missionaries all over the world. I [Hilda Reeder] answered these letters and sent offerings under his direction. . . . After the P.A.W. was organized a Foreign Missionary Department was formed. The individual churches were urged to send their offerings to the Department. . . . I was his helper . . . and also George W. Cable.”⁵⁸

Charter for the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World

What with the cherished charter for the PAW finally legalized in 1918, an official letterhead in 1920 lists George B. Studd as the secretary of foreign missions and T. C. Davis as treasurer. Serving with them were D. C. O. Opperman and A. C. Baker. After one two-year term, Studd resigned, and according to the minute book, B. L. Fitzpatrick served a term (1921–1923) as the secretary-treasurer of foreign missions. The consensus seems to be that a board of elders with William Mulford as the chairman was appointed to oversee the missionary work. The members of the committee were D. C. O. Opperman, J. A. Rayl, J. A. Frush, L. R. Orton, A. F. Varnell, D. Chenault, and C. F. Longstreet. Their duties were “promoting the work of home and foreign missionaries; taking pledges and benevolence for foreign work; encourag[ing] cooperation and Christian fellowship.”⁵⁹

Although a record of the official resolution has not been found, the minutes show that 30 percent of the foreign missions funds were used to defray the expenses of the foreign missions office. The minutes from October 24, 1923, show that the practice was later abolished:

Resolved that we abolish the former plan of deducting thirty percent of the missionary money to take care of the executive officers and that all the money received for the foreign missionaries be sent directly to the field minus the mere expenses of mailing, exchange, etc. . . . Resolved that the secretary-treasurer of foreign missions be a member of the Executive Board and a member of the Missionary Board.⁶⁰

Andrew David Urshan

Andrew David Urshan was elected secretary-treasurer during the 1923 conference in St. Louis, Missouri. “Andrew David Urshan was born in 1884 in Persia, yet by race [he was] not Persian but Assyrian. Originally the Assyrians were from Mesopotamia, now known as Iraq.”⁶¹ Andrew Urshan emigrated from Persia to the United States when he was eighteen. He received the Holy Ghost in Chicago and became affiliated with the AOG. For his revivals he was often advertised as the “unique Persian evangelist.” Sometime between 1902 and 1914 he returned to his family in Persia.

⁵⁵ “Work in Jamaica,” *Christian Outlook* (January 1923): 22.

⁵⁶ Lorna Halls, *A Rich Heritage* (Kingston, Jamaica: Montrose Graphics Ltd., 2003), 13, 15.

⁵⁷ Hilda Reeder, *History of the Foreign Missions Department of the PAW*, 24.

⁵⁸ *Ibid.*, 7.

⁵⁹ Morris Golder, “History of the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World” (MS, n.d.), 75–76.

⁶⁰ Minutes: Pentecostal Assemblies of the World (October 24, 1923).

⁶¹ Benjamin Urshan, *Survivor: The Life Story of Benjamin Urshan* (Hazelwood: Word Aflame Press, 1990), 186.

In *Survivor*, Benjamin Urshan relates that in 1914 a body of Kurds, Turks, and local Mohammedans invaded Urmia, a city with an estimated population of one hundred thousand. They robbed the inhabitants and herded them, unarmed, into the square. From there they forced them into a graveyard a short distance away and killed them all.

In 1915, Andrew Urshan led his brothers and several cousins to Russia to escape a second massacre by the Mohammedans. Andrew continued his ministry there. After he received a deeper revelation of biblical truth, he baptized seventy-five Russians in icy waters according to Acts 2:38. Returning to North America, he was placed in charge of the Emmanuel Mission Assembly in Montreal, Canada, but by 1923 he was again in Chicago. For many years as editor of the *Witness of God*, he reached many thousands of lives. He died on October 16, 1967. Many times we heard his son, former General Superintendent Nathaniel A. Urshan, say about that day: “I wanted to stay with my father, but he bade me go to the General Conference and said he was going to the great conference in the sky.”

The rapidly growing missionary family had increased the financial need to a point of desperation, and the officials felt that, since Andrew Urshan promoted foreign missions, he could awaken the constituency’s heart to a positive response. E. W. Doak, executive chairman of the PAW, referred to a 1923 tour when Brother Urshan visited many local churches:

The burden of missionaries in the foreign fields has fallen heavily upon the hearts of the officials of the General Office of the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World at Indianapolis, Indiana, and for this cause Evangelist A. D. Urshan has again responded to the call to make a tour of the country to stir up the interest of Foreign Missions. He will begin at Winnipeg, Canada, going west, visiting Dauphin, Manitoba, Regina, Sask., (New) Westminster, B. C., Seattle, Washington, Portland and Oregon City, Oregon, Lodi, Oakland, Exeter, Visalia and Los Angeles, California, Albuquerque, New Mexico, and other parts eastward. The trip will cover a period of about 3 months. Our prayer is that all Assemblies will receive him graciously, and that they will be granted a great spiritual uplift through our Brother’s visit.⁶²

As a result of that tour, in the fall of 1923 Andrew Urshan was elected as director of the missions program of the PA of W.⁶³ In the April 1924 *Christian Outlook*, he wrote:

In October 1923 we took the foreign missionary work of the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World. Up to March the 31st of this year we have served free of charge. We have received offerings and old pledges amounting to \$4,363.00. We have acknowledged every offering and pledge promptly. We have written our missionaries about seven times, and made six distributions amounting to \$4,123.80 . . . and other expenses such as cabling, special deliveries, registered letters. . . . Now to have a stenographer we must, because Sister Urshan’s present circumstances prohibit her from rendering any more service . . . although she is willing to do so; and in order to have a successful assistant secretary to fill up this vacancy, we must have \$75.00 per month. . . . If not we will have to keep ten percent of the offerings for the upkeep of this important office.⁶⁴

Missionaries Correspond with B. L. Fitzpatrick, FM Secretary/Treasurer

The January 1923 issue of the *Christian Outlook* reports that Clyde T. Miller, along with his young son, Cleophas, was returning to missionary service in British East Africa. A song he wrote and sang in the Apostolic Faith Assembly of Indianapolis, Indiana, prior to his departure is remembered: “The eyes of all

⁶² E. W. Doak, “Great Missionary Tour,” *Christian Outlook* (January 1923): 2.

⁶³ A. D. Urshan was elected as FM director at the 1923 conference but went with the Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ when it formed in 1924. The position was then changed to FM secretary. He continued as FM secretary until the merger of the ACJC with the PAW, which formed the PAJC. At that time, W. T. Witherspoon became the chairman of the FM Board, and A. D. Urshan continued as a board member.

⁶⁴ A. D. Urshan, “Missionary News,” *Christian Outlook* (April 1924): 11.

who heard it were filled with tears. Since their return to Africa, little Cleophas has fallen asleep in Jesus, leaving his father alone.”⁶⁵

Brother Miller wrote to B. L. Fitzpatrick:

Your kind letter received a short time ago; also, the offering for which I thank God. It has helped to lift a heavy burden off my shoulders. I am glad to report that we have been making an effort to do more in the way of spreading the gospel, by organizing or putting different ones into positions that will give them a certain amount of responsibility for others, and the souls of the unsaved ones. Pray to God that this work will work out for His glory, and the salvation of souls. . . . There is much to be done, and it keeps one going all the time . . . but as yet we have not a building in shape to have them in, as there is quite a bit of repairing to be done to the one we have at present. So pray for us here in Africa, dear brother. The way is sometimes dark and gloomy, but Jesus knows. Remember me to all I know. God bless you all.⁶⁶

Later that year the *Christian Outlook* verifies that B. L. Fitzpatrick was placed over the work of missions. He submitted articles and letters of various missionaries to the *Christian Outlook*. Alice S. Kugler (who later married Daniel Sheets) from South China, wrote the following letter to Brother Fitzpatrick:

The Phillips family, also the Vests, have been waylaid here at Wuchow almost two months, endeavoring to get to Nanning. I have come to Wuchow also, and have rented a house in order to assist them, as the fighting and the robberies have been so very serious that no one dared to travel up the river.

Mr. and Mrs. [W. M.] Burnside are also with me. For five weeks they were cramped into a small room on a boat till I arrived and had them move in with us. It is marvelous to see how God has been ordering affairs and putting us together for this fall's work. I expected the Reynolds family to join us, but for some reason they have not enough means with which to move and consequently must remain in Hong Kong. I feel very much embarrassed to realize that the work must be hindered so seriously because of lack of finance. But Jesus knows what is best, and so I must keep my hands off.

On Tuesday last, the party for Nanning for the third time made a start, and although they were fired upon, the boat went on through in spite of the rain of bullets. The clothes of certain members of the party were shot through. A bullet pierced little Ralph Phillips' hat, but there was no serious injury as far as I know. These are real missionary days, and who shall be able to stand!

Some of the British subjects have been ordered to the coast on account of serious trouble inland. I am informed that Mr. and Mrs. Spence (formerly Miss Phoebe Holmes) have been notified to escape to the coast. . . . If ever we needed the prayers of Saints it is now.

Just now we are trying to locate on another river, which is open. Two days' walk across country and several hours' ride by boat are required to reach it. If possible to rent a house in that needy district we shall give the Gospel for the first time to thousands.⁶⁷

An imminent Japanese invasion into China threatened the missionary family, but they continued to work. Planes flew daily over the territory, dropping leaflets that warned of the coming invasion and stating that if the Chinese did not surrender, their towns and cities would be totally destroyed. People fled into the country in terror; some abandoned their children along the way. Even though the Chinese army fought bravely, Canton eventually fell. Missionaries communicated that the church suffered a tremendous pressure from the Japanese occupation. One such missionary wrote:

I am writing to let you know how times are here. We have been suffering due to the war here in Kwong Si Province, and the fighting recently here in Nanning. We have been passing through some very hard trials for almost two months. Mail, as well as food supplies, has been cut off, causing us to be without food and funds. As a result we have become far behind in the expenses of the mission. . . . God is good to us and we know that He will continue to supply all our needs, in spite of all things . . . we do feel the need

⁶⁵ Clyde T. Miller, "British East Africa," *Christian Outlook* (January 1923): 20.

⁶⁶ Ibid.

⁶⁷ Alice S. Kugler, "Missionary Tidings and Truth," *Christian Outlook* (January 1923): 19.

of co-operation with the dear saints at home more and more. This is a large and needy field. . . . We are still feeling the effects of the recent fighting, and sometimes our nerves feel ready to snap. . . . Truly God did manifest His great protecting arm over us during this last month.⁶⁸

From Switzerland Brother and Sister Peter R. Roth wrote:

We received the nice offering from you dear ones long ago. We thank God and those who helped to send it. . . . We earnestly ask you dear ones to pray for us, as God has promised to be with us “even unto the end of the world.”

We are surely going to have a hard winter, as there is no way to earn anything here. But God is good, and able to supply all of our needs. We cast our burdens upon Him every day, and it is wonderful how He helps us and encourages us. We are rejoicing in Him because He is so near. He is blessing our labors and increasing our band of saints. Pray that God may keep us under the precious blood.⁶⁹

A New Foreign Missions Department for the PAW

Local churches found it difficult to send financial support to the foreign fields unless the vision of the great commission was kept before them. The concept of an organization administering finances was so new that it was a great challenge for church officials as they pioneered world evangelism.

Reacting to the increased missionary responsibility, G. T. Haywood, presiding bishop of the PAW, realized that a loosely coordinated effort was too inefficient and formed a committee of elected members termed as the Foreign Missions Department with himself as chairman. The record states, “After many ups and downs, Bishop Haywood took over the work of the Foreign Missions Department permanently.”⁷⁰ The December 1924 *Christian Outlook* explained the need for the presiding bishop to direct the department, assisted by George Cable and Hilda Reeder. G. T. Haywood fulfilled this responsibility until his death in April 1931.

During those early years, the greatest difficulty was to discern the need to extend the kingdom outside the realm of the North American boundaries. Yoshio Tanimoto, a Japanese American filled with the Holy Ghost, proclaims in a letter to the Foreign Missions Department: “A missionary needs a great deal of faith training to overcome temptation and discouragement, more than many Christians ever dream of. He is too often left without support and encouragement. Oh, I do wish that there were people who could just get a glimpse of a faith missionary.”⁷¹ Haywood immediately responded with a letter and a generous offering.

The continuing debate on the oneness of God and baptism in the name of Jesus Christ affected the future of several of the missionaries being funded by the Oneness brethren. Some chose to remain with the Trinitarian believers, and the PAW immediately ceased to fund them, underwriting only those who embraced the Jesus Name message. Thus the foreign missions record reveals not only the missionaries’ sacrificial service, but also their doctrinal choices.

Europe/Middle East

Brother and Sister J. B. Thomas arrived in Palestine on January 17, 1930, and labored with Timothy David Urshan and Louise Dickson. Then they went on to Baghdad, Iraq. A 1932 letter states:

After my arrival in Baghdad there was no one with whom I could counsel or ask advice, and the foundation had to be built from the ground up without sufficient funds with which to build, seemingly the progress was slow.

⁶⁸ Ralph Phillips, “South China,” *Christian Outlook* (January 1923): 20.

⁶⁹ Peter Roth, “Switzerland,” *Christian Outlook* (January 1923): 19.

⁷⁰ Hilda Reeder, *History of the Foreign Missions Department of the PAW*, 11.

⁷¹ *Ibid.*, 9.

At times the way looked rather dark. No funds with which to hire an interpreter or rent a decent place for service. Also at times we are completely without food or money. We are made to look up to him who permits these things to happen and say, "Thy will be done."

About seven months ago a brother came from Persia to Baghdad, who was baptized by Brother Abraham Urshan in Jesus' Name some few years ago, but he had not received the Holy Ghost. We began to seek God earnestly for an outpouring of his spirit. As this brother can speak English very well, I felt free to preach the full message through an interpreter. As soon as cool weather came, we began services from house to house, also in a union church about seven miles from Baghdad. These services we could not hold during the summer, because of the terrible heat.⁷²

A letter from John Tcionczyk dated December 11, 1933, provides information of his work and ministry. The letter indicates that John was a Pole, and the text reveals his broken English. He was ordained in 1930. With the Polish brothers, he worked in Latvia and married a Latvian girl. After supporting themselves for two years, the Tcionczyks fell on hard times. It seems that he traveled from one small country to another, clashed with the Catholic Church, and was arrested several times.

The next November, Tcionczyk wrote again to inform the office that he was in Germany preaching the gospel and intending to go into France. He had left his wife and brother-in-law to carry on the Jesus Name message in Latvia. That was his last known letter.

John Sikora, another Pole who received the Holy Ghost in America, went to Europe, then to Estonia. Perhaps the language barrier made it difficult to communicate with his North American counterparts, so his record is sketchy. The first record of him dates from 1937. He married an Estonian girl, Susanna, who had received the Holy Ghost when she was a young girl. Abraham Urshan had baptized her mother and four sisters in Jesus' name in Russia twenty-two years earlier. Her father also was also in the faith.

Susanna wrote in broken English to Hilda Reeder:

And though little is that work here, we are glad over 150 Jesus Name people in Estonia—We were praying for help from the Lord, so year ago Lord sends us Brother John Sikora as a real blessing to our saints. My husband is preaching and I am translating into our language his messages. Estonia are very poor people. As my husband is an outlander [outsider] Estonian government will not give him nature [a visa?] work so the Lord must put us here to some saints' hearts who will help us to work here and to find more dear souls before His coming. In 1938 we received a card from Brother and Sister Sikora from Czechoslovakia where they were preaching. We are so happy that we can be a blessing to that people who are so hungry for the real salvation message. The Lord was among us always.⁷³

PAW officials heard from John Sikora a few times after Russia took over Estonia. Susanna's last letter is dated April 1945. Thousands of souls were swept into eternity and heaps of ruin on every side . . . the "iron curtain" descended immediately.⁷⁴

The Pentecostal Ministerial Alliance—1925

The Pentecostal Ministerial Alliance was formed in February 1925. With the spiritual bond to other Oneness groups and with the constituency yet on a small scale, it was only natural that missionary service transcended organizational lines. One example was Dorothy L. McCarty: "The missionary effort in India has always been linked with the name of Mrs. Dorothea L. McCarty. She was for thirty-six years the outstanding missionary there. She was held in esteem and supported by all the Pentecostal Oneness groups."⁷⁵

⁷² Ibid., 60.

⁷³ Ibid., 62.

⁷⁴ Ibid., 62.

⁷⁵ Ibid., 47.

The PMA brought outstanding leaders into the spotlight of the Oneness movement. They all desired to work together regardless of organizational affiliation; according to the record, very little friction existed. High profile leaders of the principal Oneness bodies were men such as G. T. Haywood of the PAW, Howard Goss of the PMA/PCI, and W. T. Witherspoon of the PAJC.

The *Apostolic Herald*, the PMA's official magazine, is filled with accounts of how the organization was building the Lord's work. Both home and foreign missions were promoted with an earnest desire to fulfill the great commission.

The third annual PMA Convention was held in Indianapolis, Indiana, on October 1–10, 1927. The minutes of that conference reveal that the ministerial brethren focused on the world missions effort. One resolution states: "Resolved, that we give our support to and stand back of missionaries who are endorsed by The Pentecostal Ministerial Alliance."

Another resolution of the same conference states, "Resolved, that the foreign missionary cause be recognized by the Pentecostal Ministerial Alliance as of equal importance with the home missionary work, and that ways and means be devised whereby our missionary department can be put upon a more systematic and substantial basis."⁷⁶ A further resolution states that the chairman should appoint a three-member foreign missions committee and that the committee be empowered to handle the PMA foreign missionary work in a systematic way.

The alliance also proposed a financial system and urged every pastor and evangelist to pledge "himself by the help of the Lord to send in to the Foreign Missions treasury annually a certain sum of money for the support of our missionaries." These pledges would be renewed annually.⁷⁷

Since all Oneness missionaries usually were listed on each of the organizational funding programs, group affiliation was not emphasized; the important thing was that the missionaries adhered to the doctrine. In 1929, the PMA missionary support list included Dorothy McCarty, A. O. Moore, Joseph Reznicek, Henry and Olive Tefre, Brother and Sister J. B. Thomas, and A. Jacobs, India; Timothy Urshan and Louise Dickson, Palestine; G. Schmidt, Russia; A. Winegard, E. G. Lowe, Mae Iry, Elizabeth Stieglitz, Elsie King, F. O. Skroder, and Carl Hensley, China; A. Randall and L. W. Coote, Japan; Aaron and Pearl Holmes, J. H. Swanepoel, W. Moses, and L. Badger, Africa; and Oscar Vouga, Honolulu, Hawaii.

An excerpt from a letter from Carl Hensley, missionary to China, appeared in the August 1929 *Apostolic Herald*: "I presume you read in the home papers about the recent clash in Canton between the Reds and the Anti-communists. Our hearts ached to learn of such bloodshed and destruction . . . please kindly remember us in prayer. By faith we can see victory for the name of Jesus in China."⁷⁸

In the same issue, Henry and Olive Tefre anticipated their imminent trip to Bombay: "We plan to sail, the Lord willing, on September 27 [1929]. We expect to be in Bombay about October 21. Then we will take the train to Bhagalpoor . . . [and] hope to be there by the last of October. Mother McCarty is looking for us."⁷⁹

The fifth annual PMA Conference held in Shreveport, Louisiana, October 17–27, 1929, passed a resolution that would facilitate the organization's missionary program: "Resolved, that H. A. Goss, E. C. Steinberg and A. O. Moore constitute the missionary Board."⁸⁰

E. C. Steinberg wrote an article in which he described the two types of missionary supporters:

The systematic giver forms the habit of giving regularly certain amounts which he feels he can set aside for the work of the Lord. He is not in need of stimulant, for he has made it a point to seek first the kingdom of God, and this seeking he does with his means also. No missionary appeal is needed to arouse his sympathy, for giving is a habit with him.

⁷⁶ "Minutes of the 3rd Annual Conference," *Apostolic Herald* (November 1927): 5.

⁷⁷ *Ibid.*, 5.

⁷⁸ E. C. Steinberg, "Carl Hensley," *Apostolic Herald* (August 1929): 9.

⁷⁹ Henry Tefre, "Missionary News," *Apostolic Herald* (August 1929): 5.

⁸⁰ "The 5th Annual Conference," *Apostolic Herald* (November 1929): 7.

The spasmodic giver is not so. He may be moved by a fluent and touching missionary message and give a large sum of money to one cause. . . . He may not be active again for a long time, but will remain dormant until he receives fresh stimulus again from some source which will again arouse his emotion.

God bless the systematic giver. Such men are character builders. The man or woman that will determine to set aside a certain amount for Foreign Missions each month is worth more to God's cause.⁸¹

The First Partners in Missions Program⁸²

An interesting article appeared in the June 1930 *Apostolic Herald*. The PMA administration was seeking for answers to the increasing financial responsibility of the Foreign Missions Department. They came upon a plan that could be called a forerunner of the Partners in Missions program of today's missions program:

To All the Ministers and Saints of the Pentecostal Ministerial Alliance . . .

We want to bring to your attention that the Missionary Committee of the Movement has had a meeting at Aurorahville, Wisconsin, where the problem of Foreign Missions was discussed and gone over from different angles. It was the unanimous opinion of the committee what we must do for Foreign Missions and we must do it now.

We decided on a policy to be adopted by all the assemblies, large or small, in the Movement, and by carrying out this policy there will always be missionary money coming in from all the assemblies every month. This is what is needed. A spasmodic offering now and then is good, but there is something better. We need to be as systematic about handling our missionary offerings as we are about eating or sleeping. Then God will be able to bless the work in the regions beyond, and He will also bless us for our efforts to get the Gospel to the uttermost parts of the earth and help to fulfill the last command of our Lord.

Here is the plan: Each assembly is to appoint a local missionary secretary who is to be responsible under the pastor for the gathering and sending to headquarters of the missionary offerings.

Missionary pledge cards are being printed at headquarters, and these will be sent to the different assemblies as needed. The saints will be asked to pledge the sum each will be able to give monthly for Foreign Missions. Special envelopes will be prepared and distributed among the saints by the local Missionary secretary every month, and these envelopes will be used for the Foreign Missionary offerings alone. There will be space on the envelope for the date, as well as for the signature of the one making the offering, and thus the local missionary secretary will be able to give each credit for the offering brought in.

The following is a sample of the Pledge Cards pledge: With the help of the Lord I hereby pledge to give monthly toward the missionary cause of the Pentecostal Ministerial Alliance the sum of: \$100; \$50; \$25; \$10; \$5; \$2; \$1. Please signify in the space provided any amounts less than one dollar.

Anyone who desires to give, and [who is] not connected with any assembly may fill in the above blank and send it to The Pentecostal Ministerial Alliance, Louisiana, Mo.

Each assembly is expected at once to have a local missionary secretary appointed and the name and address of the secretary sent in to headquarters. Will the pastors of the assemblies please give this their attention so that there will be no delay. As soon as the name of the local missionary secretary is received at headquarters, the pledge cards and missionary envelopes will be sent for use.

Any assemblies not having a pastor, or any small gathering of saints in any community can also elect a missionary secretary for the body and send the name in to headquarters, and we will keep in touch with you.

We cannot think of a more workable plan for the bettering of the cause of Foreign Missions among us, and we have confidence in the pastors and saints everywhere that they will give the Movement their whole-hearted co-operation in this matter so that our missionary work at home and abroad will be placed on a more stable basis.⁸³

⁸¹ E. C. Steinberg, "Are You a Systematic Giver?" *Apostolic Herald* (November 1929): 5.

⁸² Missionary Committee, "Missionary Department," *Apostolic Herald* (June 1930): 5.

⁸³ Ibid.

The above was signed by the missionary committee: H. A. Goss, A. O. Moore, and E. C. Steinberg.

A constant concern of the officials was to enhance the living conditions of missionaries. In the August 1920 *Apostolic Herald*, Joseph Reznicek reports that he had an opportunity to purchase “a house with a well, two bunches of bamboo and three fruit trees, for \$75.00. At the present time we are renting a place for \$20.00 a year. Within four years the place will be ours; but we must purchase immediately and they want cash.”⁸⁴

In the same issue in Taiyoh, Shansi Province, China, Mae Iry wrote, “Thousands are near starvation, living on wild greens alone. . . . Men who do common labor in this busy hoeing season only receive from ten to fifteen cents a day and women four and a half cents, and then must board themselves. . . . We have had a great deal of sickness, typhus, typhoid, measles, mumps, many cases of T. B. and many dying.”⁸⁵

Officials were concerned when Louise Dickson wrote of the fighting between the Jews and Arabs:

We were in great danger, being so near the Damascus gate and right at the entrance to the largest Jewish quarter in Jerusalem. The first day the fighting was just outside our house and a number were killed all around us. It was a fearful sight . . . to see and hear all, machine guns, soldiers, and refugees.

The stories of Hebron and Saffad are terrible, quite a number of American Jews were killed, or may I say tortured. Brother Timothy (Urshan) has also been in danger. . . . Many doors are closing for the present . . . above all pray for Jerusalem.⁸⁶

The headquarters staff knew that they could not solve the social ills of every nation; alleviating all the suffering and want was impossible. Each request became the subject of prayer; unless a request would open doors of opportunity for ministry, the weight leaned toward fulfilling a missionary’s personal need.

It was quite evident by the reports flowing from the field that God was blessing the efforts of the missionary family abroad. They were ecstatic about their progress and wrote to express appreciation for financial assistance. Missionary newsletters linked the local churches with the advancement of world missions.

By the sixth annual PMA Conference held in St. Louis, Missouri, October 16–26, 1930, other outstanding leadership was emerging. A. D. Gurley was mentioned frequently, as was Dan Hayes, W. E. Kidson, B. H. Hite, and J. C. Brickey. World missions remained the central theme of the organization. Former missionary A. O. Moore was elected as chairman of the Foreign Missionary Board. Serving with him as the Foreign Missions Committee were Harry Morse and Mrs. A. J. Turvey.⁸⁷

In February 1931, Garland and Eleanor Leonard were appointed to China. A. O. Moore wrote, “We have a young married couple by the name of Leonard who have no children, consecrated and Spirit filled, now in California, who have felt the call to China for some time. Brother Morse has known them for several years and recommends them. . . . We cannot turn a deaf ear to this plea for help. . . . Please mark your offerings: Fare for the Leonards.”⁸⁸ By March 1932, the Leonards were on location, acknowledging the offerings that enabled them to get to China.

The Foreign Missions Department was concerned when Mother McCarty wrote of the danger she faced: “Conditions are grave—Civil War may stop our village work, as the ordinance forbidding other meetings may affect us. Last week . . . 11 were killed and 55 injured, of whom two later died.”⁸⁹

She wrote in the August 1932 *Apostolic Herald* that conditions were not improving. In Bombay, 150 were killed and hundreds injured, many homes and shops were destroyed, and innocent women and children were murdered. She closed her letter with a desperate appeal for prayer.

⁸⁴ Joseph Reznicek, “Gorakhpur District U. P. India,” *Apostolic Herald* (August 1930): 7.

⁸⁵ Mae Iry, “Taiyoh, Shansi Province, China,” *Apostolic Herald* (August 1930): 8.

⁸⁶ L. H. Dickson, “Jerusalem, Palestine,” *Apostolic Herald* (December 1929): 6.

⁸⁷ “The 6th Annual Conference,” *Apostolic Herald* (October 1930): 5–6.

⁸⁸ A. O. Moore, “An Urgent Appeal,” *Apostolic Herald* (February 1931): 11.

⁸⁹ Dorothy McCarty, “India,” *Apostolic Herald* (August 1932): 10.

The eighth annual PMA Conference in Little Rock, Arkansas on October 20–30, 1932, spotlighted yet other important foreign missions figures. The chairman of the Foreign Missionary Board was now referred to as the foreign missionary secretary. Clarence Craine was elected for this position, and serving with him were George R. Farrow, Harry Morse, and Oscar Vouga.

The Pentecostal Ministerial Alliance Becomes the Pentecostal Church Incorporated⁹⁰

Another important event during the 1932 annual conference was a successful resolution to change the name of the Pentecostal Ministerial Alliance to the Pentecostal Church Incorporated. This name remained until the organization merged with the PAJC to form the United Pentecostal Church Incorporated. The roads to unity were converging rapidly; God was directing the affairs of each organization to bring about a more unified effort to evangelize the world.

During the 1933 conference, the PCI appointed new missionaries who joined forces with veteran missionaries: Brother and Sister A. Winegard, F. O. Shroder, Mae Iry, Elizabeth Stieglitz, Elsie G. King, F. R. Wheeler, and Brother and Sister George M. Kelley, China; Carl Hensley and E. G. Lowe, Hong Kong; Louie and Helen Haney, Otis M. and Rosette Petty, and L. Badge, Africa; Dorothy L. McCarty, Kenneth A. and Florence Wine, Samuel James Rook, and A. Robert Jacobs, India; Louise H. Dickson, Timothy D. Urshan, and William Hull, Palestine; Lottie Hatcher, Howell Youkhanan, and J. B. Thomas, Iraq; F. R. Legge, Jamaica; George and Helen White, Java; Leonard W. Coote, Japan; Emma Reynolds and Helen Beldon, Alaska; and Louise Olson, not identified with a certain country.

The 1933 conference also settled upon a formal statement of faith. Every minister, including the missionaries, had to subscribe to this principle:

Believing in and standing for the present truth, the main basis which is genuine repentance, immersion or baptism in the name of Jesus Christ, and the reception of the Holy Ghost, with the initial evidence of speaking in other tongues.

The Jesus Name message was invading additional countries; it seemed that God had bowed heaven to touch the earth. Sacrificial labor continued, and heartrending letters motivated the constituency to assist financially. An example is Pearl Holmes's letter in the *Apostolic Herald*. She did not ask for funds, but her matter-of-fact account goads the conscience: "Sister Jensen and I, together with another Liberian lady started the last day of December 1933 on a missionary trip, which we had planned for some time. We did not have a single cent to bear our expenses when the day arrived for our departure. We borrowed .96 cents from the Sunday School treasurer, not knowing how long we would be gone, nor what our expenses would be, yet we were determined to obey our call."⁹¹

Since 1924, the PCI had supported and coordinated the work of many missionary families, many of them not affiliated with the organization. A previous attempt to cut off financial support for those outside the fellowship caused much dissatisfaction among the local churches that crossed organizational lines to support missionaries. A 1933 resolution nullified this attempt: "Resolved that we annul the resolution that we give our support to and stand back of only missionaries who are endorsed by our missionary board."⁹²

The PCI again reached across organizational affiliation to send money to advance the cause of missions. The *Apostolic Herald* resumed reporting the activities of all Oneness missionaries; a reader would have been unable to distinguish between PCI-endorsed missionaries and the missionaries affiliated with sister organizations. The only criteria seemed to be adherence to Oneness doctrine.

⁹⁰ W. E. Kidson, "Our New Name," *Apostolic Herald* (February 1933): 4.

⁹¹ Pearl Holmes quoted in "Monrovia, West Africa, Report," January 1935, 8.

⁹² "The 7th Annual Conference," *Apostolic Herald* (October 1933): 6.

Missionary Calendars—1934

Clarence Craine became the national Sunday school secretary in the 1934 conference, but he also continued to serve on the Foreign Missions Board. Brother Craine designed and proposed a national fund-raising campaign by distributing a calendar bearing the picture of the PCI's headquarters building. Under the picture was the saying, "Give at least a penny a day to our missionaries far away." There was a slot under the picture to insert the coins, and an envelope attached to the back of the calendar contained the coins until they could be invested in the foreign missions cause.⁹³

By 1935, local churches had caught a vision of the financial needs on foreign soil, and missionary income began to increase on a monthly basis. Now more missionaries could be appointed. The January 1935 *Apostolic Herald* published a list of missionaries affiliated with the PCI. The list apparently includes all of the missionaries being supported by the PCI at that time:

Ishmiel Adam, Iraq; Lona May Bullock, China; Ralph D. Bullock, China; Algernon James Gage, Africa; Mrs. Addell Harrison, China; Aaron James Holmes, West Africa; Pearl Julia Holmes, West Africa; Peter M. Jensen, West Africa; Samuel Jensen, West Africa; Mrs. Samuel Jensen, West Africa; Mrs. Eleanor R. Leonard, North China; Garland Leonard, North China; Mrs. Gladys McCune, China; Henry L. McCune, China; Willie Moses, South Africa; Joseph Shigeto Murata, Japan; Batsaria Luckerji Parmar, India; Joseph Reznicek, India; Delilah Faith Reznicek, India; Alice Kugler Sheets, China; Daniel K. Sheets, China; Dirk J. Snyman, South Africa; Jacob H. Swanepoel, South Africa; Henry Tefre, India; Olive Tefre, India; Horace Wainwright, Jamaica; Jeanette D. Wight, India; and Henrietta M. Wise, India.⁹⁴

Clarence Craine announced the appointment of Dan K. and Alice Kugler Sheets, a missionary couple who developed a magnificent work in China. As a single missionary, Alice Kugler had served in China under PAW appointment, but while on furlough she married Daniel K. Sheets. They returned to China under PCI appointment.

Many of our readers are well acquainted with Sister Alice Kugler-Sheets, who spent nearly twelve years in China. She and her husband were with us during the Conference and were endorsed by our Official Board as out-going missionaries for China. While Sister Sheets was on the field, she proved true as a worthy missionary.⁹⁵

As will be noted in chapter 4, tremendous opposition shattered the Sheets's work: Japanese occupational forces put them in danger during World War II, and the postwar Communist uprising forced them to return to the States. It seemed as if their life's work had been destroyed.

Samuel and Marie Jensen Brought Home from West Africa

During the tenth annual PCI Conference, the board passed a resolution that Samuel and Marie Jensen be brought home from the field because of broken health: "They are worthy missionaries and have labored faithfully for the past four years. Now their health has broken and they need to come home."⁹⁶

Death of Mrs. Batsaria Luckerji Parmar

In 1934, Joseph Reznicek, missionary to India, wrote a sorrowful note to headquarters, in which he mourns the loss of a fellow missionary: "Mrs. B. L. Parmar [wife of Batsaria Luckerji Parmar], and one of our main workers, passed away May 31, 1934, at the age of forty-two. It is not only felt by us, but also by

⁹³ Clarence Craine, "Missionary Calendars," *Apostolic Herald* (November 1934): 7.

⁹⁴ "Affiliated Missionary List," *Apostolic Herald* (January 1935): 8.

⁹⁵ Clarence Craine, "Dan and Alice Sheets," *Apostolic Herald* (November 1935): 12.

⁹⁶ Clarence Craine, "Attention," *Apostolic Herald* (November 1934): 7.

the village people. . . . She leaves behind, her faithful husband and six children; also a brother, Samuel Morar, of Bhagalpur [one of Sister McCarty's main workers]."⁹⁷

1935 Annual PCI Conference

During the eleventh annual PCI Conference in October 1935, Harry Morse was elected the foreign missions secretary. The Foreign Missions Board consisted of Harry Morse, chairman, Clarence Craine, A. O. Moore, and George R. Farrow.⁹⁸

In 1935, Kenneth A. Wine and his wife, Florence, were appointed to India. Board member George Farrow appealed for funds to help this deserving couple:

At our General Conference last year Brother and Sister Wine were indorsed as outgoing missionaries to India and authorized to visit our churches throughout the States in an endeavor to raise their fare and place their cause upon the hearts of our people. . . . Brother and Sister Wine are workers of proven ability and worth in the home land ministry; and they are much needed in India just now, when Brother and Sister Tefre have gone to Norway on furlough as a result of Sister Tefre's break in health.⁹⁹

In October 1936, the PCI appointed George and Helen White to Java. They made a tremendous impact upon that country. At first they experienced the same frustrations as most missionary families; they grew weary with learning a new language and coping with a foreign culture. But once that was behind them, they reaped the harvest of their labors.

Finances were scarce during the depression years, but missionaries remained determined to evangelize a lost world. Putting their missionary service before personal comfort, they presented a united front for world evangelism. During the 1937 conference, Brother Morse summarized some of the yearly PCI foreign missions income totals: \$1,651.73 in 1933, \$4,612.02 in 1935, \$6,039.90 in 1936, and an unprecedented \$8,359.08 in 1937.¹⁰⁰

Also during the 1937 conference, concern for missionaries in war-torn Asia sharpened the church family's focus on the great financial need. Missionaries sent tearful pleas for prayers for their safety and for the preservation of their work. The home church became a more vital part of the missions program. Offerings increased and missionaries were esteemed. During his report to the General Conference, Harry Morse noted that "there was a wonderful spirit among our people in the direction of foreign missions. The Foreign Missions Board along with the General Board are studying and devising plans to help our precious missionaries. I am wonderfully pleased to see the growing spirit along these lines."¹⁰¹

The First Foreign Missions Map—1937

A wonderful project was created in 1937—a missionary map that served as a prayer reminder. Promoted in the November 1937 *Apostolic Herald*, the goal of the project was to assist the home church in identifying with each missionary's field of labor. The missionary map was a beautiful piece of art.

[The map is] four feet square on nice heavy paraffin paper. The names of our missionaries and the location of their stations are printed on the map with stars to locate their stations. This is not only a beautiful thing to have in your churches or Sunday Schools or even your homes, but it will be a reminder as to where our missionaries are laboring and will help to keep them fresh in your mind to think and pray for them.

⁹⁷ Joseph Reznicek, "Bhatpar Rani, India," *Apostolic Herald* (August 1934): 7.

⁹⁸ "The 11th Annual Conference," *Apostolic Herald* (November 1935): 9.

⁹⁹ George R. Farrow, "SOS for Wine Fare," *Apostolic Herald* (November 1935): 7.

¹⁰⁰ Harry Morse, "Foreign Missions," *Apostolic Herald* (November 1937): 5.

¹⁰¹ Ibid.

Some organizations run little fine ribbons from your locality out to the stations on the map giving you a picture of the route from where they are to where you are. You can do that yourself if you want to. These maps are being sold at cost, \$1.50 each.¹⁰²

The 1938 PCI Foreign Missions Board

A. O. Moore was elected the foreign missions secretary in 1938. The members of the board were A. O. Moore, Harry Morse, George R. Farrow, and W. R. Pair.

George R. Farrow was a prolific writer whose unique style elicited interest in world missions. In his appeals these names became prominent: Joseph Murata in Nagano-ken, Japan; Brother and Sister Daniel. K. Sheets and R. D. Bullock in China; Samuel Jensen and the Aaron Holmes family in Liberia, West Africa; and Henry and Olive Tefre in India.

Missionary Work Is a Flash Point for the Church

Missionary work was a flash point for the church, but it seemed impossible to keep up with the fires of evangelism igniting everywhere. Increasing finances made new appointments possible, but newly appointed missionaries created more financial liability. However, local congregations rose to meet the needs of the department. To complement the sacrificial giving of the local churches, the missionary family performed an outstanding work.

After the 1939 PCI General Conference in Houston, Texas, Harry Morse appealed for funds for Louie and Helen Haney, outgoing missionaries to Liberia:

Louie and Helen Haney came before both the Missionary and the General Boards. They were fully endorsed. . . . These two young people have fully qualified for their call to the Lord's work. . . . They feel the time has come for them to make ready to leave in February for the field of their labor in West Africa. . . . Now that they have been fully trained, fully endorsed and are ready to leave, the Missionary Board makes this appeal for them as worthy out-going missionaries.¹⁰³

In 1939, Howell Youkhanan went to Baghdad, Iraq, and J. H. Swanepoel went to South Africa. The Lord called them, and the local church sent them; they depended on God's call to sustain them.

Emma Reynolds and Helen Beldon went to Alaska on October 17, 1941.¹⁰⁴

Foreign Missions Day of the 17th annual PCI Conference October 31–November 6, 1941, in Houston, Texas, was, as always, a tremendous draw for the constituency. Ethel Goss, official reporter, wrote, "On Sunday morning in a great missionary service led by Brothers Moore and Morse . . . Brother Morse preached an outstanding missionary sermon, [and] nearly \$8,000 was secured in pledges in a short time. . . . The General Secretary's report showed a 56½ % increase."¹⁰⁵

Inception of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Jesus Christ—1931

While the mergers of Oneness Pentecostals strengthened the missionary program, some serious conflicts resulted when the Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ merged with the PAW in November 1931. While the majority of the PAW brethren voted to merge with the ACJC, several of them felt that insufficient time had been spent on informing the fellowship. In his *History of the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World*, Bishop Morris Golder represented this view:

¹⁰² Harry Morse, "Missionary Map Available," *Apostolic Herald* (November 1937): 5.

¹⁰³ Harry Morse, "Louie and Helen Haney," *Apostolic Herald* (February 1939): 5.

¹⁰⁴ Helen Opsand Belden, "Alaska," *Apostolic Herald* (April 1942): 9.

¹⁰⁵ Ethel E. Goss, "Conference Comments," *Apostolic Herald* (December 1941): 2.

In September 1931, a special meeting was held in the city of St. Louis, Missouri, for the purpose of a merger of the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World and the Apostolic Churches of Jesus Christ. This meeting was so hastily planned that many of the brethren were not notified of it or either received their notices too late to attend this all-important meeting.¹⁰⁶

On the other hand, it appeared that many experienced great joy because unity was the expressed motive. Andrew D. Urshan recounts this merger in the *Pentecostal Outlook*: “The Merger of the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World with the Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ in the coming together of the executives of both of these organizations last November, 1931, in St. Louis, Mo., forming this Merger, adopted all the P. A. of W. principles of the doctrine just as they are with only slight change of the name ‘of the World’ to ‘of Jesus Christ.’”¹⁰⁷

The name chosen for the new organization with nearly five hundred ministers was the Pentecostal Assemblies of Jesus Christ. This name replaced the name, Pentecostal Assemblies of the World.

The merger of these two major Jesus Name organizations was to harmonize the old PAW in principle and doctrine with the large number of Oneness ministers from the Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ. The merger also displayed a united purpose to evangelize the world. However, men such as returned missionary Samuel Grimes from Liberia, Peter Bridges, R. F. Toblin, E. F. Akers, and Dunlap Chenault, among others, contended for the continuance of the PAW as an organization. As a result, the PAW charter was revived and it continues to this day as a strong Oneness Pentecostal organization. It must be noted that harmony was revered above all, and world evangelism continued to be a united effort of all Oneness people.

A special committee composed of W. T. Witherspoon, J. A. Frush, S. N. Hancock, O. F. Fauss, and F. F. Smith drafted the mission statement of the PAJC.¹⁰⁸

During the first annual PAJC Conference, Dr. A. H. Beisner chaired the proceedings, and the following officers were elected: Karl F. Smith, general secretary, L. R. Ooton, general treasurer, and J. A. Frush, editor of the *Pentecostal Outlook*, as well as associate editors, O. F. Fauss and Norman D. Bridges, and Foreign Missionary Board members, W. T. Witherspoon, H. C. Moore, and Andrew D. Urshan.¹⁰⁹

The minutes of the third PAJC annual conference list W. T. Witherspoon as chairman of the FM Board.¹¹⁰ Brother Witherspoon was the first among the early church leaders to express a vision for a world fellowship of Oneness people. His dream was to unite the church around the world, within and without the PAJC, for the cause of world evangelism. The minutes from September 21, 1934, also contain the financial statement. The total annual foreign missions budget for the fiscal year 1933–34 was \$6,361.11. Expenses were \$6,341.68, leaving a balance of only \$19.43. This budget balance revealed the heart of the Foreign Missions Board as it tried to provide those serving abroad with the necessary support.

The numerous changes in Oneness Pentecostal organizational structure made it almost impossible to trace all the missionary personnel, but for the most part the missionaries had become an extended family fused with a purpose to propagate the message of Jesus’ name.

W. T. Witherspoon Calls for Missions Support

As always, financial concerns frustrated the work of foreign missions. One factor was that churches were so committed to missions that they gave offerings to anyone who professed to be involved in world evangelism. This caused a shortfall for those who were under appointment. W. T. Witherspoon wrote:

We are mapping out an aggressive program and campaign for the foreign missionary phase of our work. The yearly report published in the last issue of the *Pentecostal Outlook* shows a pitifully small

¹⁰⁶ Morris Golder, “History of the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World” (MS, n.d.), 96.

¹⁰⁷ Andrew Urshan, “About the Merger,” *Pentecostal Outlook* (August 1932): 6.

¹⁰⁸ “Minutes of the 1st Annual Conference of the PA of J C,” *Pentecostal Outlook* (September 31, 1932): 22.

¹⁰⁹ Ibid., 23.

¹¹⁰ “Minutes of the 3rd Annual Conference of the PAJC,” *Pentecostal Outlook* (September 21, 1934): 4.

amount given by both organizations toward taking the gospel to the regions beyond. The report, of course, did not represent all that was given by the churches of both organizations, as no doubt many sent their money direct. Cannot we make a special effort and make a great improvement this coming year? First by giving more, and secondly by giving it through the Missionary Board, which will encourage others to give. You may designate your offerings and we will promptly send them out to the designated party.

Brethren, let us repent of our laxity in this matter, and let every minister present this phase of the work to his congregation, and I believe it will prove a blessing to us all.¹¹¹

Mite Boxes—1933

The Great Depression affected missionary giving, and program after program was suggested. Andrew D. Urshan proposed a campaign called the “mite boxes.” He suggested that boxes be placed in every believer’s home, and all the loose change could be gathered and used for missionary evangelism.¹¹² Elder Witherspoon promoted this program in the *Pentecostal Outlook*:

We expect to have out in our Assembly at least 150 boxes, which will very greatly increase our monthly offering for the foreign field. Our saints are also paying 5c apiece for the boxes. Brother Urshan’s services and the stirring up of foreign missionary zeal has been a real blessing to us, and we know it will be to any pastor and assembly that will get behind this much needed move. . . . We should have out within the next few weeks at least 2,000 boxes, which at a penny a day, would mean \$20 a day, or \$600 a month . . . to lift the load from the foreign missionaries and bring a big blessing upon our own heads. Send in your orders at once for the “penny-a-day” missionary boxes. Until further announcement, send your orders to: Elder W. T. Witherspoon, Chairman Foreign Missionary Board.¹¹³

Many seniors remember the “mite boxes” on the table in each believer’s home. The clinking of coins was associated with blessing the food as children guided the small coins into the slot. Each month the proceeds of the mite box bought postal money orders, which were sent to headquarters.

The 10 Percent Rule for PAJC Administration

Finances continued to be a problem for the Foreign Missions Department. In a bold move, W. T. Witherspoon proposed a solution during the third annual PAJC Conference in 1934:

Be it resolved that the Board of Foreign Missions shall be empowered and authorized to impound ten per cent of all foreign missionary offerings, beginning October 1, 1934. Such fund to be used for the purpose of defraying the expense of sending a representative to the various foreign fields, where we are sending offerings; at such a time as said fund shall be sufficient for the above-mentioned purpose. The time, places and person for such visits shall be determined by vote of our Board of Presbyters.¹¹⁴

This was the only resolution passed by the general assembly of ministers in the 1934 conference. Since then, this percentage extracted from the missionary giving of the local churches has never failed to elicit negative feelings; both the missionaries who receive the funds and church members who give the funds feel keen disappointment when 10 percent of the amount does not make it to the foreign field. However, the expediency of managing and administering the funds must be conceded. Expenses incurred by coordinating global evangelism efforts must somehow be met. The director must travel to stay in touch with field operations, and a secretarial staff must be hired to facilitate day-to-day operations. It is strange that after so many years the solution to this prickly problem still eludes us. No one has yet solved the

¹¹¹ W. T. Witherspoon, “Foreign Missionary Department,” *Pentecostal Outlook* (September 1932): 10.

¹¹² A. D. Urshan, “Missionary Mite Boxes,” *Pentecostal Outlook* (July 1933): 25.

¹¹³ W. T. Witherspoon, “Mite Boxes,” *Pentecostal Outlook* (July 1933): 23.

¹¹⁴ “Minutes of the 3rd Annual Conference,” *Pentecostal Outlook* (October 1934): 21.

problem of how to finance missionary administrative costs without dipping into the monthly missionary giving.

The monthly giving seemed to wither even while missionaries gave their lives on the front lines. Mrs. A. Tucker served in Monrovia, Africa; Mae Iry in China; Mrs. D. L. McCarty in India; Mrs. R. A. Fleming in Japan; L. B. Sly in Montevideo, Uruguay; C. D. Stiles in Hawaii; and Timothy D. Urshan in Palestine.¹¹⁵

Verner Larsen Appointed to Colombia

In 1936, the PAJC appointed Verner Larsen to Colombia, South America. By April 1937, he was on location and learning the language. As a pioneer missionary he was buffeted by a strong Catholic presence. However, he realized that perseverance was the key to the future. He struggled in Bucaramanga for eighteen months before seeing any visible results. In the midst of intense spiritual battle his wife, Abigail, died during childbirth. Her lonely missionary grave became a part of the seedbed of revival. Today Verner Larsen's story is an integral part of the history of Colombia's great church.

Jamaica

Annabelle Flora Russell, endearingly called Mother Russell, is considered the pioneer of the UPC of Jamaica. She held meetings in various areas and finally came to Wildman Street, which remains the central point of activities until the present day.

Early in 1936, W. T. Witherspoon, general chairman of the PAJC in the United States, arrived in Jamaica to deal with some matters relating to a church affiliated with the organization. Mother Russell met Brother Witherspoon and took him to her house on Wildman Street. He worshiped with the congregation there.

On the first Sunday after his arrival, he [Brother Witherspoon] baptized 62 persons in Jesus name at Sirgany Beach, most of whom had already received the Holy Ghost. Mother Russell was among those baptized on February 2, 1936.¹¹⁶

In *A Rich Heritage*, Lorna Halls explains that Brother Witherspoon made other visits to Jamaica, during which he baptized additional converts and taught Bible classes. He was instrumental in the appointment of Ralph Reynolds as the first missionary to Jamaica under the newly formed United Pentecostal Church.

On February 9, 1947, Ralph Reynolds arrived with his family. They were taken to 68 Wildman Street where the church full of saints welcomed them. Upstairs they met Mother Russell and her family. . . . The two families shared the upstairs premises for the next five years.¹¹⁷

World War II Takes a Toll on Foreign Missions Work

World War II took a tremendous toll on the missionary family. In many countries, missionary endeavors were destroyed in moments as invading armies transported missionaries to concentration camps. Many were not heard from for months or years. (See chapter 4 for a more detailed account.) As the missionary board located each displaced family, it asked that they return to the States. Many missionaries did not understand the request to leave their work, and they came home emotionally torn, heartbroken, and deeply depressed. A missionary call transcends all obstacles, and missionaries expect to

¹¹⁵ Financial Report, "Receipts for July 1932," *Pentecostal Outlook* (August 1932): 11.

¹¹⁶ Lorna Halls, *A Rich Heritage* (Kingston, Jamaica: Montrose Graphics Ltd., 2003), 20.

¹¹⁷ *Ibid.*, 20, 21.

suffer whatever consequences that call entails. Once God calls missionaries to a particular people, the total essence of their life identifies with that people. So it was with the Ralph Bullock family. When the war made it impossible for them to remain on the field, they began working with the Chinese in San Francisco. But the missionary call continued to weigh heavily upon their shoulders.

During the 1942 PCI General Conference in Memphis, Tennessee, several returned missionaries told of the atrocities that had occurred on their fields. Ethel Goss lists some who attended the foreign missions service: “The Whites [George and Helen White] were there from Java; Sister Haney from West Africa; Brother and Sister Jensen and their little son from Monrovia, West Africa; and Brother Wheeler from China.”¹¹⁸

Each of the Oneness organizations continued to appoint new missionaries, increasing the church family around the world. Just before the merger that created the UPCI, Otis and Roselle Petty were appointed to Liberia. They were the last missionary family to be endorsed by the PCI Missions Board. FM board member Harry Morse wrote about them in the January 1944 *Apostolic Herald*: “Otis and Roselle Petty are getting ready to go to West Africa, taking their little daughter (Lois Anne) with them. These people have been passed upon and endorsed by the required boards of the Pentecostal Church Inc.”¹¹⁹

PAJC Official Listings

W. T. Witherspoon continued to chair the Foreign Missions Board as well as serve the organization as the general chairman. In 1938, the FM Board consisted of W. T. Witherspoon (Columbus, Ohio); K. Hendricks (Tulsa, Oklahoma), secretary-treasurer; Wynn Stairs (Calais, Maine); A. D. Urshan (New York); and C. P. Williams (Tulsa, Oklahoma). As his workload became cumbersome, Brother Witherspoon resigned as chairman of the FM Board, and Wynn T. Stairs was elected as foreign missions chairman in 1944.¹²⁰

At this time, the officials of the PAJC included W. T. Witherspoon, general chairman; S. R. Hanby, general secretary-treasurer; and general presbyters, R. L. Blankenship, I. I. Bradley, R. G. Cook, F. E. Curts, B. M. David, O. F. Fauss, Harry Geiger, H. I. Goodin, Anton Huba, S. G. Norris, L. A. Parent, G. B. Rowe, Ace Summers, A. D. Urshan, C. P. Williams, and S. L. Wise. The list of district elders is too long to insert here but includes such men as W. S. Guinn, L. J. Hosch, W. T. Poling, J. O. Underwood, Jack Scott, D. J. White, and Roosevelt York. S. G. Norris was editor of the *Pentecostal Outlook*.¹²¹

The Stage Is Prepared for the UPCI

All of these leaders placed strong emphasis on sacrificial foreign missions service. It was “sacrificial” because there were neither amenities nor cushions upon which to depend or fall; there was no guarantee of monthly support. However, the hardships did not slacken the pace of the church. Missionaries continued to feel the call . . . and were sent! The world was a wide-open door for service. The stage was prepared for the entrance of the United Pentecostal Church, which would strategically send and administrate the missionary personnel that would infuse the work of foreign missions with spiritual energy.

The church of Jesus Christ stood poised with anticipation.

¹¹⁸ Ethel E. Godd, “Great Memphis Conference,” *Apostolic Herald* (December 1942): 2.

¹¹⁹ Harry Morse, “Outgoing Missionaries,” *Apostolic Herald* (January 1944): 10.

¹²⁰ “Official Listing,” *Pentecostal Outlook* (October 1944): 2.

¹²¹ “Official Listing,” *Pentecostal Outlook* (November 1944): 2.

Chapter 3

Organization and Evangelism: Canada's Involvement

It is strange how day-to-day foreign missions activity homogenizes into an effective driving unit. Changes occur frequently, which almost without exception, enhance the success of the overall operation. Sometimes decades of rivalry between good men suddenly disappear, leaving a clean slate. Sincere men begin to think in terms of what will benefit the great commission, rather than what will benefit their particular culture or personal ideology. Even adverse circumstances seem to improve the foreign missions fabric; like the dark threads that weave together with the bright ones in the loom, the design would be invisible without contrasting colors.

The many mergers and association agreements, especially in the early stages, showcased the unique organizational abilities of the men who blazed the trail for the UPCI's future. These men were constantly involved in rapprochement with groups of like faith, doctrine, and purpose to achieve future gains for the church's commitment to world evangelization. Coalitions that do not include a fusion of organizational leadership sometimes give off a carnal whiff of suspicion. By contrast, UPCI leaders displayed unusual skill as they mixed and stirred many ingredients into a sweet-smelling savor of Oneness believers.

Such was the blending of the Canadian churches with U.S. churches to create a united North America, which the missionary family commonly called the "homeland." Similar cultures and a shared language should have created a positive climate for uniting the force that would financially and spiritually support missionaries as they launched ministries throughout the world. However, the coalition had to jump several hurdles before the final agreement was reached. For example, one insurmountable obstacle was Revenue Canada. The problem involved money exchange: how could the different dollar values be exchanged between the countries to support a united evangelization program? The Canadian government balked, turned off the spigot, and refused to allow Canadian dollars meant for missionary support to flow to the international headquarters in St. Louis. The Canadian Assemblies of God encountered the same problem, so it was not an obstacle unique to the United Pentecostal Church.

Good or bad, the decisions to unify the overall purpose of the church in Canada played a key role in the success of the church throughout the world of missions. But the area these decisions affected most was South America. What the General Board thought was an equitable solution later turned out to be a major obstacle. The history of these problems must be taken into account to fully understand the direction the Colombian work took in 1966. The board's decision, rather than a healing balm for the wound, was more like a Band-Aid on a festering sore. This affected the South American church then, and continues to frustrate the church until this present time.

Similar to the way the organizational developments in the United States shaped the church, the Canadian church evolved through several stages before it arrived at a consensus to unite their efforts to the Oneness movement. They realized that a national boundary, while important to the country's citizens, should be ignored in the light of the great commission. Many dedicated, successful missionaries emerged from the matrix of Canada's dedication to world evangelism. For this reason, this documentary must include more than a cursory investigation of Canada's contribution.

Most of the information in this chapter derives from the work of Ralph Reynolds, who compiled a history of the Canadian church, *From the Rising of the Sun*.

Religious Politics in Canada

Many early Canadian believers feared formal organization as much as many of the early church leaders in the United States. These men preferred to follow spiritual guidance through a loosely bound membership rather than an organized body. Teaching against church organization fostered this notion. According to Reynolds, Christians attended church services regularly and tithed faithfully but were reluctant to receive membership or hold a leadership position.¹²² This mentality prevailed until the church as a whole began to realize the need to maintain its doctrinal purity and missiological purpose. Organization was the only answer.

According to Reynolds, three organizations became milestones to success: the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada, which clung to the Trinitarian tradition; the Apostolic Church of Pentecost, which subscribed to a doctrine of eternal security; and—after the 1945 merger of the PAJC with the PCI—the United Pentecostal Church Incorporated. It was inevitable that doctrinal issues became bones of contention among the Canadian brethren as they had in the United States.

In the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada, Trinitarian tradition came face-to-face with the scriptural teaching of the deity of Christ and water baptism in Jesus' name and rejected these biblical principles, forcing Oneness brethren to make a choice—recant or leave the organization.

The eternal security doctrine in the Apostolic Church of Pentecost¹²³ forced pastors to decide whether to stay or begin anew by forming another organization. Thus the Canadian brethren began a long, painful journey of amalgamating into a body where doctrinal purity, as they believed it, could be practiced. It is quite obvious that their decision was not based on personal feelings, personal ambition, or relationships, but on their love for truth.

The Canadian church was involved in foreign missions but recognized that an organizational structure was necessary to administrate the work on foreign fields. Reynolds provides information about these organizational efforts:

During the second decade a number of meetings took place to consider the formation an organization. I shall only mention four of which I have knowledge:

1) Montreal, May 1917

Among those present were: George Chambers, R. E. McAlister, Frank Small, Arthur Patterson, Harvey McAlister, Reubon Stemall, and William Draffin. There was no action resulting from this meeting.

2) Ottawa, June, 1918

Among those present were: George Chambers, N. F. Eby, Frank Small, J. Ball, A. S. McReady, A. Atter, Labroque R. Aikenhead, Thos Gilbert, and C. E. Baker. At this meeting a motion was adopted to form an association called the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada and to be affiliated with the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World. This was an oneness Church organized in Portland, Oregon in 1914. The Parliament in Ottawa granted a Dominion Charter in 1919.

3) Mille Roches, Ontario, 1919

There were seven brethren present: R. E. McAlister, R. E. Sternall, C. E. Baker, W. L. Draffin, Howard Goss, Clarence Cross, and George Chambers.

Montreal, May 1919

The above ministers with nine others met again in Montreal. At this meeting the final steps toward organization was taken. A Dominion charter was granted May 17, 1919. The first meeting of the trustees and charter members was held in Ottawa, May 26, 1919. The first General Assembly convened at Kitchener, November 1921.

4) Montreal, 1921

Rev. J. W. Welch was invited to represent the Assemblies of God. At this meeting the conference voted 10 for and 7 against to become a District of the Assemblies of God. Following this meeting many of the

¹²² Ralph Reynolds and Joyce Morehouse, *From the Rising of the Sun* (New Westminster, BC: Conexions, 1998), 138.

¹²³ *Ibid.*, 138.

Oneness brethren withdrew and under the leadership of Frank Small organized the Apostolic Church of Pentecost.¹²⁴

Reynolds further stated that the first Canadian Pentecostal Conference was held early in 1919 at Mille Roches, Ontario, Canada. At that time they began discussions regarding a Pentecostal Canadian organization.

For some twenty years the members of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada, Oneness and Trinitarian alike, worked side-by-side. Clarence Cross and other Oneness preachers pioneered churches throughout Ontario. Howard Goss served as pastor in Toronto and Brockville and was district presbyter. At the time of the break in 1940, there was an odd doctrinal mixture of Oneness ministers who pastored Trinitarian churches and Trinitarian ministers who pastored Oneness churches. Frequently the camp evangelist for the Outlet camp meeting was a Trinitarian. During this time the Picton church remained separate and independent.

The break came at the district conference in the summer of 1940. Reynolds offered the following account of what happened:

In 1940, a group of young ministers with the P.A.O.C. (Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada) became very stirred up over doctrine, so at a district conference at Cobourg Campground, they presented this resolution:

“Whereas Article 2 on pages 7, 8, and 9, and Article 14 on page 12 of the 1939 year-book of the P.A.O.C. . . . on the Godhead and also Article 24 of the application of affiliation; and whereas it is commonly accepted that there is a certain amount of New Issue or Jesus Only activity in this district, be it therefore resolved that this district go on record as disapproving of such New Issue activities (especially as related to employing evangelists in local assemblies and camp meetings) and that we make it clear that we stand unshaken in regards to our official statement of doctrine; and if there are workers in our fellowship who cannot conscientiously subscribe to same and manifest loyalty in their ministry in this regard, they should be advised to withdraw.”¹²⁵

A group of men who could not subscribe to the resolution presented at the Cobourg Campground met at Brockville, Ontario, on September 9, 1940. They drafted the following statement to the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada. C. L. Cross made the initial motion, and C. J. Rutter seconded it:

That inasmuch as the P.A.O.C. . . . in session at Cobourg, Tuesday, August 13-15, 1940 have requested that all those ministers who could not conscientiously subscribe to their doctrine regarding the teaching of the Godhead and water baptism formula, to withdraw from their fellowship, we the undersigned, being in session at Brockville this 9th day of September, 1940 feel it our duty to comply with their request and accordingly send in our credentials with the request that the secretary of the P.A.O.C. . . . send us a letter showing an honorable withdrawal.¹²⁶

Similar to what happened in the United States, the Canadian Trinitarian ministers ruled against the Oneness doctrine. Up until then, Oneness brethren had remained in fellowship with their Trinitarian brethren and endeavored to work in harmony. But after the conference floor debates on the issue, the Oneness brethren felt that the conference rulings ultimately did the apostolic truth a great service. However, their request for a letter documenting their honorable withdrawal was never granted, a snub that deeply affected the brethren.

The brethren who separated from the PAOC searched for a fellowship that subscribed to their deep-rooted convictions. Reynolds explained the ramifications:

¹²⁴ Ibid., 142–43.

¹²⁵ Mary Wallace, *Profiles of Pentecostal Preachers* (Hazelwood, MO: Word Aflame Press, 1984), quoted in Ralph Reynolds and Joyce Morehouse, *From the Rising of the Sun*, 144.

¹²⁶ Ralph Reynolds and Joyce Morehouse, *From the Rising of the Sun*, 145.

In early attempts to organize the Pentecostal church across Canada, Trinitarian and Oneness preachers worked together. However, it was in Montreal where the Conference was held in 1921 that the definite division took place. A vote was taken to cause the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada to become the Eastern Canadian district of the Assemblies of God U.S.A. There were 10 votes for this move with 7 votes against. As a result the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada became a district of the Trinitarian church in the States and the Oneness preachers in Canada withdrew.

In June 1921 the Oneness preachers organized themselves under a Dominion charter calling the new church the Apostolic Church of Pentecost of Canada Inc. The charter members were: Franklin Small, Harry Sweet, William Booth-Clibborn, Uriah S. Strome, William Norden, James C. Anderson, Harry C. Morrison, Howard Goss, Andrew Urshan, Clarence Cross and William Phillips.

The first conference was held in Old Knox Church, Winnipeg, in December 1921. The conference opened with the singing of "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" followed by a time of worship.

The following officers were elected for a three-year term:

- Moderator: Frank Small
- Clerk and Treasurer: Harry C. Sweet
- Presbyters: William Booth-Clibborn, Andrew Urshan, Howard Goss, Clarence Cross and William Phillips.

In Ontario when the break came with the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada, W. R. Pair was pastoring in Picton. He called a meeting of the Oneness brethren in Brockville and led them in organizing a district of the Apostolic Church of Pentecost.¹²⁷

After leaving the PAOC, the Oneness brethren at first found a warm welcome within the Apostolic Church of Pentecost of Canada Incorporated. Although the relationship seemed congenial, there was a distinct difference in doctrine. Many of the evangelists were apostolic preachers from the West who believed in eternal security and zealously tried to convert the brethren to Calvinism. This created a problem.

At every conference and camp meeting the eternal security issue came to a head like a painful boil. In the summer of 1944, Ralph Reynolds chaired a debate between Wynn Stairs and Charlie Currie on the subject. Even the Calvinists in the audience said they thought that Wynn Stairs won the debate.

Reynolds stated that he was still a member of the Apostolic Church of Pentecost when he received his UPCI missionary appointment to Jamaica in October 1946. This reveals that some Canadian ministers affiliated with both the Apostolic Church of Pentecost and later with the Full Gospel Pentecostal Church, as well as with the UPCI. Some brethren held licenses with both the PAJC and the Full Gospel Pentecostal Church of Canada.

Reynolds related below how the issue provoked yet another organizational adjustment.

Events Leading to a UPCI Affiliation in 1946

For a number of years many of the ministers in eastern Canada belonged to the Apostolic Church of Pentecost of Canada Incorporated. In the 1938 Newcastle Bridge convention, Wynn Stairs and Frank Small participated in a formal debate about eternal security with the result that the ministers of eastern Canada withdrew from the fellowship of the Apostolic Church of Pentecost:

A new organization was begun known as the Full Gospel Pentecostal Church. This church was incorporated on March 16, 1939. Some of the ministers also held license with the Pentecostal Assemblies of Jesus Christ in the United States. When the United Pentecostal Church was formed in the fall of 1945 these ministers as a result then held license with the new church body. Wynn Stairs was overwhelmingly elected as the Foreign Missionary Secretary of the United Pentecostal Church.

In May 1946 the Full Gospel Pentecostal Church merged with United Pentecostal Church with head office in St. Louis, Missouri. The resolution in bringing this about with the merger agreement is given here.

¹²⁷ Ibid., 146.

“Moved by B. A. Macquarrie, seconded by Clem Hyde, carried with 35 yes votes and 2 no votes. Be it resolved that we (The Full Gospel Pentecostal Church Inc.) merge with the United Pentecostal Church Inc. under the following conditions:

- (a) That we drop the words “Full Gospel” from our charter and add the “United” in their place, and make any other changes in the charter that may be necessary.
- (b) That the property now held by the Full Gospel Pentecostal Church Inc., become the property of the Maritime District of the United Pentecostal Church.
- (c) That the United Pentecostal Church receive our ministerial list as they are without filing a new application form.
- (d) That there always be one member of the Missionary Board residing in Canada.
- (e) We ask that we be permitted to pay only six dollars budget fee to Headquarters, the remaining twelve dollars to be held in the district for extension work.
- (f) That in event the Canadian brethren or members feel the desire to withdraw, that they may withdraw upon a two-thirds majority vote. Also that the Charter of the Full Gospel Pentecostal Church, present and accumulated property become the property of the Canadian brethren without any formal vote on the part of the General Board or the General Conference.”

Following the merger this became the Maritime District of the United Pentecostal Church and was incorporated.¹²⁸

The Ripple Effect of Wynn Stairs’s Resignation

During the next fifteen years this agreement worked well. However, following the death of Maritime District Superintendent Earl Jacques, a problem arose. On November 8, 1961, during the conference to elect a new superintendent, Wynn Stairs mentioned that, according to the merger agreement, it would soon be time to withdraw and form an associate organization in Canada. A cacophony of different opinions caused massive misunderstanding on both sides. Reynolds stated, “At the time I was a member of the General Board and very much aware of the entire debate. As a result, Wynn Stairs resigned [in 1962] as Director of Foreign Missions of the United Pentecostal Church International.”¹²⁹

The missionaries in Colombia were Bill Drost, Stanford Johnston, Verner Larsen, Lewis Morley, and William Thompson. Lewis Morley was from the Ontario District and William Thompson was from England. The rest of the missionaries in Colombia were from the Newcastle Bridge area of Canada, as was Wynn Stairs. These men had forged a loyal bond, so it was inevitable that Wynn Stairs’s resignation influenced the future of the missionary efforts in Colombia.

Wynn Stairs was elected as the foreign missions secretary of the PAJC in 1944, and after its merger with the PCI, he was elected by a vast majority vote as the foreign missions secretary of the newly formed UPCI. Verner Larsen was appointed in 1936, Stanford Johnston in 1943, and Bill Drost in 1948. The appointment dates of these men show that they were long-term missionaries in Colombia.

Problems escalated until 1964, when the Maritime District withdrew from the UPCI to become the United Pentecostal Church of Eastern Canada. This further affected the work in Colombia because the missionaries there were evenly divided on both sides of the issue.

The Ripple Effect of the Maritime District’s Withdrawal

In 1964, the Maritime District withdrew from the UPCI to become the United Pentecostal Church of Eastern Canada.¹³⁰ By 1966, the UPCI General Board had decided that the Colombian work should not be sacrificed by the Maritime District’s withdrawal. Although much of the missionary labor, but not all, had been accomplished by missionaries from the former Maritime District, local churches throughout the

¹²⁸ Ibid., 148.

¹²⁹ Ibid., 149.

¹³⁰ Ralph Reynolds and Joy Morehouse, 149.

UPCI had financially supported all the missionaries in Colombia. Therefore the UPCI General Board decided that the Colombian work should be transferred to national leadership. This was a sincere attempt to bring about an equitable solution to keep Colombia a part of the UPCI; the action was not intended to isolate Colombia but to give the work autonomy. The missionaries under appointment to Colombia were asked to serve as “counselors” who would work within the guidelines of the national leadership. However, the administration’s goodwill was misunderstood, and feelings ran high on all sides of the issue.

UPCI officials were committed to giving continuity to the Colombian work, but the Colombian missionary family had diverse feelings on how it should be accomplished. All the missionaries serving in Colombia had poured a sacrificial ministry into the work, and a decision by either the UPCI or the UPC of Colombia could appear to be biased. Missionaries other than those with spiritual ties to the Newcastle Bridge ministerial group, such as Lewis and Sallie Morley and William and Mollie Thompson, had served faithfully in Colombia and still felt a definite call to continue working there. At this time Lucile Farmer had been appointed by the UPCI and was serving in Ecuador under Colombia’s missionary, Miguel Peña. She was also affected by the administrative changes.

In the minutes of the meetings between the general officials and Colombia’s national leadership, it is evident that the national leaders were leery about the idea of self-government. They did not feel properly prepared to assume autonomous leadership, but once the changes were implemented it was too late to back out.

Ten years later the pastors and churches of the former Maritime District voted to return to the UPCI, after which they formed the Atlantic District of the United Pentecostal Church.¹³¹ However, this did not undo the devastating effect on Colombia of the previous withdrawal. Though UPCI and Canadian officials have continuously sought appropriate solutions to facilitate a smooth transition from a missionary leadership to an elected national leadership, tentacles of painful memories have kept the issue hypersensitive up to this present day. It is evident that the UPCI would like to see the wounds of those earlier years heal and the church body made whole once again for the glory of God.

Reynolds admonishes that “nationalism must never use evangelism to further its cause just as organization must never use evangelism to build a bigger organization, to build a church empire, to create a hierarchy, to colonize. The fact is, evangelism must use nationalism to reach a nation with the gospel. Evangelism must use organization to save souls. Our purpose and motive must always be pure in God’s sight.”¹³²

These ongoing issues caused the international church to adopt the terminology “national leadership” rather than “nationalization” when a maturing mission field becomes autonomous.

As they returned to the UPCI, the Canadian brethren strongly desired a viable role as foreign missions affiliates. However, the same legal hurdles previously erected by Revenue Canada on how finances could cross the border to the United States had to be addressed. The answer eluded them until 1987 when the UPC of Canada was incorporated:

The United Pentecostal Church of Canada was incorporated in 1987. This was accomplished by Pastor John Mean through a lawyer in Halifax. Following the formation of a National Corporation the Joint Venture Agreement with the U.P.C.I. was accepted.

Revenue Canada gave a registration number and our secretary, Albert Foster, was given a letter that the United Pentecostal Church of Canada was registered effective January 1, 1988.¹³³

¹³¹ Ibid.

¹³² Ibid., 83.

¹³³ Ibid., 150.

The Canadian Bible College

One of the greatest contributions Canada has made toward world evangelism was the establishment of Emmanuel Bible School in Newcastle Bridge by S. G. Steeves in 1941. He instilled a burden for evangelism in the hearts of those who came under his influence. Reynolds explained that S. G. Steeves's zeal and vision went beyond the homeland to the vast foreign fields: "He kindled a missionary spirit in the hearts of many young workers."¹³⁴

In 1955, when the school was moved to Saint John and was in the process of closing its doors, Earl Jacques felt the burden to establish the United Pentecostal Bible Institute at Marysville, where it remains to this day. Recently the institute had a name change and is now known as Northeast Christian College.¹³⁵

Among the first graduates of this school was Winona Barton, who married Ronald Cole. They went as missionaries to Peru.

Many other missionaries emerged from the school. James Burns, Worden and Myrtle Mowatt, and Lloyd and Juanita Williams went to Ceylon (Sri Lanka). Stanford Johnston went to Colombia. While on deputation after his first term, Johnston helped build the Newcastle campground tabernacle. He married Eleanor Leonard, who had served in China during the Japanese invasion prior to War World II. She had been widowed when Chinese soldiers accidentally shot and killed her husband, Garland.

Elizabeth Steeves and Ethel Prosser went to India, and Donald and Velma Nevers went to Cuba. George Shalm, a veteran missionary to India under another organization, was involved heavily in Northeast Christian College until he left the Bible school to accept an appointment to India under the UPCI banner.

Ralph Reynolds offered this missionary list of those who were products of the Bible college: Ronald and Winona Barton Cole, Peru; Lloyd and Millie Scott, Madagascar; Cole and Wanda Price, Windward Islands; Mart and Alta Vahi, Estonia; David and Debbie Curtis, Hong Kong; Stephen and Danita Drost and Lynn Jewett, Mexico; John and Corine Nickerson, Jim and Linda Poitras, and Craig and Lyna Sully, Nigeria; Leroy and Hazel Gee, Italy; George and Connie Corney and Lynden and Cathy Shalm, Pakistan; Bruce and Melody Bartel, Germany; Bradley and Regina Thompson, Guatemala; Ed and Della Mae Kennedy, Botswana; and Stephen O'Donnell, Guatemala.¹³⁶ Not all of these were under full UPCI appointment.

Other great missionaries from Canada who deserve recognition are Verner and Abigail Larsen, pioneer missionaries to Colombia in 1937. Shortly after the birth of their daughter, Abigail died, leaving a grieving husband to care for his young son and newborn daughter, Abigail. Denied the right to bury his wife in the Catholic-dominated cemetery, Verner dug his wife's grave himself and performed her burial. He later married Fayette Barnard.

William and Ruth Drost's ministry in Colombia ignited one of the world's greatest revivals. Their son, T. Wynn Drost, became a missionary apostle. Wynn married Wanda Mean, and their sons, Steve, Daniel, and Mark, carry their grandfather's mantle as they work in Mexico.

Ralph V. and Helen Reynolds were among the missionary pioneers to Jamaica, and their son and his wife, Paul and Beth, followed them.

Paul and Helen Moulton served many years in Peru and founded the riverboat ministry there. Bennie and Theresa DeMerchant pioneered the Amazon Basin, and Bennie has logged countless hours in the SFC floatplane. To date, they have served nearly forty years in Brazil, establishing twenty-eight Bible schools and over 126 local congregations in the city of Manaus alone.

The distinction of several missionaries appointed from Canada to Colombia seemed to foster the idea that it was Canadian finances that undergirded the work there. However, local churches throughout North America were also sacrificially involved in evangelizing the entire world, and Colombia was only an important part of that endeavor. While Canada was an indispensable part of the missionaries' financial

¹³⁴ Ibid.

¹³⁵ Ibid., 85.

¹³⁶ Ibid., 86.

support, it is regrettable that anyone would suggest a support ratio that would claim proprietorship over any country by any single segment of the fellowship. Since all missionaries were appointed from across a broad spectrum of the fellowship, and the total church body financially facilitated the work of missions, it was the responsibility of the entire body to enable the missionary family.

❧ Chapter 4 ❧

The World at War

During the 1930s and 1940s, the worldwide missionary family entered into one of the most painful and difficult eras the church has ever traversed, while the North American churches suffered through the Great Depression, the anxieties of impending war, the bombing of Pearl Harbor in 1941, a declaration of war, and ultimately, the loss of sons and daughters on the battlefield.

The notion that war does not damage missionaries and their work is only an illusion. Even before the atrocities of World War II in both the European and Asian theaters, civil war had ravaged many home fronts, such as, but not limited to, China, Russia, Java, Yugoslavia, and India, where separatist groups attempted to or succeeded in overthrowing established governments. In many countries, the sacrificial endeavors of missionaries were destroyed in moments.

During the war when the Japanese stormed places like China and Indonesia, they took over missionary compounds and interned the missionaries in concentration camps. Missionaries were not treated any worse than others, but they endured severe confinement, near starvation, and broken health. Many were not heard from for months or years. However, as the missionaries were located, the board urged them to return home. Many missionaries did not understand the call from headquarters to leave their stations because their missionary call transcended all obstacles; they had gone to the field expecting to suffer whatever consequences their calling entailed.

But World War II was only the climax of the global turmoil. After the war ended, citizens returned to their own villages and cities to find voids caused by the devastation of invading armies and the death of countless thousands of the male population. Anguish and tears could not rebuild houses and factories, much less the spiritual work. Missionaries were thrust into danger because they represented those who desired peace; terrorists showed little mercy. Physical weakness opened the door to sickness, frustration, and despair. In many countries, Communism stepped into the void, promising a utopia for war-weary citizens.

Let us consider the effects of the war on our missionary families by seeing them through their eyes. Not only were they forced to stand by as the fruit of their labor was cruelly battered beyond recognition, but their hearts were crushed by their powerlessness to protect their spiritual sons and daughters as they were martyred for a senseless cause.

To understand the missionary's mind-set, we could begin with Lui Shui Nam Hoi, China, where Dan and Alice Sheets had raised up a fantastic work. The November 1937 *Pentecostal Outlook* published Dan Sheets's letter, which speaks of the atrocities of war with the Japanese:

The war is terrible. The north part of China lies in ruins, and thousands of lives have been taken. About two weeks ago we witnessed one battle, and another one this morning. These battles in the air are terrible. The crash of canons and bombs shake the earth and homes. One bomb made a hole in the earth 18 feet deep and 20 feet wide. Another made a hole 25 feet deep.

So many are being killed. It seems so hard to have this peaceful country harassed and destroyed. . . . New souls are coming in, in spite of war, famine, cholera and floods. Cholera is raging and many are dying. . . . Our only safety is in the Lord. . . . If we do not meet you again on this earth, we will meet you beyond this vale of tears.¹³⁷

¹³⁷ Daniel Sheets, "Lui Shui," *Pentecostal Outlook* (November 1937): 18.

Garland Leonard Is Killed, but Eleanor Is Safe

When the Japanese invaded China in 1937, Garland Leonard became a casualty. As Japanese militants stormed the mission compound in Yuan Ping, North China, Chinese soldiers mistakenly shot and killed Garland while trying to defend the compound. Eleanor Leonard found solace in the verse of Scripture she mentioned in her letter to headquarters:

“Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savour of his knowledge by us in every place” [II Corinthians 2:14].

In May 1931, my husband and I sailed to the land of God’s calling for us, Shansi Province, North China, where we labored in the work of the Lord for nearly seven years. During this time we established a mission station in Yuan Ping. We preached the gospel and scattered the printed word in many villages in the surrounding country. God poured out His blessing upon many of the Chinese there as they turned from false gods to serve the true and living God, even Jesus.

The last nine months were spent during the beginning of hostilities between Japan and China in which my companion was killed. Our mission station was destroyed and everything material was gone. My feet stood on the solid Rock, which held me fast and miraculously spared my life for further service for Him. It has been a continuous struggle to gain the victory over my shocked condition as a result of my experience in the war.¹³⁸

After her husband was killed, Eleanor was out of contact with headquarters. The war escalated and the Japanese overran China. W. E. Kidson, general secretary of the PCI, wrote in the February 1938 issue of the *Apostolic Herald* that Eleanor was safe but suffering from stress:

I am very glad to report that Sister Eleanor Leonard is safe and well except for her nerves. She states that she has not received any bodily harm.

We have heard from the Department of State, which is one month later than Sister Leonard’s letter, and they report that she is now in Peiping.

It is her wish to return to the states immediately. . . . Sister Leonard states that she tried to arrange two months to get away, but of course, at the time she couldn’t make it. But from the information we have now, she can get to the seaport, so we believe that she should arrange for her to come now.¹³⁹

Dan and Alice Sheets in the Epicenter of the War

Dan and Alice Sheets maintained a great spirit even in the epicenter of the war. Fear did not hinder their evangelistic efforts. Daily they took advantage of the people’s frustration and fear to tell them that Jesus cared:

On Monday . . . my husband and I started to Tsung Fa. . . . There had been an air raid just before our arrival, but we found nothing harmed; mission and home in good condition. The Christians were very pleased to see that we dared to travel with such conditions.

There was a lovely surprise awaiting us. Six souls were planning to be baptized in water. . . . On our return we were held up by a terrible air raid in Canton. We sat in a boat in the midst of it. We saw the planes above, could hear the bombs bursting around us, and see the smoke of the burning buildings. Talk about thrills, we certainly have them here! But soon the planes flew away and let us come home in peace. . . .

It is marvelous how souls continue to come in here in Lui Shui. Some very fine young men have lately accepted Christ. Three soldiers or government men were converted, and then were sent north to battle soon afterwards. They have written us twice making our hearts to rejoice to think they are serving our God and Savior even at the battle’s front.¹⁴⁰

¹³⁸ Eleanor Leonard, “Ta Chang, Shansi North China,” *Apostolic Herald* (March 1938): 11.

¹³⁹ W. E. Kidson, “Sister Leonard Is Safe,” *Apostolic Herald* (February 1938): 1.

¹⁴⁰ Daniel Sheets, “Hong Kong, China,” *Apostolic Herald* (March 1938): 11.

Several months later Alice Sheets wrote:

A short work is being done that has taken years under ordinary circumstances to accomplish. Why should you dear Saints grow weary in prayer and helping the missionaries who dare to stay on the field and face shot and shell for souls?

I have just recovered from a number of weeks of fever. I almost felt that my time had come to go. But in the midst of it I rallied to the front, got out of bed with a fever of 102, packed my grip and made our monthly visit to Tsung Fa City [Brother McCune's work]. God undertook and gave us a safe journey. Victory came and from that day on for two weeks I gradually got better and yesterday we returned shouting the victory over the devil. Had a wonderful time in Tsung Fa and the surrounding market villages.

Our work at Lui Shui is doing fine. New souls are coming in and our hall is proving too small. Pray that God will help us find a larger place for services. The school opened with fifty children happy to learn of Jesus. We have about ten or more that we feed, clothe and shelter. This is a great help to break down fear, persecution and causes the parents to become interested. Pray for the street waifs.

The war is getting worse all the time and nearer to us. If the city of Han Kau is lost then we expect the enemy shortly to come to Canton, near our village. Only God can help win this battle and war.

This month Canton has escaped heavy bombing but the three railroads have had it hard. Many killed and there is much destruction. These three railroads are near us. When we came home from Tsung Fa we had to stop twice by the trees along the road and wait for the planes to fly over. Whether we live or die, we are the Lord's.¹⁴¹

On February 19, 1943, Japanese officials came to inform the Sheetses that they would be taken to a concentration camp within the next few days. After traveling for two days, they arrived at Honan Island. Twice during their imprisonment the guards brought in a Chinese man and cruelly tortured him to the point of death right before their eyes. Following these incidents the guards threatened the fifty-seven missionary prisoners with the same treatment if they caused any problems.¹⁴²

The Ralph Bullock Family—Hong Kong

In late 1938 Ralph Bullock reported:

No doubt you have seen in the papers about the Japanese invading South China and cutting the railway and boat lines between here and Canton. This is cutting off our supplies to a great extent, and prices are soaring worse than ever now. But we are praising God for victory in the Spirit anyway.

We all need special prayer at this time to say the least. We do not expect the Japanese to attack Hong Kong, but being isolated is serious enough. . . .

We would greatly appreciate it if you would put a notice in the Herald announcing the fact that, although the war is near us, our mail continues to come through safely, and will continue to do so until England goes to war with Japan or some of her allies. . . .

Brother and Sister Yeung and their daughter Esther just now arrived from Kong Moon. He is the ex-Presbyterian bishop who walked in the light a few months ago and whose picture and testimony appeared in my paper. They said the Japanese planes flew over their city and dropped messages warning them that they would destroy the city if they did not surrender. Everybody began to evacuate at once, so the Yeungs have come down to stay with us for a while.¹⁴³

Kenneth and Florence Wine—India

General Superintendent Howard Goss and General Secretary W. E. Kidson met with FM Secretary A. O. Moore "and talked over the problems of our missionaries in the war zones. [The officials]

¹⁴¹ Alice Sheets, "Lui Shui Nam Hoi, China," *Apostolic Herald* (December 1938): 10.

¹⁴² Mary Wallace, *Profiles of Pentecostal Missionaries* (Hazelwood: Word Aflame Press, 1986), 314–15.

¹⁴³ Ralph Bullock, "Hong Kong," *Apostolic Herald* (December 1938): 9.

agreed to cable them and ask if they wished to come home. It was agreed that if they did wish to come home [the board] would arrange for them to do so. Some decided to stay and when war reached Hong Kong, Java, and parts of China, it was too late for them to get out. No doubt some are now prisoners of the Japanese. . . . We are facing trying times.”¹⁴⁴

When the cablegram arrived at the Wines’ home they responded, but before the *Apostolic Herald* went to press, requiring that A. O. Moore write a short introduction and postscript to their letter:

We have just had a very encouraging letter from Brother and Sister (Kenneth) Wine of Delhi, India, one that stirs us deeply with admiration for their courage and devotion to the truth and cause they represent. Following are some extracts from their letter:

“We received the cable from the P. C. I. wanting to know how soon we could arrange to come home. We have been at a loss to know what to do. We have been desperately seeking God’s face and have come to the decision that it would be a calamity to come home at this time, as the church would have to be closed and the sheep would be scattered.

“Don’t neglect praying for us. Jesus may come any day. Can we all wave the answer back to glory that we will hold on by His grace? If we never meet on this earth, let us be faithful that we may meet around the Throne of Grace.”

Such noble a stand as these dear workers are taking in the face of war and danger makes us to appreciate them more than ever. They have had numerous real tests in their bodies and have been tired and weary and we thought they would no doubt be ready and willing to come home, and it is also about time they were due a furlough. But you see how they answer our offer to bring them home. I feel like saying a hearty “God bless them” and I feel confident that you who read this will feel the same. Let us stand by them with earnest prayer and financial aid to meet their every need.¹⁴⁵

300 Americans Mistreated in Hong Kong’s Stanley Internment Camp

Many changes were taking place as the war escalated in China, Java (Indonesia), and Japan. An urgent note appeared in the May 1942 *Apostolic Herald*, which escalated concern for our missionaries:

It has been only a few months since we were corresponding with the missionaries of Japan, China and Java. For several months we have been entirely shut off from Japan, for a few months from China, and for about two months from Java. As far as we know Brother and Sister Sheets and Brother Bullock, if living, are in the hands of the enemy.

A recent cable from the Jensens [Liberia] stated they have been delayed weeks in sailing. We are now in correspondence with the Department of State relative to some of our other missionaries.

They all need our prayers and we need finance so that we will be prepared to handle any emergency that arises. We are now setting aside regular sums each month to be prepared to help take care of the Sheets and Brother Bullock.

The following is some news from China: Half of the 300 Americans interned in the dark confines of Hong Kong’s Stanley prison will not survive six months unless existing conditions are improved, Dr. Gordon King, professor at Hong Kong University, who escaped from the colony, declared. “Dr. King, a native Londoner, said the Americans were suffering from confinement, malnutrition, and lack of medical care. Six to eight persons are crowded in narrow rooms and each is allotted a minimum of third-grade rice and vegetables for two meager meals daily,” he said.

This shows the terrible condition that exists among the prisoners at the present time. May the Lord have mercy on those who impose such hardships on the human race.¹⁴⁶

¹⁴⁴ Howard Goss, “Travelogue of the General Superintendent,” *Apostolic Herald* (April 1942): 11.

¹⁴⁵ A. O. Moore, “Report from the Wines,” *Apostolic Herald* (April 1942): 9.

¹⁴⁶ W. E. Kidson, “Our Missionaries,” *Apostolic Herald* (May 1942): 9.

Louis and Helen Haney—Africa

We have no desire to go home at present. We hope that we can continue on here for a good while yet as the harvest is ripe, but the laborers are so few. It is wonderful to us as we look back and see how God has led us all the way to Africa, and then in starting the Mission, etc. We want to keep in His will and do as He bids us all the time, no matter what it is. For God's way is the best way. And there alone will we find real happiness. For I know whate'er befalls me, Jesus doeth all things well.¹⁴⁷

Missionary News¹⁴⁸

This month we are happy to be able to give you some good news regarding our missionaries. The Whites [Java], as you know, are home. We have their report. The Jensens [Liberia] arrived a few weeks ago. The Sheets have been located in unoccupied China.

We know this news will relieve the strain on a large number of our people. It proves once more that our God is still on the throne and still answers prayer.

The return of the Whites and Jensens in some ways has been miraculous. The Wines of India have definitely decided to remain at their post of duty as long as conditions will permit. The chances are the Haney's of Africa will come home when arrangements can be made. To date we have not been able to get any word from Brother Bullock.

We are doing our best to help all of the missionaries. It has made a great drain on our finances. We still need more cash to take care of those who are still on the field.

George and Helen White's Dangerous Journey¹⁴⁹

How we do thank and praise God for the wonderful way in which He brought us back home. The American Consul had been much concerned about us for these past two years and many times he advised us to return, but we had no desire to leave Java as we felt our work had just begun. And we were so happy in the service of the Lord.

On February 2nd, the Japanese made their first air attack on Java, killing and wounding hundreds with much property damage. As the bombers continued their daily air raids, the people were more panic-stricken than previously. Again word came for us to leave immediately, but we desired to live or die for Jesus in Java. However the Lord had different plans for us, and on February 9th He very definitely revealed it was His will for us to return. So with aching hearts we bade our people "goodbye" and started for our port.

As we rode 200 miles along the seacoast, where the bombers came daily, the Lord sent a storm to protect us from the enemy. We had to board ship two days before sailing, and while still in the harbor God manifested His wonderful power in protecting us. During one raid the bombs were falling all around us, and three were so close that the shrapnel hit the side of the boat. A submarine and a raider were sunk in the harbor during that particular bombing.

We sailed up the Java Sea through submarine and mine infested waters. The second morning when we awakened, we were at the narrowest point of the Sunda Strait (the strip of water that separates Sumatra and Java). We sighted two submarines, but they didn't attack us. The Japanese were taking the last town in Sumatra and just two hours after we came through the strait, they invaded Java from that point. It was only God that brought us through there and to Him be all the praise and glory. We were on the boat two months, traveling through perilous waters and in storm, but the Lord was very near at every moment and gave a wonderful deliverance. We came by way of Australia and New Zealand and Panama, traveling over 18,000 miles.

We thank each one of you from the depths of our hearts for your financial support and spiritual uplift and encouragement that you have given us. Though we are home, we beg your prayers for God's children in Java. We have two established churches and two missions which we left under the supervision

¹⁴⁷ "Letter from Louie Haney," *Apostolic Herald* (May 1942): 9.

¹⁴⁸ W. E. Kisdon, "Good News," *Apostolic Herald* (June 1942): 11.

¹⁴⁹ George W. White, "The Whites," *Apostolic Herald* (June 1942): 11.

of three good reliable workers. They are facing starvation, loss of religious privileges and many fiery darts from the devil.

Elizabeth Stieglitz Arrested and Exchanged for a Japanese Prisoner

“My heart aches and there is a cry in my soul when I look on the whitened harvest field,” wrote Elizabeth Stieglitz as the dark clouds of war cast a threatening shadow over her work. “Soldiers are moving again and being stationed in homes and villages. Japanese planes dropped bombs within the walls of the mission. Windows were shattered from the blasts; however, the mission escaped a direct hit. After about seven days the siege ended in victory for the Japanese.”

When soldiers entered the mission compound, Elizabeth looked the officer in the eyes and demanded, “What do you want?” He informed her that they were taking over the compound. She responded, “You will not do anything of the kind.” She won the respect of her captors and established an uneasy truce.

After much hunger and suffering, Elizabeth suffered a stroke. She recovered, but in March 1942, a gruff demand dropped the final blow: “Pack your things; you are leaving.” She had no idea of her destination. Somewhere along the protracted journey she found out that she would be exchanged for a Japanese prisoner. She left Shanghai on June 29, 1942.¹⁵⁰

Elizabeth Stieglitz lived with one desire and one prayer: “Oh Lord, let me go back to China!” This is the caliber of the missionaries who carry the message to the distant lands! How can a world of comfortable believers rest, knowing that Christian soldiers are sacrificing life and ease to represent their home churches? Yet many churches hoard financial blessings without glancing over the walls of safety to witness thousands dying without the gospel. Is the call to go into the entire world the missionary’s alone, or does it belong to the total church family?

Ralph Bullock Arrested and Released Six Months Later

After being released from a Japanese concentration camp, Ralph Bullock wrote to headquarters that he was on his way home:

How happy I am to be back again in the “land of the free and the home of the brave.” Praise the Lord! It is utterly impossible to realize the full meaning of that motto until you have been under the heel of the dictator for a while. As our repatriation ship, the *Gripsholm*, pulled into the New York harbor and passed the famous statue of liberty, the crowds on the decks began to sing “My country tis of thee, sweet land of liberty,” and “The Star Spangled Banner,” — many were weeping. Those songs never meant so much to us before.

We arrived in New York the morning of August 25, and about three o’clock the next afternoon, after much “red tape,” I was permitted ashore.

What a great relief and joy it was to step ashore a *free* man in a *free* country, after being a prisoner in a concentration camp for six months, surrounded by barbed wire fences and sentries with fixed bayonets, and then about two months on the rolling waves, except for two stops, one at Lorenzo Marquez, South Africa, where we found winter in July, and the second at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, South America. And what a pleasant surprise to find that friends in Portland, Oregon had made it possible for me to *fly* home.

My trip across the continent in the big airliner was very comfortable and pleasant. I greatly enjoyed the beautiful landscape as viewed from aloft, from two to seven thousand feet high. There was quite a crowd of relatives and friends waiting for me at the airport, but of course my attention was first attracted to my beloved wife and daughter whom I had not seen for almost two years. It was indeed a happy reunion. They did not know for several months whether I was dead or alive, but God kept their hearts filled with hope.

¹⁵⁰ Mary Wallace, *Profiles of Pentecostal Missionaries* (Hazelwood: Word Aflame Press, 1986), 339.

I appreciate the way the Pentecostal Church looked after my wife and daughter; for the solicitude you showed for their welfare, and for granting them an allowance. I also feel so thankful for the help I received on my fare from Lorenzo Marquez to New York, and for the paving of the way with the F. B. I. for my quick release from the repatriation ship. I was surprised to have one of the three F. B. I. men, who were cross-questioning me, ask if I knew Mr. Kidson; but that was all he would say about you.

In the Far East, it was Monday, December 8, when the Japanese struck without warning. I was shaving that morning when I heard the bombers diving and dropping bombs near by. At first I thought it was the British practicing again. But soon someone said it was the Japanese attacking. I finally finished shaving and went up on the roof to look around. By that time they had left the Indian soldiers' barracks near my house and had gone to the airport and were bombing that. Afterward I learned that they had destroyed the entire Hong Kong air force, which consisted of four airplanes, and the China Clipper, which was just ready to take off.

After learning that war had really started, I went around visiting and encouraging our church members and calling their relatives and friends to repentance, with good results. Wednesday afternoon, December 10, was my last meeting with them—and what a glorious meeting it was! I had just finished speaking when the air raid siren sounded, so we went to prayer. A refined little lady from a wealthy Buddhist family, who had been seeking the baptism of the Holy Spirit for several weeks, came through to a glorious baptism according to Acts 2:4, as bombs were falling nearby and antiaircraft shells were bursting over our heads. The glorious presence of the Lord Jesus was so real to us that we completely forgot all about the war for a while. And exactly a week before that, a brilliant law student received a good baptism, and became active in bringing friends and relatives to our church. Several were saved during that time too.

Thursday afternoon, December 11, the Japanese army was at the gates of Kowloon, the mainland side of Hong Kong. The police, A. R. P. men, and most of the soldiers had been evacuated to Hong Kong proper—on Victoria Island. I, with a number of other missionaries, was at a missionary home near the ferry pier. All ferries had stopped running and we were fully resigned to being taken by the Japanese. But suddenly someone came and told us that the government had sent a small freighter over to take us across the Bay to Hong Kong proper, which they expected to defend successfully. Arriving on the other side, several of us walked a long distance to Dr. Clift's home. Dr. Clift was a very spiritual "medical missionary," who had a clinic and missions on both sides of the Bay. He and his wife gave us a whole-hearted welcome.

We had barely gotten to bed, when we were rudely reminded that our house was right next door to a battery of big guns. Suddenly they began to roar, and then here came the answering shots from the Japanese howitzers across the Bay. Their shells came screaming by our windows only a few yards away, and burst with a great roar just back of the house against the mountainside. Every few seconds they came, and we waited in suspense, expecting the next one to hit us.

Then the blessed Comforter began to assert Himself. We sang a chorus, based on Isaiah 26:3, so loudly in my heart that my mind was taken away from those missiles of death and placed on Jesus; then my heart rested in peace, and I fell asleep. Perhaps you know that chorus, which is as follows:

Staid on Thee, hallelujah!

Staid on Thee, on Thee;

Sweetest peace within my body

Since my mind is staid on Thee.

One day, as I was walking down the street, a shell struck a building right in front of me only a few feet away. Part of it was demolished, and debris and flying shrapnel killed a number of Chinese. I went down another street, and as I was crossing an intersection, a bomb fell only about twenty-five feet away. The concussion almost knocked me down, and pavement and rocks and shrapnel flew in all directions. But nothing touched me, except a little piece of glass that cut my face slightly.

In going down town I would often visit some of our church members, and every time I did there would be an air raid. The bombs fell so close that they shook the building where they lived, and here, too, I had a chance to preach Christ as our Saviour and refuge. In this place there was a little boy who was very sick with diphtheria. His parents asked me to pray for him, and he was almost instantly healed, which greatly strengthened their faith.

When Hong Kong surrendered on Christmas day, those terrible atrocities, which you have perhaps already heard about, began to take place. They made few prisoners at first. They either shot or bayoneted those they first captured, whether they were British, Chinese, or Indian soldiers. Eyewitnesses said they

saw a number of British soldiers lined up and shot down. Other American eyewitnesses told me that they saw the Japanese tie sixteen Canadian soldiers together, and then start to bayonet them. Three of those at the other end of the line, when they saw what was happening, managed to struggle loose. Two of them were shot dead, but one escaped.

The Japanese even went into a hospital and bayoneted about fifty soldiers in their beds. One of them escaped by arranging the bedding in the form of a man lying there, and then hid under the bed. The Jap's bayonet went through the bed boards and reached the soldier's chest, but only inflicting a slight wound. . . . The British would mow them down with their machine guns, but still they would come on, wave after wave, climbing over the dead bodies of their comrades. The British were overcome by sheer force of numbers. They would fall asleep on their feet for they could bring up no reinforcements, while the Japanese could. The Japanese were well prepared for war, and have displayed cunning, a determination, and an endurance that has surprised everybody.

On January 5, about 3,000 of us foreigners—British, American and Dutch—were placed in several filthy Chinese hotels until our internment camp at Stanley Peninsula should be prepared for us. The hotel rooms were extremely small and crowded, and infested with big rats. They would wake us up at night running over our beds, and one even ran over my head one night. But during the sixteen days we were there, my church members from both sides of the Bay visited me every day, bringing me food and other necessities. God bless them!

How wonderful is the love of God the hearts of all races. . . .

On January 21, we were taken to the Stanley Internment Camp the eastern end of Hong Kong Island. It was beautifully situated, and the buildings good, but they were terrible crowded, and the food was abominable. We were given five ounces rice in the morning and the same the evening, together with a little water buffalo meat or fish, a little gravy or curry, and sometimes a few small pieces of carrots or other vegetables. We were always hungry and weak and faint, and had to lie down good deal of the time. There was much sickness, and several died of malnutrition.

. . . Some of us missionaries would meet together for prayer almost every night, and how the Lord did bless us. We used to say we could feel the prayers of the saints at home, and we surely thank you all and praise the Lord for praying until victory and deliverance was attained. Long before there was any news of repatriation, the Lord let me know definitely that we would soon be set free, although many doubted.

Toward the end of our imprisonment I began receiving news from my church members through an "underground" route. I was happy to learn that our mission work was still going on under the leadership of our Chinese workers. But they were finding it difficult to meet expenses, so I must send them some money as soon as I can establish contact with a certain party in free China near Hong Kong. Much could be said about interesting and fearful incidents while in camp, but space forbids.

Finally, on the twenty-ninth day of June, after many tearful farewells with British and American friends (fifty-eight Americans stayed behind), we were marched down to the pier where we boarded launches which took us out to the big Japanese liner, Asama Maru, and there we found several hundred other Americans from Japan and north China. That evening we had our first meal on board, and it seemed like a king's feast to us who had been living on starvation rations for six months. The next evening our boat left for Lorenzo Marquez, Portuguese (neutral) territory in south Africa, where we were exchanged for Japanese nationals from the United States.

As our boat sailed away, and Hong Kong receded from sight in the distance, many eyes were filled with tears, especially those of the missionaries. We thought of our many friends and spiritual children there, and wondered how it was with them under the rule of the heathen conquerors. But just as we were leaving, I had the satisfaction of receiving a letter from one of our Chinese workers, saying that they still had the liberty to go on with the work.

We finally arrived in New York harbor August 25, just at sunrise. . . . After much cross-examination by the F. B. I., most of us were allowed to go ashore, but nearly two hundred were sent to Ellis Island for further questioning. While in New York, I had the joy of contacting one of our most faithful church members from Hong Kong, who had come over before the war started, being a citizen of this country.

Now I wish to thank all our dear friends for so faithfully standing by us during our time of labor in China, both by your prayers and by your offerings. And I especially thank those who responded to my wife's appeal for my fare from South Africa to New York, as well as those who so nobly stood by her and Esther ever since they came home.

Thanking you again for all your love and cooperation, I remain as ever,
Yours in the service of the Lord, –Ralph D. Bullock.¹⁵¹

After returning to North America, Ralph Bullock and his family began working with the Chinese in San Francisco; however, the missionary calling continued to weigh heavily upon their shoulders. Once God calls a missionary to a particular people, the total essence of life becomes a challenge to assimilate into the culture of that people.

The Japanese Arrest Mae Iry

Mae Iry was serving in North China. She knew that she would have to begin all over again, whatever the outcome of the war, but her calling kept her glued on location like a magnet. Some of her national workers were forced to flee their churches and homes as Japanese troops entered their cities. After serving for several months at a refugee center, and being given leeway by the Japanese who had taken over the municipal buildings and many of the churches, she was arrested on March 15, 1943, and placed in Wei Hsien, a concentration camp. There her health deteriorated and her heart broke. She was not released until August 17, 1945, when American soldiers parachuted from the sky and took over the camp. She described her experience in a letter dated October 22, 1945, from Peking:

A few words now, and more later when I get my thoughts lined up and get the habit of writing again. I was taken from Taiyoh on March 15, 1943 to Tatung and kept there for a week and then taken to Wei Hsien C.A.C., Shantung, arriving March 23, 1943, so for over 2 ½ years we were confined there. Walls were all around-armed guards at the gate, high pill boxes with guards in each one on top of [the] walls; electrified wires on top of the walls. . . . On October 15, 1945 we were evacuated by airplane to this place. . . . I am anxious to go to [my mission] station.¹⁵²

Dan and Alice Sheets's Church and Home Spared

In August 1943, W. E. Kidson quoted a letter from a missionary in free China:

The many friends of the Sheetses will be glad to share with us the latest news we have received concerning them. No doubt most of their friends know that they were interned in February, and it was understood that their property was confiscated at that time. But we have just received a letter from a missionary in Free China that caused us to rejoice over the fact that their fine new church and home had been spared to the work of the Lord. We will quote a portion of this letter:

"In February they [the Sheetses] were interned in Canton with other Americans in a camp on the premises of the Oriental Mission. Here they are staying in a room, which they have to themselves. Pastor Yau of Canton has helped them much. He moved things they could use in the internment camp from Lui Shui, their home, and was given favor by the Japanese in that he was able to deliver same to them. Prior to their being interned they made a turnover of their work to the care of Pastor Yau. Their home was also turned over to him. By this move they prevented the church property being occupied by the Japanese and their puppets and so preserved this property for the Lord's work. Mr. Yau is a brother whom Bro. Sheets ordained this year and in whom they have confidence. He states that Mr. and Mrs. Sheets were in their usual health and being fairly well treated by the Japanese when he saw them last. He may visit them occasionally, and is doing his best to keep the Word of Truth going forth from the same lighthouse which the Sheets were used to build and in which they laboured faithfully.

"The prices of food have advanced beyond all expectation. Food costs approximately ten times as much today as it did a year ago. It seems famine or conditions resembling famine times are facing us. The Lord's work is greatly affected, it is due to war and the unequal distribution of foods and the closing of trade routes. . . . Word has also come to us through another source that the two native children whom the

¹⁵¹ Ralph Bullock, "Bullocks Home," *Apostolic Herald* (October 1942): 1, 7, 14.

¹⁵² "Further News from Sister Iry in China," *Pentecostal Herald* (January 1946): 5.

Sheets were raising, were taken in charge by a native couple, which succeeded in escaping with them and some other orphan children into free China. Let us pray much for the Sheets and these faithful native workers.”¹⁵³

Dan and Alice Sheets’s War Experiences

After Japanese troops overran Canton, China, the Sheetses were taken to a concentration camp. This article was published after their return to the States:

“For we would not, brethren, have you ignorant of our trouble which came to us in Asia, that we were pressed out of measure, above strength, insomuch that we despaired even of life: but we had the sentence of death in ourselves, that we should not trust in ourselves, but in God which raiseth the dead: Who delivered us from so great a death, and doth deliver: in whom we trust that he will yet deliver us; ye also helping together by prayer for us, that for the gift bestowed upon us by the means of many persons thanks may be given by many on our behalf” (II Corinthians 1:8-11).

Since the year of 1937 we have been glorifying God in the fire; in the midst of fighting, bombs bursting in the air, perils of robbers, floods, famine and imprisonment. These are some of the thrilling experiences we have had during the past ten years in China. Bombs from enemy planes were a common thing. They destroyed depots, airports, oil tanks, government buildings and homes, leaving from 500 to 1,000 injured, dead and dying strewn about the streets. Some of the bodies were unrecognizable, being mangled or with no head, hands or feet. Many times we had to run and hide under trees, in ditches and air raid shelters for protection from falling bombs. When we traveled about during these days, we never knew whether we would meet again. Bombs destroyed at least four of our Mission buildings, located not far from our Mission station at Lui Shui. Can you imagine the nervous strain we were under? And there was no one in whom we could trust for our lives, but God.

When Canton fell on October 19, 1938, all the inhabitants were warned to leave the city, as the Japanese would soon be there, consequently they fled by the thousands to the country. Our city grew to 10,000 over night. Many had to spend the night out on the streets with no bedding, food, money or friends. Thousands upon thousands huddled together to starve. In a short time the Red Cross Relief rose to the occasion and began to distribute great quantities of rice, wheat, beans and other food among them, giving them at least one meal a day. We had a camp of over 250 to look after, so we preached the gospel to them also and many were converted.

During this momentous time many discouraged, frightened mothers, who were fleeing before the oncoming Japanese, threw their children out of train windows, left them by the roadside, in empty houses, or on door steps, never to see their wee darlings again. The injured, sick and dying, lay about the streets with no one to care for their bodies or souls.

Our co-worker and I found a poor man with a broken arm, who had been shot by the Japanese, dying near the Mortuary. While waiting on him we found six infants lying on bits of straw and boards, who had been left there to die, by their mothers. An old opium smoker, a beggar, had picked up one of these in order to assist him in his begging and coming to me he said, “Please Mam, give money to buy milk for this poor motherless and fatherless babe.” “I’m sorry,” I said, “but I haven’t any money for you, but if you bring the babe to the church I will be glad to give it some milk.” The next day he came with the skeleton babe in his arms, still determined he would have money to buy opium. I gladly fed the dirty, homely baby our Chinese Christians called her an ugly little monkey, then handed her back, holding my nose because of the stench.

In a few days he brought her again, and my mother heart gave in, and I kept the child. After a good bath and picking off the body lice, I rolled her in a towel until I could make her some clothes and coverlets. For months she cried for her meals every two hours, day and night. This along with my many other heavy responsibilities caused me to fail in health, so that I had to put her away for six months after which she became strong and grew in wisdom and stature, and favor with God and man.¹⁵⁴

¹⁵³ W. E. Kidson, “Word from the Sheets,” *Apostolic Herald* (August 1943): 10.

¹⁵⁴ Daniel Sheets quoted in W. E. Kidson, “Word from the Sheets,” *Apostolic Herald* (August 1943): 10.

The Iron Curtain Falls in Estonia

John Sikora went to Estonia in 1937. He married an Estonian girl, Susanna, who communicated with Hilda Reeder at the PAW foreign missions office. The last letter Hilda received from Susanna, dated April 1945, communicated the severity of Russian persecution against the Christians:

Only we let you know that we by God's grace are all well and going onward with the Lord. The saints are well, happy, joyful. Many of us lost everything, what little we had, only with our lives escaped, and little clothes in our hands. We were never expecting to write any more. All hopes that we should live another day were taken away, death and destruction on every side. Thousands of souls were swept into eternity and heaps of ruin on every side. The "iron curtain" descended immediately.¹⁵⁵

The State Department Negotiates Exchange for Dan and Alice Sheets

What a joy when word came from headquarters that they were in contact with the Sheetses, and the State Department had negotiated an exchange! W. E. Kidson wrote in the August 1945 *Apostolic Herald*:

We just received word from the Department of State that Brother and Sister [Daniel] Sheets, our missionaries in China, who have been in Japanese-occupied territory going on three years, will be among the next exchanged prisoners that will be coming home on the exchange vessel Gripsholm. We know this will be good news to all their friends and relatives.¹⁵⁶

Mae Iry Describes Postwar Conditions in China

A letter from Mae Iry, veteran missionary to North China, reveals postwar conditions in China:

On the road to Sister Stieglitz' station there are some terrible battles going on. In another place there is a large village with a Catholic Church, school and hospital, etc. The Reds (Chinese Communists) beat and kicked one of the priests to death—some "sisters" (nuns) who were present, clasped their hands together in an attitude of prayer which made the Reds angry and they tied their hands together and hung them (the sisters) on the limbs of trees in the compound—then made all who belonged stay inside—all others to leave and the Reds took over the place and to date no one knows how things are inside. A Swedish missionary was taken prisoner, with others, by the Reds. . . . If ever China needed Christ Jesus our Lord, it needs Him now. Many of the common people are getting their eyes open to what Communism really is. . . . The Communists have no use for missionaries, the gospel, or foreigners, especially Americans.¹⁵⁷

Elizabeth Stieglitz—Peiping, China

In 1948, Elizabeth Stieglitz wrote:

Conditions are bad again. The railroad up to Suiyian has been cut. The Reds have again taken four cities along the Suiyian Railroad. Many people have been going to Shensi Province. Last evening we heard the Reds are near there also. There is much unrest in Peiping, but we feel perfectly at peace. God sent me to China and I expect Him to take care of me.

The saints from Kwohsien Shensi Province who left there before the Reds came have written and sent word through others begging me to come to Taryian if only for a few days. I have at last been able to purchase an airplane ticket to Taryian. The Lord willing, I will leave to see the children (spiritual). The Lord has opened the way and I expect Him to take care of me and bring me safely back. Train, freight and airplane fares have gone up one hundred to one hundred and twenty percent.

¹⁵⁵ Hilda Reeder, *History of the Foreign Missions Department of the PAW*, 62.

¹⁵⁶ W. E. Kidson, "Good News," *Apostolic Herald* (August 1945): 10.

¹⁵⁷ Mae Iry, "News from North China," *Pentecostal Herald* (February 1947): 9.

I appreciate your prayers and the prayers of the saints. We pray for you daily at our evening prayers. May God's richest blessing rest upon you continually.¹⁵⁸

Dangers in Postwar China

After World War II, missionaries became targets of the godless communists. When Canton, China, fell into communistic hands, missionaries and headquarters officials expressed deep concern. The State Department urgently requested that the missionaries leave China, and the missionaries' hearts were crushed. They watched helplessly as their work was destroyed for the second time. Only missionaries can understand this kind of heartbreak. Kathryn E. Hendricks, one of the missionaries, wrote:

Canton has fallen into the hands of the Communists. Brother and Sister Kelley chose to remain there. . . . We have not heard from them since the fall, so we do not know how they are. There was a bridge blown up not far from their home, but we do not know the extent of the damage. . . .

They [the Sheetses] are still trying to carry on in Lui Shui, and seem to be doing well under present conditions. However, the government has threatened to take over Brother and Sister Sheets' home to use for offices. Now that the communists are in we do not know what they will do. . . . China is really going through a dark Gethsemane, and the Chinese Christians are being tried and persecuted. It looks as if the doors of the Gospel are fast being closed here. . . .

We have been earnestly praying about Java, Formosa and Japan. So far neither Sister Stieglitz nor I have felt we should go to Java. However, we are subject to change if that is where the Lord wants us. We both like the thought of Formosa because of the language. Right now, however, it is quite hard to obtain a permit to Formosa because the communist threat is to take Formosa next. The American Consulate said if we go there he still has us on his hands, and they are trying to get all Americans away from here. I am sure if it is God's will for us to go there He can open the door and grant the proper permit. Above all, we want God's will, so please help us pray. Sometimes we feel that maybe God wants us right here.¹⁵⁹

W. E. Kidson, general secretary of the PCI, responded to Sister Hendricks's letter:

We urge that you [stateside believers] earnestly pray until God answers this request of Sister Hendricks. We have not heard from Brother Kelley since the fall of Canton up to this time. We do not know what is behind the curtain in Canton. Pray earnestly for Brother and Sister Kelley. We wonder if our time for work in China is finished and the national Christians will have to carry on. Pray for them that God will make them mighty witnesses for His name sake. There has been over ten months of continual prayer conference in South China (and we hope it is still going' on), with mighty visitations from the hand of God in signs and wonders. This has been carried on entirely by the Nationals with no outside help, with no word said about money, and no offerings taken. Yet God has supplied and fed as high as two hundred who were in attendance. He surely "spread a table in the wilderness."¹⁶⁰

Peter Fung, Chinese Worker, Ventures into Communist Territory

A 1949 letter from Peter Fung, one of the Chinese ministers, reveals the tenacity of the Chinese believers. They had suffered terrible ordeals during World War II when their work was destroyed by Japanese soldiers; now the communists made the destruction complete. Peter Fung wrote:

I received the things you sent and thanks many times for them. I wanted to send you a picture, but could not put it in this letter. Sally Ann is well. Pastor Lei came to our school recently and he said that she was all right. I do praise the Lord and thank you friends because the Lord has enabled me to finish three years in the Bible School. During these three years my body has suffered but my soul is very happy.

¹⁵⁸ Elizabeth Stieglitz, "Peiping, China," *Pentecostal Herald* (January 1946): 5.

¹⁵⁹ Kathryn E. Hendricks, "China Today," *Pentecostal Herald* (December 1949): 9.

¹⁶⁰ Ibid.

I am going into Communist territory. Although it is dangerous, yet I believe the Holy Spirit will help me. I am ready to live or die for Jesus. They can kill my body but they cannot kill my soul. So I have decided to go. Please pray for me that I may not be afraid and go back on the Lord. The Lord called me to preach the gospel and although the Communists persecute preachers I am trusting in the Lord.

May the Lord bless you and remember me in prayer.¹⁶¹

China was not the only country that faced a godless future. Magnificent countries such as Russia, Cuba, Romania, Yugoslavia, and Czechoslovakia, among many others, would stagger under Communism. The prayers of the church would prevail and doors would open again for many of these countries. Yet underground churches prospered and grew into spiritual giants. In 2005, tens of thousands of Chinese allegedly were receiving the Holy Ghost, and the majority of these were baptized in Jesus' name.

¹⁶¹ Peter Fung, national worker, in a letter to Missionary Sheets, *Pentecostal Herald* (August 1950): 8.

❧ Chapter 5 ❧

The United Pentecostal Church Incorporated— Regrouping to Serve 1945–1950

The merger of the PCI and the PAJC, which created the United Pentecostal Church, was an event that enlarged the pages of Oneness Pentecostal history and created a unique potential for evangelizing the world. Continual progress in the church's purpose underlined the motto for the newly formed organization: "The whole gospel to the whole world!" In later years an additional phrase made the motto more meaningful to every member of the UPCI: ". . . by the whole church!"

Outreach accelerated, along with a commitment to the commission and a willingness to be used of God. Local churches accepted the challenge, ensuring that future growth would continue to be the focus of the UPCI. As a body and as individuals, local pastors renewed financial commitments to the commission at each General Conference, accepting the responsibility with a deep sense of resolve. General Conference minutes reveal that a burgeoning foreign missions endeavor was among the main purposes for the 1945 merger.

Like an orchestra of instruments in the hands of master musicians, the ministers of the newly formed UPCI prepared to sound the first notes of a great symphony. The need for further organizational adjustment seemed remote—it was performance time! This merger seemed destined to stay permanently on the stage, and in the ensuing years this fact has been confirmed over and over again.

Financial records facilitate understanding of what the merger meant to missionary service. Foreign missions involvement for the PCI from 1924 to 1945 was centered in China, India, West Africa, Java, and Japan. Foreign missions involvement for the PAJC in 1924 was centered in Africa, China, India, Japan, Colombia, Uruguay, Hawaii, Palestine, and Jamaica. After these two Jesus Name organizations merged, sacrificial giving escalated to new levels. It was as though the Lord placed His sanction upon the brethren's actions. At the end of the first year the financial report showed a budget of \$55,203.74!

The UPCI established a headquarters at 3449 South Grand Boulevard, St. Louis, Missouri. The elected officials were Howard A. Goss, general superintendent, W. T. Witherspoon, assistant general superintendent, Stanley W. Chambers, general secretary, and Wynn T. Stairs, foreign missions secretary.¹⁶² Stanley Chambers did not meet the age requirement to serve as the general secretary, but the conference waived it in order to permit his eligibility to serve.

The first Foreign Missions Board consisted of Wynn T. Stairs, Benjamin H. Hite, A. O. Moore, C. P. Williams, and Oscar Vouga, who served as the recording secretary.¹⁶³

Post-merger Missionary Reappointments

Samuel and Marie Jensen from Morgantown, West Virginia, were reappointed to Orange Free State, South Africa, to work with the Swanepoles. They were granted a fare of \$556.¹⁶⁴

¹⁶² The title of UPCI foreign missions secretary was changed to foreign missions director in 1956. Wynn T. Stairs served from 1944 to 1962, Oscar Vouga served from 1962 to 1969, Tom Fred Tenney served from 1969 to 1976, and Harry E. Scism served from 1976 to 2001. Bruce A. Howell was elected in 2001 and is the present FM director.

¹⁶³ "Official Listing: Missionary Board Members," *Pentecostal Herald* (January 1946): 2.

¹⁶⁴ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (September 26–27, 1945).

As in the case of the Jensens, the minutes of the Foreign Missions Board (FMB) meetings for September 1945 were filled with reappointments, which would legalize the appointments for missionaries who had gone out under the former PAJC and the PCI. The FMB also responded to interviews that involved missionaries from other Oneness groups who felt the UPCI would become the catalyst for missionary evangelism. However, it should be noted that the board carefully avoided decisions that would breach ethical lines.

With the excitement of the merger permeating the atmosphere and the scars of World War II beginning to heal, missionaries throughout the world were eager to walk through open doors of opportunity. Many had been displaced during the war and interned in concentration camps. Others had been recalled out of the danger zones and home to North America. As the terrors of war slowly retreated into the shadows, the missionary call rekindled in the hearts of those who had ministered in far-off lands.

One can feel Mae Iry's longing to return to Taiyoh, North China, from reading her letters. She knew that in the aftermath of the war she would have to begin anew, but the burden to return to her people drew her like a magnet. She heard from national workers such as Harry P. Lien and his wife, who were forced to flee their churches and homes as the Japanese troops entered the cities. The Liens wrote, "We lost everything we had. We ran into the mountains and stayed there for three days and nights with nothing to eat. It was rainy and the wind was biting cold."¹⁶⁵

Very few people know of the tremendous sacrifices many of our national ministers faced as their work fell into enemy hands. Many of them watched as believers were martyred, church buildings confiscated, and congregations driven underground. But now the world was moving on. Happier events appeared on the horizon.

New Missionaries Appointed

Following is a list of missionaries recommended by the FMB and appointed by the Board of General Presbyters at the 1946 General Conference: Ralph and Helen Reynolds, Jamaica; George M. Kelley, South China; Kenneth and Louise French, Alaska; Samuel and Marie Jensen, South Africa; William and Ruth Drost, South America; J. B. and Aline Thomas, Near East; and Bernice Davis, South America. This made a total of forty-seven missionaries under appointment. They were going to the field as fast as transportation and other necessary arrangements could be made.¹⁶⁶

Georgia Regenhardt and Gladys Robinson—Liberia

New beginnings were evident as L. E. and Helen Haney of Liberia announced the arrival of a new missionary, Louis Elmer Haney Jr., born October 8, 1945. The Haney's were due for furlough and requested someone to care for their Maheh Mission in Liberia, West Africa. The FMB appointed Georgia Regenhardt on March 27, 1946, as a replacement. She arrived in Liberia on December 28, 1946. She was apprehensive as she faced the task of running the mission station alone. She described the place as beautiful with "neatly scraped paths, extensive orchards and gardens, with smooth lawn around the main buildings."¹⁶⁷ On January 6, 1947, Helen Haney took Georgia on a two-hour walk to the neighboring Beajah Mission, headed by Otis and Rosette Petty. There she met Pauline Gruse, who promised help if needed. That assured the young, inexperienced missionary.

By March 1947, Georgia was in full control of Maheh. However, a letter from Wynn Stairs informed her that, due to Otis Petty's ailing health, the Beajah Mission would be closed and combined with the Maheh Mission. He promised that a new missionary, Gladys Robinson, would soon arrive.

¹⁶⁵ Mae Iry, "Further News," *Pentecostal Herald* (January 1946): 5.

¹⁶⁶ Wynn T. Stairs, "New Missionaries Appointed," *Pentecostal Herald* (December 1946): 9.

¹⁶⁷ Mary Wallace, *Profiles of Pentecostal Missionaries* (Hazelwood: Word Aflame Press, 1986), 18.

Gladys Robinson had attended Apostolic Bible College in Tulsa, Oklahoma. While visiting a church in Carterville, Illinois, she heard Peter Jensen prophesy that God had called one of the listeners to Africa as a missionary. Gladys knew that God had been speaking to her about Africa, and this confirmed it. The missionary board endorsed her in 1946, but she was not able to leave her family and friends and head for Liberia until July 31, 1947. Once at the Maheh Mission, she found that due to Otis Petty's ailing health and insufficient funds, his Beajah Mission had been combined with Georgia Regenhardt's Maheh Mission. Gladys's missionary work was launched.

In September 1947, Georgia Regenhardt wrote, "Oh, Brother Stairs, my heart is so full. I wish I could tell you how I love these people from the tiniest baby on to the poor lost fathers and mothers. I only wish you could see how God is working!"

The Munitions Fund

On the administrative side, many decisions faced FM Secretary Wynn Stairs. War had cast deep shadows over foreign missions work, which lacked the funds for rebuilding the infrastructure of the missionary family. One of his first projects, called the "Munitions Fund," was meant to provide innovative financial assistance for automobiles, station wagons, motorcycles, bicycles, and motorboats. As the concept took hold, it expanded to providing airplanes. Elmer Ball of Colombia was the first recipient of an automobile from this fund.¹⁶⁸

1947 Official Listings

The constituency was excited as the new administration appointed eleven new missionaries.¹⁶⁹ In his report to the General Board, Wynn Stairs stated that the FMB was responsible for nine countries and forty missionaries. There were 1,100 UPCI congregations worldwide, 240 of them located outside of North America.

At this time, the missionary roster—as far as could be determined—consisted of the following: George M. Kelly, Daniel K. and Alice Sheets, Elizabeth Stieglitz, Kathryn Hendricks, and Mae Iry, China; Aaron J. and Pearl Holmes, L. E. and Helen Haney, Georgia Regenhardt, Gladys Robinson, and Otis and Rosette Petty, Liberia; A. R. George Buck, Congo; Dorothy "Mother" McCarty, A. O. Moore, Telie Dover, Henry and Olive Tefre, and Kenneth A. and Florence Wine, India; George and Helen White and Edith Berthoux, Java; James Elmer and Grace Ball, Verner Larsen, and Stanford Johnston, Colombia; Paul Bayne, Lebanon; Timothy D. Urshan, Louise Dickson, and "Sister" Hogg, Palestine; C. Stiles, Hawaii; Leonard Coote, Japan; and John Huba, Yugoslavia.

The 1947 FMB consisted of Wynn T. Stairs, secretary, and board members Anton Huba, Oscar Vouga, and C. P. Williams.¹⁷⁰

W. T. Witherspoon's Appeal

The expense of recalling missionaries and their subsequent return to the field after the war strained the financial resources of the North American churches. Another financial challenge was individuals masquerading as missionaries. These hypocritical individuals visited unsuspecting congregations and accepted offerings intended for the faithful missionaries serving overseas. Their love for missions made the churches vulnerable, and they gave sacrificially to relieve the suffering of these "needy missionary families." This hoax became so widespread that the constituency had to be educated about using the

¹⁶⁸ W. T. Stairs, "Munitions Fund," *Pentecostal Herald* (April 1946): 5.

¹⁶⁹ Wynn Stairs, "Annual Report to the General Board," September 1, 1947.

¹⁷⁰ "Official Listing: Missionary Board Members," *Pentecostal Herald* (October 1947): 4.

official channel for foreign missions giving. Assistant General Superintendent W. T. Witherspoon appealed to the fellowship:

Some indeed have brought great reproach in their respective fields. Worse than this, some have made it a “racket” and have duped the saints out of thousands of dollars. . . . I am stirred to urge all of our members and churches to send their foreign missionary money to Headquarters for distribution. Brother Stairs is really doing things in that department, which has grown by leaps and bounds under his leadership and the uniting of the two bodies. Our Missionary Board is very efficiently handling the difficult problems with which it is faced.

Right now there is a good reason for my asking you not to be taken in by some missionaries who are traveling around and whose stories contain little or no truth. Some I know have already wasted a large amount of the saints’ money. *Support your own missionaries*. Do not entertain or give offerings to anyone who has not been accepted by your organization or at least until you have consulted Headquarters.¹⁷¹

For many pastors, this urgent message curbed the misdirection of sacrificial giving. However, many other pastors misinterpreted Witherspoon’s intent. There are always a few zealous pastors who consider communiqués of this nature as an effort by the administration to “control” their financial giving. As a result, some still take risks by giving to missionaries who are not endorsed by the foreign missions administration.

Wynn Stairs

Through experience and a prayerful attitude, the new organization created a strong, effective world missions leadership. Since evangelization had been the focal point of the church from the beginning, much attention was given to the position of the foreign missions secretary, and Wynn T. Stairs was elected.¹⁷² Having served effectively for the PAJC first as a board member and later as foreign missions secretary, he was the unanimous choice of the brethren from both organizations to direct the UPCI foreign missions program.

Wynn Stairs was a commanding figure for foreign missions. He had an inherent ability to recognize the labor pangs of revival and move to birth it. Revival broke out in country after country as the gospel swept across the world. While the doors to Asia and the islands of the Pacific were closing, they were opening for Central America, Jamaica, and South America. However, although opposition had driven the Chinese church underground, it did not obliterate it. The administration established several contacts and guarded them closely.

In his letter to the General Board dated September 1, 1947, Stairs wrote that missionaries were spreading the gospel in Java with a new church building and in Alaska with a new boat. Helen White’s ill health had forced her to return home from Java. The church in Barranquilla, Colombia, purchased a parcel of ground for a new church building. He listed missionaries on furlough: Louie and Helen Haney, Otis and Rosette Petty, and Mae Iry.

Post World War II Missions

War-ravished Europe and Asia (outside of China and Malaysia) were fertile ground for missionary activity. Denominational mission societies saw the unique opportunity and devoted much of their finances to open the door to spiritual healing for the masses. The annual council of the Seventh Day Adventists at Grand Rapids, Michigan, allocated \$11 million to send missionaries to the countries where they had been denied entrance during the war. The Northern Baptist Convention allocated \$14 million for its World

¹⁷¹ W. T. Witherspoon, “A Missionary Appeal,” *Pentecostal Herald* (February 1947): 5.

¹⁷² “Elected Officers,” *Pentecostal Herald* (January 1946): 9.

Mission Crusade. The money would be an immediate relief to emergency ministries required by the war and recurring expenses in a world program of missionary advances.¹⁷³

Servicemen who had fought in the war saw the suffering of common people and felt deep compassion for them. For many, this compassion translated into a missionary calling. Many former soldiers decided to return overseas for missionary service.

One particular Air Force sergeant, Jacob D. Deshazer, spent forty-one months in a Japanese prison camp. Mistreatment and severe malnutrition at the hands of his captors only deepened his resolve to return for missionary service.

The unfolding events indicated that God was preparing for a major shift in the church's expansion. For example, the work in Jamaica was transformed by a new missionary. After Brother Russell, the church's leader, died in June or 1946, Brother Stairs asked Ralph Reynolds, a schoolteacher, to serve there. Brother Stairs announced Reynolds's appointment:

We present to you this month Brother and Sister Ralph Reynolds of Lansdowne, Ontario, Canada, as outgoing Missionaries to Jamaica, British West Indies. Brother and Sister Reynolds have been in the work of the Lord approximately 10 years . . . For several years they have had a deep-rooted conviction that they were called to do missionary work. We trust they will help to fill the vacancy in the work in Jamaica caused by the passing of our dear Brother Russell in June of last year.

Brother Reynolds was saved at Picton, Ontario, in 1933 and has proven to be a good worker under the ministry of Brothers A. O. Moore and W. R. Pair. He holds a first class teaching certificate from the Province of Ontario. Sister Reynolds was also saved at Picton in the year 1932 and is a registered nurse. We trust that God will be with them in their new field of labor. They have two boys and one girl. It is expected that they will sail within a few weeks.¹⁷⁴

Ralph and Helen Reynolds arrived in Kingston, Jamaica, on February 9, 1947.

Besides the Reynolds's appointment, the February 1947 *Pentecostal Herald* announced George M. Kelley's return to China. Having served thirty-one years in that field, he was known as the "Daddy of South China." He had constructed a large tabernacle in Canton that seated over a thousand.

Brother Stairs requested prayer for George White of Java, who was seriously ill. He also reported that veteran missionaries James and Grace Ball were en route to Colombia with their two children for another term of service. Grace's illness had caused her return to the States in April 1945, and Brother Ball had followed in December.

Dan and Alice Sheets's beautiful new church building in Lui Shui, China, was pictured in the February 1947 *Pentecostal Herald*. On the archway over the gate was a sign, "Jesus Name Church."

Norwegian missionaries, Henry and Olive Tefre and their five children, were also pictured in front of their home. They had served six years in India with Dorothy "Mother" McCarty before Olive suffered a complete physical breakdown, and they returned to Norway. In his letter Henry Tefre wrote, "We have been away from the states so long without being able to correspond with you on account of the war. We know that you will pray for us."¹⁷⁵

A. O. Moore was appointed to India, but trouble there cast doubt that he would be able to go. Brother and Sister J. B. Thomas arrived in Baghdad, Iraq, in May.

John Balca—Yugoslavia

The Spirit sometimes sends national ministers to preach to their own people. More often than not, the call is an answer to prayers for help. An example of this is John Balca, one of the earliest Yugoslavian converts. God arranged for John to meet Anton Huba, a Slovak pastor living in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. John Balca wrote, "I was born of Slovak parents on October 14, 1903 at Glozan, Backa, Yugoslavia.

¹⁷³ Paul H. Box, "What Others Are Doing," *Pentecostal Herald* (January 1946): 5.

¹⁷⁴ W. T. Stairs, "New Missionaries," *Pentecostal Herald* (February 1947): 8.

¹⁷⁵ Henry Tefre, quoted in W. T. Witherspoon, "A Real Need," *Pentecostal Herald* (June 1949): 10.

Although we may not know each other . . . we are now one family of all nations and tongues. The Holy Ghost unites us in the love of God into one church, which is His body on earth.”¹⁷⁶

As a twelve-year-old boy, John Balca was baptized in the Church of God. When a brother of the apostolic faith in Portland, Oregon, sent John some tracts, he learned about the Holy Spirit. He soon came to believe that the baptism of the Holy Spirit was necessary for everyone, and that he too must receive this experience.

He wrote to Portland, Oregon, to request the address of any church in Europe that believed in the baptism of the Holy Spirit. They advised him to visit a church in Stavanger, Norway. He went there hungering for this experience and received the Holy Spirit and spoke in tongues. Then he met Paul Mayton of Akron, Ohio, who taught him about baptism in Jesus’ name for the remission of sins. Through a meeting with Anton Huba, who had made several mission trips to Yugoslavia, John Balca met Anton’s brother, John Huba, of Czechoslovakia. John continued his letter:

I accepted the baptism in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ for the remission of sins in the river Bosut in Yugoslavia, being baptized by Pastor Daniel Bayer. . . . We now continue to work together with our brethren in Czechoslovakia and Hungary. Two times I was locked in jail in Hungary for this truth. . . . Later I started my work for God in France among Slovaks and Poles and nearly 200 people were baptized in Jesus’ Name.

The greatest part of my work was done here in Yugoslavia where we have now nearly 40 assemblies. God was mightily blessing my efforts since most of my life I have spent here. . . . I have a wife and six children, four sons and two daughters.

I promise you that I will faithfully do all that I can for the advancement of God’s kingdom in these Balkan states, where bloodshed and iniquities of all kinds prevail. . . . The government is now hindering the work. They closed the church of our Rumanian brethren. They locked me up in jail in one place where I was about to perform the baptismal service in Jesus’ name. Please pray for us.¹⁷⁷

John Huba—Czechoslovakia

Czechoslovakia saw great advances under John Huba, the appointed missionary to Czechoslovakia. Pavel Katiak, a national pastor, wrote about John and Anton Huba’s work in Yugoslavia. He commended Jan Balca, John Balca’s son, with whom he was working, and reported that despite opposition the work was progressing.

We have about 85 members in one assembly. Over 60 of them are baptized with the Holy Ghost. In one month over 40 were baptized with the Holy Ghost. That was the most remarkable outpouring of the Holy Ghost in Yugoslavia. . . . Although persecuted by the government, we did not cease [to work]. . . . We have a wonderful work in Kulpine, Yugoslavia, where Paul Mayton [of Akron, Ohio] and Anton Huba brought the message for the first time. Now we have an assembly of 120 people. In Silbas and Novy Sad the work continues to grow. . . . There are about forty assemblies in all.¹⁷⁸

In 1947 Anton Huba was a member of the UPCI Foreign Missions Board. The Huba brothers’ father, Andrew, had pioneered the work in Czechoslovakia in 1927. On one of his mission trips Anton was severely persecuted for his preaching and imprisoned in Belgrade. In 1931, John Huba went to Czechoslovakia to carry on his father’s work.

¹⁷⁶ John Balca, “More Good News from Jugoslavia,” *Pentecostal Herald* (March 1947): 9.

¹⁷⁷ Ibid.

¹⁷⁸ Pavel Katiak, “Good News from Jugoslavia,” *Pentecostal Herald* (March 1947): 8.

More Postwar Missionary News

With revival fires burning in Java (Indonesia), the missionary board appointed Elmer and Hettie Buckmiller to assist George White. A Javan law did not permit wives to immigrate there until their husbands had prepared a home for them, so Elmer traveled alone in May 1947 to process the legal paper work and secure a residence, not knowing how long he would be separated from his wife and family.¹⁷⁹

Palestine was involved in civil war between the Jews and Arabs. Louise Dickson and Sister Hogg were in the middle of it, their lives in constant danger. Israel was soon to become a recognized nation; the Middle East was in many headlines. J. B. and Aline Thomas and Brother and Sister Paul Bayne were to sail for the Near East in May or June 1947, the Thomases to Baghdad, Iraq, and the Baynes to Syria and Lebanon.¹⁸⁰

By September 1947 the missionary family had grown tremendously. The missionary families that were returning or initially departing in 1947 were George M. Kelley, China; Ralph Reynolds, Jamaica; J. E. Ball, Colombia; Georgia Regenhardt and Gladys Robinson, Liberia, West Africa; and Paul Bayne, Lebanon. Even though not under appointment, Charlie Yadon and Grace Yadon went to Alaska. Nineteen additional missionaries were under appointment and seven on furlough, making a total of 137 missionaries.¹⁸¹

Reports of effective missionary service encouraged local churches in North America until a solid base of financial support began flowing into the FMD treasury. Brother Stairs kept the pastors constantly informed of how funds were disbursed. The budget called for \$425 per month to be disbursed to India, \$1,050 to China, \$350 to Java, \$600 to Colombia, \$350 to Jamaica, \$100 to Alaska, \$50 to Hawaii, \$660 to Liberia, \$300 to Europe, and \$200 to the Near East. Paul Bayne's imminent arrival in Lebanon would make a monthly total of \$4,085 being invested in the UPCI missionary family.¹⁸²

The Inherent Stresses of Missionary Work

The homeland needs to understand the tremendous stresses missionaries experience on the field: the initial and ongoing assimilation into the recipient culture, learning the language, discipling new converts, many of whom know little or nothing about Christian living, constructing or expanding church facilities, establishing a place in the new country for the fledgling church, and training national workers. All of this puts the missionary's health at risk.

Many missionaries push themselves beyond the limit, trying to succeed at the endeavors God has assigned to them. This was a problem in those primitive days, and it is still an ongoing problem. Here is a cry from George Kelley in Canton, China: "I could do so much more if there were sufficient helpers to assist me. Due to the growth of the church, the load is almost more than one can bear."¹⁸³ FM Secretary W. T. Stairs wrote about his concern for Helen White's ill health: "The stress of the work has caused Sister Helen to return to the States. She has lost over 50 pounds."¹⁸⁴

In the early years, almost every aspect of overseas mission work was sacrificial. The missionary family depended on financial support from North American churches, but many times the needs of the North American churches resulted in a shortfall in missions giving. Since the missionaries assimilated into the recipient culture, their living conditions were substandard; for them, the call of God meant putting family and self in a secondary position in order to bring a nation to know God. A caring missionary board was the stability and backbone of the program; while missionaries labored on the field, the FMB interceded in the homeland to supply them with the bare necessities. Still, it was said that to be a

¹⁷⁹ W. T. Stairs, "Missionary Department News," *Pentecostal Herald* (May 1947): 9.

¹⁸⁰ Ibid.

¹⁸¹ Wynn T. Stairs, "Miscellaneous Missionary News," *Pentecostal Herald* (October 1947): 5.

¹⁸² Ibid., 6.

¹⁸³ George M. Kelley, "Our Field—South China," *Pentecostal Herald* (October 1947): 11.

¹⁸⁴ W. T. Stairs, "Miscellaneous News," *Pentecostal Herald* (September 1947): 8.

missionary was bliss and one would have to step down to be a king. The missionary family did not complain. How does one complain about success?

It is still true that if the churches at home could envision what their missionaries are accomplishing—and suffering—many of them would be more eager to invest in what is happening beyond North American borders.

Dramatic Change in South Africa

From one evening to the next morning a mission field can experience dramatic change. A difficult time usually precedes a miraculous advance. (This is paralleled in Scripture.) Sometimes it is a tract that someone has discarded as disinteresting, but it, being a work of the Holy Spirit, becomes the key to a transforming action that affects many lives.

For example, J. T. Beetge from Pretoria, South Africa, heard about the Pentecostal experience from John G. Lake, an early missionary who opened South Africa. At that time Beetge was a member of the Dutch Reformed Church.

Then someone casually gave Beetge a copy of the *Pentecostal Herald*, and he received a revelation of the oneness of the Godhead. As he began to teach this doctrine to his local assembly, he and the churches he had founded were expelled from the Dutch Reformed Church. Finding the address of the international headquarters in the now-worn *Herald*, he wrote to Brother Goss, who invited him to visit America.

Stanley Chambers reported the result of that visit:

We have been very much blessed in having Rev. C. J. Beetge from Pretoria, South Africa, in this country where he has visited a number of our churches and also camp meetings. Brother Beetge heard of the United Pentecostal Church through a copy of the *Pentecostal Herald* which someone in South Africa gave him some time ago. Brother Beetge . . . has been to various sections of the country and has proved to be a real blessing. In as much as the next issue of the *Herald* will be a missionary issue we will be telling our readers more in detail concerning our brother and his work in South Africa.¹⁸⁵

When Brother Beetge returned to his home in South Africa, he encouraged the brethren of his churches to affiliate with the UPCI. By February 1948, the response of the African brethren was known:

We have just received the following extract of minutes of the General Workers Council of the Assemblies of Christ in South Africa, as held from December 1st to 7th, 1947 at Hartebeespoortdam, Pretoria, South Africa:

Proposed by Evangelist Geo. J. Carey and seconded by Evangelist Walter T. Thompson that we, the General Council of the Assemblies of Christ of South Africa, after prayerful deliberation and after listening to the impressive report of our beloved superintendent and elder, C. J. Beetge, who has just recently returned from a visit to America and Canada and who has our full confidence, unanimously agree to rescind and withdraw our constitution and name (Assemblies of Christ) and amalgamate with the United Pentecostal Church (Inc.) of America and Canada, accepting their constitution and name (United Pentecostal Church) of America and Canada, thereby binding ourselves to observe, preach and teach the doctrines as laid down by them, which we have found to coincide with the Holy Scripture, which we have in the past abided by.¹⁸⁶

S. P. Beetge, the secretary, and C. J. Beetge, the chairman of the organization, signed the document. This is how quickly events can develop in our overseas fields; when God is in control, the work expands miraculously. The UPCI moved quickly to facilitate this opportunity, sending General Superintendent Goss to review and consummate the merger:

¹⁸⁵ Stanley W. Chambers, "Rev. C. J. Beetge Visits America," *Pentecostal Herald* (September 1947): 8.

¹⁸⁶ S. W. Chambers, "South Africa Merger," *Pentecostal Herald* (February 1948): 9.

Brother Howard A. Goss, General Superintendent of the United Pentecostal Church is . . . enroute to South Africa. . . . He should have reached Cape Town, South Africa, on or about March 15th and from there to journey north to Pretoria, about 1,000 miles distant. It is expected that Brother C. J. Beetge or his representative met Brother Goss upon his arrival in Cape Town. . . .

We are sure that he will . . . be a great blessing to the ministers and workers and that the organizing of the brethren there of like precious faith into a District of the United Pentecostal Church will be a real inspiration and help in the furtherance of the work of the Lord in that part of His vineyard. The organizing conference was to be held in Pretoria, beginning on March 26th. Pray for the work in South Africa. It is a marvelous open door for the name of Jesus in that part of the world.¹⁸⁷

Brother Goss reported the trip in his travelogue in the May 1948 *Pentecostal Herald*:

Pretoria, South Africa is the center of my activities at the present time, as I am here with Pastor C. J. Beetge. As I reported in my last travelogue (January issue of the Herald) the brethren in South Africa voted to merge the Assemblies of Christ with the United Pentecostal Church. At Brother Beetge's urgent appeal and the official action of our Board of General Presbyters at Dallas, Texas, I have come to consummate the organizing of this district in harmony with our fellowship.

After Brother Goss's successful efforts to organize the new church group, W. R. Pair traveled to South Africa to reaffirm to the African brethren that the UPCI would go to any length to fulfill the work of world evangelism. Brother Beetge expressed his appreciation:

On April 2nd, 1948, W. R. Pair was welcomed to South Africa at Cape Town by a group of saints and preachers. The same evening he and Brother Thompson flew to Pretoria where the Conference was already in session. On Saturday night, after the welcoming festival, he straightway started his ministry of preaching, lecturing and singing, which proved a great blessing. . . . The work has been greatly advanced by his ministry.

On April 11th we visited Welverdiend for a baptismal [service]. . . . In May we conducted tarrying services, in conjunction with Brother and Sister Freeman, for two weeks and the Lord graciously baptized 28 souls in His Holy Spirit. From the 19th to the 24th of May, Brother Pair launched a tent campaign at Wolmer, a suburb of Pretoria, where a Pastor and a whole assembly were baptized in Jesus' Name. We were always on the move and the ministry of Brother Pair received a precious reception everywhere we went. . . .

Recently we received word . . . that there are 118 ready to be baptized in one place and 24 in another, in the name of Jesus. The Assemblies of Christ in South Africa, who have merged with the United Pentecostal Church of North America, thank God for having sent His servant to us at the time when our need was great. His ministry here was of vast importance and assistance. We thank Brother Pair for the great sacrifice, which he made to come to us at his own expense.¹⁸⁸

Death of Dorothy "Mother" McCarty

All news that filtered from the field through the foreign missions office was not good news. The September 1947 *Pentecostal Herald* contains a short notice of the death of Dorothy McCarty, one of the grandmothers of missions. In the October 1947 *Pentecostal Herald*, Brother Stairs, calling her "Mother" McCarty, reported that hundreds of Hindus and Mohammedans from the village and neighborhood came to pay their respects to that dear soldier of the cross. All who knew her mourned the veteran who had served at the mission station in India since 1909:

Sister McCarty, faithful missionary to India, . . . departed this life on Friday night, July 18th, 1947 at Bhagalpur, Dist. Deoria, U. P., India at the age of 83 years and six months. Death was caused by a paralytic stroke, which lasted for 13 days. Sister McCarty was converted at the age of 12 years and had a call to the foreign field since she was 16 years old. . . . In 1907 she was baptized with the Holy Spirit . . . her call to India was renewed . . . [and] she sailed from New York for Colombo, landing in October, 1909. .

¹⁸⁷ Stanley W. Chambers, "Howard A. Goss Enroute to South Africa," *Pentecostal Herald* (April 1948): 2.

¹⁸⁸ C. J. Beetje, "W. R. Pair Visit to South Africa," *Pentecostal Herald* (November 1948): 5.

. . . For two years she worked . . . at Bahraich, U. P. after which she came to Bhagalpur in October 1911, and founded the Bharosa Char Mission of which she was the leader until the day of her death. . . . She was the first Oneness Missionary to India.¹⁸⁹

Pastor S. Morar, assisted by Elder B. L. Parmar, conducted her funeral service on July 19. She was buried in the Bhagalpur Mission cemetery. Another faithful missionary had finished her course.

Sister McCarty was very farsighted; she had organized the work so that it could continue without her. She had a saying: “The Lord will not fail me and my friends in America, I know, will stand by the work even when I am gone.”

Illness Plagues the Missionary Family

The missionary family suffered bouts of malaria and fevers of all descriptions. The *Pentecostal Herald* often brought prayer needs to the attention of the church. In October 1947 Brother Stairs reported that A. J. Holmes of Liberia was very ill. He and his wife, Pearl, had spent many years in Liberia. In Colombia, Verner Larsen contracted typhoid fever and was bedfast for over seventy days.¹⁹⁰

Another Missionary for Palestine

Sister Gertrude Steinert is an outgoing missionary to Palestine. Sister Steinert has felt the call of God for a long time. She has done evangelistic work in different places in the homeland and has been a blessing; we pray she will be a great blessing as she goes to the field. She hopes to be able to sail soon. Remember her in prayer.¹⁹¹

The missionary schedule for October 1947 reported Gertrude Steinert’s departure for Palestine and Otis M. and Roselle Petty’s homecoming on furlough.

William R. Pardue Appointed to South China—October 27, 1947

Moved and seconded that we recommend Brother and Sister William R. Pardue for appointment as missionaries to South China. –Carried.¹⁹²

The E. L. Freemans Appointed to South Africa

In May 1948, the FMB appointed the E. L. Freemans. History tells of the tremendous impact “Bug” and Nona made on that mission field! The following report by John B. Thomas shows the hand of God in all things:

Someone has said, “Our tomorrows are His yesterdays.” A service was held on March 2nd for Brother and Sister (E. L.) Freeman, and they were expected to sail for South Africa the next day. . . . We all went to the wharf from which they would take their departure for the land of their calling. We had a blessed service. Tears filled the eyes of some of the crew as they gathered on the deck of the ship and looked down on our group singing and clapping their hands. Finally the last goodbyes were said and as the last line holding the ship to the pier was cast off, a trumpet sounded “Rock of Ages Cleft for Me.” . . . Our hearts were sad, yet within there was a peace that passeth all understanding and a joy that was unspeakable at the thought of being numbered with those who are called, chosen and faithful.¹⁹³

¹⁸⁹ Stanley W. Chambers, “Dorothy McCarty at Home with the Lord,” *Pentecostal Herald* (September 1947): 9.

¹⁹⁰ W. T. Stairs, “Miscellaneous News,” *Pentecostal Herald* (October 1947): 6.

¹⁹¹ Wynn T. Stairs, “New Missionaries Appointed,” *Pentecostal Herald* (December 1946): 8.

¹⁹² Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 27, 1947): 1.

¹⁹³ John B. Thomas, “Bon Voyage,” *Pentecostal Herald* (May 1948): 7.

James and Margaret Burns Appointed to Ceylon (India) Ellis and Marjorie Scism Appointed to India

What a year for world missions! In 1948 a dream cherished by the candidates and the foreign missions secretary was realized. Brother Stairs publicly expressed his feelings as James and Margaret Burns and Ellis and Marjorie Scism were approved for appointment to India. Money was very scarce, and it was a step of faith to send newly appointed missionaries. Brother Stairs acknowledged that the church was going through “troublesome times,” but he insisted that the FMB should move ahead with the appointment of these two missionary families. Little did anyone realize that Harry Scism, Ellis and Marjorie’s small son, would rise to such a level of success as the general director of Foreign Missions for the UPCI.

Brother Stairs wrote an outstanding vision for India’s future evangelization:

We are happy to present two couples to you as outgoing missionaries to the land of India: Brother and Sister James Burns of Sussex, N. B., Canada; and Brother and Sister Ellis Scism of Portland, Oregon. We feel God has moved, and has chosen, and is now sending these two good capable couples to the great and needy country of India. . . . Both of these couples have felt the call of God for many years. . . .

Brother Burns has built up a commendable work in Sussex during the past twelve years. Brother Burns has three children, the oldest one being 11 years old and the youngest one year old. They hope to sail in September or October. . . .

Brother and Sister Scism have . . . been waiting to fulfill the call to the land where they believe God wants them to minister. Brother Scism has held pastorates in various parts in the Northwest; and for the past few years has been the District Superintendent of the Northwestern District and is highly esteemed by the brethren in those parts and also over the United States and Canada. Brother and Sister Scism with their children hope to sail this fall after the General Conference in Long Beach, California. . . .

We are badly in need of funds. We believe God will move on your hearts and upon the hearts of everyone in our organization until the job will be done and we can say that “we have done what we could.” We have not reached that yet; unfortunately many have treated Missions like it was “charity” but it is not. It is a “debt” and we saints will someday “judge the world.”¹⁹⁴

I think Brother Stairs’s concluding remarks should be reprinted time and again as we review the purpose of the church in the world. These words of the past continue to be necessary to impact the church with the import of its mission, the only reason for its existence. Brother Stairs flung the challenge into the face of future generations: “What shall we tell them?”

What shall we tell them when they stand before us by the millions? Will we say, “We have done our best” and could not have told them the story in their lifetime? Or will it be that we could have, but did not because we were too selfish and occupied with only our own things. This is a wonderful opportunity for the people in the Maritime District to get behind Brother and Sister Burns and rally to their cause while they are on the field. And also an opportunity for the West to rise up to the occasion and send Brother and Sister Scism forth in His Name.¹⁹⁵

Opportunity at Bomi Hills

In 1948, the U.S. Steel Corporation of America made plans for an iron ore mining camp at Bomi Hills. Gladys Robinson wrote Brother Stairs for permission to establish a day school and church at this location. Brother Stairs was so impressed with the opportunities at Bomi Hills that he personally sponsored this endeavor until missionary funds became available to take care of another mission.¹⁹⁶

¹⁹⁴ Wynn T. Stairs, “What Shall We Tell Them?” *Pentecostal Herald* (June 1948): 9.

¹⁹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁹⁶ Mary Wallace, *Profiles of Pentecostal Missionaries* (Hazelwood: Word Aflame Press, 1986), 224.

Eleanor Leonard Returns to Missionary Service

In 1948 Eleanor Ruth Leonard's return to mission service attracted much interest. For a while she had been in the States, recovering from the death of her missionary husband in China. Since her health was still impaired by parasites, Brother Stairs kindly made it possible for her to live in a missionary cottage in Bath, New Brunswick, Canada. There she recovered her health. She wrote to headquarters:

I have been in the homeland a little over nine years. I lived in Idaho five years until May of this year trying to recover, but didn't have the proper place of rest. Brother Stairs told me about the missionary cottages they were building in Bath, New Brunswick, Canada, and invited me to occupy one of them. I have been living in the cottage since June, and finally am getting the rest and quietness I have needed for the past few years.¹⁹⁷

While in Canada she met Stanford Johnston, who was on furlough from Colombia. He was a man of prayer and dedication to his field. "Stanford Johnston of Colombia, South America and Eleanor Leonard, formerly of China, were married on January 7th at Newcastle Bridge, New Brunswick, by Brother Blakeney."¹⁹⁸

After they married, Stanford was excited about returning to Colombia with his new wife. His words rang with anticipation: "Here at last we have our faces set homeward toward Colombia; we obtained our visas this week, our plane tickets are bought, reservations are made to leave Miami July 11th with a stop-over at Jamaica and visit Brother and Sister Reynolds and the work there."¹⁹⁹

Upon arrival, the Johnstons worked diligently to establish the work of the Lord. The Colombians deeply loved Eleanor; her experiences in China gave her an inherent ability to relate to people's needs. Eleanor was a very special lady with a vivid missionary calling.

Stanford Johnston had a vision of a great outpouring of the Spirit in Cali. He enthusiastically shared his vision and worked hard to achieve it, but its fulfillment continued to elude him.

Death of Benjamin Hite, Foreign Missions Board Member

One of the pioneers of the merger was dead at sixty years of age. Benjamin H. Hite had served as the district superintendent of Missouri and as a local pastor. But of greater importance to this documentary, he had been involved in foreign missions planning for a number of years. Paul Box, editor of the *Pentecostal Herald*, wrote:

One of the pioneers and champions of the cause of the Lord Jesus Christ has been called home to Glory. Rev. B. H. Hite, pastor of the First Pentecostal Church in St. Louis, Missouri, and Superintendent of the Missouri District of the United Pentecostal Church until the time of his death, was born at Franklin, Kentucky, on September 2, 1888, and died at his home in St. Louis on May 23, 1948. . . . He was first affiliated with the General Council of the Assemblies of God. In 1916 he received the light on Jesus Name baptism and then withdrew from the General Council and became affiliated with the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World. Later he became a member of The Pentecostal Church, Incorporated.

Brother Hite came to St. Louis in June of 1921 with exactly \$3.50 in his pocket. Of this amount he gave \$1.50 away to a needy person and plunged into the work of the Lord, knowing God had sent him. God blessed and prospered him in a wonderful way. Later he became Chairman of the Pentecostal Church Inc. and served in that capacity for several years. He held other official positions and was very helpful in bringing to pass the merger of the Pentecostal Church, Inc. and the Pentecostal Assemblies of Jesus Christ into the United Pentecostal Church. He was elected Superintendent of the Missouri District of the merged

¹⁹⁷ Eleanor Leonard, "Missionary Miscellaneous News," *Pentecostal Herald* (November 1947): 9.

¹⁹⁸ "Wedding Bells," *Pentecostal Herald* (February 1948): 10.

¹⁹⁹ Stanford Johnston, "Outgoing Missionaries," *Pentecostal Herald* (August 1948): 8.

body in which capacity he served until his death. . . . Brother Howard A. Goss delivered the funeral message.²⁰⁰

Edwin E. Judd's Burden for Foreign Missions

In 1948 Edwin E. Judd became a part of the FM story when he penned an outstanding article supporting foreign missions. Brother Judd later became an innovative figure who assisted in leading the church into tremendous growth on the foreign field. The church was going through change, and the path to the future was uncharted. Edwin Judd became a compass of unerring direction for foreign missions, serving under five of the UPCI's general directors of Foreign Missions. In the following article he expressed his burden:

A Missionary Vision Because

Our Lord commanded that we "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." If we fail to perform this commission we fail to obey our Savior, Jesus Christ, and if we fail to obey Him we do not love Him for He also said, "If a man love me, he will keep my words." He would rather have obedience than sacrifice, and all He is asking us to do is carry the good news of salvation in His name to the lost millions of the world. We have truly been partakers of a wonderful blessing and He has not asked us to give up the blessing in our own souls, but the words of Nehemiah 8:10 fit the case perfectly, "Go your way, eat the fat, and drink the sweet, and send portions unto them for whom nothing is prepared." We are promised the blessings and the goodness. All He asks is that we send portions of this inexhaustible blessing to those who have not heard. . . .

One thing we know and that is this: it is His will that we carry this gospel message to those who have not heard. It is not a case of what we desire to do, it is a case of our duty. We have been entrusted with the message of the Kingdom and we believe it to be the only way for entrance into the body. We believe this to be true, we are then placed in position of watchmen on the wall if we fail to warn those who have been entrusted to our care, they will perish and their blood will be required at our hands. What an awful feeling it would be to face some poor heathen soul at the judgment bar of God and have him testify against you with these words, "You never told me."²⁰¹

Alice Sheets's Illness

Dan and Alice Sheets were icons of missionary service in Canton, China. Their letters indicated determination and dedication. The attributes they displayed were a positive influence upon the missionary family. They worked alongside other missionaries with never a discordant note; Dan Sheets constantly nurtured good missionary relationships. Then Alice became ill, and Brother Sheets wrote to Brother Stairs:

My dear wife . . . has not been feeling so well for sometime but we did not take the matter too seriously until the last week. Yesterday she went to the Hacket Hospital in Canton for examination so we ask the United Pentecostal Church and you to hold on to the Lord for her healing. We know God is able. How we need Him.²⁰²

Even in his concern for Alice, Dan's letter commended Elizabeth Stieglitz for being involved in the conversion of a highway bandit. He sent a picture of the former bandit, which was published in the *Pentecostal Herald*. The caption of the picture explains, "This man was a highway robber until some years ago when he was saved under the ministry of Sister Stieglitz. He is now a Jesus Name Pentecostal pastor and is carrying on his work unsupported from the outside."²⁰³

²⁰⁰ Paul H. Box, "Benjamin Harrison Hite," *Pentecostal Herald* (July 1948): 5.

²⁰¹ Edwin E. Judd, "A Missionary Vision Because," *Pentecostal Herald* (August 1948): 9.

²⁰² Daniel Sheets quoted in Paul H. Box, "Daniel Sheets Letter," *Pentecostal Herald* (June 1948): 9.

²⁰³ Ibid.

A few days later Brother Stairs revealed that Alice Sheets, now seriously ill, had returned to the United States to go to Rochester, Minnesota, for treatment.²⁰⁴

Missionaries on the Field and Those Outgoing

In the same June 1948 *Pentecostal Herald*, Brother Stairs appealed for help to carry the work of missions forward. He published lists of missionaries on the field and those outgoing:

On The Field

Elmer and Grace Ball, Colombia; Edith Berthoux, Java; Elmer and Hettie Buckmiller, Java; Paul and Sister Bayne, Palestine; Pearl Cooper, Colombia; E. L. and Nona Freeman, South Africa; K. W. and Louise French, Alaska; Kathryn E. Hendricks, North China; A. J. and Pearl Holmes, Liberia; John Huba, Czechoslovakia; George M. Kelley, South China; A. V. and Fayetta Larsen, Colombia; Gladys Robinson, Liberia; Georgia Regenhardt, Liberia; Ralph and Helen Reynolds, Jamaica; D. K. and Alice Sheets, South China; Elizabeth Steiglitz, North China; C. D. Stiles, Hawaii; George and Helen White, Java; Charlie Yadon, Alaska; and Grace Yadon, Alaska.

Outgoing

James and Margaret Burns, India; S. B. and Sister Baker, Colombia, S. A.; Bernice Davis, South America; W. F. and Sister Drost, Colombia, S. A.; Sallie Lemons, Colombia, S. A.; William J. Nukida, Japan; W. R. and Sister Pardue, China; Neva Russell, South Africa; Ellis and Marjorie Scism, India; J. B. and Aline Thomas, Iraq; and Sanford and Eleanor Johnston, Colombia, S. A.

In addition to the complete list of the American and Canadian missionaries that we have on the field, we have seventy-five workers (native) to support, also buildings to buy and build together with boats and trucks. When we look at the financial report we should remember some of the amount is money given to independent missionaries directly by the donors, some of it is for the fare of the missionaries to the field and 25% of all designated money goes back to the district for the purpose of opening up new works in the homeland. The Missionary Department needs your help badly.²⁰⁵

Paul Bayne Family Forced to Leave Palestine

Good and bad news continued to flow from the field and onto the pages of the *Pentecostal Herald*. The civil war in Palestine was growing intense: “Brother and Sister Paul Bayne were forced to return to America on account of the civil war in Palestine. They arrived in Indianapolis recently and will be doing evangelistic work for the present. Please remember them in prayer.”²⁰⁶

Missionary Challenges

Missionary appointees were told that their work was unique and therefore should be motivated by a definite, individual call of God. They must have a deep-rooted personal assurance that God had selected them to labor in His harvest abroad. Such a calling is essential as a personal stabilizer when the new missionaries face the discouragements and trials of foreign missionary work.

For missionaries who have a vision for long-term service, the first term is spent learning the language and culture of the people, because fluent communication is essential. It is very frustrating to sit on the sidelines while others communicate God’s love with apparent ease. Elmer and Hettie Buckmiller wrote a typical new-missionary letter to Brother Stairs:

We were very discouraged because we couldn’t learn the Malay language fast enough God gave us a Malay teacher. For the last three weeks we have been going for lessons. We are still not able to take a part in the services. One thing I did do yesterday, I helped Brother White baptize 25 in the Name of

²⁰⁴ W. T. Stairs, “Pray for Alice Sheets,” *Pentecostal Herald* (June 1948): 9.

²⁰⁵ W. T. Stairs, “Missionaries on the Field and Outgoing,” *Pentecostal Herald* (June 1948): 8–9.

²⁰⁶ Paul H. Box, “Miscellaneous Missionary News,” *Pentecostal Herald* (August 1948): 9.

Jesus. "Praise the Lord." Brother Stairs, pray for us that God gives us understanding hearts. Come if you can. If I had the money I would give it for your fare. Don't forget us when you pray.²⁰⁷

On the other side of the missionary coin, was Aaron Holmes's letter from Liberia:

Greetings in the Name of the Lord! I have yours of May 3rd and am glad to hear from you. We are "trying" as the people here say, and trust you are doing nicely. Sister Holmes has her part of the work and whatever her friends send her is for that. She is trying to complete a little place for the care of babies and women in childbirth. I don't like to complain but I must tell you that I do not have changes of everyday clothing. Fortunately I have dress clothing that I brought from the homeland, but they are not much use to me here. I can wear them on Sundays. . . . The Lord is blessing here in a wonderful way. The children and workers are in the chapel right now having a grand time in the Lord. I wish you were here to hear them singing in their dialect.²⁰⁸

Lack of sufficient clothing suddenly seemed insignificant when tragedy struck. Aaron and Pearl Holmes's daughter died, leaving five small children.

The *Madura*: A Boat for Alaska²⁰⁹

Everyone who lived during those early years of missions will remember the *Madura*! Evangelization would have new horizons with the purchase of this boat that would carry the gospel along the Alaskan river ways. Kenneth and Louise French could increase their efforts to establish churches, blazing the trails in this virgin territory.

Missionary News—1948

During the 1948 UPCI General Conference, Bill and Ruth Drost and Sallie Lemons were appointed to Colombia, South America. By December 1948, they were on location. James and Margaret Burns were preparing to sail for Ceylon, India.

The Whites and Buckmillers received the new station wagon purchased by the Missouri District for the work in Java. Equally exciting, Pauline Gruse was returning to Liberia for her second term. She would be assisting Georgia Regenhardt at the Maheh Station.

Ellis and Marjorie Scism Leave for India

Ellis and Marjorie Scism left Portland, Oregon, on January 31, 1949, bound for India. Ellis Scism's elderly father and Marjorie's elderly mother were among the last to leave the dock after waving as long as they could see handkerchiefs fluttering. By the May 1949 *Pentecostal Herald* they reported their arrival on location after an eventful steamer trip.

The 1949 Foreign Missions Board

The 1949 FMB consisted of Wynn T. Stairs, secretary, George L. Glass, C. P. Williams, Anton Huba, and Oscar Vouga.

²⁰⁷ Elmer and Hettie Buckmiller, "More News from Java," *Pentecostal Herald* (August 1949): 9.

²⁰⁸ Paul H. Box, "A. J. Holmes Letter," *Pentecostal Herald* (August 1948): 9.

²⁰⁹ Charlie Yadon, "Sitka, Alaska," *Pentecostal Herald* (April 1948): 8.

George L. Glass Appointed as Recording Secretary

During the board meeting of January 12, 1949, upon calling the meeting to order, “George L. Glass was appointed the recording secretary.”²¹⁰ He served in this position until 1955, when he was appointed as the assistant foreign missions secretary.

W. J. Nukida Appointed to Japan

In 1949 William J. Nukida was appointed to the wide-open and needy field of Japan. Leonard W. Coote was the official representative for the Pentecostal Church in that country. William Nukida was an American-born Japanese who felt the burden and call to go to Japan to witness to his people. He was a member of Paul Yadon’s church in Parma, Idaho, and was highly recommended by both the local church and the Northwestern District.

Olive Tefre’s Illness

The rigorous labor of foreign missions work takes a tremendous toll on missionaries’ health. The June 1949 *Pentecostal Herald* reported that Henry and Olive Tefre returned from India to their home in Norway because of Olive’s complete breakdown. She was in the hospital for about six months and recovered slowly.

1949 Missionary Listing

The September 1949 *Pentecostal Herald* lists the UPCI missionaries: James Elmer and Grace Ball, Verner and Fayette Larsen, Sallie Lemons, William and Ruth Drost, Stanford and Eleanor Johnston, and Pauline Cooper in Colombia, South America; Ralph and Helen Reynolds, Jamaica; Gladys Robinson, Georgia Regenhardt, Pauline Gruse, Aaron and Pearl Holmes, and Otis and Roselle Petty, Liberia; James and Margaret Burns, Ceylon (Sri Lanka); Ellis and Marjorie Scism, India; E. L. and Nona Freeman, South Africa; C. Stiles, Hawaii; George M. Kelley, Elizabeth Stieglitz, Daniel and Alice Sheets, and Kathryn Hendricks, China; Charles and O. Yadon, Grace Yadon, and Kenneth and Louise French, Alaska; H. Youkhanon, Iraq; and William J. Nukida, Japan.²¹¹

Illness and Death of Stanford Johnston

Back in missionary service, Eleanor Johnston’s happiness seemed complete. Sad memories of the past had slipped into the shadows; months of marriage with a devout prayer warrior had produced a satisfaction that missionary work in Colombia would be productive. When Brother Johnston fell ill there was no great concern, but little did Eleanor know that when she wrote to Brother Stairs in 1949, she was only a month away from burying her husband in Colombia. Her letter merely states, “Brother Johnston has been ill with the grippe and a touch of the old malaria.”

Days turned to weeks, and Stanford grew steadily worse. Finally, he called his friend, Bill Drost, to his bedside. Eleanor watched her husband take the newly appointed missionary by the hand and explain his vision and God’s promise of revival for Cali. He exacted a promise from Brother Drost that he would dedicate himself to that vision, and upon receiving an affirmative answer, Stanford committed the vision and its results to Bill. He expected it to happen. Eleanor was devastated as she watched her beloved husband die. They had been married less than two years. Brother Johnston’s death is recorded in the November 1949 *Pentecostal Herald*:

²¹⁰ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (January 12, 1949).

²¹¹ Wynn Stairs, “Missionaries on the Field,” *Pentecostal Herald* (September 1949): 8–9.

One more soldier has laid his armor down and been promoted to Glory. When Brother Stanford W. Johnston first made mention of his call to Colombia, it was hard for any of us to believe God was calling him. His age was against him, he was then past fifty years old, and had only been saved a few years. It was not until a few weeks before he departed for the field in January 1943, did we really realize God was calling him. . . .

After a four and one half year term in Colombia he returned for a furlough. The first thing he did while on furlough was to help with the construction of a large tabernacle at Newcastle Bridge N. B. . . . While on furlough he married Eleanor Ruth Leonard, widow of the late Garland Leonard who was killed by Chinese soldiers while doing missionary work in China. Brother and Sister Johnston returned to Colombia in July 1948. He and Sister Johnston went to the west side of Colombia where our message had never been preached, and was [*sic*] laboring there when he passed away on September 23rd. Brother Johnston was loved . . . which is one of the most important qualifications for missionary work. He baptized over one hundred people in the name of Jesus during his first term. Brother Johnston was a man of prayer and intercession. Who will take the torch from his hand, and take up the cross where he laid it down and carry this gospel to the needy in Colombia that have never heard it once?

Brother Campo Bernal Blanco, one of our young native preachers conducted the funeral services as Brother Johnston had requested. Brother W. F. Drost, one of our good missionaries in Colombia; and a good friend of Brother Johnston, was with him when he passed away. Brother Drost wrote us of Brother Johnston's unwavering faith and burden for Colombia and of how he fought a good fight, kept the faith, and finished his course.²¹²

A few weeks later, Eleanor wrote from Cali, Colombia:

We are all back at Cali now, the Drost family and myself. We hope to get a suitable house soon. We cannot have meetings for a while because of the tense situation here. I suppose you know things are quite serious; we need special prayer for protection.

I will stay on with the Drosts for the time being. I feel very keenly the loss of my husband and it seems sometimes that I just cannot go on without him. Stanford had one of the most beautiful Christian characters of anyone I ever knew, and he really lived life in every detail.²¹³

The "tense situation" was the terrible persecution of Colombian believers. But as a result of Stanford Johnston's vision and Bill Drost's tremendous ministry, Colombia was to know one of the modern world's greatest revivals!

Canton, China, Falls to the Communists

By March 1949, Elizabeth Stieglitz feared that the communists, led by Russian leaders, were making tremendous inroads in China; they had captured a number of cities. During the next few months the situation grew extremely dangerous for Elizabeth Stieglitz and Kathryn Hendricks. Kathryn wrote:

On the morning of December 15, [1948] we were forced to say goodbye to Peiping and our dear Chinese friends there . . . leaving behind those who seemed so near and dear to our hearts. The airport had already been shelled by Communist army, and the Nationalist Army had abandoned it . . . there was fighting going on and the bullets were whizzing overhead . . . the people became panic-stricken; even the pilots took off without taking in the steps of the plane. One man was on the steps when the plane took off.²¹⁴

Kathryn Hendricks's report in the December 1949 *Pentecostal Herald* recounts a sad day in history:

²¹² W. T. Stairs, "Stanford Johnston at Home with the Lord," *Pentecostal Herald* (November 1949): 14.

²¹³ Eleanor Johnston to Wynn T. Stairs, *Pentecostal Herald* (December 1949): 7.

²¹⁴ Kathryn Hendricks, "An Interesting Report from China," *Pentecostal Herald* (March 1949): 8.

Canton has fallen into the hands of the Communists. Brother and Sister Kelley chose to remain there to see if it were all possible to carry on . . . we have not heard from them since the fall, so we do not know how they are. . . . They are still trying to carry on in Lui Shui. . . . The government has threatened to take over Brother and Sister Sheets' home for offices. . . . It looks as if the doors of the gospel are fast being closed here.²¹⁵

After being expelled from China, Kathryn Hendricks and Elizabeth Stieglitz went to Hong Kong where they intended to wait out the hostilities. However, the communists were waging a tremendous battle to indoctrinate the Chinese against Christianity. It was several weeks before word leaked through the network of believers that George Kelley and his wife, still in Canton, were safe, although under great stress. Postwar missionary work began to take on even greater importance than it had during the war. Communism spread rapidly throughout China and the neighboring countries. A direct challenge left no gray area; it was Christianity or Communism—there was no middle ground.

The fall of China to Communism was difficult for the missionaries who had dedicated their lives to the Chinese. Two powerful ladies had fallen as victims of their times: Elizabeth Stieglitz was at death's door with a heart blockage. The doctor insisted that she retire to prolong her life. She had spent forty years in China. Mae Iry was confined to her bed for three months, suffering from coronary thrombosis.

Illness and fatigue was not limited to China. In South Africa Nona Freeman suffered from a heart condition, complicated by the flu.²¹⁶

Length of Missionary Term Changed

In 1949 the UPCI General Conference in Duluth, Minnesota, passed the following resolution:

Resolved: That we set the approximate time for the term of appointment of missionaries to the following countries: Alaska, Hawaii, China, Japan, Netherlands East Indies, British West Indies, South America, India, South Africa and the Middle East at from five to seven years. Liberia: first term, three years; second term, longer. Exceptions to the above may be made at the discretion of the Missionary Board.²¹⁷

Aaron and Pearl Holmes

Pearl Holmes of Liberia recorded the history of missionary involvement for her and her husband, Aaron, a story that has eluded many of our records. Note that Pearl Holmes, cofounder of the Zoradee Pentecostal Mission in Liberia, endearingly called “Mother Holmes,” went to the field in 1896 as a single missionary and later affiliated with a Baptist missionary society. While serving as a missionary, she married Aaron Holmes. Note also their reluctance to return to America. Many missionaries fear to leave their work while on furlough lest it fall into the wrong hands. Read Pearl's personal account:

I am happy to give my testimony of my missionary life in Africa. I was born in Little Rock, Arkansas; went to the Arkansas Baptist College, was converted in school through the teaching of one Joanna P. Moore, a white missionary from the north. I became much burdened over the conditions of my people in Africa. It was my daily thought and prayer to somehow be a blessing to them. God, who works in mysterious ways, touched my mother's heart to give her two daughters a trip to Africa.

We sailed March 18, 1896, and before we arrived in Africa, God had changed our pleasure trip and the three of us had made up our minds to become missionaries. He then took all earthly props away and there we really had a helpless but joyful dependence on the board of heaven. Mother lived and worked with

²¹⁵ Kathryn Hendricks, “Canton Has Fallen,” *Pentecostal Herald* (December 1949): 9.

²¹⁶ “Miscellaneous Missionary News,” *Pentecostal Herald* (March 1950): 7.

²¹⁷ “Missionary Appointment Terms,” *Pentecostal Herald* (February 1950): 9.

one of her daughters on their mission, then without any assistance from abroad. She lived and worked there for forty years and never desired to return to America.

After her death I had my first furlough home. How strange things looked after 43 years and 4 months among the natives of Africa. In 1924 my mother, sister and myself received the Baptism of the Holy Ghost as we obeyed Acts 2:38. What joy we had as we retold the story to those we had been teaching and saw those that were ready receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, speaking in other tongues. God blessed wonderfully and souls were added daily to the Church.

After I had been in Africa for eighteen years, the Lord sent Brother Holmes and family there in the year 1914. At that time I was working with a Baptist mission. Brother Holmes and I were married in 1916. In 1924 we went into the interior with only \$4.00 in cash but we trusted in God. We were young and strong then and with the help of a few natives we cut down trees, cleared the land, built a native house and moved in, establishing the Zoradee Pentecostal Mission. Our only income was when God would permit Brother Holmes to kill a deer or wild hog and then sell it to obtain a few dollars. But God saved souls . . . hundreds have been filled with the Holy Ghost at Zoradee Mission. Our suffering in those days cannot be described but we prayed daily to be more and more like Jesus. In answer to prayer He had taken us away from home and placed us among hardened sinners where we seemingly stood alone. Sometimes we were hungry and tired but did not Jesus also suffer thusly?

We are not young any more now and this is my third furlough in 53 years and 8 months. Brother Holmes has had one furlough in 35 years. The doctor has told me that I must be quiet as much as possible, but as soon as I have rested and am strong enough I want to travel in the interest of obtaining a small pickup truck similar to the one Sisters Robinson and Gruse have at Bomi Hill Mission in Liberia. They are very kind and would gladly share the comforts of their truck with us, but we are in different places. We have walked so much that it would be a great blessing to us to have one. After being in Africa so long, I do not think I could be satisfied to live in America. At present I am stopping with a friend in New York.

I could fill the entire paper telling about my 53 years of experiences in dark Africa. Many a heart that was broken and many a wrecked and blighted life have been made whole through the wonderful Christ that we brought to Africa.

I could tell of many exciting events such as the time I slept with my pillow on a black snake (I did not know it). Many times my life was in danger but God delivered me. Fifty-three years ago where Zoradee Mission is located, no civilized missionary or person could go, for the natives would kill them. There were often times war among the natives and against the government and one did not know but that at any time the natives would come in and kill everyone. In 1898 they did come to one civilized settlement and in that battle there were so many killed in one night that the dead bodies stopped up a large stream.

As Paul said: "I count not myself to have apprehended; but this one thing I do, forgetting those things that are behind, and reaching forth to those which are before (souls to be saved) I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Please remember us in your prayers.²¹⁸

Wynn Stairs footnoted this moving letter with an appeal for men to lift their eyes to the productive fields of Liberia:

Brethren, Liberia is calling. There are opportunities and privileges facing us there now, that may never knock at our door again in this changing world. Two million souls in that country, many of them untouched. We do not know of any Mission that has penetrated the depths of the jungles of Liberia. Our work is at the crossroads between defeat and victory, success and failure (although not utter failure). We need recruits for Liberia. We especially need men, tried and proven men that will go and carry the message of life to these millions; men that are not afraid to die, and suffer some before dying if need be, to take up the cross and follow Him. We desperately need God to send forth laborers (especially men) into the harvest field of Liberia. When we say "men" we mean married couples. The sisters that have been and are now there have done a wonderful work, but there are certain things that they cannot do—will you pray too? I trust Sister Holmes' letter will stir you. I requested her to write a report and she has done it. I was told some

²¹⁸ Pearl Holmes, "Fifty-three Years as a Missionary," *Pentecostal Herald* (April 1950): 8.

time ago by a person that has spent some time in Liberia that there were people all over Liberia that have received the Holy Ghost at Zoradee Pentecostal Mission. God bless Brother and Sister Holmes.²¹⁹

The 1950 Foreign Missions Board

The 1950 FMB consisted of Wynn T. Stairs, secretary; George L. Glass, recording secretary; W. R. Pair; Anton Huba; and Arthur T. Morgan.

In this session the board appointed Ellis Scism as district superintendent of India. Other important decisions were to recommend Brother and Sister Worden Leonard Mowatt for appointment to Ceylon to assist James Burns, and Sakie Oka and Janet Eleanor Ely to Japan.²²⁰

The December 1950 *Pentecostal Herald* reported that Yoshiye Nakamoto traveled to Japan to marry William J. Nukida, and the Otis Petty family departed New Orleans on December 14 for their second term. It announced the transfer of Brother and Sister George Kelley from China to Hong Kong.²²¹

Birth of Wynn and Wayne Drost

One of the UPCI's most powerful missionary figures was born in 1950. His birth was announced by a telegram bearing two words, "Twin boys!" This telegram came from Bill Drost of Colombia, announcing the birth of Wynn and Wayne Drost. Having been reared in Colombia, Wynn mastered the Spanish language and became a catalyst for revival in a number of the Spanish harvest fields of the world. His work is described throughout this documentary, beginning in chapter 8 with his first appointment to El Salvador. The foreign missions secretary announced the births:

We received a cable on March 8th from our good missionary, Bill Drost, in Cali, Colombia, with just two words "Twin boys." We all rejoice with Brother and Sister Drost over the safe arrival of these two new missionaries on the field. God bless them and their parents. This makes three children for the Drosts.²²²

W. R. and Sallie Pardue Appointed to Java

In 1950, the W. R. Pardue family was appointed to assist the George Whites and Edith Berthoux in Java. Coming from Alexandria, Louisiana, the Pardues and their two small daughters were scheduled to sail for Indonesia in late summer of that year. The foreign missions secretary noted:

Brother and Sister Pardue felt a call and burden for China and were preparing to go there. Since China has been closed to new missionaries they were not content to remain at home. They have felt the call and urge to go to Java, which is a definite answer to prayer. After the General Conference in Duluth, God definitely spoke to them to step through this "Open Door." At the Louisiana District Conference over \$2,200 was raised to help pay their fares, etc. At the same conference over \$200 was given to purchase a tent for [our] missionaries in Africa, Brother and Sister E. L. Freeman. . . . Every district should stand behind their missionaries, and every district should have missionaries.²²³

George White responded to the Pardues' appointment:

So much has happened since our last letter to you, but we feel that God has been very good to us and we believe it is only God that has spared Helen's life [Sister White]. She weighs 115 lbs. But is looking

²¹⁹ Ibid.

²²⁰ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (April 26–29, 1950).

²²¹ "Miscellaneous Missionary News," *Pentecostal Herald* (December 1950): 11.

²²² "Miscellaneous Missionary News," *Pentecostal Herald* (April 1950): 8.

²²³ W. T. Stairs, "New Recruits for Java," *Pentecostal Herald* (April 1950): 9.

much better than she has for a long time . . . our services are good and the work is growing. In fact it is now at the record, but not without the trials both from without and within. . . . Sin and death are everywhere but we are still looking unto Jesus. . . . God bless you and we are praying that Brother and Sister Pardue will be able to come even sooner than they anticipate.²²⁴

Elizabeth Stieglitz Brought Home

After forty years in China, Elizabeth Stieglitz developed a serious heart condition and had to be brought home immediately:

Sister Stieglitz has been a faithful missionary, having gone to China as a young girl forty years ago this June. She has gone through seven wars in China and her heart has finally just played out. From the human point of view she cannot live more than a year or two and must be very quiet to do that. . . . Six hundred dollars is needed immediately for this purpose . . . just send your offering to the office designated for “Sister Stieglitz’s fare.” . . . Please pray that she will have a safe voyage.²²⁵

The Hoonah, Alaska, Church Burns

The April 1950 *Pentecostal Herald* reported that the rented church building in Hoonah, Alaska, had burned to the ground. Brother Stairs requested that funds be sent to assist in the construction of a new church:

On February 8th the church building in Hoonah, Alaska, burned beyond repair. God has been blessing in Hoonah and several have received the baptism of the Holy Ghost. You will remember that this is a new work and was started after we purchased the Alaska Boat [the *Madura*], which made it possible to reach this village. Many more villages in Alaska should be reached. Brothers French and Yadon believe that they can purchase an old army barracks cheap and that we should build a church of our own there. The one that burned was rented. If you will help toward this new church building, send your offering in designated for the “Alaska church at Hoonah.” This property will be deeded direct to the United Pentecostal Church.²²⁶

The *Madura* was a boat used for the Alaskan river ministry. This boat often appeared in the news. Keeping abreast of the times and opportunities, the UPCI demonstrated evangelization that mirrored that of the early church. In the aged apostle’s words, “[They were] made all things to all men, that [they] might by all means save some” (I Corinthians 9:22).

Bibles for Japan

In 1950, World War II had been over for five years but the aftermath still weighed heavily on the missionaries’ shoulders. Mission stations had to be reconstructed, believers regrouped, and as always, the mission principle reestablished. To underline the missionary purpose, General Douglas MacArthur, who presided over the reconstruction of Japan after the war, requested Bibles for Japan. He had made an earlier statement that if the amount of one battleship had been spent on missionary investment in Japan, there might have never been a war. Paul Box issued the following statement:

Bibles for Japan—General Douglas Macarthur has asked for Bibles to be distributed in Japan, the only book that will bring light and life. There is power and blessing in just reading the word of God and

²²⁴ Ibid.

²²⁵ Ibid.

²²⁶ “Miscellaneous Missionary News,” *Pentecostal Herald* (April 1950): 8.

many have been converted in this way. We should accept this invitation and step in; if we are not able to send a goodly number of Missionaries, we should send bibles.

Brother E. F. Smith of Los Angeles is convicted along this line and is willing to make a substantial move to do something but wants others to help too (even if no one else helps he will do what he can). He will do this providing we will get some reliable person to distribute them. I believe in due time we can get a capable and reliable person that will not “make merchandise of it,” and do colportage work in Japan, if you will contribute to this cause. Send your offering in for “Bibles for Japan” and we are sure God will bless this work. May we also add this word—please do not let this interfere with your regular missionary offerings, as they are needed very much. Let this be “sacrifice money” over and above regular missionary giving.²²⁷

Communists Close Churches in China

News came from China that all churches in the country had been closed. People were still allowed to call themselves Christians, but they were not allowed to preach or witness to others about the gospel. They met secretly and prayed quietly. The future would produce an underground church that propagated the faith continuously.

Pioneer Missionaries—in a Class of Their Own

The purpose of this documentary is to make the church aware of the work carried forward by the men and women who served as pioneer missionaries. Many UPCI laypeople—and even some modern missionaries—do not understand early missionary service. In the early years of foreign missions, it was almost unheard of to inherit an established national work. Missionaries went as pioneers or apostles; from the beginning their work was designed to develop leadership so it could be given over to others. Modern missionaries who walk into an established field where sacrifices are reduced to a minimum should take this into account. Missionary work is cyclic, and without doubt it will be this way until our work winds to a close.

Pioneer missionaries were called of God, and they joined forces with local churches that financed their endeavors. They labored incessantly until body and spirit were worn thin and their health was severely damaged. Like all humans, missionaries sometimes suffer from spent emotions, anguish, and frustration. After they can no longer serve, the question lingers: “Have I done my best?”

Pioneer missionaries often left the field with much less than they took with them; they returned empty as far as this world’s goods were concerned but rich with God’s stamp of approval. They had conquered new territories in obedience to the great commission.

It is sad that when pioneer missionaries accepted the call to service and became intensely involved on the field, some on the home front seemed to forget that these ambassadors represented every local UPCI assembly. For example, Elizabeth Stieglitz was a young woman when she accepted her calling and served for forty years in China through difficult times and personal sacrifice, only to wind up with a mere paragraph to announce her homecoming.

It should be noted that the responsibility for the great commission is not the missionaries’ alone; though they are called to a specific field, the entire church is called to “go . . . into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.”

²²⁷ Paul H. Box, “Bibles for Japan,” *Pentecostal Herald* (April 1950): 8.

Chapter 6

The Decade of Missionary Response: 1951–1960

The challenge of the church in the 1950s was no different than in the days of the apostles. While in apostolic times an entire country was less populous than many of today's mega-cities, the task of evangelism has always kept pace with its times. The church's goal has remained the same: to evangelize the world with the gospel! North American churches and the God-called missionaries erased the period at the end of the Book of Acts and inserted a comma in order to continue recording the church's historic involvement.

The 1950s were impacted by the tremendous leadership the Lord had given to the church. For example, Howard A. Goss passed the baton to Arthur T. Morgan. As he stepped down, Brother Goss said, "Let us all pray and cooperate with our new General Superintendent, A. T. Morgan. God bless him. And, God bless you all. Amen."²²⁸

It seemed that every new level of success surpassed the preceding one. Sacrificial offerings propelled missionary efforts on foreign soil, and with the added revenue, reports of revival became a constant. Revival fires blazed simultaneously and indiscriminately across the many areas of missionary ministry.

With the beginning of a new decade, the FMD felt a keen need for an intermediate administrative level. Foreign missions officials gained approval from the Board of General Presbyters to appoint field superintendents.

Field Superintendents Appointed—1951²²⁹

Following is the list of the first field superintendents: George White, Indonesia; Kenneth W. French, Alaska; Ellis Scism, India/Ceylon; James Burns, assistant superintendent, India/Ceylon; O. M. Petty, Liberia; Ralph V. Reynolds, Jamaica; Verner Larsen, Colombia; James Elmer Ball, assistant superintendent, Colombia; William J. Nukida, Allied Forces, Japan; and E. L. Freeman, South Africa.

In its September 18–20, 1951, session, the FMB recommended Genevieve Bailey's appointment to Liberia, West Africa. The board further decided to send Gladys Robinson back to Liberia on February 1, 1952, following her deputation.

God was planning for the future through innovative men on the home front. In December 1951, Jimmy Shoemaker of Morris, Oklahoma, one of the future pastoral board members, received his local ministerial license. He later pastored in Houston, Texas, and supported the foreign missions program. Still later, he assumed the pastorate of his father's church in San Jose, California.

Sheaves for Christ Created

Calvin Rigdon, general youth president in 1951, challenged North American youth to meet a missionary's need. Colombia, South America, was literally exploding with revival, and Bill Drost, a missionary serving there, needed transportation. Calvin Rigdon and Wynn Stairs joined forces to create the forerunner of one of the greatest project endeavors of all time—Sheaves for Christ! While the name

²²⁸ Howard A. Goss, "A Note of Appreciation," *Pentecostal Herald* (December 1951): 4.

²²⁹ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (September 20, 1951): 3.

was not yet conceived, the project of providing a vehicle for Brother Drost was enthusiastically received and the youth across North America rallied behind it. The slogan “Putting Wheels on the Gospel” became a buzzword and the race was on to supply transportation for missionaries throughout the world. Millions of dollars have been raised by the faithful youth of our local churches to assist in the cause of missions. Only heaven will reveal the success of Sheaves for Christ!

In December 1951, Calvin Rigdon promoted the plan with an article in the *Pentecostal Herald*. His challenge was a clarion call to the tremendous energy of youth:

So you want to be a preacher! Or, then, maybe you don’t care to be. Whatever the case may be, we all realize that we have a responsibility of witnessing about our Christ. In a measure then, we are all to preach the good tidings. Of course, not from the pulpit for everyone, that is true, but nevertheless helping to “Send the Light.”

We have a way for every Pentecostal Conqueror to preach Christ! And you can preach the good message in Colombia, South America!

Here is the method! Brother Bill Drost in Colombia, South America, needs a truck desperately. The General Conquerors’ committee, meeting in session at the last conference in St. Louis, decided that the Pentecostal Conquerors International should raise the funds for that truck. The Conquerors’ committee is made up of the district presidents, together with the general officers.

We asked Brother Stairs about the feasibility of such a plan. He was and is highly enthusiastic about the plan. Brother Bill Drost has heard of our intentions, conquerors, and he is really thrilled about the idea.²³⁰

At this time Bill Drost was still within the Conquerors’ age range, but his aging Ford had played out completely; he was either afoot or riding the Colombian buses. Brother Rigdon set the cost of a new truck at \$2,500, including freight and import taxes.

By November 1952, the project had topped the goal by \$266.16.²³¹ This proved to be a program where everyone involved was a winner. Calvin Rigdon communicated in the December 1952 *Pentecostal Herald* that Sheaves for Christ was a dream that had become a reality.

On Wednesday, October 22, 1952, one day before the 28th UPCI General Conference convened, a select number of district Conquerors presidents gathered for a preconference committee meeting. The general youth president had called them together to plan a more extensive program that would make use of the talents, energy, and vitality of the Pentecostal Conquerors.

Calvin Rigdon appointed a committee to continue working on his vision of providing transportation for all missionaries on the foreign field. Out of this historic meeting the framework for the Sheaves for Christ program emerged. The General Youth Division expected the program to mushroom. The General Conference floor overwhelmingly accepted the Sheaves for Christ program, and it became one of foreign missions’ greatest resource blessings. SFC vehicles have enabled missionaries around the world to evangelize thousands of people that had previously been inaccessible.

The Colombian Revival

Throughout the ages, common men willing to expend themselves have fanned the fires of apostolic revival. Topeka, Kansas, became the flash point of revival for the North American church in the early twentieth century. Revival swept through the southern United States, and then blew westward to ignite the great Azusa Street Revival that set the standard for modern-day renewal. Every Pentecostal organization shares a common history with Stone’s Folly in Topeka, Kansas, and 312 Azusa Street in Los Angeles. In South America, the flash point was a little Colombian mountain village known as La Morena. The revival that broke out there started with a young person who received the Holy Spirit baptism speaking with other

²³⁰ Calvin Rigdon, “Pentecostal Conquerors Preaching Christ,” *Pentecostal Herald* (December 1951): 6.

²³¹ Ruby Keyes, “Drost Truck Fund,” *Pentecostal Herald* (November 1952): 11.

tongues. It was the coal that sparked great revival throughout the country, bringing hundreds, then thousands, into the kingdom of God and leaving no major South American city untouched.

Bill Drost had a visionary call to Colombia. Upon his arrival, the resident missionary, Stanford Johnston, shared the vision God had given him for the city of Cali. But Brother Johnston died before he could realize the fulfillment of his vision. After Brother Johnston's death, Bill Drost initiated services in the Johnston home, and Brother Johnston's spectacular vision began to become a reality.

Eucaris, a seventeen-year-old Colombian girl, received the Holy Ghost in one of the house meetings. She was so filled with God's glory that it radiated from her! She had come down from a little mountain village called La Morena, and after receiving the Holy Ghost she returned there to tell her family and friends about this wonderful experience. People gathered at her father's home to hear about the joy of the Holy Ghost. Her ministry was so effective that conviction gripped the hearers and they called upon God. Some thirteen people received the Holy Ghost.

Big and burly Saul Ramirez, a cousin of Eucaris, owned and operated the local cantina. All of Saul's customers, who were banditos and ne'er-do-wells, feared him. One night, to Saul's extreme displeasure, the barroom was empty of customers. He demanded of a boy passing by on horseback, "Where is everyone?" The boy replied, "The whole village is at Eucaris's house for a gospel meeting. That's where I'm going too." Angry, Saul strapped pistols on each side and stalked toward the house. He shoved his way through the crowd outside and when he reached the doorway, the sight of his former customers on their knees crying to God for mercy seemed to turn him to stone. He spotted Eucaris and roared, "You make these men tremble!" She pointed her finger at him and said, "Saul, I don't make anyone tremble. These men are feeling the power of God. You too need Jesus Christ!" Trembling himself, Saul fell to his knees and called on the name of the Lord. He spoke in tongues for hours. That night he went back to the cantina, destroyed all of the liquor, and closed the business. His conversion impacted the whole community.

Bill Drost went to La Morena to baptize the converts. By this time the news had reached far into the interior and people came by the score to learn more about this phenomenal experience. Brother Drost gives this account:

When I arrived I was met by all kinds of folk who were waiting with the sick and demon-possessed . . . and thank God, He was there to confirm His Word. Some 50 or more had already received the Holy Ghost and the way they had made things right was marvelous to behold. Even some who were hiding from the law went and confessed, giving themselves up. Twenty-five received the Holy Ghost while I was there.²³²

Within six months, Bill Drost baptized over five hundred in and around La Morena, but that was a mere beginning. FM General Secretary Stairs received the reports from Colombia with gladness. It was a great leap forward for South American missions.

God called Saul Ramirez into the ministry and he became a powerful witness for apostolic truth. He preached boldly, casting out devils and performing miracles of healing through the power of Jesus' name. Immediately after baptism, every Colombian believer became a missionary and carried the gospel to the far corners of the country.

As in apostolic days, the revival brought intense persecution. But it seemed the more the devil fought the church, the more powerful grew the spirit of revival. The message flowed throughout the entire country until thousands were impacted by the infilling of the Spirit.

There is always a price to pay for revival, and Bill Drost was willing to pay it. When he went back to the mountain, he met stiff resistance:

²³² Bill Drost, "Revival Rolls in South America," *Pentecostal Herald* (March 1950): 7.

We were well situated in the car when a mob had gathered and the driver could not get through. A big fellow came up to the car and asked me to get out. . . . He said he wanted to give me something to remember him by, after which he reached in and hit me twice in the face.

At that very moment another hit me over the back of the head with a driver's whip. All this time the police sat there and let them do it. They then took a Bible . . . tore it to pieces and set it on fire and threw the burning pages in on me. They then beat me across the face with the butt of the driver's whip cutting my upper lip until the blood flowed freely. . . . I cannot tell you how I felt . . . [I] just seemed to be shut in although I was not immune to the pain. They tried then to open the door and drag me out, but the door would not open. God didn't permit it. . . . I was thinking about those who wouldn't receive the message and what I was going to do about it. The Spirit said to me that I should not worry about them, for there were many yet that would receive it. And so, I remain a happy missionary willing as ever to go or stay where He puts me . . . hallelujah!²³³

Several years later in a conversation with the author, Lewis and Sallie Morley recounted how they saw a visible manifestation of God's present in a service in Palmira:

During one service in Palmira, there were so many people I decided to go onto the platform and leave my seat for someone else. We felt a special move of God from the beginning of the service. About ten or eleven o'clock we looked out over the crowd and saw a misty cloud at the door of the tabernacle. The "blue haze" began to move as it hovered over the congregation. Those that wore glasses probably took them off to clean them, thinking they were 'seeing things.' It was the *Shekinah* glory of God that had come to bless us! As it reached the center of the building, it became a great fountain, overflowing and pouring out blessings. Wonderful things happened that day. The deluge of the Spirit was almost more than we could contain.

The pastors on the platform cried out, "Lord, we've been praying for you to show us your glory, but we didn't expect a visible appearance." Many people in the congregation were filled with the Spirit in that service and many others were tremendously refilled.²³⁴

Lewis and Sallie Morley said that the persecution became more focused. Some of their most valiant workers were on a hit list; nevertheless, the men continued to witness and preach, willing to sacrifice themselves that the Word might go forth. In a broken voice, Sallie said, "Some died, but oh, how precious were their deaths, like sweet-smelling incense going up to the Lord." Others risked just as much but were miraculously delivered. The congregation in La Morena did not escape the persecutors' wrath. Bill Drost told the story of Lionel, the first martyr in La Morena:

Lionel, a happy, young seventeen-year-old who was always singing, had recently been converted in La Morena. He offered to stay behind and look after the farms while the people went to the [Colombian National] convention. He would also look after Pastor, an old man of ninety-seven who had never worn shoes and was unable to go to Cali. Each day after finishing with the animals, Lionel went to pray and read the Bible with Pastor. On one Sunday afternoon, five men on horseback accosted Lionel as he left the old man's place. "Hey you, you must deny your faith and return to the Catholic Church . . ." His heart was pounding, but Lionel stated calmly, "I will not deny my faith in Jesus Christ." . . . With raised revolvers, they asked him, "Will you deny Jesus?" "No, I will not," he replied. Each bandit put a bullet in him.²³⁵

Lionel's death ignited a chain reaction of violence. La Morena continued to have powerful services, but everyone knew it was a matter of time before everyone would have to flee. Martin, another believer in La Morena, was shot from the cover of darkness while he ministered to his congregation. His young wife, Alicia, rallied the believers. A few weeks after Martin's death the shocking message came.

²³³ Bill Drost, "Beaten, Smitten, and Bruised," *Pentecostal Herald* (September 1952): 8.

²³⁴ Lewis and Sallie Morley (missionaries to Colombia) in discussion with Daniel Scott in Cali, Colombia, March 1972.

²³⁵ Bill Drost with Mike and Lorna Wieteska, *Bill Drost the Pentecost* (Hazelwood: Word Aflame Press, 2000), 136.

The Massacre at La Morena

Harsh treatment by Catholic priests culminated in a massacre at La Morena. One lone survivor escaped to tell the chilling story: “The entire constituency was lined up against the wall of the church and given an ultimatum: return to the Catholic Church or face death. . . . All insisted they would not, so they shot them.”²³⁶ When Bill Drost went to the morgue to identify the bodies, he was staggered by the number of bullet holes in the martyrs’ bodies, the evidence of the murderers’ extreme hatred.

Overnight, the church in La Morena, the epicenter of the Colombian revival, disappeared. Believers who lived in other parts of the mountain area fled to other cities—Tulua, Palmira, Cartago, Armenia, Pereira—for refuge from the terrible persecution, but terrorists ferreted them out. However, the martyrdoms only increased interest in the work of God. Daniel Scott of Ecuador recalled FM Director T. F. Tenney’s moving statement regarding the Colombian martyrs made in the Scott home, and he added it to his sermon at the 1970 Ecuadorian National Conference: “The blood of the believers became the lubricant to the wheels of revival.”²³⁷

As believers spread the gospel to every major Colombian city, hungry people responded; everywhere they went there was a sudden, powerful spiritual explosion. Many fled to the neighboring country of Ecuador and began to preach the message of redemption, establishing new pockets of believers. The exodus from Colombia touched every major city in South America, even as far away as Argentina and Brazil.

Additional Persecution in Colombia

Church congregations in Colombia were having group funeral services, burying sometimes entire families who had died for no other reason than that they loved God and would not recant their experience in God. In 1952 Lewis Morley wrote:

During the last few months, fighting and killings have increased until we are practically in a reign of terror. Each day brings news of more deaths. Traffic is stopped at times on the highway and men, women and children are murdered indiscriminately.

Last week a married couple who are members of one of our churches just half an hour from here [Cali] were killed and beheaded. They had received a warning note that they would be killed. They stayed on until a few days ago when the killers arrived and fulfilled their threat.

Some of the brethren spent three days in three different towns, burying the precious dead saints. Day after day they attempted to find burial places, but the priest, knowing they were evangelicals, influenced the town mayor to stop the burial. The situation facing the church in Colombia is grave.²³⁸

The Death of Mother Russell in Jamaica

Ralph V. Reynolds’s April 1952 resignation from his appointment to Jamaica inadvertently coincided with the death of Mother Russell. When her husband died in June 1946, Mother Russell had shouldered the leadership of the work in Jamaica. After her passing and Brother Reynolds’s resignation, the FMB endorsed board member W. R. Pair as missionary to Jamaica for one year and recommended to the General Board that he serve as superintendent of that county.²³⁹

The June 1952 *Pentecostal Herald* reported the death of Mother Russell of Jamaica. During her funeral service, officials described her as “faithful unto the end.” Long before the merger that created the UPCI, the Russell family was evangelizing Jamaica through their affiliation with the PAJC. Not only was this family

²³⁶ Ibid., 140.

²³⁷ Daniel Scott, Sermon, “Precious at Any Cost,” Ecuadorian National Conference, August 18, 1970.

²³⁸ Lewis Morley, “Persecution Continues in Colombia,” *Pentecostal Herald* (May 1952): 6

²³⁹ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (April 16, 1952): 1.

involved in Jamaica, but their daughter, Valda, was an appointed missionary to Liberia. There, some of the nation's highest secular officials honored her for her contributions to the country's development.

Arless Glass—Okinawa

Arless Glass entered the pages of FM history while serving in the U.S. Armed Forces in Okinawa. The *Pentecostal Herald* published an article about his activity there. Even though limited by the strict regulations of his service manual, evangelism burned in his heart. As a dedicated Christian he did the work of a missionary, and the Lord blessed his efforts with amazing results. He later served as the director of the UPCI Division of Education, and as a part of his responsibility he coordinated the work of military chaplains around the world. The following report was published in 1952:

I have now baptized twenty-two in Jesus Name. Sixteen of these were Americans and six were natives. The ones who have not yet received the Holy Ghost are still seeking. And this is not the end, for there are more who want to be baptized and receive the Holy Ghost.

I teach two Okinawan Bible classes each week and also two American classes. The chaplains here want to stop me entirely, but so far the Lord hasn't let them. We are using an old deserted chapel for services; however, we are bound to worship God. Sometimes we have to go to the caves to have worship.

The boy I am baptizing in the picture below is a Methodist Missionary. He has been filled with the Holy Ghost and is surely strong in the Lord. I am praying that one of our own missionaries will catch the vision and come to this place. I trust you will remember us when you pray.²⁴⁰

This appeal opened the doors for missionaries to come to Okinawa.

1952 Foreign Missions Board Decisions

With the expanding kingdom of God on the foreign field, the FMB struggled to keep pace with the need for missionaries, and at the same time to raise sufficient funds to carry on the work already in progress. The leadership was convinced that God was orchestrating the UPCI outreach because of the unprecedented worldwide growth. Believing that growth in the homeland would translate to funding for the FM endeavor, the board made many decisions by faith:

- To appoint E. W. Caughron to replace W. R. Pair as a board member (Brother Pair was under a short-term emergency appointment to Jamaica but returned to his position as an FMB member when Brother Caughron left for his missionary appointment to Alaska in the latter part of 1952.)
- To recommend the appointment of the James Clarks to Hawaii
- To recommend the appointment of the Glenn and Iris Bogue of Gary, Indiana, to Australia
- To continue to support the Mexican Apostolic Church missionary Valentin Nieblas in Central America and also the missionary endeavor in Paraguay
Resolve that we assist either Brother Supulveda or Brother Gaxiola of the Mexican work in the amount of \$1,000 and give the missionary secretary a latitude of up to an additional \$1,000 to send either one of these Mexican families to Paraguay as permanent missionaries, with the understanding that the Mexican work will support either of the above-mentioned families in Paraguay.
- To recommend Edith Berthoux's appointment to Java.
- To recommend Hubert Parks's appointment to Liberia
- To recommend David and Grace Wiens's appointment to Alaska
- To recommend the Caughrons's appointment to Alaska²⁴¹

²⁴⁰ Arless Glass, "Twenty-two Baptized in Okinawa," *Pentecostal Herald* (September 1952): 9.

Gladys Robinson's Illness and Death

"On March 18, 1952, Gladys Robinson returned from deputation to Bomi Hills, Liberia, accompanied by Jean Bailey. By April she was back in the routine, but by early July her co-laborers insisted that she see the Dutch doctor at the mine hospital. The doctor found a tumor, and, suspecting a malignancy, recommended that she return home for surgery. Gladys returned to the States. On December 10, 1953, excruciating pain etched her face one moment, and in the next, her valiant spirit took flight. In that split second, a flash of sudden glory illuminated with rare beauty the empty house of clay."²⁴² Another missionary had laid down her armor and was ushered home by an angelic host.

Young Harry and Ferne Scism Appointed as a Missionary Helpers

On Wednesday, October 22, 1952, the FMB recommended that Harry and Ferne Scism be recognized as missionary assistants and "after [Harry] finishes high school [he should] be entitled to all missionary benefits of this organization as such."²⁴³ They received \$50 per month.

The 1953 Foreign Missions Board

The members of the 1953 Foreign Missions Board were Wynn Stairs, Paul Box, A. D. Gurley, George Glass, and W. R. Pair.²⁴⁴

Valda Russell Appointed to Liberia

In September 1953, the FMB approved Valda Russell's application, and she was appointed as a missionary to Liberia. She would work temporarily at Bomi Hills and later at other locations in Liberia.²⁴⁵

Missionaries Appointed in April 1954

By April 1954, the financial crisis seemed to be easing and the FMB "hired" more laborers for the vineyard. L. W. Shaw and J. W. Mason were recommended for appointment to Alaska, Lewis Manuel to Hawaii, C. L. Young to Nigeria, and Rose Steeves to South America. Lewis Morley met the FMB on April 27, 1954. The board recommended that Lewis Morley be appointed as a missionary to South America.²⁴⁶ He worked in Venezuela until he and Sallie Lemons married. Later he transferred to Colombia and remained there until his retirement from the field.

Piper Tri-Pacer Plane Purchase Proposed

The board decided to purchase a Piper Tri-Pacer plane to facilitate travel between the mission stations in Liberia.

²⁴¹ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 1952): 2–3.

²⁴² Mary Wallace, *Profiles of Pentecostal Missionaries* (Hazelwood: Word Aflame Press, 1986), 235–36.

²⁴³ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 22, 1952): 1.

²⁴⁴ "Official Listing: Missionary Board Members," *Pentecostal Herald* (May 1953): 3.

²⁴⁵ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (September 1953): 8.

²⁴⁶ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (April 27, 1954): 2.

Some Bypass Foreign Missions Financial Policy

The FMB discussed the problem of local pastors bypassing the UPCI policy regulating missionary support. Granted, the FMB was interested in some of the missionaries whose appointments had been delayed because of inadequate ministry experience, but it felt that premature appointments could result in discouragement or failure. Ministers who have never traveled outside of North America find it hard to understand the pitfalls dug by cultural differences or the setbacks caused by unintentional mistakes. Therefore, the FMB asked the General Board to “give an expression” concerning the ministers who were supporting missionaries who had been rejected by the FMB.²⁴⁷

The Board Attempts to Open Iran for Missions Work

According to the FMB minutes dated October 28, 1952, J. B. Thomas requested that Iran be included in his missionary appointment to Iraq, but no decision was reached. However, the board did “approve to send any designated money to support the [national] workers there. . . . Further resolved: that when practical we will try to secure property and build churches in that country.”²⁴⁸ J. B. Thomas traveled to Iran in 1953.

In April 1954, the FMB again considered the country of Iran and created a policy that would be used there. “Brother Stairs read a proposed policy that could be used as a foundation for a new work there. The board approved the policy and urged the department to take whatever steps necessary to obtain approval for the policy and put it into effect in Iran.”²⁴⁹

But it was not until September 1959 that Iran was actually opened with a resident missionary stationed there. Brother and Sister Benjamin D. Urshan of Duluth, Minnesota, presented their burden for Iran to the board. Andrew D. Urshan would finance their trip to Iran, help to support them, and finance a place of worship. The FMB recommended “to the General Board that Brother and Sister Benjamin D. Urshan . . . be appointed as missionaries to the Middle East.”²⁵⁰

Two years later Brother Stairs informed the board that the missionary presence had been terminated by the Iranian government: “B. D. Urshan [has] come home from Iran as the government there forced him out by not renewing his residence visa.”²⁵¹

Sam Baker Appointed to Uruguay

Having met with the FMB several times, Sam and Lois Baker were finally given the green light to proceed to Uruguay to work with Philip and Pauline Tolstad. The appointment was for approximately one year with the ultimate objective of moving to Chile if and when there would be an open door. In time the Bakers transferred to Brazil, where they established a very successful work.²⁵²

Foreign Missions Board of 1954

The 1954 FMB consisted of Wynn T. Stairs, foreign missions secretary, George L. Glass, A. D. Gurley, Paul H. Box, and A. W. Post.²⁵³

²⁴⁷ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (April 1954): 5.

²⁴⁸ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 28, 1952): 5–6.

²⁴⁹ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (April 29, 1954): 3.

²⁵⁰ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (September 24, 1959): 2.

²⁵¹ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 18, 1961): 1.

²⁵² Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (April 1954): 3.

²⁵³ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (April 27, 1954): 1.

Missionaries Appointed in September 1954

The FMB recommended board member A. W. Post of Moncton, New Brunswick, Canada, for appointment to Ceylon.²⁵⁴ The board also recommended Carl Adams for appointment to South Africa, Jack Langham to Liberia, and LaVerne Collins as a teacher/helper for Liberia. The board reappointed George White to Indonesia, James Burns to Ceylon, and Sallie Lemons to Colombia.²⁵⁵

The Ministry and Death of LaVerne Collins in Liberia

LaVerne Collins was a single missionary with an advanced education, having attended two universities in Arkansas prior to her appointment to Liberia. When she arrived at Monrovia Harbor on December 27, 1954, she was met by missionaries Jean Bailey, Valda Russell, and Hubert Parks. Jean Bailey took her luggage to Bomi Hills, while Valda Russell escorted her to the various governmental offices to prepare for her legal entry into Liberia. After filing the necessary papers, LaVerne boarded a small aircraft on January 31, 1955, for the remaining distance to the Fassama Mission. As the plane approached the landing strip, LaVerne was impressed by the view of the extensive jungle surrounding the workstation and the neat buildings. The purposeful atmosphere of the mission gave her an immediate sense of fulfillment. The workload was heavy, and LaVerne immediately shouldered her share.²⁵⁶ Less than five months later, she fell ill with a fever. Pauline Gruse became alarmed because, despite LaVerne's insistence that she would be fine, her condition was obviously serious. "About the middle of the week [July 27] I [Pauline] asked LaVerne if she wanted me to send some of the boys to Bomi Hills to inform Brother Langham of her condition. He could arrange for a plane to fly in and pick her up. Her answer was a firm no!"²⁵⁷

By 8:00 A.M. Monday morning, August 1, 1955, it was evident that LaVerne's condition was rapidly deteriorating. Pauline Gruse sent some runners to inform Jack Langham of LaVerne's condition. However, about an hour after the runners left, LaVerne drew her final breath. The Fassama missionaries mourned as LaVerne Collins was buried near the mission station.

Sister Gruse wrote that there were some aspects of the tragedy that time could erase, while others would remain forever in her memory. But God is wise, and as always He encases every dark cloud in a silver lining. After LaVerne's death, revival broke out at the Fassama Station. Jack and Sandra Langham provided the compassion that produced the revival, remembering that "except a grain of wheat fall to the ground and die, it abideth alone." LaVerne Collins's death left a vivid mark upon the people of Liberia.

Missionary Burdens Take Their Toll

While many are slumbering on comfortable beds, others are agonizing before God for souls to be delivered from the superstitions and sins that rule their lives. These anguished tears during prayer vigils are a normal token of a missionary's battle for souls.

Missionaries grow weary, and their bodies succumb to the heavy stress. Evangelism exacts a price that very few are aware of or are willing to pay. This aspect of missionary work gets very little publicity because missionaries feel that it is such an honor to be involved in the work of the kingdom that it is worth the sacrificial cost. The missionary call compares to no other ministry and provides feelings of accomplishment that no other ministry can produce—even if it means the death of the body. Missionaries are driven by the tremendous burden they feel as they walk among people who are in dire need of a Savior. They strive to make an eternal difference in their lives.

²⁵⁴ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (September 16, 1954): 1.

²⁵⁵ *Ibid.*, 2.

²⁵⁶ Mary Wallace, *Profiles of Pentecostal Missionaries* (Hazelwood: Word Aflame Press, 1986), 45.

²⁵⁷ Charles E. Clanton, *I Surrender All* (Oklahoma City, Oklahoma: Heartland Press, 1998), 266.

Assistant Missionary Secretary Appointed

During the FMB meeting on May 11, 1955, Brother Stairs cautioned the board members that the administrative workload was increasing rapidly. The FMD's future would depend on getting the proper help in the office.

George L. Glass Sr. had been a member of the FMB since October 1947. He had served as recording secretary since 1949. A full-time assistant to the general director had become necessary, and he was the obvious choice. The FMB sent the following request to the General Board: "Resolved that we ask the General Board to consider appointing the Assistant Missionary Secretary to work full time under the Missionary Board. He should be appointed from the Missionary Board."²⁵⁸

The General Board appointed George L. Glass Sr. as the assistant FM secretary, marking a distinct change in the FMD.

Colombian Church to Help Finance Its Own Church Buildings

Wynn Stairs suggested that Colombia could help to build its own churches. He felt that if the UPCI extended an initiative whereby North America matched Colombia dollar for dollar, they could further the gospel more effectively. The board passed the following resolution:

That the Missionary Department will match dollar for dollar an amount which might be raised in Colombia among the churches for new buildings in Colombia for a period of three years from date, in order to encourage the people in Colombia to get under this burden. Said locations and character of any building to be constructed shall be agreeable to the District Board of the United Pentecostal Church in Colombia and the Missionary Department.²⁵⁹

The Varnados Appointed to Jamaica

A. D. and Bessie Varnado, along with their daughter, Janet, met the FMB in September 1955, to express their burden and calling for Jamaica. The need of a missionary was increasingly important because of Ralph Reynolds's resignation and Mother Russell's death. The board recommended that the Varnados be appointed as missionaries to Jamaica.²⁶⁰

The Parks Transfer from Liberia to Japan

Hubert and Dorothy Parks, home on furlough from Liberia, expressed their burden for Japan. The FMB therefore recommended that they be appointed as missionaries to Japan and that Geneva Bailey be appointed to Liberia.²⁶¹

Paul H. Box Appointed as Foreign Missions Secretary²⁶²

The next board session convened in Tulsa, Oklahoma, during the 1955 General Conference. Paul H. Box was appointed to serve as a full-time FM recording secretary beginning January 1, 1956.²⁶³

²⁵⁸ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (May 1955): 4.

²⁵⁹ Ibid., 6.

²⁶⁰ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (September 1955): 1.

²⁶¹ Ibid., 9.

²⁶² The position of foreign missions secretary was first filled by George Glass in 1949 when he was recording secretary. He served until Paul H. Box was appointed on a full-time basis in 1955. It became an elective office in 1959. In 1976 Paul Box was succeeded by Edwin E. Judd, who served until 1996, when Carl Varnell was elected for the position. Carl Varnell is the current foreign missions secretary.

The contributions Paul Box made to advance the work of missions should be published in a special chronicle and dedicated to the missionary family. After twenty years of service, he retired on January 1, 1976, at which time Edwin E. Judd became the foreign missions secretary.²⁶⁴

The missionaries deeply loved Paul Box, calling him “the missionaries’ friend.” Missionaries still living who served in those days will remember his handwritten postscripts on formal letters. Those personal notes were always received with deep emotion as though from a dear friend. Sometimes the answer to a request was an absolute no, but the negative reply was seasoned with such compassion that it acted as a written anesthetic.

New Members Added to the Foreign Missions Board

Due to A. W. Post’s appointment for missionary service, W. J. Rolston and R. G. Cook were added to the FMB prior to the May 1956 sessions. The board now consisted of W. T. Stairs, secretary, G. L. Glass, W. J. Rolston, A. D. Gurley, R. G. Cook, and Paul H. Box, office secretary/recording secretary.²⁶⁵

William Cupples Appointed to Liberia

Having authorized the purchase of a Piper Tri-Pacer plane during its April 1954 meetings, the FMB in 1956 recommended to the General Board that William Cupples be appointed as a missionary to Liberia. The board further resolved to provide flying lessons for Brother Cupples.²⁶⁶

The Foreign Missions Board Financial Policy

The FMD continued to struggle with the issue of funds being sent to the field without going through FMD books. When missionary offerings are sent to the FMD, the amount is reduced by 10 percent for administrative costs. Knowing this and thinking it the more generous thing to do, some pastors prefer to send their funds directly to the missionary in order to bypass the 10 percent deduction. This, however, creates a problem for the FMD because the division acts as a clearinghouse guaranteeing the IRS that the funds are not designated for a missionary’s personal use. When the funds bypass the FMD treasury, it removes the protective step and creates a potential IRS violation for the missionary. Therefore, if a missionary does not report these separate funds to the IRS and his tax return is questioned, heavy penalties may be levied.

Added to this is the pastors’ appeal for credit for missions giving when they incur expenses for ministry trips to the foreign field. The FMD has never discouraged a pastor from visiting a field, but there is a policy that guides the administration of such funds:

Inasmuch as it is needful to coordinate our Missionary endeavor as far as support and help for our Missionary work is concerned: Be it Resolved that all individuals and churches desiring credit for designated cash offerings going to the foreign field must send such funds through the office unless in some special case, prior approval for sending such funds direct to the foreign field is obtained. . . .

Be it further resolved that we do not approve of giving credit for individuals making missionary trips unless sent on official business by the organization.²⁶⁷

²⁶³ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (September 1955): 8.

²⁶⁴ T. F. Tenney, “Honoring Paul Box,” *Pentecostal Herald* (January 1976): 17–18 and (February 1976): 21.

²⁶⁵ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (May 1956): 1.

²⁶⁶ *Ibid.*, 5.

²⁶⁷ *Ibid.*

The Office of Foreign Missions Secretary Changed to General Director of Foreign Missions

Since the merger of the PCI with the PAJC, the title of the person directing FM operations was known as the FM secretary. A resolution passed during the 32nd General Conference in Memphis, Tennessee, October 19–24, 1956, changed the title from FM secretary to general director of Foreign Missions: “Article V, Section 3, Foreign Missionary Board, changed to read: 1. The Foreign Missionary Board shall consist of a Director of Foreign Missions, an Assistant Director of Foreign Missions, a Foreign Missionary Secretary and four other members.”²⁶⁸

The W. R. Holleys Appointed to Hawaii

In Hawaii, Brother and Sister James Clarks’ illnesses caused concern for the future of the Hawaiian church. Brother Clark asked the FMB if he could be replaced in 1957.

God understands the needs of a mission field and sets about preparing solutions before we are aware of the problems. In this case, Brother and Sister W. R. Holley from Florida met the board about their call to missions. The board asked if they would be willing to go to Hawaii in view of the Clarks’ ill health. Their affirmative answer opened a door for a recommendation from the board that they be appointed to Hawaii.²⁶⁹

Harvey Davis returned from Liberia and gave his report to the board. The board recommended his reappointment, but, since he was ill, Brother Davis wished to wait until he regained his health. The board complied and kept his application active.

In another action during the October 1956 board session, W. H. Priest was appointed as a missionary to Alaska.

Robert McFarland Appointed to Libya

Robert and Margie McFarland of Indiana expressed their burden for the Middle East, specifically Libya. They wanted to work their way through Egypt and various other fields until they arrived in Libya. The board recommended that the McFarlands be appointed as missionaries to Libya.²⁷⁰

Leaving Margie and the children in the homeland, Robert McFarland and his father, Lester, visited several Arab countries, including Jordan, before arriving in Libya. The plan was that after Robert established residence there, his father would fly back to the States and Margie and the children would join Robert. However, before they could implement the plan, the Lord uncovered a plot by the Libyan government to have the McFarlands enter the country, receive all their household goods, and then the government would declare that they had entered illegally due to a wrong stamp on their visas. When Robert and his father discovered the plot, they knew they had to leave the country or they would be jailed. But Robert said he would not leave until he had personally confronted Colonel Abdullah, the man responsible for the plot.

Lester left Abdullah’s office to secure tickets while Robert waited, despite being told that he could not see Abdullah. At the end of the day, when Robert was the only one left waiting in the office, the colonel finally consented to see him. Robert told the colonel about his calling to Libya and that Abdullah would one day stand before God to explain why he had refused to work with God’s plan for the country. Abdullah would be responsible for all the people who would never have a chance to experience salvation. Abdullah slammed his fist on the desk. “Then I will see you at the judgment! Now get out!”²⁷¹

²⁶⁸ A. L. Clanton, “Resolutions Passed at the 1956 General Conference,” *Pentecostal Herald* (December 1956): 5.

²⁶⁹ Minutes, UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 18, 1956).

²⁷⁰ Minutes, UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 22, 1956).

²⁷¹ Quoted in e-mail message from Lois McFarland Truman to the McFarland family, November 10, 2001.

At the airport, Robert told Lester that he was willing to stay in Libya and be jailed, but Lester reasoned, "How are you going to reach any Arab people, such as those families we met in Jordan, if you are behind bars?" The two boarded the plane.

Back in the States, Robert and Margie McFarland again met the FMB. Robert explained that his burning desire to reach the Arabic-speaking people had not diminished. He asked to go to Jordan.²⁷²

Carrie Eastridge Appointed to South Africa

Carrie Eastridge, Nona Freeman's mother, had been serving in South Africa without appointment. Upon receiving a letter from Sister Eastridge, the board agreed that she should apply for a missionary appointment. In her letter, Sister Eastridge stated that she felt a burden to remain in South Africa to help in the work. E. L. Freeman submitted a letter, affirming her valuable help in South Africa and asking if she could be appointed while remaining in South Africa. Although the procedure was somewhat out of line with policy, the board considered that Sister Eastridge's solid-gold reputation merited that she be recommended for appointment.²⁷³

Paul Box Given Authority to Handle Financial Matters

The FMB considered it important that Paul Box, as FM secretary, be able to disburse funds. The board passed a resolution that he be authorized to write all regular vouchers for the missionary department.²⁷⁴

Insurance Provided for Missionaries on the Field

Because many missionaries suffered from ailments on the field and because, in many cases, they did not have health insurance, it became apparent that the FMD should consider health insurance for the missionaries. The board passed a resolution that missionaries be furnished with UPC Prudential Company insurance at no cost to them.²⁷⁵

The UPCI Continues Financial Support to Mexico

Every year the FMB minutes showed the renewal for the joint venture with the Apostolic Church of Mexico, a sister organization, to support their appointed missionaries in Central America. Here is an example: "Resolved that we continue to allow \$100.00 per month for one year to Brother and Sister Nieblas V. who are doing Missionary work in Central America for the Oneness organization in Mexico."²⁷⁶

Sabastiana Menza Appointed to Italy

Sabastiana Menza of Buffalo, New York, and her son met the FMB about her native country, Italy. A member of the PAW, Sister Menza had made several trips to Italy at her own expense and established a church near Naples with her own funds. She desired to return as a UPCI missionary at her own expense. The board explained the policy concerning appointment and support of missionaries to Sabastiana and the steps she should take before her request could be considered. She was appointed to Italy during the 1957

²⁷² Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 1960): 9.

²⁷³ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 22, 1956).

²⁷⁴ Ibid.

²⁷⁵ Ibid.

²⁷⁶ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Mission Board (October 15, 1957).

General Conference. The FMD commended her labor saying, “She has been a great blessing to the work, in spite of the fact she was unable to stay long, due to governmental regulations.”²⁷⁷

Sister Menza was ordered out of Italy on February 22, 1960.²⁷⁸

Lewis Morley and Sallie Lemons Marry

They say that opposites attract, and this was certainly the case when Lewis Morley, a witty Englishman, met Sallie Lemons, a very quiet, serious-minded American. Lewis Morley had been appointed to Venezuela and Sallie Lemons to Colombia. Obviously, the will of God brought them together. Sallie moved from Colombia to Venezuela, and they began working in Maracaibo, Venezuela, in late summer 1956. Janet Varnado wrote about their wedding:

Two of our very fine missionaries, Sister Sallie Lemons and Brother Lewis Morley, were united in marriage on Thanksgiving Day at the Pentecostal Tabernacle in Kingston, Jamaica, by Brother A. D. Varnado, Missionary of Jamaica, and pastor of the church there.

Brother V. A. Guidroz, Superintendent of the Texas District, was visiting in Jamaica at the time, gave the bride away. Sister Janet Varnado served Sister Lemons as her Maid of Honor, and Brother Edgar Eason, the first person Brother Varnado baptized after arriving in Jamaica last year, was the Best Man.

The church was decorated very simply with palms and roses. The bride carried a bouquet of white roses, which she made up herself. As the couple knelt at the altar at the end of the ceremony, Sister Janet Varnado sang “The Lord’s Prayer.”

The presence of God was so very real during the entire wedding. After the wedding the happy couple spent a brief honeymoon about fifty miles from Kingston. One week and a day after their wedding they boarded a plane back to their field of labor. They went first to Barranquilla, Colombia, and spent the weekend there with Brother and Sister Larsen. Then they went on to Valera, Venezuela, their present field of labor together. May God bless them and give them an abundant harvest of souls and a very happy life together.²⁷⁹

The Morleys denied themselves to an almost impossible degree in their efforts to see souls saved. They moved to Valera in the mountains of Venezuela to establish the work there. It was extremely hot, and the Morley home had no screens despite hordes of flies and mosquitoes. The Morleys did not have a washing machine, fan, automobile, sewing machine, or refrigerator—or even an old fashioned icebox—yet from the small offerings they received from outside sources, they saved \$1,000 toward a new church building. Throughout their missionary service, Sallie often remarked, “The spiritual need is so great, there is no thought of physical needs. We have everything we need!”

The burden of establishing the work was so great that Brother Morley slept only 1–3 hours each night. He fasted until his body was frail and thin. Despite a physical impairment, he pushed his strength to the limit. This was typical of his entire missionary service. I thank God for missionaries like the Morleys!

God Answers Prayer to Initiate the Work in the Philippine Islands

In the 1950s, a nondenominational church sect, the Iglesia ni Cristo Incorporated, became very popular in the Philippine Islands. Much of this group’s constituency came from the rural areas and from among the poor, uneducated populace who depended upon those more literate to expound the Scriptures. This church initiated a doctrine that rejected the deity of Jesus Christ and “preached that Jesus Christ was not God but a human being. . . . All the Christian sects in the area and neighboring towns united against the Iglesia ni Cristo in the matter of the true nature of Jesus Christ. Since it was an established fact that

²⁷⁷ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 17, 1957).

²⁷⁸ “Sebastiana Menza Leaves Italy,” *Pentecostal Herald* (March 1960): 7.

²⁷⁹ Janet Varnado, “A Mission Field Wedding,” *Pentecostal Herald* (January 1957): 9.

Christianity believes in his humanity, the main point of the argument centered on whether Jesus Christ was God or not.²⁸⁰

The Catholic laity, known to shun the reading of the Bible, was no match for the trained INC ministers. The members of the Bible-reading Fabrica Evangelical Church (Southern Baptist Convention) took it upon themselves to defend the deity of Christ. In January 1957, in Calatrava, Negros Occidental, Pastor Catalino Buensuceso confronted the group in public debates attended by several thousand people. According to Meliton Zarsuelo, the doctrine of the trinity was put aside as the area congregations united to teach from the Scriptures that Jesus had a dual nature and that as God robed in flesh He became the Savior of mankind.

E. B. Echols printed and distributed two tracts: “One True God,” and “Baptism in the Name of Jesus Christ.” These were used as documented evidence that the Scripture taught that Jesus was God manifested in flesh. A small group of forty believers in Fabrica, Sagay, Negros Occidental, who had attended the debate, received a revelation of the oneness of God. They began organized prayer services, asking God to send someone to baptize them in the name of Jesus Christ according to the Scriptures.

Ralph Bullock’s name (former missionary to Hong Kong) appeared on a list of contacts created as a result of the tracts that had been distributed. Brother Bullock sent the group a newsletter, and Meliton Zarsuelo wrote to invite him to Fabrica. Unable to travel to the Philippines, Brother Bullock forwarded the request to the UPCI headquarters. In the meantime, Carlos C. Grant had been praying that God would send him to the Philippines.

Brother Grant met the FMB with a feeling that God was directing his future. The board recommended him for appointment to the Philippines, and in May 1957, Brother Grant wrote to Meliton Zarsuelo expressing his desire to come and minister. That expression became a reality on September 21, 1957, when Meliton Zarsuelo and Jose Abuyen met Brother Grant at the Bacolod Airport. Brother Zarsuelo wrote:

Indeed God was directing a wonderful drama of what was to become the history of the United Pentecostal Church in the Philippines. During Brother Grant’s time in Fabrica, he conducted nightly services. Many people attended, including the curious onlookers who came not to hear the Gospel but to see . . . the strange sights of people receiving the Holy Ghost. . . . On September 27 at Himoga-an River 27 souls were baptized in the wonderful name of Jesus Christ. Three days later another 22 people were baptized.²⁸¹

Brother Grant established his residence in Bacolod City and held services in a house owned by the mother of Ernesto Tong, one of the ministers.

On October 4, 1957, after the Securities and Exchange Commission approved the application for incorporation, the UPC became a legal entity in the Philippines as the UPC of the Philippines, Incorporated. Carlos C. Grant was the chairman, and the executive members were Salustiano Cataluna, Meliton U. Zarsuelo, Federico Remata, and Ernesto Remata.

Meanwhile, another drama had been developing in the life of a man named Urbano Aventura, who had laid the foundation of the work of a future UPC missionary family in the Philippines. Around this time Arthur and Roberta Dillon and Elmer and Hettie Buckmiller were appointed to the Philippines.

Arthur and Roberta Dillon Appointed to the Philippines

Little did anyone know what this missionary appointment would entail as Arthur and Roberta Dillon from Seattle, Washington, applied on October 15, 1958, to serve in the Philippine Islands.²⁸²

²⁸⁰ Meliton Zarsuelo, “How It All Began: A History of the United Pentecostal Church in the Philippines” (MS, n.d., ca. 1998), 6.

²⁸¹ Ibid., 12.

²⁸² Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 15, 1958): 2.

Urbano Aventura

In her journal, Roberta Dillon related how Urbano Aventura received the revelation of the Jesus Name message. He traveled to Hawaii to work in the pineapple fields and was impacted by a missionary and the Apostolic Faith Church. (Roberta mentioned—but did not identify—the missionary.) The Apostolic Faith Church had a direct link to the Azusa Street revival. In his limited English, Urbano said:

In a vision I heard a voice calling me and commanded me to wash my own self in the spring of water under the foot of the cross of Jesus Christ which I saw in a vision Jesus Christ is nailed. A flesh which I saw blood from his side from his hands, feet, where nails were fastened dropping down. I got up from my bed and kneeled down and pray ask God to give understanding what it means and it comes to me that I need baptism. I did not tarry in the day I was baptized.²⁸³

On January 15, 1937, Urbano Aventura traveled from Hawaii to Mindanao to reunite with his family. His mother was angry because he had left the Catholic Church and was baptized in an evangelical church, and she cried constantly. Because his older brother was a Jesuit missionary, she said, “If we all go to a lake of fire, we can at least go together as a family.” Urbano could not find a Jesus Name church, so he became weak and finally succumbed to gambling and drink. However, while serving in World War II he promised God that if He would protect him from harm, he would serve Him.

True to his promise, in 1947 he began services in his home with his family. From that beginning a congregation grew rapidly. Early in 1948, the people began asking who would baptize them. In that same year a Brother Julian from Honolulu arrived and baptized the people.

As in Fabrica, the people began praying for a missionary, and God answered their prayers in the person of Arthur Dillon. Roberta Dillon wrote that they had been in the Philippines about four months when Brother Dillon received a letter from Mindanao. In the letter Urbano Aventura wrote, “We will gladly welcome you. Then you will see our faith for you to observe and to teach if we have any shortcomings, for a man is a man that seeks the truth . . . for these are our fervent prayers and hopes, that someday one who would notice us here would come and add to our know how of our Savior.”

How the letter ever reached the Dillons was a mystery. The envelope was severely damaged through handling and the address was incomplete. Roberta Dillon wrote, “In February of 1960, Brother Dillon left for Cotobato City on Mindanao by plane. Cotobato is on the western side of the island and the immediate area is inhabited by the Moros, a people of the Moslem faith, who, as a rule, do not mix with the ordinary Filipino.”²⁸⁴

After spending the night in a hotel, Brother Dillon caught a bus that took him thirty-eight kilometers to the end of the route, letting him off on the side of the road. He then caught a ride on a logging truck to the barrio in the foothills. With his limited knowledge of the language dialect, he was uncertain that the driver understood his directions. Roberta Dillon wrote, “At last the truck stopped in the dusty road beside a house and as he climbed down a Filipina came out of the house. ‘It is Brother Dillon,’ she cried. ‘Praise the Lord! God revealed to me that you would come today.’ “

During that first week Brother Dillon baptized ten converts in the name of Jesus Christ, and by the end of two and a half weeks, sixty-six were baptized in the barrio of Baguer.

The Elmer Buckmillers Transfer to the Philippines

E. L. and Hettie Buckmiller met the board and expressed their desire to work in the Philippine Islands. With finances so tight, the board explained that if the Missouri District would raise their fares and

²⁸³ Urbano Aventura quoted in Roberta Dillon, “My Philippines” (MS, n.d.), 52.

²⁸⁴ Roberta Dillon, “My Philippines” (MS, n.d.), 15.

guarantee their support while on the field, they would recommend to the General Board that they be approved to work in the Philippines.²⁸⁵

They arrived in Manila on the large northern island of Luzon and established several congregations. With Carlos Grant's increasing success in opening new works in the middle group of the Philippine Islands, Arthur Dillon's trip to Mindanao, and the arrival of the Denzil Richardson family, it became evident that God was preparing for a mighty revival in the Philippines, the growth of which would make the Philippines the second largest constituency of believers in the UPCI; by the year 2000, the number of constituents in various reports exceeded 250,000. From its beginning in Negros the work expanded to 1,236 licensed ministers, a great many more ministers in development, and 4,234 churches. Most of the churches had many daughter works.

Jamaica

The work in Jamaica increased miraculously. Ralph Reynolds's leadership had opened the door to a very productive future. By January 23, 1958, after the A. D. Varnado family had served in Jamaica for two years, Brother Varnado reported that:

God [had] confirmed His Word in many ways in our lives. He is still blessing the work all over the island, and people are receiving the Holy Ghost. Recently three were filled with the Holy Ghost, and two were baptized at the Headquarters Church. The outstations are also being blessed. . . . Last year . . . we dedicated five churches, three of which were started when Brother Pair was here. . . . The most outstanding project since we came to Jamaica is the new church at Ocho Rios. We built it from the ground up, including the purchasing of the lot. This beautiful church was dedicated on New Year's Day, in the presence of a congregation numbering two thousand. We also dedicated the Great Pond church. It had to be renovated, and some added to its length. Now it is a good substantial building, with a fine group of praying saints. Our vision for 1958 is the building of four new churches.²⁸⁶

Appeal for Funds for Furloughs

In the ebb and flow of illness and revival among the missionaries, Brother Stairs appealed for \$10,000 to bring weary missionaries home for much-needed furloughs. The deputation cycle is necessary for missionaries. It provides a vital link between the local assemblies and the mission fields they support. As sacrificial as a missionary's life is, the local church also labors sacrificially to provide the funds to facilitate the missionaries' work. The missionaries' personal visits to local assemblies while on deputation fuse both types of sacrificial activities into an incredible partnership. Brother Stairs published an appeal:

Brother and Sister Freeman of South Africa; Brother and Sister Philip Tolstad, Uruguay, South America; Brother and Sister Bogue, Australia; and Brother and Sister Langham of Liberia, have been laboring on these different fields of the world, representing all of us with the gospel for the lost. . . .

Now we are in need of help. Even though their furloughs are due, . . . it will cost approximately \$10,000 to bring them home.²⁸⁷

Time Line Relating to Missionaries in Colombia

In the March 1958 *Pentecostal Herald*, Verner Larsen provided a time line for some of the missionaries in Colombia. James E. and Grace Ball arrived in Colombia in 1941. William and Mollie Thompson, who were from England working under appointment with the Calvary Holiness Church, saw

²⁸⁵ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 16, 1958): 4.

²⁸⁶ A. D. Varnado, "Progress in Jamaica," *Pentecostal Herald* (March 1958): 6.

²⁸⁷ W. T. Stairs, "Funds Needed for Missionary Furloughs," *Pentecostal Herald* (March 1958): 6.

their need to be baptized in Jesus' name. W. T. Stairs baptized them. They subsequently resigned their CHC appointment to accept licensure and missionary appointment with the UPCI.

As on many occasions, Wynn Stairs communicated that "on every field we are working toward one goal—churches completely self-supporting and pastored by national pastors. . . . There is no better plan than for a pastor to be supported by the tithes and offerings of those to whom he ministers. After a long struggle, costly, not only in money, but in suffering and death as well, this goal was reached for the first time, in the church at Bucaramanga, Colombia. It is fully self-supporting."²⁸⁸ This is the UPCI missiological objective: evangelize the lost, and from those converted, men will be called to ministry. After training for ministry, the leadership of the fields can then be transferred to those chosen by God to succeed the missionary leadership.

The work in Bucaramanga was initiated in 1937 when Verner and Abigail Larsen went to Colombia. It was the first Colombian city to hear the gospel. As the responsibilities increased, Brother Larsen assumed the overall leadership of the work and installed James Elmer Ball as pastor of the local church where he served for several years. William J. and Mollie Thompson succeeded him. Stanford Johnston and Sallie Lemons used the church as a home base, serving throughout Colombia.

Aging Pioneer Missionaries

As believers in the recipient nations came to revere the missionary family, the North American constituency also came to deeply respect their labors. But they did not seem to realize that the missionary family they grew up with was aging, their bodies having expended energies that could not be replaced. Finally, one by one, the veteran missionaries began to falter and were invariably taken from us. They became the icons of missionary service.

Aaron James Holmes at Home with the Lord

Aaron J. Holmes, missionary on furlough from Liberia, graduated from this life on March 1, 1958, in Brooklyn, New York, at seventy-three years of age. He had served in Liberia for forty-four years, the last thirty-two of which were spent at the Zoradee Pentecostal Mission he and his wife had established. He had been baptized in the name of Jesus Christ and received the Holy Ghost in 1924. In years of service he was the oldest active male UPCI missionary.

Pearl Holmes was taking care of the work at the Zoradee Mission while her husband was on furlough. She had suffered an accident that made it physically impossible for her to attend her husband's funeral in Brooklyn, where one of their daughters lived.

Illness and Death of George Buck

The February 1958 *Pentecostal Herald* conveyed sadness in that George Buck, veteran missionary to Hong Kong, was struggling to maintain his ministry due to his rapidly failing health. Brother Stairs said, "Brother Buck in Hong Kong has been quite sick. He has done a good work in various countries. Please remember him in your prayers."

George Buck's health continued to fail until he passed to his eternal reward on February 17, 1958, at the age of seventy-nine. He had served in the Congo, Africa, India, and Ceylon before transferring to Hong Kong. He was laid to rest in a missionary cemetery in Hong Kong.²⁸⁹ Both Aaron James Holmes and A. R. George Buck rest within sight of the bustling activity of modern missionary service. What would they say if they could see what the "corn of wheat falling to the ground" had accomplished?

²⁸⁸ Wynn T. Stairs, "A Goal Is Reached," *Pentecostal Herald* (March 1958): 8.

²⁸⁹ Paul H. Box, "Two Foreign Missionaries at Home with the Lord," *Pentecostal Herald* (April 1958): 11.

Blood of Martyrs Lubricates the Wheels of Revival

During the March 1958 Colombian National Convention, the work took a tremendous, positive turn. Saul Ramirez, saved in the great La Morena revival, already a very productive minister, was ordained and became the pastor of the congregation in Medellin. The blood of the martyrs of La Morena had lubricated the wheels of revival until it seemed that every pulpit became a powerful apostolic vehicle. At the same time Miguel Peña was ordained to serve as the pastor in Fundación, Magdalena. He would later be appointed as a missionary to Ecuador. In the same convention, the Colombian young people were officially organized as “Conquistadores Pentecostales” (Pentecostal Conquerors). Jesus M. Cardoza from Palmira, Valle, was president, Eliseo Duarte from Barranquilla, treasurer, and Mollie Thompson, counselor. The young people manifested much enthusiasm over their new organization, and made the evangelization of Colombia their objective.²⁹⁰ Jesus M. Cardozo would become a future president of the UPCI in Colombia, and Eliseo Duarte would become a missionary to Ecuador, then to North America.

Campo Blanco

UPCI missionaries are trained to teach the principle that workers should plant and water the seed and God would give the increase. This produces self-propagating, self-supporting, self-governing churches on foreign soil and transforms the work from a missionary-administrated organization to national leaders.

It is interesting to note that in 1939 a Colombian named Bernal Blanco and his family had given their hearts to the Lord. There were two boys, Campo and Jorge, who would play a major part in pioneering the work in Colombia. When William and Mollie Thompson left for furlough in North America, Campo had matured enough to become the pastor of the church in Bucaramanga, his home city. Campo wrote to the headquarters office:

Greetings in the precious name of our Lord Jesus. I am so glad to write you, but I am sorry that I could not write English so good. . . . The church in Bucaramanga is growing in number and in the Spirit. . . . The attendance of the Sunday School in the past Sunday was 226.

The Lord our God is adding souls to the church all the time. . . . I would like to say more, but is too hard for me to write and think in English. My wife and family send to you His greetings. All the saints in Bucaramanga remember you ever and I hope you keep on praying for us and this work of the Lord our God. . . . The Lord Jesus be with you, Brother Stairs and I trust that the Lord bless you always.²⁹¹

Changes in Liberia

It had been seven years since Brother Stairs had visited Liberia. During his second visit, he found considerable changes. First, the country had modernized. Liberia had been formed in 1822 by former slaves. The capital city, Monrovia, was named after the then president-elect of the United States, James Monroe. Second, the gospel was advancing with the missionaries teaching hundreds of children in the Christian schools. But throughout thirty Liberian tribes, hundreds of villages had not yet heard their first Jesus Name message. Brother Stairs kept a travelogue:

Brother Langham met me at the airport . . . [and] we journeyed to Bomi Hills, where Sisters Langham, Regenhart and Russell were waiting. Bomi Hills is our main station in Liberia.

On Friday Brother [Jack] Langham and I went in the truck down the road about twenty miles, and after about two miles [on foot] through a jungle path we were at Mother Holmes' station at Zoradee. . . . The town chief and three of his elders came to the service to welcome the “man from America.” They

²⁹⁰ Sallie Morley, “Convention Days in Colombia,” *Pentecostal Herald* (June 1958): 7.

²⁹¹ W. T. Stairs, “A Letter from Campo,” *Pentecostal Herald* (March 1958): 8.

spoke very highly of Brother and Sister Holmes, and of the work they have done in the thirty or more years they have been in this town. We were indeed sorry to find Mother Holmes still suffering from a bad fall. . . . She is still walking with a crutch, and has lost twenty-eight pounds. . . . Mother Holmes has spent sixty-two years in Africa. Her spirit is still strong, but her body is weak. . . .

On Monday morning we heard the humming of our United Pentecostal Church airplane. Brother Cupples was arriving for our missionary gathering. He had brought Sister Cupples, their little girl, Ruth Anne, and Sister Bailey. This is the first plane to be owned by the United Pentecostal Church, and what a blessing it is. The trip over the mountains and jungles was made in forty-five minutes; this same trip formerly required from five to eight days through the jungle paths on foot.

Brother Cupples next brought Sister Gruse for a three-day stay. Brother Langham met Mother Holmes with the truck and brought her to Bomi Hills. All nine of our missionaries were then together. The next three days were days of blessing.

Only two of the thirty tribes have a written language. Neither of the two tribes we are working among has any written language. This, together with the fact that many of them are tucked away deep in the forest, presents a problem. But if we can preach the good news in the school . . . the Holy Spirit always takes advantage of every open door and this is an open door indeed.

A marvelous work has been done at Fassama. This is the place that had never heard the gospel until Sisters Bailey and Gruse went there five years ago, wading water to their armpits. On the Sunday morning I was there, the attendance was 191.

On Sunday night I was in service at Belle Yelle [ten minutes from Fassama by plane; five hours on foot] where Brother and Sister Cupples are located. This village of 700 had never heard a gospel message until three months ago. Over 100 people gathered in and around the “town player kitchen” for the service. God was again present. . . .

This is missionary work—this is the grace of God being manifest through the foolishness of preaching—this is what God can do through people who will let Him work. Missionary work requires suffering, and many will not do it for that reason.²⁹²

Good News from Indonesia

From Indonesia, Brother Pardue expressed good news about his work:

By the help of the Lord we are moving on to victory above all trouble and opposition. During the last three weeks we have baptized nine, and expect more than that number to follow on February 16. Last Wednesday we had about twenty-five in the altar and three being filled with the Holy Ghost (four in one week). Several fell in every direction under the mighty power of God. It was a visitation like I have never seen here before.²⁹³

Central America

Doors began to open in Central America as God directed men to the lost. The Apostolic Church of Mexico and the UPCI shared joint responsibilities: the UPCI financed the missionary effort and the Apostolic Church of Mexico provided the personnel. Finances increased incrementally as the workload grew. Each year the FMB asked for written progress reports of the work in El Salvador and Nicaragua. Manuel J. Gaxiola, missionary secretary for the Apostolic Church of Mexico, wrote Paul Box to express the appreciation of the Apostolic Church brethren for the monthly financial support. Below is an example of his letters:

This is to thank you for the check you sent for Brother Nieblas, and also for your letter in which you tell me your Missionary Board has agreed to support Brother Nieblas for another year. We are very grateful for this cooperation we are receiving from you, and also for the growth of our Missionary work in Central America. Right now we have down there three of our very finest ministers who are giving Bible

²⁹² Wynn T. Stairs, “My Visit to Liberia,” *Pentecostal Herald* (April 1958): 10.

²⁹³ W. R. Pardue, “Good News from Indonesia,” *Pentecostal Herald* (April 1958): 11.

instruction to our native workers. They have had very good meetings so far, and the native preachers are getting a better vision of the Lord's work.²⁹⁴

Brother Stairs's postscript states that the UPCI had financially supported Valentin Nieblas for over twelve years at the time of the above report. The team effort enabled the pioneering of the church in Nicaragua and several additional Central American works. Brother Stairs states, "We are happy that we can help in this way of reaching the lost in Central America."

Hubert and Dorothy Parks—Japan

To effectively assimilate into any people group, a missionary must learn the cultural idiosyncrasies of the people to ensure that the good news they intend to share is not misunderstood. In every area of the world missionaries usually spend the greater part of their first term observing and mixing with the people. This commonality usually develops a deep respect for the missionaries. To violate language and cultural mores could jeopardize the people's acceptance.

When Hubert and Dorothy Parks moved to Japan, they realized the necessity of language study and cultural training. While time consuming, and at times boring, the Parks felt that their first responsibility was to learn how to communicate in order to bring revival among the Japanese people. Every missionary can relate to the letter Dorothy wrote to the headquarters staff:

We are happy, at this time, to be able to report victory in the name of Jesus. Our prayer is that, in this "Land of the Rising Sun," the Sun of Righteousness will rise, and that we shall have a wonderful Holy Ghost revival. . . . Our being in this country is made possible only by the faithfulness of those who stand by us with their prayers and offerings. Surely we are all in this great battle together. . . . We have gone through many "valleys" since coming to Japan, but God has never failed us.²⁹⁵

Jamaican Ladies Auxiliary

Bessie Varnado reported the organization of the Jamaican Ladies Auxiliary as a ministry to the national church. She said, "We know that we shall not be able to do the things that we were able to do in the homeland, but it will be a good thing. All the pastors expressed their feelings, and were unanimous in wanting it. . . . This is Jamaica's day and we are trying to take advantage of it."²⁹⁶

Louisiana District Superintendent C. G. Weeks was an honored guest at the 1958 Jamaican National Conference. He stated, "New churches are being started to save the millions now ready to receive the truth. Anywhere you stop in Jamaica you have an audience. . . . [A. D.] Varnado is taxing his strength to the limit, as are Sister Varnado and Janet. . . . Our lives were greatly enriched by this visit to Jamaica."²⁹⁷

Annual Conferences on the Field

Annual conferences are special events on the foreign field. Many nationals save their money for an entire year, considering it a priority and a privilege to meet with those of like precious faith. This is exemplified in the May 1958 *Pentecostal Herald* with a report about the Indian General Conference March 23–30:

²⁹⁴ Manuel Gaxiola, "Missionary Work in Central America," *Pentecostal Herald* (April 1958): 13.

²⁹⁵ Dorothy Parks, "Prayer Request," *Pentecostal Herald* (April 1958): 13.

²⁹⁶ Mrs. A. D. Varnado, "Ladies' Auxiliary Organized in Jamaica," *Pentecostal Herald* (May 1958): 6.

²⁹⁷ C. G. Weeks, "The Jamaican Convention," *Pentecostal Herald* (May 1958): 12.

The Manipur Hills area and Burma were also represented in the conference. Pastor Lerthansung and another young man from Manipur Hills traveled for twelve days on foot, over the hills and through the jungles, to get there. They stopped in the different villages enroute, preaching the gospel, and baptizing people in Jesus' name when they could get them to believe with all their hearts. After traveling for over two hundred miles, the shine of God was on their faces. . . . Two brethren from Burma also walked to the conference—a distance of two hundred and fifty miles. Ninety percent of those who walked to the conference did so barefooted. Mothers carried babies. Very old people came. But in spite of their hardships, all had the glory of God upon them.²⁹⁸

Sandra Langham's Illness Precipitates a Furlough

In the same issue of the *Pentecostal Herald*, Paul Box explained an urgent need for Jack and Sandra Langham to come home on furlough:

They have done a very fine work [in Liberia]. Sister Langham is ill, and needs to be brought home, but we do not have the funds to bring them at the present time. . . . We have had some unusually heavy expenses in the Missionary Department the past few months, and the recession has hurt our Missionary offerings. We need \$2,000 immediately in order to bring the Langham family home. May we appeal for prayer, and for financial help, that this need will be met.²⁹⁹

The May 1958 *Pentecostal Herald* reported that Valda Russell had arrived for her second term in Liberia, Africa, and Ernest and Edith Martinez had arrived in Maracaibo, Venezuela, to begin their missionary service to that great country.

Ramón Araya Receives a Revelation

Missions work is enhanced when a congregation of faithful people begins searching for the deeper truths in the Scripture. Many times a missionary is a catalyst for bringing salvation to people who had experienced little more than church rituals. Ramón Araya was a Church of God minister in Costa Rica. While pondering the Book of Acts, he came to grips with the fact that he must preach the gospel as it was revealed. Every Bible study he gave to his congregation seemed to involve the early church and the apostolic doctrine. Soon he could no longer ignore the truth of water baptism in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins. He and his church were baptized and became a part of the Jesus Name family.

After accepting this truth, Brother Araya began working in fellowship with the Apostolic Church of Mexico, and Valentin Nieblas, the Mexican missionary superintendent of the work in Central America, visited him.

Grace Wiens Suffers a Heart Attack

Alaska suddenly came to forefront when Grace Wiens suffered a severe heart attack. Though she was recovering through the prayers of the church, her condition deeply concerned the North American church family. Paul H. Box wrote, "We are requesting prayer for Sister Grace Wiens in Hoonah, Alaska. She recently suffered a heart attack and, although at this writing she is some better, she still needs much prayer. [David and Grace] Wiens are missionaries in the largest native settlement in Alaska at Hoonah, and are doing a good work there."³⁰⁰

²⁹⁸ W. T. Stairs, "My Visit to India," *Pentecostal Herald* (May 1958): 11.

²⁹⁹ Paul H. Box, "An Urgent Need," *Pentecostal Herald* (May 1958): 11

³⁰⁰ Paul H. Box, "Missionary News," *Pentecostal Herald* (July 1958): 11.

The Claude Thompsons Appointed to Japan

Having worked in Japan under another missionary organization, the Claude Thompsons desired to be appointed as UPCI missionaries. The FMB passed a resolution that they be appointed to Japan and that the board would work out details concerning their support.³⁰¹ The UPCI missionary family welcomed them. “Brother and Sister [Claude] Thompson were laboring in Japan with another group, but they are now a part of the United Pentecostal Church family. They are doing a good work.”³⁰²

Arlon Royer Desires Missionary Appointment

Arlon Royer of Stockton, California, talked to the board. At that time he was attending the Bible school in Stockton, California, but he wanted to express his burden and vision. He would not realize his appointment until years later, but the will of God sometimes leads through many valleys before a vision becomes reality.³⁰³

Georgia Regenhardt Transfers to the Zoradee Mission Station

As an emergency measure to keep the work in Liberia coordinated, Georgia Regenhardt was transferred at the close of the 1960 school year from Bomi Hills to take over the work at the Zoradee Mission Station for one year.³⁰⁴

Boshra Sedra Applies for Missionary Status in Egypt

Boshra Sedra, an Egyptian citizen, attended Apostolic Bible Institute in the United States. He had received the revelation of Jesus’ name and the oneness of God and wanted to plant this doctrine in his work in Egypt. His application for missionary appointment and support for his work in Luxor, Egypt, was somewhat complicated due to the policies that guided such appointments. The board decided to write to Lillian Trasher in Egypt and also to the Church of God in the United States to find out all they could about Brother Sedra before any definite consideration of his application could be considered.

Harry Branding and S. G. Norris talked with the board about Brother Sedra, and the board asked him questions concerning his work in Egypt and what his expectations were. His basic request was \$250 per month to support and expand the work. After considerable discussion, the following resolution was passed:

Resolved that Brother Sedra be given \$100.00 per month for a period of one year—\$50.00 for the work and \$100.00 for the translating and printing of tracts, etc, in the Arabic language. This was also contingent upon the funds coming to the Missionary Department designated for this field and purpose. [Author’s note: the total was \$250 per month as listed above in the original request. The board spelled it out as \$100 personal and \$150 divided in \$50 for the work, and \$100 for translation.]

Further resolved that during the year in question investigation be made of the work in Egypt.³⁰⁵

Brother Branding’s church in St. Louis designated \$70 per month and Brother Norris \$30 per month for Brother Sedra’s work in Egypt for the period of one year.

³⁰¹ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Mission Board (October 18, 1958).

³⁰² “Meetings Planned in Kyoto, Japan,” *Pentecostal Herald* (June 1959): 9.

³⁰³ *Ibid.*, 6.

³⁰⁴ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 20, 1958): 7.

³⁰⁵ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 21, 1958): 8.

SFC Blesses Foreign Missions with Transportation

It would be impossible to calculate the thousands of souls who were evangelized by missionaries using SFC vehicles. They could now reach areas that had heretofore been inaccessible. For example, in 1958 Samuel and Lois Baker and Harry and Audrene Scism expressed to the Youth Department their deep appreciation for their SFC vehicles. However, the real appreciation was found in the hearts the converts. If a vehicle had not been provided, they might never have heard the gospel. Without a vehicle, a missionary would often walk for days to respond to an invitation to minister, but now SFC vehicles reduced the time from days to hours. North American young people annually expended energy to provide gifts of eternal value. Multiplied millions of dollars have resulted from their dedicated labor.

Missionaries Are Encouraged by Officials' Visits to the Field

Missions work exacts a tremendous emotional toll. How important it is to receive a visit from the officials; it is like an oasis in a desert! The visits not only encourage the missionary family, but more importantly, directions can be adjusted as matters are discussed around the table. It would be hard to calculate how many times words of wisdom and interaction with the general director have ensured greater success; what a difference a visit to the mission field makes!

General Superintendent A. T. Morgan's travel itinerary took him to visit Venezuela, Colombia, and Jamaica to encourage the missionaries serving in those countries. He sent a photo, which appeared in the June 1959 *Pentecostal Herald*, of the massive attendance during Jamaica's National Conference. Brothers Morgan and Stairs are pictured sitting on the platform.

Samuel Baker Desires a Transfer

By the time the November 1958 *Pentecostal Herald* was published, Samuel and Lois Baker had served two years in Brazil. He expressed that God had been true to His promises and that the Baker family was well. Though he did not reveal it at this time, Brother Baker was feeling a deep desire to resettle in Sao Paulo, another of Brazil's major cities. His concern was what to do about the congregation he had built in Porto Alegre.

Mission Compounds Versus Training National Leaders

As the decade of the fifties began to wind down, W. R. Pardue continued to extend the boundaries of the work in Indonesia, and Ellis Scism reported a baptistry constructed inside the church in Lushai Hills, India. Brother Scism said, "It is hard to find water in those hills. They use rainwater from the reservoir. . . . They simply [dig] a hole in the floor, and [install] the tank. We have at least 7,000 people in those hills baptized in Jesus' name." As the board evaluated both of these missionaries' reports, it appeared that they were sensing the need to change their mission strategy and were laying the foundation for it. Both W. R. Pardue and Ellis Scism saw the increasing demands upon their strength and developed a vision for training national leadership. They felt it would increase the effectiveness of the work. Until this time, the model for missionary service was the mission compound surrounded by the people who had been evangelized. In training national leaders to care for the churches, missionaries lifted their sights beyond the compound to exponentially multiply their efforts through those they trained. Brother Pardue and Brother Scism were among the first missionaries to consider an organized training program so that national leaders could assume the oversight of the work.

Good News from Estonia

Some years earlier John Sikora from Brooklyn, New York, went to Estonia. While there he married an Estonian woman and worked for the cause of Christ. During World War II, Russian armies marched into Estonia and gobbled it up. The FMD lost contact with Brother Sikora and the Estonian saints. W. T. Witherspoon, Wynn Stairs, and others tried to find out what had happened to them, but for years no information surfaced. They imagined that the work had been destroyed. However, in 1958 Paul Box wrote in the *Pentecostal Herald*:

Recently contact was reestablished between Brother Sikora and one of our pastors living in Brooklyn, New York, Brother John Rubin. He is a personal friend of Brother Sikora, and has sent us two pictures concerning the work in Estonia (now a part of Russia). We rejoice over the fact that God has taken care of His own in that land. Though we had no contact at all with those of like precious faith, the work has gone on, and there is a witness of this wonderful message in that land.³⁰⁶

Pictures depicted the worshipping Estonian congregation. Another picture showed John Sikora with Brother Piceweir, pastor of the church.

Initiating the Ecuadorian Work

Bill Drost submitted an important report that changed the country of Ecuador forever! Many persecuted Colombian believers sought refuge in Ecuador. After visiting there, Brother Drost appealed to the North American church to pray for Ecuador:

There are no Pentecostal works that I know of in Ecuador. The need is great and the challenge is before us. I am certain that there is a harvest waiting us in this great country. May God give us holy wisdom to sow rightly, and though it might be just seeding time, there is sure to be a harvest in God's time.³⁰⁷

Several times Bill Drost visited the refugees from the La Morena massacre now living in Ecuador. On one occasion, he faced a group that made false charges against him:

Tension was great, but I sense a mighty breakthrough. Satan is furious, and some persecutions have developed. . . . I met face to face with a delegation of Catholic women. . . . These women threatened me with everything from stones to death, but they left defeated. . . . Charges were made against me to the judge, but the charges were easily proven false.³⁰⁸

Verner Larsen reported in the December 1958 *Pentecostal Herald* that Miguel Peña, a pastor in Fundación, Colombia, felt called to go to Ecuador. In time, the Peñas would become Colombia's first missionary appointees.

Onlookers of a Venezuelan Baptismal Service Jam the Pan American Highway

In January 1959, Ernest and Edith Martinez of Venezuela were excited about baptizing converts in a creek called "Cano de las Brujas." When curious drivers on the Pan American Highway saw so many people lined up on both sides of the creek, they stopped their vehicles and poured out to see what was

³⁰⁶ Paul H. Box, "Good News from Estonia," *Pentecostal Herald* (December 1958): 8.

³⁰⁷ Bill Drost, "Pray for Ecuador," *Pentecostal Herald* (December 1958): 6.

³⁰⁸ William F. Drost, "Preaching in Ecuador," *Pentecostal Herald* (January 1959): 7.

happening under the bridge. Traffic backed up. “There were some mockers,” reported Brother Martinez, “but there were those who openly shed tears as the people were filled with the Holy Ghost.”³⁰⁹

Australian Bible School in Second Year of Operation

From Australia, T. J. Turkington wrote to Brother Stairs about training national workers during the second year of operation of the Bible school in Queensland. As he and his family prepared to leave for furlough, Brother Turkington commended Glenn and Iris Bogue for their work.

William Thompson Is Injured

The January 1959 *Pentecostal Herald* reported that William Thompson was severely injured as he stepped from a curb: “A car skidded and ran into him. [The impact] threw him to the middle of the street where he lay unconscious and bleeding profusely.”³¹⁰ The next month’s *Pentecostal Herald* gave the update that Brother Thompson had healed enough to resume his activities.

Central America

As previously mentioned, the FMD had been financially supporting the work in Central America in harmony with Mexico’s Apostolic Assembly. Manuel J. Gaxiola sent periodic reports.

For the past twelve years we have cultivated a greater spirit of fellowship among the two organizations, and have worked together in mission endeavors in Central and South America. . . . The Apostolic Church now has 303 organized churches . . . in Central America there are more than 30 churches affiliated with our organization.³¹¹

William and Yoshiye Nukida Become Parents

William and Yoshiye Nukida became the proud parents of a baby girl, Faith Mariko, born June 7, 1959 in Sapporo, Japan. Hubert and Dorothy Parks also labored faithfully in Kyoto, Japan.

Director Stairs Appeals for Laborers in Madagascar and the Amazon Basin

As the work of missions increased around the world, it was gratifying to see the spirit of cooperation in North America’s local churches. Director Stairs’s heart was filled with gratitude, but so much of the world was as yet unevangelized. Exploding population compounded the task. In the March 1959 *Pentecostal Herald* he called for a greater dedication in the grassroots community. He asked the question, “Did you know?” then cited Madagascar with its population of over 4 million without an apostolic messenger. Within one day’s flying time from North America, millions in South America’s Amazon Basin had no contact with the outside world. The unsaved world was “without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth . . . having no hope, and without God in the world.” His article ended, “Christ died for *all*. . . . How can we sit in ease and luxury any longer and not share, or go to the heathen with the whole gospel? Who will accept? Who will give? Who will go?”

God heard the plea and sent the Denzil Richardsons to Madagascar and Benny and Theresa DeMerchant to the Amazon Basin.

³⁰⁹ Ernest Martinez, “Revival Fires Burn in Venezuela,” *Pentecostal Herald* (January 1959): 6.

³¹⁰ Mollie Thompson, “Brother Thompson Injured in Colombia,” *Pentecostal Herald* (January 1959): 9.

³¹¹ Manuel Gaxiola, “God’s Blessings in Old Mexico,” *Pentecostal Herald* (January 1959): 21.

In the Philippines, Carlos Grant reported significant gains in the Philippine church family with 260 being baptized in Jesus' name! From Jamaica, A. D. Varnado wrote that he had opened a number of new works and constructed new church buildings.

Bill Drost Relocates to Uruguay During the Tolstads' Furlough

In 1959, the Bill Drost family left Colombia to serve as Philip and Pauline Tolstad's replacements in Uruguay during the Tolstads' furlough. When the Tolstads returned in 1960, they were amazed to learn that Brother Drost had won ten Trinitarians to the Jesus Name message. After the Tolstads settled in, Brother Drost returned to Colombia to prepare for the Drost furlough to Canada.

Verner Larsen Receives SFC Vehicle

Verner Larsen received a new 1959 Dodge pickup; SFC had put "wheels on the gospel" in Colombia. Ontario's youth president, A. L. McNalley, took part in the presentation, saying, "I don't see how it would be possible for our missionaries to cover the vast area they have, and to oversee the many churches under their charge without proper transportation."³¹²

A Buddhist Healed of Heart Condition

In Indonesia W. R. and Sallie Pardue and their daughters, Shelba and Sibyl, prayed for a Buddhist Chinese man who had a heart ailment. God miraculously healed the man, opening new doors for the gospel.

Advances in Brazil and Australia

In Porto Alegre, Brazil, the Sam Baker family baptized nine in the Rio Guaiba's muddy waters. From Australia, Glenn and Iris Bogue reported that a new work was initiated in Brisbane.

A Memorial Honors Aaron Holmes

On the other side of the world, a month before Mother Pearl Homes retired from missionary work, a celebration honored Aaron Homes with a monument on the Zoradee compound in Liberia. Sister Holmes, elderly and ailing, said, "Let the church bow their heads in thanks to God for ever sending Brother Holmes to teach us. His memory will linger through these young men and women he raised until Jesus comes." The Holmeses spent many years in Liberia.

Elmer and Hettie Buckmiller Depart for the Philippines

Reinforcements headed for Manila, Philippines, as Elmer and Hettie Buckmiller of St. Louis, Missouri, sailed from San Francisco on April 27, 1959. They had been appointed at the previous General Conference in Indianapolis.

The Buckmillers' farewell service had been held at the Apostolic Pentecostal Church in St. Louis on March 30. A. T. Morgan, R. A. Agnew, and Paul H. Box represented the headquarters staff. Brother Morgan recounted his recent trip to Jamaica, Venezuela, and Colombia, and Brother Box preached an outstanding message from Genesis 24:28: "I Will Go." Brother Branding had Brother and Sister

³¹² A. L. McNalley, "Sheaves for Christ in Action," *Pentecostal Herald* (April 1959): 8.

Buckmiller stand in front of the altar, and the ministers laid hands on them, committing them into the Lord's hands. The Missouri District supplied the funds for Brother and Sister Buckmiller.

Young Harry Scism

In the June 1959 *Pentecostal Herald*, young Harry Scism came to the forefront as he took the gospel to North India, a distance of nearly two thousand miles. He wrote: "Sometimes when we settle in a place and become busily engaged in our work there, we can lose the interest in, and burden for, other parts of the nation. . . . Oh there is much to be done for Christ in this vast nation."³¹³

Missionary News

In July 1959, the Ernest Martinez family extended the Venezuelan work to San Cristobal. The September 1959 *Pentecostal Herald* reported that in Liberia Sister Cupples's serious illness required an operation, and the family was returning to the States for furlough. The Mississippi and Tennessee churches provided the funds for their return.³¹⁴ Mother Holmes, after sixty-three years in Liberia, retired and returned to North America. In 1961, the FMB requested the UPCI Credentials Committee to make Pearl Holmes an honorary member of the UPCI.³¹⁵

Arthur and Roberta Dillon from Seattle, Washington, made last-minute preparations to return to the Philippine Islands. E. L. and Nona Freeman reported fantastic progress in the work in South Africa and expressed appreciation for the new SFC station wagon. They dedicated two fine church buildings, thanking God for the privilege of laboring in the vineyard. Bill and Mollie Thompson were thankful for their new 1959 Chevrolet. They wrote, "We are enjoying the truck. . . . Each time we take a trip we thank the dear Lord for Sheaves for Christ."

Robert and Marjorie McFarland in Jordan

Robert and Marjorie McFarland wrote in the August 1959 *Pentecostal Herald* that they arrived safely in Egypt, en route to Jordan: "We appreciate the prayers of all for we feel the need so badly." The following year he reported great moves of God in Palestine. The March 1960 *Pentecostal Herald* contained pictures of newly won families and baptisms in the Jordan River. "Years ago," wrote Marjorie McFarland, "a woman missionary came to Egypt. Her good work [paved] the way for us to take the whole truth to many villages in Upper Egypt." A doctor named Neim and his family were added to the church, as well an engineer from the sugar cane mill. Believers were severely persecuted, but the church remained faithful.

In April 1960, the McFarlands were blessed by a visit from A. T. Morgan and Wynn Stairs. Brother Stairs wrote:

On April 24, Brother Morgan and I arrived in Cairo. Brother Robert McFarland met us at the airport, and it was good indeed to see him again.

Never in my forty years of experience have I been more conscious of the . . . serious conditions in the world. . . . Are we awake? Are we doing our best? Or are we sleeping on the job? Time is precious—the most precious possession we have, and cannot be bought back when once passed. Souls are more valuable than the entire world put together. And the will of the Lord must be done.

After two days in Cairo, we went to Luxor, Egypt. This was a four-hundred-mile journey by train. . . . We were met by Brother Sedra and others from his church. Brother Sedra is doing a good work. His

³¹³ Harry Scism, "Harry Scism Family Now in North India," *Pentecostal Herald* (June 1959): 9.

³¹⁴ "Missionary News," *Pentecostal Herald* (September 1959): 10.

³¹⁵ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 18, 1961): 3.

people are accepting the truth, and are being baptized in Jesus' name. We found the people of Egypt open to the gospel. . . .

In Egypt the men and women do not sit together in church. . . . They have a partition down the center of church, four or five feet high, which no one can see over while seated. Even when the men stand to sing or pray, the women, who are seated, cannot see them. It is not permissible for both men and women to stand [at the] same time, because the men must not see the women, nor women the men, while in church. . . .

Our next stop was in Jordan with Brother and Sister McFarland. Brother McFarland is learning that difficult language. . . . Brother and Sister McFarland have a burden for the work, and I am sure that God will help them to win souls. . . . I surely believe that Brother McFarland is in the will of God, or he would not have left a good church to go to that land.³¹⁶

Robert McFarland was involved in intense classical Arabic study with an Arab Church of God minister. Together they studied the Arabic Bible and the Quran. Robert used his knowledge of the Book of Islam to speak with his Arabic friends, using every opportunity to build relationships. One of the most distinguished personalities the McFarlands encountered was King Hussein of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan when they had an audience with him in his palace in Amman. Robert explained his plan to open a vocational training school for young men while also teaching them the tenets of Christian faith. King Hussein told Robert he wished the United Pentecostal Church had fifty more men like him to send to Jordan. The full implication of this meeting was realized in 1997 when the UPCI finalized registration for the church in Jordan based on the paperwork Robert had submitted in 1960.³¹⁷

Missionary Support for Mexico Continued

Once again the request for financial support for the Apostolic Church of Mexico was considered and passed; the FMB would send Brother and Sister Valentin Nieblas \$100 per month for another year.³¹⁸

Glen Smith Appointed to Jamaica

H. G. and Rachel Smith from West Monroe, Louisiana, talked with the board about going to Jamaica to assist A. D. and Bessie Varnado. The board recommended that the Smiths be appointed as missionaries to Jamaica.³¹⁹

Work Among the Slovak Countries

A delegation of Slovak brethren consisting of Anton Huba, Paul Mayton, John Maglovsky, and John Balca talked with the FMB. The discussion seemed to center around the marriage and divorce issue among the Yugoslavian churches; if a person in sin was divorced, would the divorce remain valid when the person was saved? Another controversy concerned the use of alcoholic beverages due to different advice given the Yugoslavians primarily by Brother Huba and Brother Mayton. John Balca gave a brief history of the work in that country. At present there were seventy-two churches and preaching places with around 1,800 saints—the largest congregation being around two hundred members. John Balca had also initiated the work in France where there were twelve churches with more than three hundred saints in the vicinity of Douai, France.

³¹⁶ Wynn T. Stairs, "General Director's Report on Africa," *Pentecostal Herald* (May 1960): 10–12.

³¹⁷ Lois McFarland Truman in an e-mail message to the McFarland family, November 10, 2001.

³¹⁸ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (September 23, 1959): 1.

³¹⁹ *Ibid.*, 4.

Miguel and Beatriz Peña Arrive in Ecuador

Foreign missionary work is the responsibility of the total church body. This was demonstrated when the Colombian church sent Miguel and Beatriz Peña to Ecuador; the November 1959 *Pentecostal Herald* reported that Ecuador was the recipient of a fine missionary couple. The North American Ladies Auxiliary provided funds for the Peñas' travel expenses and for the transition to their new home in Ecuador. The churches of Colombia assumed their monthly personal support.

Miguel and Beatriz Peña had proven themselves by evangelizing for many years in Colombia and pastoring the church in Fundación, in which approximately three hundred were baptized in Jesus' name. The Lord spoke to them about Ecuador, and they willingly left all to obey the call.

Working in Ecuador was a tremendous opportunity; there was as yet no Pentecostal church, and many people were hungry for something real. Bill Drost had visited earlier and baptized thirty-two in Jesus' name in Santo Domingo, about a three-hour drive from Quito. When Lewis Morley and the Peñas arrived in Santo Domingo, the saints were overjoyed to see them. "They had remained faithful, and had continued to testify and hold services. How they thanked the Lord for sending some Colombian missionaries to them, as they said they had been praying constantly that someone would come. We had some wonderful services with them, there being about forty gathered together."³²⁰

Edwin E. Judd

History would record many accolades for Edwin Judd, a great man of God who stood in the gap many times and in many ways to assist the work of missions. He held many positions that served world evangelism.

As a young teenager, Edwin Judd committed himself to God. This commitment compelled him to devote his entire life to helping others.

One of his first positions was on the teaching staff of Pentecostal Bible Institute in Tupelo, Mississippi. After teaching for one year, he attended Cascade College in Portland, Oregon, where he received a Bachelor of Arts with a major in education.

Armed with his degree in education, Brother Judd joined the faculty of Conquerors Bible College—Portland as dean/registrar. In 1966 he became the college president, a position he filled for several years. During this time Brother Judd served as the district Sunday school director and chaired the General Teacher Training Committee, which initiated the Sunday School Teacher Training program currently used by the UPCI.

In 1963, Brother Judd was appointed to the FMB. After serving on the board for five years, he resigned as president of Conquerors Bible College and became the first director of promotion for the FMD, a position he filled for three years.

Brother Judd was largely responsible for the Partners in Missions program. Through his personal involvement, many churches adopted this faith promise plan, which greatly increased the total missionary giving. He initiated and edited the first *Global Witness*.

At the FMB's invitation Brother Judd accepted the position of regional field supervisor for the Latin America/Caribbean Region. This appointment led Edwin and Evelyn Judd to Quito, Ecuador, from which he could travel to visit the twenty-one nations and sixty-eight missionaries of his region.

Edwin and Evelyn had two children. Donna and her husband, Ralph Holland, served as the first UPCI missionaries to Costa Rica. They also served a term in Puerto Rico and the Caribbean Islands. The Judds' son, Steve, was a full-time assistant to Pastor Winfred Toole at the First UPC of Portland, Oregon, and later moved to Jonesboro, Arkansas, where he pastored until he became president of Tupelo Children's Mansion.

³²⁰ Lewis Morley, "My Visit to Ecuador," *Pentecostal Herald* (November 1959): 6.

The UPCI has been blessed by Edwin Judd's ministry.³²¹

Glen and Rachel Smith Arrive in Jamaica

During the 1959 General Conference, Glen and Rachel Smith of West Monroe, Louisiana, were appointed to Jamaica and arrived on-site soon afterward. Every missionary can relate to Bessie Varnado's expression of delight at receiving the Smiths at the airport:

Brother and Sister Smith's help here in Jamaica will be the means of many more souls hearing the gospel message. . . . How wonderful it was for the Sheaves for Christ program of our fine Pentecostal Conquerors to purchase a car and trailer for Jamaica. . . . Our heartfelt thanks go to all who had a part in it.³²²

Compare the above happiness with the frustration of new missionaries' transition to a field as they cut through the red tape around all the legalities and documents that are necessary to living and working in a foreign country. Thank God for the government offices that recognize the desire of UPCI missionaries to become a part of their society.

Saul Ramirez: From Bartender to Minister

Colombia continued to dominate FM news as revival broke down barriers and extended the kingdom with unprecedented swiftness. In Cali, Saul Ramirez, former bartender, brought Stanford Johnston's vision to reality. Ramirez pastored the church in Cali, where the congregation surged to over 350. A powerful speaker, he impacted the people with his anointed delivery. His ministry became the fruit of the La Morena martyrs. In the decade since the La Morena revival, nearly every major South American city had been affected by the refugees who fled the bloody persecution.

The Cali congregation cried desperately for a building sufficient to house the many new converts. Poverty precluded purchasing land and constructing a building. Assistance came from the North American church.

The cities of Armenia, Palmira, and Pereira also experienced phenomenal growth. Sallie Morley describes the Colombian revival:

As news of the revival spread throughout the surrounding cities, the meeting places were overcrowded with people. In Palmira, Cali, Armenia, and Pereira, the doors of the church were rarely closed. The people gathered to worship, but there was no indication that fear was the result. It was a sincere desire to find an experience apart from the ritualistic services they had been accustomed to.

In Palmira the presence of the Lord was especially great. On one occasion as the people worshipped, there was a distinct blue haze that became visible and was seen by many as it settled on the congregation. In another city flames of fire were seen by witnesses engulfing the meeting house until the fire department was called, but the only activity within was a powerful Pentecostal service in progress.³²³

Other Missionary News

The church in India also experienced growth. Harry Scism reported that a convention was packed to overflowing:

From the very first night the Holy Spirit was moving in the meeting. Night after night the crowds increased, until we had to enlarge the tent and obtain more chairs. Even then we could not accommodate

³²¹ David Theobald, "Dedicated Servants," *Global Witness* (February 1975): 2.

³²² Sister A. D. Varnado quoted in Calvin Rigdon, "SFC Equipment in Action," *Pentecostal Herald* (January 1960): 5.

³²³ Sallie Morley, "Anorando Revival," (MS, n.d. ca.1990), 10.

the people. Multitudes of unbelievers and Christians came to the meetings. The gospel was also going over a large part of the city through the loud speaker. During the meetings there was no disturbance and each one sat quietly listening to the Word of God. Later a lady commented that it seemed as though a spell of fear was cast over the people, for no one dared to speak. This was the work of the Holy Spirit. Many came forward to the altar and repented of their sin.³²⁴

Alaska Becomes a UPCI District

During the 1950s it became apparent that the Alaskan Territory would soon become a state. This became a certainty when on June 30, 1958, the U.S. Congress voted to admit Alaska into the Union. On January 3, 1959, President Dwight D. Eisenhower issued a proclamation declaring Alaska the forty-ninth state. Consequently Alaska would become a district of the UPCI rather than a FM district.

As early as 1956, even though the FMB knew Alaskan statehood was imminent, it resolved to retain Alaska as a district.³²⁵ The following year the minutes stated that after statehood was realized, FM endeavors should be confined to working among the native tribes in Alaska.³²⁶ Upon the announcement that Congress had approved Alaska as the forty-ninth state, the FMB appealed to the UPCI General Board to make Alaska a home missions district as of January 1, 1960.³²⁷

A letter dated September 20, 1960, from Kenneth French in Kodiak, Alaska, was read into the minutes. Brother French expressed his thanks to the FMB for their consideration and kindness during the time they had worked as missionaries in Alaska.³²⁸

SFC Puts Wheels on the Gospel

Since its inception, the Sheaves for Christ campaign to “put wheels on the gospel” had enabled missionaries to travel far and wide to preach in otherwise inaccessible areas. Calvin Rigdon accompanied General Superintendent A. T. Morgan to Colombia, Venezuela, and Jamaica. Rigdon wrote:

It is interesting to note that it was to [Cauca Valley, Colombia] that the Pentecostal Conquerors sent the first truck they purchased. This was in 1952, and was the year before SFC came into being. Funds were collected and a truck was purchased for Brother Bill Drost, who was then in the large city of Cali, about twenty miles from Palmira. A great revival has come to this valley in the past ten years, and literally thousands have been swept into the kingdom of God, according to the gospel. No doubt this truck to Brother Drost was an aid, and a blessing as the revival spread through the valley.

After such a grand response for this special project, “Sheaves for Christ” came into being in the fall of 1952. Since that time it has reached into most of our foreign mission fields, besides a number of projects here in the homeland. Twenty-six pieces of transportation equipment have been delivered in the past eight years. These have gone around the world. They include a bicycle for Brother J. M. Cardozo, National Youth President of Colombia. This bicycle was presented on Sunday morning, January 17. In addition, SFC has purchased gospel tents; and carried out many other projects, both at home and abroad. This short visit in these mission fields convinced me fully of the value of our SFC program. For years we had been supplying these pieces of equipment, and now we see them in operation; and how glad I was that we had been able to do this little bit for the great work of the Lord. How difficult the work of our missionaries would be without this equipment.

Brother Larsen drove us in the 1959 Dodge (SFC) to churches in Cali, Puerto Tejada, Santander, Corinto, Florida, Cartagena and Baranquilla. He has taken this truck across the high Andes Mountains four times, a trip that takes him 800 miles from his home in Baranquilla to Palmira. About 400 miles of this is

³²⁴ Harry Scism, “Outstanding Convention Held in India,” *Pentecostal Herald* (February 1960): 7.

³²⁵ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (September 17–24, 1956).

³²⁶ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 20, 1957).

³²⁷ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 14–22, 1958).

³²⁸ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (September 28, 1960).

rough gravel, and crosses the high Andes Mountains. The truck receives very good care, and, although subjected to rough roads in this country, is in very good shape.

Brother Morley took us in his truck, supplied by the Ontario District and the Ladies Auxiliary, to churches at Sevilla, Armenia, Pareira, and Zarzala, a trip of nearly 300 miles. We were met at Bogotá by the Thompsons in the 1959 Chevrolet truck (SFC). This truck is a great help to them as they labor in and around Bogotá the capital of Colombia. It is a great city of more than 1,000,000 souls. In Venezuela we were taken to La Fria from San Christobal in the 1959 Ford Station Wagon (SFC). The Martinez's are our only missionaries in Venezuela, and God is blessing them. . . .

These people in Colombia pay a great price to walk with God! There are so many sufferings, persecutions, sacrifices, hardships and discriminations that come to them, that we know little or nothing about in this land of religious liberty and freedom. They have a great love for God, in spite of the sufferings of the cross. They manifest a great zeal to testify and witness. It is this that accounts for the spread of the work, their untiring and fearless witnessing for Christ and the gospel.

After leaving Colombia we came to Jamaica. We were met by Brother Varnado in the 1960 Vauxhall (SFC). The SFC equipment here in Jamaica is different in one respect from that anywhere else in the world, I believe. The steering wheel is on the right side, and all driving is on the left side of the road. I was very thankful during my stay in Jamaica, that Brother Varnado was accustomed to this driving, for I found myself often thinking that we were on the wrong side of the road.

In Jamaica we saw our SFC equipment, a 1960 Vauxhall, a 1956 Chevrolet, a new House Trailer (the only one in Jamaica, we understand).³²⁹

Missionary News

Claude Thompson wrote that he dedicated a new church in Kyoto, Japan, on January 15, 1960. The A. D. Varnados celebrated their fourth anniversary in Jamaica.

The Philippine work expanded as Carlos Grant, though very ill, directed operations. Arthur Dillon opened a new work on the island of Panay, and the Buckmillers worked in Luzon. They collectively reported 482 baptized and the number of workers increased to sixteen.³³⁰

Carrie Eastridge extended the work in South Africa to the Hindus and Mohammedans, some of them having tortured their bodies by walking through fire pits and pushing needles through their tongues and faces.

The Langhams returned to Liberia, and in Uruguay the gospel was promoted by radio.

A. T. Morgan and Wynn T. Stairs Visit Africa

The May 1960 *Pentecostal Herald* recounted General Superintendent A. T. Morgan's and FM Director Wynn T. Stairs's visit to Africa. Brother Morgan baptized new converts at the Fassama Mission in Liberia. How exciting it was for the missionaries to have a visit from UPCI officials! Brother Stairs wrote:

It is gratifying to be on the mission fields again and see the work growing. . . . We started on this missionary journey during snowy weather. . . . Our first stop was in Ireland. The brethren there received us graciously. . . . We have recently built and dedicated a new church several miles from Belfast, and they requested Brother Morgan to come for the dedication and a conference. We came away from Ireland much blessed in our souls. . . .

We returned to London and were graciously received by Pastor Porter. We were in service with him that night. Brother Porter has preached the gospel for over twenty years in the heart of London. . . . Our next stop was Liberia, West Africa. We made the last leg of our journey from Lisbon and Monrovia on the same plane with Sister (Pauline) Gruse, who was returning from her furlough. . . . Brother Jack Langham was at airport to meet us. We went directly to the Mission Station at Bomi Hills, where Sister Regenhardt,

³²⁹ Calvin Rigdon, "SFC Equipment in Action," *Pentecostal Herald* (April 1960): 7-9.

³³⁰ Carlos Grant, "The Island of Panay Receives the Gospel," *Pentecostal Herald* (November 1960): 9.

Sister Russell and Sister Langham were waiting. We found that God had really blessed at Bomi Hills lately, and several had received the Holy Ghost.

I marveled at how easily the Tri-pacer carried the pilot, Brother Morgan, Sister Gruse and me, with our luggage, out over a hundred miles of jungle, in rain, clouds and thunder, and set us down safely on the landing strip at “Fassama Mission.” . . . Sister Bailey had carried on the work of this station very successfully for the past several months, with the blessing and help of the Lord. I am sure you will remember this as the station that was opened in 1952. . . . Light sprang up through the ministry of Sister Gruse and Sister Bailey. Sister Collins labored there for a few months before her death. Brother and Sister Cupples spent part of their term at this station. It was long a rugged and uphill path, with no way of contact, or no way of bringing in supplies except by foot, until we gave them the plane in 1956. The five to eight days walk through the jungle has been made many times by these sisters. They slept in the villages, and ate native food enroute, with never a murmur, because they were working for Jesus, and winning souls.

Today there are nearly 100 baptized in Jesus’ name, and fifty or more have received the Holy Ghost. Brother Morgan had the pleasure of burying fifteen with Christ in baptism on Sunday, March 13, in a small stream in the jungle. Ten of these had already received the Holy Ghost. Recently God has moved there in the “bush” and saved some. The chief’s son and daughter are saved.

Two or more of the girls from the “Devil Bush Society” have been saved. One of these girls had been trained to be the “Zoh,” that is, she had been chosen and trained to take the place of the present one at her death. . . . There was intense disappointment when their future “Zoh” chose Christ and the way of the cross, rather than to be queen. They even beat her, but this fine girl of about twenty refused to recant.

Some of the boys from this Devil Bush Society are also saved. As I sat on the platform and looked at these fine young people who had chosen Christ, tears of joy and gratitude ran down my cheeks. I know Brother Morgan felt the same way. Remaining alone on the field, staying alone with Sister Collins in her death, and burying her alone [was all] part of the price paid for this work of the Lord. Nearly every successful mission station has a cemetery on it.

From Liberia we went to Accra in Ghana. . . . Brother [E. L.] Freeman from South Africa met us there. The next day we went to Lagos, Nigeria, and on the following day to Abadan, the largest native city in all Africa. We need much prayer to be able to take these two countries for Jesus. The Baptists and Methodists and some Pentecostal groups have done much work there, but the United Pentecostal Church has done nothing. Shall we accept the challenge? Shall we go, and do or die?³³¹

Carrie Eastridge shared some wisdom with the North American churches, which shed light about the rigors of visiting many areas of the world. While missionaries usually cope well with their surroundings, the experience can be quite devastating to visitors:

I am glad to be back at work again. I was just up from double pneumonia when Brother Morgan and Brother Stairs came, but the Lord touched me. . . . Words are also weak things with which to try to express our appreciation for what the coming of our leaders has done for the work here, but from the depths of our hearts we say a sincere “Thank you” to all who helped make the visit possible.

I fear that the saints at home do not realize the hardships that Brother Morgan and Brother Stairs face in making these long trips. It sounds nice, getting to travel by plane from place to place and seeing so many different countries. But they also have to eat many different kinds of food, sleep on all kinds of beds, bear the burdens of the missionaries, and share the sorrows, as well as the joys, of those who have been sent to spread this glorious gospel. There will be a great reward for them, and also for all those who made their visits possible.³³²

A New Church in Anchorage, Alaska

In 1960, E. W. Caughron, former FMB member, completed a new church construction in Anchorage, Alaska. Brother and Sister Caughron had labored for several years in Alaska but were unable to continue because of Brother Caughron’s poor health, so their daughter and her husband, L. Rich, took

³³¹ Wynn T. Stairs, “General Director’s Report on Africa,” *Pentecostal Herald* (May 1960): 10–12.

³³² Carrie Eastridge, “Durban, South Africa,” *Pentecostal Herald* (August 1960): 7.

over the work in Anchorage. A report in the May 1960 *Pentecostal Herald* recorded a Sunday school attendance of forty-three, and several had received the Holy Spirit. T. F. Tenney, Louisiana District youth president, visited Anchorage for the church dedication.³³³

The Picklesimers Arrive in Pago Pago

The June 1960 *Pentecostal Herald* reported the M. C. Picklesimer family on location in Pago Pago, American Samoa. During the visit of their former pastor, Leaman Reynolds, two were filled with the Holy Spirit and five were baptized in Jesus' name. Brother Picklesimer said, "The building was packed each night."

Benjamin Urshan Goes to Iran

Also in the June 1960 *Pentecostal Herald* was Brother and Sister Benjamin Urshans' arrival in Iran. They were the first missionaries to that Middle Eastern land. Born in Persia, Brother Urshan had a burden to return to his native land to preach the gospel. They settled in and began having services in private homes. Brother Urshan wrote:

We journeyed on to Luxor, Egypt, where we had very fine fellowship with Brother Sedra . . . then on to Jordan, where we met Brothers Morgan and Stairs, who were with Brother and Sister McFarland, and we enjoyed wonderful fellowship together. On Sunday we were at Bethlehem with Sister Hogg. . . . On May 17 we left for Teheran, Iran, and arrived safely at our destination on May 19 [1960]. We found our friends, Brother Abbassi and his family, and had a prayer meeting together. . . . We have had prayer and Bible study each Friday afternoon and each Sunday at 5:00 P.M., Attendance at these prayer services is increasing. Last Sunday we had 17 people out, although we have not announced any public service as yet. . . . My wife is studying Farsi [and] . . . I am studying Assyrian.³³⁴

The J. B. Lambeths Go to Brazil

Another missionary family joined the forces in Brazil. Brother and Sister J. B. Lambeth and son, Brad, left Houston, Texas, via Braniff Airways, on April 13, 1960. Their family, together with Houston Pastors Lambert, Kilgore, Williams, and C. L. Dees bade them Godspeed as they headed south to the land of Brazil. They arrived in Porto Alegre, Brazil, the next day at 10:50 PM, where Sam and Lois Baker welcomed them.

Brother Lambeth wrote that they were touched by the great spiritual needs of South America and that the Brazilian harvest was ripe. They were very much impressed with the extraordinary progress and spirituality of the Igreja Pentecostal Unida (United Pentecostal Church) in Porto Alegre. Brother Lambeth reported that the Bakers had done a fine work.

A. T. Morgan and Wynn Stairs Visit Scandinavia

Below is the rest of Brother Stairs's account of his missionary tour with A. T. Morgan to Egypt and Scandinavia:

From Jordan we went to the Scandinavian countries. There we visited Brother and Sister John Keil in Copenhagen. We had been in touch with Brother Keil for four or five years. We feel that God is seeking a "people for His name" there. Those countries have been great for Pentecostal revivals and blessing. The work in Sweden has about 100,000 followers, with 460 missionaries in all parts of the world. They have not

³³³ Paul H. Box, "New United Pentecostal Church in Anchorage, Alaska," *Pentecostal Herald* (May 1960): 12.

³³⁴ Benjamin Urshan, "The Benjamin Urshans Arrive in Iran," *Pentecostal Herald* (August 1960): 7.

yet heard and received the full truth of the one God, and baptism in Jesus' name. This they must hear to be fully apostolic in faith and doctrine, and to be the people for His name. . . .

After a brief visit in the home of Brother and Sister Henry Tefre in Oslo, Norway, we made our way to London. Brother and Sister Tefre are members of the United Pentecostal Church. They were missionaries to India in the former Pentecostal Church Incorporated, from 1929 to 1935.

On May 19 we flew back to North America—Brother Morgan to New York, and I to Montreal. Brother Morgan was a great help and blessing to the missionaries.³³⁵

Over One Thousand Baptized in India

The 1960 conference in India was an extraordinary one. A picture in the July 1960 *Pentecostal Herald* shows a portion of the crowds. In his report to the FMB, Ellis Scism described the conference and offered an insight about the growth of the work in India:

Well over one thousand have been buried in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ during the past conference year. The exact membership of the United Pentecostal Church is not certain, but it is between ten and fifteen thousand. It seems to me that there is not only a growth numerically, but that accompanying the revival blessing there is a deepening of spirituality and a greater understanding of the truth. We are grateful to the Lord for His goodness and the moving of His Spirit there in the Lushai Hills.³³⁶

Missionary News from Korea and Japan

PFC H. W. Jennings, a serviceman serving in Seoul, Korea, reported that fifteen regularly attended services on Sunday afternoons and nights at Camp Hovy Chapel, APO 7 in the 31st Infantry Chapel. The August 1960 *Pentecostal Herald* reported three receiving the Holy Ghost. One Korean's testimony touched everyone's hearts. He confessed Jesus as his Savior and told how the Lord had kept him during the 1950s conflict.

Japan was progressing under the ministries of W. J. Nukida, Claude Thompson, and Hubert Parks. A growing number of Japanese attended services, and God's presence was evident.

Sheaves for Christ and Mothers Memorial

The August 1960 *Pentecostal Herald* noted that Sheaves for Christ reached out to another continent! Glenn and Iris Bogue are pictured standing in front of their beautiful 1960 dark green station wagon with the SFC emblem. The same article shows an SFC gospel tent. Only God understands the blessing the General Youth Division has been to foreign fields. Missionaries' lives are made easier, and this partnership connects their efforts to our young people at home in a unique manner.³³⁷

Missionary wives are grateful for the appliances supplied by the Ladies Auxiliary Division. A cool drink from a refrigerator or a clean white shirt from a washer seems trivial according to North American standards, but they are rarely available to missionaries whose homes benefit from them. The missionaries often pray, "Thank God for the ladies at home!"

The Tragic Death of Sharon Langham

After Wynn Stairs's appeal for \$2,500 to send Jack and Sandra Langham and their three children back to Liberia, West Africa, for a second term, the funds were quickly raised. However, the joy of their return to the field was overcome by sorrow as tragedy struck less than a year later.

³³⁵ Wynn T. Stairs, "Missionary Journey Concluded," *Pentecostal Herald* (July 1960): 6–7.

³³⁶ Ellis Scism, "1960 Conference in Lushai Hills and Manipur State," *Pentecostal Herald* (July 1960): 9.

³³⁷ Glenn Bogue, "Sheaves for Christ Reaches Another Continent," *Pentecostal Herald* (August 1960): 11.

As the September 1960 *Pentecostal Herald* arrived at missionaries' homes, tears coursed down their cheeks as they read of Jack and Sandra's grief over the accidental death of their daughter Sharon. Brother Stairs wrote:

It is with deepest sorrow that we write you the details of the death of Sharon Langham, the daughter of our missionaries in Liberia, Brother and Sister Jack T. Langham. Sharon was killed accidentally by a gunshot from a gun in the hands of one of the Christian native boys. Jackie, Sharon's brother, and the native boy were playing with their knives. Then in play the boy reached for the gun . . . neither of them knowing it was loaded. Just then Sharon stepped out from her room, and, in play, the native boy pointed it at her and pulled the trigger, the bullet [lodged] in her heart. She died almost instantly.

The funeral service was held on the Mission Station at Bomi Hill. Many from all walks of life in that area attended the funeral. All the stores in the vicinity closed in honor of the funeral.

Sharon's death is a great shock to our Brother and Sister Langham, and they will need your prayers . . . for the sustaining grace that comes from God alone.

Sharon was a fine intelligent little girl of only twelve years, and appeared to take a real interest in the mission and the work there. She had been baptized in Jesus' name, and had received the Holy Ghost while on furlough last year. We noted that she was one of the first to testify in the services when we were there just three months before her death.³³⁸

Below are excerpts from the letter the Langham family wrote for the *Pentecostal Herald* to express their appreciation to all who remembered them in this terrible hour:

We wish to express our appreciation to those who sent cablegrams, letters and cards of sympathy. They were a great source of strength and comfort to us. Needless to say, Sharon's death has been one of the greatest trials we have encountered, but His grace has been sufficient, Praise the Lord! I am reminded of the well-known poem "My Grace is Sufficient for Thee." Surely He will never allow anything to cross our pathway, without giving His grace to bear it.

We know many are the prayers that have gone up in our behalf. We marvel at the strength and comfort God has given. God bless you! Continue to pray for us that God will give us a harvest of souls for our labors here in Liberia.

Please forgive us for waiting so long to write. We made several attempts but each time laid it aside.³³⁹

The Lloyd Williams Family Appointed to South Africa

Lloyd Williams of Sussex, New Brunswick, Canada, had applied to go to Ceylon in September 1954, but his application was deferred. In 1960 when the need for a missionary in South Africa emerged, he applied for appointment there. Due to the intense political situation in South Africa, Brother Williams, as a Canadian citizen, was not required to process a visa. If the elections dictated that South Africa should become a republic, it might bar missionaries from entering the country. The board recommended that the Williamses be appointed to South Africa.³⁴⁰

Robert Roh Appointed to Denmark

Brother and Sister Robert Roh of Oshkosh, Wisconsin, met the board about their desire to go to Denmark. The board recommended that the Rohs be appointed as missionaries to Denmark.³⁴¹

³³⁸ Wynn T. Stairs, "Sharon Langham at Home with the Lord," *Pentecostal Herald* (September 1960): 11.

³³⁹ "Thank You from the Langham Family," *Pentecostal Herald* (February 1961): 9.

³⁴⁰ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (September 28, 1960).

³⁴¹ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 1, 1960): 3.

During the September 1960 board sessions, news came that William J. Thompson of Bogotá, Colombia, was seriously ill. The board told Brother Thompson that he should consider an immediate trip to England to seek medical help.

Billy and Shirley Cole Appointed to Thailand

On September 30, 1960, William and Shirley Cole of Spencer, West Virginia, met the board about their burden for Thailand. After consideration, the board recommended that the Coles be appointed as missionaries to Thailand.³⁴²

The Rohs and the Coles were the first UPCI missionaries to these respective countries.

Other 1960 Missionary Appointments and Reappointments

Brother and Sister J. W. Garland, of Longview, Texas, were appointed to Hawaii; Brother and Sister Lloyd Williams, of Sussex, New Brunswick, Canada, to South Africa; Geneva Bailey to the Fassama Mission, Liberia, for a third term; W. J. Nukida to Japan; and Brother and Sister W. J. Cupples to Liberia. Besides serving at the Fassama Mission, Brother Cupples piloted the SFC Piper Tri-Pacer, flying over the bush to deliver supplies and personnel to our mission stations. Sheaves for Christ supplied a power plant for the Fassama Mission.

A. D. and Bessie Varnado were reappointed for a second term to Jamaica, and William F. and Ruth Drost of Chipman, New Brunswick, Canada, were returning to South America for a third term. They were considering going to Brazil. A new city opened for the UPCI in Japan. Brother and Sister James A. Cann, having served in the military and recently retired, had a burden for the Japanese. After receiving FMB approval he went to the field and supported his family with his military pension.³⁴³

Mack and Bobbie Carpenter met the board about their burden for missions. Later they would go to South Africa. The General Board appointed Orion Gleason of Albany, Oregon, to fill the unexpired term of C. H. Yadon on the Foreign Missions Board. Brother Yadon had resigned to assume the duties of Home Missions director.

The Foreign Missions Board of 1960

The 1960 FMB consisted of Wynn T. Stairs, director, Paul H. Box, secretary, A. D. Gurley, W. J. Rolston, Hulon Myre, Ralph G. Cook, and Orion Gleason.

What a tremendous decade! The vehicle the Lord had created to carry the gospel to the world was proving to be powerful and effective. The UPCI slogan “The sun never sets on the United Pentecostal Church” became a reality during the decade of the 1950s.

Jesus’ commission to evangelize the world informed the future church that this was its purpose; during the 1950s the global church began to realize that Jesus had not given the church an unattainable task. The membership caught the vision that while world evangelization was a global endeavor, it would be performed by local action wherever a church existed.

The commission provided the procedural elements of world evangelism: teach, baptize, and disciple. This was emphasized in the apostle Paul’s declaration to the Romans:

For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? (Romans 10:13-15).

³⁴² Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (September 30, 1960): 8.

³⁴³ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 1, 1960): 2.

The term “whosoever” embraces every individual in the entire world. But how shall they know of the Savior unless they are told? How shall they be told without a preacher? Most importantly, before a preacher goes to the world, he must first be called and then sent. This procedure will never be modified; until Jesus makes His appearing, the church will follow His instructions.

The purpose of this book is to provide the history of the sacrifices of those who were called and sent, both the missionaries and the many local churches who mobilized their congregations to send them. When you have read everything in this book, the half still will not have been told.

Chapter 7

The Decade of Focus: 1961–1970

Foreign missions greatly impacted the fellowship during the 1960s, for this decade initiated unprecedented growth. Revival news emanating from the field etched world evangelism deeply into the hearts of United Pentecostals everywhere. These reports strengthened the bonds of love, prayer, and giving with North American churches. Most of all, world conditions demanded a sense of urgency in the minds of those involved in missions: the whole gospel must reach the whole world! The open doors to many foreign cultures provided the encouragement, God's calling provided the personnel, and the church provided the finances. The great commission inspired the church to maximum efforts, and new evangelistic outreaches gave the church a visible reason for praise and gratitude for the Lord's blessings.

In 1961 it was time for the church to refocus on the purpose for its existence. Each year of the previous decade had advanced the church's outreach to the world. It was thrilling to witness the Lord of the harvest at work in the field. God demonstrated His faithfulness by adding to the church daily both at home and abroad. Reports indicated that the North American church was sending more personnel to the field and supplying unprecedented financial resources to enable dynamic evangelism. This was made possible because FM personnel—those on the front lines and those who shared their burden and vision at home—were men and women with consecrated commitment to the commission.

The decade of the 1960s was a time when the spiritual climate of many cultures became a concern. Restless people began searching for spiritual meaning in their lives. Many cathedrals, churches, or chapels were empty except on holy days. There had to be greater spiritual meaning than the few words spoken during these times. Especially in South America, Central America, and the Philippines, an increasing number of people abandoned the Catholic Church's rituals as they experienced spirited Pentecostal services. Pentecostalism swept through the rural communities like a flood; literally thousands of people found a personal relationship with the living Christ.

While that was good on the one side, the momentum carried the pendulum to the other extreme as a secular, nationalistic mentality became problematic for the church. Even many faithful members began to question the direction of the church, and the word "foreigner" was applied to missionaries whose only interest was to serve.

It is a proven fact that missionaries play a major role in the rising economy of a poverty-stricken country as people give their hearts to God. With redemptive lift, God helps new converts to eliminate drinking and the usual vices; they begin spending their finances in a more constructive manner. Spousal unfaithfulness that had once wrecked marriages becomes a thing of the past, and happy, productive homes are the norm. This new Christian worldview not only bonds families together, but it also gives the family economic stability. When these factors are multiplied by thousands of new Christians, it results in stability for a nation.

Therefore, foreign missions work not only fulfills the great commission, but its positive side effects bring great joy to many communities and also to the missionaries whose faithfulness and sacrifice produce the results. For the missionary, the task is not merely a question of Christian privilege and opportunity; it is also a question of Christian obligation and divine mandate.

During the 1960s, despite the growing sense of nationalism, the Foreign Missions Board worked feverishly to meet the needs of the burgeoning missionary family. The call of God directed many missionary candidates to apply for appointment.

The Foreign Missions Board of 1961

The 1961 FMB consisted of Wynn T. Stairs, director; Paul H. Box, secretary; A. D. Gurley; Ralph G. Cook; W. J. Rolston; Orion B. Gleason; and Hulon Myre.³⁴⁴

The year 1961 began with miscellaneous news clips of the activities abroad:

Brother and Sister W. H. Cupples arrived at the Fassama Mission for another term in Liberia. Brother and Sister Lloyd Williams had arrived in South Africa. Brother Williams's note to headquarters expressed their joy:

We are so grateful to the Missionary Board and the United Pentecostal Church for how they have stood behind us and for the appointment that we received. Also, we are very thankful, and lack words to express how we feel toward the Pentecostal Conquerors for providing us with this new Opal car to use here in the Master's service.³⁴⁵

The Claude Thompsons established a new church about ten miles north of Kyoto, Japan. They preached in street services with great success but needed a permanent place to house the new congregation. Geneva Bailey was on furlough in the United States and was looking forward to returning to Liberia.

Miguel Peña, Colombia's Appointed Missionary

An article from Lewis Morley about Colombia's missionary endeavor underlines the possibilities of maturing fields becoming involved in reaching beyond their borders:

We have glorious news of the moving of the Lord in Ecuador. Since Brother and Sister [Miguel] Peña, our Colombian missionaries, went there a year ago last September, over forty have received the Holy Ghost and many more have been baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. He recently baptized some 22 in the interior town of Santo Domingo and there are now over 100 in the congregation there. . . . The Holy Ghost is falling in Quito, the capital city of Ecuador, where six have received the baptism of the Holy Ghost.

There are many unreached towns that have *never* heard the gospel in any form. Many Indian tribes located in Ecuador have never had the privilege of listening to the true gospel. Surely the harvest is ripe in this great land. Please remember Brother and Sister Peña in prayer as they labor for the Lord in Ecuador.³⁴⁶

In Guayaquil, Ecuador, Miguel Peña met with Crisógono Limones, a Trinitarian pastor who had expressed a desire to learn more about the Oneness doctrine. A Bible school graduate from the Christian Missionary Alliance Church, Limones had a congregation in Guayaquil of 250 members. After that meeting, Brother Limones was baptized in Jesus' name and convinced his congregation to do the same. The newly baptized people became a part of Brother Peña's church.

Crisógono Limones has two sons, both preachers. Josias Limones, a pastor in Amarillo, Texas, has planted a number of Spanish-language churches in the Texico District, and Elias Limones serves not only as a pastor in Pittsburgh, California, but served until 2005 as the coordinator of Spanish Ministries in North America for the Home Missions Division.

Samuel Baker Moves from Porto Alegre to Sao Paulo

March 1961 brought a change for the Samuel B. Baker family in Brazil. He had felt God leading him to refocus his ministry on Sao Paulo, a Brazilian city of over five million. God made the move possible:

³⁴⁴ "The Foreign Missionary Board," *Pentecostal Herald* (January 1961): 2.

³⁴⁵ "Miscellaneous News," *Pentecostal Herald* (February 1961): 6.

³⁴⁶ Lewis H. Morley, "God Is Moving in Ecuador," *Pentecostal Herald* (February 1961): 6.

On Tuesday night, December 7, we had our farewell service with the church in Porto Alegre. In midst the tears of sadness in leaving, we found a great joy in knowing that this group was only the beginning of a vast multitude. . . . We also rejoiced in knowing these souls were being given into the faithful hands of good fellow servants, Brother and Sister J. B. Lambeth.

To the best of our knowledge, the Victor Koloszuk family is the only representative of our faith in the great city of Sao Paulo.³⁴⁷

SFC Tri-Pacer for Liberia

Brother and Sister William Cupples brought a new dimension to missions when Sheaves for Christ purchased a new Piper Tri-Pacer in 1956 for the work in Liberia!

Approximately five years ago [1952] Sisters Gruse and Bailey waded water to their armpits to go to this tribe. They settled in the town of Fassama, which is five to eight days walk back through the jungle from our main station at Bomi Hills. There they have done a wonderful work. That was the first time a missionary had ever gone to the Belle tribe—the first time they had heard the gospel.

Now you will see by the foregoing report that Brother Cupples wants to go to another town, some twenty-five miles through the jungle, and reach hundreds of new people for Christ. The lack of a road is no problem, since you good people have made it possible for them to have the nice “Tri-Pacer” airplane. . . . Brother and Sister Cupples [can now] preach the gospel to those who have never heard it.³⁴⁸

Another example of the plane reducing travel time was when Pauline Gruse was struck by lightning in 1961. The lightning passed through her body and grounded, leaving very painful abrasions and a headache. A short flight brought Brother Cupples in time to get Pauline to where she could receive medical attention. At first it appeared that the fellowship had lost a great missionary lady, but God allowed her miraculous recovery.³⁴⁹

Indonesia under National Leadership

Nationalism places undue pressure on a missionary endeavor. Secular governments do not understand the crucial spiritual guidance needed to develop a missionary work in their country. Missionaries are not there to interfere with or be involved in the secular government; their purpose is to develop national leadership that can accept the responsibilities of a spiritual administration. Because of secular pressure in 1961, the Pardues moved to place the Indonesian work under national leadership. Wynn T. Stairs and Arthur T. Morgan were on hand to oversee the transition:

After passing immigration, we entered the customs room, where we saw the smiling face of Brother Pardue. It is always good in a foreign country to see a familiar face, especially of one who speaks the language you know. That same evening we flew to Semarang. . . .

The conference for nationalizing the Indonesian work began. . . . High Indonesian governmental officials were present to speak. Each one expressed strong hope that we would successfully nationalize the Indonesian work in that conference. . . . A Board of Directors for the Geredja Pantekosta Serikat (United Pentecostal Church) was selected, and ratified by the conference. We found a very fine and capable brother for superintendent. He has been with the organization for about five years, and was pastor of an assembly of about five hundred in Borneo. He is also an attorney. We trust that he will be able to successfully lead the work in Indonesia. The board chosen represented each of the four major islands. By September 24, 1961 all property held in Indonesia by foreigners must be transferred to Indonesians, or it will be seized immediately by the government. We completed the nationalizing of the property, except that we shall have

³⁴⁷ Samuel Baker, “Brazil’s Largest City to Hear the Gospel,” *Pentecostal Herald* (March 1961): 5.

³⁴⁸ W. T. Stairs, “Postscript,” *Pentecostal Herald* (October 1957): 10.

³⁴⁹ Paul H. Box, “Sister Gruse Struck by Lightning,” *Pentecostal Herald* (March 1961): 10.

to write the deed and transfer the property to them after we return to Headquarters. . . . Now that the work is nationalized, Brother and Sister Pardue will be returning home soon.³⁵⁰

Brother Morgan referred to the above activity in his travelogue: “[During] the Indonesia Conference . . . [we worked] out the details for the nationalizing of the work. Brother Rumumpu from Borneo, a pioneer minister as well as a prosecuting attorney, was selected to serve as the first national president. . . . I am persuaded to believe that Brother Rumumpu will prove a very capable and efficient leader of this work.”³⁵¹

While in that area of the world, Brothers Morgan and Stairs visited the missionaries in India. They sent headquarters a beautiful picture of Ferne Scism standing by her SFC auto with the Pentecostal Conquerors emblem. An increasing number of missionary vehicles in other parts of the world proudly displayed the same emblem.

In the midst of their journeys, Brother Stairs wrote: “Again I thanked God for bringing salvation down to where we mortals could receive it. Again I thanked God for missionaries who would go to foreign lands and minister. And again I thanked God for the great missionary movement in the United Pentecostal Church today.”³⁵²

India’s Bible School

India’s Bible school project was started in 1958. Harry Scism reported that they had organized a three-year course, which meant the first class graduated in 1961. It was a joy to see eleven potential leaders receive their diplomas. The graduates were full of gratitude to everyone in North America who had sacrificed to make their ministerial training possible.

Brother Morgan was excited to see the platform of the General Conference in Bhopal, India, filled with powerful messengers of the gospel such as James Morar and Brother Joseph.

Expressing the sentiments of all missionaries, Harry and Audrene Scism shared an important note of appreciation for the visit of General Superintendent Morgan and Foreign Missions Director Stairs. Brother Scism wrote:

If it were not for the financial backing of the United Pentecostal Church in America, the visit of Brother Morgan and Brother Stairs would not have been possible. May we assure you that each dollar spent on their visiting the Foreign Mission field was indeed money well spent. . . . On behalf of the 150 preachers and some 19,000 members of the United Pentecostal Church in India, we extend a hearty “Thank You.”³⁵³

During their trip to India, Brothers Morgan and Stairs baptized more than seven hundred new believers in Lushai Hills.

The August 1963 *Pentecostal Herald*, depicts Richard Denny, a student of Conquerors Bible College, presenting a \$1,500 check to Ellis Scism from the CBC student body for the Indian Bible school project. Later Richard and Coral Denny would serve as missionaries to the Philippine Islands, and in 1998 he would be appointed as director of the Pacific Region.

E. L. Freeman—God’s Man for Africa

E. L. Freeman was a missionary that was short on words and long on action. His strong conviction gripped South Africa from the time he and his wife, Nona, arrived on the field. His cry throughout the

³⁵⁰ W. T. Stairs, “Visiting Fields,” *Pentecostal Herald* (April 1961): 12.

³⁵¹ A. T. Morgan, “General Superintendent’s Travelogue,” *Pentecostal Herald* (May 1961): 8.

³⁵² W. T. Stairs, “UPC Bible School in India Has First Graduation Exercise,” *Pentecostal Herald* (April 1961): 13.

³⁵³ Harry Scism, “Thank You,” *Pentecostal Herald* (July 61): 9.

tenure of his missionary service was for gathering in the harvest. A common statement was, “What we will do for God must be done quickly.”

He sowed the seed and expected results. Many times he called for fervent prayers and true intercession of God’s family that the missionaries would be given grace, wisdom, and anointing to make the most of every opportunity for the cause of Christ. His reports always seemed to highlight others:

Sister Eastridge has just baptized 22 in the precious name of Jesus, in a new area where this gospel was never preached before. Brother William Sebolao has baptized 54 in Bechuanaland. Brother Mtsekana has had a good revival in Cape Town, where 25 were buried in the name of Jesus. Pretoria white Church is growing slowly but steadily. In the last month I baptized a trinity preacher and his wife and two fine young men.

We are so grateful the Lord has sent Brother and Sister Williams to South Africa. Their consecration, singing and preaching are helping wonderfully to spread the good news of the gospel.³⁵⁴

Lewis Morley Revisits La Morena

Spiritual seeds of revival lingered beneath the surface in La Morena, Colombia, where an entire congregation had been martyred. Severe persecution had driven the work underground for a while, but when news that revival had again been ignited in the La Morena church, Lewis Morley revisited to encourage the people. His report appeared in the *Pentecostal Herald*:

The violence had grown until it seemed beyond all control—over 300 church members were murdered in one month . . . one brother was killed in a most horrible way. They cut pieces off his body while he was still alive, and then finally cut his throat. They left him with the open Bible on his chest. . . . I was there last Saturday night and the place was packed to the doors. . . . A total of 43 were baptized and 40 have received the Holy Ghost.³⁵⁵

Administrative Duties of the Foreign Missions Board

Increasing responsibilities on the foreign field demanded proportionate time and consideration from the general director of Foreign Missions. According to policy, each problem was referred to the General Board, but the process was cumbersome. The FMB discussed the possibility of dealing directly with these problems, but it was necessary to put the proper legal mechanism in place. Therefore it was recommended to the General Board and Resolutions Committee that:

Inasmuch as there are rising missionary problems concerning Foreign Missionary work familiar to the Missionary Board—

Be it resolved: That the Missionary Board be empowered to deal with any person or persons who are presently or have been connected with the Missionary Department with the same authority that a District Board handles its District problems.³⁵⁶

Death of Thomas James Turkington

Many times the work of missions demands unexpected sacrifices. Because news traveled so slowly in those days, many missionaries lost family members in North America where death and burial occurred without an opportunity for them to be present with the rest of the grieving family. On the other hand, death came to many missionaries while serving on the field. The September 1961 *Pentecostal Herald*

³⁵⁴ E. L. Freeman, “Revival in South Africa,” *Pentecostal Herald* (April 1961): 10.

³⁵⁵ Lewis H. Morley, “Persecution in Colombia,” *Pentecostal Herald* (July 1961): 8.

³⁵⁶ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 18, 1961): 2.

informed that Thomas James Turkington had died of a heart attack in Perth, Australia. Glenn Bogue officiated during the funeral service. The October 1961 *Herald* offered a more detailed report:

Brother Thomas James Turkington, one of the fine missionaries of the United Pentecostal Church, went to be with the Lord on July 25, 1961. He was 58 years old. He first came to the Oneness Pentecostal message through the ministry of Brother and Sister George White. It was there in Java that he became a minister with the United Pentecostal Church, having been with a Trinitarian movement for several years. He served the Lord in ministering the gospel in Java for nearly five years. Then he and his family returned to Australia.

He preached in the Melbourne District for nearly two years. In February 1957, he moved to Sydney to preach and pastor with Brother G. M. Bogue and family. He labored very faithfully in the Sidney United Pentecostal Church until July 1, 1961. At that time he resigned the pastorate of our headquarters church, desiring to go to Perth, the capital of Western Australia. It was his intention to open a new work in that city where this oneness truth had never been preached.

On the journey by car with his wife and family he stopped to find a place to sleep for the night. The place was in the Nullarbar Desert Plains, about 600 miles from Perth. There he was seized with a heart attack and passed away before medical help could be summoned. It was about 150 miles from the nearest town or a doctor.

Sister Turkington drove the car over the rugged country on to Perth. . . . Brother and Sister Bogue journeyed 3,000 miles by air to be in the funeral, and to be with this precious family for a few days during their grief. Brother Turkington had a very fruitful ministry.³⁵⁷

Sheaves for Christ, a Valuable Ministry

Only God can properly evaluate the benefits afforded to the missions program by North America's youth. The number of souls who have heard the gospel simply because the missionaries had transportation cannot be calculated. Where transportation had been limited or even nonexistent, SFC vehicles allowed missionaries to travel to previously inaccessible areas. Not only did the youth of North America provide transportation for missionaries, but they also provided funds for many previously impossible projects. For example, they sent funds to Liberia to construct the school building in which hundreds of Liberian children would receive a Christian education.

Carlos Grant Suffers Two Heart Attacks

In the Philippines, Elmer L. Buckmiller baptized ninety-two and Carlos Grant baptized ninety-six. Then Sister Grant informed headquarters:

Brother Grant suffered a heart attack, and was quite [seriously ill]. . . . We have some excellent heart specialists who were much concerned about his condition. His blood pressure was so low one day and then returned to normal a few days later. . . . On Tuesday evening Brother Grant suffered a second heart attack.³⁵⁸

By the time the December 1961 *Pentecostal Herald* was published, Brother Grant wrote that he was improving and out of danger, and that his heart attacks had not done any permanent damage.

New Missionaries Recommended for Appointment³⁵⁹

The October 1961 FMB sessions resulted in additional missionaries being recommended for appointment. They are listed below.

³⁵⁷ A. L. Clanton, "Missionary at Home with the Lord," *Pentecostal Herald* (October 1961): 6.

³⁵⁸ Mrs. C. C. Grant, "Carlos Grant Seriously Ill," *Pentecostal Herald* (November 1961): 6.

³⁵⁹ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 1961).

The George Shalm Family to India

George and Margaret Shalm of Truro, Nova Scotia, Canada, met the FMB about India. Brother Shalm explained that he had served in India under the Apostolic Church of Pentecost, a Canadian organization. After considerable discussion, the board recommended that George Shalm be appointed as a missionary to India. They returned to India in early 1963 as UPCI missionaries.

The Norman Zeno Family to Japan

Brother and Sister Norman Zeno of Muskogee met the FMB about Brazil or Japan. The board recommended that the Zenos be appointed as missionaries to Japan.

The James Burton Family to Venezuela

James and Martha Burton of Knoxville, Iowa, met the FMB about their burden for South America, especially Uruguay. However, after discussion, the board recommended the James Burtons as missionaries to Venezuela.

The Robert Norris Family to Brazil

Robert Norris of Clintonville, Wisconsin, met the FMB about his burden for Brazil. After discussion, the board recommended the Robert Norris family as missionaries to Brazil.

Several other families sought appointments: Brother and Sister Basil Williams of the Pentecostal Bible Institute, who were interested in Liberia; Elga and Claree Battle of San Diego, California, interested in South America; John Wesley Hall, interested in Japan; Clyde Reed of San Diego, California, interested in Japan; Elton and Loretta Bernard of Hammond, Louisiana, interested in Korea.

The board decided to consider Elga Battle's application at the 1962 General Conference. John Wesley Hall's application was held over. Basil Williams was still in school, so the board kept him in mind for the future.

The Effective Work of E. L. Freeman

The message of Pentecost and baptism in the name of Jesus Christ is amazing! On the field, testimonies abound of entire congregations coming to know the message through pastors who receive a revelation of Jesus' name and baptize their congregations. There are also experiences of believers preaching in languages they neither know nor understand. Nona Freeman reported examples of both of these experiences during their annual South African conferences:

Brother Freeman baptized Brother W. R. Botha, a Trinitarian pastor who came up from Capetown to Pretoria, over 1,000 miles, to be baptized in Jesus' name. He returned home to baptize his assembly in the name of Jesus.

The Native Conference was the largest and best we have ever had. A large group of us visited the Saturday all-night service, and enjoyed indescribable blessings as the Spirit swept through the packed tent. One of our young brothers, Morris Jesersky, was anointed to preach to the people in their own language. Neither he nor we could understand, but the people understood, and shouted and praised God. It was wonderful to feel the presence of God.³⁶⁰

³⁶⁰ Mrs. E. L. Freeman, "South Africa Conferences," *Pentecostal Herald* (July 1962): 9.

Canadian Issues Readdressed

In Canada, the 1946 merger of the Full Gospel Church with the UPCI contained elements that perhaps had not been adequately addressed. Besides the concessions of ministers receiving credentials without filing applications, the Maritime District retaining ownership in all real property, and a representative from Canada having a permanent seat on the FMB, there were yet the financial quandaries. Revenue Canada, the equivalent of the U.S. IRS, erected legal obstacles. The facts that the Maritime District could withdraw from the fellowship at any time with a two-thirds majority vote and could, without a formal vote by the UPCI General Board, pass ownership of any accumulated real estate to the Canadian brethren, had become worrisome loose threads that could potentially unravel the garment. For fifteen years the merger had held together. General officials from Canada filled key positions, and Earl Jacques, the district superintendent, was a pillar of strength and ministry that provided a harmonious bridge between the United States and Canada.

The Colombian missionary family was made up mostly of Canadians, many of them loyal to the Maritime District from which they came.

After Earl Jacques's death, problems began to surface. Wynn Stairs maintained that the merger had formed an associate organization, but many of the Maritime ministers did not agree. A serious misunderstanding arose in the district, ultimately resulting in Wynn Stairs's resignation as FM director of the UPCI.

Many felt that Brother Stairs was wrong in his assertions. As a friend, I tend to think that in his heart he felt he was right. It must be noted that in 1964 the Maritime District withdrew from the United Pentecostal Church and formed the United Pentecostal Church of Eastern Canada.³⁶¹

However, many of the Canadian pastors remained loyal to the merger agreement that had fused the Canadian brethren to the international body. Legal difficulties caused by Revenue Canada created an obstacle for the financial flow out of Canada, but after the separation, these financial difficulties did not seem nearly as formidable as the feeling of isolation. Canadian ministers began to realize that they had indeed separated from the worldwide church and began to negotiate a return. In 1974, they returned to form the Atlantic District of the UPCI. The sad result of all of this was that the Colombian work became the "baby that was divided up North."³⁶² The withdrawal of the Maritime District left several key spiritual leaders, including those of the fantastic Colombian revival, trying to understand what was transpiring in their lives.

Resignation of Foreign Missions Director Wynn T. Stairs

Wynn Stairs's resignation was deeply disturbing. Brother Morgan's announcement sent a shockwave through the fellowship:

This is to inform our readers that Brother Wynn T. Stairs has seen fit to tender his resignation from the office of Director of Foreign Missions of the United Pentecostal Church. His resignation was submitted to the General Board while in session on May 24, and was effective immediately.

Brother Stairs has served the United Pentecostal Church as the head of its Foreign Missions Department since 1945 and served in the same capacity prior to that time for the Pentecostal Assemblies of Jesus Christ. Under his leadership our foreign missionary efforts have enjoyed real success and we are deeply grateful to Brother Stairs for his untiring efforts to promote the gospel in foreign lands.

We intend that there should be no let up in our missionary efforts and assure you that we will continue to carry out our commission to carry the "whole gospel to the whole world." With that in mind, we are urging that our churches and pastors give their whole-hearted support to the missionary endeavors of this organization.

³⁶¹ Ralph Reynolds and Joyce Morehouse, *From the Rising of the Sun* (New Westminster, BC: Conexions, 1998), 149.

³⁶² Minutes: General Official and the Colombian National Board (December 17, 1969).

The General Board has delayed appointing a successor to Brother Stairs until the next General Conference, at which time a new Director will be chosen. In the meantime, please send all your correspondence and offerings of this work to Brother Paul Box, Foreign Missionary Secretary, 3645 South Grand Boulevard, St. Louis, Missouri.³⁶³

The General Board reluctantly accepted Brother Stairs's resignation. R. G. Cook was appointed as the temporary director of foreign missions until the General Conference.³⁶⁴

It seemed that missions activity had returned to normal when the July 1962 *Pentecostal Herald* reported that the William Thompsons, after visiting their family in England, had arrived in the States to begin their furlough. Other missionaries, such as H. W. and Dorothy Parks and Carlos and Catherine Grant along with their daughter, Barbara, began their furloughs as well.

James Burton Family³⁶⁵

The James Burton family arrived safely in Maracaibo, Venezuela, after leaving New Orleans on June 2, 1962. The Martinez family greeted them, and they enjoyed a time of fellowship. On the first Sunday, Brother Burton baptized several people, and then they left for San Cristobal, a twelve-hour journey by automobile.

The Denzil Richardsons Go to the Philippines

When Denzil and Freida Richardson of Washington, Indiana, first met the FMB, they asked about going to Madagascar. Instead, Brother Stairs asked if they would be willing to go somewhere else. Brother Richardson expressed an interest in the Philippine Islands. The board recommended that they be appointed as missionaries to the Philippine Islands.

Before leaving for furlough, the Carlos Grants stood alongside the Buckmillers to welcome the Denzil Richardsons to Manila for their first term in the Philippine Islands. The missionary families enjoyed a wonderful time of fellowship. The August 1963 *Pentecostal Herald* reported that Carlos and Catherine Grant had returned to the Philippines for another term and that Denzil and Freida Richardson had moved from the Philippine Island of Negros to Mindanao.

Roberta Dillon's Illness³⁶⁶

News of Roberta Dillon's total paralysis was on everyone's lips. While she and her husband were in the Philippine Islands, she contracted poliomyelitis on January 1, 1962, which left her paralyzed and forced her return to North America in an iron lung. The FMD continued to support Brother and Sister Dillon as her health slowly improved. The dark valleys presented tremendous emotional and physical suffering, but knowing that the FMD remained constantly by their side brought comfort.

God continued to touch Roberta until she was able to leave the hospital in June 1961, though confined to a wheelchair. The Northwest District cared for the Dillon family, providing them with household furniture to set up housekeeping. Brother Box kept the fellowship informed, but the sad medical prognosis was that, unless God undertook, Roberta would be permanently disabled and require a respirator. Financial assistance poured into the office from around the world.

³⁶³ Arthur T. Morgan, "Director of Foreign Missions Resigns," *Pentecostal Herald* (July 1962): 7.

³⁶⁴ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 4, 1962): 1.

³⁶⁵ James Burton, "Burton Family Now in Venezuela," *Pentecostal Herald* (August 1962): 7.

³⁶⁶ Paul H. Box, "Roberta Dillon Stricken with Polio," *Pentecostal Herald* (March 1962): 9.

Pauline Gruse Retires from Liberia

After twenty years of missionary service in Liberia, Pauline Gruse retired. The FMB passed a resolution that she be retired with honor and brought home from the field without delay.³⁶⁷

Support Continues for Central America

The FMD continued to financially support the mission efforts of the Apostolic Church of Mexico in El Salvador and Nicaragua, increasing the monthly allotment to \$125. For several years the UPCI had financed the missionary endeavors of Valentin Nieblas, serving in Nicaragua under the ACM. The September 1963 *Pentecostal Herald* recounted the ACM's twenty-fourth annual convention in Torreon, Coahuila, Mexico. ACM officials expressed their appreciation for the UPCI's collaboration with the ACM.

In 1963, the Robert Beasley family, appointed UPCI missionaries to Nicaragua, began their missionary service, so Brother Nieblas moved to pioneer the fields of Honduras and El Salvador.

Oscar Vouga Elected as General Director of Foreign Missions

According to the decision of the 1962 General Conference to elect a new director of Foreign Missions, the General Board elected Oscar Vouga to fulfill the unexpired term left vacant by Wynn Stairs's resignation. The board expressed appreciation to R. G. Cook for his work as temporary chairman of the board.³⁶⁸

With Brother Vouga's election the members of the adjusted FMB were Oscar Vouga, director; Paul Box, secretary; Ralph G. Cook; W. J. Rolston; A. D. Gurley; Orion B. Gleason; and Hulon Myre.

Elga Battle Appointed to Uruguay

After meeting the board, Elga and Claree Battle of San Diego, California, were recommended for appointment to Uruguay.³⁶⁹ They arrived in Uruguay in 1963 after visiting a number of mission fields along the way. They replaced the Philip Tolstads, who were retiring from Uruguay.

When the Battles completed the construction of the new headquarters church in Montevideo, a photo was published in the November 1965 *Pentecostal Herald* showing the church and a group of ministers that included the Battles, Leopoldo Stasieniuk, a Polish-born pastor of the new church, Kenneth Widd, and Camilio Fajardo.³⁷⁰

Hawaii

The J. W. Garlands, appointed to Hawaii in 1961, arrived safely. Sister Garland had become quite seasick the first day on the open sea, but after that she weathered the trip well.³⁷¹

In 1962, Brother and Sister C. Lowe of Bridge City, Texas, moved to Hawaii to do missionary work at their own expense. Brother Lowe was a former airplane pilot, and Sister Lowe was an ordained minister. They merely requested the FMD's blessing.

The call to foreign missionary service may not be totally understood by stateside ministers. Once God calls a missionary, an inward transformation places the missionary in a totally different category. Missionaries sometimes return to the homeland—and many go through the transition successfully—but

³⁶⁷ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 4, 1962): 1.

³⁶⁸ Paul H. Box, "New Director of Foreign Missions," *Pentecostal Herald* (December 1962): 8.

³⁶⁹ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 4, 1962): 3.

³⁷⁰ E. O. Battle, "New Church Dedicated in Uruguay," *Pentecostal Herald* (November 1965): 9.

³⁷¹ J. W. Garland, "The Garlands Arrive on the Field in Hawaii," *Pentecostal Herald* (July 1961): 8.

for most the longing for missionary service never abates. Without doubt, it has to do with the will of God and how He places individuals in His body as it pleases Him.

As reported in the October 1958 *Pentecostal Herald*, Brother and Sister J. T. Clark and their son, Glen, were formally installed in a church in Wheeling, West Virginia, by East Central District Home Missions Director J. C. Cole. George L. Glass Sr., former FMB member now serving as the Home Missions director, commended Brother Clark for starting the church in Wheeling, the state's third-largest city. However, after a time out of missionary service, J. T. Clark surrendered to his desire to return to Hawaii. The FMB recommended that the Clarks be appointed as missionaries to Hawaii. In 1963, they arrived in Honolulu after braving thirty-foot waves. The Clarks wrote, "A beautiful welcome awaited us on the day we arrived. Other welcomes followed, as we met again with old friends, and become acquainted with new ones."³⁷²

L. T. Reynolds to Samoa

L. T. Reynolds of National City, California, applied for appointment as a missionary to Samoa, and the board complied, subject to approval by the Western District.

Else Lund to Liberia

Else Lund from Ontario, Canada, met the board about her call to Africa as a teacher. She was presently teaching school in Ontario with a permanent teaching certificate, but she did not hold a ministerial license. However, because Pauline Gruse was retiring after twenty years, Liberia urgently needed a teacher for the school at Fassama. In recommending Else as a missionary teacher, the board followed the UPCI Manual policy. In the May 1963 *Pentecostal Herald*, Else Lund appears young and vibrant as she departs for the field to begin her missionary service in Liberia. Else's remarkable teaching ability would continue an effective presence in the school.

The February 1963 *Pentecostal Herald* published a picture of the new tabernacle under construction in Bomi Hills, Liberia. In their report to headquarters, Jack and Sandra Langham display a distinct pleasure: "After seven years here [in Liberia], we feel that we are beginning to learn how to do missionary work as the Lord would have it done."

South Africa

E. L. Freeman's sincere work and fatherly style created a confidence that refused to surrender to discouragement. His commanding purpose kept the goal of evangelizing the lost ever before him. He wrote:

Friday night it was my time to preach to the conference. I tried my best to present the challenge of the need of the land of South Africa, and said that our God would supply the needs and means to preach the gospel throughout the land if we would pray. In the altar service there were at least 14 new ones filled with the Holy Ghost.

Sunday was an outstanding day. There was a baptismal service, and five were baptized. After the water was let out of the tank, one visiting sister from a Trinitarian Pentecostal church said, "I want to be baptized in the name of the Lord." Water was run into the tank again, and as she stepped into the water, four more followed her, making 15 in all who were baptized in the lovely name of our Lord Jesus.

Once again, on Sunday night, the Spirit of God fell and many more were baptized with the Holy Spirit, making a total more than 25, but we cannot be exact.³⁷³

³⁷² J. T. Clark, "The Clark Family Now in Hawaii," *Pentecostal Herald* (May 1963): 7.

³⁷³ E. L. Freeman, "South African Conferences," *Pentecostal Herald* (June 1963): 8.

Japan

The closing days of 1962 produced great hope for Japan when newly appointed missionaries, Brother and Sister Norman Zeno, arrived on the field. As the boat docked, William Nukida and Claude Thompson met the Zenos. On the other side of the world, Brother and Sister Robert Norris arrived in Rio de Janeiro to begin their missionary service.

The 1963 Foreign Missions Board

The members of the 1963 FMB were Oscar Vouga, director; Paul Box, secretary; Ralph G. Cook; W. J. Rolston; A. D. Gurley; Orion B. Gleason; and Hulon Myre.³⁷⁴

National Conference—Palmira, Colombia

The 1963 National Convention in Palmira, Colombia, was blessed by the presence of FM Director Oscar Vouga. Crowds exceeding four thousand attended every service, standing for hours, singing and listening to the preaching. One hundred twenty-six were baptized during the services. The convention celebrated many results from missionary service. The tabernacle construction in Palmira gave a great tribute to the UPCI Youth Division, which had contributed heavily to the project. Sallie Morley remarked that Verner Larsen's message was the highlight of the conference as he preached "The Manifold Wisdom of God." Brother Vouga's Bible lessons during the morning services afforded new perspectives. Stateside visitors were brothers Jimmy, Harvey, and Howard Davis from California.³⁷⁵

From Colombia, Brother Vouga went to Ecuador. His report on that trip commended Brother Larsen for his vision and untiring labors as superintendent of Colombia, Venezuela, and Ecuador.³⁷⁶ Verner and Fayette Larsen went home to Canada for a much-needed furlough in August 1963.

Edwin E. Judd Appointed to the Foreign Missions Board

On October 8, 1963, Orion Gleason submitted a letter of resignation as a result of his election as the superintendent of the Northwest District. The FMB drafted a letter of appreciation for the cooperation, counsel, and missionary spirit he had displayed as a board member. Edwin E. Judd of Portland, Oregon, was appointed to replace Brother Gleason.³⁷⁷

Other decisions made by the October 1963 FMB were as follows:

Ena Hylton Appointed to Liberia

Ena Hylton from Jamaica met the board to express her burden for Liberia. She graduated in 1963 from Conquerors Bible College in Portland, Oregon, and had taught in the primary school system in Jamaica prior to attending Bible school. The board recommended that Ena Hylton be appointed as a teacher to Liberia.³⁷⁸

³⁷⁴ "Official Listing: Missionary Board Members," *Pentecostal Herald* (August 1963): 2.

³⁷⁵ Oscar Vouga, "God's Blessings on Colombia," *Pentecostal Herald* (March 1963): 6.

³⁷⁶ Oscar Vouga, "More about Our Tour South," *Pentecostal Herald* (May 1963): 6.

³⁷⁷ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 16, 1963): 2, 6.

³⁷⁸ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 9, 1963): 4.

Glen Smith Transfers to Puerto Rico/Dominican Republic

Glen Smith had previously requested a transfer to Puerto Rico. After the board discussed his request, it recommended that the Smiths be appointed as missionaries to Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic.³⁷⁹

Ernest and Edith Martinez Reappointed to Venezuela

Ernest Martinez met the board to express his desire to return to Venezuela. After consideration, the board recommended that the Martinezes be appointed as missionaries to Venezuela.³⁸⁰

Elton and Loretta Bernard Appointed to Korea

Elton and Loretta Bernard of Hammond, Louisiana, met the board and discussed their missionary call to Korea. Elton had served in the U.S. Armed Forces in that country. After discussion, the board recommended that the Bernards be appointed as missionaries to Korea, subject to approval by the Louisiana District board.³⁸¹

The John L. Brians Appointed to Australia

John L. and Madeline Brian met the board for a possible appointment to Australia. After discussion, the board recommended that the Brians be appointed as missionaries to Australia.³⁸²

Jimmy and Billie Dotson Appointed to Chile

James and Billie Dotson of Tupelo, Mississippi, discussed their desire for a missionary appointment to Chile. The board recommended that the Dotsons be appointed as missionaries to Chile.³⁸³

David and Grace Wiens Appointed to Peru

As a single lady, Grace Yadon Wiens had served with her brother, Charlie Yadon, as missionaries to Alaska. She desired to continue in missionary service. The board recommended that the Wienses be appointed as missionaries to Peru.³⁸⁴

Lucile Farmer Appointed to Ecuador

Lucile Farmer felt a missionary call to Ecuador, South America. After she met the board and expressed her desire, the board recommended her for appointment to Ecuador.³⁸⁵

Bennie and Theresa DeMerchant Advised to Wait

Bennie and Theresa DeMerchant of Plaster Rock, New Brunswick, Canada, met the board about their burden for Brazil. Both possessed general ministerial licenses and were considered as viable

³⁷⁹ Ibid.

³⁸⁰ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 11, 1963): 7.

³⁸¹ Ibid., 6.

³⁸² Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 12, 1963): 8.

³⁸³ Ibid.

³⁸⁴ Ibid.

³⁸⁵ Ibid.

candidates, but they were advised to continue developing their ministries in North America. They should keep in touch with the FMD. Brother DeMerchant was a private pilot.³⁸⁶

Ralph Cook Elected Assistant General Superintendent

During the General Conference in San Antonio, Texas, October 8–12, 1963, Ralph Cook, FMB member, was elected as the assistant general superintendent for the North American Eastern Zone. While he retired as a member of the FMB, his untiring efforts continued to be a blessing to the fellowship.³⁸⁷

J. C. Cole Appointed to the Foreign Missions Board

The General Board appointed J. C. Cole of Parkersburg, West Virginia, to fill the vacancy created by R. G. Cook's election as assistant general superintendent.³⁸⁸

In the weeks following the 1963 General Conference, an impressive list of workers waited to be sent into the harvest. As he announced these appointments, Brother Vouga said, "We must not, we will not fail the Lord, for He has brought us into the kingdom for such a time as this. . . . Let us make every church a missionary church this year and until Jesus comes again."

The 1964 Foreign Missions Board

The 1964 FMB consisted of Oscar Vouga, director; Paul H. Box, secretary; A. D. Gurley; W. J. Rolston; Hulon Myre; Edwin E. Judd; and J. C. Cole.³⁸⁹

The work of the headquarters office was unending. Brother Vouga's fervent appeals for additional funds in various publications resulted in increasing finances, which were soon invested to meet the increasing demands of the field. Churches beyond the North American borders were exploding with growth, and constant growth demanded proportionately higher funds. God met the needs, and foreign missions reached new levels of service.

1964 Foreign Missions Statistics

The FM director's annual letter to the General Board is approved by the FMB during the August board meeting. It is then presented to the General Board during the General Conference and generally is dated for the conference, but not on this occasion. Oscar Vouga presented his letter dated July 31, 1964, to the General Board of Presbyters and the Fortieth General Conference in San Antonio, Texas: "The United Pentecostal Church now has 64 missionaries on the field and before this month ends four more will be on the high seas sailing for the land of their calling, making a total of 68 missionaries on the field." He further stated that the UPCI, under the direction of General Superintendent Arthur T. Morgan and General Secretary Stanley W. Chambers, was now represented in twenty countries, with contacts in twenty-five additional countries. The financial picture for the fiscal year ending July 7, 1964, was \$155,493.39 in undesignated offerings and \$177,000.28 in designated offerings, making a total income of \$332,493.67. The previous year's total income had been \$233,706.73.

During 1964, the Ladies Auxiliary contributed \$3,350 toward missionaries' household furnishings, appliances, and equipment, and Sheaves for Christ contributed \$68,621 toward missionaries' transportation. Also, the FMB presented the Youth Committee with the following requests for Sheaves

³⁸⁶ Ibid., 7.

³⁸⁷ "Newly Elected Assistant General Superintendent," *Pentecostal Herald* (January 1964): 16.

³⁸⁸ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (January 11, 1964): 1.

³⁸⁹ "Foreign Missionary Board," *Pentecostal Herald* (January 1964): 2.

for Christ funds: \$60,995 for vehicles, and other petitions by the missionary family such as \$72,700 for building funds.³⁹⁰

It seems that the only negative was the aftereffects of Roberta Dillon's serious bout with poliomyelitis.

C. D. Stiles at Home with the Lord³⁹¹

C. D. Stiles, missionary to Hawaii for many years and for several years on the list of retired UPCI missionaries, died on July 21, 1964, at age seventy-eight in Mountain View, Hawaii. While serving in Hawaii as an official of the Salvation Army, he had received the Holy Spirit in the Salvation Army officers' quarters in Hilo, Hawaii. He resigned his post and was ordained a minister on June 19, 1925. On April 10, 1939, he affiliated with the PCI and had served as one of our missionaries since that time. While officiating at Brother Stiles's funeral, J. T. Clark, a fellow missionary, commended Brother Stiles for his outstanding contribution to missions in Hawaii.

Death of Myrtle Gertrude Mowatt

On July 23, 1964, Myrtle Mowatt, appointed with her husband to Ceylon (Sri Lanka) in 1950, died in Old Town, Maine, at age forty-five. She had evangelized extensively in Canada and was survived by her husband, Worden L. Mowatt. Her funeral service was held at the United Pentecostal Tabernacle of Pea Grove, Old Town, Maine.³⁹²

Colombian National Leadership Discussed

In April 1964, the FMB met with Colombia's missionary superintendent, Verner Larsen, about organizing the work in Colombia. They had questions regarding the translation of the original constitutional documents created in Colombia during Oscar Vouga's visit the previous year. Brother Larsen explained that some additional work would be necessary in order to properly evaluate the different translations. The board decided to ask the Colombian church's lawyer to send the original Spanish documents of the proposed constitution to the States, and Brother Vouga could discuss them with Brother Box and Brother Larsen during a missionary conference slated for April 21–23 in Tupelo.³⁹³

Board Decision about Secular Employment for Missionaries

In its April 1964 sessions, the FMB made a decision about secular employment. Since a missionary is appointed to serve and is sacrificially supported by the constituency for that express purpose, any type of supplemental income earned by missionaries would be frowned upon.³⁹⁴

Also resolved in the same board session was that missionaries should not live separately from their families.

The board considered the correspondence and actions of Juan Alvear, who had approached the UPC in Brazil, agreeing in writing to turn over his missionary work to the UPC of Brazil and work in full cooperation with the appointed missionaries there. However, he later informed the FMB that he would work in harmony with the missionaries in Brazil but would retain his own work. Since this situation amounted to his working under the auspices of two distinct administrations, time would prove whether the plan would succeed.

³⁹⁰ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 13, 1964): 1.

³⁹¹ Paul H. Box, "C. D. Stiles at Home with the Lord," *Pentecostal Herald* (October 1964): 10.

³⁹² "In Memoriam," *Pentecostal Herald* (July 1965): 14.

³⁹³ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (April 1964): 3.

³⁹⁴ *Ibid.*, 4.

The Maritime District's Action Affects Both Colombia and Ecuador

In 1964, the Maritime District was planning to withdraw from the UPCI to become the United Pentecostal Church of Eastern Canada.³⁹⁵ The UPCI General Board decided that the Colombian work should not be sacrificed by the Maritime District's withdrawal. Although much—but certainly not all—of the work had been accomplished by missionaries of the Maritime District, local churches throughout the UPCI had financially supported all the missionaries working in Colombia. Therefore, in an attempt to bring about a peaceable solution, the UPCI General Board decided that the Colombian work should be legally placed under national leadership but “bonded organically” to the missionaries on the field, who would serve as “counselors.” However, the goodwill of the UPCI administration was misunderstood, and feelings ran high on all sides of the issue.

UPCI officials were committed to continue the work in Colombia, but the Colombian missionary family had diverse feelings on how it should be accomplished. All the missionaries serving in Colombia had poured their ministries into the work, and a decision by either the UPCI or the UPC of Colombia could appear to be biased. Missionaries other than those with spiritual ties to the Newcastle Bridge ministerial group, such as Lewis and Sallie Morley and William and Mollie Thompson, had also served faithfully in Colombia and resisted all efforts to nationalize the work. The UPCI had appointed Lucile Farmer to Ecuador to serve under Miguel Peña's leadership, and Peña was Colombia's missionary to Ecuador. When the final decision had been made, the climate eventually created two administrations in Colombia, which in turn adversely affected the church in Ecuador.

After prayerful consideration the FMB passed the following resolutions:

We as the Missionary Board of the United Pentecostal Church desire to go on record concerning the proposed separation of the Maritime District from the International body of the United Pentecostal Church insofar as it pertains to the Foreign Missionary Department.

We strongly feel that for the present and future status and progress of the missionary work that all of the present missionary fields remain under the direct supervision of the United Pentecostal Church International, with headquarters at St. Louis, Missouri, without any division or separation.

Inasmuch as we feel that the blessing of God is being manifested in Colombia and that many souls have been and are being saved through a unified effort and the missionaries in the past and also those presently laboring in Colombia have worked together in a single and unified effort, we feel that this method should continue without interruption there and no division of the work be allowed.

Inasmuch as we do not feel that Colombia, or any other present missionary work is ready for full nationalization at this time we recommend that Colombia be retained within the framework of the International body as any change would no doubt cause disharmony and division among the missionaries and nationals of that country to the detriment of the work in Colombia.

It is recognized that the ultimate goal of missionary endeavor is an indigenous church in all foreign fields but this goal should be attained by the United Pentecostal Church in any field in the future, including Colombia, at the recommendation of the United Pentecostal Church and at the time that would be agreeable to all concerned.

Be it also resolved: That we recommend the foregoing to the General Board of the United Pentecostal Church.³⁹⁶

In the minutes of the meetings between UPCI general officials and the Colombian officials, the latter's angst about self-government is quite evident. The Colombians did not feel that they were properly prepared to become autonomous. Whatever the underlying reasoning, these events had a devastating effect on Colombia and Ecuador. Although the UPCI general officials sought a solution, these issues were never resolved, and the separation of that work from the international body continues until this present

³⁹⁵ Ralph Reynolds and Joyce Morehouse, *From the Rising of the Sun* (New Westminster, BC: Conexions, 1998), 149.

³⁹⁶ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 12, 1964): 6.

time. How wonderful it would be to see the resentment of those years dissipated and the body reunited for the glory of God!

Mervyn Miller Appointed to the British Isles

Mervyn and Marilyn Miller met the board about going to the British Isles. He was from Ireland, but had been working in the United States for a number of years and was in the process of applying for American citizenship. In a visit to England, he envisioned many doors opening to the gospel and expressed expectations of marvelous opportunities. The FMB therefore recommended that the Millers be appointed as missionaries to the British Isles, subject to approval by the Arkansas District.³⁹⁷

Bennie and Theresa DeMerchant Appointed to Brazil

Bennie and Theresa DeMerchant of Plaster Rock, New Brunswick, Canada, again met the board about a missionary appointment to Brazil. After his ordination at the 1964 General Conference, the FMB recommended that the DeMerchants be appointed as missionaries to Brazil.³⁹⁸

Pauline Gruse Requests a Return to Liberia

Less than two years into her retirement, the call of missions continued to weigh heavily on Pauline Gruse. During her meeting with the board, Sister Gruse stated that she would like to go to Monrovia but would be willing to go back to Fassama or any other place in Liberia. After a discussion about Liberia's future, the board recommended that she be appointed as a missionary to Liberia with the understanding that she would work wherever the FMD thought she was most needed. In his upcoming trip there in early 1965, Brother Vouga would evaluate the work and make a decision.³⁹⁹

Alvin Cobb Appointed to India

Orion Gleason, superintendent of the Northwestern District, met with the board about Alvin Cobb, who had applied for appointment to India. Brother Cobb was to be ordained during the 1964 General Conference in session. Brother Gleason assured the FMB that the Northwestern District board had confidence in the Cobbs and highly recommended them. The FMB recommended that the Cobbs be appointed as missionaries to India,⁴⁰⁰ but future problems with obtaining a visa would change the target field to Madagascar.

Central America Receives Continued Support

As it had for several years, the FMB approved the continued support of \$125 per month of the Mexican missionary, Valentin Nieblas, in Central America for one more year.⁴⁰¹

Mack Carpenter Replaces Carrie Eastridge in South Africa

Mack and Bobbie Carpenter of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, met the board about serving in Liberia, but the board asked if he would consider serving in South Africa instead. He responded that as long as it

³⁹⁷ Ibid., 3.

³⁹⁸ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 1964): 4.

³⁹⁹ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 8, 1964): 4.

⁴⁰⁰ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 10, 1964): 5.

⁴⁰¹ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 12, 1964): 7.

was somewhere in Africa he would be willing to go. The board therefore recommended that the Carpenters be appointed to South Africa to replace Carrie Eastridge, whose ill health had caused her retirement.⁴⁰²

Samuel Latta Appointed to Liberia

Samuel and Joyce Latta, of Whole Truth Tabernacle in Moline, Illinois, met the board about serving in Monrovia, Liberia. He said that Frank Munsey of Hammond, Indiana, had promised him \$5,000 for a building in Monrovia if he was appointed. The board asked him if he was willing to take flying lessons, and he said he would if the FMD could give him financial help. The board recommended that the Lattas be appointed as missionaries to Liberia.⁴⁰³

The Death of Daniel K. Sheets in Arizona⁴⁰⁴

Daniel K. Sheets, a faithful and respected missionary who served the UPCI for many years, passed away on March 13, 1965, after a long illness. He had married Alice (nee Kugler), who at the time was serving as a missionary to China. After their marriage she remained in the States with him to establish a work in Phoenix, Arizona. Later, under the PCI, they were appointed as missionaries to Canton, China. During World War II the Japanese, who were occupying that part of China, placed the Sheetses under house arrest for fifteen months, yet their work still prospered. After this the Japanese interned them in a concentration camp for seven months. Finally the Sheetses were exchanged to the Americans for Japanese POWs. In 1943, they were allowed to return to the States.

In 1946 they returned to China, but in 1948, Alice's serious illness forced a return to the United States. For some years they pastored in Prescott, Arizona. At the time of Brother Sheets's death they were attending the UPC in Prescott. He was buried in the Memory Lawn Cemetery in Phoenix, Arizona. Paul Box, FM secretary, officiated during the funeral service. At the close of the message and to everyone's complete surprise, Alice stepped to the head of the casket and sang a cappella, "We Will All Rise to Meet Him." What a climax to a powerful missionary ministry paid by the soul mate that had walked with him over many miles of missionary journey!

Property for Luxor, Egypt

The FMB discussed the matter of property in Luxor, Egypt. Boshra Sedra had requested \$609.93, which was designated for Egypt, in the building fund at headquarters.⁴⁰⁵

The board's decision to extend help to Boshra Sedra's work in Muslim-dominated Egypt assisted him greatly, but the work continued to suffer tremendous opposition. Yet in 1965 during Brother Vouga's visit there, two preachers were convinced of deeper truth and were baptized in Jesus' name, adding to Brother Sedra's work.

Brother Vouga also traveled to Yugoslavia, where he found the work had grown to fifty churches, eighty ministers, and about two thousand believers.⁴⁰⁶

Jerry Richardson, Second-Generation Missionary

The Pentecostal Conqueror's Scholarship Award program was another great assistance to world missions in that many potential missionaries were educated and trained. In 1965, Jerry Richardson,

⁴⁰² Ibid., 8.

⁴⁰³ Ibid., 10.

⁴⁰⁴ Paul H. Box, "In Memoriam," *Pentecostal Herald* (May 1965): 19.

⁴⁰⁵ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 26, 1965): 6.

⁴⁰⁶ Oscar Vouga, "Is There Not a Cause?" *Pentecostal Herald* (July 1965): 7.

attending Conquerors Bible College on an SFC scholarship, said, “I am planning to serve the Lord as a missionary, and attending Bible School is about the best way to prepare for the work of the Lord.”⁴⁰⁷ Over time, Jerry was appointed to Madagascar to assist his father and would later become the superintendent of the work there. He was eventually appointed to serve as the regional field supervisor of Africa.

Elton and Loretta Bernard Go to Korea

On August 18, 1965, Elton and Loretta Bernard steamed into the Pusan harbor to establish their residence in Korea, the land of their calling. The next morning they traveled ten hours by train to Seoul. Their long journey was a building block of hope for Korea’s millions. The Bernards said, “There will be another true apostolic church here!”

The Foreign Missions Director’s 1965 Annual Report

In 1965, Oscar Vouga’s report stated that the UPCI had sixty-six missionaries on the field and several seeking appointment at the conference in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Two great missionaries—D. K. Sheets and Pearl Holmes—had died during the past year. Roberta Dillon was still paralyzed, having contracted poliomyelitis in the Philippines. Alvin Cobb, while sorely needed in India, had been unable to secure a visa, and Elton and Loretta Bernard and Mervyn Miller had opened two new fields, Korea and England, respectively.

Financially, undesignated offerings totaled \$156,908.29 and designated offerings totaled \$187,735.38, for a grand total of \$344,643.67. Offerings had increased by \$10,735.10 over the previous year. Sheaves for Christ contributed \$67,000 for automobiles, and the Ladies Auxiliary \$2,500 for appliances.

Proposal for Foreign Missions District Representatives

In order to more effectively promote foreign missions efforts in the various UPCI districts, it was proposed that each district should have an FM representative. A proposal would be submitted to the General Board for consideration. If the General Board approved, the proposal would be presented to the Resolutions Committee for consideration by the 1965 General Conference in session. This notion gradually began to take root.

Also during the conference, Alvin Cobb of Albany, Oregon, informed the board that Indian officials had turned down his application for a visa. He requested a change in his application to Madagascar, and the board recommended that he be appointed there.

Missionaries Considered for Appointment in 1965

Robert and Sue Beasley met the board about their burden for Spain, or any other Spanish-speaking country. However, since the Beasleys had been working in Nicaragua for about five years with the Mexican Apostolic Church missionary—but funded by the UPC—it was decided that the Beasleys would return to Nicaragua, Central America.

Brother and Sister W. E. Davis of Louisville, Kentucky, were recommended for appointment as missionaries to Samoa; Brother and Sister Alfred Asarisi of Greensburg, Indiana, and Brother and Sister Stephen Barley of Clinton, Indiana, to Venezuela; Brother and Sister Basil Williams of Espanola, New Mexico, to Liberia; Brother and Sister Bill Glaser of Hardin, Montana, to Germany; and Brother and Sister Clyde Reed to Japan. The board resolved to continue support for Valentin Nieblas of El Salvador, Central America, in the amount of \$125 per month for another year.

⁴⁰⁷ “Pentecostal Conquerors Scholarship Awards,” *Pentecostal Herald* (July 1965): 12.

Samuel and Lois Baker of Sao Paulo, Brazil, buried their small son, Jerry Paul. Robert Norris traveled from Rio to be with the Bakers, and the Foreign Missions Board paid the funeral expenses.⁴⁰⁸

Clyde Reed Appointed to Japan

Clyde Reed, a serviceman in the United States Navy and stationed in Japan, talked with the board about Japan. He was to be discharged in June 1966 for retirement and wanted to return to Japan as a missionary. He wanted to travel some in the United States after his retirement and then return to Japan at very little cost to the FMD. He already had a church where he was stationed in Japan. The FMB recommended to the General Board that Clyde Reed be appointed as a missionary to Japan.⁴⁰⁹

Bennie and Theresa DeMerchant Arrive in Brazil

Early on the morning of October 27, 1965, the Bennie DeMerchants bade farewell to family and friends who had gathered at the airport in Bangor, Maine, to see them off. When they arrived in Belem, a city at the mouth of the Amazon River in northern Brazil, Samuel Baker, superintendent of Brazil, met them at the airport. Brother Baker had flown up from Sao Paulo to help them get established and ready for the 1,000-mile trip up the Amazon to Manaus, where they would make their home.

The Foreign Missions Director's 1965 Report

As 1965 ended, Oscar Vouga reported that the UPCI had sixty-six missionaries on the field with six families on furlough and fourteen new missionaries appointed at the General Conference. During the next year, two new fields, Madagascar and Germany, would open with Denzil Richardson's transfer from the Philippines to Madagascar and Bill Glaser's appointment to Germany. Denzil Richardson had desired to go to Madagascar when he first applied for missionary service, but had served in the Philippines until entrance into Madagascar could be arranged.

Illness of Ellis Scism

Everyone who knew Ellis Scism, one of the architects of the tremendous Indian revival, was saddened upon learning of his serious illness. The concerned FMB recommended his immediate return to the States and lined up replacements, Brother and Sister Vernon Kirk from England. However, Vernon Kirk's appointment to India was shelved until the 1966 General Conference in New Orleans due to the difficulty of getting someone into India.

In the meantime, despite his illness, Brother Scism's dedication to his calling kept him in India for several more years—until a doctor told his son, "Either take your father home or you will bury him here." By the time Ellis and Marjorie Scism retired, their work in India had produced a church of thirty thousand members and a well-established ministerial training center. The board allocated monthly financial help for the Scisms.⁴¹⁰

Health Insurance for Missionaries on the Field

The question of hospitalization for missionaries serving abroad had been a concern of the board members for some time, and Paul Box organized and headed a study to look into the matter. The May 1966 report to the FMB indicated that Blue Cross/Blue Shield was the best coverage, but the cost of

⁴⁰⁸ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 25, 1965): 6–12.

⁴⁰⁹ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 22, 1965): 8.

⁴¹⁰ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (May 17, 1966): 2.

\$16.25 per family per month would make the collective premium \$500 per month, which was prohibitive. The board decided that each case of illness on the field would be dealt with on individual basis and cared for by the FMD.

Central American Missions Support

The board learned that Valentin Nieblas would be leaving El Salvador in August 1966, but Missionary Secretary Ortega of the sister organization, Apostolic Church of Mexico, requested that the UPCI continue funding the work there if they appointed another missionary to that field. Brother Ortega said that he had visited the work in early 1966 and found it in good condition. The UPCI had supported Valentin Nieblas for several years, as well as other works in Central and South America. The board decided to continue supporting the new missionary to El Salvador on the same basis as they had supported Brother Valentin Nieblas.⁴¹¹

William (Billy) Cole Returns to Thailand

Billy Cole met the board to discuss the reason he had sent his wife and daughter home from Thailand before the expiration of their term, which had made it necessary for the board to recall him from the field. Brother Cole responded that he had felt the leading of God to send his family home. Brother Cole requested a reappointment to Thailand. The board recommended that the Coles be reappointed and added the following resolutions:

Further resolved: Inasmuch as it is the desire to go into all the world and preach the gospel, that in the event it seems desirable to expand the work in Thailand to include Laos and Singapore in the future that this will be given consideration by mutual understanding between Brother Cole and the Foreign Missionary Department.

Further resolved: That if reappointed by the General Board, it is understood that they will return to the field by August 1st, subject to available funds in view of Brother Cole's entry permit to Thailand expiring at that time.⁴¹²

Death of Roberta Dillon

Paul H. Box wrote about Roberta Dillon:

E. Roberta Dillon was born on June 3, 1925 in Albany, Oregon, and passed from this life on February 25, 1966, at the age of 40 years, 8 months and 22 days. She was a minister of the United Pentecostal Church. She is survived by her husband, Brother Arthur Dillon. . . .

On October 17, 1958, after being engaged in the work of the Lord, the United Pentecostal Church approved her and her husband as missionaries to the Philippine Islands. They left for the Philippines on August 29, 1959. During the two years and five months they were in the Philippines, they did a fine work of ministering to the people, and many were led to a saving knowledge of the Lord.

On January 1, 1962, Sister Dillon became very ill with polio of the worst kind. She was flown home to Seattle, Washington, where she was hospitalized for some time. The effects of her illness left her practically helpless, and it was necessary to provide constant care for her. Her husband, Brother Arthur Dillon, faithfully took care of her during the entire time of her illness.

They later moved to Yakima, and thence to Bremerton, where Brother Dillon pastored the church there until the time of her death.

Sister Dillon gave her all to the Lord and she was deeply loved by her family and those where she and her husband ministered in the United States and in the Philippines. During the entire time of her illness,

⁴¹¹ Ibid., 3.

⁴¹² Ibid., 4.

she was motivated by the belief that she would one day return to the Philippines. Her courage, determination and consecration to the will of the Lord were always in evidence to those who visited her, and her cheerfulness was a source of blessing to all. . . .

A large crowd gathered [for the funeral in Puyallup, Washington] to pay their last respects to the memory of this precious handmaiden of the Lord. Among those participating in the funeral were C. H. Yadon, E. E. Judd, O. Gleason, and Charlie M. Yadon, superintendent of the Washington/British Columbia District. [I] preached the funeral message. . . .

It was a real privilege for me to represent the United Pentecostal Church and the Foreign Missionary Department. . . . Surely she “hath done what she could,” and her memory will live on in the hearts of those who were touched by her life and ministry.⁴¹³

Death of J. B. Thomas

Brother John Baptist Thomas of New Orleans, Louisiana, departed this life on April 16, [1966] after a long illness. He was 61 years of age. He is survived by his wife of twenty-four years, the former Aline Cupit. . . .

Brother Thomas was born in 1905, and . . . received his Holy Ghost baptism in October of 1924. He was ordained into the ministry in the same year in Houston, Texas, and served as pastor in Batson, Texas until 1929, at which time he went to Baghdad, Iraq as a missionary, laboring there until 1933. He returned to New York City and served as pastor there until 1937. From there he moved to Memphis and another pastorate, moving on to New Orleans in 1940. For 24 years he worked earnestly founding, building, and completing payment on a beautiful, growing, and effective church in the Crescent City. Ill health forced his retirement from this position, as well as a position on the Louisiana District Board. He was a man of talent—artist, writer, poet, musician, organizer, as well as a minister of the gospel, and greatest of all, a genuine Christian, and a friend to all, with enmity toward none.

The funeral service was directed by Brother C. G. Weeks, Louisiana District Superintendent. . . . Words of consolation were spoken by Brothers J. Roy Weidner, S. W. Chambers, Calvin Rigdon, and Lonnie Treadway. . . . T. F. Tenney delivered the message, with the subject of “Life Beyond the Comma,” taken from texts in Genesis 2:7 and John 10:10. . . . Brother Thomas had scribbled a note in his last moments—“I am in death,”—followed by the comma.⁴¹⁴

Brazil

In April 1965, the J. B. Lambeths returned from Brazil to the States. They expressed appreciation for the Youth Division’s SFC program and the Ladies Auxiliary: “We deeply appreciate . . . the missionary burden of the Pentecostal Conquerors and Ladies Auxiliary” in providing a comfortable automobile and the appliances that made missionary living a lot easier!

Brazil’s national leader, Jorge Dementschuk, was a quality person who was given the leadership in Rio Grande de Sul when J. B. Lambeth returned to the States. Alleged interference from Brother Lambeth and correspondence between Brother Lambeth, Brother Baker, and the FMD resulted in the following resolutions:

Resolved: That the work in Rio Grande de Sul be thoroughly investigated in view of the conditions allegedly present there at this time and since Brother and Sister Lambeth came home from the field. Brother S. B. Baker and Brother R. D. Norris are to be requested to personally investigate such matters and a full report made to the Missionary Department as to the conditions there and if necessary to make recommendations for the future conduct of the work in Rio Grande de Sul, Brazil.

Further resolved: That we want Brother and Sister Lambeth to know that we feel they did a good work in Brazil while there as missionaries and that judgment as to the present state of the work at Rio Grande de Sul will be withheld until a full report is received from the field.⁴¹⁵

⁴¹³ Paul H. Box, “She Hath Done What She Could,” *Pentecostal Herald* (April 1966): 22.

⁴¹⁴ Paul H. Box, “In Memoriam,” *Pentecostal Herald* (April 1966): 19.

⁴¹⁵ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (May 18, 1966): 4–5.

When the situation could not be resolved, Brother Lambeth withdrew from the UPCI and established an independent organization, which has also been very effective in preaching the Oneness message in Brazil.

Colombia Placed under National Leadership

In September 1966, an agreement was finalized between UPCI officials (General Superintendent A. T. Morgan, General Secretary S. W. Chambers, and Director of Foreign Missions Oscar Vouga) and a delegation of Colombian officials, which included Domingo Zuñiga and Elias Campo Bernal. The agreement stipulated that the Colombian work would be placed under national leadership by constitutional right. However, it was never intended that the work should separate from the international headquarters, but that it should be connected with an “organic bond” to the appointed UPCI missionaries to Colombia. Both the Colombian pastors’ conference in June 1967 and the UPCI General Board approved the agreement during the 1967 General Conference.

On June 27–30, 1967, S. W. Chambers, Paul Box, and Oscar Vouga attended a meeting in Colombia, during which the work was nationalized and Domingo Zuñiga was elected as president of the UPC of Colombia. The three UPCI delegates informed the FMB on July 27, 1967, and apprised them of the difficulties relating to the Ecuadorian work.⁴¹⁶

A new constitution was written and adopted by the Colombian Conference, requiring that all offices be held by Colombians. Foreign missionaries were recognized by the Colombian organization as “counselors.”⁴¹⁷

During a subsequent meeting, Domingo Zuñiga expressed:

I want to return to the past in order that we may fix up something for the future. In 1966 when Brother Larsen resigned as the superintendent of the United Pentecostal Church of Colombia, it created a crisis. Brother A. T. Morgan and others of the North American delegation agreed to nationalize the work in Colombia. The agreement was an emergency agreement because the United Pentecostal Church of Colombia was without a superintendent. Brother Larsen expressed that St. Louis should appoint another superintendent for the church. The agreement was prematurely made to nationalize the United Pentecostal Church of Colombia. As a result there were responsibilities placed upon the shoulders of the Colombia brethren before they had become mature.⁴¹⁸

1966 Missionary Appointments

During the October 20, 1966, FMB sessions and after discussion with the candidates, it was resolved that the following candidates be recommended to the General Board for appointment or reappointment: George and Helen White to Indonesia, Glenn and Iris Bogue to Australia, Brother and Sister Timothy Baker as assistant missionaries to Brazil, Brother and Sister J. W. Hall to Japan, and Kenneth and Bobbye Wendell to Ethiopia, subject to his being ordained at the General Conference and recommended by the Texas District.⁴¹⁹

As the board met on October 21, 1966, additional missionaries were recommended for appointment: John E. and Ruby Klemin to Argentina, John and Rachel Hattabaugh to Argentina, Robert and Sue Nix to Peru, and Carl and Evelyn Adams to India.

Vernon Kirk’s application for appointment to India was considered. He was a British national who had lived in India and married an Indian wife. He came highly recommended by both E. L. Scism and Harry Scism. After considerable discussion, Vernon Kirk’s appointment as an assistant missionary was approved.

⁴¹⁶ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions (July 27, 1967): 3.

⁴¹⁷ Lewis Morley, Letter to the General Board, January 18, 1969.

⁴¹⁸ Minutes: United Pentecostal Church of Colombia on Columbian Nationalization (December 17, 1969).

⁴¹⁹ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 20, 1966): 5.

Fred and Vida Scott had applied for appointment to Argentina, but in view of an urgent need in Uruguay, the board recommended his appointment for Uruguay. Ralph and Helen Reynolds had resigned as missionaries to Jamaica in 1952, but a burden to return to the field resulted in a request for the FMB to reappoint him. After meeting with the board during its October 1966 sessions, he was recommended for reappointment to Jamaica.

Carl Adams Appointed to the Philippines

After Carl Adams's appointment to India in October 1966, it became apparent that an Indian resident visa would be difficult to obtain, so the board resolved that in the event India did not open up, Brother Adams could receive an alternate appointment to the Philippines.⁴²⁰

Death of General Superintendent Arthur T. Morgan

As the FMB began its sessions during the General Conference in Tulsa, Oklahoma, on Wednesday, October 18, 1967, they learned that A. T. Morgan had collapsed and died that morning at 10:00 AM while presiding over the General Board meetings. The conference was stunned. A memorial service was conducted while conference attendees mourned the loss of a great man of God.⁴²¹ Murrell and Joan Ewing opened the service by singing "Welcome Home," written by A. T. Morgan Jr. Arthur Clanton's prayer deeply moved everyone present, and each speaker was visibly touched as he conveyed his personal feelings about this great leader. Under the leadership of Assistant General Superintendent Oliver Fauss, the work of the conference continued.

1967 Missionary Appointments

When the FMB sessions resumed after Brother Morgan's death, missionary candidates were interviewed and selected for appointment: Lloyd and Loretta Moreau of Louisville, Colorado, to New Zealand; Wilbur and Lena Scott of Winchester, Indiana, to Hawaii; Wilma R. Nix to Rhodesia; M. H. and Maxine Cunningham to Argentina; Steve and Renee Baker to Brazil; Haskell D. and Sharon Yadon of Portland, Oregon, to Chile; Verna Shepard of Louisville, Mississippi, to Peru; Paul and Helen Moulton to Peru; Paul V. and Beth Reynolds of Pembroke, Ontario, Canada, to Jamaica; and Lee Roy and Becky Sherry of Herrin, Illinois, to Western Australia.⁴²²

Denzil and Freida Richardson had applied for appointment to Madagascar, but had spent their first term in the Philippines. During this conference they expressed their continuing desire to go to Madagascar, and after discussion they were recommended for appointment there.

After the nationalization of the Colombian work, William J. and Mollie Thompson talked with the board about various Spanish-speaking countries, and they were recommended to the General Board for appointment to Paraguay. However, a year later the appointment was rescinded, and they were reappointed to Colombia.⁴²³

Foreign Missions Day during each General Conference became an important boost for the annual FM budget. However, the "strong-pull-once-a-year" program and the hope that local pastors would catch a vision for monthly giving into the "undesignated fund" was an outdated answer to world evangelization. Finances were becoming a formidable and critical issue with witnesses for the gospel in over fifty nations of the world. Where to from here?

⁴²⁰ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 24, 1966): 6, 8.

⁴²¹ Paul H. Box, "In Memoriam," *Pentecostal Herald* (December 1967): 5.

⁴²² Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October, 21, 1967): 10–11.

⁴²³ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 23, 1968): 5.

Edwin E. Judd Appointed as Director of Promotion

Brother Vouga expressed the need for a full-time director of promotion for the FMD. He informed the board that he had discussed the matter with E. E. Judd, a member of the board and president of Conquerors Bible College in Portland, Oregon. Brother Judd was willing to take on this responsibility, and the FMB enthusiastically accepted Brother Judd for this position.⁴²⁴

District Foreign Missions Directors

With the unprecedented growth of the missions program, the concept of district foreign missions directors that had been proposed three years earlier had finally begun to take hold. District FM directors would coordinate the deputation process for traveling missionaries. During the FMB meeting in St. Louis on June 20, 1968, Paul Box reported that thirteen of the twenty-three UPCI districts had appointed a foreign missions representative.⁴²⁵

Tremendous Growth in Asia and Africa

Asia came into focus with UPCI missionaries in India, Thailand, Korea, Japan, Philippine Islands, and Indonesia, and known groups of believers in Pakistan, Burma, Laos, Malaysia, Singapore, and Ceylon. The church in India had grown from a nucleus of 300 believers in 1949 to over 300 ministers, 35,000 believers, and 253 congregations besides outstations in 1967. All of this had been accomplished by one to three missionary families during these nineteen years.⁴²⁶

Then there was Africa! Years of sacrifice had carved out a growing church in the Liberian mission stations, and a church had been established in Monrovia, the capital city. Remote jungle outposts had become accessible through the UPCI's SFC airplane. Moving eastward, the Ethiopian government finally granted visas to our first missionaries there, and there would soon be a missionary presence in Rhodesia. Moving southward, over 11,000 believers had been brought into the kingdom of God through UPCI missionary efforts in South Africa. Every month brought reports of new souls being baptized in the name of Jesus Christ and receiving His Spirit. Missions had definitely taken on a new mentality.⁴²⁷

Mack Carpenter of South Africa said, "We conducted 36 services and traveled 3,000 miles but are happy in the Lord Jesus for His ever present Spirit that drives us to the lost. There is no restraint with the Lord to save by many or by few. That is why counting the cost was less expensive to us than it is to some who would like to."⁴²⁸

E. L. and Nona Freeman celebrated the end of their twentieth year in South Africa since they first arrived to establish the UPC in that part of the world. God had rewarded their labors with 189 preachers and workers, 143 congregations, and over 11,000 members in the UPC in South Africa. This was the result of the labor of our missionaries and all the national workers in the country.⁴²⁹

Evangelization Redefined

Missiologial strategy began a dramatic paradigmatic shift from centering on the person to centering on the message. Missionaries recognized that training for national ministers would lead to a promising future for exponential worldwide evangelization. Bible schools took on a new importance as leadership training equipped national ministers. India, Africa—especially Liberia—Brazil, the

⁴²⁴ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 24, 1967): 12.

⁴²⁵ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (June 20, 1968): 2.

⁴²⁶ Edwin E. Judd, "Asia Proves to be Ripe Field," *Global Witness* (October 1968): 1.

⁴²⁷ Edwin E. Judd, "Dark Africa," *Global Witness* (October 1968): 3.

⁴²⁸ Edwin E. Judd, "SFC Plane Crashes in Liberia," *Global Witness* (August–September 1969): 3.

⁴²⁹ Oscar Vouga, "The Work in South Africa," *Pentecostal Herald* (July 1968): 6.

Philippines, Jamaica, and Colombia were transforming the future by building on leadership training programs. For example, Ralph Reynolds, using his own financial resources, established a Bible school in Jamaica with an enrollment of forty-five students.⁴³⁰ The concepts of the mission compound that had been so successful in the past and the central church pastored by a missionary began to fade. National leaders began to fill the responsibilities once held by the missionary, minimizing dependency on the missionary.

The Foreign Missions Magazine, the *Global Witness*

The grassroots of the UPCI needed to be informed about the church's tremendous worldwide advances. The *Pentecostal Herald* could report only a limited amount of news from the foreign fields. For this reason, in October 1968 the FMD began publishing the *Global Witness* edited by Edwin E. Judd. Informed people responded to needs, and the *Global Witness* became a vital information link between foreign fields and North American churches. In its first issue the *Global Witness* reported 108 UPCI missionaries under appointment in twenty-nine countries, others under appointment to five additional nations, and related works in twenty-four other nations for a record total of over fifty nations with a positive gospel witness.⁴³¹

The past few years had seen great financial advances. The FM budget for the fiscal year 1962 was \$276,686.95, compared to \$538,886.61 in 1968. This amount had to stretch over the entire globe, while in North America a half-million-dollar budget often funded one congregation. The truth was that 500 North American churches carried the bulk of the FM financial load, while 1,700 churches contributed nothing.

Each month as FM personnel appealed for additional funding in order that the boundaries of the kingdom could be enlarged, laymen began to give more generously and regularly. As funding grew, missionaries not only advanced steadily to establish new churches in their own fields but also jumped frontiers to reach into other nations where the name of the Lord had not yet been preached.

Second-generation missionaries began to emerge, bringing a new dimension to the foreign field. Paul and Beth Reynolds joined Ralph Reynolds in Jamaica, and Steve and Renee Baker were appointed to Brazil.

Other new missionary candidates were appointed: Wilma Nix answered the call to Rhodesia, Verna Shepard to Peru, and the Carl Adams family to the Philippines.

Foreign Missions Funding Crisis Demands a Decision

While America wrestled with the Vietnam War, student protestors, civil rights issues, and the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr., the UPCI struggled to find direction for the future of evangelizing the "uttermost part of the earth" (Acts 1:8). Three alternatives seemed to prevail during the 1968 UPCI General Conference:

1. Increase the church's missionary involvement. If this option was chosen, the church would have to further accelerate the cause of foreign missions. Pastors would have to receive a foreign missions offering each month and consistently increase giving. Laymen all over North America would have to give regularly, generously, and sacrificially.
2. Maintain the present missionary program. This position meant that the church was already doing all it could do. It would maintain the status quo but could not support further missionary involvement. Yes, the great commission was the purpose of the church, but the needs of the local churches and communities consumed most of the evangelistic energies and funds. The consequence of this option was that many would die without a single opportunity to know Jesus Christ.

⁴³⁰ Lorna Halls, *A Rich Heritage: The UPC of Jamaica* (Kingston: Montrose Graphics, 2003), 47.

⁴³¹ Paul H. Box, "Foreign Missions Publications Director," *Global Witness* (October 1968): 1.

3. Withdraw from the missionary program. No one would openly support such a position, yet the lack of financial backing was a silent vote for it. Self-absorption with domestic needs prohibited focusing on the fields abroad. Pastors with this mind-set would be reluctant to receive foreign missions offerings. Laymen with this attitude would not give.

Foreign Missions Secretary Paul Box wrote a passionate appeal for the church to increase the funding for the FM program:

During the month of August, 1968, 22.7 percent of the churches in the United Pentecostal Church sent an offering to headquarters for foreign missionary work. In order to adequately support its present program the Foreign Missionary Department needs a minimum of \$25,000 per month in *undesigned funds*, which are the lifeline of our missionaries' monthly support. Designated funds for assistance with missionaries' support, fares, and special projects are also vitally needed. As an organization we need a fresh dedication to the following position: "What right has any man to hear the Gospel twice, until every man has heard it once?" In our desire for things at home can we forget the Great Commission and our responsibility to the world?⁴³²

Even though the entire missions program was funded by only 22.7 percent of the North American church body, the reports from the field remained positive.

Foreign Field Growth

On September 10, 1968, Paul and Beth Reynolds flew to Kingston, Jamaica, where the Ralph Reynolds family welcomed them. Paul would concentrate on evangelistic outreach to other unevangelized Caribbean islands. That year, the Wildman Street UPC in Kingston, Jamaica, made UPCI history when it reported a Sunday school attendance of 1,709.

In Colombia over 50,000 converts had been baptized. The work had escalated to 350 churches plus 150 preaching stations. Colombia registered a ministerial body of 415 ordained and licensed ministers. Persecution was intense, causing refugees to flow across the border into Ecuador, where they spread the apostolic message.

During his first term in Brazil in the late 1960s, Tim Baker had baptized ten people, among which were a Presbyterian minister and his wife, Reverend and Mrs. Joel Polycarpo. Brother Polycarpo heard the Apostolic Jesus Name message through Robert Norris's radio broadcast sponsored by SFC. A seminary graduate, Polycarpo had been a Presbyterian minister for sixteen years at the time of his baptism in Jesus' name. Some forty years later, RFS Daniel Scott met these now elderly people. Here was a couple wrinkled with age who still retained the fervor of those bygone days.

On September 14, 1968, Elga and Claree Battle left Uruguay for a furlough after five years of profitable ministry. In Uruguay Fred and Vida Scott shouldered full responsibility for the church there. At the same time John Klemin and John Hattabaugh evangelized Buenos Aires, Argentina, population eight million.

The 1968 General Conference in Atlantic City, New Jersey

The 1968 General Conference issue of the *Pentecostal Herald* reported sixteen reappointments and/or new appointments. Awaiting visas, funds, or orders to depart for the field were re-appointees James and Martha Burton to Venezuela, Elga and Claree Battle to Ecuador (after spending a term in Uruguay), Brother and Sister Robert Roh to Holland, and Else Lund to Liberia. New appointees were Margaret Calhoun to Brazil, Robert and Evangeline Rodenbush to Ghana, Daniel and Joretta Scott to Ecuador, Dale and Lolita Brown to Peru, and Gordon and Afton Mallory to India or the Philippines. The

⁴³² Paul H. Box quoted in Edwin E. Judd, "What Do You Say?" *Global Witness* (October 1968): 2.

UPCI outside of North America numbered 1,500 churches, 1,800 national preachers, and over 100,000 believers. The organization invested \$500,000 in the FM enterprise in 1968. In only five years the missionary program had doubled.⁴³³

History-making Missionaries

History was in the making in November 1968 with outgoing missionaries Carl Adams to the Philippine Islands and Kenneth Wendell to Ethiopia. Both of these men would change the way missionaries worked, even though they served in two different regions of the world. Carl Adams replaced Elmer Buckmiller, who had returned to the States because of Hettie Buckmiller's illness, and Kenneth Wendell was opening Ethiopia as a new field.

During the early part of November 1968, Glen Smith visited and preached in Caribbean churches for eleven days, baptizing 167.

In South America, Paul and Helen Moulton traveled to Iquitos, Peru, and the W. J. Thompson family returned to Colombia. These missionaries would also make incremental changes in evangelistic methods. Paul Moulton developed a river ministry, and Brother Thompson reaped a tremendous harvest from Colombia's great revival.

A half a world away in Pakistan, George Shalm baptized eight ministers in the name of Jesus Christ in the Arabian Sea. He had found that secular friends, employed as engineers on an atomic energy plant in Karachi, had been energetically witnessing to these ministers. To date, these were the first to be baptized in this predominately Muslim nation. Pakistan would prove fruitful!

Puerto Rico

E. E. Judd noted in the October 1969 *Global Witness*, "Puerto Rico has witnessed a move of God during the past five years. Seven churches and preaching stations have been established. Over 200 have received the baptism of water and Spirit. This base has also resulted in reaching souls in the Dominican Republic and Haiti where over 800 have been baptized in the past year."⁴³⁴

Twenty-seven Missionaries Appointed

The year 1969 ended with a challenge as twenty-seven missionaries were appointed to fourteen fields, which brought the total to 113 adult missionaries and their children. Missionaries had baptized over ten thousand during the preceding twelve months. Local churches were becoming more motivated to include missionary giving in their budgets; worldwide evangelistic investments were sparking interest.

Illness and Death of Hettie Buckmiller

On October 2, 1968, Hettie Buckmiller, wife of Elmer, became critically ill with cancer and had to be evacuated from the Philippines by a USAF plane loaded with battle casualties from Vietnam. Her husband followed her to the United States in November.⁴³⁵

Hettie died on December 24, 1968. She had fought a good fight, laboring faithfully by her husband's side for twenty-eight years, many of those in home missions and over twelve years in Indonesia and the Philippine Islands.⁴³⁶

⁴³³ Edwin E. Judd, "The Need for Missions," *Global Witness* (November 1968): 4.

⁴³⁴ Edwin E. Judd, "Puerto Rico," *Global Witness* (October 1969): 4.

⁴³⁵ Edwin E. Judd, "How Shall They Preach?" *Global Witness* (November 1968): 4.

⁴³⁶ Edwin E. Judd, "Faithful unto Death," *Global Witness* (January 1969): 1.

Missionaries Go in Faith

Promotion Director Edwin E. Judd researched and compiled perhaps the most comprehensive FM report ever, in which he determined that an average of 125 were baptized per missionary at a cost of \$40.⁴³⁷

FM Secretary Paul Box reported in the January 1969 *Global Witness*, “Foreign missionaries are not guaranteed a salary as such but each one receives a monthly allotment on a money available basis. . . . Each missionary is treated exactly the same as far as personal support is concerned. Monthly personal allowances include: \$85.00 for each adult . . . and . . . housing that varies from \$90.00 to \$175.00 per month. . . . The Foreign Missions Division sends missionaries abroad by faith. The missionaries go in faith.”⁴³⁸

Edwin Judd continued to encourage North American churches to respond to the financial needs of foreign missions. As the streets of America’s major cities filled with Vietnam War protesters, Brother Judd informed the church, “The Foreign policy of the church is explicitly set forth by our Lord. ‘Go ye . . . unto the uttermost part of the earth.’ The Bible (unlike the American constitution) does not grant the right of individual determination on the basis of personal conscience. There is no right of dissent. . . . We must not allow our apparent needs at home to dim our vision, dampen our zeal, or dull our sickles in the harvest fields abroad.”⁴³⁹

The Missionary Map Reappears

A 23” by 35” two-color map with pictures of the 113 missionaries and showing the locations of the twenty-nine fields supported by the FMD was printed in February 1969. This was a resurgence of the similar missionary map that was promoted in the November 1937 *Apostolic Herald*; the goal of the project was to assist the home church in identifying with each missionary’s field of labor. It was a tremendous idea for the prayer room. The missionary map has been very effective and is still in use.

Oscar Vouga and Stanley Chambers Visit the Field

FM Director Oscar Vouga found a great spiritual atmosphere as he visited Colombia in January 1969. The continuous flow of news to North America had given him a preview of the work, but as he sat on the platform of the Palmira Conference with General Superintendent S. W. Chambers, he, like the Queen of Sheba, could say, “The half has not been told!” The February 1969 *Global Witness* shows a picture of that conference attended by six thousand. Lewis and Sallie Morley and William and Mollie Thompson represented the Jesus Name message in Colombia.⁴⁴⁰

Brother and Sister Oscar Vouga and Brother and Sister Stanley Chambers and their daughter Jerloyn continued their tour southward to Peru. The work had grown under David Wiens’s leadership. The Robert Nix family, the Paul Moulton family, and assistant missionary Verna Shepard, had arrived on location to share the responsibilities. James Dotson, despite a near-fatal illness, had established a church of Spirit-filled believers in Santiago, Chile. Haskell D. Yadon joined Brother Dotson and extended the work into communities outside of Santiago.

Of their South American tour the Vougas and Chamberses said, “Altars were filled with hungry hearted people seeking God. The sacrificial labors of our United Pentecostal Church missionaries in Latin America are bearing much fruit for the Kingdom of God.”⁴⁴¹

⁴³⁷ Edwin E. Judd, “Annual Report Shows Gain,” *Global Witness* (January 1969): 1.

⁴³⁸ Paul H. Box, “Question Box,” *Global Witness* (January 1969): 2.

⁴³⁹ Edwin E. Judd, “Foreign Policy,” *Global Witness* (November 1968): 2.

⁴⁴⁰ Edwin E. Judd, “Foreign Missions Director Visits South America,” *Global Witness* (February 1969): 1.

⁴⁴¹ Quoted in Edwin E. Judd, “Foreign Missions Director Visits South America,” *Global Witness* (March 1969): 2.

India Bans Evangelism

An English-language newspaper from Bhopal dated August 11, 1968, stated that the Madhya Pradesh Government decided to prohibit what they called “forcible conversion”: “The measure banned conversion, either directly, or otherwise, of any person from one religion to another . . . [and] will be punishable by imprisonment up to one year, or a fine of Rs. 5,000 or both.”⁴⁴²

Another clipping dated January 3, 1969, states:

“The Union Ministry of Law has given its opinion that the law recently enacted in Madhya Pradesh to prevent forceful conversions is constitutional and legal,” Mr. Vydy Charan Shukla, Union Minister of State for Home Affairs, disclosed . . . he said, “The policy of the Union Government was to replace all foreign missionaries by Indian missionaries.

The Union Government was keeping a strict watch on all activities of foreign missionaries in the country and whenever any missionary was found indulging in political activities, the government will direct the missionary to quit the country.

Missionary George Shalm boldly declared that our missionary policy in India is to cautiously avoid political involvement, and that missionaries preaching the benefits of true Christian experience is an “allurement.”⁴⁴³

The missionaries did not leave India; apparently George Shalm’s declaration sufficed.

The 1969 Foreign Missions Board

The March 1969 FMB consisted of Oscar Vouga, director; Paul H. Box, secretary; Edwin E. Judd, director of promotion; and board members W. J. Rolston, Hulon Myre, A. D. Gurley, and J. C. Cole.⁴⁴⁴

Liberia

One of the challenges facing this board was to strengthen the country of Liberia, West Africa, where many years of missionary work had been invested. Liberia became a nation prior to the Civil War. The United States returned freed slaves to this region of Africa, and they became leaders of this small nation.

The UPCI had three principle centers from which the missionaries worked. The newest center was in Monrovia where Field Superintendent Samuel Latta established a good church in about three years.

Bomi Hills, an iron mining center about eighty miles inland from Monrovia, was the principle base for missionary efforts. Basil Williams was in charge of this post where there was a church with an average attendance of 475 and a large parochial school attended by hundreds of Liberian children. Valda Russell was in charge of the school. Brother Williams also piloted the new SFC Piper Tri-Pacer, shuttling personnel and supplies between the three stations.

Pauline Gruse, a veteran missionary in Liberia, had charge of the Fassama Station. Else Lund and Ena Hylton directed the parochial school there.

The challenge was the potential of fulfilling the many requests for churches in the villages surrounding these three centers.

The work began to expand to neighboring countries. Samuel Latta and Basil Williams visited Ghana early in February with good results.

⁴⁴² George Shalm, “India Government Restricts Conversions,” *Global Witness* (February 1969): 3.

⁴⁴³ Ibid.

⁴⁴⁴ “Missionary Board,” *Global Witness* (March 1969): 2.

Ghana

In response to a contact from a gospel tract Brother Robert Rodenbush, Brother Jack Langham (Liberia) and Brother J. H. Yohe (Illinois District) made an exploratory trip to Ghana and Nigeria in August of 1966. The results of this visit brought about dialogue between some preachers of the Christ Apostolic Church of Ghana and the United Pentecostal Church International. Additional visits were made by Brother Oscar Vouga (General Director) and Brothers Samuel Latta and Basil Williams missionaries from Liberia. During the Atlantic City General Conference of October 1968 Brother and Sister Robert Rodenbush of the Illinois District were appointed the first resident missionaries to Ghana. The Illinois district raised the entire fare for the missionary family. During the visit of Brothers Latta and Williams in February 1969, eighty-three souls, including five preachers, were baptized in Jesus' name! The Rodenbush family arrived in 1969 and found twelve preaching points and five pastors and several workers ready to begin further organization of the work. Brother Rodenbush was appointed by the General Board the first superintendent of the UPC of Ghana at the October 1969 General Conference.⁴⁴⁵

Daniel and Joretta Scott Arrive in Ecuador

Having been appointed during the 1968 General Conference, the Scotts were getting papers processed for living in Ecuador. The waiting seemed endless, but on April 24, 1969, the Scotts departed from Charleston, West Virginia, and arrived in Quito, Ecuador, on April 26. An article in the *Global Witness* tells the story:

The Daniel L. Scott family departed from Charleston, West Virginia, April 24, and arrived in Quito, Ecuador, on April 26. Over 200 persons were present at the airport to see them off. Among them was Brother Scott's godly, aging mother who proudly gave her son to the performance of God's will for his life. Ministers and members of the East Central District and the Open Door Apostolic Church had honored the Scotts with a two-day farewell service on April 18 and 19, at which Brother Fred J. Foster, president of Texas Bible College, and Brother Edwin E. Judd, promotional director of the Foreign Missionary Department, were speakers. Brother J. C. Cole, member of the Foreign Missionary Board, was master of ceremonies.⁴⁴⁶

The Scotts' arrival in Ecuador was a challenge in itself. They had sent Lucile Farmer a telegram with their arrival time, but Lucile was not there to meet them. Unable to speak Spanish, they had to search for her in a city of 1 million. Armed with only a post office box address, they found a taxi driver who spoke a little broken English. They drove for two hours before locating a surprised Sister Farmer who welcomed them to her home. The Scotts learned that telegrams from the States were a poor form of communication; many messages would arrive days after an important event was scheduled.

Burma

Burma was closed to missionaries, but believers were being added to the church daily. Burma lies between the northeastern border of India and the western border of Thailand. Adoniram Judson, pioneer Baptist missionary from America, was the first to take any witness of Jesus Christ to this Southeast Asian nation. A very few years ago the Burmese government took a strong nationalist stance and closed the nation to any missionary work. All denominational missionaries were ordered to leave.

On Burma's mountainous, jungle-covered, western frontier, India's Assam province had a strong UPCI presence. A large number of Lushais, Manipurs, and Nagas had received this Pentecostal experience and baptism in Jesus' name. Some Burmese who lived on the Indian side were included in this

⁴⁴⁵ Edwin E. Judd, "Gospel Light Dawns," *Global Witness* (April 1969): 3.

⁴⁴⁶ Edwin E. Judd, "Missionary Records First Impressions," *Global Witness* (July 1969): 1-2.

Pentecostal outpouring, and they took the message across the border to their own people. An estimated three thousand Burmese had been baptized in the name of Jesus.

Brother Darawia of the Chin Tribe lived in India near the Burmese border. God used him to baptize 250 of his tribe. From his remote residence he journeyed thirty days through mountains and jungles to get to the Bible school session in Bhopal, India. When the Burmese border was closed to outsiders, the Scisms envisioned that some of the Burmese preachers would be able to attend the Bible school in India and after training, return to their own country to oversee the work in the closed field.

Edwin Judd's appeals in the May 1969 *Global Witness* drew attention to these very needy areas of the world.⁴⁴⁷ God was preparing Asia for a mighty visitation.

Japan

In their first year in Tokyo, Japan, the J. W. Halls gave much of their time to studying Japanese. However, evangelism also weighed heavily on their minds. The Halls were already ministering to people who had never been to any kind of Christian service. In 1969 they purchased property in Tokyo for a church building.

In Yokasuka and Chigasaki, the Clyde Reed family reported that one had been baptized and two had received the Holy Spirit. The task of these two missionary families was to reach 110 million souls. Japan needed a revival!

As the new World Evangelism Center in Hazelwood, Missouri, was dedicated on October 28, 1970, Francis Munsey, who had returned to missionary service, erected a new church in Kawanishi, Japan.

Foreign Missions Financial Growth

The 1969 FM budget was \$613,683.08.⁴⁴⁸ By 1983 the name of the organization was modified to the United Pentecostal Church International, and the annual missionary giving had increased to \$9,071,617.75,⁴⁴⁹ to \$12,874,170.00 by 1990,⁴⁵⁰ and to \$18 million by 1998.⁴⁵¹ In 2005 the FM budget was \$27,593,811.44.⁴⁵²

Foreign missions giving derived mainly from the United States and Canada.

Carl and Evelyn Adams Arrive in the Philippines

Carl and Evelyn Adams arrived in the Philippines on November 25, 1968, to take up the torch of ministry and leadership from the Elmer Buckmiller family. Hettie Buckmiller was evacuated to the States in June 1969 due severe illness and imminent death. Once on the field, Brother Adams expended himself visiting and strengthening the churches located throughout the island group. With no SFC vehicle in the area and because many of the churches were too remote to be reached by vehicle, Brother Adams walked many miles in order to encourage the ministers and saints.

Brother Adams's initial tour resulted in 395 baptisms, many of which also received the Holy Ghost. Twenty-two workers were granted licenses, making a total of eighty-nine Filipino ministers affiliated with the UPCI.

⁴⁴⁷ Edwin E. Judd, "Gospel Light Penetrates into Closed Fields," *Global Witness* (May 1969): 2.

⁴⁴⁸ Paul H. Box, "Foreign Missions Offerings," *Pentecostal Herald* (October 1969): 10.

⁴⁴⁹ Fiscal Year Report: "Foreign Missions Offerings," *Pentecostal Herald* (October 1983): 12.

⁴⁵⁰ Fiscal Year Report: "Foreign Missions Offerings," *Pentecostal Herald* (October 1990): 12.

⁴⁵¹ Harry Scism, "Annual Report to the General Board," October 1998.

⁴⁵² Bruce Howell, "Annual Report to the General Board," September 2005.

A Missionary on Foot

In 1982 a brief written history of the work in the Philippines surfaced. Although authored anonymously, the manuscript was replete with dates and names of missionaries, pastors, Bible school graduations, those baptized and filled with the Holy Spirit annually, and accounts of missionary travels. Following is one such account:

Our missionary, Elmer Buckmiller, returned to the United States in the early part of 1968 due the illness of his wife, and on November 25 of that year, Reverend and Mrs. Carl Adams arrived to assume the leadership of the United Pentecostal Church (Phil.) Inc. Upon their arrival, they set their hand, head and heart on the task assigned to them. I traveled with Brother Adams on a missionary visit to Beangan, located high up in the mountains on the border of south Cotabato and Davao del Sur. We were walking on foot because our motorcycle was stuck in knee-deep mud. I saw Brother Adams's bare feet bleeding due the sharp stones along the way. That was his baptism of suffering in his first missionary endeavor. Brother and Sister Adams encouraged the workers and fell in line with them in perfect harmony and cooperation.⁴⁵³

Carl Adams's initial tour started a chain reaction that soon spread throughout the Philippine Islands; 521 received the Holy Ghost during his first six months of missionary ministry.

Rhodesia

Our first UPCI missionary to Rhodesia, Wilma Ruth Nix, arrived on April 21, 1969. The Freemans from South Africa assisted her in getting settled in Bulawayo, where she would reside until a permanent residence could be arranged.

Sister Nix wrote the following report:

Praise the Lord! I'm in Rhodesia and God is working in a marvelous way. . . .

A European couple lived in Bulawayo last year and began witnessing to the natives. Before anything was established, they moved back to South Africa. Upon hearing Harvestime they wrote to Brother Freeman for more information. . . . They were convinced and asked Brother Freeman if we would take over the native work in Bulawayo.

I contacted them immediately. Twenty-two were waiting to be baptized but they did not know anything about how to be baptized. They were overjoyed that someone had come to help them. . . . They are so eager to learn that it will not be long before we can have a baptizing and surely many will be filled with the Spirit according to the Word. They are a very intelligent group. They already have contact with several people outside of Bulawayo who are waiting for someone to tell them more about how to live for the Lord. They have witnessed although they knew very little to tell. The Lord is working in most unusual ways among the Europeans, too.⁴⁵⁴

W. H. Cole's Audience with the King of Thailand

In 1969 W. H. Cole sought for and received an audience with the king of Thailand. Brother Chaiyong, one of Billy Cole's national leaders, accompanied him. Brother Cole wrote, "We were given two full pages of instructions of how to speak, act, walk, stand, and dress. We were instructed never to take our eyes off him. The deepest thought I had was that when I see the King of kings I will be permitted to embrace Him, for I will not be a visitor but a son coming home . . . and so will Brother Chaiyong, because the United Pentecostal Church sent missionaries to Thailand."⁴⁵⁵

⁴⁵³ "A Brief History of the United Pentecostal Church (Phil.) Inc." (MS, 1982), 2.

⁴⁵⁴ Edwin E. Judd, "Welcome to Rhodesia," *Global Witness* (June 1969): 2.

⁴⁵⁵ Quoted in Edwin E. Judd, "William Cole Has Audience with King of Thailand," *Global Witness* (July 1969): 3.

Kenneth Wendell in Ethiopia

In 1969 Kenneth Wendell contacted a group of five thousand Ethiopians who had received the Holy Ghost in various denominational churches and who were seeking Pentecostal leadership and teaching.⁴⁵⁶

Missionaries Come and Go

Outgoing missionaries in 1969 were Dale Brown to Peru, July; Margaret Calhoun to Brazil, August; and Robert Roh to Holland. Returning from the field in May were the Harry Scism family from India and the Tim Baker family from Brazil. In June the J. L. Brian family returned from Australia and the Samuel Baker family from Brazil. In July David Wiens was en route from Peru. The Paul Moulton family arrived in Iquitos, Peru, after a long delay in Lima waiting for their freight shipment.

In Semarang, Indonesia, George White entertained Oscar Vouga. As he celebrated his seventieth birthday, Brother White remarked, "If Jesus tarries, I trust He will give me many years to labor in His vineyard and to make my life fruitful for His glory."⁴⁵⁷

Several missionary families were frustrated by delays in obtaining visas: the Crawford Coons under appointment to Indonesia for two years, Elga and Claree Battle to Ecuador, Lloyd and Loretta Moreau to New Zealand, Gordon and Afton Mallory to the Philippines, M. H. and Maxine Cunningham to Argentina, and Robert and Evangeline Rodenbush to Ghana.

Madagascar

Having no previous contacts in Madagascar, a large African island in the Indian Ocean, Denzil Richardson boarded a plane and arrived on June 1, 1969. However, he was armed with five years of missionary experience in the Philippine Islands: "We came to understand how valuable our time in the Philippines had been."⁴⁵⁸

Madagascar was a picturesque country from its flatlands along the coast to the inland rolling plains and mountainous highlands. It became home to the Richardsons. In time missionary sons, Jerry and Randall, and missionary grandson, Chris, would follow Denzil's footsteps. Madagascar experienced a spiritual explosion, an example of what God's will and a willing missionary family can accomplish over time. The Richardsons remodeled their home into a temporary church, and the door opened to a brand new country for the UPCI. Revival was consistent and rapid. When Denzil and Freida Richardson retired from missionary service in January 1981, revival fires continued to burn. Field statistics disclosed that they had established 150 churches and licensed 143 national ministers, and had baptized in excess of 10,000 converts. The Bible school had graduated 128 students. Denzil and Freida's son, Jerry, became the superintendent.

Madagascar's 2005 National Conference had an attendance exceeding 10,000, with 737 people being filled with the Holy Spirit and an ordination service with twenty-one ministers being ordained into ministry. By 2007 the work surged to over 100,000 constituents.⁴⁵⁹

Success Demands Funding

The increasing success of the missionary family was like a whimpering infant trying to tell his mother about his hunger pangs. Resources from the international headquarters were more often than not

⁴⁵⁶ "Field Flashes," *Global Witness* (May 1969): 4.

⁴⁵⁷ Oscar Vouga, "Victories Reported from Indonesia," *Global Witness* (August–September 1969): 2.

⁴⁵⁸ Freida Richardson, *Madagascar's Miracle Story* (Hazelwood: Word Aflame Press, 1989), 34.

⁴⁵⁹ Daniel Scott, "Eight Major Revivals of the Twentieth Century," (MS, 2007), 76.

depleted as the supply fell short of the growing fields' demands. Edwin Judd, director of promotion, published an eloquent appeal for funds:

The Amazon of South America comprises the most tremendous river system in the world. So great is its force when it reaches the South Atlantic that it extrudes fresh water 200 miles into the sea. The mud that it carries discolors the blue of the ocean far beyond sight of land. . . .

When one follows its course upstream, seeking out its source, he discovers many tributaries branching from the main stream like limbs from a mighty tree. Each of these in turn has tributaries feeding into it. He comes to a stream small enough to wade across, then another small enough to step across, and finally to a spring where bubbling from the ground comes but a trickle compared to the great ocean into which it ultimately flows. If this spring and the multitude like it were to dry up, ultimately the great river would cease to flow. The flow of the river at any stage is in direct proportion to the bubbling forth of the springs that make up its source.

Every local church is a vital spring in relationship to the ultimate mighty force and flow of the total church of Jesus Christ into the world. The river of organized (united) effort will only carry that which the local source supplies. Down from the upper elevation of the revelation of God, the knowledge of the truth, and spiritual experience flows the "river of living water" to the lower elevations of human depravity, spiritual degeneracy, and sin. The existence and extent of this flow is *totally dependent* upon the many source springs, each making its contribution to the *total flow*—each contribution flowing together into the next larger stream until the collective effort of all is enough to exert a mighty impact upon the world's mission fields into which it empties itself. Just as the sun draws water from the ocean to form the rain clouds and the wind carries these clouds back over the springs where rain replenishes their flow, so God draws from the world into which the church empties itself and the Spirit carries souls back into the churches that are willing to let themselves be "springs of living water" flowing outward to others.

Your local contribution may seem unimportant and insignificant in view of the tremendous task. But it combined with the outflow of all others will be enough to meet the challenge of the hour.

There are 2137 local United Pentecostal Churches listed in the current directory. These are potential "springs of living water." Only 619 contributed to the flow of the church into the foreign field during the month of March while the flow of the other 1518 was held back, dried up, or diverted into other channels. The "river of living water" is flowing at only 30 percent capacity because of this factor. . . .

Why not open it up as a "spring of living water" and join its flow with that of the others that "the world may know" of Jesus Christ and His Gospel?⁴⁶⁰

SFC Plane Crashes in Liberia

Missionary pilot Basil Williams was marvelously spared from injury or death in what could have been a tragic accident at the Bomi Hills mission station. While taking off from the airstrip and approaching a high-voltage transmission line, for some undetermined reason the engine failed at about 150' altitude. He executed a 90-degree turn and crash-landed on a roadway. The passengers walked away unhurt. The newly purchased plane had been delivered to Liberia in April. As a demonstrator plane, it had been flown for about 300 hours before the church purchased it.⁴⁶¹ It had been used in Liberia for about ten weeks before the accident occurred. Much of the damage was covered by insurance.⁴⁶²

Wayne Nigh Appointed as Servicemen's Rep in Europe

Wayne Nigh of Portland, Oregon, was appointed to Western Europe as servicemen's representative. Wayne and Esther Nigh were due to arrive in Kaiserslautern, Germany, on August 30, 1969.

⁴⁶⁰ Edwin E. Judd, "Springs of Living Water," *Global Witness* (May 1969): 2.

⁴⁶¹ Author's note: This was the second SFC plane; it replaced the old Tri-Pacer.

⁴⁶² Edwin E. Judd, "SFC Plane Crashes in Liberia," *Global Witness* (August–September 1969): 3.

Paul Box Seriously Ill

Paul Box, FM secretary, was hospitalized four times in 1969. He was in the hospital as the August/September 1969 *Global Witness* was published, and he later recovered,⁴⁶³

Ecuador's Colorado Indians

The story of Daniel and Joretta Scott's contacts with the Colorado Indians is fascinating. The Colorado Indians lived in the jungles around Santo Domingo; each group of families lived in a cluster of houses called a compound, dominated by a sub-chief who was a member of the main ruling family. Their "healers," known as *brujos* or witchdoctors, wielded awesome power over the compounds. Colorado men used a paste made from pods of achote trees to plaster their hair into a stiff, red helmet. They decorated their bodies with bands of black paint and wore short, colorful, wraparound skirts of homespun cloth. The Colorados were friendly but resistant to the influence of outsiders' religions. Even the Catholic Church had not penetrated the closed society.

In 1969 a young Colorado couple went to Puerto Limón to purchase supplies. They passed by a Pentecostal church and, drawn by the singing, went in. They followed others to the altar and asked the national pastor to pray a blessing on their marriage. Back at the compound, Samuel, the powerful *brujos*, angrily forbade the couple to return to the white man's church. But he said, "If the white man is interested in you, invite him here to the compound. I would like to [hear] for myself what he has been telling you."⁴⁶⁴ The young man invited Victor Villafuerte, a minister from the Pentecostal church. Victor convinced many of the Colorados to become believers, including Samuel. Samuel later invited Daniel and Joretta Scott and their two daughters to one of their church meetings. This visit and Brother Scott's friendship with Neftali, nephew of the head Colorado chief, meant that the Scotts would be accepted in all the Colorado compounds. At that time the new church had about thirty-five members.

The 1969 General Conference—St. Louis

Reports during the 1969 General Conference in the Kiel Auditorium, St. Louis, Missouri, October 23–28, indicated that foreign missions work had grown miraculously. To most, it was evident that world evangelism was the task of the whole church: every local assembly, every pastor, and every member. However, the reality was that those who had accepted the challenge of world evangelism carried those who had not. Oscar Vouga addressed the General Board:

[There are] 87 adult missionaries on the field and 83 children . . . 16 adult missionaries preparing to go to the field with 15 children; 12 adult missionaries with their 12 children on furlough. Since July 31st six families have gone to the field. . . . Beside this . . . four of our older missionaries . . . through sickness have been forced to leave the field . . . Brother and Sister Ellis Scism, Sister Alice Sheets and Sister Elizabeth Stieglitz. This makes a total of 225 missionaries and their children who are being supported by the Foreign Missionary Department...

During the past year we have placed missionaries in six new fields, New Zealand, Ghana, Ethiopia, Madagascar, Rhodesia and the Netherlands. This gives us missionaries in 29 countries of the world.⁴⁶⁵

Six new nations had opened to the gospel. The 1969 conference closed with 115 adult missionaries and 110 children on the UPCI roster.

⁴⁶³ "Field Flashes," *Global Witness* (August–September 1969): 4.

⁴⁶⁴ Joretta R. Scott, *Here We Go Again* (Hazelwood, MO: Morris, 1999), 85.

⁴⁶⁵ Oscar Vouga, "Annual Report of the Foreign Missions Division," October 1969.

T. F. Tenney Elected as General Director of Foreign Missions⁴⁶⁶

During the 1969 General Conference in St. Louis, Missouri, Tom Fred Tenney, former president of the Youth Division, was elected as the general director of Foreign Missions. Several important projects were on the table, and the exponential growth of the work would be a challenge worthy of Brother Tenney's tremendous leadership ability.

Sitting in the wings was the PIM project with its companion Faith Promise program. These two programs had great potential for creating the necessary funds to underwrite the growth of the foreign field. Another challenge for Brother Tenney would be finalizing the national leadership structure of Colombia. Time would prove that Brother Tenney was the David who would face these Goliath-like challenges.

Tribute to Oscar Vouga

During his tenure as FM director, Oscar Vouga had drawn on his years of missionary service in Hawaii, as well as a long stint on the Foreign Missions Board. When he left office, Edwin E. Judd wrote a stirring tribute, which includes many field statistics:

It was under a deep sense of the call of God and the compulsion to faithfully fulfill that calling that Reverend Oscar Vouga served the United Pentecostal Church as its Director of Foreign Missions during the past seven years. Having been appointed to this office in mid-term by the Board of General Presbyters, he was continued in office by three electoral conferences. His burden for foreign missions did not originate with his entrance to office. Neither will it cease with his departure from the post of officialdom. . . .

His dynamic ministry stirred the hearts of many! On the foreign fields of the world sinners were convicted, seekers filled, saints edified, ministers challenged, and missionaries encouraged by it. The same preaching has challenged congregations in local churches, conferences, and camp meetings on the home front.

The seven years of foreign missionary endeavor was [*sic*] marked by progress. The number of United Pentecostal Church foreign missionary fields increased from 14 to 29. Six new nations had been entered in 1969. The United Pentecostal Church penetrated bordering nations so that workers were working in 60 nations of the world. The number of appointed foreign missionary personnel increased from 63 to 115 adults and 110 children during 1969 . . . the baptized membership of the foreign UPC now numbered over 110,000. The ministry of giving to support foreign missions has increased from \$233,706.00 in 1962 to \$645,469.00 in 1969.

On October 1, 1968, the United Pentecostal Church had foreign missionaries present in 24 countries outside the continent of North America, under appointment to an additional five nations, with related works in 24 other nations. Over fifty nations of the world had a positive witness of the gospel. . . . Eighty-two adult missionaries were on foreign soil, eleven were on furlough, and fifteen new missionaries were under appointment either waiting for visas, or funds to depart for their field of labor.

The church in India had grown from a small nucleus of 300 believers in 1949 to over 300 ministers and 35,000 believers worshipping in 253 churches and preaching points.

Years of sacrifice had carved out of the bush of Africa a rapidly growing church. Liberia and South Africa were flourishing under the leadership of resident missionaries. To add to this tremendous report, a visa had been granted for the first United Pentecostal Church missionary to take up residence in Rhodesia. National churches that represent this message exist in Egypt, Ghana, and Nigeria.⁴⁶⁷

1969 Missionary Appointments

Missionary appointees or re-appointees during the 1969 conference covered a wide spectrum of the world: Harry and Audrene Scism to India, J. L. and Madeline Brian to Australia, James and Billie Dotson

⁴⁶⁶ Stanley W. Chambers, "New Director of Foreign Missions," *Pentecostal Herald* (January 1970): 21.

⁴⁶⁷ Edwin E. Judd, "He Spared Not Himself," *Global Witness* (January 1970): 4.

to Chile, Ena Hylton and Denzil Bolton to Liberia, L. T. Reynolds to Samoa, Robert Beasley to Nicaragua, Stanley Baker and Darrell Geissler to Uruguay, and Gary Nepstad to the Philippine Islands.

1969 Financial Report and List of Missionaries

The 1969 financial report reflected a 29.9 percent gain over the previous year for the FM program. Receipts were \$645,469.32. Of this amount, Sheaves for Christ donated \$118,000.00 for vehicles, literature, and educational costs for missionary children and equipment. The Ladies Auxiliary provided \$12,000 for appliances for missionary families. The balance of \$515, 469.32 was received from districts, churches, and individuals.

A complete missionary list was published in the November/December 1969 *Global Witness*:

M. H. Cunningham and John Hattabaugh, Argentina; Glenn Bogue, Lee Roy Sherry, and J. L. Brian, Australia; Steve Baker, Margaret Calhoun, Bennie DeMerchant, and Robert Norris, Brazil; Mervyn Miller, British Isles; James Dotson and Haskell D. Yadon, Chile; Lewis Morely and W. J. Thompson, Colombia; Elga Battle and Daniel Scott, Ecuador; Kenneth Wendell, Ethiopia; Wayne Nigh, Europe; Billy Glaser, Germany; Robert Rodenbush, Ghana; W. E. Scott, Hawaii; Vernon Kirk, Harry Scism, and George Shalm, India; Crawford Coon and George White, Indonesia; Paul Reynolds and Ralph Reynolds, Jamaica; J. Wesley Hall and Clyde Reed, Japan; Elton Bernard, Korea; Denzil Bolton, Pauline Gruse, Ena Hylton, Else Lund, Valda Russell, and Basil Williams, Liberia; Denzil Richardson, Madagascar; Robert Roh, the Netherlands; Lloyd Moreau, New Zealand; Robert Beasley, Nicaragua; Dale Brown, Paul Moulton, and Robert Nix, Peru; Carl Adams, Gordon Mallory, and Gary Nepstad, the Philippines; Wilma Nix, Rhodesia; L. T. Reynolds, Samoa; Mack Carpenter and E. L. Freeman, South Africa; Stanley Baker, Darrel Geissler, and Fred Scott, Uruguay; and Steve Barley and James Burton, Venezuela.

The list was published to give churches the opportunity to take any or all the missionaries for the new Partners in Missions program.

Bennie and Theresa DeMerchant

In October 1965, Bennie and Theresa DeMerchant had become the first UPCI missionaries to the Amazon Basin. They headquartered in Manaus, a principal Brazilian city located two thousand miles up the Amazon River from the South Atlantic Ocean. God blessed this missionary family's labors in this virgin missionary field. They established two churches in Manaus. (As of May 2001 there were 120 churches in this great city, and Bennie DeMerchant was still a very effective part of the work there).

Brother DeMerchant wrote on one occasion:

The setting was on the edge of a lake behind a jungle town of the Amazon Basin. We were more than 50 miles away from home. I was tired for we had been up most of the night. There had been no place to lie down or hang up a hammock on the small boat that had brought us here. Three times in the night the boat had run aground on the silt bars. Theresa and Beth were here. Margaret Calhoun had just arrived in Manaus and had come also. It had taken several trips to get the baggage from the boat to the little wooden frame church. . . . I wondered about these people living in those coconut palm leaf houses.

How would they respond to our services? Would they come? If so, would they come in? They did come. . . . They filled the church and around the outside as well. . . . I preached to them the necessity of genuine repentance, baptism in water in the name of Jesus, and of the gift of the Holy Ghost and how it will work in their lives. Now the tiredness was gone.⁴⁶⁸

⁴⁶⁸ Bennie DeMerchant quoted in Edwin E. Judd, "He Spared Not Himself," *Global Witness* (October 1969): 1.

UPCI General Officials and the UPC of Colombia

The Maritime District had withdrawn from the UPCI in 1964 to become the UPC of Eastern Canada.⁴⁶⁹ By 1966, the UPCI General Board had decided that the Colombian work should not be sacrificed by the Maritime District's withdrawal. The UPCI General Board decided that the Colombian work should be transferred to national leadership. The plan was not intended to isolate Colombia but to give the work autonomy and a right to choose. However, the administration's goodwill was misunderstood and feelings ran high on all sides of the issue.

In the minutes of the meetings between the UPCI general officials and Colombia's leadership, it is quite evident that the national leaders did not feel that Colombia was properly prepared to step into autonomous leadership, but once the changes were initiated there was nothing to do but continue. Since the UPCI missionaries in Ecuador were involved, UPCI general officials met with the officials of the UPC of Colombia in January 1969 to resolve the issues.

The UPCI delegation requested that the UPC of Colombia's National Board create a policy to cover the presence of the missionaries. This policy would be presented to the UPCI of North America, the UPC of Eastern Canada, and the UPC of Colombia. In June 1969 the Colombian church presented the new policy to the General Assembly, but it was not voted on because the question of the future role of the missionaries in Colombia had created a barrier. Tom Fred Tenney, as the new general director of Foreign Missions, appealed to the delegates at a meeting in December 1969:

We do not try to place blame. Jesus' Great Commission is above any organization. The unity of the church is more spiritual than organic. It is a higher order than an organization. We are all in the church of Jesus Christ. . . . Mutual understanding on a spiritual plane, regardless of organization, should be achieved. As an illustration, in a parent and child relationship, after the child is grown, there is mutual love and respect. We do not want the United Pentecostal Church of Colombia divided. It is not the will of God. The missionaries believe this. Cannot we work out something on the spiritual plane? The missionaries have told us that it is the will of God for them to stay in Colombia. We must accept this.

We love the Colombian brethren. You are our brethren, our family. It is not in our heart to bring about a division. Our missionaries have declared that it is the will of God to continue to work here. We cannot tell anyone what the will of God is.⁴⁷⁰

Chaos between Colombia and Ecuador Is Later Alleviated

In a meeting on August 22, 1975, in Colombia, South America, missionaries Thompson and Morley and a committee that represented the National Board of Colombia discussed working together in love and fellowship as brothers. Together they worked out an amicable agreement. However, the next day in a meeting with the full Colombian board, the attitude had changed completely and the agreement was annulled. Finally they agreed to work together without an official agreement and that the missionaries would work independently of the Colombian National Board.

In that meeting, Brother Tenney explained to the officials of the UPC of Colombia that when Daniel Scott had arrived in Ecuador in the spring of 1969, he found the work in chaos because of the separation of the Colombian church. Many of the national pastors were disturbed because of the ruptured relationship with North America and because Lucile Farmer, who had financed her portion of the responsibility, had been left with only a small congregation. However, with revival escalating throughout the country over the past year, this obstacle had been overcome. The hope was that time would heal the wounds, and the Colombian/Ecuadorian family would function in harmony and work diligently toward that end.

⁴⁶⁹ Ralph Reynolds and Joyce Morehouse, *From the Rising of the Sun* (New Westminster, BC: Conexions, 1998), 149.

⁴⁷⁰ Minutes: Colombia Nationalization (December 17, 1969).

Lloyd Moreau Arrives in New Zealand

In the fall of 1969 Lloyd and Loretta Moreau arrived in New Zealand as the country's first UPCI missionaries. They rented a hall in Auckland and began holding services. Brother Moreau found a Maori preacher who had received the revelation of the oneness of God and Jesus Name baptism some three years previously. The Maoris are the native people of New Zealand.

The 1970 Foreign Missions Board

The 1970 FMB consisted of T. F. Tenney, general director; Paul Box, secretary; Edwin Judd, director of promotion; and board members W. J. Rolston, F. V. Shoemake, Hulon Myre, Carl Stephenson, J. C. Cole, and Robert McFarland.⁴⁷¹

Brother Tenney's stirring admonitions were well received among the pastors concerned about the growing missionary family, and his programs were a clarion call to the missionaries throughout the world. His rhetoric centered on Holy Ghost priorities. He wrote in the *Global Witness*:

A big effort—but little results. That is exactly what Peter could have said. For the Bible declared, “We have toiled all night, we have caught nothing.” What a disappointment! What unrewarded effort!

It was then that Jesus came and said, “Let down the nets.” Undoubtedly this command brought confusion to the weary disciples. These men were laborers. They were tired. Their work had been hard and sincere. They were skilled fishermen. But with all their energies expended, with all their skill, the fact remains they caught nothing. It was then they learned the secret of giving priority to the command of Jesus. One act of His command can bring more results than a thousand acts at the command of any other man. . . .

As we look across the world today, let us sincerely ask our Lord to help us with, and cooperate with, every move of the Spirit wherever it might be. Just what syllable of the work will the Holy Ghost accent next? Will it be Japan, with its hundred million plus Christless masses? Only one half of one percent of those in the land of the rising sun profess Christianity of any kind. Pray for revival in Japan! Could it be that Europe, the land of Luther and the Reformation, will yet have a Twentieth Century reformation of full apostolic truth? Our missionaries there are fearlessly declaring the whole counsel of God. Pray for revival in Europe! It might be Australia. It might be Africa. May our hearts be tuned to Heaven and our ears be attuned to the Holy Ghost. May God give us a spirit of unselfishness and a willingness to let special task forces and money be dispatched to any area when it is discerned that the angel is troubling the waters. Yes, let us pray for worldwide revival in this hour.⁴⁷²

The church's ultimate goal will not be achieved until every people group in the world has heard the gospel and been given an opportunity to embrace an eternal destiny. Through its burden to reach the lost, the UPCI became an energized unit with an objective to reach into every culture and people with the message of salvation. For the members of the local churches, a zeal for missions had created a brand new hour. For the missionaries, their previous strategy was beginning to change. The “central headquarters church” as a focus of operations was fading to allow a missionary to focus on an entire nation. For some it was hard to let go of the thought of a “mission station” to embrace a vision for an entire nation. But Tom Fred Tenney inspired missionaries to a limitless vision. It was not that past efforts were considered ineffective; however, old methods began to give way to new ones where world evangelism was a united effort focused on the message rather than on a missionary locked in place.

⁴⁷¹ “Foreign Missions Board,” *Global Witness* (January 1970): 2.

⁴⁷² T. F. Tenney, “Holy Ghost Priorities,” *Global Witness* (April 1970): 2.

The Partners in Missions Program⁴⁷³

In 1969 the FMD created Partners in Missions, a new program financed with a Faith Promise structure. It would be a tremendous leap forward to form partnerships between local assemblies and missionaries laboring on the field. Little did the pioneers of this program know that in the future all involved in foreign missions would rise to call them blessed. Partners in Missions would mean financial security for the missionary family. Edwin Judd had drafted the plans for the new plan under Oscar Vouga's leadership.

New plans to support the fabulous growth of missions around the world were certainly imperative. Funding for outgoing missionaries was becoming critical. No longer could the "designated" and "undesignated" funds system provide for the rapidly growing world missions program. Even though during Foreign Missions Day at the General Conference Hulon Myre had raised \$40,000⁴⁷⁴ for the outgoing missionaries, it was evident that something different was needed to produce the indispensable funds to fulfill the great commission.

The new program was approved during the 1969 General Conference, and former General Youth President Tom Fred Tenney was elected as the new general director of Foreign Missions.⁴⁷⁵ Under Brother Tenney's leadership, Brother Judd, who had been involved from the beginning, implemented the Partners in Missions plan.

Brother Tenney's innovative style brought new vision, which inspired greater participation among the constituency. It was the priority of achievement and not just timing that made PIMs the answer to the success of foreign missions. It was bold! It was new! It made world evangelism a personal achievement of the local church, and every local church could identify with a specific field. It met the needs of missionaries on a monthly basis, and they no longer suffered from lack of bare necessities.

Partners in Missions became the financial lifeline that made the UPCI Foreign Missions Division an example for missionary societies around the world.

Partners in Missions Immediately Escalates

The Partners in Missions program was presented at the 1969 General Conference. Missionaries who received appointment or reappointment at that conference became the pioneers of the plan. Within one year all of them had successfully subscribed enough pledges from PIM support and were on the field.

The missionaries appointed at the 1970 General Conference found it easier to solicit Partners in Missions support because the ministers and saints of our fellowship were more acquainted with the program. Churches that had become involved earlier had learned the blessing of such involvement and were eager to be identified with other fellow laborers who were going to the regions beyond.

Attention turned to the missionaries who had not been home since PIMs were introduced and to those who still needed PIM support. Because of the switch from the undesignated funds to PIMs, the dire shortage in the old funds created a dilemma for the missionaries on the field. However, the problem was eventually solved by constant, effective communication from the headquarters office to the fellowship about the need.

Missionaries Listed for Partners in Missions—1970⁴⁷⁶

As the Partners in Missions program gathered momentum, a list of the UPCI missionaries serving in the original four regions, along with their regional field supervisors, was formulated. This list appears

⁴⁷³ Edwin E. Judd, "Partners in Missions," *Pentecostal Herald* (January 1970): 8.

⁴⁷⁴ Paul H. Box, "Foreign Missions Day at General Conference," *Pentecostal Herald* (January 1970): 6.

⁴⁷⁵ Paul H. Box, "New Foreign Missions Director," *Pentecostal Herald* (January 1970): 21.

⁴⁷⁶ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (August 3–11, 1970).

in the minutes of the FMB meetings on August 3–11, 1970. The increase in missionary personnel was astounding!

Africa: RFS E. L. and Nona Freeman, Brother and Sister Basil Williams, Cameroon, West Africa; Kenneth and Bobbye Wendell, Ethiopia; Robert and Evangeline Rodenbush, Else Lund, and Edward and Amelia Allard, Ghana, West Africa; Brother and Sister W. H. Cupples and John R. and Jerri Harris, Kenya, East Africa; Denzil and Evelyn Bolton, Ena Hylton, and Valda Russell, Liberia, West Africa; Denzil and Freida Richardson and H. F. and Helen Shoemaker, Madagascar; H. E. and Mozelle Gerald, Nigeria; E. L. and Nona Freeman and Mack and Bobbie Carpenter, Republic of South Africa; and Wilma Ruth Nix, Rhodesia.

Asia and the South Pacific: RFS Harry and Audrene Scism; J. L. and Madeline Brian, Australia; Lee Roy and Becky Sherry, Western Australia; Harry and Audrene Scism and George and Margaret Shalm, India; George and Helen White, H. D. and Bonnie McCrury, Indonesia; J. Wesley Hall, and Frances Munsey, Japan; Elton and Loretta Bernard, Korea; Lloyd and Loretta Moreau, New Zealand; Fred K. and Betty Hyde, Carl and Evelyn Adams, Gordon and Afton Mallory, and Gary and Sandra Nepstad, Philippines; Don and Martha Dobyns, American Samoa; Everett and Lois Corcoran, Pakistan; and W. E. and Lena Scott, Hawaii. Although the work in Thailand was under national leadership, it was still under Billie Cole's supervision in 1970.

Europe and the Middle East: RFS Hulon Myre; Brother and Sister Fred Tinus, Austria; Mervyn D. and Marilyn Miller, George and Cheryl Craft, and George and Carolyn Duke, England; Brother and Sister B. D. Glaser, and Wayne and Esther Nigh, West Germany; Brother and Sister Robert Roh, The Netherlands; James and Patsy Wood, Iran; Thomas and Barbara Peavy, Italy; and Joseph and Eva Domingues, Portugal.

Latin America and the Caribbean: RFS Edwin E. and Evelyn Judd; John and Rachel Hattabaugh, H. D. and Sharon Yadon, and M. H. and Maxine Cunningham, Argentina; Robert D. and Jeanne Norris, Bennie and Theresa DeMerchant, Margaret S. Calhoun, Steve and Renee Baker, and Samuel B. and Lois Baker, Brazil; James and Billie Dotson, Chile; Lewis H. and Sallie Morley, and W. J. and Mollie Thompson, Colombia; Elga and Claree Battle, and Daniel and Joretta Scott, Ecuador; Paul and Beth Reynolds, Jamaica; Robert E. and Sue Beasley, Nicaragua; Robert L. and Patricia Nix, Paul and Helen Moulton, and Dale and Lolita Brown, Peru; Glen and Rachel Smith, and Ralph and Donna Holland, Puerto Rico; Fred and Vida Scott, Darrell and Donna Geissler, and Stanley and Ruth Baker, Uruguay; and James and Martha Burton, and Brother and Sister Stephen Barley, Venezuela;

Communication from Elizabeth Stieglitz

After her untiring work in China, her unfailing resolve during World War II, and the atrocities suffered by the missionary family, now a letter from Elizabeth Stieglitz, a great servant of God, arrived. She wrote:

Many thanks from my heart to you dear ones and those who gave and prayed. God bless and reward you is my prayer.

I would like to say more, but the Parkinson disease has been getting worse. . . . It stops me from doing many things I used to do. But, one thing the Parkinson disease cannot do is keep me from praying. . . . The Lord is good and precious to me. I am looking for Him to come.⁴⁷⁷

Besides Parkinson's disease, Elizabeth suffered with severe heart problems and was expected to live only a year at the most. However, God gave her a reprieve. The stamina that sustained missionaries on the field many times provided strength for enduring illness as well.

⁴⁷⁷ Elizabeth Stieglitz, "Pasadena, California," *Global Witness* (March 1970): 4.

Robert and Evangeline Rodenbush Arrive in Ghana

Almost immediately after the Rodenbushes arrived in Ghana in October 1969, the work exploded. They threw themselves into the work, establishing sixteen churches in one year from a beginning of three. Robert Rodenbush wrote:

We've been able to start two more churches this month. One in Kumasi and one in Osu. I preached 18 times at 15 different churches and Sister Rodenbush spoke five times at four different churches this month. Sixteen were baptized. Fourteen received the Holy Spirit. Since arriving on October 6th, 73 have been baptized and 60 have received the Holy Ghost.⁴⁷⁸

Thailand

Asia was being impacted as well! William Cole and other leaders of the work in Thailand began an intensive visitation of all the churches. During the first two weeks, a number were baptized in Jesus' name and twenty-five were filled with the Holy Spirit.⁴⁷⁹

First Convert Baptized in Madagascar

Denzil Richardson baptized his first convert in Madagascar. He wrote:

We were thrilled and excited today [February 1, 1970] for we were privileged to conduct our first service and declare this great truth for the first time from the pulpit in this great red island. . . . At the close of the first service, a young university student to whom they had been witnessing desired to be baptized in Jesus name.⁴⁸⁰

The August/September 1970 *Global Witness* reported that Denzil and Freida Richardson baptized twenty-four in their work in Madagascar. On June 21 they had a Sunday service attendance of 125. Sister Richardson was recovering well after a surgery.⁴⁸¹

Ecuador Initiates Pastoral Training

To meet the needs of a rapidly expanding work, Elga Battle and Daniel Scott developed a program for training national leadership through ministerial retreats. They felt this would not only relieve administrative duties but also inspire greater national evangelization and improve pulpit ministry. They taught that leaders must display interest, vision, a zeal for growth, and develop an inherent enthusiasm in order to become key figures in world evangelism. Believers rely on the leaders to bridge the gap between being a spectator and a participator. To train such pacesetters, the missionaries distributed books on church history and prayer at every retreat for pastors and ministers. They taught the Ecuadorian pastors to set the example of prayer and giving to the cause. Every pulpit began to instill new values in the believers.

As a result, Ecuador began to explode into action and the country became a cauldron of revival! Within six months twenty-five new churches were established,⁴⁸² and the pastors of the previously existing churches were reaching for excellence. A national evangelist was appointed with crusades planned throughout Ecuador. Elga and Claree Battle had joined the Daniel Scotts in September 1969, and

⁴⁷⁸ "Foreign Field Flashes," *Global Witness* (March 1970): 4.

⁴⁷⁹ Ibid.

⁴⁸⁰ Quoted in Edwin E. Judd, "First Convert in Madagascar," *Global Witness* (April 1970): 2.

⁴⁸¹ "Foreign Field Flashes," *Global Witness* (March 1970): 4.

⁴⁸² Daniel Scott, "Annual Report to the Ecuadorian National Board," April 1970.

together they began to reap a rich harvest. Approximately two hundred were baptized in the ensuing seven months.

Europe Needs More Missionaries

Under the leadership of Field Superintendent Mervyn Miller the outreach throughout Europe and the British Isles advanced. Brother Miller reported two new works in major cities in the British Isles. Wayne Nigh, servicemen's representative to Europe, was scheduled for Easter week services in a military base in Britain and in the London church, while Billy Glaser in Germany reported that several had been filled with the Holy Spirit and baptized in Jesus' name. Of Italy Brother Miller said, "Of all the countries of Europe where I have visited, Italy would get my vote for needing a missionary urgently. . . . An Italian speaking missionary would have three good works to begin from, and the doors are opening for more."⁴⁸³

International Evangelism: Leo Upton, W. H. Cole, and Doyle Spears

With Leo Upton's endorsement as an international evangelist at the 1969 General Conference and W. H. Cole and Doyle Spears's subsequent endorsements for overseas evangelistic tours in 1970, the UPCI foreign missions program entered into a new phase. Brother Upton's primary goal was to evangelize the Philippines, Indonesia, Australia, and New Zealand. By the hidden wisdom of God he routed his tour through Europe and India, and God marvelously moved in both of these fields. From mid-May to August 25, over two hundred were baptized with the Holy Spirit and forty-two were baptized in water in the name of Jesus.

Eight received the Holy Spirit in two services in Belgium. Eight also received the Holy Spirit in one service in a Parisian church. The Holy Spirit moved in Holland where Sister Kingman, wife of one of the Dutch pastors, was gloriously baptized according to Robert Roh. Missionaries Billy Glaser and Wayne Nigh also reported a great outpouring of the Holy Spirit in Germany and the military work.

India also experienced a Holy Ghost revival with over one hundred receiving the Holy Spirit.⁴⁸⁴

Burma and India

Field Superintendent Harry Scism wrote that evangelist Paula, leader of the UPC in the closed field of Burma, had 3,426 members in twenty-seven villages with fifteen pastors. Brother Scism further reported that thirty-one were filled with the Holy Ghost in five days of services in Shillong, Assam, Northeast India, during mid-August 1970.

Thirty-eight students enrolled in Calvary Bible Institute in Northeast India. Harry Scism states: "Three students traveled for four days without any food at all. Another three or four had food only twice in four days in order to get to the Bible School. Yet there is no word of complaint. They are thrilled to have the privilege of studying God's Word."⁴⁸⁵

Thirty-two new ministers were licensed in Northeast India, bringing the total of national ministers to 240.

Harry Scism and J. Damhuala were the speakers at the annual camp meeting at Intkheri, Central India. George Shalm was ill and unable to attend. Eleven received the Holy Ghost. Others were baptized in Jesus' name. Brother Scism wrote: "At times the Holy Ghost moved over the congregation in waves. Almost everyone who came there without the baptism of the Holy Ghost was filled before the meetings were over. Praise God for the mighty move of the Spirit at Intkheri."⁴⁸⁶

⁴⁸³ Mervyn Miller, "Report of Progress from Europe," *Global Witness* (May 1970): 1-2.

⁴⁸⁴ Edwin E. Judd, "Evangelizing," *Global Witness* (August-September 1970): 1, 3.

⁴⁸⁵ "Foreign Field Flashes," *Global Witness* (June-July 1970): 4.

⁴⁸⁶ "Foreign Field Flashes," *Global Witness* (October-November 1970): 4.

George Shalm gave a report on South India: “The various South India conventions are experiencing a real move of the Holy Ghost. In Bodi, eight were filled. In Trivandrum, ten were filled. In the first three nights of the Kottarakara meetings, ten had been filled. . . . There is a spirit of expectancy among the brethren.”⁴⁸⁷

In Adur, South India, Vernon Kirk reported five nights of special meetings during which two received the Holy Ghost, four were baptized in Jesus’ name, and two were healed.

Islands of the Pacific

General Superintendent Stanley Chambers traveled to Honolulu, Hawaii, on March 4, 1970, to speak at the dedication services for Calvary UPC. In the June/July 1970 *Global Witness* W. E. Scott is pictured in front of the beautiful new sanctuary.

Since L. T. Reynolds’s arrival on the Central Pacific island of Samoa on February 5, 1970, nine had been baptized in Jesus’ name and four had received the Holy Spirit. In the Philippines during the first two months of 1970, 250 were baptized in Jesus’ name and many filled with the Holy Ghost, according to Field Superintendent Carl Adams.

Carl Adams’s ministry in the Philippine Islands had been effective, but the work needed to be reorganized. Brother Adams, along with the missionaries laboring there, restructured the administration and began to develop national leaders who could in the future fill positions the missionaries were filling. Results increased overnight! Evangelist Leo Upton was on an evangelistic tour of the islands, and by December 1969, 455 had been filled with the Holy Ghost, including a ninety-one year old lady. The international office received a report that over nine hundred had been baptized in Jesus’ name in the Philippines during 1970. The three missionary families, Carl Adams, Gordon Mallory, and Gary Nepstad, shared in the responsibilities—and the rejoicing. They expressed appreciation for Leo Upton’s ministry.

Around the same time George and Helen White reported a tremendous outpouring of the Holy Ghost during three weeks of special evangelistic effort in Indonesia. From October 20 through November 11, 1970, W. H. and Shirley Cole and their daughter, Brenda, evangelized in this nation of over 100 million. In the first eleven days of services 250 received the Holy Ghost, 132 of these from the churches of Semarang.

From New Zealand, Lloyd Moreau wrote, “We have surmounted a mountain of opposition. I feel that there will be a reaping before long. There have been over 200 baptized in Jesus’ name during 1970.”⁴⁸⁸

South America

In 1970, one of Doyle Spears’s first evangelistic visits to the field was to Ecuador. E. O. Battle and Daniel Scott expressed keen excitement over their visit. In a ten-day camp meeting thirty-eight were filled with the Holy Ghost.

From Venezuela, James Burton reported that twelve new works had been started since the gathering a year ago, and the annual report now showed thirty-six churches with thirty-one licensed ministers. There were about 4,000 baptized believers in these churches. In the evening services of Venezuela’s 1969 National Convention, thirty-five were filled with the Holy Ghost, and others continued to receive their personal spiritual outpouring on the bus traveling home from the convention.

Lewis Morley from Colombia was the invited guest speaker for the first Peruvian National Convention. Twenty received the Holy Ghost, and Robert Nix and Dale Brown baptized the new converts. Later, Brother Nix saw fifteen filled with the Holy Ghost and sixteen baptized during a fourteen-day trip into southern Peru.

⁴⁸⁷ “Foreign Field Flashes: South India,” *Global Witness* (February 1971): 4.

⁴⁸⁸ “Foreign Field Flashes,” *Global Witness* (August–September 1970): 4.

James Dotson of Chile reported that six received the Holy Ghost in a revival, and Steve Baker wrote that two were baptized in the name of Jesus Christ and one filled with the Holy Ghost in Sao Paulo, Brazil. Also in Brazil, Margaret Calhoun reported that sixteen had received the Holy Ghost in Manaus, and thirteen in the interior since the DeMerchants had gone on furlough.

In Cali, Colombia, the Lord blessed Lewis and Sallie Morley with the purchase of two houses on adjoining properties in the Barrio Popular neighborhood. The patios provided sufficient space to build a chapel, leaving the living quarters on either side for the Morleys and a national pastor and his wife. The invited speakers for the dedication were Bill and Mollie Thompson from Bogotá and Daniel and Joretta Scott from Ecuador.

When the Scotts returned to Quito, Ecuador, the spiritual fervor felt in Colombia accompanied them. He reported eighty-one baptized in Jesus' name and twenty filled with the Holy Ghost. He further reported the firstfruits of missionary endeavor among the Colorado Indians. No other missionary society had been able to penetrate this Indian tribe, but they had opened the door to the United Pentecostal Church.

Missionary appointee M. H. Cunningham of Houston, Texas, was finally granted a visa to Argentina after an earlier application had been denied. The Cunninghams prepared to leave for the field by December 1970.

A New Missionary

On September 19, 1970, Loren William Baker was born. His father, Stanley Baker, reported that his son weighed nine pounds and four ounces. The missionary family was growing.

Missionary Wives Express Appreciation

On behalf of many missionary wives, Joretta Scott wrote a stirring article for the June/July 1970 *Global Witness*. Upon visiting several Ecuadorian villages, she realized more fully that her family's ministry in that beautiful country was facilitated by the joint efforts of the North American church. While the missionaries representing the message are specifically called by God to go to many remote areas of His world, the basic needs are universal. While driving an SFC automobile with the bright red-and-gold emblem on both sides, Sister Scott said, "I breathed a deep prayer, 'Thank God for Sheaves for Christ!'"

On her trip she crossed swinging bridges to reach the pockets of people living there, and seeing the poverty as the people offered the very best they possessed to honor the presence of the missionary, she remembered the appliances in her home provided by the Ladies Auxiliary. She expressed, "How can one adequately thank the ladies of the church for such royal gifts? While these things are not indispensable, how much time and effort are benefited, not to mention that previous to the purchase of appliances, I had cooked on a two burner stove fired by a bottle of propane, and washed the family's clothes in a tub using a washboard."

She recounted a conversation at the table with her family as they thanked God for the North American pastors and saints who provided the monthly support for renting meeting places in which to have services and for making payments on church properties: "It is impossible but to stop for a moment and say, 'Thank you for Partners in Missions. . . . We are here because God has called us, but you have a part in that calling—yes, all of you, United Pentecostal Church, pastors, saints, youth, and ladies' auxiliary. You have a big part and for this we say with the Apostle Paul, I thank God upon every remembrance of you.'"⁴⁸⁹

⁴⁸⁹ Joretta Scott, "Upon Every Remembrance," *Global Witness* (June–July 1970): 3.

Africa

Field Superintendent Basil Williams reported that Pauline Gruse had recovered from surgery performed in December 1969 but now had symptoms of angina from progressive heart disease. The FMB authorized Sister Gruse to come home on furlough if she desired, but she emphatically stated, “Of course I was urged to come home. But I do not want to come home!!! Most of all I want to give Him whom I love a bit more of my life, time, and ministry, small as it may be and seem at times.”⁴⁹⁰ Eight more received the Holy Ghost in the Fassama Station in Liberia.

In Monrovia, the Denzil Boltons, new arrivals in Liberia, saw ten people baptized in Jesus’ name and eight filled with the Holy Ghost at Bomi Hills. Ena Hylton oversaw the Bomi Hills work. Denzil Bolton reported that the Monrovia headquarters church’s Sunday school attendance record was broken with 102. Two men from Nigeria, both of them preachers who had been filled with the Holy Ghost, accepted baptism in Jesus’ name.

Ghana’s Field Superintendent Robert Rodenbush traveled to Nigeria and was encouraged by the progress of the works there. Attempts were being made to gain official recognition for the UPCI in that most populous of African nations.

Field Superintendent E. L. Freeman visited Wilma Ruth Nix late in August 1970. A tribal chief had given permission to construct a church building on tribal land. This was a real miracle! Five were baptized in Jesus’ name, and three received the Holy Ghost, including the tribal chief’s daughter-in-law. Wilma reported that in 1970, thirty-seven were baptized and twenty-three received the Holy Ghost in Rhodesia.⁴⁹¹

Another West African country opened to the UPCI. Under the leadership of Field Superintendent Robert Rodenbush, the UPC of Ghana sent its first missionary to Togoland. The Ghanaian work experienced phenomenal growth during Brother Rodenbush’s first year of ministry there. The number of churches increased from twelve to thirty with several other preaching points. There were now twenty-six licensed Ghanaian ministers. Reports showed that 762 had been baptized and 624 had been filled with the Holy Spirit during 1970, and one term of their College of the Bible had been completed. Enrollment for the second term doubled.

In a letter dated April 22, 1970, Kenneth Wendell of Ethiopia stated, “Since last month there have been 127 baptized in Jesus’ name and over 80 of these have received the Holy Ghost. This outpouring has been mainly in the south where we have visited and where Brother Teklemariam, the evangelist we baptized last October, is preaching. . . . The Lord is moving in a very definite way.”⁴⁹²

From Durban, South Africa, Mack Carpenter reported that over two hundred were baptized in Jesus’ name.

Church Dedication in Hawaii

It was a great day in the lives of W. E. and Lena Scott—the dedication of their beautiful church in Hawaii. General Superintendent S. W. Chambers and FM Director T. F. Tenney were the guest speakers for the dedication service:

It was a great privilege for Sister Chambers and me to be in Honolulu, Hawaii from March 13-20, [1970] and with the wonderful missionary family, our Brother and Sister W. E. Scott, on March 14. We were honored to be able to help dedicate the beautiful church which Brother Scott and the congregation have built in Honolulu. This is an outstanding achievement, and we have a work in Honolulu with which we are pleased.⁴⁹³

⁴⁹⁰ “Foreign Field Flashes,” *Global Witness* (May 1970): 3.

⁴⁹¹ *Ibid.*, 4.

⁴⁹² “Foreign Field Flashes,” *Global Witness* (June–July 1970): 4.

⁴⁹³ S. W. Chambers, “From the General Superintendent,” *Pentecostal Herald* (July 1970): 4.

In the Caribbean

Glen and Rachel Smith, home on furlough in 1970 from Puerto Rico, were excited about the future of the Caribbean area. They told of the Lord's blessings in Puerto Rico and informed the FMB that there were now 125 groups, 3,500 baptized in Jesus' name, and 150–160 pastors and workers in Puerto Rico. All of this growth demanded more help for the work. They wished to open a Bible training school in San Juan, Puerto Rico, which would be taught in three languages. They had found a building to rent for \$100–\$125 per month that could be easily converted into a Bible school with dormitory space. The Bible school would be a great blessing for the work in all the Caribbean islands. The board endorsed Brother and Sister Smith to open a short-term Bible school in Puerto Rico subject to future cost estimates.⁴⁹⁴

The FMB further resolved that Glen Smith be made the legal representative to establish charters in the Caribbean islands with the exception of Jamaica.

Jamaica enjoyed the ministry of evangelist Paul Haygood during which twenty-one received the Holy Ghost. Out of nineteen reporting churches of the fifty on the island, 610 had been baptized in Jesus' name and 443 had received the Holy Ghost. Paul Reynolds estimated that at least 2,000 had received this experience throughout all the Jamaican churches during Brother Haygood's visit to Jamaica.

National Leadership for Jamaica

The March 1970 FMB meeting considered the work in Jamaica and the move toward national leadership. Jamaican leaders and workers wanted to elect their own national superintendent with the details to be worked out in an equitable manner between the UPCI general director of Foreign Missions and the district board of Jamaica. The FMB recommended to the General Board that their request be accepted and that they be permitted to elect their own superintendent in their 1971 conference.⁴⁹⁵

However, this agreement was not implemented at the 1971 Jamaican conference. Perhaps for the love of their missionary superintendent, Paul Reynolds, or the need to give additional time for the proper climate, it was delayed. In 1976 Paul Reynolds decided to return to Canada to pastor a church in New Westminster, British Columbia. Brother Reynolds assured the FMB that the work in Jamaica had reached the point of maturity where it could transition to a national leadership.

In 1977, the thirty-first annual conference of the UPC of Jamaica was a historic one. A good representation of ministers and saints gathered to witness the election of officers. Norman J. Houslin was elected as the first native-born superintendent, as well as other officials: David Gallimore, national secretary-treasurer; W. S. Stewart, national missions director; E. N. Green, Eastern District superintendent; David Smith, Central District superintendent; and A. T. Palmer, Western District superintendent.⁴⁹⁶

Resignation of FMB Member W. J. Rolston

During the June 1970 FMB sessions, W. J. Rolston's resignation letter was read to the board. After expressing appreciation for his many years of faithful and valuable service, the board accepted his resignation.

⁴⁹⁴ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (June 3, 1970): 3.

⁴⁹⁵ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (March 4, 1970): 5.

⁴⁹⁶ Lorna Hall, *A Rich Heritage* (Kingston, Jamaica: Montrose Graphics Ltd., 2003), 91–92.

Paul Leaman Appointed to the Foreign Missions Board

The General Board appointed Paul Leaman of Detroit, Michigan, to the Foreign Missions Board to fill Brother Rolston's unexpired term. When the August 1970 board sessions opened, Brother Tenney presented and welcomed Paul Leaman to the board.⁴⁹⁷

International Youth Corp

Kenneth Haney, president of the Pentecostal Conquerors, met the FMB about creating an International Youth Corp in which young people could qualify for home missions work or go during the summers for thirty days at their own expense to a foreign missionary field. The board favored the idea, subject to approval by the General Youth Division.⁴⁹⁸

Administrative Expenses Questioned

The enemy always drags out some unexpected issue in an attempt to put a damper on spiritual revival. Money seems to be involved so much of the time. The FMB again had to address questions from many North American pastors about 5 percent being deducted from the missionary income for the headquarters building project, "Fair Share from Everywhere," which would cover the costs of adding the third floor to World Evangelism Center.

The FMD's only source of income for the building project was 5 percent from the missionary support. From August 1, 1969, to April 30, 1970, this amounted to \$22,434.81, along with the 10 percent for the division's administrative operations. This totaled 15 percent. When the building project was completed, the 5 percent automatic deduction was abolished, leaving the 10 percent administrative deduction, which had been in place since 1932 when W. T. Witherspoon was the FM chairman for the PAJC and which continued after the merger.

Since the FMD has no annual fund-raising program from which to fund administrative costs (whereas other divisions extract administrative costs from their annual fund-raisers), it leaves Foreign Missions as the only division regulated by the 10 percent rule. To this day, many local pastors do not understand this.

India Restructured

On October 29, 1968, the UPCI Foreign Missions Board authorized the reorganization of the UPC of India. In March 1970, the board further approved the division of the country into two districts—the UPC of India and the UPC of Northeast India, provided that the general director of Foreign Missions was present at the reorganization meetings.⁴⁹⁹

Fruit of Missionary Work Remains in Middle East

In early 1970, evangelist Peter Isaac wrote from Beirut, Lebanon, to the FMD, telling of his ministerial activities. He was pastoring a Oneness Pentecostal church with members in both Lebanon and Syria. Timothy D. Urshan had baptized Brother Isaac in the Jordan River in the mid-1930s, and Brother Isaac received the Holy Ghost. Sister Isaac became involved under the ministry of J. B. Thomas in 1932.

Brother Isaac wrote that since 1968 he had ministered in Iran, Kuwait, and Turkey, as well as in Lebanon and Syria. Lacking transportation, he walked on foot from village to village preaching to the

⁴⁹⁷ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (August 5, 1970): 8.

⁴⁹⁸ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (March 3, 1970): 2.

⁴⁹⁹ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (March 4, 1970): 2.

Assyrians and drawing believers into local fellowships, appointing elders, and exhorting the believers. He was anxious to return to the Assyrian assemblies in Turkey in the spring to minister in that mountainous and forsaken area. He wanted the UPCI to know that the ministry of the church was continuing, and that the fruit of former laborers remained in these Middle Eastern countries even during troublesome times. Thank God for this remaining fruit of former laborers and for the continuing witness of this gospel message in these troubled Middle Eastern countries.⁵⁰⁰

Elton Bernard Reports from Korea

Forty-six received the Holy Ghost and fourteen were baptized during a series of youth-week revivals in four churches in Korea, according to Elton Bernard. Also, during July and August 1970, 141 were filled with the Holy Ghost.

The first youth week revival was in the headquarters church in Seoul. In this meeting one grandmother was not able to raise her right arm. After the sermon, "I Believe in the Miracle of Healing," they prayed for the sick and the Lord wonderfully healed this lady. The ones holding sheaves in the picture to the left are some of those who received the Holy Ghost in the headquarters revival. The others in the picture are the youth committee who worked hard to make the revival a success. The two young ladies in the other picture also received the Holy Ghost in this revival. The shorter one is testifying as this picture was taken. She is from a Buddhist family, is a complete invalid, and knew nothing about Christianity or Pentecost before coming to the church in Seoul. Her brother and cousin also received the Holy Ghost.

In one of the youth week revivals in the country another grandmother received prayer for healing. She had a swollen leg and had not been able to walk for fifteen days. After prayer the swelling went down instantly and she danced about the church. The next day she fixed dinner for the pastor, and evangelist.⁵⁰¹

Bible School Dedicated in India

The work in Northeast India was strong: strong in the Lord, strong in evangelism, strong and fervent in the work of the church, and strong in the leadership of RFS Harry Scism. J. Damhuala, assistant superintendent, also gave effective leadership and guidance.

There had been great revival in this area, and the number of believers was estimated around forty thousand. The first wave of revival during the 1950s had brought severe persecution, and many believers had done penal work, digging a huge reservoir in Aizawl. But faithfulness brought great dividends.

The 1970 conference of this district marked an important event: the dedication of the new headquarters property. The cost of the property was \$16,000, supplied in great part by the North American saints. The new facilities included a hall for services, office space, rooms for Calvary Bible School, kitchen and dining building, and a house for the assistant superintendent.

Dedication day was marked with great joy and praise. The congregation assembled outside for Scripture reading, broke the ribbon, and entered the building to the sounds of drums, singing, worship, weeping, and dancing. FM Director T. F. Tenney preached the dedicatory message. Brother Scism and Brother Damhuala directed and participated in the ceremonies and service. The entire district board was in attendance.⁵⁰²

Worldwide Thrust Sunday

A number of the foreign fields joined with the North American church during the 1970 Worldwide Thrust drive. Paul Reynolds reported over nine thousand in Sunday school in their attendance drive in

⁵⁰⁰ Peter Isaac, "Fruits of Missionary Work Remain," *Global Witness* (April 1970): 4.

⁵⁰¹ Elton Bernard, "Miracles Accompany Korean Youth Week," *Global Witness* (April 1970): 1.

⁵⁰² T. F. Tenney, "Bible School Dedication," *Global Witness* (April 1970): 2.

Jamaica, Robert Rodenbush reported four thousand in Ghana, and Daniel Scott reported over three thousand in Ecuador.

Death of Mary Cole⁵⁰³

All of those related to the foreign missionary cause felt a great sense of loss at the passing of Mary Cole on December 9, 1970. She was the wife of J. C. Cole, FMB member, and the mother of missionary evangelist W. H. Cole, who was in India when word of his mother's death reached him. To the international family, she was the founder of the UPCI Ladies Auxiliary, a ministry designed to serve the needs of missionaries. Her vision for ladies' ministries had brought smiles to lonesome missionaries as the Christmas Cheer check arrived from the Ladies Auxiliary; someone remembered! Financial assistance from the Ladies Auxiliary underwrote many Bible school students who otherwise might not have been able to enjoy the training which prepared them for evangelistic and pastoral ministries.

The fruits of Mary Cole's labors—souls in the kingdom of God around the world—remain and will bring forth continually until the coming of the Lord.

Ecuador, the Cradle of Revival

The growing work in Ecuador adopted FM Director Tom Fred Tenney's terminology: "Ecuador, the cradle of revival!" Elga Battle and Daniel Scott traveled constantly to fan the flames of revival and to oversee the work. In two years, twenty-six church buildings were constructed and pastoral seminars were conducted quarterly. Hundreds were swept into the kingdom as national ministers developed evangelistic abilities. As the work expanded, the Articles of Faith and Constitution of the UPCI of Ecuador were presented and approved by the FMB.⁵⁰⁴

The Ecuadorian Church Granted Legal Recognition

With its constitution approved by the UPCI Foreign Missions Board, the Ecuadorian government gave official recognition to the Ecuadorian church on November 20, 1970. The charter was published in the official register number 114, charter number 550.⁵⁰⁵

The Colombian missionary arm to Ecuador under the leadership of Miguel Peña applied for a modification to their official charter that had been granted in September 1968; they wanted to change their name from the Apostolic Evangelical Church of Ecuador to the United Pentecostal Church of Ecuador. But the petition was denied, and due to unfulfilled legal requirements, the government also withdrew the legal status provided in the original decree.⁵⁰⁶ Daniel Scott promised every effort to assist Brother Peña in obtaining legal status, but government officials remained steadfast in their decision.

Bible School Approved for Ghana

Robert Rodenbush of Ghana wrote a letter to the FMB, citing the need for a Bible school. The board approved the petition.⁵⁰⁷ Brother Rodenbush also asked to purchase land for a central church in Accra, Ghana. The land would cost approximately \$1,000, the lawyer's fee would be \$600, and the cost would also have a 10 percent stipulation for further fees. After discussion, the FMB approved Brother Rodenbush's request.

⁵⁰³ Edwin E. Judd, "Her Fruits Remain," *Global Witness* (February 1971): 1.

⁵⁰⁴ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (June 3, 1970): 5.

⁵⁰⁵ Ecuador Official Register #114 (December 4, 1970): 10–11.

⁵⁰⁶ Ecuador Official Register #113 (December 3, 1970): 11.

⁵⁰⁷ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (June 3, 1970): 7.

James Wood Appointed to Iran

James and Patsy Wood of Dupon, Illinois, expressed to the FMB their burden for the Middle East, especially Iran. After discussion, the board recommended the appointment of the Woods as missionaries to Iran.⁵⁰⁸

Patsy Wood had suffered from physical problems, and the board advised the Woods that she have a complete physical examination and a report sent to the FMB before they left for the field.

Other missionary appointments were as follows:

- Fred K. Hyde to Indonesia
- John R. Harris to Ethiopia
- Basil Williams to Cameroon, Africa

Headquarters Church Property for Ecuador

The board approved the request of Elga Battle, field superintendent of Ecuador, to purchase property for a headquarters church in Quito, Ecuador. The board requested that final details be worked out between the Foreign Missions Executive Committee, Elga Battle, and Daniel Scott.

Evaluation Committees

To increase awareness of missions, FM Director T. F. Tenney formed two ministerial committees which met to make an in-depth study of the FM policy and program. One committee was composed of concerned pastors. This committee would provide the local church pastor's viewpoint. Serving on this committee were James Kilgore, chairman, Howard Davis, Winfred Black, V. Arlon Guidroz, Jack Yonts, Paul Leaman, and T. L. Craft.

A second committee was composed of missionaries who had served, or were serving in active missionary capacity. Named to this committee were Robert McFarland, chairman, E. L. Scism, A. D. Varnado, Harry Scism, W. H. Cole, J. L. Brian, Samuel Latta, and James Dotson.

These two committees produced many progressive recommendations for updating the present policy as well as other forward moves for the missionary endeavors of the church. These recommendations were to be considered by the FMB in its meeting March 3–5, 1970.⁵⁰⁹

Missionary Children at Risk

One of the greatest concerns of missionaries is that while they reach out to the unsaved of the world, their own children are at risk. Usually missionary children are young and immature when the family is appointed. As the children become acclimated to the field and begin to mature in a new culture, the missionary's heart becomes heavy. Questions arise: What should we do about a maturing young daughter or son? What about the children's spiritual welfare? Have we come to seek others for Christ at the risk of our own family's salvation? These questions weigh heavily upon the parents' minds.

Missionary children grow up in an adopted country and adapt to the new culture. They learn to speak the new language with a fluency that many times surpasses the parents' abilities. However, the underlying reality is that many missionary children have emotional struggles because they are never totally accepted by the adopted culture. Though they are loved and respected, they remain marginalized. Despite this many missionary children are able to join in the work and become an integral part of it. But even then, when conflict emerges in the work—as it often does—a distance between the people and the

⁵⁰⁸ Minutes: Foreign Missions Board (August 4, 1970): 5.

⁵⁰⁹ Edwin E. Judd, "Committee Studies Missionary Policy," *Global Witness* (April 1970): 2.

MKs is apparent. Upon returning to the homeland, missionary children discover the same problem there. Having grown up in a foreign culture, they are not fully accepted by either, nor rejected by either. Local congregations in their homeland admire them, but the people often remain aloof because they are MKs, and all the time what missionary children long for is to be a normal part of their surroundings. This tremendous price paid by missionary families needs to be acknowledged and appreciated, since missionaries represent the homeland churches in the regions beyond.

Then there is the question of civil war. Missionary children often grow up in volatile environments because many countries have civil eruptions and strife. These unfortunate experiences are suddenly thrust upon missionary families. Children may witness hideous and bloody conflicts as they dodge bullets, see decapitated bodies lying in the street, and mutilations inflicted by opposing forces. It would be ludicrous to think they are not impacted by these events.

When missionary children receive the Holy Ghost, their parents' fears begin to diminish. An example of this is Harry Scism's children. Among the 176 that received the Holy Ghost during Leo Upton's visit to Landour, India, were the two Scism children, Stanley and Loretta.

However, the missionary continues to work, committing the questions and answers into the Lord's hands.

The Whole Gospel to the Whole World by the Whole Church

The great commission is not only for North America, but for every nation. With the benefits of the message comes responsibility. Edwin Judd once wrote, "The Bible does not grant the right of individual determination on the basis of personal conscience. There is no right of dissent."⁵¹⁰

No personal ambition or dream should dim the global vision or dampen the zeal of any local church anywhere in the world. Isolationism and selfishness do not belong in true Christianity. Jesus' purpose was revealed in His appeal to the multitude as He touched Zacchaeus's life: "The Son of Man is come to seek and to save that which was lost." Then he said, "So send I you!" The purpose of the gospel is clear and it is the responsibility of every believer.

Staying on the Cutting Edge of World Evangelism

The two-thousand-year history of the church has seen a continuing dialogue—often stressful—between timeless truth and timely change. However, the relentless pursuit of world evangelism is greatly benefited by such dialogue because it produces an invaluable exchange of ideas.

While the truth remains constant in a world of change, new ideas are essential to stimulate the church's effectiveness in its responsibility to serve each generation. Evangelization must be the continuing priority. It follows that methods must keep abreast of changing times while retaining the foundational apostolic truths.

Coupling this constant preservation of the church's purpose in the world and the need to respond to current innovation, the UPCI has striven to remain on the cutting edge of world evangelism. Missionaries have been willing to answer the demands to constantly modify their strategies for optimum effectiveness.

The church's primary reason for existence is to evangelize the world's dramatically increasing population. Missionaries are sent not to change the people's culture, but to change their sinful nature. By utilizing language and culture as evangelistic tools and incorporating what works into their evangelism program, before the conclusion of 1970 foreign missions had greatly advanced its missionary endeavors. Interestingly, one of the slogans of the 1970s was, "We cannot do today's job with yesterday's methods and expect to stay in business tomorrow."

⁵¹⁰ Edwin E. Judd, "Foreign Policy," *Global Witness* (November 1968): 2.

❧ Chapter 8 ❧

The Decade of Change: 1971–1980

Missionaries who served during the 1970s will definitely remember the Decade of Change. It seemed that new programs were announced with increasing frequency. Previous decades had furnished few amenities, but this decade would provide greater security for missionaries. Also, the administrative arm added several new strategies, including a midlevel management team called regional field supervisors and two training venues, one for missionaries called the School of Missions and the other for national ministers called Overseas Ministries. Growth brought increased responsibility but more importantly, more involvement! While responsibility and benefit became an increasingly challenging cycle, an atmosphere of positive change prevailed.

The UPCI missionary program was characterized by careful, assertive planning balanced by spontaneous revision and modification. World evangelism had become a challenge that demanded the inclusion of every member of the UPCI, from the most recent convert to the most seasoned member.

Missionaries differ from stateside pastors in that they develop leaders to eventually assume the responsibility of leadership on a national scale. The purpose is to create a self-governing national church organization. Therefore, on the cusp of the new decade the priority shifted from problem solving to relationship building. In the 1970s, development and training became top priorities until the work could be placed in the hands of emerging national leaders. With this strategy missionaries could slowly extricate themselves from administrative work and give themselves to evangelism and training. The process is much like a son who is sent to mow the lawn. He learns as he works, and as he performs the task, time and experience translate to efficiency. With this being said, the missionary's goal is not to create a personal kingdom but rather to produce a self-governing church.

Therefore, the willingness to transfer administrative responsibility to national leadership—despite potential problems—suggests limitless opportunities as those indigenous to the culture propel evangelism to ever higher levels. The bottom line is that the world must be effectively evangelized.

This Decade of Change called for more than merely identifying the problems the church had been battling for years; it called for modifying the methods and creating effective solutions. It was like the dawning of a new day when the pastoral and missionary committees replaced time-honored but tired practices with new and exciting strategies. Terminologies were fine-tuned to clearly identify priorities and goals. The terms “central” or “headquarters” church were modified on most fields to eliminate the superior status of the church dominated by missionary personnel; under a national pastor the “headquarters” church became one of the local churches listed in the church directory, and the missionary was free to focus on evangelism for the entire country. The mission compound concept was eclipsed by the concept of a missionary family appointed to serve an entire country.

Director Tom Fred Tenney's leadership propelled the FM program to unprecedented levels. This is not to say that other directors had not been as effective in their day. But this new day with new challenges opened the Decade of Change! Brother Tenney encouraged missionaries to leave pastoring a local church or directing a mission compound so that the work could advance on a national scale.

Then a new voice added an important phrase to the UPCI slogan, *The whole gospel to the whole world . . . by the whole church!* As the FM Promotions Director, Edwin E. Judd, working closely with T. F. Tenney, took on the task of raising the finances necessary to accomplish the modifications suggested by pastoral committees and planning sessions. He repeatedly encouraged every member of every local church to enter the work force. He urged the North American church to join in a great partnership,

through the Partners in Missions program, to achieve the church's common goal. PIM forged a close personal partnership between the "going missionary" and his "fellow helpers" at home. E. E. Judd wrote, "Consider this revolutionary potential for foreign missionary involvement. Identify yourself and your church with specific foreign missionary endeavors by choosing your Partners in Missions and regularly fulfill[ing] your commitment in order that it may be said of you, 'Beloved, thou doest faithfully whatsoever thou doest to the brethren' (III John 5)."⁵¹¹

Brother Judd wrote a series of articles in the *Global Witness* that ended each issue with a missionary list and an enrollment blank that gave suggested monthly commitments. Many churches bought into the program and increased the finances, which allowed for an increasing number of missionaries to enter the foreign harvest fields.

Jack Yonts

Jack Yonts felt such a burden for Japan that he resigned his church in Madison, Wisconsin, and his other offices in the Wisconsin District. Brother Hall was due for a furlough, and there was no replacement as yet. Brother Yonts was scheduled to come to the School of Missions seminar to meet with the Foreign Missions Board.⁵¹²

However, before any action could be taken, God turned events in a different direction when Jack Yonts was elected as the general director of Home Missions. Jack Yonts would have made a tremendous missionary.

Ralph Holland to Puerto Rico

Ralph and Donna Holland spoke with the FMB about their burden to go to the Caribbean as assistant missionaries to Glen and Rachel Smith. After discussion, the board recommended that they be appointed as missionaries to the Caribbean.⁵¹³

Hospitalization and Social Security Benefits for Missionaries

The 1971 FMB also discussed changes in missionary policy that would provide hospitalization and Social Security benefits for missionaries on the field:

Resolved that we pay from each missionary's PIM, their health and hospitalization insurance for American missionaries and those from other countries, where possible.

Further resolved that we pay one-half of the Social Security of missionaries on the field in 1970. This shall be the last half of 1970 and shall be based upon the personal allowance and housing received while on the field.

Further resolved that beginning with the first of 1971, the total amount of Social Security will be taken care of with missionary PIM. We will also take care of the health and insurance for those on the field as it was made available to our missionaries for the year of 1970.⁵¹⁴

Missionary Appointments

During the January 23–28, 1971, FMB sessions, Henry and Bonnie McCrury of Tennessee met the FMB concerning their burden for Indonesia, and the board recommended that they be appointed.

Thomas and Barbara Peavy talked with the board about their burden for Italy. They came very highly recommended, and the board therefore approved their appointment.

⁵¹¹ Edwin E. Judd, "Fellow Helpers to the Truth," *Global Witness* (November–December): 2.

⁵¹² Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (January 24, 1971): 5.

⁵¹³ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (January 25, 1971): 8.

⁵¹⁴ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (January 25, 1971): 9.

A series of events nudged world evangelism ever forward:

- The Colombian revival had swept southward across national borders to leave practically no major city of South America untouched.
- Carl Adams's leadership was accelerating the Philippine revival as it spread to the length and breadth of the islands.
- Growth in India was breaking all previous records.
- Mack Carpenter in Zululand, South Africa, opened the 1971 New Year on a note of victory as forty-one new converts were baptized in Jesus' name. A few days later, twenty-five additional people were baptized.⁵¹⁵

1,488 Baptized in the Philippine Islands

As revival escalated in the Philippine Islands, new challenges arose. Growing churches demanded leadership, so the work moved into a two-pronged objective. Leadership training produced effective pastors; this multiplied membership, and churches became more evangelistic. The *Global Witness* published a report from Carl Adams:

It has been a year of revival in that 1,488 were baptized in Jesus' name and 855 have received the Holy Ghost. About 100 ministers were added to the United Pentecostal Church making a total of 200 Filipino ministers.⁵¹⁶

Taking the Message to the World

The message called to everyone everywhere and published the great news that lost individuals could be saved through hearing, believing, repenting, being baptized, and receiving the Holy Spirit. Sinners responded gratefully. Reconciliation with God brought about a happiness, which spilled over on everyone the converts came in contact with. The result was a chain reaction that reached into distant towns and villages.

In the May 1971 *Global Witness*, George Shalm reported that 113 received the Holy Ghost and twenty-seven were baptized in India's Kerala District conference, inspiring forty-five pastors to dedicate themselves to evangelizing their world.

Robert Rodenbush reported that more than a thousand were baptized, over 740 received the Holy Ghost, and nineteen new churches were started in Ghana in 1970.⁵¹⁷

In Monrovia, Liberia, thirty-nine licensed ministers listed twenty-two congregations and a total of 570 who had received the Holy Ghost, and Lima, Peru, reported fifteen new churches, over one hundred baptized, and fifty filled with the Holy Ghost.

Four Thousand Attend Ghana's Easter Convention

Crowds of more than four thousand on some nights attended the Second Annual Convention of the UPC of Ghana. Fifty-six were baptized in Jesus' name during the conference, and 121 testified to receiving the Holy Ghost. Robert Rodenbush wrote, "I am confident that more received the Holy Ghost but were not counted as most often the counting was not done until the next day or service. Every service

⁵¹⁵ Edwin E. Judd, "Zulu Baptisms," *Global Witness* (March–April 1971): 1.

⁵¹⁶ Field Flashes: "Philippines," *Global Witness* (March–April 1971): 4.

⁵¹⁷ Field Flashes: "Ghana," *Global Witness* (May 1971): 4.

was anointed with the presence of the Lord. Even the business sessions were blessed and many victories were won. . . . The nationals did not want to see the convention close.”⁵¹⁸

Fred Tinus Visits Yugoslavia En Route to Austria

The Fred Tinus family left Canada and arrived in Europe in February 1971. On their way to Vienna, Austria, where they were to make their home, they stopped in Germany to pick up their new SFC automobile. In a letter he mailed from northern France dated March 26, Brother Tinus reported, “Seven have received the gift of the Holy Ghost, at least five are to be baptized in Jesus name.” What a beginning for a harvest field that was virtually untouched! But little did he know that before the decade ended, he would lose a battle with cancer.

In a letter dated April 20, 1971, a believer in northern France wrote to Brother Tinus: “Since you left, we had more prayers in my home. On the 7th of April a young lady received the Holy Ghost. Easter Sunday we baptized three brethren and five sisters. Ten have received the Holy Ghost.”

Missionaries Coming and Going

Everett and Lois Corcoran were on their way to West Pakistan, and in May Ralph and Donna Holland arrived in Puerto Rico. Bennie and Theresa DeMerchant returned to Brazil for a second productive term. In June Elton and Loretta Bernard were outbound to Korea and James and Patsy Wood to Iran. In July the Basil Williams family traveled to Cameroon, West Africa, and Fred Hyde awaited a visa to enter Indonesia.

Elton Bernard arrived in Korea to find that during his furlough an average of twenty per month had received the Holy Ghost and fifteen were baptized in Jesus’ name! Average attendance in the UPC of Korea had increased to over three thousand.

The Indonesian church under the leadership of George White was making consistent advances. During Indonesian UPC Superintendent Soedjatmiko’s visit to the island of Sulawesi, more than four hundred received the Holy Ghost and one hundred were baptized in Jesus’ name.

These events among many others marked a great beginning for the Decade of Change, but the mission fields were also marked with tragedy. Revival demands a price, and the missionaries who read this account will experience an involuntary reaction because they have invariably had similar marks of both blessing and tragedy. Sometimes the blessing precedes the cost, but God holds the ledger in His hands, and His ledger always displays a positive balance.

Ethiopia

Over a two-year period Kenneth and Bobbye Wendell had baptized 650 in Jesus’ name and reported over four hundred filled with the Holy Ghost as the Ethiopian church put down roots. As they busily gathered fuel that would ignite one of the world’s greatest revivals, they gave little thought to the price tag. The future Ethiopian revival would record the opposition the church would face and the sacrificial labors of Kenneth Wendell, though he died before revival fires burned their brightest. However, despite many restrictions imposed by the Ethiopian government, the foundation of the work had been laid, and visas were approved for John and Jerri Harris.

Suddenly after four years of missionary labor, the Ethiopian government demanded that the Wendells leave the country, and the Harrises, whose visas had been approved, were then flatly denied.⁵¹⁹ (See page 192 for further details of this abrupt move by the Ethiopian government.)

⁵¹⁸ Robert Rodenbush, “Ghana Easter Conference,” *Global Witness* (June 1971): 2.

⁵¹⁹ “Ethiopia in Crisis and Blessing,” *Global Witness* (August 1972): 7.

The Wendells placed the Ethiopian church under Teklemariam Gesahagne's leadership. Before the turn of the twenty-first century, peak crowds of multiplied thousands would gather annually in open fields under the hot African sun as evangelist Billy Cole spearheaded the church's annual crusades. One year the crowd was estimated at 1.5 million. The Ethiopian church will have a million saints ready for the coming of Jesus Christ!

The Philippines

The Philippine Islands were experiencing continual revival. Carl Adams baptized 522 during February and March 1971, and 116 of these received the Holy Ghost. The Decade of Change was producing such great advances that the denominational world labeled the UPCI foreign missions program the "Cadillac of missions endeavor."⁵²⁰

T. F. Tenney and S. W. Chambers Visit Europe

During the June 1970 FMB sessions Brothers Tenney and Chambers gave a report of their trip to Europe and of the works in Holland, Belgium, Germany, and Rome, Italy. Brother Tenney had also visited in Yugoslavia, accompanied by Mervyn Miller and Fred Tinus, who interpreted for him.

Giant Revival Needs Immense Funding

A giant revival had begun, and the North American church was involved. Many local congregations were financing the growing missions program, but as world evangelism fostered unprecedented growth of the worldwide church, it rapidly became an insatiable creature. The more territory it devoured, the more financially dependent it became on the North American churches to feed it.

As the financial appeals increased, Partners in Missions grappled for the attention and acceptance of North American pastors. The UPCI was approaching a million-dollar budget. The church at home was rejoicing over the reports of souls being baptized and filled with the Holy Ghost. The FMD said, "The missionary staff represented a rapid increase in personnel over a relatively short period of time. The number of missionaries, the number of fields, and the scene of their ministry has greatly increased over the past eight years."⁵²¹

Finances became an indispensable key. However, the greatest demand was not the missionary family but the uncontrolled inflation in many foreign lands; the cost of housing, gasoline, utilities, and church rentals boggled the American mind, yet the missionaries abroad had to pay it. However, in view of Calvary, could any man refuse to give out of his abundance to shine the gospel light on those who were sitting in darkness?

Brother Tenney endeavored to enlist the whole church in the missions program. He obtained input and counsel from influential pastors to lend credibility to new and innovative programs that would make evangelism more effective. He balanced the pastoral input with counsel from the missionaries. He created a joint committee of pastors and missionaries chaired by Robert McFarland to revise the missionary policy.

The North American Church, the Financial Steward

Edwin Judd was a crusader! Many of his articles focused on finances: "Financial involvement is but the beginning of a greater stewardship. More than one minister is a missionary today because of an initial

⁵²⁰ This label came about in a conversation the author had with a Missionary Alliance minister while traveling on a bus deep in the Ecuadorian jungle, ca. 1973.

⁵²¹ Edwin E. Judd, "Men and Money," *Global Witness* (June 1971): 2.

involvement on giving and promoting the cause of foreign missions at home. As our churches experience this revival of foreign missions outreach, a logical sequence will be more and more ministers and young people receiving and answering the call.”⁵²²

Time would prove Brother Judd correct. The Lord of the harvest was selecting more and more laborers to work in the fields. The purpose of Jesus’ earthly ministry was “to seek and to save that which was lost,” and after Pentecost, the entire church body was to continue to reconcile lost humanity to a loving Master. That is what made the UPCI motto so meaningful: The whole gospel to the whole world . . . by the whole church!

One Million Dollar Budget

The crusade for funds was successful. E. E. Judd, director of promotion, reported, “Through your generosity, *over a million dollars* has been invested in foreign missions over the past year. As we look upon the fulfillment of the Great Commission as our joint objective, we also look to you that have made this great outreach possible. . . . Often our hearts have ached in leaner times to have to reply negatively to a faithful missionary’s request for funds to finance a worthy program that would have meant the saving of souls. . . . We thank God that you have made it possible to say ‘yes’ to more and more of these worthy requests. . . . The missionaries who have answered the call of God and gone with the gospel ‘thank God’ for your gifts. Thousands now lift their voices and ‘thank God’ who only a year ago were calling on the names of strange gods and who were blind in tradition and ignorance.”⁵²³

The PIM program, which brought about the million-dollar budget, was Edwin Judd’s brainchild. He organized a plan that kept the schedules balanced and running smoothly as the North American church grew accustomed to the new program. Within a year every newly appointed and reappointed missionary was fully funded. He then concentrated on obtaining PIMs for missionaries who were on the field.

Else Lund Transfers to Ghana

Robert Rodenbush requested Else Lund’s assistance in Ghana. The FMB therefore recommended that she be transferred there upon approval by Denzil Bolton, superintendent of Liberia.⁵²⁴ Robert Rodenbush’s annual report in the September 1971 *Global Witness* indicates that during his first two years in Ghana he baptized more than 2,500 and more than 1,800 were filled with the Holy Ghost. The field had thirty-eight churches, three of which were begun in June. The College of the Bible ended its third successful term with twenty-five students enrolled. Else Lund was a great asset to the college.

D. L. Spears—Temporary Replacement in Samoa

Due to the resignation of L. T. Reynolds from Samoa, Brother Tenney appealed for a man to catch the vision for this ripe country and to enlarge the Samoan field to include Fiji and Tonga.⁵²⁵

The D. L. Spears family did a marvelous work as temporary missionary replacements for L. T. Reynolds in American Samoa. They were interested in further overseas evangelism, so when their ministry in Samoa concluded, they were appointed for an additional six months to go to Liberia, Nigeria, Ghana, Cameroon, Rhodesia, Madagascar, South Africa, and Ethiopia, and then return through Europe.⁵²⁶

⁵²² Edwin E. Judd, “To the Regions Beyond,” *Global Witness* (January 1972): 2.

⁵²³ Edwin E. Judd, “Editorial,” *Global Witness* (March–April 1971): 2.

⁵²⁴ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (January 23, 1971): 2.

⁵²⁵ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (June 1, 1971): 1.

⁵²⁶ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (January 22, 1972): 2.

Field Reports and Victories⁵²⁷

Robert Roh and a national pastor, Brother Kingma, pioneered the work in The Hague, Netherlands, where twelve people were baptized and twenty-five received the Holy Ghost. Several Dutch pastors received the revelation of the Pentecostal message, and momentum picked up. A Jewish man was converted. These numbers may seem trivial, but to a pioneering missionary, it was progress.

Ralph and Donna Holland were assistant missionaries in the Caribbean, working with Field Superintendent Glen Smith. Brother Holland was a graduate of Conqueror's Bible College in Portland, Oregon, and until his appointment had served as an assistant pastor under Paul Leaman in Detroit, Michigan.

The Western Australian work was also in the pioneer stage under Lee Sherry. The small band of believers joined together in a great step of faith to acquire property and erect a much-needed building. The price tag for the project was \$15,000.

In the pioneer missionary field of Madagascar, Denzil Richardson baptized one hundred new converts, most of which received the Holy Ghost.

In Zululand Mack Carpenter reported seventy-seven baptized, many of whom received the Holy Ghost in the water.

In London, England, forty-six were baptized in Jesus' name, and many received the Holy Ghost. Mervyn Miller reported that they broke the Sunday school record three times in as many weeks. Their attendance now stood at 412.

Elga Battle and Daniel Scott rejoiced over a tremendous breakthrough in Quito, Ecuador, where fifty received the Holy Ghost during the dedication of the new central church facilities. Western District Superintendent Paul Price and the Western District Youth President Delbert Langford were the guest ministers. The Western District had financed a greater portion of the headquarters facility in Quito. Ecuador's revival was in full swing.

George Shalm baptized twenty-seven in a revival crusade in Kerala, South India, and 113 received the Holy Ghost. The August 1971 *Global Witness* reported that Harry Scism's Calvary Bible Institute opened for its second term with fifty students. Soon the enrollment reached seventy students.⁵²⁸

George White, the aging missionary to Indonesia, affiliated twenty ministers and congregations to the UPC in Semarang and ten received the Holy Ghost.

It was indeed a time of spiritual outpouring around the world for those who expectantly prepared for revival.

Book of Acts Revisited

Missionary newsletters began to read like the Book of Acts: God was confirming His Word with signs following! The FMD received many reports of healing, the blind receiving their sight, cripples walking, deaf ears unstopping, and cancers disappearing. The numbers of those receiving the Holy Ghost was almost beyond the comprehension of a North American church that had not witnessed these tremendous experiences.

Since the church at home could not fully comprehend the magnitude of what God was doing on the mission field, missionaries were sometimes reluctant to report what was actually happening lest the church at home consider their reports exaggerated. However, as North American pastors began visiting mission fields around the world and experiencing firsthand what God was doing, the truth began to emerge. The UPCI had moved to the cutting edge of revival!

⁵²⁷ "Foreign Field Flashes," *Global Witness* (July 1971): 4.

⁵²⁸ "Calvary Bible Institute," *Global Witness* (October 1971): 4.

Buga, Colombia

Lewis Morley invited Daniel Scott, missionary to Ecuador, to teach a series of pastoral seminars in Buga, Colombia. Following the seminars the 1971 annual conference was held in Buga, and three hundred were baptized and two hundred received the Holy Ghost. Mollie Thompson reported that “the people filled the seats and jammed the aisles. When they got blessed there was no place to go but up and down. There was dancing and shouting. It must have caused the angels to envy.”⁵²⁹

Brother Scott traveled to Lima, Peru, where forty were filled with the Holy Ghost during a three-night crusade in the Plaza Italia church.

Brother Judd wrote, “What makes the difference? . . . A man can make the difference! He can stimulate an involvement and change the circumstances. A man with a vision and faith to act upon that vision can awaken a church to action. A sense of fulfillment is an impetus to involvement. All that is necessary is that someone plans . . . and then works the plan.”⁵³⁰

New Missionary

All was not spiritual birth! Daran Chadney Eugene Nepstad, born to Gary and Sandra Nepstad in Manila, weighed in at seven pounds. The proud grandparents were Carl and Evelyn Adams.

Sheaves for Christ Brings Hope to the Amazon Basin

In August 1971, the new SFC floatplane arrived in Manaus, Brazil, the key to evangelizing the massive Amazon Basin. What a joy it was when Bennie DeMerchant flew over the basin for the first time.

1971 Ecuadorian National Conference

During the 1971 Ecuadorian National Conference in Santo Domingo, the birthplace of the UPC in Ecuador, fifty were filled with the Holy Ghost and twenty were baptized. During the past three years bimonthly seminars with ministers and their wives had increased the number of licensed ministers to thirty-nine.

Madagascar

The spirit of revival was sweeping across the country. The pioneer work of Denzil Richardson was producing a strong church. In a period of four months in early 1971, forty-four were baptized and twenty-seven received the Holy Ghost. By mid-1972 Denzil Richardson had started a number of new churches. Madagascar was promising an outstanding future.

Billy and Shirley Cole

Seven months of overseas evangelism took Billy and Shirley Cole to Thailand twice, Indonesia, New Zealand, Australia, the Philippines, and Japan. During this time over two thousand received the Holy Ghost, hundreds were refilled, and 403 were baptized in water in the name of Jesus Christ.⁵³¹ This was a great advance for pioneering missionaries who had planted the seed; God gave the increase.

With Billy Cole as the evangelist, New Zealand had a major breakthrough during the first five nights of revival when thirty-seven received the Holy Ghost and a blind girl received her sight. Eighteen

⁵²⁹ Edwin E. Judd, “Colombian Work,” *Global Witness* (May 1971): 2.

⁵³⁰ Edwin E. Judd, “What Makes the Difference,” *Global Witness* (May 1971): 2.

⁵³¹ Edwin E. Judd, ““2000 Receive the Holy Ghost,” *Global Witness* (October 1971): 4.

received the Holy Ghost when the Coles were in Australia with John Brian, and in Thailand with RFS Harry Scism, 293 were filled with the Holy Ghost and ninety-three Buddhists were baptized in Jesus' name.

Carl Adams reported that an additional 612 received the Holy Ghost in the Philippines, ninety-six of them in one service! At the beginning of 1971, Filipino ministers numbered two hundred, and the new headquarters church in Manila opened with 107 in Sunday school.

In the month of May, 300 received the Holy Ghost in the meetings conducted by Harry Scism and Billy Cole in Thailand, and five weeks in June and July saw 612 baptized in the Holy Spirit in the Philippine Islands. Missionary Carl Adams reports that "miracles are a common occurrence, and more than 1,200 have received the Holy Ghost since the beginning of the year. More than 1,000 have been baptized in Jesus name!"⁵³²

Korea

The spotlight continued to sweep across the world until it focused on Korea where Elton Bernard invited Curtis Young to preach. Brother Bernard wrote:

In August, 1971, we had a five night revival for ministers. There were over 100 from different denominations. The first two nights saw some resistance as the staid Presbyterian, Baptist, and Methodist preachers began to hear what to them was strange Pentecostal doctrine. But, the fire of the Holy Ghost is irresistible. His presence invaded our services. God began to pour out His Spirit. People began to receive the Holy Ghost. The result—in five nights 35 were filled with the Holy Ghost. Thirty-seven were baptized in Jesus name. . . . Five country churches were visited for a one-night revival service. Here, too, revival fires were at a fever pitch! In five nights 32 were filled with the Holy Ghost.⁵³³

In the October 1971 *Global Witness*, Brother Bernard rejoiced over 212 filled with the Holy Ghost and 142 baptized in the name of Jesus Christ in one month!

The 1971 Foreign Missions Board

FM Director T. F. Tenney was determined to usher the missionary family into new dimensions of service. He said, "The Foreign Missions Board engages itself constantly in re-evaluation of our past practices and procedures. Though we are married to a message, we are not married to a method."⁵³⁴ Field reports showed that general progress was at an all-time high.

The 1971 FMB members were T. F. Tenney, general director; Paul H. Box, secretary; E. E. Judd, director of promotion; and board members Paul Leaman, Hulon Myre, J. C. Cole, F. V. Shoemake, Carl Stephenson, and Robert McFarland.

The Foreign Missions Director's Report

The FM Director's annual report to the General Board during the 1971 General Conference in Houston, Texas, provided the following statistics:

[There are] 115 missionaries under appointment by the United Pentecostal Church . . . assisted by some 2,400 national pastors and evangelists. We now have approximately 2,200 congregations. Our missionaries report they are opening 5 churches per week and are baptizing 1,200 members per month. Our missionaries and our national churches are operating in some sixty nations of the world. Missionaries

⁵³² Edwin E. Judd, "Revival . . ." *Global Witness* (September 1971): 3.

⁵³³ Elton Bernard, "Korea Ablaze with Revival," *Global Witness* (October 1971): 1.

⁵³⁴ T. F. Tenney, "Annual Report to the General Board," September 1971.

opened four new fields during this conference year—Iran, Pakistan, Cameroon and Austria. National pastors and our missionaries have also moved in and established contacts in several more countries of the world.⁵³⁵

The finances to energize the powerful world-missions engine were increasing to keep pace with advances on the field. Giving reached an all-time high of \$1,125,000! This translated to an increase of 65 percent in local-church contributions. Also included in the total were PIM subscriptions, which increased to \$73,562 per month with 4,100 subscriptions from 1,600 sources. Of the overall amount, the Youth Department contributed \$142,762.80 and the Ladies Auxiliary contributed \$17,000. Funds from the Ladies Auxiliary were designated for household appliances and dental care for missionary children.

SFC money was designated primarily for automobiles, educational expenses of MKs abroad, and literature. During the year missionaries distributed 1,931,450 pieces of literature, and Word Aflame published the first Spanish Jesus Name Sunday school literature. A missionary manual was written, and new audiovisual promotional tools to communicate the missionaries' vision and burden to the grassroots were produced. T. F. Tenney believed that communication was the answer to involving the local church, and it was working!

The Foreign Missions Director's Report Continued: School of Missions

Realizing that culture shock affects newly appointed outgoing missionaries as well as those returning to North America after a lengthy absence, the FMD inaugurated in 1971 a short-term missionary training program called the School of Missions. This was designed to provide intensive training as well as a time of fellowship and spiritual refreshment. Newly appointed missionaries could rub shoulders with FM representatives and experienced missionaries on furlough. At the same time, a tandem program, the Missionary Kids Retreat, provided opportunities for fun and fellowship for missionary children.

The Regional Field Supervisor Initiative

Brother Tenney discussed a plan to have four regional field supervisors⁵³⁶ on location in four strategic areas of the world. As new midlevel management, the regional field supervisors would be an extension of the general director of Foreign Missions to the missionaries on the field. According to new policy, the division was also inaugurating regional field conferences where the regional field supervisors would meet with the missionaries of their respective regions for orientation, training, fellowship, and spiritual enrichment.

The role of regional field supervisor was an exciting new concept in world evangelism. The 1971 General Conference fully endorsed the plan as a tremendous move forward. As it was proposed, the role of the regional field supervisors was explained: "Their work will include the coordination of the missionary ministry within their region, and the exposure of their respective regions to the churches in the homeland."⁵³⁷

This midlevel approach was a magnificent idea that fostered passion for cultural awareness and understanding. Distinctive cultural values were integrated into the evangelism program. By his physical presence and involvement, the RFS's representation of critical issues became essential for keeping everyone moving in harmony in the same direction. The RFS challenged the hour and became the eyes and ears of the FMD. The objective was a jump ahead to the future.

The first RFSs were Harry Scism, Asia and South Pacific; Edwin Judd, Latin America and Caribbean; E. L. Freeman, Africa; and Hulon Myre, Europe and the Middle East. The church outside of North America needed more attention, and the RFS was considered an answer to the many pleas for help.

⁵³⁵ Ibid.

⁵³⁶ The number of regions and regional field supervisors was later increased to six.

⁵³⁷ Foreign Missions, "Another Great Leap," *Pentecostal Herald* (December 1971): 11.

Since the general director of Foreign Missions could not be in as many places as he was needed at any given time, the RFSs would bridge the communication gap.

The implementation of this ministry of expansion began as the four regional field supervisors met with the FM Administrative Committee at the WEC in Hazelwood, Missouri. At this historic meeting, plans were made for the anticipated acceleration of worldwide outreach. The entire structure and vision of this ministry was geared to service: how the RFSs could serve and assist the missionaries at work on the field and how they could serve the FM office and concerned brethren on the home front.

Hulon Myre—Europe and the Middle East

Hulon Myre, pastor of the UPC of Shreveport, Louisiana, was appointed to serve as RFS for Europe and the Middle East. Brother Myre soon moved to the Continent. In this new capacity he served eight missionary families located from the British Isles to Iran.

Edwin E. Judd—Latin America and the Caribbean

Edwin E. Judd, FM director of promotion and publications, was appointed to oversee the work in Latin America and the Caribbean. Twenty-five missionary family units were active in sixteen nations of this region. Brother Judd moved to Quito, Ecuador, a central location within his region early in 1972.

E. L. Freeman—Africa

E. L. Freeman, after pioneering the work and serving as missionary superintendent in South Africa for twenty-three years, was appointed as RFS for the whole of Africa (except for the countries bordering the Mediterranean). The Freemans returned to Africa in February 1972 to serve eleven missionary family units active in nine countries.

Harry E. Scism—Asia and the South Pacific

Harry E. Scism, member of the pioneering Ellis Scism missionary family and himself a missionary to India for twenty-two years, was appointed as RFS for Asia and the South Pacific. His ministry included the supervision of fifteen missionary family units in twelve nations.

The Target City Program

Magnificent growth demanded prolific expansion! Can you imagine trying to pioneer a work in an unchurched state the size of California or Texas without a home base or a central point to lend permanence to the work? Yet this does not portray the colossal challenge for a missionary with a vision and responsibility for an entire nation whose language and culture are foreign to him. If there were no permanent facility as an anchor point, missionaries on the field would find it difficult to convince the indigenous population that they had come to stay, or that the work would continue after they were gone. An established evangelism center was necessary to let the world know that the UPCI was in that country for the long term.

Yes, the gospel can be preached without a building. Souls can be saved in street services, in the marketplaces, and even in people's homes. God can move outside of buildings of brick and mortar. But for the labor of missionaries to be fruitful, long lasting, and far reaching, there must be a base of operation. In target cities Tokyo and Rio de Janeiro, churches had been established and were prospering.

These premises inspired Edwin Judd to introduce new challenges for 1971: "With Projects Tokyo and Rio complete, we set forth two new challenges—Caracas, Venezuela, and Tananarive, Madagascar.

James Burton in Venezuela, and Denzil Richardson in Madagascar, await the response of North America to the Target Cities Program.”⁵³⁸

The tremendous cause of world evangelism was undoubtedly etched deep in the hearts of United Pentecostals everywhere. World conditions dictated that a sense of urgency must pervade the mentality of the church. During this Decade of Change there were constant manifestations of our purpose, “The Whole Gospel to the Whole World.” The love, prayers, giving, and commitment of people in churches throughout the UPCI made maximum missionary endeavors possible.

Margaret Calhoun

Missionaries were professionals before they were appointed as missionaries. They usually pastored a successful church, or in the case of Margaret Calhoun, taught school. She was appointed to the Amazon Basin in Brazil during the 1968 General Conference. Margaret preached, worked, and lived among people she came to love. Though an airplane accident would later take her life, the marks she left behind in eight years of missionary ministry were stamped indelibly upon the hearts of the Brazilian people. Her mission continues to this day! Annually, multitudes of people gather on the beach close to where the plane accident took place and innumerable people are baptized there to celebrate the ministry of a wonderful lady.

Paul Moulton’s Amazon River Ministry

Paul Moulton had a vision of a river ministry. He encouraged the international headquarters to invest in a mobile living quarters in which he could travel from town to village along the Amazon River with his base in Iquitos, Peru. Within a short time Brother Moulton’s dream was realized with the purchase of an excursion boat from Niagara Falls, *The Maid of the Mist*, renamed, *El Refugio*.⁵³⁹

The 1971 General Conference

With the appointment or reappointment of fifteen families during the 1971 General Conference, the missionary roster of the UPCI stood at 134 adults. When these appointees arrived on the fields, three new nations would open for missionary ministry: Kenya, Nigeria, and Italy.

Missionaries furloughed and reappointed were Stephen Barley to Venezuela, Billy Glaser to Germany, John Hattabaugh to Argentina, Samuel Baker to Brazil, and William H. Cupples to Kenya. Missionaries appointed for their first term were Ernest Briethaupt to Ghana, George Craft to Europe, Don Dobyns to Samoa, H. E. Gerald to Nigeria, Henry McCrury to Indonesia, Thomas Peavy to Italy, and H. F. Shoemaker to Madagascar.

The Enemy Attacks the Philippines and Ethiopia

It appeared that revival had become deeply embedded wherever missionaries were toiling. A Holy Ghost outpouring continued to advance the Philippine church. Carl Adams reported that from January to November 1971, “1,819 [had] been baptized in the name of Jesus Christ and 1,553 [had] received the Holy Ghost. . . . In the headquarters church in Makati, 20 were baptized in Jesus name and 16 received the Holy Spirit.”⁵⁴⁰ Thank God for revival in the Philippine Islands! However, Carl Adams had to be hospitalized with symptoms of a serious illness.

⁵³⁸ Edwin E. Judd, “The Need for an Anchor Point,” *Global Witness* (August 1971): 2.

⁵³⁹ “Field Flashes,” *Global Witness* (October 1971): 3.

⁵⁴⁰ Carl Adams, “Revival Fires Burn in the Philippines,” *Global Witness* (November 1971): 2.

At the same time a cablegram reported that Kenneth Wendell was seriously ill. It seems that people had not yet connected the attacks on missionary families with the forces of darkness.⁵⁴¹

Ecuador Again in the News

Ecuador advanced rapidly under the leadership of Elga Battle and Daniel Scott. Each working in distinct areas of Ecuador, both reported outstanding progress for the church. Elga Battle wrote, "Doors are opening on every side for the gospel to be preached. In the past two months, national ministers have started five churches, and attendance has been good."⁵⁴²

Daniel Scott reported, "Since last year the work has grown in marvelous strides. One pastor went to an unevangelized part of Ecuador where he has baptized 150! I did not know of this activity until he came and reported it. All over the mountainous area of this beautiful nation, God is pouring out His Holy Spirit. God is drawing out of this country a people for His name."⁵⁴³

Elga Battle and Daniel Scott traveled to the Ecuadorian island of Huacas and baptized more than forty people, which was half of the island's residents. The Catholic priest abandoned his church on the island because there was no one to attend mass, and the church was transformed into a Holy Ghost sanctuary.

Overseas Ministries

The key to impacting the world with the gospel was training national workers, and Overseas Ministries greatly enhanced this training. Created in 1972, Overseas Ministries was developed and implemented under the guidance of the Overseas Ministries Committee: Coordinator D. W. Fisher and members Margaret Calhoun (Brazil), Henry Moore Jr., M. D. Padfield (chairman of printed materials), Marvin Curry, Arless Glass, James K. Stewart (chairman of training), Robert Norris (Brazil), and Ralph V. Reynolds.⁵⁴⁴

Robert Rodenbush became the coordinator of Overseas Ministries in 1978 and served until 1991. John Leaman served as coordinator from 1991 through 1994, when Garry Tracy was appointed as the coordinator for Overseas Ministries/Associates in Missions. In 1999 Lloyd Shirley assumed the important duties of this tremendous program.

Donald Fisher Appointed Director of Promotion and Publications

On December 13, 1971, Donald Fisher was named the FM director of promotion and publications⁵⁴⁵ and coordinator of Overseas Ministries. Coming to the FMD with a résumé full of varied ministry experience and a deep burden for foreign missions, Brother Fisher brought innovation and expertise to the division. Prior to his most recent position as editor of Word Aflame Publications, Brother Fisher served as director of promotion and publications for the Youth Department for several years.

Prior to his coming to the general headquarters, Brother Fisher served as a pastor, assistant pastor, and Bible college instructor. His early burden for missions involvement led him to the Indian fishing village of Hoonah, Alaska, where he and his wife, Donna, labored for two years, building a church and winning many souls to God.

Brother Fisher's resourcefulness coupled with his deeply felt burden to be involved in getting the whole gospel to the whole world would prove to be a great asset to foreign missions. OM would bring

⁵⁴¹ "Field Flashes," *Global Witness* (November 1917): 4.

⁵⁴² Elga Battle, "Ecuador in Revival," *Global Witness* (December 1971): 1.

⁵⁴³ Daniel Scott quoted in Elga Battle, "Ecuador in Revival."

⁵⁴⁴ R. K. Rodenbush, "Overseas Ministries," *Pentecostal Herald* (April 1973): 13.

⁵⁴⁵ Edwin E. Judd, "New Promotional Director," *Global Witness* (January 1972): 2.

resources and development to overseas Bible schools, ministerial training courses, and the missionaries struggling to keep abreast of current methods.

Overseas Ministries in Ghana

OM was a blessing to the fields that were developing Bible schools and ministerial training courses. Robert Rodenbush, superintendent of Ghana, wrote:

It happened on December 10, 1972, at the beautiful Headquarters of the United Pentecostal Church of Ghana, the first full graduating class of the Ghana College of the Bible. Ghanaian pastors in caps and gowns, smiling, indoctrinated, proud and glorifying God! My one great and abiding joy shall be the remembrance of this occasion.⁵⁴⁶

Recommendations for Missionary Appointment

During the January 1972 FMB sessions, a number of potential missionaries expressed their burden for missions. Among these were Joseph Domingues for Portugal, Edward Allard for Ghana, and George Duke for England. Fred Scott was recommended to expand his ministry to Paraguay while remaining as superintendent of Uruguay.⁵⁴⁷

Paul H. Cook Appointed to the Foreign Missions Board

Paul H. Cook, pastor of the Full Gospel Apostolic Church of Columbus, Ohio, was appointed to fill the vacancy on the FMB created by the election of Robert McFarland as the superintendent of the Indiana District.

Brother Cook had served the Ohio District as FM promotional representative since the creation of that office. During his three-year stint as district representative, the Ohio District greatly increased its involvement in the worldwide foreign missions ministry.

The FM involvement of the Full Gospel Apostolic Church prior to his appointment to the board evidenced Brother Cook's burden for those of the regions beyond. The feeling of his heart was best summed up when he said, "I love missionaries!"⁵⁴⁸

Ecuador

As the church turned the pages to a new year, the work in Ecuador was expanding rapidly. Missionary Superintendent Elga Battle reported that in less than three years "the church [had] grown from a nucleus of mostly untrained members into a thriving, healthy group of over 50 congregations, and over 40 licensed ministers."⁵⁴⁹

Liberia

The January 1972 *Global Witness* reported that Liberia, West Africa, was experiencing Holy Ghost revival. The Denzil Boltens, Valda Russell, and Ena Hylton, along with Liberian preachers, were pressing out into new villages, establishing churches, and converting many.

A church was established on Busmod Island near Monrovia. Another sprang up in Logantown where the pastor, an elderly man, called for a younger man to help him. At the installation service, the

⁵⁴⁶ R. K. Rodenbush, "At Work in Ghana," *Pentecostal Herald* (April 1973): 13.

⁵⁴⁷ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (January 24, 1972): 7–8.

⁵⁴⁸ Edwin E. Judd, "Paul H. Cook Appointed," *Global Witness* (February 1972): 2.

⁵⁴⁹ "Year End Report: Ecuador," *Global Witness* (February 1972): 4.

place was packed with people; even the windows were filled. Denzil Bolton preached, and God poured out the Holy Spirit.

At the Fassama jungle station, twenty received the Holy Ghost and eleven were baptized. Most of these were from Fassama Town where believers were objects of severe persecution. The devil strongly opposed the spiritual offensive. The fact is that when the church experiences fabulous growth, the devil rises up to counter it.

Other Missions News—March 1972 *Global Witness*

In other areas of the world spiritual strides were made:

- Madagascar saw sixty-five baptized and forty-one filled with the Holy Ghost.
- Uruguay saw fifty-one baptized and twenty-seven filled with the Holy Ghost.
- Indonesia reported eight hundred filled with the Holy Ghost, with the islands of Sumatra and Sulawesi having a move of the Spirit.
- In Liberia, a new UPC with an attendance of 250 was dedicated at Weakamau, a village near Bomi Hills, and fourteen new ones were filled with the Holy Ghost.
- Ena Hylton moved to Mano River to evangelize a new area of Liberia.
- Kenneth Wendell had continual revival in Ethiopia, with growing crowds and final clearance for building a Bible school.
- In Rhodesia Wilma Ruth Nix baptized forty-seven and fifteen received the Holy Spirit.⁵⁵⁰
- At the close of the term of India's Calvary Bible Institute, seven teams went through Northeast India for six weeks conducting revivals. Nine hundred and twelve received the Holy Ghost and 516 were baptized. Ten new congregations were established, and fifty-eight outstanding healings were reported.⁵⁵¹

Faith energizes world evangelism, and by faith the North American church was sending God-called missionaries to reach the lost. After arriving on the field, the task was so enormous—far beyond what they had ever imagined—that the missionaries learned a total dependence on God.

However, national ministers on the field caught the vision as prayerful missionaries poured themselves into the work. Missionaries walked hours to reach inaccessible villages, and seeing this dedication, the national ministers would walk for days over steep mountainous areas, or through deep, dark valleys, crossing rivers and canyons, to reach their world. Sometimes there was not a single Christian in the village, and the hard eyes of the unbeliever would stare with contempt. But God was faithful and His Spirit confirmed the ministered word with miraculous works. Revival became contagious to everyone around them.

The Fire That Would Not Burn!

An article by FM Director T. F. Tenney was astounding. Following is his account of a miracle he heard about during his visit to Porto Alegre, Brazil:

Porto Alegre—Brazil! Brazil means one hundred sixty million people. Porto Alegre means one million of them. Into this area came the United Pentecostal Church, via missionary out-reach several years ago. S. W. Chambers and I were there sometime ago for the cornerstone laying of a new United Pentecostal Church. As we looked out over the congregation the first night, we immediately saw the need for new facilities. The building was packed. The people rejoiced!

⁵⁵⁰ Donald W. Fisher, "News from Everywhere," *Global Witness* (March 1972): 3.

⁵⁵¹ Donald W. Fisher, "Revival Crusades in India," *Global Witness* (March 1972): 4.

Brother Jorge Dementchuk, a Brazilian-born Russian, is the pastor of this group. This outstanding man of God is the General Secretary of the United Pentecostal Church of Brazil. At the conclusion of the services that night he said, “Brother Tenney, ninety per cent of the people here tonight had to be delivered from demon possession before they could be filled with the Holy Ghost. There are twenty million spiritualists in Brazil. Let me give you an example of what happens.

“In a suburb, about 25 kilometers from Porto Alegre, we opened a new work. Revival broke out. As a result, a woman in the community came to the Lord and was filled with the Holy Ghost. Her husband was furious! He threatened to beat her if she continued to attend church. Upon hearing this, she informed him that she had given her life to the Lord and regardless of what he did she would not turn back. He threatened to kill her and their children. This did not alter her direction. Things grew worse.

“Finally, one night in a drunken stupor, he rushed to the church with a bottle of gasoline. Some of the church members saw him. Knowing his threats, they rushed to the church. As they reached it, he was breaking the bottle of gasoline and pouring it all over the floor. The saints began to pray that somehow God would stop this infamous deed. The man struck a match and threw it on the gasoline . . . but it would not burn! He did it again. It would not burn. He did it a third time, but the raw gas refused to ignite!

“Great fear fell on him when he saw that even the gas would not burn in the house of God. He rushed from the place in great fear. Sometime later, trembling, he returned with his wife to the church, fell in the altar, repented of his sins, and was filled with the Holy Ghost. There is now a fire within him because of the fire that would not burn!”⁵⁵²

Progress in 1971⁵⁵³

The February 1972 *Global Witness* contained much news:

Iran: James Wood reported that Iran was going through difficult situations and that time was running out. “We must work harder if we are to have a church here.”

Madagascar: Sixty-five were baptized and forty-one received the Holy Ghost! Several ministers were licensed, two new works were opened, a new missionary family appointed, and money was raised for a headquarters church.

Uruguay: A great milestone was reached with fifty-one baptized and twenty-seven filled with the Holy Ghost.

Indonesia: Approximately eight hundred were filled with the Holy Ghost and hundreds baptized in Jesus’ name.

Brazil: Ninety-one were baptized, sixty-four filled with the Holy Ghost, and three new churches completed, sponsored by the UPC of Jacksonville, Texas, Life Tabernacle of Houston, Texas, and First Pentecostal Church of Port Arthur, Texas.

Colombian Conference

Lewis Morley reported that the walls of Teatro Troncal resounded with shouts of “Gloria a Dios!” as the 1972 conference of the UPCI of Colombia began with speakers Daniel Scott and missionary evangelist Leo Upton. One night Brother Scott’s message was cut short as hundreds thronged the altars. “Only heaven knows how many were filled with their personal Pentecostal experience. One could see the radiance of the Holy Spirit upon the countenance of those whose faith touched God for the first time.”⁵⁵⁴

Like a raging prairie fire fanned by a violent wind, revival continued to sweep through South America. The revival that had been ignited in Colombia some twenty years ago was still burning down the barriers of opposition and spreading throughout the continent. The blood of martyrs had been spilled, and it seemed as if God used it to fuel the fire. From Venezuela to the tip of Chile, the continent trembled with excitement.

⁵⁵² T. F. Tenney, “The Fire Wouldn’t Burn,” *Global Witness* (February 1972): 1.

⁵⁵³ Donald W. Fisher, “Year End Reports,” *Global Witness* (February 1972): 8.

⁵⁵⁴ Lewis Morley, “Colombian National Conference,” *Global Witness* (April 1972): 9.

Billy Cole Visits Ceylon

The beautiful island of Ceylon, with twelve million inhabitants, had long presented a challenge. As far back as 1948, UPCI missionaries responded to the call of God, and after the resident missionary left, David Jonathan, a national minister and assistant superintendent, faithfully endeavored to build up a work. Though faced with many difficulties, he and a few other ministers established several churches and missions. RFS Harry Scism requested that Billy Cole come to Ceylon to preach open-air revival meetings. The meetings were fraught with spiritual struggles, but as Brother Cole preached, forty-nine first-time hearers of the Word received the Holy Ghost and thirty-six were baptized.⁵⁵⁵

Revival in Poland

In Poland twenty-two were baptized in a series of thirty-two services in fourteen locations. Mervyn Miller had connected with believers in Poland through Brother Leopoldo, a national pastor in Uruguay.

Originally from Poland, Brother Leopoldo was baptized there in 1935 under the ministry of a sergeant and a colonel in the czar's army. Brother Leopoldo then migrated to Uruguay. The sergeant and colonel did a great work, one of them dying in prison for the gospel. A younger brother of the other man carried on the work, going into Russia. Brother Leopoldo received his last letter in Uruguay in 1958: "You ask the number of those that I have baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ (Acts 2:38). I don't know because I never took the count of how many there were, I believed it was not necessary. I don't think I have baptized yet quite ten thousand. . . . While [I was] in Poland, reports already received were confirmed, and we were assured that just across the border in Russia there were thousands of Jesus' name baptized believers who were filled with the Spirit!"⁵⁵⁶

Nigerian National Conference

Nigeria was without a missionary, but barriers were being torn down. The May 1972 *Global Witness* contains a report of an exciting Nigerian National Conference with Robert Rodenbush from Ghana as guest speaker. He was thrilled about what God was doing for Nigeria:

My estimate of the crowd was about 2,400 or more. I baptized 152 in two baptismal services. 164 testified to receiving the Holy Ghost during the convention. We had a glorious time in the Lord! These people are anxiously awaiting their own missionaries, the Gerald's, for guidance and teaching.⁵⁵⁷

Africa became an area of intense evangelism. From almost all points, reports of God's divine presence and blessings flowed into the FMD. For example, in Grand Bassa Country, Liberia, Denzil Bolton met with a number of Trinitarian ministers who were hungry to hear a biblically-based message. Brother Bolton traveled to meet with the ministers and baptized sixty-two, with thirteen of these receiving the Holy Ghost.

The Ethiopian Government Denies Permission to Preach the Gospel

Ethiopia, an ancient land of many quaint customs, entered a tragic chapter of its history. The government had decreed that the Pentecostal message be obliterated; national ministers were beaten, put in jail, and their personal property burned for preaching the Pentecostal message without permission. However, this permission was unobtainable and all previous permits had been recalled. Kenneth and

⁵⁵⁵ "Billy Cole Visits Ceylon," *Global Witness* (April 1972): 2.

⁵⁵⁶ Mervyn Miller, quoting from a letter written to Brother Leopoldo, in "Europe/Middle East," *Global Witness* (June 1972): 2.

⁵⁵⁷ Robert K. Rodenbush, "Nigeria National Conference," *Global Witness* (May 1972): 2-3.

Bobbye Wendell's four years of missionary endeavor had seen remarkable growth despite opposition. Brother Wendell wrote:

The door of permission was slammed shut some weeks ago when the granted piece of land on which we were to build a training school and a Bible School was recalled without prior notice. Upon appealing for the return of this land so we could fulfill our promised school and help to the government, we were informed that the Pentecostals were to be stamped out. From office to office, and department to department, we were only able to confirm this stand, and were not able to find any way to circumvent it.⁵⁵⁸

The missionaries were recalled for their own safety. The John Harris family relocated to Kenya, working with the William Cupples family. Bobbye Wendell and their two children, Jeanie and Chester, traveled to North America for furlough, leaving Brother Wendell to wrap up the church business in preparation to vacate the country.

But in the midst of the crisis God continued to pour out His Spirit. In a service in Addis Ababa, twelve were filled with the Holy Ghost.

The Second Annual Conference of the UPC in Ethiopia convened despite the threat. The national ministers were informed of the conditions the government had imposed, and without exception they pledged loyalty to preaching of the gospel, even if it meant personal persecution or death.

Chinese Church Rebuilding in Taiwan

Before World War II, Daniel and Alice Sheets had developed a tremendous evangelism program in China. Then the Japanese invaded China and held the American missionaries in a concentration camp awaiting exchange for Japanese POWs. The work was damaged considerably as national pastors were driven into the mountains. However, they found refuge in their personal experience with the Lord.

After the war, the communists conquered China, driving all of their opponents into Taiwan, where the refugees set up a provisional government that still exists. Dr. Daniel (Yu-Tang D.) Lew, National Republic of China's Ambassador to the United Nations, said, "Unless America develops a spiritual ideology, returning to its historic roots as a nation 'under God,' it will not be able to stop Communism. Once America comes back to these roots, it will not only be powerful, but a nation committed to God's principles. For us [in China] it was not the power that was lacking, it was the ideology. The communists had the ideology, the plan, the strategy with the passion."

Under Communist rule, the church in mainland China was driven underground but a secret body of believers held to their faith. The work the missionaries accomplished yet lives despite intense persecution by the Communist regime.

In 1972 FM Director Tenney was invited to Taiwan to visit a strong Oneness group called the True Jesus Church. Brother Tenney was a great ambassador for the FM team. Wherever he went there was an outbreak; for example, in Ecuador he once said, "It is revival or riot! But we cannot sit still. Like Paul of old, he caused either a revival or a riot!"

The June 1972 *Global Witness* contains a report of Brother Tenney's journey to Taiwan:

Lee King, high in the mountains of Taiwan, is a very unique village. Everyone in this village has the Holy Ghost! They live secluded in the mountains and in the Spirit. Before the gospel came to them, as a result of a miraculous healing of one of the villagers in the city of Taipei, they were a rowdy group, drinking, gambling, and fighting amidst terrible poverty. Now they have outstanding agriculture and a vacated police house!

These poor, simple living people had such gratitude for what the Lord had done for them, they greatly desired to build a nice church in which to worship. For ten years every member dedicated one full day's wages every week for the building of this building. During this time a typhoon struck the island of

⁵⁵⁸ Kenneth Wendell quoted in E. L. Freeman, "Ethiopia in Crisis and Blessing," *Global Witness* (August 1972): 5.

Taiwan. It totally leveled much of the agriculture and groves, but skipped over the dedicated groves of these people!

As we climbed the mountain to visit this church and these people, we heard singing voices coming up behind us. Although we could not understand the language, we could feel it. Brother Tenney turned to Professor Tommy Wu, one of the brethren who served as our interpreter, and asked, “Are they singing hymns?” He explained to us that the children always come home from school singing hymns.

Soon there came into view happy little faces and the sound of the standard greeting of the village, “Hallelujah!”

This church stands tall on the mountainside, with its terrazzo floors, organ, and prayer benches as a memorial of thanksgiving for the changing power of the gospel.

This is just one of the 150 churches of the True Jesus Church of Taiwan. Their largest church has over 1300 members; several have 800 or more. Brother and Sister Tenney, and Regional Supervisor Harry Scism, were guests in their churches in the [capital] city of Taipei and at their headquarters building in Tai Chung where they had discussions with the church officials.

This is a strong indigenous church. Before the revolution they had over 1000 churches in Mainland China. They are strong—Jesus’ name baptism, Holy Ghost infilling with tongues, mighty God in Christ—believers.

Elder Chien, I. Chen, Deacon John Yang, Professor Wu and many others received our delegation with a great spirit of warmth and hospitality.⁵⁵⁹

Missionary Bonus Accounts

After the May/June 1972 FMB sessions, savings accounts were established for the missionaries entitled to bonus accounts. Funds were to be held in escrow in these accounts until the missionaries came home. These accounts were set up according to the missionaries’ desires, with the FM secretary as the third party in order to protect the accounts.⁵⁶⁰

Ghana

A beautiful picture of the Ghana headquarters project and College of the Bible facilities appeared in the July 1972 *Global Witness*. The accompanying article describes the hunger of humble residents to participate in the festivities of such an accomplishment:

Ninety-six were filled with the Holy Ghost! Some in the dawn prayer meetings; others in the evening evangelistic services. Twenty-one received the Holy Ghost on Saturday afternoon as they came out of the water. Thirty-four were baptized in water in the lovely name of Jesus. Sixty-four were baptized the following week. . . . Hundreds came, loaded down with their blanket, pillow, basket of food, and perhaps a change or two of clothes. Some came on trains, not modern comfortable ones, but simple open-air cars with wooden benches to sit on, if they were lucky. . . . One pastor’s wife stood all day (180 miles) on the train with a baby on her back and provisions on her head, holding a strap to keep her balance.

More than 3,000 attended the convention, which was held in the city of Accra under a palm-leaf canopy near the headquarters site. . . . We were especially honored to have Brother and Sister M. J. Wolfe, District Superintendent of Illinois. Brother Wolfe conducted a most appropriate and impressive dedication of our new headquarters complex. . . . 3000 have received the Holy Ghost, 4000 have been baptized in Jesus name, and a total of 45 licensed ministers and national workers serve 55 churches in Ghana.⁵⁶¹

⁵⁵⁹ T. F. Tenney, “True Jesus Church,” *Global Witness* (June 1972): 4.

⁵⁶⁰ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (May 31, 1972).

⁵⁶¹ R. K. Rodenbush, “Ghana,” *Global Witness* (July 1972): 2–3.

Edinburgh, Scotland

Mervyn Miller purchased a beautiful building for Edinburgh, Scotland. He said, “This is a great step toward evangelizing the British Isles.”⁵⁶² He further expressed his appreciation to the Doyle Spears family who had ministered in London where nine were filled with the Holy Ghost.

Trinitarians Note Ecuador’s Growth

The fruit of UPCI missionary service in Ecuador was so prolific and outstanding that Gerald Reed, missionary for the Missionary Gospel Union, chronicled it in *Evangelism in the Depths*. Gospel Union officials often visited the spirited UPCI church services to ascertain the reasons for the phenomenal growth. One of the graphs in *Evangelism* depicting the growth pattern of many missionary organizations shows the UPCI of Ecuador as a classic record of success.⁵⁶³

Korea’s Revival

Seven years prior to 1972, Elton and Loretta Bernard moved with their children, David and Karen, to Korea. They were welcomed by the seemingly impossible requirements to establish residence: Korean national customs and denominations other than the UPCI said it was impossible to establish a United Pentecostal Church in Korea, and the language was difficult.

During the last week of April 1972, Thomas Craft and Kenneth Phillips preached a camp meeting in Korea during which over five hundred received the Holy Ghost! The nightly audience of two thousand included Methodists, Presbyterians, Baptists, Assemblies of God, and other Pentecostals. Five ordained ministers—four Presbyterians and one Salvation Army—were baptized, opening the door to the denominational world in Korea!

Tom Fred Tenney wrote about the Korean revival in his travelogue: “A 1000 square foot baptismal pool was erected for one of the largest Jesus’ name baptisms since the Day of Pentecost! Six hundred were buried with Christ during the week of services.” Participating in the baptisms were FM Director Tenney, RFS Harry Scism, Thomas Craft, and a number of national ministers.⁵⁶⁴

Thomas Craft and Kenneth Phillips continued their evangelistic tour in India, while the Doyle Spears family traveled throughout England, Scotland, Holland, Germany, Italy, Sicily, Jerusalem, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, and South Africa.

Other Missionary News

The August 1972 *Global Witness* reported that in Nicaragua, Central America, Edwin Judd ministered under a palm-leaf arbor with Robert Beasley interpreting. In previous years the UPCI had supported Oneness ministers in Nicaragua, but Brother Beasley was the first UPCI missionary appointed to that country. Brother Beasley began his work in Granada but later he acquired property in the capital city of Managua.

In the midst of spiritual advances, James Burton was involved in a terrible accident in Venezuela, but escaped serious injury. The September 1972 *Global Witness* reported that his car went over a 400-foot embankment. It seems that the forces of darkness were attacking UPCI missionaries!

Other magnificent growth patterns emerged in other parts of the world:

⁵⁶² Mervyn Miller, “Edinburgh, Scotland,” *Global Witness* (September 1972): 3.

⁵⁶³ Gerald Reed, *Evangelism in the Depth* (Quito, Ecuador: Gospel Missionary Union Press, 1973), 11.

⁵⁶⁴ T. F. Tenney, “Korean Revival,” *Global Witness* (October 1972): 6.

- A new church building was constructed in Belo Horizonte, Brazil, a city of 1.5 million.
- Margaret Calhoun traveled with the DeMerchants in the Amazon Basin.
- Thomas Peavy constructed a new church in Marsala, Italy, where fifty had received the Holy Ghost since April 1972.
- Nineteen received the Holy Ghost in Tananarive, Madagascar, and eight were baptized.
- James Wood baptized three converts in Tehran, Iran, and two of them were filled with the Holy Ghost (a small increase, but significant for Iran.) He wrote in the October 1972 *Global Witness*, "People who had never been in a Christian church found their way to a Pentecostal altar to pray that heaven [would] open."
- Brother and Sister C. M. Becton ministered to the 1972 European General Conference. Mervyn Miller said that eleven different countries were represented in the crowd that exceeded four hundred in the last service. Five received the Holy Ghost and fifteen were baptized. Also present were RFS Hulon Myre, Thomas and Barbara Peavy from Italy, and George and Cheryl Craft from the British Isles
- Brother and Sister C. H. Yadon ministered effectively in India, Thailand, Indonesia, and the Philippine Islands.
- The H. E. Gerald family arrived on location in Nigeria.
- Sixty-six received the Holy Ghost in Liberia.
- George White baptized ninety-seven in Jesus' name in Indonesia.
- The Bill Glasers baptized five in Germany.

RFS Edwin Judd and his son, Steve, got a taste of backwoods missionary service. With Dale Brown of Peru, they climbed into the back of an open truck to sit on a cargo of sacked coffee and ride nearly all night wrapped in their sleeping bags for protection against the cold. They arrived in Juliaca, Peru, just in time for the 9:00 AM service during which eight received the Holy Ghost and seventeen were baptized.

Pakistan

It seems that when God is moving on one front, it overflows to other areas as well. Pakistan saw 381 filled with the Holy Ghost and 266 baptized, thirty-nine of these in the local water canal.⁵⁶⁵

Everett and Lois Corcoran arrived on the field in 1971 and staged the first Workers Conference in West Pakistan. Thirteen workers gathered to take advantage of the training and teaching sessions. The Corcorans were the first resident UPCI missionaries in Pakistan.

In 1972 he reported 161 baptized in Jesus' name and eighty-four filled with the Holy Ghost in this Muslim nation.⁵⁶⁶

Death of Verner Larsen

In 1972 Brother Tenney reported A. V. Larsen's death in Montreal, Canada. Verner Larsen had been an apostle to Colombia. He was a spiritual giant, and those who knew him felt it was an honor just to have been acquainted and associated with him.

Verner Larsen was born in Denmark in 1904 and immigrated to Canada in 1931. He was baptized in Jesus' name in March 1932. He married Abigail Staples in June 1932 and received the Holy Ghost at the Newcastle Bridge camp meeting in August.

He pastored at Midlands and Chipman for about five years and then sailed for Colombia in May 1937. He encountered much persecution and tragedy. In 1938 he lost Abigail after she gave birth to a

⁵⁶⁵ "Revival in Pakistan," *Global Witness* (August 1972): 6.

⁵⁶⁶ "News—Pakistan," *Global Witness* (December 1972): 2.

baby girl. Two years later Brother Larsen married Fayette Barnard, a lady missionary. In 1949 he built a church at Barranquilla, Colombia. He was the national superintendent of Colombia until 1967.

Under his ministry God visited Colombia with a tremendous outpouring of the Holy Spirit, resulting in thousands of hungry hearts experiencing their personal Pentecost.

He moved to Montreal in 1970 to preach to the French. Here he pastored until his death. Paul Moulton, missionary to Peru, wrote:

It was my privilege to visit Brother Larsen on seven different occasions in Colombia. In 1959 we were traveling by pickup across a desert part of northern Colombia where there was scattered habitation. I said I didn't know why the Lord saved me when no one would ever stop to tell those scattered souls about the Gospel. Brother Larsen said, "The Lord saved you to serve!" I have never forgotten his words. That philosophy seemed to be his motto.⁵⁶⁷

The 1972 UPCI General Conference—Miami, Florida

Eight couples were commissioned for foreign missions ministry during the 1972 General Conference. New missionaries H. D. McCrury to Indonesia, H. F. Shoemaker to Madagascar, H. E. Gerald to Nigeria, and Jeris and Alicia Tubb to Jamaica [short-term missionaries sponsored by Overseas Ministries], joined the four returning missionary families to their fields of service.

Also recommended for missionary appointments were Donald Hanscom to Pakistan, Jerry Burns as assistant missionary to Venezuela, Sidney Perdue to Colombia, and Philip Walmer to Brazil.

The Foreign Missions Director's 1972 Annual Report

T. F. Tenney had a way with words, and his reports read as though he were speaking to a classroom full of students. His remarks were always timely, and his facts verified. Below is an excerpt from his 1972 annual report to the General Board of Presbyters:

The progress of our various mission fields around the world is at an all time high. We now have 140 missionaries under appointment by the United Pentecostal Church International. These are assisted by some 2,425 national workers. We now have approximately 2,670 congregations preaching this full gospel message in many nations of the world. Our overseas churches report that they opened 378 branches and baptized 16,846 members during the last year. This is an average of over one church a day. We have missionaries and national contacts now operating in 64 nations.⁵⁶⁸

Four new nations opened in 1972: Nigeria, Kenya, Tonga, and Italy. National pastors and evangelists had also moved into several new fields. National ministers in Ghana had reached into Togoland, Upper Volta, and Dahomy. Liberia had reached out to Sierra Leone, and Rhodesia had reached up to Mali and Zambia as the flame of Pentecost spread over the continent of Africa. National churches were creating a complete circle as they fulfilled their missionary responsibilities.

FM giving during the past fiscal year achieved a record \$1,571,595! Of that amount, the Youth Division contributed \$142,762, and the Ladies Auxiliary contributed \$27,000. Sheaves for Christ funds were used primarily for automobiles, literature, and education of missionary children. The Ladies Auxiliary furnished household appliances for the family and dental care for the missionary children. The Ladies Auxiliary also provided support for foreign Bible school students.

The report further indicated that the number of overseas Bible schools had increased from ten to twelve. In addition, twenty-six mission fields had conducted pastors' training seminars. A total of 810 students were enrolled in these two training venues.

⁵⁶⁷ Paul Moulton in Verner Larsen's Memorial Service Brochure, 1972.

⁵⁶⁸ T. F. Tenney, "Annual Report to the General Board," October 1972.

Regional-level administration was in the implementation stage with four regional field supervisors on location. This had proven to be an outstanding step forward for the UPCI foreign missions endeavor. These midlevel administrators had greatly enhanced the effectiveness of the world missionary outreach, which had boosted missionary morale.

Two regional field retreats had been conducted in 1972, one in Baggio, Philippines, and the other in Quito, Ecuador. Missionaries from these two regions gathered for a week of orientation, study, prayer, and fellowship. Missionaries referred to these gatherings as an outstanding step forward in missionary history.

Four target cities were chosen for the coming year: Accra, Ghana; Manila, Philippines; Buenos Aires, Argentina; and London, England. The goal was to impact these metropolitan areas with revival.⁵⁶⁹

Advances were made in India with the transition from missionary leadership to national leadership. M. Joseph, who had served and trained under Harry Scism for many years, was appointed as superintendent of the UPC of India.

Finances Discontinued for Joint UPCI/Mexico Venture

The FMB decided to terminate funding the missionary endeavors of the Mexican worker in El Salvador effective January 1, 1973. The sister organization in Mexico would be notified accordingly.⁵⁷⁰

Wayne Rooks and T. C. Bonnette Appointed to the Foreign Missions Board

Since Edwin Judd and Hulon Myre had been appointed as regional field supervisors, two new members were added to the FMB: T. C. Bonnette, pastor in Oakdale, Louisiana, who had served as foreign missions representative for the Louisiana District, and Wayne Rooks, pastor in Miami, Florida, a friend of traveling missionaries as they departed from or arrived in the strategic city of Miami.

Sixteen Pastors Baptized in Nairobi, Kenya

In the late fall of 1972 three Trinitarian Pentecostal preachers visited a service in Nairobi, Kenya. Conversing with John Harris and W. H. Cupples, they learned about the apostolic formula of baptism. They invited the missionaries to teach their churches this truth. The missionaries drove 250 miles into Western Kenya and met with twenty ministers and many of their constituents. Within two months they returned to the area to find that the message had taken root. Sixteen pastors and fifty-six of their constituents were baptized in Jesus' name. Shortly afterward, 150 additional constituents were baptized.⁵⁷¹

Earthquake in Nicaragua

The March 1973 *Global Witness* reported a tragedy in Nicaragua, Central America, as a gigantic earthquake leveled Managua. Buildings and churches were totally destroyed, but the Beasleys were unhurt. Foreign Missions published an appeal for funds for rebuilding, and Robert Beasley rebuilt the work. For the Managua church the "disaster" was transformed into a blessing.

Mark Hanby Preaches in Indonesia

In 1973 Mark Hanby from Fort Worth, Texas, spoke in Semarang, Indonesia: "During three days of meetings . . . the Holy Spirit moved in a marvelous way. In the evenings the attendance was very large

⁵⁶⁹ The Buenos Aires crusade did not take place until 1974.

⁵⁷⁰ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (September 23, 1972): 3.

⁵⁷¹ "16 Trinitarian Preachers Baptized," *Global Witness* (April 1973): 2.

and the response was outstanding. All over the congregation people were filled with the Holy Spirit. . . . During two weeks of services, 250 were filled with the Holy Spirit.”⁵⁷²

Auckland, New Zealand, Headquarters Project Approved

New Zealand was also bursting with harvest! The church under the leadership of Lloyd Moreau was deeply involved in extending the borders of the kingdom. The work was registered with the government in 1973 and reported twenty-two licensed ministers and twelve churches.

During the School of Missions in Hot Springs, Arkansas, the FMB discussed the need for a headquarters building in Auckland, New Zealand. They approved Lloyd Moreau’s request to raise \$15,000 in his PIM letters to purchase property but cautioned that he would probably need to raise money for the project during his next furlough.⁵⁷³

R. C. Bettis had applied for appointment to Australia, but the FMB first wanted a report from Brother Bettis’s ophthalmologist. If the doctor’s report was acceptable, then the board would recommend Brother Bettis’s appointment with the stipulation that he sign a waiver of responsibility concerning his eyesight.⁵⁷⁴

Lloyd Shirley Appointed to the Leeward Islands

Lloyd and Nancy Shirley of Worthington, Minnesota, expressed their burden for the Leeward Islands, and the board recommended that they be appointed to the Caribbean area, particularly the Leeward Islands.⁵⁷⁵

Death of William H. Cupples

William H. Cupples of Kenya, East Africa, was taken from this life on May 21, 1973. He was busily engaged in outreach until the hour of his death. Brother Cupples left a beautiful wife, a son Eddie, and one daughter, Ruth Ann. Sister Cupples and Eddie were in Kenya when the accident occurred.

RFS E. L. Freeman, Brother Cupples, and fellow missionary, John Harris, had been en route from Nairobi to a country meeting. Swerving off the road to avoid a head-on collision with a truck, another truck struck the missionaries’ auto from behind. Asleep in the back seat, Brother Cupples was killed instantly while Brother Freeman and Brother Harris were severely injured.

The memorial service for Brother Cupples was held in Tennessee where a crowd of about 1,500 relatives and friends gathered.⁵⁷⁶

On the day he was killed, a letter from Brother Cupples arrived at the World Evangelism Center in which he told of preaching to five hundred people. He was thrilled and happy to be ministering in Kenya. Over fifty people were baptized the night of the accident.

Members of Other Denominations Search for Truth

In many fields the missionary family found favor in the hearts of denominational ministers and constituents. Pastors were learning about a personal experience in the Holy Spirit and were excited to hear the Book of Acts message. Churches of various denominations were penetrated not by our preachers or missionaries, but by their own members after visiting a UPC service. Sincere members asked questions,

⁵⁷² Donald W. Fisher, “Supervisor Scism Trip,” *Global Witness* (April 1973): 4.

⁵⁷³ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 17, 1973): 10.

⁵⁷⁴ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (November 9, 1972): 5.

⁵⁷⁵ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (February 8, 1972): 4.

⁵⁷⁶ Donald W. Fisher, “William H. Cupples,” *Global Witness* (July 1973): 6.

and when the pastor's response did not correspond to biblical truth, the church simply died as its members flowed into a church that was often housed in primitive quarters . . . but that held truth!

Midsummer 1973 saw some changes:

- Richard Carver's Australian appointment to New Guinea opened a new field.
- George and Helen White retired from Indonesia after twenty years.
- Billy Cole took a pastorate in Wheeling, West Virginia.
- George Shalm returned to Canada.
- Joseph Domingues arrived in Portugal.

Pastoral Committee

Brother Tenney invited a pastoral committee to WEC to evaluate the work of missions. These men charted exciting avenues of international outreach to be shared and approved by the fellowship during the 1973 General Conference in Salt Lake City.

The pastors who served on this committee were Don Howard (Texas District FM director), Fred Kinzie (Toledo, Ohio), Fred Foster (West Monroe, Louisiana), G. A. Mangun (Alexandria, Louisiana), James Manning (St. Louis, Missouri), and William Schmidt (Marion, Indiana). Tom Fred Tenney, general director of Foreign Missions, chaired the meeting.⁵⁷⁷

Fred Tinus Becomes Ill in Austria

After Fred Tinus's surgery, doctors reported to his family that he had only a short time to live. He asked to stay on the field, trusting the Lord to heal him. Like every missionary, Brother Tinus felt a special responsibility to his field. He had written the office that he had been forewarned that the devil was not pleased with the success of the Yugoslavian church. Shortly afterward he was hospitalized with double pneumonia. While Brother Tinus's condition improved, he was later diagnosed with cancer.⁵⁷⁸

Target City Crusades

Midsummer 1973 was a time of ingathering. Citywide crusades in Accra, Ghana, Seoul, Korea, and Manila, Philippines, and London, England, were in full swing:

Accra, Ghana: The speakers were Kenneth Phillips and G. A. Mangun. Also present were RFS E. L. Freeman, Robert Rodenbush, and Edward Allard. Crutches were hung along the wall as the healing touch of the Lord swept over the crowds.

Seoul, Korea: The speaker was Thomas Craft of Jackson, Mississippi. Elton Bernard led the services and Brother Craft preached to an over-packed house. Converts were baptized in Jesus' name in the world's largest baptistery as the Holy Spirit moved nightly.

Manila, Philippines: The speakers were Mark Hanby and Thomas Craft. Expo Manila '73 remained a hallmark for years, and missionaries learned that the miraculous should be the norm. The blind saw, goiters disappeared, and cripples walked during this Holy Ghost outpouring. Carl Adams was ecstatic as God moved on the nightly crowd.

London, England: Mark Hanby of Fort Worth, Texas, spoke at this crusade, in Westminster Central Hall, held September 11–15, 1973. Approximately 1,300 attended the meetings. Conviction moved the hearers, who responded to the invitation to pray. Of those in the altar, fifty received the Holy Ghost.

⁵⁷⁷ "Pastors' Committee," *Global Witness* (June 1973): 4.

⁵⁷⁸ "Prayer for Brother Tinus," *Global Witness* (June 1973): 4.

Chuck Gray Visits Ecuador

Many mission fields benefit from visits by North American ministers. Chuck Gray, a well-known banjo picker and singer, visited Ecuador and his ministry resulted in thirty-eight filled with the Holy Ghost and twenty-one baptized in Jesus' name.⁵⁷⁹

Ecuador's churches were bulging at the seams. One small church in Sabanilla was meeting in a shed beside a private home. Elga Battle constructed a building in order that the congregation of over a hundred members would not have to worship under such conditions in the open air. A picture of this church is in the April 1973 *Global Witness*.

The FM Director's Travel Itinerary

From the reports, it seems that FM Director Tenney was everywhere! His great concern for the lost would not let him rest, and the rigorous travel schedule must have left him exhausted. But Brother Tenney seemed fresh and alive when his feet touched the soil of a foreign field. Looking back, I feel selfish to have asked him to come to Ecuador, but we were so pleased at what God was doing that we wanted the world to know! Thank you, Brother Tenney, for your untiring labor of developing the tools and finances needed to bring the UPCI to its greatest hour.

The Fred Scotts in Paraguay

Fred and Vida Scott were sent to Paraguay to lend continuity to the work there. Soon after they arrived they baptized six and witnessed frequent healings. One young woman, a converted Catholic, had a bulging cancer on her back, which the doctors had diagnosed as terminal. While Brother Scott ministered, the cancer disappeared!⁵⁸⁰

Tom Hare Appointed to the Military District

During the June 1973 FMB sessions, Brother Tenney explained that Tom Hare from Indianapolis was willing to assume the responsibility of the military work in Germany while Wayne Nigh was on furlough. The board recommended his appointment to Germany to work under the supervision of Hulon Myre, RFS of Europe and the Middle East.⁵⁸¹ In September 1973 Tom, Linda, and Cara Hare became residents of Kaiserslautern, Germany, to supervise the military work while Wayne Nigh was home on furlough. Hundreds of American servicemen were evangelized through this productive ministry.

The Philippines

In his inbound briefing Gordon Mallory told the FMB of God's marvelous blessings on the Philippines. From May 1972 to May 1973, 3,026 had been baptized and 1,544 had received the Holy Ghost. The Philippine work had grown to twelve thousand members with approximately three hundred licensed ministers and over five hundred congregations, fifty of which were established during the past year.⁵⁸²

⁵⁷⁹ "Ecuador," *Global Witness* (August 1973): 3.

⁵⁸⁰ "Miracle," *Global Witness* (September 1973): 3.

⁵⁸¹ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (June 4, 1973).

⁵⁸² Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (June 5, 1973): 2.

June 1973 Foreign Missions Board Decisions

Decisions made by the board in its June 1973 sessions included recommendations for missionary appointments: Robert Johnson of Bloomington, Indiana, was appointed to Brazil. Wayne Nigh transferred to Germany and located “in a place other than Kaiserslautern, West Germany” [Wiesbaden]. O. E. Johnson was appointed to Colombia, and Fred Hyde transferred from Indonesia to the Philippines. Judy Norris was appointed as a missionary helper to Brazil.⁵⁸³

Brother Corcoran was authorized to solicit up to \$22,000 for the purchase of headquarters property in Pakistan.

By this time George and Cheryl Craft were deeply involved in Dutch language study in The Netherlands.

Death of Fred Tinus

Sadness gripped the missionary family as they received the news of Fred Tinus’s death. He was well-known and loved, having been with many missionaries during the commissioning service at the SOM in January 1971 in St. Louis. Fred Tinus and his family had moved to Vienna, Austria, stopping at intervals to visit with missionary families en route. His ministry left a number of people filled with the Holy Ghost.

In just a matter of months, reports of his illness with cancer arrived at the World Evangelism Center. Prayers of faith and hope were lifted before God from around the world. As his condition worsened, he returned to Toronto, Canada. Brother Tinus died in Toronto on July 26, 1973. He left a wife, children, and an infant church in Vienna.⁵⁸⁴

Margaret Calhoun

In 1973 Margaret Calhoun of Brazil raised her PIM support in record time, which allowed her to use her valuable talents at the WEC to compile and write lesson material to be used for Overseas Ministries. The scriptural command to go and teach involved training national leaders and ministers. When men are converted, many are called to ministry. Missionaries who did not train nationals to assume much of the evangelistic load were limiting their effectiveness. Thank God for missionaries like Margaret Calhoun. Little did we know that her life would be suddenly taken from her in the Amazon Basin. But her work lives on and her voice can still be heard.

Dorsey and Bev Burk

Dorsey and Bev Burk, a promising couple who would engage in many facets of mission work, began serving as a short-term teaching unit in the Caribbean Bible Institute in Kingston, Jamaica. The Overseas Ministries program sponsored them.⁵⁸⁵ The Burks later served as missionaries to Germany, and Dorsey eventually became the executive assistant to the FM director of promotion.

Don and Sandra Hanscom Arrive in Pakistan

One of the world’s promising fields was Pakistan. Great things would be accomplished in this Muslim country. God sent a powerful presence in Don and Sandra Hanscom. When they arrived in Lahore, they immediately became immersed in language study.⁵⁸⁶

⁵⁸³ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (June 6, 1973).

⁵⁸⁴ “In Memory of Missionary Fred Tinus,” *Pentecostal Herald* (October 1973): 8.

⁵⁸⁵ “The Burks to Jamaica,” *Global Witness* (January 1974): 4.

⁵⁸⁶ “The Hanscoms Arrive on the Field,” *Global Witness* (January 1974): 3.

1973 Ecuadorian Conference

Ecuador celebrated the 1973 annual National Conference in Guayaquil. During the conference Brother Battle revealed his deep burden for Brazil and his decision to apply for a transfer there. The Ecuadorian church felt a tremendous sense of loss. Daniel Scott was named the superintendent of Ecuador. Forty received the Holy Ghost during a great move of Spirit. The ministerial roster increased to forty licensed preachers ministering to forty churches and multiple preaching points.⁵⁸⁷

1973 General Conference—Salt Lake City, Utah

By now the tremendous cause of world evangelism was etched deeply into the hearts of United Pentecostals everywhere. The advances contained in the FM director's annual report reflected what had been made possible by the love, prayers, missionary giving, and life commitment of people in local churches throughout the constituency. World conditions demanded a sense of urgency; the whole gospel must reach the whole world! The openness of many lands to hear the gospel of Christ gave emphasis and encouragement to invest in the business of souls. The abundant harvest energized missionaries to maximum endeavor.

T. F. Tenney was visibly touched as he reported:

There has been a note of tragedy in our missionary fellowship this year. Three of our Foreign Missions family met death during the last fiscal year. They were Brother Kenneth Wendell, Brother William Cupples, and Brother Fred Tinus. We mourn their loss. . . .

Encouraging overseas reports of missionary activities, significant evangelistic results, record financial support, and other opportunities fed a growing optimism among our missionaries.

. . . We now have 128 missionaries under appointment by the United Pentecostal Church International. These are assisted by 2489 national workers. We now have approximately 2825 congregations preaching this full gospel message. Our overseas districts reported that they opened 371 new congregations during the last year.

This is an average of over one new church a day. We have missionaries and national contacts now operating in 64 nations. Your United Pentecostal missionaries are the most productive and diligent to be found anywhere in the world.

Three new nations received their first resident United Pentecostal Church missionaries this fiscal year: Portugal, France, and Paraguay. In addition to this, our national pastors and evangelists have continued to move into other new fields. The church in Ghana has moved into Ivory Coast, where over 1,000 have been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. The United Pentecostal Church of Burma has been organized. This is due, to a great extent, to national workers going into Burma from India. The church in Australia has sent its first missionary into New Guinea.⁵⁸⁸

Brother Tenney's report reflected the financial growth of the past year: FM giving reached a record \$2,205,390, an increase of 30 percent over the previous year. Of that amount, the Youth Department allocated \$172,953 from Sheaves for Christ and the Ladies Auxiliary gave \$36,250 to provide appliances for missionary ladies.

International evangelism was emphasized through the Target Cities program. Four target-city crusades had made UPCI history. Pentecost fell in Accra, Ghana; Seoul, Korea; Manila, Philippines; and London, England. During the ten-day crusade in Accra 942 received the Holy Ghost. In Manila six hundred were filled, and in Seoul five hundred were filled. These outpourings were accompanied by blinded eyes being opened, deaf ears being unstopped, and a number of lame people being healed.

⁵⁸⁷ "Ecuador," *Global Witness* (November 1973): 3.

⁵⁸⁸ T. F. Tenney, "Annual Report to the General Board," October 1973.

The 1973 General Conference was a pivotal point in FM giving as a tremendous move toward missions reverberated throughout the conference with a \$35,000 cash offering, \$10,000 in PIM commitments, \$335,000 in pledges, in addition to real property, watches, rings, coins, and other personal property.⁵⁸⁹

Missionaries Recommended for Appointment—1973

Recommendations for missionary appointments during the 1973 General Conference included Don and Donna Bryant to Paraguay, Charles and Janet Abernathy to Malawi, East Africa, E. O. and Claree Battle to Brazil, Vondas Smith to Bolivia, Barbara Flannery as an assistant missionary to Colombia, Daniel Scott Jr. as a missionary evangelist to Latin America, and approval for Jonathan Urshan to minister in Iran for several weeks.

Death of Carl Hensley

Carl and Mabel Hensley were members of the PAW when they went to China as missionaries in May 1915. Brother Hensley remained with the PAW throughout his life, but in 1941 Mabel became a member of the PAJC. When that group merged into the United Pentecostal Church, she retained her license with the new organization.

While still single, Mabel had experienced a missionary call while Andrew Urshan was speaking in Frank Ewart's church. After her marriage to Carl, the call to China intensified. God then began dealing with her husband about going to China, but both were reluctant to discuss it. Then one day Carl heard Mabel in intense prayer pleading for God's direction, and they found that they shared their burden. Harry Morse, pastor in Oakland, California, facilitated their departure with an offering during a missions rally with Elizabeth Stieglitz as the speaker. G. T. Haywood also supported their ministry, and they joined the early missionary family in China. The Japanese/Chinese war closed down their missionary work, and continuing hostilities prevented them from ever returning to Kunyui.

Carl Hensley went to meet the Lord on September 24, 1973, and Fred Reed of Troy, Michigan, and Fred Kinzie of Toledo, Ohio, officiated at his funeral.⁵⁹⁰

Associates in Missions Concept

In 1974 the concept of the Associates in Missions program was introduced under the canopy of Overseas Ministries. It was a program of short-term missionary involvement to provide missionaries with evangelistic help, Bible school work, and other duties. The program has proven to be a training ground and resource pool for future missionaries, as well as providing missionaries on the field with short-term assistance.⁵⁹¹

A New Mind-set about World Missions

The subsequent years brought many advances for the FMD with extraordinarily rapid growth during the 1970s and 80s. With this level of success the UPCI began viewing the possibilities of an outpouring of the Holy Spirit of apostolic proportions with a new mind-set and confidence that the entire world really could be evangelized. God's mandate for the church was not unattainable; He had promised that He would work with the church that believed! The entire international body was ready to achieve a new dimension of service. The church would believe for thousands to be swept into the kingdom.

⁵⁸⁹ Donald W. Fisher, "Salt Lake General Conference," *Global Witness* (January 1974): 2.

⁵⁹⁰ Mary Wallace, *Profiles of Pentecostal Missionaries* (Hazelwood: Word Aflame Press, 1986), 134.

⁵⁹¹ "Associates in Missions," *Pentecostal Herald* (February 1980): 12.

As 1973 came to a close with the FMB sessions in Columbus, Ohio, during the SOM, the following decisions were made: Sharon Baker was approved as a missionary helper in Brazil, Robin H. Ferris as a missionary helper in Rhodesia, and John K. Moulton as a missionary helper in Peru. Brother and Sister Paul Haygood were approved for three months of overseas evangelism in Europe.

Foreign Missions Continues to Escalate in 1974

The year 1974 was a pivotal point in world missions. The North American component forged a more personal partnership with what was being done on the foreign field. Much of the credit for this was due to T. F. Tenney's commitment to communicate, which involved local pastors in the total concept of world missions. The 1974 general director's annual report to the General Board shows that the UPCI had 154 missionaries under appointment working with 2,618 national pastors and evangelists among 3,009 congregations outside of North America. The missionaries and national leaders opened 438 new congregations during the previous annual reporting period.⁵⁹² Therefore, in many ways, events of 1974 broadened the vision of what God could do through a united front. The entire church body entered a new phase of development—a catalytic revival of apostolic proportions swept through the church at home and abroad.

Headquarters Property for Buenos Aires, Argentina

An outstanding opportunity opened in Argentina when available property was discovered. An urgent communication was sent to the FMB, and the board approved the purchase of headquarters and Bible school property in Buenos Aires; \$15,000 would come from H. D. Yadon, \$15,000 from John Hattabaugh's PIM, and \$11,000 from the Sacrifice Fund. Any future donations for the headquarters property would be returned to the Sacrifice Fund.⁵⁹³

1974 Foreign Missions Board Decisions

With the growth of the missionary family, the board had to create policy to monitor missionaries' travels. After discussion, the decision to monitor was settled because immediate knowledge of the missionaries' whereabouts outweighed any negative effects. When missionaries wanted to leave their region to visit in another region for a specified length of time, they had to request it in writing to the FM Administrative Committee.⁵⁹⁴

The 1974 board interviewed and recommended David and Theresa Banta for appointment to South Korea and Fred and Betty Hyde to Thailand.

Also facing the board was the urgent need to train potential leaders. Property for Bible school facilities were approved for Nairobi, Kenya, at a cost of \$30,000, and financed by \$15,000 from the Cupples Memorial and Bible School fund. The remainder was loaned from the Sacrifice Fund, to be repaid with rental by a missionary who would eventually live there.⁵⁹⁵

Due to his extremely successful evangelism and encouragement to the missionary family, evangelist Leo Upton was approved for four more months in Africa, beginning in May 1974.⁵⁹⁶

⁵⁹² T. F. Tenney, "Annual Report to the General Board," October 1974.

⁵⁹³ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (February 5, 1974): 2.

⁵⁹⁴ Ibid., 3.

⁵⁹⁵ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (November 6, 1974): 8.

⁵⁹⁶ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (February 6, 1974): 3.

David Theobald Appointed as Director of Promotion and Publications

The increased vision and phenomenal response increased the workload, which required the time and talent of more personnel. The FMB and the General Board wanted to intensify efforts in training capable nationals overseas, which required more training materials.

T. F. Tenney wrote, "The Executive Screening Committee has authorized the services of Brother David Theobald. He will assume the duties as Director of Promotions and Publications. Brother Fisher will be giving his full time to Overseas Ministries."⁵⁹⁷

The 1974 Foreign Missions Board

The 1974 FMB consisted of T. F. Tenney, general director; Paul H. Box, secretary; Donald W. Fisher, coordinator of Overseas Ministries; David R. Theobald, director of promotion and publications; and board members T. C. Bonnette, J. C. Cole, Paul Cook, Paul Leaman, Wayne Rooks, F. V. Shoemake, and Carl Stephenson.

1974 Missionary Roster

The increasing number of missionaries makes it difficult to repeat the missionary roster frequently in this documentary. RFSs traveled countless miles, and reports indicated that the midlevel administration was very effective. Each region was now far greater than the total world activity of less than ten years ago! Following is the 1974 missionary personnel list by region:

Edwin and Evelyn Judd: Latin America/Caribbean

John and Rachel Hattabaugh, M. H. and Maxine Cunningham, and H. D. and Sharon Yadon served in Argentina where 775 received the Holy Spirit that year. Vondas and Leah Smith opened Bolivia in 1974, a land almost 95 percent Catholic. Robert and Jeanne Norris, Bennie and Theresa DeMerchant, Samuel and Lois Baker, Steve and Renee Baker, Margaret Calhoun, Philip and Linda Walmer, and Robert and Helen Johnson served in Brazil. Chile, stretching 2,650 miles along the western coast of South America with an average width of barely 100 miles, was served by James and Billie Dotson. In Colombia were William and Mollie Thompson, Lewis and Sallie Morley, Sidney and Mary Perdue, Orland and Shirley Johnson, and Barbara Flannery. Ecuador's forty-seven churches, three preaching points, and thirty-seven national pastors were administered by Daniel and Joretta Scott. Fred and Vida Scott and Donald and Donna Bryant served in Paraguay. Robert and Patricia Nix, Paul and Helen Moulton, and Dale and Lolita Brown were in Peru. Stanley and Ruth Baker and Darrell and Donna Geissler were in Uruguay. James and Martha Burton and Jerry and Beth Burns were in Venezuela.

The missionaries in the Caribbean were Glen and Rachel Smith, Ralph and Donna Holland, and Lloyd and Nancy Shirley. Wynn and Wanda Drost served in El Salvador, Paul and Beth Reynolds in Jamaica, and Robert and Sue Beasley in Nicaragua.

Hulon and Martha Myre: Europe/Middle East

Mervyn and Marilyn Miller and George and Carolyn Duke, British Isles; Wayne and Esther Nigh, West Germany; Bobby and Evelyn Dykes, France; James and Patsy Wood, Iran; Thomas and Barbara Peavy, Italy; George and Cheryl Craft, The Netherlands; Joseph and Eva Domingues Portugal; and Vernon and Patricia Johnson, Sweden.

⁵⁹⁷ T. F. Tenney, "Welcome the Theobald Family," *Global Witness* (February 1974): 4.

E. L. and Nona Freeman: Africa

Robert and Evangeline Rodenbush, Edward and Amelia Allard, and Else Lund, Ghana; John and Jerri Harris and Donald and Sharon Ikerd, Kenya; Denzil and Evelyn Bolton and Valda Russell, Liberia; Denzil and Freida Richardson and H. F. and Helen Shoemaker, Madagascar; Charles and Janet Abernathy, Malawi; H. E. and Mozelle Gerald, Nigeria; Wilma Nix, Rhodesia; Mack and Bobbie Carpenter, and Willis and Norma Davis, South Africa.

Harry E. and Audrene Scism: Asia/South Pacific

John and Madeline Brian, Lee Roy and Becky Sherry, and Roy and Maurine Bettis, Australia; Henry and Bonnie McCrury, Indonesia; Frances Munsey, Japan; Elton and Loretta Bernard and David and Theresa Banta, Korea; W. E. and Lane Scott, Hawaii; Lloyd and Loretta Moreau, New Zealand; Everett and Lois Corcoran and Donald and Sandra Hanscom, Pakistan; Carl and Evelyn Adams and Gordon and Afton Mallory, Philippines; Gary and Sandra Nepstad, Singapore; Don and Martha Dobyns, South Pacific Islands; and Fred and Betty Hyde, Thailand.

The silent millions in lands where freedom was greatly restricted concerned United Pentecostals worldwide. Constant reports of political and governmental suppression of missionary service only provided a greater resolve to counter the severe restrictions. Again the UPCI proved that the gates of hell shall not prevail against His church!

In the fifty-first year of organizational history, the UPCI was mindful of the sacrificial missionary service of the past. Brother Tenney referred to pioneer missionaries as the seedbed from which had sprung the successful worldwide outreach.

The Iron Curtain

Fred Kinzie wrote in the April 1974 *Global Witness*:

The stories of those attempting escape from behind it . . . of those who made it . . . and the many who didn't, flashed through my mind as our automobile approached the Iron Curtain country of Hungary. It's difficult to describe the feeling, the apprehension you have when you cross the border. Hulon Myre (Regional Field Supervisor for Europe and the Mideast), Pastor Jerry Ward (Paris, Texas) and Sam Balca (who is pastoring the work left in Vienna, Austria, by the death of Missionary Fred Tinus) who was to interpret for us, and I were on our way to Yugoslavia to minister to our brethren. It was a never-to-be-forgotten experience that will grow in meaning as time passes.

Our destination was Petrovac. . . . You could tell [the audience was] listening intently. They loved the Word of the Lord! The congregation would sit for hours on backless board benches, and no one seemed anxious to go home. Their churches were very plain, clean and a joy to attend. On several occasions, there was a deep move of the Spirit. We visited six churches, which were always crowded—standing room only. It is refreshing to know that there are so many Oneness believers in this part of the world. It is the prayer of all of us who have the unique opportunity to preach behind the Iron Curtain, that God would mightily anoint the youth of that land to propagate this gospel. Do pray for them!⁵⁹⁸

The Maritime District Returns to the United Pentecostal Church

In 1974 the pastors and churches of the former Maritime District voted to return to the UPCI fellowship, forming the Atlantic District of the United Pentecostal Church.⁵⁹⁹ However, the negative effect of the 1964 separation on Colombia and the rest of South America continued. Under the leadership

⁵⁹⁸ Fred Kinzie, "The Iron Curtain," *Global Witness* (April 1974): 9.

⁵⁹⁹ Ralph Reynolds and Joyce Morehouse, *From the Rising of the Sun* (New Westminster, British Columbia: Conexions, 1998), 149.

of RFS Edwin Judd, the issues would again be addressed in 1975, but old wounds continued to fester; the separation of the Colombian administration from the international administration has never healed. Many would go to any length to see the resentment of those years disappear and the body reunited for the glory of God.

Australia Sends a Missionary to New Guinea

A young missionary couple from Australia, Richard and Margaret Carver, felt a tremendous burden for New Guinea. When the Australian church sent them, John Brian, superintendent of Australia, said the trip would be grueling. Brother Carver and some of the nationals met John and Madeline Brian at the airstrip in Chimbu, New Guinea, and accompanied them on the last part of the trip in a truck, a distance of only thirteen miles, but it took one hour and forty-five minutes over dangerously slick, narrow roads. Brother Brian wrote:

The Carvers have done an excellent job since their arrival in New Guinea this past April. They have learned the Pidgin language and are learning another local language, have built themselves a bush house, have the building of the church started, and have reached all of the surrounding villages with their influence.⁶⁰⁰

The New Guinean chief informed Richard Carver that villagers from over the mountain would bring Keini grass and pit-pit reeds to help build a church. And come they did, singing as they crossed the mountain with heavy loads of grass and reeds on their shoulders. They pounded the reeds to make the mats for the outside walls of the church. The men put the grass on the roof, and the work in New Guinea began!

Ellis, Marjorie, and Harry Scism

The work begun by Ellis and Marjorie Scism and continued by their son, Harry, was a foreign missions success story. Northeast India now sent a missionary to Bangladesh, using Faith Promise commitments to finance the endeavor. The May 1974 *Global Witness* published pictures of the result of the commitments, as well as a picture of the Executive Board. Harry Scism wrote:

The people were informed . . . and urged to sacrifice and give to further the work. Presbyterian K. Satinuela offered a prayer of thanksgiving for all the saints in North America and the Foreign Missions Board. The people wept greatly—tears of gratitude and joy.

The reports by the District Presbyters were outstanding. Famine and persecution plagued the church, but revival and progress continue. In Brother Saihuna's district during the first six weeks of 1974, 100 were baptized and four new churches started.

The outreach of the church is ever expanding. A new district was opened during this past year. When this need was presented, many of the saints gave the money for their fares and walked 50 miles or more. Persecution has plagued this new endeavor, but victories are already coming. Plans are being made to go into Bangladesh, send a full-time worker into the new district, and then later to reach out to the Andaman Islands. The Northeast India church has its own Faith Promise and PIM plan operating through its Missions Department.

Miracles, signs and wonders have prevailed in the church of Northeast India. Revival through the power of God shall surely continue under the capable leadership of Brother Scism, Damhuala and the Indian Executive Board.⁶⁰¹

⁶⁰⁰ John Brian quoted in Donald W. Fisher, "New Guinea," *Global Witness* (February 1974): 2.

⁶⁰¹ Harry Scism, "Results of Sacrifice," *Global Witness* (May 1974): 3.

Why Foreign Missions Work Is Successful

One reason foreign missions work is so successful is that missionaries do whatever the need calls for. Imagine Carl Adams, superintendent of the work in the Philippine Islands, trekking twenty-one miles to dedicate a remote country church building in the Visayas.⁶⁰² The picture of the church building would not earn the admiration of a North American pastor, but to a missionary, every congregation in any part of his world is of the greatest importance.

Finance and the Foreign Missions Board—June 1974

The FMB struggled with the need to secure a retirement fund for missionaries on the field. After considering the growing number of missionaries who had served during their most productive years, the board considered the pension plan of David Wheeler, Stewardship director, which would place 3 percent of the missionaries' gross salary into a retirement fund. Added benefits would accrue if a missionary could donate up to a maximum of 10 percent into the fund. The board resolved to establish the Ministers' Retirement Fund.⁶⁰³

The board also gave the missionary family a much-needed financial increase:

Resolved that the new financial structure for personal support of missionaries will begin on January 1, 1975, as outlined in the Committee's report of May 14, 1974—parts one and two as follows:

1) After analysis and discussion we are recommending that all aspects of our remuneration schedule to our Missionaries remain as they are presently, with the following adjustments.

2) A new "personal support" schedule is being recommended to bring the total compensation package in line with current United States economic standards:

An unmarried missionary \$175; Husband/Wife \$350; Husband/Wife + 1 child \$400; Husband/Wife + 2 or more children \$450.⁶⁰⁴

This was an incredible blessing! While many North American pastors were preparing for retirement years, missionaries had served with only their calling to sustain them, leaving the future in the hands of God.

The missionaries recommended for appointment were as follows:

- Richard and Coral Denny to the Philippines Islands
- Change of field for Gary and Sandra Nepstad from the Philippines to Singapore
- Brother and Sister Tom O'Daniel as assistant missionaries to Ghana, West Africa
- Floyd L. and Ella Borders to New Zealand
- Brother and Sister Robert Huerta to Ecuador
- T. Wynn Drost to El Salvador

The board was concerned about the growing problem of missionaries not sending their monthly financial reports according to policy. In order to ensure compliance, the board resolved that if missionaries' reports were more than three months behind, no funds except personal and rent would be sent until the reports were received at the FM office.⁶⁰⁵

Additional decisions approved Darry and Kathy Crossley for Overseas Ministries work in Argentina, Jack Miles for OM work in Hawaii, and Jim Sleeva for an extension of his OM work in Germany. The board approved the printing of a four-page *Global Witness* twice a year.

⁶⁰² David R. Theobald, "Missionary Carl Adams Walked 21 Miles," *Global Witness* (May 1974): 4.

⁶⁰³ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (June 4, 1974).

⁶⁰⁴ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (June 5, 1974): 2.

⁶⁰⁵ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (June 7, 1974): 11.

The Work of North America's Ladies Auxiliary

Since 1966 the Ladies Auxiliary had provided new appliances for missionaries' homes. Repairs and appliance replacements were furnished to the missionaries already on location. In 1989, a very needy item—the air conditioner—was added to the list of approved appliances.

The Adopted Missionary program, in which each missionary couple received \$100 for Christmas, and an additional \$10 for each child, was initiated in 1967. Also under this program every missionary child received a personal birthday card. This program has been an untold blessing to missionaries through the years.

As of July 1974, the following amounts were contributed to the FMD: \$177,500 for appliances, \$61,500 for the Adopted Missionary program, \$28,500 for foreign Bible school student support; and \$4,000 for dental care for missionary children. Thank you, ladies, for all you have done for the missionaries serving abroad.

Argentina's Target City Crusade, "La Misma Fe"

In 1974 Thomas Craft and Robert Mitchell joined forces to preach the citywide Buenos Aires crusade, which was translated by Steve Barley of Venezuela. "La Misma Fe," or "The Same Faith," impacted the city with a dynamic demonstration of the Holy Spirit: over four hundred received the Holy Spirit as they walked through a prayer line, a deaf lady received her hearing, and James Dotson and Darrell Geissler baptized a trustee of one of Buenos Aires's largest Catholic churches. The charged atmosphere in the packed crusade center changed the city forever!⁶⁰⁶

David K. Bernard

Many MKs succeeded on the field. David Bernard expressed his thanks in the August 1974 *Global Witness*:

You may be interested to know that I have been selected Valedictorian of my class. Also I have been awarded a National Merit Scholarship, the Arthur B. Cohn scholarship, and a grant from Rice University. . . . I thank all those in the Missions Division and in Pentecost who have helped me and prayed for me.

David continued his education and earned his law degree. Later he became the assistant editor for Word Aflame. Augmented responsibilities caused him to resign this position after he founded and established the revival church he founded in Austin, Texas. At present he serves as superintendent of the South Texas District and president of Urshan Graduate School of Theology in St. Louis, Missouri.

The Impact Team

The July 1974 *Global Witness* reported that twelve young people formed an Impact Team, an innovative program that allowed young people to get a taste of missionary work as they assisted on a foreign field. They traveled extensively in Europe under the guidance of the FMD and the RFS. They stopped in England to take part in the London Aflame Target City Crusade, in Amsterdam, Holland, to be with the George Crafts, in Vienna, Austria, for the European General Conference, and in Stuttgart, Germany, for the European Missionary Retreat.

Each team member had many responsibilities. Some worked on projects assigned by the missionaries, some taught Sunday school, while others took an active part in the services. Kathy Wharton and Debbie Wheeler translated material into French and German. The previous year, Impact Team

⁶⁰⁶ David R. Theobald, "Buenos Aires Crusade," *Global Witness* (June 1974): 3–4.

members had taught and assisted in the European Bible Seminar for young people from France, Yugoslavia, Austria, Belgium, Germany, and the Military District. The team worked there under Wayne Nigh's leadership.

Alan Demos was in charge of the German tour in Kaiserslautern, where several were baptized. The team members were Kathy Wharton, Debbie Wheeler, Mark and Pat Clayton, Pat and Elaine Opelt, Jan Setzekorn, Rick Kepler, Maureen Gribben, and Jim Sleeva. Jim Sleeva's observation seems to sum up the team's participation: "The Impact Program is a real key to mobilizing our vast youth potential and putting them on the mission field. It also gives them training and exposure with experience that is priceless."⁶⁰⁷

The Latin American Regional Retreat

During the 1974 Latin American Regional Retreat in Buenos Aires forty-five missionary men and women withdrew to a secluded place. It was indeed a *retreat* for the missionaries. E. E. Judd wrote, "It was a deepening experience to be there. Time and again we were brought back to the foot of the Cross, given a fresh glimpse of Calvary, and made aware of our relationship to it. At times the Spirit was so prevalent that no one knew what to do next, or wanted to make a move lest the Holy Presence be broken."⁶⁰⁸

Once more it was evident that being with others satisfied a very real need. The relaxed, comfortable environment, the opportunity to distance themselves from their personal responsibilities, the fellowship with one another, the worship together, and the ministry of the Holy Spirit through the Word made this a time of physical, mental, and spiritual refreshing.

Jamaica Sends a Missionary to Guyana

The Jamaican church had made news throughout its existence, but when it sent a missionary to Barbados, it took its place among the mission fields that had matured sufficiently to send missionaries beyond their own borders. Jamaica's 1974 conference was an exciting event. Crowds exceeded two thousand and the preaching was highly anointed. Guest dignitaries were Donald Fisher, coordinator of Overseas Ministries, and Mervyn Miller of England.

One of the highlights of the conference was the commissioning of Brother and Sister Devon Dawson as Jamaican missionaries to Barbados. However, as the Dawsons tried to establish contacts in Barbados, that country denied permission, and when the Dawsons directed their focus to Trinidad, that country also closed the door. Jamaica enjoyed a good relationship with Guyana, so it was not difficult for the Dawsons to secure the proper permits. On April 19, 1976, after an emotional send-off in Jamaica, the Dawsons, with their five-month-old daughter, Kesha, arrived in Guyana.⁶⁰⁹

London Has Average Attendance of 505

Mervyn Miller, missionary to the United Kingdom, reported that May 1974, was the most exceptional month ever. The London central church averaged 505 in Sunday school, twelve were baptized, and eight received the Holy Ghost.⁶¹⁰

⁶⁰⁷ "Impact Team," *Global Witness* (July 1974): 2.

⁶⁰⁸ E. E. Judd quoted in David Theobald, "Latin American Caribbean Retreat," *Global Witness* (September 1974): 3-4.

⁶⁰⁹ Lorna Halls, *A Rich Heritage* (Kingston, Jamaica: Montrose Graphics Ltd., 2003), 77.

⁶¹⁰ "British Isles," *Global Witness* (October 1974): 3.

Missions Conferences throughout the Fellowship

In May 1974, Life Tabernacle of Houston, Texas, became energized when the congregation celebrated its first missions conference. The Faith Promise Plan and Partners in Missions were presented and the congregation promised \$50,000 for missions giving!

Pastor Kilgore felt it would please God to take every missionary on the field as a partner and the church backed it 100 percent. From that moment, the church looked forward to every annual missions conference.

From that date, David Theobald traveled consistently to promote annual missions conferences in every local church possible. For months the *Global Witness* was filled with reports of churches that were transformed by the program. PIM commitments boosted the revenue of the FMD until the missionaries on the field were absolutely amazed! Projects heretofore impossible became possible.⁶¹¹

Lois Baker of Brazil Suffers a Blood Clot

After a surgery, Lois Baker developed a blood clot, which precipitated an emergency trip to the States. En route to Houston, Texas, her condition worsened, forcing her to seek medical attention in Miami.⁶¹²

LaVerne Collins Memorial in Liberia

On August 15, 1975, the FMB established a memorial to LaVerne Collins at the Fassama Mission in Liberia. LaVerne had given her life to foreign missions while serving there.

Pauline Gruse had walked five days to reach this remote Liberian village to establish the mission station in Fassama. Here she worked alone for several years, the only white woman until LaVerne Collins joined her in January 1955. Unfortunately, LaVerne Collins died of a fever after serving only a few months. In August 1955, Pauline Gruse, her friend and fellow missionary, had mourned for LaVerne and buried her friend in Fassama, Liberia, Africa.⁶¹³

The Foreign Missions Finance Secretary

During the October 1974 SOM in Carlinville, Illinois, the FMB discussed the increasing need to provide a professional record of finances for the FMD. They recommended to the Church Department that a finance secretary be hired for the FMD.⁶¹⁴ Dorsey Burk assumed this role in January 1975.

Other decisions included the following:

- To recommend Elly Hansen for appointment to Thailand
- To change of field for Ralph Holland from Puerto Rico to Costa Rica, Central America
- To give \$5,000 from the Sacrifice Offering Fund to the Manila, Philippine Islands, headquarters church to help with construction work

⁶¹¹ "Record Faith Promises during Missions Conferences," *Global Witness* (October 1974): 4.

⁶¹² "Urgent Prayer Need," *Global Witness* (May 1975): 4.

⁶¹³ David R. Theobald, "LaVerne Collins' Memorial," *Global Witness* (August 1975): 1.

⁶¹⁴ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 31, 1974): 10.

The International Version of the Articles of Faith

During the 1974 FMB sessions at the SOM in Carlinville, Illinois, Edwin Judd addressed the board about the UPCI Articles of Faith, which were a required part of the registration process when a national church requested a charter. South American governments do not understand why a North American church would wish to impose upon a culture principles which, to them, have no meaning, such as conscientious scruples, certain public school activities, and religious holidays. The marriage/divorce question in the Articles of Faith is especially knotty in many Spanish- or Portuguese-speaking countries because there is no forum for divorce. The section on secret societies in the Articles of Faith is always a point of contention because many South American cultures do not understand the concept. Therefore, several countries find these teachings objectionable.

The FMB recommended to the General Board that counsel be sought as to what to do about some of the articles that did not apply to some of our Spanish- and Portuguese-speaking people in South America and other regions.⁶¹⁵ J. C. Cole motioned to appoint a committee to study the Articles of Faith and make a recommendation to the General Board to modify, if necessary, the portions that did not apply to countries outside North America. Wayne Rooks seconded the motion and it carried.

The board-appointed committee, which consisted of the four RFSs with Brother Judd as chairman, wrote the recommendation for consideration by the General Board.

The Committee's Report on the International Articles of Faith

The committee met on January 2, 1975, and offered the following recommendation, which was approved during the January 4–6, 1975, FMB sessions:

The adoption as the “International Version” of the Articles of Faith of the United Pentecostal Church International all of the articles now appearing in this document except those bearing the following titles: Foot Washing, Conscientious Scruples, Secret Societies, Marriage and Divorce, Public School Activities, and Religious Holiday. It is our opinion that the above six Articles if they appear in the “international version” will create more confusion because of cultural situations or lack of applicability than they will be of value in our creation of an “international fellowship.” We would suggest that the General Board take the appropriate action in its forthcoming meeting to authorize the publication of the Articles of Faith as above recommended.⁶¹⁶

The General Board passed the resolution that would allow churches on the foreign field to seek approval from secular governments without the cumbersome task of explaining the points that pertained only to the North American church.⁶¹⁷

Daniel Scott Jr., Missionary Associate for Ecuador and Nicaragua

The need for a furlough replacement for Nicaragua was resolved in January 1975. The board endorsed Daniel Scott Jr. as a missionary associate to Ecuador for March through May, 1975, and to Nicaragua for up to one year, beginning in May 1975.⁶¹⁸

⁶¹⁵ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 8, 1974).

⁶¹⁶ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (January 4, 1975): 1. (Foot washing was later reinstated in the International Articles of Faith.)

⁶¹⁷ Minutes: UPCI General Board (January 15, 1975).

⁶¹⁸ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (February 4, 1975): 3.

Sacrificial Offering at the New Zealand Conference

A spirit of sacrifice fell like torrential rain during the missionary service at the 1975 New Zealand conference. The Spirit of the Lord moved upon Ringa Hei Hei when he heard of the poor ministers in Samoa, Fiji, and Tonga who did not have enough clothes or shoes. Weeping, he took off his coat, tie, shoes, and socks and gave them to the poor.

Lloyd Moreau gave his best shoes and suddenly everyone joined in and gave what they could: four watches, ten Bibles, fifty-four ties, eighteen pairs of socks, thirty-one pairs of shoes, twenty-two suits, thirty men's shirts, one guitar, five boys' shirts, twenty-two men's coats, one boy's sport coat, three suitcases, twenty-five ladies' sweaters, nine men's sweaters, twelve pants, eighty-seven dresses and blouses, 2 bow ties, one manicure set, one pair of scissors, three hairbrushes, one toothbrush, one kerosene lantern, six tea towels, one bath towel, one pair of overalls, 113 items of children's wear, four blankets, one bedspread, seven hankies, five pieces of underclothing, and one electric razor.

Many of the precious people gave their best clothes they had brought to wear at the conference. Clothes are very costly in New Zealand.

Don Dobyns was the conference evangelist. The estimated peak attendance was seven hundred. During the camp meeting some thirty-five received the Holy Ghost and twenty-five were baptized in Jesus' name. The last seven were baptized at night and all seven came out of the water speaking in tongues. Five were ordained to the ministry, the first ordination service of the New Zealand church.⁶¹⁹

1975 Military District Conference

C. M. Becton, general secretary, was the special speaker for the 1975 Military District conference in Europe. Tom Hare reported that the meetings were very good. Two received the Holy Ghost, three were baptized, and a young man's eyes were healed! The auditorium seated over 250, and the congregation averaged around two hundred nightly.⁶²⁰

June 1975 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

During the June 1975 FMB sessions, the following decisions were made:

- To change of field for Charles and Janet Abernathy from Malawi and Rhodesia to South Africa
- To reassign Donald O'Keefe from Zaire to Sierra Leone
- To recommend Mike Tuttle as a missionary associate to West Germany
- To recommend Tom Shannon as a missionary associate to the Military District in West Germany
- To recommend Ferne Scism as a missionary associate to India
- To extend Darry Crossley's OM appointment status to December, 1975, for Bible school and other work in Argentina
- To extend Mark Clayton's missionary associate status to West Germany one year
- To recommend John Hughes as missionary associate to Nigeria for up to eighteen months
- To endorse Homer Compton as missionary associate to the South Pacific for one year
- To endorse Clayton Brown as missionary associate for three months to Peru to work with his father
- To endorse James Stark as missionary associate to Korea for six months to one year
- To approve Robert Huerta as president of the Ecuadorian Bible college

⁶¹⁹ "New Zealand Sacrifices," *Global Witness* (March 1975): 2.

⁶²⁰ "Military District Conference," *Global Witness* (September 1975): 3.

- To recommend that the South American Radio Committee be composed of D. L. Scott Sr., chairman, Robert Nix, James Dotson, and the RFS
- To recommend Arlie Enis for appointment as assistant missionary to the Military District
- To recommend Tom Marshall for appointment as missionary to Israel contingent upon UPCI registration there

Missionaries to Express Opinion about Regional Field Supervisors

Also considered was the need for missionaries to have the opportunity to express their opinions and choices for regional field supervisors. The board recommended:

that a form be prepared and a cover letter be sent to all missionaries, giving them an opportunity to express their feelings regarding the selection and/or reappointment of their RFS. The form should be anonymous, with a box to check the location of their region, the approval or disapproval of their present RFS, a place for nominating a replacement and for remarks and/or suggestions. It is understood that these responses will be considered by the Foreign Missions Board in the reappointment of the RFS. This information to be secured and returned to the Foreign Missions Division by September 1, 1975.⁶²¹

Due to a joint agreement between the United Pentecostal Church and the Apostolic Church of the Faith in Christ Jesus of Mexico, UPCI missionary appointment to Mexico was limited. The board therefore resolved to open Mexico as a mission field with the proviso that fellowship be maintained as much as possible with any other existing Jesus Name groups.⁶²²

1975 General Conference—Fort Worth, Texas

The sacrificial offerings during the 1975 General Conference in Fort Worth, Texas, impacted the constituency and blessed many missionaries. Besides a cash offering of \$10,000, PIM commitments reached over \$400,000. The theme was “Racing the Reaper.” The slogan was “You must go or send a substitute!”

The missionary appointments were Paul Dennis to Japan, Darry Crossley to Argentina, Arlie Enis to the Military District, Samuel Latta to Rhodesia, Danny Schreckhise to Honduras, Tom Marshall to Israel, Johnny Garrison to the Ivory Coast, Sherman Hampton to Austria, and Armando Roca as a regional evangelist.

The Foreign Missions Director’s 1975 Annual Report

Tom Fred Tenney gave this report to the General Board of Presbyters during the 1975 General Conference:

The United Pentecostal Church is now in its 51st year of organizational history. Sincerely we thank God for the sacrificial staff of the past. These pioneer missionaries have become the seedbed from which has sprung our worldwide outreach. We pay due tribute to them. We can now report an all-time high of 165 missionaries under appointment by the United Pentecostal Church International. In addition, during the past year we have had 42 other individuals serving as short-term evangelists, Bible teachers, missionary helpers, or endorsed ministers in the harvest field beyond.

Our missionary staff was assisted by 2,701 national pastors and evangelists. We can now report a total of 3,236 congregations outside North America declaring the message of Acts 2:38. In the year of 1970 we reported 1,500 congregations in our foreign districts. The above statistics will reflect that within the last five years our number of congregations overseas has more than doubled. We give praise to our God for this

⁶²¹ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (June 5, 1975): 11.

⁶²² Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (June 5, 1975).

increase. Your missionaries and their national workers opened 359 new congregations last year. We now have missionaries and national contacts in 66 nations of the world. I can assure you that your United Pentecostal missionaries are the most productive missionaries serving under any society anywhere in the world.⁶²³

In 1975, five new areas opened to the gospel: El Salvador, Costa Rica, Bolivia, Sweden, and Singapore. Missionaries were under appointment and expected to arrive in Hong Kong and Sierra Leone. In addition, several of the missionary districts continued to launch outreaches by national missionaries.

Finances for 1975 increased to a record \$3,116,253. These financial advances came in the face of dollar devaluation and rampant inflation that continued to erode the value of the foreign missions dollar. SFC contributed \$333,567 to “put wheels on the gospel.” The Ladies Auxiliary contributed \$50,000 through Mothers Memorial.

Brother Tenney further reported:

Our Partners in Missions program continues to grow. PIM subscriptions are now \$218,539 per month. These come from 3600 sources. Of the 2731 churches in North America, 1,793 churches gave \$200 or more to Foreign Missions last year. . . . It is also noteworthy that 2,509 of our churches gave at least one offering to Foreign Missions last year. This represents 92% of our local congregations. May God be thanked for the faithfulness and loyalty of His people as they stand behind His world outreach.⁶²⁴

Evangelism was the heartbeat of the church. Virtually all the mission fields had begun to conduct major evangelistic outreaches, including literature distribution, correspondence courses, and citywide crusades. Hundreds were filled with the Holy Ghost in these outreaches.

During the Lahore, Pakistan, crusade alone over five hundred received the Holy Ghost. Funds raised during the previous year’s General Conference had financed crusades in Brussels, Belgium, Amsterdam, Holland, and tri-city crusades in Britain, Paris, and South Africa. Several other crusades were being planned and awaiting financial backing. God confirmed His Word everywhere with signs following the ministered Word. The ministry of International Evangelism had reached unprecedented levels.

Overseas Ministries, the Key to World Evangelism

As Don Fisher struggled to provide missionaries with sufficient resources and to anticipate future needs, he informed the FMB that it would be virtually impossible to send enough North American missionaries to evangelize the world. He said it was neither practical nor the will of God. The mandate for world evangelism was the responsibility of the total church, and men called to ministry should be trained to share in the commission to baptize and disciple. He urged that the OM program should recruit and train national leaders to reach their own and adjacent countries. In 1975 there were sixty overseas Bible schools and training seminars with a total enrollment of 1,522 students.

In March 1975, OM took what was considered an important step to help missionaries train national workers when it supplied tape players and a monthly supply of teaching tapes. The first series of tapes offered was “The Gifts of the Spirit” by James Stewart, district superintendent of Ohio. About 170 copies of these tapes were sent monthly to missionaries and their national leaders and workers.⁶²⁵

In addition to the 1975 annual SOM, the FMD sponsored an Institute of Missions on the Gateway College of Evangelism campus. As a result of this innovative endeavor, several candidates made themselves available to the regions beyond.

Thus in many ways 1975 was an outstanding year for world evangelism. The office staff that served the foreign missions effort consisted of T. F. Tenney, general director; Paul H. Box, secretary; Donald W.

⁶²³ T. F. Tenney, “Annual Report to the General Board,” October 1975.

⁶²⁴ Ibid.

⁶²⁵ David R. Theobald, “Hear Them!” *Global Witness* (December 1975): 5.

Fisher, coordinator of Overseas Ministries; and David R. Theobald, director of promotion and publications.

Daniel Scott Jr. and Regional Evangelism

Danny Scott, son of Daniel and Joretta Scott of Ecuador, and his wife, Patricia, a niece of Denzil Richardson, were appointed on October 18, 1973, and traveled throughout Latin America for two years as a regional evangelistic team to the Spanish-speaking countries. They were effective couriers of the gospel; not only were they fluent in Spanish, but they were also acquainted with missionary life, which enabled them to face the tremendous task. As Dan finished his tour on one occasion, he wrote an article for the *Global Witness*:

“Our nets are breaking,” one of our missionaries said to me not long ago. He was expressing the thoughts of missionaries around the world. So many doors are opening; so many hungry hearts want to be fed; so much grain needs to be harvested. It is becoming impossible to adequately fulfill every needed position on the mission field.

Another missionary said, tears clouding his eyes. “If I had only one more family on the field I could open ten to twenty new works right now.” Another said, “I have no men; I have no means. Sleep is far from me at night.” In every field I visited I saw evidence of “breaking nets.” Hundreds and thousands are being swept into the kingdom today. Some of these will be drawn back into the world again, for there are no men to care for them.

Our national pastors are doing all they can. In one country one man pastors fifteen churches and is opening up a new church each month. Of course this is an outstanding case, but there are many workers overseeing five or more churches. These great men of God are sacrificing greatly to help propagate the gospel.

Do you actually believe the reports from the harvest that you read? Do you question the reality of reports of thousands receiving the Holy Ghost in days, weeks, or months? Actually the reports are greater than you hear. There are thousands receiving the Holy Spirit and there would be many more thousands if there were sufficient workers in the fields.

The devil is in the business of making the church ignore the great task of evangelism by putting its eyes on minor issues. He wants to bring spiritual complacency into the hearts of our people.

This is an appeal from the harvest! We desperately need your help. The fields of Asia, Africa, Europe and Latin America have so few workers. We need more men of prayer—of faith. Men of God.

Isaiah pronounced “woe” on everyone else until he was confronted with the real issues. Then he said, “Woe is me.” It was then that he opened himself for missionary service by saying. “Here am I Lord, send me.”

Can you pray that prayer today? Can you give a hand to disciples with breaking nets?⁶²⁶

Dan and Patricia traveled in Central and South America, preaching, singing, and assisting missionaries in their reach for desperate souls. They found that the fertile soil cultivated by the missionaries produced bumper crops, and the number of Spirit baptisms increased at a miraculous rate. Many of those evangelized were called to ministry, and out of those called came national pastors and evangelists. Many Latin American ministers and pastors who serve today were evangelized by the program that supported Dan and Patricia Scott.

Some of the early international evangelists were Leo Upton, Doyle Spears, Billy Cole, and Daniel Scott Jr. These families could have ministered in North America and made larger salaries, but their heartbeat was for the regions beyond!

⁶²⁶ Danny Scott Jr., “Our Nets Are Breaking,” *Global Witness* (February 1975): 3.

Reaching Out to the Colombian National Church

Excitement ran high among the South American missionary family when RFS Edwin Judd and Rainel Galvez, a Colombian missionary appointed to Bolivia, initiated a dialogue between the general officials of the UPCI, the UPCI of Colombia (UPCI missionaries serving in Colombia), and the UPC of Colombia (national organization of Colombian ministers). Both the UPC of Colombia and the UPCI of Colombia were missionary endeavors of the FMD of the United Pentecostal Church International. Expectation of breaking the impasse and healing the administrative difficulties that hampered the missionary activities electrified the region.

Campo Elias Bernal, president elect of the UPC of Colombia, responded to Brother Judd:

Brother Judd, we wish to manifest that with great joy we anticipate an opportunity to effectuate a meeting in the place and date that you consider convenient. . . . Our hope has always been to maintain good relations between the United Pentecostal Church International and the United Pentecostal Church of Colombia.⁶²⁷

Communication between Brother Judd and Brother Bernal continued until delegates met in San Cristobal, Venezuela, on August 23, 1975, to reunite the UPC of Colombia with the UPCI. Those who were present included UPCI delegates General Superintendent Stanley W. Chambers, FM Director Tom Fred Tenney, and RFS Edwin E. Judd; UPCI missionaries to Colombia, William J. Thompson, Lewis W. Morley, Sidney H. Perdue, and O. E. Johnson; Daniel L. Scott Sr., field superintendent of Ecuador; Wynn T. Drost, field superintendent of El Salvador (serving as the translator); and UPC of Colombia delegates Domingo Zuniga, general superintendent; Sergio Forrero, Foreign Missions director; and Campo Elias Bernal.

The delegates created a nine-point agreement that was unanimously accepted by all present. The agreement proposal was discussed point by point. Brother Tenney thought the preamble should be changed to omit any reference to any persons whose actions caused the meeting to take place. The preamble was so changed. Daniel Scott suggested that a committee be formed to oversee the fellowship and cooperation, and it was decided that a Problems Resolution Board should be composed of three members of each church organization, including the general superintendent of each organization and two more members to be appointed by each national board and chaired by the RFS of the UPCI of North America.⁶²⁸

The agreement was to be presented to the National Board of the UPC of Colombia and the General Board of the UPCI for ratification. However, before that could take place certain individuals within the UPCI of Colombia who were opposed to any type of agreement dampened the optimism. It was a sad day for the church when personal views overrode the work of the Holy Spirit. Having heard the reaction of certain individuals of the UPCI of Colombia, Favio Cardono Angel, general secretary of the UPC of Colombia, responded:

The Board of Elders of the United Pentecostal Church of Colombia in the meeting held the 17th September of 1975 in the city of Palmira, Valle, having carefully studied the points submitted for the consideration of the delegates of the United Pentecostal Church International, and the United Pentecostal Church of Colombia the 23rd day of August, 1975, in the city of San Cristobal, Tachira, Venezuela, has arrived at the conclusion that . . . it has not been well received or understood.⁶²⁹

Therefore the UPC of Colombia's Board of Elders decided that the agreement, instead of edifying the church could create confusion and division among its ministerial body. The Colombian board

⁶²⁷ Campo Elias Bernal in a letter to Edwin E. Judd, March 4, 1975.

⁶²⁸ Minutes: Colombian Nationalization meeting in San Cristobal, Venezuela, August 22–23, 1975.

⁶²⁹ Favio Cardona Angel in a letter to Edwin E. Judd, September 17, 1974.

recognized the good spirit demonstrated by Brothers Chambers and Tenney, and pledged that a spirit of evangelism and good faith would continue to prevail between the two sister organizations.

In Brother Judd's report to Brother Tenney dated October 31, 1975, he expressed sincere regret that the pact was not accepted by the presbyters of the UPCI of Colombia, but would welcome a relationship that would permit fellowship with both administrations in Colombia.

Donald Hanscom Jr.'s Accident

In September 1975, Donald Hanscom Jr. fell twenty feet from the roof of the family house and landed on the cement driveway. He sustained three severe fractures, one of them at the base of his skull. Doctors gave very little hope of recovery. For three days he remained unconscious and very critical while the church around the world prayed. After twelve days he was released from the hospital with the doctors declaring that the Hanscoms had a great God!⁶³⁰

Implications for the United Pentecostal Church "International"

United Pentecostals joined hands around the world to reach the world. A record number of missionaries were ministering in a record number of countries. Stateside awareness and support of world missions increased as a result of Brother Tenney's resolve to communicate. These accomplishments and blessings were made possible despite an atmosphere of increasing world tension and the tremendous economic crisis of the 1970s.

Change was the buzzword as new approaches, innovative ideas, and organizational adjustments were implemented. With spiritual darkness dominating so much of the world, the UPCI pledged to continue to involve every Pentecostal everywhere in intensified revival efforts, to send more missionaries to the field, and to accelerate the training of national leadership.

One of the most productive steps toward world evangelism was when the word "International" was added to the name, United Pentecostal Church. On the world's active mission fields, the change gave special meaning and purpose to the mental image of the church. Missionaries announced to their constituents that they were now international in name as well as in scope. The UPCI was not simply a denomination existing worldwide, nor an alliance of nationally affiliated churches, but an international fellowship of integrally related family members. The entire church body shared a common heritage—a great redemption—and was now expected to share in the enormous task of world evangelization.

Daniel Scott, field superintendent of Ecuador, stated in a message:

Internationalism was accepted on the field as more than a word! It became a blending, an intermingling in the body of Christ—a joining, a brotherhood. It presupposed equality. To be international bore no sense of racial, cultural, or economical superiority. Internationalism became an attitude. The word "international" is a big step, but more than that, it carries a big meaning. It becomes a Pentecostal church truly international, or does the word merely imply that the church is involved in evangelism around the world? This is a question the North American fellowship has answered with finality. We are international! Our people around the world are an integral part of the United Pentecostal Church.⁶³¹

The foreign component had often pondered the question, "Is the United Pentecostal Church truly 'international,' or does the word merely imply that the church is involved in evangelization around the world?" The North American fellowship answered, "We are international! Our people around the world are an integral part of the United Pentecostal Church International."

International became a substantive word, and that made it almost a frightening word because the home front was not sure how far-reaching its implications might be. The North American constituency

⁶³⁰ "You Have a Big God," *Global Witness* (September 1975): 2.

⁶³¹ Daniel Scott, Sermon, "Every Congregation Everywhere," National Conference, Quito, Ecuador, May 1975.

felt that the word *international* would draw the focus away from cultural differences and move it to what was universally common: a ministry to a broken and hurting world. It would move away from an “us/them” mentality and put on display the thought, *All of us are His family on His mission to His world*.

When the initial excitement leveled out, a new mind-set settled in. Three terms had been especially associated with the word *international* with respect to the function of United Pentecostal churches around the world: self-propagating, self-governing, and self-supporting. The word *international* now would denote that wherever a United Pentecostal church was formed, certain rights and responsibilities would accrue to that church. The success of the UPCI around the world had been so impressive that the church needed to address what to do about the results. Conference floor debates therefore determined that the church constituency was an amalgamated harmony of believers—a Book of Acts church.

With a new vision of international cooperation, foreign missions would begin to focus on the future. The mission of the total church body was to extend His kingdom throughout the world, no matter from what culture. This concept would not come to complete fruition until the Global Council of 1998, but the birth pangs of change were initiated with the positive step of including the developing world leadership. The objective would be to plant another church of like precious faith wherever possible. Mature mission fields would accept the responsibility of sending missionaries to lift the increasing load of world missions. Evangelistic fervor ignited the hearts of third-world believers until they too felt the responsibility of spiritual reproduction. Adding the word *international* to the name produced a worldwide partnership in world missions. Internationalism would no longer focus attention or emphasis on any one world culture; it would mean the absence of favoritism, that God alone is the power and salvation for any continent or race.

After the momentous addition of the word *international* to the name, FM Director Tom Fred Tenney traveled constantly, many times in the company of General Superintendent Stanley Chambers. Their ministry was a source of strength to missionaries and national leaders alike.

Around the world the UPCI became an icon of foreign missions endeavor. Missionaries from other denominations looked with deep respect upon the UPCI missionary family. It seemed that the Lord had placed His seal of approval on the UPCI constituency. It was a pivotal point for its future!

Mervyn Miller Moves from the British Isles to Italy

As a result of Mervyn Miller’s fervent desire to move from the British Isles to Italy, the FMB changed his appointment. The board also gave permission for him to return to New York City once a year at his own expense to renew his U.S. resident alien status.⁶³²

Valda Russell Retires in 1975

Valda Russell retired after twenty years of missionary service in Liberia. In a special ceremony, the Honorable H. A. Taylor presented Valda with a medal. Many officials, school supervisors, teachers, students, and ministers were present for this ceremony in Liberia.

During the ceremony, the country’s President Tolbert granted national recognition to Valda Russell by giving her a certificate with the country’s official seal, which depicted a large star to represent the ship the pioneers sailed on, and the cross of Christ. This recognition by Liberia’s president was given not only to Valda Russell, but also to all the members of our missionary board and to the Pentecostal work in that country.⁶³³

⁶³² Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (November 10, 1975).

⁶³³ “Valda Russell Retires,” *Global Witness* (December 1975): 4.

Paul H. Box Retires

During the same time another great servant retired after twenty years of service to world missions. Following is a short summary of Paul Box's life.

In 1927 Paul H. Box became a secretary in the vice president's office at the New York Central Railroad, a position he held for seventeen years. He was baptized in the name of Jesus and filled with the Holy Ghost in 1931. Ordained by S. G. Norris, he pastored a church on East 55th Street in New York City, and in 1934 married Olga Schultz. In 1943 the Box family moved to Columbus, Ohio, to serve as assistant pastor to W. T. Witherspoon. In 1945 he was appointed as editor-in-chief of the UPC *Pentecostal Herald* and pastored the church in Granite City, Illinois. In 1955 the Boxes and daughter, Carol, moved to St. Louis, Missouri. Paul Box became the FM secretary, a position he filled for twenty years.

Brother Box was the missionaries' friend! At the end of every letter he wrote to the field he included a personal note that seemed to lessen the pain of a negative answer and heighten the excitement of a positive one.

Paul Box said, "It has been a joy to work with the Missionary Board and all the great missionaries scattered throughout the world. After almost 26 years of official work, the past 20 of which have been spent as Foreign Missionary Secretary, and being 65 years of age, I feel it is the will of God to retire from official work, but will always have a burden for the work of the Lord worldwide. Thank you for permitting us to serve our great United Pentecostal Church International fellowship."⁶³⁴

Guarding Against CIA Recruitment

As the year 1976 began, the spirit of nationalism became a significant challenge to missionaries. To make matters more difficult, CIA agents were attempting to recruit missionaries from other missionary societies to act as agents. The UPCI needed to go on record that neither the organization nor its missionaries were involved in any operation other than preaching the gospel. In February 1976 the FMB created the following policy:

Be it resolved that we prohibit all missionary personnel of the United Pentecostal Church International from allowing themselves to become intelligence agents of their own governments.

Be it further resolved that the Director of Foreign Missions address a letter to President Gerald Ford in protest of his position on using American clergymen as intelligence agents abroad.

Be it further resolved that a letter of support for pending legislation on this subject in the Congress be sent by the Director of Foreign Missions to the appropriate congressmen.⁶³⁵

Following are other decisions made during this board session:

- To approve Jim Brandberry for short-term OM or Impact Team involvement in the British Isles
- To endorse Jerry Presson for Impact Team involvement
- To endorse Duane Flemming for OM involvement in Europe and Africa with one-third of the expense to come from OM and one-third each from Europe and Africa.
- To endorse Dale Starks to go to Europe without support
- To endorse Pat Stutzman as a member of the Impact Team
- To appoint Paul Dennis to Japan. We further recommend that the Dennises immediately apply themselves to studying Japanese until they begin their deputation ministry

⁶³⁴ Paul Box quoted in David R. Theobald, "Born to Serve," *Global Witness* (December 1975): 3.

⁶³⁵ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (February 4, 1976): 6.

- To appoint Stephen Barley to Guatemala, pending medical clearance for himself and his family and that he must not be involved in travel outside of Central America without permission of the FMB

Death of Former Foreign Missions Secretary Clarence T. Craine⁶³⁶

A pioneer minister with the UPCI and former FM secretary Clarence T. Craine departed this life on April 30, 1976, at the age of eighty-seven. He had devoted more than sixty-four years to preaching the gospel.

Clarence Craine received the Holy Ghost in 1909 under Howard Goss's ministry. His own ministry began in 1911. He preached under brush arbors in the warmer months and moved into available schoolhouses in the colder months.

In the ensuing years Brother Craine was led to a series of small churches that needed help or could not afford a pastor. He pastored churches in Green Forest, Arkansas; El Paso, Texas; Abilene, Kansas; Arkadelphia, Arkansas; Louisiana, Missouri; Dallas, Texas; Tulsa, Oklahoma; Malvern, Arkansas; Pocahontas, Arkansas; Caraway, Arkansas; El Dorado, Arkansas; Manila, Arkansas; and Emporia, Kansas. Brother Craine was elected FM secretary of the Pentecostal Ministerial Alliance in 1932, when Dan and Alice Sheets were appointed to China.

In addition, he served as assistant pastor of the First UPC in Jonesboro, Arkansas, and as dean of men at Pentecostal Bible Institute in Tupelo, Mississippi. He and Sister Craine had observed their fifty-sixth wedding anniversary on April 4, 1974.

June 1976 Foreign Missions Board

The June 1976 FMB sessions opened with concerns about the missionaries' welfare. The board had approved a bonus account to assist missionaries upon their return to their homeland. The first matter on the agenda was to authorize the FM secretary to transfer the missionaries' personal bonus funds to a federally insured savings and loan account to ensure maximum earnings. Next the board decided that missionaries would be enrolled in the WEC health insurance program at the onset of their deputation ministry, the premiums to be paid from their PIM account.⁶³⁷

Other decisions included the following:

- To approve Leo Upton's evangelistic tour from July 1 to General Conference, including the Philippines, Indonesia, Australia, and New Zealand
- To change of field for Edward Allard from Ghana to Senegal
- To change of field for Johnny Garrison from Ivory Coast to Nigeria
- To change of field for J. P. Hughes to Liberia for the balance of his eighteen-month period of OM endorsement
- To appoint Robert Rodenbush as acting superintendent of the work in Nigeria
- To appoint John Nowacki as assistant missionary to France under the supervision of the RFS for Europe and the Middle East
- To appoint Frances Foster as assistant missionary to Pakistan under Everett Corcoran's supervision
- To recommend Scotty Teets for appointment to Uruguay

⁶³⁶ Calvin Rigdon, "Pioneer Pentecostal Minister Obtains Reward," *Pentecostal Herald* (July 1976): 18.

⁶³⁷ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (June 3, 1976): 1.

Resignation of Foreign Missions Director Tom Fred Tenney

Under T. F. Tenney's capable leadership for seven years, the FMD had risen to unprecedented heights. Many amenities had been added to enhance the living conditions of missionaries. For this reason, the temptation to feel a bit insecure sent tremors through the world of missions when rumors circulated that Brother Tenney was leaving his post. Missionaries on the field read the following report of his resignation, effective July 19, 1976:

Brother T. F. Tenney, the outgoing Director of Foreign Missions, has served in this capacity since his election in 1969. Under his capable leadership, Foreign Missions income increased from just over \$600,000 in 1969 to almost \$3,500,000 this past year.

Brother Tenney attended Apostolic Bible Institute, and at the early age of 19 accepted the pastorate of a church in Monroe, Louisiana. From 1954 until 1960 Brother Tenney filled the position of Conquerors President for the Louisiana District. In 1960 he was appointed as General Conquerors President of the United Pentecostal Church, a position he held until 1969, when he was elected as Director of Foreign Missions.

Brother Tenney leaves the World Evangelism Center to accept the pastorate of the First United Pentecostal Church of De Ridder, Louisiana, formerly pastored by Brother George Glass, Sr. In returning to De Ridder, Brother Tenney is returning to his birthplace.

We wish Brother and Sister Tenney the very best that God has to offer as they enter into God's will for them at this point in their lives.⁶³⁸

Harry Scism Appointed as Director of Foreign Missions

The fear the missionary family felt when Brother Tenney resigned dissipated when the General Board appointed Harry E. Scism, son of veteran missionary Ellis Scism, as general director of Foreign Missions. I was not personally acquainted with Harry Scism, but my son, Dan Jr., called: "Dad, Harry Scism is a Christian gentleman; you will love him!" Brother Scism assumed the new position on July 19, 1976. The *Pentecostal Herald* published this account:

In 1949, at the age of 15, Harry Scism accompanied his parents, Ellis and Marjorie Scism, to the foreign missions field in India. They remained there for six years before returning to the States for furlough in 1955. Brother Harry Scism was appointed as a missionary to India in 1956. Serving India as a missionary until 1972, he was appointed to the position of Regional Field Supervisor for Asia and the South Pacific.

Through his experience as a missionary and Regional Field Supervisor, he related in depth to the missionary cause. A man dedicated to principle he began to build upon the platform that previous Foreign Missions' directors had established. New programs too numerous to list were initiated, and the missionary effort of the United Pentecostal Church International around the world became a symbol of excellence and reflected through the effectiveness of its missionary family.⁶³⁹

Administrative Changes in Foreign Missions⁶⁴⁰

With the resignation of David Theobald as director of promotion and publications, John (Jack) S. Leaman of Lancaster, Ohio, accepted the challenge to fill this position. Brother Leaman came highly qualified for the task. He was a graduate of Apostolic Bible Institute, a member of the Ohio District Board, and pastor of an outstanding church in Lancaster. Brother Leaman was a man of proven missionary burden.

⁶³⁸ "Newly Elected Officials," *Pentecostal Herald* (July 1976): 15.

⁶³⁹ *Ibid.*, 14

⁶⁴⁰ David R. Theobald, "Newly Appointed . . ." *Global Witness* (Winter Edition 1976): 2-3.

When Paul H. Box, retired after twenty years of service to the FMD, Edwin E. Judd, former RFS for the Latin America/Caribbean Region, was appointed to replace him as FM secretary. Brother Judd had also served the FMD as a board member and director of promotion and publications. Brother and Sister Judd moved from Quito, Ecuador, to Hazelwood, Missouri.

Paul C. Leaman from Detroit, Michigan, accepted the regional leadership of Latin America and the Caribbean. Paul Leaman was eminently qualified to assume this role. He had been a pastor in Detroit, Michigan, member of the Michigan District Board, member of the FMB, and had a long-standing record of missionary burden.

R. P. Bell, pastor of the First UPC of Conroe, Texas, was appointed by the General Board to fill the vacancy on the FMB created by Paul Leaman's appointment as RFS. Brother Bell had served the Texas District as FM promotional representative for the last three years. During this time the Texas District had greatly increased its involvement in the worldwide foreign missions ministry.

Illness and Death of Georgia Regenhardt

Georgia Regenhardt entered the hospital on July 21, 1976, at 8:00 A.M. Six hours later, with a gentle loosening of earth's hold and an exquisite glow, she was ushered into the presence of the King. Georgia had served with excellence. New missionaries, such as Gene Bailey and Hubert and Dorothy Parks, had come to Liberia. Georgia could rest with assurance that the work would continue.

She was an outstanding missionary, dedicated to the people of Liberia and loyal to the missionary endeavors of the UPCI. "Georgia looked forward to every church service. The young men shook their tambourines emphatically; everyone sang with fervor, listened with hunger and prayed earnestly. They refreshed her spirit."⁶⁴¹

Death of Margaret Calhoun

Margaret Sue Calhoun was born December 6, 1932. Little did anyone realize that into the life of this carefree little girl would someday come a call from God that would change the eternal destiny of many people.

Margaret received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Elementary Education at Indiana University, and in 1956 she entered Butler University and earned a Master of Education and Psychology degree. Later she studied at the University of Wisconsin.

While in Madison, Wisconsin, Margaret met Pastor Jack and JoAnn Yonts, learned of the Jesus Name message and the infilling of the Holy Ghost, and she quickly became a part of the church family. Being kind and thoughtful was part of Margaret's very fiber, and the Holy Ghost only deepened these virtues.

Margaret met the DeMerchants while they were doing deputation work. Theresa DeMerchant was from the Madison church, and from this brief meeting emerged the desire to visit them on the mission field. In July 1968, Margaret and another young lady, Sue Pippin, flew to Manaus, Brazil.

Margaret applied to the FMD for an appointment as a missionary assistant and was appointed during the 1968 General Conference in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Margaret rapidly became involved in the tasks of the mission field, spending many hours on the riverboat. Later, in 1971, when Bennie DeMerchant returned from the United States with the SFC floatplane, she constantly visited the jungle churches.

On Tuesday, August 31, 1976, Bennie DeMerchant prepared to visit the church in Maues, a small jungle town. The plane took off, quickly cleared the cove area, and flew over the rough water of Rio Negro Bay. At one hundred feet, the plane lost total engine power. As Bennie struggled to start the engine and manipulate the controls, he glided the plane back to the water in a strong crosswind. The high waves

⁶⁴¹ Mary Wallace, ed., *Profiles of Pentecostal Missionaries* (Hazelwood: Word Aflame Press, 1986), 207.

and the wind flipped the plane upon impact. Upside down, the cabin filled with black water. Bennie got clear of the control yoke and seat belt and worked his way backward to get to the rear passenger door, but the wing flap had jammed it shut. Out of breath, he smashed out a small window with his fist and escaped through the opening. A large boat came to the rescue and for half an hour eight men dove and searched in the turbulent waters, trying to get inside the plane but were unsuccessful. The next day Bennie held funerals for Margaret and a national worker, Brother Cinque, at the central church in Manaus.

The lives of Margaret Calhoun and Brother Cinque were like seeds, which, planted in the earth, burst forth to yield much fruit. During the next four years in Amazonas, the DeMerchants saw revival such as never before; over 4,000 were baptized, eighty national ministers licensed, and fifty-three churches started. A thousand miles from the mouth of the Amazon stands a church building filled with people who owe their salvation to this missionary lady.⁶⁴²

Harry Scism's First Annual Report at the 1976 General Conference

Evidence of appreciation for T. F. Tenney figured greatly in Harry Scism's first official report given to the General Board and the General Conference in Anaheim, California, in September 1976:

With deep appreciation for our great fellowship. I greet you in the name of Jesus as a church with a mission. Having recently taken up my duties as Director of Foreign Missions. I would first of all like to express, on behalf of our division, very great appreciation for the commendable service rendered to the United Pentecostal Church International by Brother and Sister Tenney. [While] Brother Tenney served . . . our division enjoyed unusual growth and progress. Indeed Brother Tenney brought our Foreign Missions Division into a new and greater dimension. We thank you, Brother and Sister Tenney for your tremendous contribution to world evangelism.⁶⁴³

He expressed appreciation to Paul Box who had served as FM secretary for many years. David Theobald was leaving the division after a splendid job as the director of promotion and publications, so in his address Brother Scism welcomed Jack Leaman, who was the newly appointed director of promotion and publications.

All of the missionaries appointed during the previous General Conference were either on the field or awaiting their visas. Financially, God had blessed foreign missions with another record year of sacrificial offerings in the amount of \$3.5 million. However, he included the following mandate:

World conditions warn us that time is running out. Several countries are already closed to resident missionaries, but we must not consider these as closed fields, for there are still ways we can reach these countries with the message of hope. "To the strong there is an open door. To the weak there is a stone wall."⁶⁴⁴

Paul Cook Appointed as Regional Field Supervisor for Asia⁶⁴⁵

A major decision is made each time a pastor of a successful church accepts the Lord's will for change. This is especially true in the area of foreign missions. Paul H. Cook's appointment as RFS for the Asia/South Pacific Region was a pivotal change for his future. After meeting with the General Board, Brother Scism announced to the FMB that the General Board had ratified Paul Cook's appointment as RFS of Asia and the South Pacific.

⁶⁴² JoAnn Yonts in *Profiles of Pentecostal Missionaries*, Mary Wallace, ed., 9–10, 13, 26, 28.

⁶⁴³ Harry E. Scism, "Annual Report to the General Board," September 1976.

⁶⁴⁴ Ibid.

⁶⁴⁵ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (September 24, 1976): 13.

Fred Kinzie Appointed to the Foreign Missions Board⁶⁴⁶

To fulfill Paul Cook's unexpired term on the FMB, Brother Scism announced that Fred Kinzie had been named as a member of the board.

Additional decisions included the following:

- To recommend D. R. Edwards for appointment as missionary to the Iberian Peninsula with the understanding that he will go to Portugal if Joseph Domingues does not return to that nation; otherwise, his appointment will include Spain
- To recommend Robert Filkins for appointment to Switzerland
- To recommend Daniel Vannoy for appointment to Haiti
- To recommend Leon Wright for appointment to the English-speaking people of Central America
- To recommend Howard Smith for appointment to Chile
- To recommend Lonnie Burton for appointment to Venezuela
- To recommend Donald Rivers for appointment to Kenya
- To recommend Jimmy Green for appointment to West Germany
- To recommend John May for appointment to Indonesia
- To recommend Mark Norris for appointment to Brazil
- To recommend John E. and Ruby Klemin for appointment to Argentina
- To endorse Carmen Kelly as missionary helper to Japan without guarantee of support from FM funds

The Morleys Retire from Colombia⁶⁴⁷

Lewis and Sallie Morley met the FMB in Anaheim, California, to express their desire to terminate their missionary service during the 1977 annual Colombian convention. The consensus was that the Morleys could return to Colombia to spend as much time as necessary to wrap up their personal affairs and be present for the Easter Convention in 1977. It was also understood that the Morleys could attend the May 1977 regional retreat before returning to the field.

Tribute to the Morleys

In May 1977, at the close of the Latin America/Caribbean Retreat in Cuzco, Peru, the Morleys' fellow missionaries, along with other officials, presented them with a large llama rug as a gift of remembrance and appreciation. This brought to a close a combined total of forty-eight years of faithful missionary service for the Morleys in Venezuela and Colombia.

Brother Morley was appointed to Venezuela as a missionary for the UPCI on April 27, 1954. After serving almost two years there, he felt led of the Lord to go over to Colombia, not knowing that he would find a wife there.

Sallie Lemons had gone to Colombia in 1948 to do missionary work and met Lewis when he moved to Colombia in 1956. They were married on Thanksgiving Day, 1956. Although their dispositions were very different, they had only one goal: to win souls for the Lord. They made a great missionary team.

Upon their resignation, Lewis and Sallie Morley returned to the States—but definitely not to retire. They worked with C. L. Dees in the Irvington Pentecostal Church in Houston, Texas.

⁶⁴⁶ Ibid.

⁶⁴⁷ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (September 24, 1976): 14.

They gave the best part of their lives in faithful missionary service, and eternity alone will show the thousands of lives that were changed because of their faithfulness to the call of God.⁶⁴⁸

The Foreign Missions Board Approves a Central American Bible School

Following the 1976 conference in Anaheim, California, the FMB traveled to Carlinville, Illinois, to attend the SOM. During the second week of the SOM, the board approved a Central American Bible school to serve the Spanish-speaking fields in Central America. Dale Brown would oversee the school.⁶⁴⁹

Cebu City, Philippines

The October 1976 *Pentecostal Herald* reported the field status of the Philippines. There were 458 licensed ministers serving the constituency and 3,482 were baptized in Jesus' name during the past conference year.

On October 27, 1976, a lovely building was purchased in Cebu City to be used as an operational center and church. The property was 634 square meters with an additional 210 square meters on a five-year, option-to-purchase lease, giving a total of 844 square meters. It had four buildings that were suitable for a chapel, office, Bible school training center, and national pastor's residence. The building was located on a main highway just seven minutes from downtown Cebu City in a combined commercial/residential area. The FM family rejoiced with Richard Denny for the blessings of God.

Campus Ministry in West Germany

James Stewart proposed the concept of a campus ministry for West Germany. After discussion, the board approved it so long as these efforts were coordinated through the FMD and its regular policies.⁶⁵⁰

In that same meeting, Ardella Darst was endorsed as a missionary helper to the Military District with the stipulation that there would be no stateside missions support involved.

The First World Fellowship Conference, Jerusalem—1976

The multicultural aspect of the church had never been more apparent than when the world conference was planned. The project was a dream of many missionaries because each national leader representing his field would have a vocal part in arranging evangelistic affairs. This dream became a reality as over thirty-five nations were represented at the World Fellowship Conference of United Pentecostal Churches in Jerusalem, November 3–6, 1976, coordinated by FM Director Harry Scism. Over seven hundred ministers, missionaries, and laymen met to reaffirm commitment to the apostolic message and the mission of the church.

During each day, six selected ministers addressed the conference, and the attendees were thrilled as the unity of the brethren was evidenced again and again.

This was a first-of-a-kind event sponsored by the leadership of the UPCI. Leaders gathered from countries such as Japan, Indonesia, Ecuador, El Salvador, England, Kenya, the Ivory Coast, and the United States. Simultaneous translation was provided in Spanish, Japanese, and German. Two non-English messages were translated from the pulpit to the entire conference.

Each day closed with the anointed faith ministry of T. W. Barnes. That which had its "beginning at Jerusalem" had returned over nineteen centuries later when a multitude of nations once again witnessed a visitation of the Holy Spirit.

⁶⁴⁸ "Regional Missionary Retreat," *Global Witness* (Summer 1977): 10.

⁶⁴⁹ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 22, 1976): 12.

⁶⁵⁰ *Ibid.*, 13.

Among those present were Stanley Chambers, general superintendent of the UPCI, who chaired the business sessions; Ted Slack, FM director of the Australian UPC; Lionel Koen, superintendent of the European Section of the Republic of South Africa; Robert Rodenbush, superintendent of Ghana; Daniel Scott, superintendent of the UPCI of Ecuador; Nelson Cadena, assistant superintendent of Ecuador; Norman Houslin, assistant superintendent of Jamaica, Jose Quiboloy Jr., assistant superintendent of the Philippines; and many other world leaders.⁶⁵¹

Alice Sheets Diagnosed with Cancer

The fall edition of the 1976 *Global Witness* reported that Alice Sheets, former missionary to China, now retired and living in Prescott, Arizona, was diagnosed with breast cancer. Her surgery was reportedly successful. She was still very energetic for a lady of such advanced years.

The January 1977 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

The UPCI was known as the “Cadillac of missions.” Our missionaries were better cared for than those of nearly every other missionary society, and the FMB continued to seek additional ways to facilitate their ministry on the field.

Reports from the field indicated that 1977 would bring great advances. As the FMB members gathered at the WEC for their midwinter meetings, there was a feeling of satisfaction. Following are decisions made during these sessions:

- To recommend J. P. Hughes for appointment to Ghana
- To recommend Dennis Bain for appointment to South Africa
- To recommend Nathaniel Young for appointment to the Solomon Islands
- To endorse Terrie Marshall as a missionary associate in Israel with an allowance of \$100 per month from Tom Marshall’s PIM account
- To approve Tom O’Daniel for ordination
- To approve Lonnie Burton for ordination
- To approve Mark Norris for ordination
- To authorize Johnny Garrison to go to Liberia while awaiting visas to Nigeria
- To approve Floyd Borders to move to the South Island of New Zealand to open the work
- To approve Gary Edmonds for appointment to Taiwan, also known as Nationalist China and a new field for the UPCI

Death of Veteran Missionary George White

The spring edition of the 1977 *Global Witness* reported the death of another veteran missionary, George Washington White, who died on December 18, 1976, at age seventy-seven. Until his death, Brother White was burdened for Java, the nation he loved and ministered to for twenty years.

In October 1973, the FMB had approved George White for retirement. However, his burden for Java continued to burn in his heart. The Whites reapplied to return to Java in February 1974, but the board felt that in view of their advanced age, it would be better for them to remain in retirement.

At the dawning of the eternal day, George and Helen White will be joined by countless Indonesians whom they won to the Lord, singing everlasting praises to their King. Although his life’s work was ended, it would continue to be a blessing at home and abroad.⁶⁵²

⁶⁵¹ “World Conference,” *Global Witness* (Fall 1978): 1.

⁶⁵² “In Memoriam,” *Global Witness* (Spring 1977): 9.

Jamaica's Transition to National Leadership

During the third week of March 1977, our UPC of Jamaica brethren took the final step in becoming an indigenous church. On the nominating ballot they elected Bishop Norman Houslin as their first Jamaican superintendent. They were now a self-governing, self-supporting, and self-propagating national church.

This gave the parent body, the North American UPC, great satisfaction and pleasure. This missionary field in which we had invested lives and money continuously for thirty years had come of age.⁶⁵³

A Short History of Jamaica's Development

In 1935 Andrew Urshan wrote to W. T. Witherspoon about a request from a national Jamaican worker, Mother Russell, for someone to come to Jamaica to baptize converts whom she had won in the name of Jesus Christ.

Brother Witherspoon made four or five trips and baptized scores of Jamaicans. Finally both Mother Russell and Brother Witherspoon recommended to the FMB that a resident missionary be sent. Ralph V. and Helen Reynolds arrived in 1947 as the first resident missionaries.

Over thirty ensuing years that small beginning had mushroomed into a great Apostolic church on the move. The following missionaries invested part of their lives in its development: Ralph V. and Helen Reynolds, Brother and Sister W. R. Pair, Ruth Pair, A. D. and Bessie Varnado, Janet (Varnado) Trout, Glen and Rachel Smith, and Paul V. and Beth Reynolds. Besides these missionaries, four-month, short-term teaching missionaries contributed to the Jamaican church's development: Brother and Sister Larry Chambers, Brother and Sister Dan Lewis, Brother and Sister Jerris Tubb, Brother and Sister Dorsey Burk, and Brother and Sister Harry Haygood.

Organizationally, the work developed steadily. Ralph Reynolds, a pioneer for UPC foreign Bible schools, started the first one in Jamaica in 1948. The next year another landmark was made when the UPC of Jamaica was incorporated with the government.

Eighteen years later, under A. D. Varnado's capable leadership, a Jamaican church constitution was passed, which was closely aligned and intertwined with the North American UPCI constitution and the common Articles of Faith.

In 1971 permission was granted for the Jamaican District to have an elected national superintendent, and they elected the resident missionary Paul V. Reynolds and returned him to office until 1976, when he recommended to the FMB that he step aside in favor of a Jamaican candidate. The FMB accepted this recommendation and Bishop N. Houslin was elected as the superintendent. The Jamaican church has always retained a strong bond of love for the North American UPCI and considers it their parent body. Paul Reynolds wrote, "The [objective] of the Foreign Missions Department is to produce under God a self supporting, self-propagating and self-governing church in every country in full fellowship with and as part of the United Pentecostal Church International."⁶⁵⁴

As an indigenous church, the Jamaican UPC elected its administrative officers. Its total financial income in 1976 was over \$75,000, and over 50 percent of this amount was allocated for propagating the gospel in unevangelized areas. Jamaica listed sixty-five churches as mothering other churches and over one hundred ministers were doing the work of evangelism. Paul Reynolds wrote, "The Jamaican Church in 1976 commissioned its first foreign missionaries, Brother and Sister Devon Dawson to Guyana. Harvestime, supported by Jamaica in Jamaica is now also supported by Jamaica on C.B.C. Barbados."⁶⁵⁵ (Devon Dawson had applied to go to Barbados, then Trinidad, both of which rejected his applications. However, both the Guyanese government and its people received the Dawsons with open arms.)

⁶⁵³ Lorna Halls, *A Rich Heritage* (Kingston, Jamaica: Montrose Graphics Ltd., 2003), 91.

⁶⁵⁴ Paul V. Reynolds, "Jamaica—A Mature Indigenous Church," *Pentecostal Herald* (July 1977): 14.

⁶⁵⁵ Ibid.

Sheaves for Christ Education Fund

The Youth Division's SFC program had blessed missionary children by providing education. However, the cost of educating missionary children was increasing because the number of missionaries was increasing. The FMB looked at the problem and adopted the following policy in its June 1977 sessions:

Whereas the total bill for the education of our missionary children has become extremely large making it difficult for Sheaves for Christ to meet all Foreign Missions Division priority requests, and

Whereas there has been a lack of definition regarding some school related costs and an inconsistency in requisitioning of same for this reason,

Be it resolved that the Sheaves for Christ education fund pay only tuition and school fees, that transportation to and from school may be requisitioned from the missionary's PIM account, and that the missionary family be personally responsible for school lunches and school uniforms where so required.⁶⁵⁶

During the same meeting the board readdressed the matter of a Central American Bible school. Dale Brown proposed a property budget of \$50,000 and an operating-cost budget of approximately \$12,000 per year based on twenty-five students. The board recommended Dale Brown for appointment to Central America to establish a Bible school in Guatemala City to serve the Central American fields and possibly Mexico.⁶⁵⁷ It was decided that the Bible school would be started in a rented facility until property could be found. The board authorized Dale Brown to raise up to \$50,000 for purchasing the needed property and facilities. Unfortunately Dale Brown became ill and died before his vision could become a reality.

Other decisions during the June 1977 meetings were as follows:

- To endorse Rodney Fitzgerald as missionary associate to Argentina to work in the Bible school
- To endorse Sheila Wood as missionary associate to assist James Wood
- To endorse Helen White as missionary associate to Indonesia
- To endorse Vert and Eva Enis as missionary associates to the Military District in Europe
- To approve John Nowacki for ordination
- To approve missionary evangelist Leo Upton for evangelistic ministry in Latin America/Caribbean during the summer of 1977

Ecuador

Ecuador celebrated its annual National Conference in May 1977. The *Global Witness* displayed pictures of the conference activities.⁶⁵⁸ Eight ministers were ordained. The UPC of Ecuador listed eighty-one licensed ministers, seventy-five churches, and six thousand constituents. The guests were FM Director Harry Scism, RFS Paul Leaman, and C. Haskell Yadon. The conference also sponsored a special service for Daniel Scott, who was planning to return to the States for deputation. His health was deteriorating rapidly, and during the conference he collapsed but insisted on participating.

Ghana

What happened in Ghana is a beautiful testimony of the power and might of Jesus. The first resident missionaries, Robert K. and Evangeline Rodenbush, arrived in Ghana in 1969. Besides preaching and evangelizing, Brother Rodenbush's first step was to open in 1970 the College of the Bible in Accra

⁶⁵⁶ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (June 7, 1977): 3.

⁶⁵⁷ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (June 8, 1977): 6.

⁶⁵⁸ Daniel Scott, "Ecuador: the Gospel on the Equator," *Global Witness* (Fall 1977): 2-3.

with eleven students. In 1972 they dedicated the campus facilities, which included dormitory, classroom, large chapel, and office.

The college's quality, three-year training course conferred on its graduates a Bachelor of Theology degree. Students who completed two years received a theological diploma. By 1977 thirty-six had completed the three-year program and forty-five had completed the two-year program. All of these graduates entered active ministry, and many of them became leaders of the church in Ghana and other neighboring countries.

Students came to the College of the Bible from the Ivory Coast, Togoland, and Nigeria. The Bible college was and is a vital ingredient in the revival in Ghana and West Africa through training nationals to reach their own people.

In March 1977, the college program was expanded to include a correspondence course, and the initial enrollment was seven hundred students.

The high quality teaching was attributed in part to Else Lund who came to Ghana in 1972 to teach in the College of the Bible, as well as in the local churches.

Another milestone in the church in Ghana was in 1973 when the Ed Allard family arrived to supervise the work while the Rodenbushes were on furlough. After serving in Ghana as replacements, the Allards went to French-speaking Senegal, a new mission field for the UPCI.

The Tom O'Daniels arrived in Ghana in 1975. Brother O'Daniel served as administrative assistant, director of the IABC (International Alpha Bible Course) correspondence program, president of the Conquerors, instructor at the Bible college, and supervisor of the Pentecostal bookshop and literature outreach.

In 1977 Robert Rodenbush wrote, "After eight years of missionary labor, there are more than one hundred forty churches in Ghana and Togoland, over sixty licensed ministers, more than 8,000 baptized, and more than 6,000 filled with the Spirit. On any given Sunday in Ghana, the combined morning attendance in the United Pentecostal churches throughout the country would be more than 9,000. To God be the glory!"⁶⁵⁹

Revival in Ivory Coast

The revival in the Ivory Coast resulted from a spark leaping across the border from Ghana. Pastor J. W. Morrison, a respected minister for about twenty years with another organization, saw the revelation of Jesus Name baptism and the oneness of God through the friendship and witness of a UPC pastor in Ghana. Brother Morrison left all behind, including his standing, position, and beautiful church building with the other organization, and went to Ghana to preach Jesus' name! Most of his congregation followed him.

Some months later Pastor Morrison felt God leading him to return to the Ivory Coast where he had once evangelized and established churches with the other organization. God miraculously opened doors, and the UPC of Ghana sent him to evangelize the Ivory Coast. Former friends, churches, and pastors in the Ivory Coast were soon baptized in Jesus' name, and the UPC was begun in Sikensi.

The UPC of Ivory Coast received full recognition and registration in 1976. This allowed freedom to worship and to work anywhere in the nation as well as to bring in a missionary.

The Ghanaian church decided that it should follow the North American church's example and send its own missionaries. Thus they sent Pastor Morrison to live in Ivory Coast and to establish the work there. As a result, a new church was established in Abidjan, the capital city. He also established other churches and preaching stations, licensed pastors, organized the work, and baptized hundreds, many of whom were filled with the Holy Ghost!⁶⁶⁰

As superintendent of the Ivory Coast, Brother Rodenbush traveled back and forth from Ghana to supervise the work. His PIM account, along with the help of the Ghana District, carried the financial load

⁶⁵⁹ Robert Rodenbush, "Ghana," *Pentecostal Herald* (July 1977): 12.

⁶⁶⁰ "Revival in the Ivory Coast," *Pentecostal Herald* (July 1977): 13.

of opening this new country to the gospel. A well qualified, French-speaking missionary was needed for this country as well as financial aid to continue the work and to obtain facilities for worship and other necessary programs in the Ivory Coast.

The need was met when Robert and Belinda Filkins (who were later appointed to France) were appointed to the Ivory Coast in 1979.

Visas to Switzerland had been denied to Brother and Sister Robert Filkins. Pending visa applications to France [had] brought no reply in the last three months. The Filkins offered themselves for Ivory Coast or any other French-speaking field. Both expressed a growing concern for Ivory Coast and an assurance that the decision of the Foreign Missions Board would be accepted as an expression of God's will in the matter. Therefore,

It was resolved that the Foreign Missions Board authorize the change of field for Robert Filkins to Ivory Coast.⁶⁶¹

The Filkinses had a great breakthrough in the Ivory Coast just before the close of 1979. On December 16, "104 people were baptized in Jesus' name."⁶⁶² After prayer, a young boy who had been paralyzed since he was very small walked, and the entire village witnessed the miracle.

Stanley Chambers Resigns, Nathaniel A. Urshan Elected General Superintendent

The *Pentecostal Herald* announced Stanley Chambers's decision to resign from his position as general superintendent: "In 1977, Stanley W. Chambers who had served as the chief executive of the United Pentecostal Church International since 1967, announced he was retiring as the church's Chief Executive Officer. During the General Conference convening in Indianapolis, Indiana, because of his intense loyalty to the United Pentecostal Church and his leadership capabilities, Nathaniel A. Urshan was elected as general superintendent. He assumed the position January 1, 1978."⁶⁶³

Missionary Candidates Recommended for Appointment

Missionary candidates recommended for appointment during the FMB's September 19–27, 1977, sessions during the General Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana, were Dorsey Burk as assistant missionary to West Germany, Eddie Tilley as missionary to Norway, Richard Collins as missionary to the German-speaking people of Switzerland, T. J. Peavy as missionary to Italy, Leroy Gee as missionary to Italy, Henry Ritchie as missionary to the Windward Islands of the Caribbean, Harry Lewis as missionary to Brazil, Ted Purcell as assistant missionary to Brazil (primarily for Bible school ministry), Roy Well as missionary to Venezuela, Kenneth Boller as assistant missionary to Argentina, Walter Vaughn as assistant missionary to Bolivia, Harold Caffee as missionary to the Philippines, Jesse McKinnerney as assistant missionary to Tonga, and Bobby Sutton as missionary to Indonesia.⁶⁶⁴

Billy Cole and Mike Anderson Approved for World Evangelism Tour

W. H. Cole and Mike Anderson met the board to present their burden for evangelistic involvement in Europe during October–December 1977. Brother Cole also presented his burden and plan for an evangelistic tour with his wife to Japan, Iran, Israel, Greece, Italy, and Thailand during January–March 1978. The board endorsed both proposals. The European evangelistic tour had a \$6,000

⁶⁶¹ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (May 23, 1979): 3.

⁶⁶² Robert Filkins, "Victory in the Ivory Coast," *Pentecostal Herald* (April 1980): 22.

⁶⁶³ Calvin R. Rigdon, "New Leaders Chosen," *Pentecostal Herald* (January 1978): 2.

⁶⁶⁴ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (September 19, 1977): 8–9.

budget to be raised in pledges prior to departure. The 1978 evangelistic tour had a budget of \$12,000, part of which would be raised by W. H. Cole and the rest drawn from the Hanscom PIM account with his permission.⁶⁶⁵

1977 Foreign Missions Director's Report—Indianapolis, Indiana

The UPCI had indeed found a capable leader. Harry Scism, with his missionary expertise and experience, immediately stepped to the forefront with visionary aptitude for world missions. He built upon the precedent of change established by T. F. Tenney. By 1977 he was in full swing. He reported to the General Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana:

The Challenge of the Great Commission continues to have a far-reaching effect on our fellowship. . . . A true, genuine burden for the lost not only accelerates our world outreach, but also produces a healthy church in our own land. . . . The United Pentecostal Church International has made it possible to report a total of 184 Foreign Missionaries presently under appointment.⁶⁶⁶

The annual FM report detailed 2,800 national pastors and evangelists, serving 5,686 churches and preaching points and 204,203 constituents. Resident missionaries were established in fifty-three nations, with another nineteen nations having some kind of missionary outreach. Three new fields included Guatemala, Honduras, and Senegal. Missionaries in language school were preparing for service in Haiti, Switzerland, and Chile, with missionaries under appointment in the new fields of Taiwan, Belize, Dominican Republic, and Solomon Islands.

Missions giving had increased over the previous year to a record \$3,619,913.93. The Youth Department allocated \$235,257.09 to foreign missions through SFC, and the Ladies Auxiliary donated \$95,000 through Mothers Memorial. Harvestime also donated \$884 for a grand total of \$3,951,055.02.

PIM subscriptions rose to \$290,639.44 per month derived from 4,317 sources.

Exciting things were taking place in many parts of the world as the FMD took its place among the elite mission societies of the North American denominations.

New Policies for Travel to and from the Field

With a growing missionary family and the facility of air travel, the ease with which missionaries traveled to North America for special events involving family members became a desirable activity. Therefore, the FMB removed the total restriction of missionaries traveling to their home, but with limitations. This action was considered necessary because PIMs sometimes questioned missionaries' presence in North America other than when they were on deputation. The board therefore allowed one trip to the homeland during a term for special occasions such as General Conference or graduations or weddings of children, with the permission of the Administrative Committee or the FMB. These trips would be at the missionary's personal expense, be limited to twenty-three days' absence from the field and be counted as allowable vacation for that calendar year. Any violation of this policy by husband or wife would subject the missionary to disciplinary action from the FMB.⁶⁶⁷

Many pastors who supported missionaries on the field and considered them as personal friends wanted to become personally involved in the work on a short-term basis. This was a positive step forward in many ways; however, this frequent travel to the mission field necessitated a policy. Discussion centered on the possibility that the Administrative Committee be authorized to approve some international evangelism trips with the stipulation that FMB endorsement continue to be required for all such trips. The board resolved that any minister desiring to go to the foreign field to become involved in ministerial

⁶⁶⁵ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (September 23, 1977): 10.

⁶⁶⁶ Harry Scism, "Annual Report to the General Board," October 1977.

⁶⁶⁷ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (February 7, 1978): 4.

activity on a continuing basis must receive endorsement from the FMB and transfer his district ministerial affiliation to the jurisdiction of the FMD. This endorsement would require a recommendation from his district superintendent or district board.⁶⁶⁸

Daniel Scott's illness prevented his return to Ecuador, making a replacement necessary. The FMB therefore changed Sidney Perdue's appointment from Colombia to Ecuador.

Mervyn Miller in Italy

Mervyn Miller wrote the following report for the *Pentecostal Herald*:

Since I arrived in Italy, I have corresponded with two Italian pastors I met in 1973 in London. . . . When I came to Rome, I immediately wrote both pastors. With great joy, Pastor Angelo Caveliere and his family welcomed us. It was only a matter of minutes until he told us that he had prayed for years that God would send a man who believed in the truths of baptism in Jesus name and the Oneness of God. He was convinced that we were the answer to his prayer. You have never seen a man so happy! He has two churches—one in Taranto and one in Pulsano. We ministered in both.⁶⁶⁹

Before leaving the area Brother Miller met another pastor, Leonardo Masiello, who said, "For eight years I have prayed for your coming." He took Brother Miller to a new hall he was painting and preparing for opening and dedication. "I did not know what name I would put outside the church before today," he said. "But now I know: Chiesa Unita Pentecostale!" He asked Brother Miller to preach the dedication. God miraculously added to the work two fine pastors and three works: Taranto, Pulsano, and Massafra!

Dedication Service in Austria

Sherman Hampton reported great progress in Austria. The dedication of their first church took place on December 2, 1977, with Wayne Nigh from Germany as the guest speaker. Also attending the service was Thomas Balca, superintendent of the church in Yugoslavia.

Also visiting the service were Brother and Sister Wind, who traveled cross-country, walking many miles. They were from a small, remote Alpine village. Both had had the Holy Ghost for seventeen years when, after praying, fasting, and reading the Bible, Brother Wind received the revelation of baptism in Jesus' name. Sister Wind received the revelation several months later. Brother Hampton enjoyed baptizing them in the precious name of Jesus.⁶⁷⁰

Guatemala

Missionaries, national ministers, and church members gathered in a large auditorium in Guatemala City for the first Central American Conference held April 28–30, 1978. At least five hundred people attended the night services. Tommy Craft from Jackson, Mississippi, was the main speaker.

A large number received the Holy Ghost and there were many wonderful healings. Wynn and Wanda Drost added their support to the meeting.

Ron Newstrand spoke at the opening of the Central American Bible School in Guatemala City. Dale Brown, administrator of the new Bible school, translated. Shortly after this meeting, Brother Brown's tragic death cast a shadow upon the project, but the school opened with fifteen students, seven from El Salvador, five from Costa Rica, and three from Guatemala.⁶⁷¹

⁶⁶⁸ Ibid., 5.

⁶⁶⁹ Mervyn Miller, "Chiesa Unita Pentecostale," *Pentecostal Herald* (January 1978): 14.

⁶⁷⁰ Sherman Hampton, "Dedication Service in Austria," *Pentecostal Herald* (April 1978): 16.

⁶⁷¹ "Cuidado, Aquí Vienen Los Pentecostales," *Pentecostal Herald* (July 1978): 13.

Revival Fires Burn in Cantania, Sicily

The church of Cantania went all out for the six nights of services conducted by Mervyn Miller and evangelists Billy and Shirley Cole. They rented a city theater because their number had doubled and their building would not hold the crowd of nearly two hundred who attended the meeting.

Thirty were filled with the Holy Ghost. Brother Miller made a date to return to Sicily to baptize these people. The city had tremendous possibilities, and what was happening in Cantania was beginning to happen all over Italy! In Taranto, Marsala, and Napoli the same blessings of Pentecost were being poured out.⁶⁷²

Foreign Missions Advisory Committee Meets in St. Louis

The FMD felt it would be of great benefit to receive counsel and advice from a pastors' committee. The FMB and Administrative Committee constantly maintained close contact with the missionary family and national churches by gathering on-field information; however, it became vastly important to gain the wisdom of North American pastors who provided the financial resources that supported the work of missions. A pastoral committee met April 5–7, 1978, providing extremely valuable input. Much of their counsel was implemented and proved to be successful.

Four veteran missionaries also served on the Advisory Committee, three of which were missionary superintendents with many years of experience: Robert Norris, Robert Rodenbush, and Carl Adams. A fourth missionary, Don Hanscom, was also most helpful. In addition to the missionaries, Haskell Yadon and John Kershaw served on the committee. (Glenn Bogue and A. J. Bustard had been invited but were unable to attend.)

An important question emerged: Have we reached the saturation point in FM giving by North American churches?

J. S. Leaman provided statistics that showed the growth over the past ten years: 1968—30 percent church participation; 1974—82 percent church participation; 1976—80 percent church participation; 1977—83 percent church participation. He pointed out that this information showed that by no means had the church reached a saturation point.

Another question was: What are other organizations doing that we are not doing? The need for more intensive missionary training and educational programs in local churches was pointed out.

The committee also concluded that more annual FM conferences were needed in more local North American churches. Also suggested were regional or sectional missions conferences in order to reach as many pastors and laymen as possible.

The committee discussed how the PIM program could be augmented or improved. The pastors suggested encouraging larger commitments from local churches. At that time the average PIM pledge was \$15.92 per missionary. If local churches emphasized the amount given to foreign missions rather than the number of missionaries supported, missionaries could raise their support without traveling quite so extensively. A closer relationship between the missionary and the supporting church would result in a more meaningful partnership.

The committee raised a most important question: How could support for a field be raised where there was no resident missionary to represent the cause? There must be a way to raise money for these fields that deserved just as much help as the nations in which we had resident missionaries.

The Advisory Committee meetings were a time of identifying problems and prayerfully searching for solutions.⁶⁷³

⁶⁷² Mervyn Miller, "Revival Fires Alive in Italy," *Pentecostal Herald* (August 1978): 17.

⁶⁷³ Calvin Rigdon, "Foreign Missions Advisory Committee Meets," *Pentecostal Herald* (August 1978): 12.

Death of Oscar Vouga

On August 8, 1978, former FM Director Oscar Vouga was called home to be with the Lord. He had labored in the harvest field since the early 1930s, and in the intervening years he became an esteemed official, able administrator, beloved pastor, powerful evangelist, effective teacher, and a tower of strength in the work of the Lord. He served as a missionary to Hawaii, a member of the FMB, and as an assistant general superintendent of the Eastern Zone. His years of service as general director of Foreign Missions saw a substantial increase in missionary giving. Before Brother Vouga left the office, the FMD originated the PIM program. Tom Fred Tenney continued to develop the concept and successfully implemented it during his tenure.⁶⁷⁴

Comparison of Fiscal Year Reports 1977–2001

The 1977–78 FM fiscal year income increased to \$4,638,187.71,⁶⁷⁵ to \$5,437,505.82 in 1978–79,⁶⁷⁶ and continued each year to escalate to unprecedented levels as the UPCI constituency caught the vision for foreign missions. In 1985–86 the income had surged to \$11,341,555.17,⁶⁷⁷ to \$16,507,762.18 in 1995–96,⁶⁷⁸ to \$22 million in 2000,⁶⁷⁹ and to \$24 million in 2001.⁶⁸⁰ The constant incremental new levels of income enabled the FMD to provide unprecedented evangelistic results.

1978 African Missionary Retreat

An important retreat was held in the African Region early in 1978. A deep concern for the many unevangelized African countries was keenly felt. The darkness of sin dominating the African continent had motivated UPCI missionaries to serve there. Teklemariam Gesahagne, national leader in Ethiopia, was a guest and a tremendous blessing to the retreat. Ethiopia now registered over ten thousand church members.

James Kilgore from Life Tabernacle, Houston, Texas, was the guest speaker. John Kershaw accompanied Brother Kilgore and also ministered to the missionary family. E. L. Freeman planned and implemented a wonderful schedule. The highlight of the retreat was the dedication of the Nairobi, Kenya, headquarters facilities. Brother Kilgore's church made a great contribution toward the building. John Harris reported that within the previous six years the work in Kenya had grown to over seven thousand members.

Sunday morning of the retreat was significant because Sister Cupples attended the service. Brother Cupples, now deceased, was the first UPCI missionary to Kenya.

A picture published in the summer 1978 *Global Witness* shows RFS E. L. Freeman, Missionary Superintendent John Harris, and Sister Cupples beside the marble stone in the entrance of the newly dedicated Life Tabernacle in Nairobi that reads, "Dedicated to the glory of God on February 26, 1978, in memory of W. H. Cupples, who was called home while in service for the Master in Kenya."⁶⁸¹

⁶⁷⁴ "Report of the Death of Oscar Vouga," *Pentecostal Herald* (October 1978): 17.

⁶⁷⁵ Edwin E. Judd, "Foreign Missions Fiscal Year Report," *Pentecostal Herald* (October 1978): 10.

⁶⁷⁶ "Foreign Missions Fiscal Year Report," *Pentecostal Herald* (October 1979): 16.

⁶⁷⁷ "Foreign Missions Fiscal Year Report," *Pentecostal Herald* (October 1986): 12.

⁶⁷⁸ "Foreign Missions Fiscal Year Report," *Pentecostal Herald* (October 1996): 12.

⁶⁷⁹ Harry Scism, "Annual Report to the General Board," September 2000.

⁶⁸⁰ Harry Scism, "Annual Report to the General Board," September 2001.

⁶⁸¹ "Kenya Bible School," *Global Witness* (Summer 1978): 10.

Schloss Freudenberg, Germany—Headquarters Church

The German government leased a most beautiful building to house the headquarters of Germany's mission program in Wiesbaden, Germany. Its approximately fifty rooms provided quarters for three apartments, a sanctuary that seated 130, as well as a headquarters office, a printing plant, bookstore, kitchen, dining room, dormitories, and rooms for many other activities for the ever-expanding outreach in Germany.⁶⁸²

May 1978 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

The May 1978 FMB sessions began with the announcement that Dale Brown was gravely ill. Brother Scism requested special prayer for him.⁶⁸³

Overseas Ministries was the up-and-coming program with an increasing number of people seeking involvement. The board passed a resolution that OM applicants be required to meet with the FMB in order to be considered for endorsement on their initial involvement.⁶⁸⁴

Following are other board decisions:

- To recommend Johnny Willhoite for missionary appointment to Mexico
- To recommend Perry Carr for appointment to South Africa
- To recommend James Clonch for appointment to Malawi
- To recommend Bobbye Wendell for appointment to Kenya
- To recommend Gordon Mallory for appointment to the Philippines
- To recommend Lemuel Lewis for appointment to the Philippines.
- To recommend John Goodwin for appointment to Germany
- To endorse Tommy Tenney for a four-month evangelistic trip to Africa and Europe with a budget of \$14,000

In 1977 Don Fisher had resigned as coordinator of OM. Brother Scism presented the need to fill the office and recommended Robert K. Rodenbush to finish the unexpired term. The board approved, with the understanding that he would need time to make the necessary changes for leaving his responsibilities as a missionary. He would not be able to assume the position full time until 1979.

Death of Dale Brown

Dale Brown had met the FMB in 1968 and was sent to Peru to work with Robert and Sue Nix. His ministry included conducting training sessions in various parts of the country and translating training materials. He labored faithfully for eight years.

In May 1976, Brother Brown shared with RFS Paul Leaman the burden he felt for establishing a training center that would serve all the Central American countries.

When his term of service in Peru was concluded, he stopped in Costa Rica on his way to the States. A meeting in the Paul Leaman home on April 2, 1977, was attended by missionaries from Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala. The result of this meeting was the inception of "Institute de Ministerios Pentecostales de America Central," or IMPAC. Plans were approved, and Guatemala City was chosen for the location.

On April 30, Ronald Newstrand of Newark, Ohio, preached the inauguration service and IMPAC became a reality with sixteen students enrolled. Brother Brown said, "The students are so alert, eager to

⁶⁸² "Headquarters Church in Wiesbaden, Germany," *Global Witness* (Summer 1978): 8–9.

⁶⁸³ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (May 22, 1978): 1.

⁶⁸⁴ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (May 24, 1978): 3.

learn and appreciative of teaching that it is a real pleasure for me to be teaching them.” But that pleasure was not to be enjoyed for long.

Less than three weeks later Dale Brown became seriously ill with phlebitis and was admitted to a hospital in Guatemala City. Five days later he was transferred to Houston, Texas. On May 31, the Lord called Dale Brown home, and his funeral service was held in Albany, Oregon, on June 6, 1978.⁶⁸⁵

October 1978 Foreign Missions Board—Kansas City, Missouri

When the FMB met in Kansas City prior to the 1978 General Conference, they discussed the possibility of providing some means on a continuing basis in recognition of Paul H. Box’s many years of service to the division, especially since it would enable him to attend the general conferences. The board recommended that Paul H. Box be made an honorary FMB member and that he receive the regular expense allowance afforded to FMB members to attend only the General Conference session.⁶⁸⁶

Other decisions included the following:

- To recommend William Turner for appointment to South Korea
- To recommend Jerry Pruett for appointment to Ecuador
- To recommend Garry Tracy for appointment to Pakistan
- To recommend Fred K. Scott for appointment to Central America
- To approve Arlie Enis and Jesse McKinnerney for ordination, which would take place during the SOM in Carlinville, Illinois, October 31–November 3, 1978
- To approve Leo Upton for a six-week trip to Brazil

1978 General Conference—Kansas City, Missouri

Harry Scism’s address to the General Board during the 1978 General Conference indicated continual growth:

The exciting things that are taking place in many parts of the world keep our time and attention so occupied that it hardly seems possible that a year has passed since my last General Conference report. The joy experienced by those at home and abroad who are involved in foreign missions is not only gratifying but is also contagious. As pastors and churches have an opportunity to see what involvement in the fulfillment of the Great Commission is doing for others, they are encouraged to step into this glorious experience of communicating the gospel to the world.

As the world scene continues to change we are constantly facing new challenges. In some cases unusual doors of opportunity are opening. In other areas of the world as one door closes we are seeking other doors—ways and means—to evangelize. Experience has taught us that we must enlarge our vision and be prepared to even alter our approach at times, though our message must never be changed.⁶⁸⁷

The total FM giving in the 1969 General Conference report was \$645,469.32. The PIM program began in January 1970. In 1978 the grand total for FM income was \$4,638,187.71, \$3,092,585.55 of which derived from PIM commitments. SFC gave \$220,776.23 for missionaries’ transportation and the Ladies Auxiliary through Mothers Memorial gave \$114,500 for appliances and foreign Bible school student support.

The average annual offering per contributing church in 1978 was \$1,680.17. The North American church was standing solidly behind the task of world evangelism.

⁶⁸⁵ Paul Leaman, “A Man with a Burden,” *Pentecostal Herald* (September 1978): 12.

⁶⁸⁶ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 2, 1978): 1.

⁶⁸⁷ Harry E. Scism, “Annual Report to the General Board,” September 1978.

The UPCI had 209 foreign missionaries under appointment. Another thirty-seven short-term evangelists and Bible teachers were endorsed to serve in overseas work. Over 3,000 national preachers constituted an extremely important part of the ministerial force in foreign lands. North American missionaries were resident in fifty-six nations, with national preachers representing the message in another twenty nations, giving the church a total world outreach in seventy-six nations. Missionaries were appointed to the new fields of Mexico, Windward Islands, Spain, Norway, and Malawi.

The past year had again produced outstanding evangelistic tours in all four regions. In just four African countries alone over four hundred twenty received the Holy Ghost in two months.

The vision for foreign missions was to meet the challenge to more effectively evangelize the world. In an increasing number of countries national leaders were being trained and prepared, but the need for going into unreached countries was critical. Innovative training programs were preparing outstanding national leaders to step into the void and go as missionaries to the countries that were closed to resident Americans. OM was making the future more exciting because the vision to evangelize the world in our generation was becoming a reality.

Missionaries Appointed during the 1978 General Conference

During the 1978 General Conference in Kansas City, new missionary families were appointed: Perry Carr to South Africa; James Clonch to Malawi; J. D. Goodwin to Germany; L. D. Lewis and Gordon Mallory to the Philippines; Johnny Willhoite to Mexico; Bobbye Wendell to Kenya; Jerry Pruitt to Ecuador; Fred Scott to Central America; Garry Tracy to Pakistan; and William Turner to Korea.

These joined previously appointed missionaries who were preparing to leave for the field: Harold Caffee to the Philippines, Jessie McKinnerney to Tonga, Bobby Sutton to Indonesia, Dorsey Burk to Germany, Richard Collins to Switzerland, Leroy Gee and Thomas Peavy to Italy, Ed Raley to Spain, Eddy Tilley to Norway, Kenneth Boller to Argentina, Ted Purcell to Brazil, Henry Ritchie to the Windward Islands, Walter Vaughn to Bolivia, and Roy Well to Venezuela.

The Top Five Churches: Largest Offerings for 1978

The top five churches for FM giving were Life Tabernacle, Houston, Texas (James Kilgore), with \$55,527.52; Calvary Tabernacle, Indianapolis, Indiana (N. A. Urshan), with \$46,252.96; First Pentecostal Church, Baton Rouge, Louisiana (Curtis Young), with 35,840.91; First Apostolic Church, Toledo, Ohio (Fred Kinzie), with \$34,830; and First United Pentecostal Church, Toronto, Ontario, Canada (Carl Stephenson), with \$29,959.28.

The Top Five Churches: Per Capita Giving for 1978

The top five churches for per capita giving were First United Pentecostal Church, Anamosa, Iowa (Everette McCoy), with \$279.79; First United Pentecostal Church, Toronto, Ontario, Canada (Carl Stephenson), with \$185.56; Apostolic Church, Van Wert, Ohio (David Kutenia), with \$182.10; First United Pentecostal Church, Morgan Hill, California, (Charles Smelser), with \$164.57; and Faith Pentecostal Chapel, Monticello, Indiana (Robert Ingram), with \$160.29.

A New Work in Senegal

Senegal was a nation of 4.5 million, 80 percent of which were Muslim. They prayed five times a day, but wore fetishes. They gave alms to the poor, but made annual blood sacrifices for their sins. They talked incessantly about their Prophet Muhammad.

Edward and Amelia Allard arrived in Senegal in March 1978, after having been delayed over six months because of a serious auto accident. The Allards had no contacts in Senegal, but two men were

employed to work on the house being prepared for the Allards, and God had these men and their families ready to begin the church there.

On Sunday, August 13, Brother Allard baptized four converts in Jesus' name. Jesus would meet the tremendous needs of Senegal's people. It was a nation ready for harvest!⁶⁸⁸

1978 Asian Missionary Retreat

The 1978 Missionary Retreat for Asia was held in Hong Kong. From the hotel rooms one could view one of the most beautiful harbors in the world. Below were busy streets with hundreds of shops and multitudes of people taking care of their business.

Speakers who ministered to the hungry missionary families were James Kilgore and John Kershaw of Texas, Brother and Sister Stanley Chambers, retiring general superintendent, and Brother and Sister M. J. Wolfe, district superintendent of Illinois.

Spiritually hungry missionaries, who had poured out themselves to their respective fields, gathered for a time of fellowship and refreshment. RFS Paul Cook did an excellent job planning a most effective retreat.⁶⁸⁹

Focus on Missionary Sacrifice

Many times the most-mentioned missionary sacrifices are leaving home and family, the rigorous demands of learning a new culture and language, and perhaps the dangers and threats to North Americans living abroad. However, the daily life of a missionary is filled with demands that add up to mental anguish. Like Paul, a missionary has the care of all the churches—not just one—and is responsible for the entire nation of his calling. There is the fear for the children and the “normal” social activities for teenagers whose maturing thoughts are turning toward marriage. A constant searing burden tears at the heart of a missionary for his field; he wants to serve with effectiveness and profitability for the kingdom.

An example of missionary sacrifice was James Aaron Holmes and his wife, Pearl. They lived for forty years in a humble abode in Liberia at the Zoradee Mission Station they had established in 1924. Aaron hunted to feed his family because they spent their personal income on the work. After their daughter died, they cared for their grandchildren. A picture of their mission is in the winter 1978 *Global Witness*, with RFS E. L. Freeman and his wife, Nona, standing in front of the house.

Revival in Haiti

Field Superintendent Glen Smith's reports to WEC were filled with excitement over the move of God in Haiti. Daniel Vannoy baptized converts in the river that ran through Port-du-Paix. Pastors August, Julius, Premier, and Mandosa carried the weight of the work as it progressed rapidly.⁶⁹⁰

Carl Stephenson Travels to Colombia and the Amazon River Basin

FMB member Carl Stephenson, FM Director Harry Scism, and Frank Munsey were guests at the 1979 Colombian National Conference in Cali. After the conference, Carl Stephenson traveled to the Amazon Basin to be with Bennie DeMerchant and encourage the work there. On location was the SFC high-wing floatplane, which greatly enhanced the DeMerchants' work throughout the tropical rain forest.

⁶⁸⁸ “Senegal,” *Global Witness* (Fall 1978): 14–15.

⁶⁸⁹ “Together in Hong Kong,” *Global Witness* (Winter 1978): 4–5.

⁶⁹⁰ “Revival in Haiti,” *Global Witness* (Spring 1979): 3.

Ethiopia, India, and Burma

Ethiopia baptized three thousand in one month, which brought the total number of constituents to over eleven thousand. India increased to over forty-five thousand members, and 250 received the Holy Ghost in Burma to bring the number of its constituents to three thousand.⁶⁹¹

Regional Field Supervisors Relocate to St. Louis⁶⁹²

Due to extenuating circumstances of travel and representing their regions properly, it was decided that the regional field supervisors should live in St. Louis. This would facilitate their presence during FMB sessions, as well as the weekly meetings of the FM Administrative Committee. With the increasing responsibilities of a growing worldwide church, a tremendous load had fallen on the shoulders of these men.

The 1979 Foreign Missions Board

In 1979, the FMB consisted of Harry Scism, general director; Edwin E. Judd, secretary; Robert Rodenbush, coordinator of OM; J. S. Leaman, director of promotion and publications; and board members R. P. Bell, T. C. Bonnette, J. C. Cole, Fred Kinzie, Wayne Rooks, F. V. Shoemake, and Carl Stephenson.⁶⁹³

A lengthy discussion involving the civil unrest in Iran dominated the FMB discussions of January/February 1979. James and Patsy Wood were recalled to the States, and Brother Wood requested reappointment to Iran. However, the board felt that it could not recommend James Wood to return to Iran because of the political chaos that had required the Wood family's evacuation from that country.⁶⁹⁴

Death of Former UPC Missionary Bill Drost in Spain

Bill and Ruth Drost had arrived in Malaga, Spain, in 1967. They developed a beautiful church in that city, but Brother Drost's health began to deteriorate. A few years earlier God had healed him of cancer, but after ministering in the evening service on March 3, 1979, he suffered a massive stroke and collapsed. He was in a deep coma until March 5, when he died. He was buried on site 495 in International Cemetery, about twelve miles southwest of Malaga.⁶⁹⁵

Change of Field for Robert Filkins

Because their visas to Switzerland had been denied, Robert and Belinda Filkins met the board to discuss their possible future. They expressed a growing concern for Ivory Coast but that the board's decision would be accepted as an expression of God's will in the matter. The board authorized the change of field for Robert Filkins to Ivory Coast, Belgium, or Luxembourg with the final choice to be declared by May 29.⁶⁹⁶

⁶⁹¹ "Help Evangelize Lost People," *Global Witness* (Spring 1979): 14.

⁶⁹² Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (January 30, 1979): 7.

⁶⁹³ J. S. Leaman, "Foreign Missions Board Members," *Global Witness* (Winter 1979): 2.

⁶⁹⁴ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (January 30, 1979).

⁶⁹⁵ Mike and Lorna Wieteska with Bill Drost, *Bill Drost the Pentecost* (Hazelwood: Word Aflame Press, 2000), 255.

⁶⁹⁶ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (May 23, 1979): 3.

1979 Foreign Missions Board Decisions⁶⁹⁷

Paul Dennis was approved for transfer to Okinawa, and the following candidates were recommended for missionary appointment:

- Carl Varnell to the Philippine Islands
- William Willoughby to Spain
- Bruce Howell to El Salvador
- Stanley Wilt to Botswana
- Timothy Simoneaux to Tanzania
- Jimmy Hall to Liberia

New Bible School Complexes

The key to any country's future in evangelism is training national ministers. Field Superintendent Robert Norris had been a proponent of Bible school training for many years. A studious missionary who always faced the challenge of training leaders, Brother Norris proposed a Bible school complex for Rio De Janeiro, Brazil. This became a reality in 1978. Robert and Jeanne Norris poured themselves into the construction of the Bible school, transforming an old soap factory with the help of Ted Purcell. Thirty-one students were registered for the 1978–79 school year. Later, Juan Aguilar, a top student product of the Bible school and an energetic motivator with visible leadership skills, would assume the pastorate of the central church of Sao Joao de Meriti.⁶⁹⁸

A beautiful new complex in Korea filled the need to train its national ministers. Thirty-four had graduated from the three-year course and had gone on to become the backbone of the work. The building contained a chapel, three classrooms, a recreation room, library, kitchen and dining facilities, restrooms and showers, and a missionary apartment, as well as space for seminars and conferences. Students and teachers were filled with anticipation as they awaited the arrival of missionary William Turner.⁶⁹⁹

The Bible School in Northeast India was excellent; sacrificial dedication of missionaries and nationals alike played a tremendous role in the success pattern. The following stories of sacrifice were indicative of the work in Northeast India:

- F. Vanlalrema's father expelled him from the family home because he was baptized in Jesus' name. He quit his teaching job and enrolled in the Bible school.
- R. Rosiama walked forty miles to become a student in the Bible school.
- Brother Aichunga walked forty miles just to catch a bus to travel to the school.
- Despite economic loss, Bolendro Kumar Riang left a government teaching job to attend classes at the Bible school.
- Brother Lalrumbiana sold his pig to raise the fare to come to Bible school, and Brother Neihnenga sold his watch.⁷⁰⁰

Associates in Missions Matures into a Full-blown Program

The AIM program previously listed personnel only as short-term assistant missionaries, since ministers, youth, and laymen alike served overseas. In his 1978 annual report to the General Conference, FM Director Harry Scism had given the ministry no particular appellation: "[thirty-seven] short-term

⁶⁹⁷ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (May 22, 1979): 7.

⁶⁹⁸ "Rio de Janeiro Bible School," *Global Witness* (Summer 1979): 14.

⁶⁹⁹ "Korea," *Global Witness* (Summer 1979): 15.

⁷⁰⁰ "India Bible School," *Global Witness* (Winter 1979): 10–11.

evangelists and Bible teachers endorsed to serve in overseas work.”⁷⁰¹ In his 1979 annual report, he called this short-term assignment “Associates In Missions, a new venture in short-term evangelism.”⁷⁰² Robert Rodenbush was appointed as coordinator of OM in May 1978, but did not assume the position until 1979. Under Brother Rodenbush’s leadership the AIM program was birthed and offered an opportunity for young men and women to experience the atmosphere of the foreign missions field. By 1989 the FMD had recognized the tremendous value of this program. The FMB proclaimed that AIM had become a source of potential candidates for missionary service.

Robert Rodenbush wrote, “Overseas Ministries is interested in involving ministers, youth and laymen in short-term service overseas for specialized ministries through our AIM program. Overseas Ministries is committed to helping our missionaries reach a lost world.”⁷⁰³

Death of Alice Kugler Sheets

Born January 24, 1883, Alice Kugler Sheets died on October 12, 1979, and was buried in the Memory Lawn Cemetery in Phoenix, Arizona, ending nearly a century of life, much of it spent in China. FM Director Harry Scism preached her funeral. She was buried next to her husband, Daniel, who had preceded her in death by fourteen and one-half years. What a tremendous missionary couple!

Sister Sheets went to China as Alice Kugler under the PAW banner. When she returned to North America on furlough, she married Daniel K. Sheets, and they went to China as a missionary team, this time under the auspices of the PCI. The work in China grew rapidly under their ministry until the Japanese occupied China.

During the war the Japanese held them under house arrest in Canton for fifteen months. Yet their work still prospered and many were led to the Lord. After this the Japanese put them in a concentration camp on the Island of Honan for seven months. Finally the Sheetsses were exchanged to the Americans for Japanese POWs and returned to the States in 1943.⁷⁰⁴

Three years later they returned to China, but Alice’s very serious illness forced them to return to the United States in 1948. For some years they pastored in Prescott, Arizona, and after Daniel’s death Alice continued to attend the Prescott UPC. Oma Ellis became the pastor after Daniel’s death.

The work in China has survived even under Communist rule because the Sheetsses built the work around the message and not around a personality. This very fact once again validates that the training of nationals is the more secure way to establish a work on the field.

1979 General Conference—Salt Lake City, Utah

The September 1979 General Conference convened in the Salt Lake Palace, Salt Lake City, Utah. The results of the Foreign Missions Day set the pace for the future. The theme, “One World, Will It Be Won?” presented the conference with a tremendous challenge as twelve new missionary families received ratification of their appointment to go into “their” world.

Missionaries Appointed at the 1979 General Conference

Six families were appointed for Africa: Richard Porter, Ghana; Jimmy Hall, Liberia; Timothy Simoneaux, Tanzania; Stanley Wilt, Botswana; Louis Louw, South Africa; and David Ward, Sierra Leone. One family was appointed for Asia, Carl Varnell to the Philippines. Two families were being sent to Europe/Middle East: W. E. Willoughby, Spain; and Gary Reed, Israel. Three families were appointed

⁷⁰¹ Harry E. Scism, “Annual Report to the General Board,” October 1979.

⁷⁰² Ibid.

⁷⁰³ Robert K. Rodenbush, “What Is Overseas Ministries?” *Pentecostal Herald* (February 1980): 12.

⁷⁰⁴ “One World—Will It Be Won?” *Pentecostal Herald* (December 1979): 14.

for Latin America: Bruce Howell, El Salvador; John Hopkins, Panama; and Brian Wiseman, Brazil.⁷⁰⁵ All of these families benefited from pastors' generous pledges. Some personal budgets were completed at the conference, while others received a major portion of the required amounts.

A. W. Post, former missionary to Ceylon, delivered the message. He challenged the people to dedicate their lives and concentrate on winning the world to Jesus Christ.

A special appeal for the Alice Sheets Memorial Fund to benefit the China radio broadcast brought an overwhelming response. The cash offering totaled nearly \$63,000. This amount plus pledges totaled approximately \$175,000 as people gave sacrificially and unselfishly to the cause of the China radio broadcast.

Another event that positively impacted the conference was Sammy Stewart's sermon on Thursday evening. Paul Reynolds, missionary to Jamaica, introduced this product of missions. Brother Stewart represented all the national ministers with his extraordinary delivery. At the time he served as pastor of Pentecostal Tabernacle in Kingston, Jamaica.

The Top Churches: Largest Offerings for 1979

The largest FM offerings were from the following churches: First Pentecostal Church, Baton Rouge, Louisiana (Curtis Young), \$50,065; Life Tabernacle, Houston, Texas (James Kilgore), \$47,557.50; Calvary Tabernacle, Indianapolis, Indiana (N. A. Urshan), \$46,419.25; First United Pentecostal Church, San Jose, California (Jimmy Shoemake), \$38,991; First Apostolic Church, Toledo, Ohio (Fred Kinsey), \$38,773.88; First United Pentecostal Church, Toronto, Ontario, Canada (Carl Stephenson), \$31,055; and First Pentecostal Church, Alexandria, Louisiana (G. A. Mangun), \$30,097.50.

The Top Churches Per Capita Giving for 1979

The churches with the highest per capita giving were United Pentecostal Church, Lindsay, Oklahoma (Teddy Carter), \$529.05; First United Pentecostal Church, Anamosa, Iowa (Everette McCoy), \$329.09; New Life Fellowship, Pleasanton, California (David Theobald), \$257; Apostolic Church, Van Wert, Ohio (David Kutenia), \$210.04; First United Pentecostal Church, Toronto, Ontario, Canada (Carl Stephenson), \$208.42; First Pentecostal Church, Torrance, California (W. D. Smith), \$180.60, and United Pentecostal Church, Morris, Oklahoma (Gerald Hutton), \$173.28.

Sam Balca

In December 1979, Sam Balca was appointed as a missionary to Eastern Europe. He was the son of the pioneer John Balca who opened many doors in Eastern Europe for the gospel. Sam Balca stepped to the front in many areas of ministry, and over a period of time he became indispensable to European evangelization. His sister is Anne Nowacki, who with her husband, John, serve as missionaries to France. At this time Brother Balca wanted to go to Wiesbaden, Germany, to work in the European training center with Slovak students and use Wiesbaden as a base from which to reach out to Yugoslavia and elsewhere in Eastern Europe. The board recommended Samuel Balca for appointment as an assistant missionary to Eastern Europe and involvement in the European training center.⁷⁰⁶

China Outreach

Another great accomplishment during the Decade of Change was the China Outreach. Foreign missions made the first person-to-person contact with Jesus Name people inside Red China since the

⁷⁰⁵ "Newly Appointed Missionaries, Foreign Missions Day," *Pentecostal Herald* (December 1979): 14.

⁷⁰⁶ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 16, 1979): 4.

revolution—a Cantonese contact inside Red China was translating literature and doing all he could to reach more than 1 billion lost souls despite the risk involved. Prayer kept the door to China open even after our pastors suffered martyrdom and imprisonment. After difficulties with the first China broadcast, the Lord opened a door to again broadcast into Red China. Our missionary in Hong Kong prepared daily evangelistic messages, which a capable staff translated into Chinese and aired.⁷⁰⁷

Foreign Missions Secretary Edwin Judd Revisits India

After thirty-four years, FM Secretary Edwin Judd returned to India and Burma. During World War II the U.S. Army had stationed him in Northeast India, and he had felt a great burden for the work of God. Because of this burden and the hand of God, he made valuable contacts that in later years helped the Ellis Scisms establish the work in Northeast India.

Along with RFS Paul Cook, Brother Judd visited Ceylon, South India, Northeast India, Pakistan, Burma, Thailand, Indonesia, and Hong Kong. They conducted several seminars. The leaders of the national churches received Brother Judd very warmly. They felt his keen burden and concern for their work.⁷⁰⁸

Other Missionary News

Appointed to Brazil, Timothy Wayne Drost traveled to raise his support base. John May was returning from his appointed field of Indonesia, and because of the need in Fiji, he was sent to Fiji to serve as Donald Dobyns's furlough replacement. Sherman Hampton was recommended for appointment to Egypt.⁷⁰⁹

1980 Annual Kenyan Conference

A pivotal meeting in Kenya, the 1980 annual conference was held in Nairobi. FMB member R. P. Bell was the guest speaker and a tremendous blessing to the conference. RFS E. L. Freeman taught a series of inspiring seminars.

Some of the 178 pastors attending the conference walked many miles to catch a bus for a long, hot, bumpy journey to the conference.⁷¹⁰

1980 Annual Liberian Conference

William Sciscoe, pastor in Racine, Wisconsin, spent four days in Liberia on an evangelistic tour through West Africa. During the 1980 annual Liberian conference ninety-two received the Holy Ghost and fifty-eight were baptized. Else Lund came from Ghana as the special guest speaker. The Liberian brethren were looking forward to their new missionaries, Jimmy and Patricia Hall, who would soon be on location.⁷¹¹

Ethiopia Grows to 35,000 Constituents

During a time when the visa restriction was temporarily lifted, John Harris and James Clonch traveled to Ethiopia. During the past tumultuous years God had kept His church moving constantly forward, and with seven thousand baptized during 1979, the constituency had reached thirty-five thousand.

⁷⁰⁷ "China," *Global Witness* (Summer 1979): 4–5.

⁷⁰⁸ "Secretary of Foreign Missions Revisits India," *Global Witness* (January–February 1980): 3.

⁷⁰⁹ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (February 5, 1980): 4.

⁷¹⁰ "1980 Annual Kenya Conference," *Global Witness* (May–June 1980): 3.

⁷¹¹ "1980 Annual Liberia Conference," *Global Witness* (May–June 1980): 3.

The Ethiopian government seemed to be dedicated to eradicating Christianity from the country. Large crowds gathered in the streets to prove that there was no God. In one such rally, a soldier-teacher demonstrated that man was all powerful. With his machine gun hanging from a strap over his shoulder and several thousand looking on, he announced that he would put his foot on the angel Michael. The people applauded. Then he said, "I will put my foot on Mary!" Again the people applauded. "Now," he said, "I will stomp even Jesus!" As he lifted his foot to stomp on Jesus, the machine gun hanging on his shoulder turned and fired without anyone touching the gun, and the man died before the people's eyes. Many of the people fell to their knees and cried, "God forgive us!"⁷¹²

The Philippines

The Philippine Islands were moving into new dimensions with 2,712 baptized in 1979. The report in the August 1980 *Pentecostal Herald* communicated that the work had grown tremendously under Carl and Evelyn Adams. The constituency now stood at thirty thousand believers and five hundred licensed ministers. Brother and Sister Adams were retiring from missionary service. Missionaries serving in the Philippines were Gordon Mallory, Richard Denny, Harold Caffee, L. D. Lewis, Bobby Sutton, and Carl Varnell.

The March 1980 Mindanao District conference in the Philippine Islands was a great success. L. D. Lewis was overseeing this area of the work in the Philippines. More than eight hundred attended the meeting on Thursday night, March 5, and forty received the Holy Ghost. Several visitors from America were present, including Brother and Sister Marcus from Baytown, Texas, and Howard West from Seattle, Washington. They were a tremendous blessing to the conference. Missionary associate Steve Graham was a special blessing as he directed the conference choir.⁷¹³

In May 1980, 249 were baptized and 252 were filled with the Holy Ghost as five entire congregations responded to the truth of Jesus Name baptism.⁷¹⁴

Pakistan

The New Life Training Center in Lahore, Pakistan, teemed with excitement as twenty-five young men enrolled as full-time students in a three-year training program. Eight third-year students graduated during the first graduation ceremony. W. V. Cooling, Ontario District superintendent, was the speaker for the conference. Missionaries serving in Pakistan were Everett Corcoran, Donald Hanscom, Garry Tracy, and Francis Foster. Donald Hanscom reported that during 1979, 905 were baptized in Jesus' name and 716 were filled with the Holy Ghost in Pakistan.⁷¹⁵

Madagascar

The year 1980 dawned with reports flowing into headquarters indicating that God was opening new doors. Numbers in the church overseas were multiplying rapidly. North American churches were rejoicing that their investments had produced great dividends. While the future would bring the church to yet greater levels, mission fields such as Madagascar were exploding with results. Denzil and Jerry Richardson reported that from January to April "356 [had] been baptized, and 297 filled with the Holy Ghost."⁷¹⁶

⁷¹² "Ethiopia Work Continues to Thrive," *Global Witness* (September–October 1980): 3.

⁷¹³ J. S. Leaman, "District Conference in the Philippines," *Global Witness* (July–August 1980): 3.

⁷¹⁴ "Worldline," *Pentecostal Herald* (August 1980): 10.

⁷¹⁵ Donald Hanscom, "Pakistan's New Life Center," *Global Witness* (November–December 1980): 3.

⁷¹⁶ Denzil Richardson, "356 Baptized in Madagascar," *Pentecostal Herald* (August 1980): 10.

Bible School Graduation in Quito, Ecuador

Guest speakers for the June 1980 Bible school graduation in Ecuador were OM Coordinator Robert Rodenbush; T. M. Jackson, president of Texas Bible College; and J. R. Bailey of Illinois.⁷¹⁷

National Conference in El Salvador

Curtis Young from Baton Rouge, Louisiana, was the guest speaker for the National Convention in San Salvador, El Salvador. During the two and a half days of the convention, 102 received the Holy Ghost and twenty-eight were baptized in Jesus' name. The largest service had over 1,800 in attendance.

Yes, revolution was turning the country upside down, but the greatest revolution was a spiritual one. During February, 216 were baptized in Jesus' name and 141 received the Holy Ghost! During 1979 they averaged ninety-seven being baptized and sixty-six receiving the Holy Ghost every month.⁷¹⁸

Dedication of the G. C. Weeks Memorial Headquarters Church in Ethiopia

In Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, a facility with a seating capacity of approximately seven hundred was dedicated as the headquarters church in honor of G. C. Weeks, former superintendent of the Louisiana District. The people were excited and grateful. Since the beginning of the work by Kenneth and Bobby Wendell in 1969, and the arrival of John and Jerri Harris in 1971, the church had experienced continual growth. Despite the severe persecution during open violence in 1972, when missionaries were forced out of the country to leave the church in the hands of a few trained workers, the church had grown to a constituency of thirty-five thousand believers. Tom Fred Tenney reported:

Only three weeks prior to the dedication services, the imprisoned workers and preachers were released, and the church emerged stronger. Many of these people have suffered greatly for the gospel. The church has reached all classes in Ethiopia, from the poorest to those in power. In attendance for the dedication were some without shoes as well as government leaders and generals. The church is held in high esteem locally.⁷¹⁹

Officials in attendance were Louisiana District Superintendent T. F. Tenney (former general director of Foreign Missions); E. L. Freeman, RFS for Africa; John Harris, superintendent of Kenya and Ethiopia; and Bobby Wendell. Seventy-five ministers were ordained.

1980 Annual Italian Conference

FMB member J. C. Cole was the guest speaker for the annual Italian conference. Field Superintendent Thomas Peavy reported that seven ministers were ordained and ten people were baptized.⁷²⁰

Foreign Missions Director's 1980 Report to the General Conference

FM Director Harry E. Scism reflected on the previous year and provided insight:

The Holy Spirit has been at work through human instruments this past year in a most remarkable manner. This has been another record setting year in Foreign Missions. The leadership of our General

⁷¹⁷ J. S. Leaman, "Bible School Graduation, Quito, Ecuador," *Global Witness* (January–February 1981): 2.

⁷¹⁸ J. S. Leaman, "National Conference in El Salvador," *Global Witness* (July–August 1980): 3.

⁷¹⁹ T. F. Tenney, "Headquarters Church Dedicated," *Global Witness* (January–February 1981): 3.

⁷²⁰ "1980 Annual Italian Conference," *Global Witness* (January–February 1980): 3.

Superintendent and General Secretary is deeply appreciated. The strong support and backing of our General Board gives us great confidence in moving ahead to conquer new territory for the name of Jesus. We thank every pastor and lay member for your strong support, which makes this report possible.⁷²¹

In 1980 the UPCI was working in eighty-five nations outside of North America with 230 North American missionaries serving in sixty nations and national churches active in an additional twenty-one nations.

The report shows a record-setting growth. There were 28,885 people baptized in Jesus' name and 23,113 filled with the Holy Ghost, 223 new churches established, 272,652 constituents overseas, and over 3,000 national preachers.

The PIM program expanded to the monthly income from PIMs reaching \$433,191.41. The average annual offering per contributing church in 1980 was \$1,894.63 with 86.3 percent of the North American churches participating.

Finances increased 16 percent over the previous year's total of \$5,747,516.93. The General Youth Division allocated \$419,060.96 from SFC, and the Ladies Auxiliary \$136,500 through Mothers Memorial, bringing the total giving to \$6,303,077.89.

Four missionary families were appointed: John Verity as assistant missionary to Austria, Allan Shalm as missionary to India, Dale Starks to Malaysia/Singapore, and David Curtis to Hong Kong.

Retired Missionaries Honored

The UPCI's Retired Missionaries program was initiated to honor missionaries who had served for twenty years or more on foreign soil. During the 1980 General Conference in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the FMD honored them with a banquet and presented each couple with a plaque commemorating their missionary service. While the work they have done will be remembered in the chronicles of heaven, those participating in the service expressed that there is no way to sufficiently honor them in the manner they deserve. The retired missionaries attending the banquet were as follows:

- Former missionaries to Australia, the Glenn Bogues, living in Bloomington, Indiana, now pastoring the United Pentecostal Assembly. He formerly served as Indiana District FM director.
- Former missionary to Liberia, Pauline Gruse, living in Monroe, Michigan, and attending the Monroe Apostolic Church. In the early part of 1981, Sister Gruse visited Liberia to see the people she worked among for so many years.
- In June 1981, former missionaries to Colombia, Lewis and Sallie Morley moved to Miami, Florida, to help establish three Spanish works. Two of the groups were 90 percent Colombian, including the pastors. Some of these people had formerly worked with the Morleys or the Thompsons in Colombia.
- Former missionary to Liberia, Valda Russell, living in Jamaica, had served in Liberia for many years before her retirement from foreign missions service.
- Former missionary to India, the E. L. Scisms, living in Portland, Oregon, visited India in the summer of 1980 for a short-term Bible school teaching assignment with grandson, Stanley. Brother Scism was serving the Oregon District as FM representative.
- Former missionaries to South Africa, the E. L. and Nona Freeman, retired, were living in Minden, Louisiana.
- In 1979, the W. J. Thompsons retired from foreign missions service in Colombia. Since that time they settled in Houston, Texas, to attend Life Tabernacle pastored by James Kilgore.

⁷²¹ Harry E. Scism, "Annual Report to the General Board," October 1980.

- Former missionary to Indonesia, Helen White moved to Paragould, Arkansas, to attend Revival Center UPC. She spoke in various churches from time to time and wished to be involved in short-term missionary service again as opportunities came.⁷²²

Sherman Hampton Family Denied a Visa to Egypt

While Sherman Hampton toured Egypt prior to his appointment, government officials had assured him that he and his family would be extended a resident visa. However, after their arrival in Egypt in November 1980, they found the rules had been changed, requiring a working permit before a resident visa would be granted. Brother Hampton had to take his wife and daughter to West Germany. However, while he was in Egypt seven were baptized and two received the Holy Ghost.⁷²³

Simeon Young and Garth Hatheway Visit the Mission Field

Donald Hanscom, field superintendent of Pakistan and Sri Lanka, gave a glowing report of a missionary tour by Garth Hatheway of Centreville, New Brunswick, and Simeon Young of Terre Haute, Indiana. They ministered during the Second Annual College of Ministries seminar conducted in Colombo, Sri Lanka. Jackson College of Ministries of Jackson, Mississippi, sponsored the school.

Their ministry also blessed the annual General Conference of the Sri Lanka UPC, which immediately followed the seminar.

The visit also included services in Pakistan. In Kattrak Hall, Karachi, Pakistan, three nights of spiritual outpouring saw twelve persons filled with the Holy Ghost. Seventeen were baptized in Islamabad.⁷²⁴

The W. E. Willoughby Family Arrives in Spain

Brother and Sister Ed Raley were on hand to welcome William and Diola Willoughby and their children, Kristina and Will, to Madrid, Spain, and assist them in obtaining their official documents.

Upon entering Barcelona, a beautiful city of 4.5 million people, tears sprang to Sister Willoughby's eyes as she began to realize the tremendous task before them. She said, "Perhaps this is what Jesus felt when He looked upon Jerusalem." A small voice whispered, "With God, nothing shall be impossible!"⁷²⁵

El Salvador Explodes in Revival

The T. Wynn Drost family was blessed with the coming of Bruce Howell, a man of like passions, a person fine-tuned for revival. Despite the turmoil of civil war that rocked the cities of that small country, "1980 [was] the most fruitful thus far for the United Pentecostal Church in this country. From January through December of 1980, there were a total of 3,075 baptized in Jesus name and 2,384 who received the baptism of the Holy Ghost."⁷²⁶

A Glorious Future Awaits

Earlier in this decade, FM Director Tom Fred Tenney had expressed his feelings about the future:

⁷²² J. S. Leaman, "Retired Missionaries," *Global Witness* (September–October 1981): 3.

⁷²³ "A Job to Be Done," *Global Witness* (March–April 1980): 14.

⁷²⁴ Donald Hanscom, "Garth Hatheway and Simeon Young Visit Sri Lanka and Pakistan," *Global Witness* (Summer 1979): 14.

⁷²⁵ Diola Willoughby, "First Visit to Our Jerusalem," *Global Witness* (March–April 1980): 6.

⁷²⁶ T. Wynn Drost, "God's Church in El Salvador," *Global Witness* (March–April 1981): 8.

The harvest continues to be white; the laborers continue to be few. As gratifying as it is to report the accomplishments in foreign missions, the harsh realities of staggering needs and unmet opportunities of the mission fields must also be a vital part of [our expectation for the future.]. We are living in a day of famine, poverty, disease, ignorance and spiritual darkness. In West Africa alone, thousands are dying of starvation and malnutrition, many having never heard the saving Gospel of Jesus. We must hasten to the harvest. Ignorance is prevalent and disease rampant among millions in other areas also. Spiritual darkness dominates so much of our world.

We must continue to involve every Pentecostal everywhere. We intend to intensify our revival efforts. Several new fields must be opened, but as always, God's answer is a man. We will continue to encourage maturing mission fields to send their own missionaries to adjoining nations. We will continue to meet the challenge of dollar erosion and mounting inflation by total restructuring of our financial remuneration given to missionaries for their personal needs. The new system will be sensitive to dollar fluctuations and buying power on each of the missionaries' respective fields. This new financial program comes as a result of a two-year study by your Foreign Missionary Board.

Yes, the [field reports are] tremendous. We give thanksgiving to God for all advances, but we must prepare for even greater efforts in telling the world about Jesus Christ as we face the final quarter of this century. On behalf of our missions family worldwide, let me again thank each of you for your concern this year. Continue to stand with us as we proclaim His Name from the rising of the sun to the going down thereof.⁷²⁷

⁷²⁷ T. F. Tenney, "Annual Report to the General Board," (October 1974): 3.

❧ Chapter 9 ❧

The Decade of Service: 1981–1990

The dawning of the Decade of Service revealed that the church was getting back to a consuming burden for missions. Success on foreign soil had softened the skepticism and resistance on the home front. As in rearing children in a natural sense, the church had realized that maturing national ministers must be recognized. No matter how much trepidation the leadership felt, fledgling leaders had to be given the opportunity to try their wings in order to learn to fly. When they succeeded, they felt they were a credit to their mentors, and as children, sought to make their spiritual parents proud. They marveled at their achievements.

Sometimes the more successful future leaders are those who started out with little or no early promise. Good leaders come from a wide spectrum of potential. At some point maturity and wisdom begin to develop and people begin to listen. While many times listeners do not know where the new leader is coming from, somehow they become convinced that he is pretty sure of where he wants to go. Missionaries learned that the better strategy in allowing these traits to emerge was to provide fine-tuned direction and merely facilitate the national leader. The test was nothing more or less than God putting potential to use.

Those on the home front may never fully realize the total sacrifice or high price paid by veteran missionaries who develop men in the land of their calling. Even the nationals who benefit from the mentorship may not totally understand. Like a mother eagle, the missionaries carefully feed and tend those in their care, helping them to develop healthy spiritual habits and strengths, showing them by example, until they are ready to leave the nest. As the fledglings try their wings, missionaries hover, ready to prompt or catch the one who takes a nosedive. When the time comes, the young nationals, confident in their new abilities, can soar on their own. This is the story of missionary service and success: loving and caring enough for the ones to whom they are called to strengthen and equip them until it is time to let them go.

History records the difficult days of relentless toil when missionaries paid the high price for world evangelism to establish self-propagating, self-supporting, and self-governing churches on foreign soil. They will continue to develop strong spiritual sons and daughters worthy of the church's honor and respect. If they do any less, the church will be left with only a historical record of past glory.

The Decade of Service is properly described in that the missionary family had now reared and trained a generation of national leaders, who in turn produced apostolic ministries that extended the boundaries of the Lord's kingdom.

1981 Kenyan Conference

The 1981 Kenyan National Conference was blessed by the anointed ministry of Brother and Sister Mike Hudspeth of Shreveport, Louisiana. Also present were RFS E. L. Freeman and V. R. Blizzard, father-in-law of Field Superintendent John Harris. A picture taken outside the conference site shows a group of national ministers, the result of missionary labor in that country.⁷²⁸

⁷²⁸ J. S. Leaman, "1981 Kenyan Conference," *Global Witness* (May–June 1981): 6.

Paraguay

In many ways, the southern cone of South America is a difficult harvest field due to the complexity of the European cultural conflict with indigenous elements. Paraguay's answer for this was the Donald Bryant family who had been working there under the auspices of another Jesus Name organization until their UPCI appointment. During the 1981 National Conference, RFS Paul Leaman ministered effectively as he addressed many of these issues with attendees from various cultures.⁷²⁹

Another important factor of the conference was the presence of a number of Japanese believers. The UPC of Japan sponsored Brother Kon, missionary to the Japanese people living in Paraguay. The Regional Missionary Program was in the embryonic stage but was already functioning among several of our mission fields.

April 1981 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

The FMB received word that Sherman Hampton had been expelled from Jordan. It seemed so ironic in that the freedom of religion in North America allowed for the spreading of Islam, but North American missionaries with a burden to reach the Muslim countries were strictly prohibited from proselytizing Muslims. Brother Scism gave a brief report on circumstances leading to Sherman Hampton's expulsion from Jordan.⁷³⁰

Following are other decisions that marked this board session:

- To recommend T. Wynn Drost for appointment as field superintendent for Guatemala and Nicaragua and give him permission to move to Guatemala City.
- To recommend Darrell Sheets for appointment to Haiti.
- To recommend Robert Forbush for appointment to Hong Kong.
- To recommend Gerald Roberts for appointment to Nigeria.
- To recommend Richard Eaton for appointment to Mexico.
- To recommend L. Pennington for appointment to Belgium.
- To recommend Gary Abernathy as assistant missionary to South Africa.
- To appoint Daryl Rash as furlough replacement for George Craft in The Netherlands on a temporary basis with his official appointment remaining as Austria.
- To permit William Markham to travel to Brazil on a tourist visa for language study and continue under this status as long as Brazilian authorities may allow. He can apply for temporary visa or permanent visa status.
- To change of field for Edward Allard to include the Ivory Coast as well as Senegal.

Margaret Calhoun Memorial

The September/October 1981 *Global Witness* contains a beautiful picture of the Margaret Calhoun Memorial Training and Convention Center in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The center was created to honor this tremendous missionary lady who died August 31, 1976, in a tragic SFC plane crash en route to visit a family stricken with illness. On hand to participate in the dedication with Missionary Field Superintendent Robert Norris were Philip Walmer and Mark Norris.

⁷²⁹ "Foreign Missions Director Visits Paraguay," *Global Witness* (July–August 1981): 6.

⁷³⁰ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (April 27, 1981): 1.

Death of Carrie Lee Eastridge

Carrie Lee Eastridge, pioneer missionary to the North American Indians and former missionary to Africa, died at age eighty-eight on December 23, 1981. She was born in Macon, Georgia, on November 16, 1893. She was born again in 1925 in Canadian, Texas. She started preaching in 1935 at Norphet, Arkansas.

She tackled every task with the soul of a crusader and the stamina of a pioneer. She was known as “the Builder,” with a special burden for burnt-over fields, discouraged churches, and scattered saints. Her areas of service included Portales, Clovis, and Corona, New Mexico; several points in West Texas and the Rio Grande Valley; Blackwell, Oklahoma; and Rock Springs, Wyoming.

A long-standing dream was fulfilled in 1947 when she moved to Indian Village near Gallup, New Mexico, to open a mission among the Navajo Indians. Her mission work was later extended to other Indian tribes.

Another dream came true in 1956 when at age sixty-three she went to Africa. She did a tremendous work, building beautiful church buildings in Durban, South Africa, and Umtata, Transkei. When she returned to the United States eight and a half years later because of illness, she grieved that it was not ten years. Through a miracle she was recharged and returned to Africa to complete the ten years she originally planned. She came home in time to celebrate her eightieth birthday with her family.

Her burden and drive never diminished, and practically everything that came into her hands was joyfully invested in the King’s business. Carrie Lee Eastridge was well acquainted with suffering and sacrifice. Nothing was too hard or too grievous to endure for Jesus, whom she loved with supreme devotion. She went home rejoicing, leaving a blessing for every life she touched and a rich spiritual legacy for all of us.⁷³¹

Robert McFarland Appointed as Regional Field Supervisor

The general director of Foreign Missions had been carrying the responsibilities of Europe and the Middle East since Hulon Myre’s resignation several months earlier. The FMB therefore recommended Robert L. McFarland as RFS for Europe/Middle East for a four-year term.⁷³² He assumed the position on January 1, 1982. His responsibilities included forty-eight missionaries and many national preachers.

Brother McFarland’s life had swung from humble places to high levels of honor. He was the son of a Pentecostal minister, reared in a parsonage where the voice of a praying mother was heard. At the age of seven he received the Holy Ghost, and at sixteen he began evangelizing. In 1957 he offered himself to serve as a missionary to the Middle East, but after four years of laying the groundwork for revival, an emergency that threatened the safety of his family precipitated the McFarlands’ immediate return to the States. In 1959 he was elected as the district superintendent of Indiana, and in 1979 he was elected as the UPCI general secretary.⁷³³

Death of Kenneth W. French

Kenneth W. French departed this life on November 17, 1980, at the age of seventy-four. Brother French had served as missionary superintendent of Alaska, as pilot on the missionary boat, *The Madura*, as presbyter and member of the Alaska District board, and editor of the *Alaska Witness*. He was an active member of the UPC of Kenai, Alaska, where he taught the adult Bible class.

Brother French started churches throughout Alaska: Sitka, Hoonah, Juneau, North Pole, Sterling, Seward, Kodiak, and Homer. In his later years, when traveling became difficult, he continued to support and inspire the churches with his prayers, phone calls, and offerings.

⁷³¹ “In Memoriam,” *Pentecostal Herald* (April 1982): 20.

⁷³² Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (September 23, 1981): 2.

⁷³³ “Welcome, RFS Robert McFarland,” *Global Witness* (January–February 1982): 8.

Memorial services in Soldotna, Alaska, were conducted by J. R. Blackshear and Wilber Crumpacker. Brother French was survived by his wife, Louise, three daughters, and one son.⁷³⁴

1981 General Conference Report—Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

It can truly be said that the sun never sets on the UPCI. While stateside pastors were involved in reaching their cities, missionaries and their national ministers were declaring the gospel to their respective nations. Imagine one pastor trying to coordinate all the works in the United States and you would have an idea of the enormity of a missionary's task. Admittedly, the size of the task is relative to the size of the nation.

In September 1981, the general director of Foreign Missions gave the following report to the General Board:

We are now working in 85 nations. Two hundred and twenty-five missionaries under full appointment are presently serving in 59 nations. National churches are active in another 26 nations of the world.

This past year overseas we have baptized 31,768 people in Jesus name, and 24,752 have received the Holy Spirit, according to the reports received. We now have overseas 300,673 constituents and 4,639 churches. In addition to our missionaries and AIM workers, there are 3,296 national preachers involved in overseas work. Praise the Lord for another record setting year in growth.⁷³⁵

Following is interesting information that describes the distribution of UPCI missionaries in the world under the original plan that divided the world into four regions:

- Africa held 10.9 percent of the world's population and had 22.2 percent of the missionary personnel with fifty-one missionaries in fourteen countries.
- Asia held 61.9 percent of the world's population and had 22.2 percent of the missionary personnel with fifty-one missionaries in thirteen countries.
- Latin America held 8.6 percent of the world's population and had 37.9 percent of the missionary personnel with eighty-five missionaries in twenty-two countries.
- Europe held 19.4 percent of the world's population and had 37.8 percent of the missionary personnel with forty-four missionaries in thirteen countries.⁷³⁶

The bottom-line distribution of missionary personnel was a total of 225 missionaries resident in fifty-nine countries; twenty-six countries had UPCI works but no resident missionary.

Partners in Missions Continues to Grow

The PIM program continued to grow with 79.3 percent of the North American churches cooperating with the foreign missions program. The average annual offering for a contributing church was \$2,162.70, providing a record giving total of \$6,767,091.57 for the fiscal year. In addition, the Youth Department contributed \$456,648.77 from SFC and the Ladies Auxiliary contributed \$162,000 from Mothers Memorial.

Strong emphasis on the training of national ministers and leaders was considered the greater investment, providing the church with many well-qualified national leaders. Bible schools and seminars in September of 1981 registered well over one thousand students.⁷³⁷

⁷³⁴ "In Memoriam," *Pentecostal Herald* (April 1982): 20.

⁷³⁵ Harry Scism, "Annual Report to the General Board," September 1981.

⁷³⁶ "1981 General Conference," *Global Witness* (September–October 1981): 4.

⁷³⁷ Harry Scism, "Annual Report to the General Board," September 1981.

Twelve New Missionaries Appointed in 1981

During the 1981 General Conference, twelve new missionary families were appointed to serve in eleven fields:

- Brian Chelette to Zimbabwe
- Franklin Howard to Brazil
- Donald McGaha to Military/Europe
- Mike Sponsler to Ecuador
- Joseph Domingues to Portugal
- J. P. Hughes to Kenya
- Jerry McQuay to the Philippines
- Jacky Wilhoite to the United Kingdom
- George Duke to the United Kingdom
- H. D. McCrury to Indonesia
- Carl Patrick to Ghana
- Greg Wootton to Israel

Revival Continues to Sweep the Philippine Islands

Several months before Carl Varnell's report in the September/October 1981 *Global Witness*, Elpedia Patricio, a former Seventh Day Adventist evangelist, went into the mountainous region of Negros Occidental to preach the Oneness message. During his evangelistic tour the New People's Army, a communist-backed rebel group, captured Patricio and his sons and took them to their hideout. Their leader threatened to kill Patricio, as he had some three thousand other Christians, but Patricio responded that his Bible was stronger than the terrorist's bolo knife.

As the terrorist raised his bolo knife intending to strike, he began to tremble as great pain shot through his body. He fell to his knees and could not walk or speak. The terrorists released Patricio and his sons, and they traveled many hours through the jungle to reach their home. L. D. Lewis visited the area later and baptized 441 in Jesus' name.

During a later trip to the area, preserved by a pictorial history, T. L. Craft, evangelist Richard Heard, Gordon Mallory, Richard Denny, L. D. Lewis, and Carl Varnell baptized an additional 170. Several hundred others not able to be present awaited their opportunity to be baptized.⁷³⁸

Death of Lois R. Baker

Lois R. Baker, missionary to Brazil, was ushered into the presence of her Lord on August 8, 1981, at age fifty-seven, at Galveston, Texas. In 1940 at age fifteen, she was born of water and Spirit in Haynesville, Louisiana, her birthplace.

After she graduated from Apostolic College, Tulsa, Oklahoma, she married Samuel B. Baker. For fifteen years she labored beside her husband in pastoral and evangelistic work in Oklahoma, Louisiana, and Texas.

On August 29, 1965, the Bakers and their four children set sail for Montevideo, Uruguay, and Brazil in South America, where they pioneered the Jesus Name message and labored for twenty years. Sister Baker was dearly loved by the Brazilian saints.

Due to serious illness, she had to return home in March 1975. She suffered six and one-half years. The first memorial service was held at Apostolic Temple, Lake Charles, Louisiana. Pastors M. D. Treece

⁷³⁸ Carl Varnell, "Revival Sweeps the Philippines," *Global Witness* (September–October 1981): 5.

and Wayne Pounders officiated. The final service was conducted in Lois's home assembly in Haynesville, Louisiana. Host pastor David Henningan and L. J. McDaniel officiated.

Lois was survived by her husband, Samuel, four sons, John, Steve, James, and Robert, and two daughters, Deborah Hatchett and Sharon.⁷³⁹

Zambia Church Dedication

Three hundred people attended the special services in Ndola, Zambia, to dedicate a new church. Don and Sharon Ikerd had just arrived back from the West Zambian bush. Typical of missionaries on the move, their car was still packed with sleeping bags, food, water, and literature.⁷⁴⁰

Madagascar Celebrates Twelfth Anniversary

On February 7, 1982, over two thousand constituents gathered to celebrate the twelfth anniversary of the UPC of Madagascar. Special guest speaker was RFS E. L. Freeman, who blessed the celebration with his anointed ministry. Jerry Richardson translated the message into Malagasy.

The first UPC service in Madagascar had been held on February 4, 1970, with eleven people present: Denzil and Freida Richardson, their children Randy and Cathy (the two oldest Richardson children were in Bible college in the States), and seven Malagasies. Those eleven people had expanded to sixty churches and nearly ten thousand constituents!⁷⁴¹

Adverse Conditions Affect Missionaries in Ghana

Governmental regulations created adverse conditions for missionary operations in Ghana and made it necessary for the Larry Blakes, the Richard Porters, and Else Lund to leave the field for a time. Brother Blake later reported to the FMB that conditions were moderating and he felt they would be able to return to the field around June 1, 1982, in about six months. Pastor Narte would inform Brother Blake when it was safe for them to return.⁷⁴²

The 1982 Foreign Missions Board⁷⁴³

In 1982 the FMD executive office staff consisted of Harry Scism, general director; Edwin E. Judd, secretary; Robert Rodenbush, OM coordinator; and Jack Leaman, director of promotion and publications. The regional field supervisors were Paul Cook, Asia; E. L. Freeman, Africa; Paul Leaman, Latin America/Caribbean; and Robert McFarland, Europe/Middle East. Each of these men traveled thousands of miles in their respective regions, as well as in the homeland. The FMB had eight pastoral members, selected because they were outstanding men of God with a wealth of experience in the ministry: Fred Kinzie, Carl Stephenson, Wayne Rooks, J. C. Cole, T. C. Bonnette, Paul H. Cook, R. P. Bell, and Paul C. Leaman.⁷⁴⁴

⁷³⁹ "In Memoriam," *Pentecostal Herald* (June 1982): 16.

⁷⁴⁰ "Zambia Church Dedication," *Global Witness* (November–December 1981): 3.

⁷⁴¹ "Madagascar's 12th Anniversary," *Global Witness* (July–August 1982): 4–5.

⁷⁴² Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (May 18, 1982): 2.

⁷⁴³ "Foreign Missions Board Members," *Global Witness* (January–February 1982): 2.

⁷⁴⁴ When Edwin E. Judd was elected as the FMD secretary, Paul Leaman was serving as a pastoral board member. Brother Leaman was appointed as a regional field supervisor to fill the vacancy left by Edwin Judd's election; consequently, he was listed as both a regional field supervisor and a pastoral board member until his successor could be appointed.

Self-employment Tax and Excess Utilities

In the first FMB session of 1982 the problem of heavy assessment for self-employment tax and excess utilities was discussed. Missionaries were struggling to pay taxes to the U.S. government as well as to meet the rising cost of utilities on the field. The board resolved that the FMD should pay from PIM accounts the extra self-employment taxes charged to missionaries on excess utilities and educational allowances reported as personal income. This was in addition to self-employment tax obligations already being reimbursed for basic support, cost of living adjustment, service bonus, and PIM bonus and housing. This action was retroactive to include the 1981 tax obligations.⁷⁴⁵

All Risk Insurance

Loss due to thievery or natural causes was also discussed. Brother Scism appointed a committee to review this tremendous need, and upon the committee's recommendation the FMB resolved that provision be made for up to \$10,000 for all-risk insurance for each missionary family per the same conditions as the Chubb insurance proposal with a \$100 deductible per claim. This was funded by setting aside \$10 per month from each missionary's PIM account into an all-risk insurance fund from which settlements were paid. This program included deputizing missionaries as well as those abroad. Completed claim forms were required, and cases of theft needed evidence of forcible entry. Police reports were required where applicable. Cash losses were limited to \$200. A general inventory of a missionary's personal effects had to be filed to establish proof of loss. Loss of personal property due to war or expropriation was excluded from the provisions of this program.⁷⁴⁶

Another important decision was the establishment of the Retired Missionary account. Each deputizing missionary became responsible for acquiring one PIM pledge designated to this account in order that they could be cared for after retirement.

C. P. Kilgore Memorial in the Philippines

In the May 1982 FMB sessions, Gordon Mallory presented a proposed project for new Bible school facilities in the vicinity of Manila, Philippines. After discussion, the board resolved that Gordon Mallory and Carl Varnell should be authorized to solicit up to \$300,000 to purchase land and construct a Bible school facility in or near Manila, Philippines, to be designated as the C. P. Kilgore Memorial.⁷⁴⁷

Other decisions included the following:

- To authorize the soliciting of \$100,000 to purchase property in Canton, China
- To recommend George Shalm for appointment to Asia as a regional Bible teacher
- To recommend William Lafferty for appointment to Togo/Benin
- To recommend O. J. Ramsey for appointment to Sierra Leone
- To recommend D. R. Edwards for appointment to West Germany
- To recommend Devon Dawson for appointment to Guyana
- To recommend Richard Lucas for appointment to the Military District in Japan
- To recommend Prince Mathiasz for appointment as assistant missionary to Sri Lanka
- To change of field for Greg Wootton and Gary Reed from Israel to the Middle East.⁷⁴⁸

⁷⁴⁵ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (January 11, 1982): 1.

⁷⁴⁶ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (January 12, 1982): 2–3.

⁷⁴⁷ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (May 18, 1982): 2.

⁷⁴⁸ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (May 21, 1982): 7–8.

Death of Board Member Jewel C. Cole

As the General Conference sessions of the FMB opened on October 7, 1982, Harry Scism reported the passing of J. C. Cole in Parkersburg, West Virginia, early that morning. The board expressed its sincerest appreciation for the nineteen years of faithful service given by J. C. Cole as a member of the FMB and for the tremendous blessing and inspiration his ministry had been in many areas of the world where he and his wife ministered.⁷⁴⁹

J. C. Cole was born in Pensacola, Florida, on July 27, 1909. When he was nineteen years of age, he was born the second time under Andrew D. Urshan's ministry in Akron, Ohio. For ten years he sat under the ministry of James A. Frush in Newark, Ohio.

J. C. Cole pastored in Parkersburg, West Virginia, for thirty-nine years. He built three church buildings, trained thirty-five full-time ministers, and was responsible for establishing twenty-three churches. Brother Cole was the senior member of the FMB, serving from 1963 to the time of his death. He traveled extensively throughout the world for the cause of missions.

Brother Cole was survived by his wife, Helen Anderson Cole, two sons, William H. (Billy) and Benjamin D., a daughter, Hilda M. Cunningham, a stepson, Michael J. Anderson, and two stepdaughters, Karen S. Perry and Madeline R. Shields. N. A. Urshan, T. F. Tenney, Harry Scism, and Greene Kitchen officiated at the funeral service, which was held at Apostolic Pentecostal Church in Parkersburg.⁷⁵⁰

1982 General Conference—Salt Lake City, Utah

Pentecostals responded to the demands of world missions at the 1982 General Conference in the Salt Palace. The purpose of the church in the world was vividly portrayed by thirty-six flag-bearing missionary families. The inspired ministry of Curtis Young, pastor of the First Pentecostal Church of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, resulted in the altars being filled with those volunteering for missionary service.

China Outreach

The UPCI family gave pledges of \$2,000 monthly during a special offering for a Chinese Outreach.⁷⁵¹ The FM family was dedicated to reaching China's one billion people with the gospel. Contacts in China reported they had baptized over twenty-five people in the name of Jesus and nearly all of them received the Holy Ghost. This was happening despite the fact that missionaries were not allowed in that country. God had provided a Chinese pastor who was experiencing tremendous results from a daily radio broadcast, "Wonderful Discovery." This radio broadcast made 2,820 definite contacts in the People's Republic of China.

Seventeen New Missionaries Appointed

Ministers pledged over \$2,000 per month in PIM commitments to seventeen new missionary units introduced to the conference:

- Albert Stewart as assistant missionary to Liberia
- Elizabeth Andrade as assistant missionary to Portugal
- Michael Parsons as missionary to Italy
- John E. and Ruby Klemin as missionaries to the United Kingdom
- Jerry T. Holt to Hong Kong

⁷⁴⁹ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 7, 1982): 1.

⁷⁵⁰ "In Memoriam," *Pentecostal Herald* (March 1983): 10.

⁷⁵¹ "China Outreach," *Global Witness* (January–February 1982): 2.

- Stanley Holland to Costa Rica
- William M. Browne to Panama
- Thomas Potter to the United Kingdom
- M. D. Owens to Trinidad/Tobago
- Melvin Thacker to Zambia
- Robert Filkins to France
- Orland E. Johnson to Peru
- L. D. Lewis to the Philippines⁷⁵²

Following are other decisions the board made during the October 1982 sessions:

- To expand the service bonus program to grant a \$10 per month per year of service increment through the twentieth year of foreign service
- To approve William Cole for a one-month tour to Thailand in February 1983
- To authorize Brother and Sister Stanley W. Chambers to tour Asia, specifically Thailand, in February 1983
- To define Micronesia as the lesser Pacific islands north of the equator and west of the International Date Line including Nauru⁷⁵³
- To define the South Pacific field as all Pacific islands south of the equator except New Zealand, the Cook Islands and Papua New Guinea⁷⁵⁴

William Schmidt Appointed to the Foreign Missions Board

As a result of J. C. Cole's death, L. William Schmidt was appointed as a member of the Foreign Missions Board.⁷⁵⁵

Foreign Missions Director's 1982 Annual Report—Salt Lake City, Utah

The UPCI outside of North America was now established in eighty-nine nations, with 250 missionaries under appointment in sixty-five nations and national leaders active in another twenty-four countries. Three new countries were added to the world outreach: Belgium, Swaziland, and Trinidad-Tobago.

This past year has been another record setting year in growth. Though we have not received current reports from all our fields, according to reports received thus far 32,918 have been baptized in Jesus' name this year. There are now overseas 351,724 constituents and 5,188 churches and preaching points. In the last year alone our overseas constituency has increased by 51,030 with 553 new churches and preaching points being established. In addition to our missionaries and AIM workers there are 3,419 national preachers presently involved in overseas work. How we praise the Lord for a year of unprecedented growth.⁷⁵⁶

Despite uncertain economic conditions in North America, the UPCI family had given more to foreign missions in the past fiscal year than ever before. With an increasing number of churches becoming involved in Faith Promise giving, PIMs responded with a monthly average of \$441,725.33. The average annual offering for the contributing church was \$2,353.77.

⁷⁵² J. S. Leaman, "Fifty-six Missionaries Commissioned," *Global Witness* (January–February 1983): 8.

⁷⁵³ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 12, 1982): 12–13.

⁷⁵⁴ Ibid.

⁷⁵⁵ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 10, 1982): 15.

⁷⁵⁶ Harry Scism, "Annual Report to the General Board," October 1982.

FM offerings for the fiscal year were \$7,587,272.24. An allocation from the Youth Division of \$445,570 from SFC and a Ladies Auxiliary contribution of \$175,000 from Mothers Memorial brought the total finances for the 1981–82 fiscal year to \$8,207,842.24.

This financial resource supported 257 missionaries on location who worked with 3,407 national pastors, fifty-three established Bible schools with 1,330 students, and a very active Bible correspondence program with 9,022 students.

As 1983 loomed, Brother Scism clung to God's promise from the Book of Psalms: "Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession" (Psalm 2:8). He claimed the right to establish apostolic churches in every nation of the world.

Egypt Experiences Revival

As a result of several Egyptian contacts in Austria and at the FMB's request, Sherman Hampton visited Egypt twice in the latter part of 1982 and reported a deep hunger for the Word of God. His September trip led him to a small desert village where the villagers could not remember a foreigner visiting before. The people responded by faith to the simple messages he preached. Many that were diseased testified to their healing. He baptized thirty-seven and eighty-two received the Holy Ghost.⁷⁵⁷

A Boat for Iquitos, Peru

Paul Moulton had been involved in the Amazon River ministry in and around Iquitos, Peru. After he cited the advantages of a boat that could serve as his living quarters, the board resolved that Paul Moulton should be authorized to acquire a new motor barge at the projected cost of \$159,000, provided that the present houseboat in Iquitos was sold for a minimum of \$60,000.⁷⁵⁸

Financial Matters in January 1983

As the decade moved toward the mid-1980s, financial matters were a constant concern because growth and funds needed for that growth were like Siamese twins. Missionaries struggled with the rising cost of living, which affected not only their work but also their families. Housing costs increased, taxes increased, and no matter how frugally they endeavored to live, it seemed that what used to be a simple task suddenly loomed as a formidable challenge.

The board dealt again with the tax issues of both North America and the national field. Missionaries had to file a tax return every year in their adopted field. Canadian missionaries also had to pay income tax to Canada. The board resolved that the policy governing income taxes of missionary personnel be revised to stipulate that the FMD would be responsible for all income tax obligations on income pertaining to foreign service, to both the home and host government of the missionary. Canadian missionary personnel should be reimbursed in the amount equal to the next tax obligation after including child support allowances.⁷⁵⁹

Registering churches on the foreign field was becoming more complex, and this required the board to establish necessary guidelines. There must be no legal shortcuts; missionaries were required to satisfy the laws of their respective host countries.

⁷⁵⁷ J. S. Leaman, "Egypt: Revival in the Desert," *Global Witness* (March–April 1983): 3.

⁷⁵⁸ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (November 10, 1982): 7.

⁷⁵⁹ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (January 11, 1983): 2.

Northeast India under National Leadership

Fields that had been under missionary leadership were maturing rapidly. India, one of our leading fields, was among the first to experience a true transition from missionary leadership to national leadership. With the UPCI three-step principle of establishing a self-propagating, self-supporting, self-governing church on foreign soil, the years of missionary labor were beginning to yield fruit. The FMB resolved that the UPC of Northeast India be authorized to elect its own general superintendent.⁷⁶⁰

May 1983 FMB Sessions—Maturing MKs at Risk

One of the greater concerns is rearing missionary children in a foreign environment. The situation regarding dual citizenship becomes a problem as sons mature. For example, this problem loomed over the Robert Nix family as the two youngest boys, who had dual citizenship, faced their obligation to obey the Peruvian military conscription laws. To solve this problem, Robert Nix requested reassignment to a different field and the board resolved that he be transferred to Costa Rica to complete his term.⁷⁶¹

Following are other decisions of the May 1983 board sessions:

- To recommend Don Clenney for appointment to Mauritius
- To recommend John Wolfram for appointment to the South Pacific (Tonga, Cook Islands, and French Polynesia)
- To change of field for David Banta from South Korea to the military work in the Philippine Islands
- To recommend David Brott for appointment to the Philippine Islands
- To recommend Robert Kelley for appointment to the United Kingdom
- To recommend Lloyd Scott for appointment to Madagascar
- To amend Allan Shalm's appointment to include Pakistan along with India
- To recommend Gunther J. Grimm as assistant missionary to Brazil

Target Nations: Bangladesh and Suriname

Bangladesh was a relatively new nation. For centuries it was a part of India, but in 1947 it was apportioned and separated and first known as East Pakistan. But West Pakistan was thousands of miles away, and after many years of frustration, Bangladesh became an independent nation in 1971.

In 1983 Bangladesh was a Muslim nation with 80 percent Muslim, 18 percent Hindu, and 2 percent Christian. The country was closed to resident missionaries; however, the Northeast Indian church was allowed to visit and reached out its evangelistic arm to several Christian groups in the area of Chittagong.

The other target nation was Suriname. Of all the South American countries, only two did not have missionary representation: French Guiana and Suriname.

The main languages of Suriname were Dutch (the official language), English, and Sranang-Tongo. The FMB decided to target these two countries, praying that the door would open for evangelism and a resident missionary.

Death of Marjorie Scism

After they had spent some time in their new pastoral activities in Tennessee, the Scisms reminisced about their ministry in India. Marjorie said, "God has been so good to me. If I had my life to live over, I

⁷⁶⁰ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (May 24, 1983): 3.

⁷⁶¹ Ibid., 2.

would want it to be just the same.” Marjorie Scism went to be with the Lord on August 5, 1983, in Portland, Oregon.

Dedication of the Third Floor of World Evangelism Center

The third floor of World Evangelism Center was dedicated at noon on September 20, 1983. This would be the future center of operations for world evangelism, housing both the Foreign and Home Missions administrations. The FMB recessed to join the festivities.

The Regional Field Supervisors

As more and more missionary successes were celebrated, the administrative responsibilities of the RFSs increased. One of the objectives of the September 1983 FMB was to reformulate the job description of the RFS position. After much discussion the following resolution was adopted:

That the following guidelines be adopted regarding the activities of the Regional Field Supervisor:

1. Approximately seven months per year are to be spent in the region including time allowed for rest and relaxation while abroad.
2. Approximately five months may be spent in America, two to three months of which should be spent in the promotion of the region.
3. Each RFS is to present an itinerary and budget to the Foreign Missions Board with his annual report.
4. Formal interviews of missionary applicants may be made by members of the Foreign Missions Board unless it is convenient for the Regional Field Supervisor in his schedule and budget.
5. Regional Field Supervisors may feel free to establish contact with applicants as soon as their interest in the field is known.
6. Regional Field Supervisors are not necessarily expected to be present at all meetings of the Foreign Missions Board.
7. Regional Field Supervisors can plan to spend on-field time visiting local churches, conducting seminars, teaching in Bible schools as well as visiting with missionary families.⁷⁶²

The Regions Are Restructured

The committee on Latin America recommended the restructuring of the Latin America/Caribbean Region into two regions as follows:

1. Central America/Caribbean including Guyana, Suriname, French Guiana, and Mexico
2. South America excluding Guyana, Suriname, and French Guiana

The committee on Asia/South Pacific Region recommended the following restructure:

1. Asia: Sri Lanka, Japan, Taiwan, and continental Asia excluding Malaysia and Singapore
2. Pacific: Philippines, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand, and other islands of the Pacific excluding Taiwan and Japan

The recommendation the board sent for approval and subsequent insertion in the manual was as follows:

⁷⁶² Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (September 22, 1983): 4.

That the recommendations of the committees related to restructure of the Latin America/Caribbean Region and the Asia/South Pacific Region be adopted by proposing the following amendment to the manual;

Be it resolved that Article XII, Section 8, Paragraph 1, be amended to read:

1. To expedite the work of world evangelism, the foreign missions fields are divided into six geographic regions: Asia—Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Japan and continental Asia excluding Malaysia and Singapore. Pacific: Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand, Philippines and other islands of the Pacific excluding Japan and Taiwan. South America: Continental South America excluding Guyana, Surinam and French Guiana. Central America/Caribbean: including Mexico, Guyana, Surinam and French Guiana. Africa: South of the Sahara Desert, and Europe/Middle East including the countries of Africa bordering the Mediterranean Sea. Upon recommendation of the Foreign Missions Board, six men are appointed by the Board of General Presbyters to serve as Regional Field Supervisors over each of the respective regions for four-year terms.⁷⁶³

1983 General Conference—Louisville, Kentucky

The FM director's report to the General Board during the 1983 General Conference in Louisville, Kentucky,⁷⁶⁴ concluded that 55,192 had been baptized in Jesus' name and 42,313 had received the Holy Ghost. There were 5,998 churches and preaching points, and the increase in overseas constituency was 86,686 with 534 new churches and preaching points being established and cared for by 4,024 national ministers.

The PIM program had grown to 6,294 sources contributing a monthly average income of \$493,751.62. The total FM giving reached a record \$9,071,617.75, including an allocation of \$506,685.77 from SFC and \$180,000 from Mothers Memorial.

There were fifty-three established Bible schools and nineteen short-term seminars, giving a total of seventy-two training programs involving 1,714 students and another 1,042 students in short-term seminars, making a total of 2,756 students preparing to enter the harvest field. In addition, the correspondence courses had enrolled 17,427 students, an increase of 8,405 over the previous year.

It had become apparent that the RFS position was very effective. This midlevel management could more adequately touch the many areas of the mission fields and provide closer attention to the growing missionary family.

Guidelines for Missionary Residence

With the rapidly rising cost for missionary residence on the foreign field, the general director of Foreign Missions appointed a committee to study the possibility of creating a uniform policy on the acquisition and maintenance of a missionary residence. Following is the committee's report:

Be it resolved that the following guidelines govern the acquisition of missionary residence abroad.

1. If a missionary desires to purchase his residence abroad and is able to do so, the Foreign Missions Board may authorize him to receive a fair housing allowance toward his interest in the residence.
2. If it seems feasible to purchase the missionary residence and the missionary is not financially able to do so or does not desire to do so, the Foreign Missions Board will consider the advisability of Foreign Missions Division making the purchase with housing funds from the missionary's PIM budget.
3. If perchance Foreign Missions Division is called upon and agrees to advance funds in the form of advanced rental allowance or as a personal loan against future housing allowances, the missionary shall be expected to make an initial personal investment of at least 20% and, if he is unable to do so, Foreign Missions Division may consider the feasibility of purchasing the

⁷⁶³ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (September 26, 1983): 14.

⁷⁶⁴ Harry Scism, "Annual Report to the General Board," October 1983.

residence as Foreign Missions Division property with the investment to be recovered from future missionary housing allowances.

4. In any event, the Regional Field Supervisor shall be expected to make sufficient onsite inspection to be qualified to advise Foreign Missions Division of reasonable housing costs at a given post of duty.⁷⁶⁵

New Missionary Families Appointed in Louisville, Kentucky—1983

The following applicants were reviewed and recommended for appointment:

- R. Lynn Davis to Zimbabwe
- Ronald P. Hanscom to Pakistan
- Paul E. Suber to Ivory Coast
- Luis Hill to Honduras
- Michael Edge to Mexico
- Gabriel Cruz as assistant missionary to Dominican Republic
- John G. Verity as assistant missionary to Austria
- John Cogan as assistant missionary to the Philippine Islands
- William Carey Clark as assistant missionary to Spain
- Daniel Sharp as assistant missionary to West Germany

Death of Paul H. Box

For some twenty years Paul Box served as FM secretary for the UPCI. Despite his heavy schedule, he took time to add to his business letters words of encouragement to our missionaries. His helpful and kind attitude gave the missionaries reassurance that they had a real friend in Paul Box; thus he became known as “the missionaries’ friend.”

This unusual servant of God was born on November 9, 1910, in Yonkers, New York. After some years of pastoral experience, he became an important part of the UPC administration, serving as the assistant editor of the *Pentecostal Herald* and in the Sunday School Division when it was first established.

During the 1955 General Conference in Tulsa, it was decided that a new office, the FM secretary, should be created. The head of the FMD then became the FM director. Paul Box was appointed as the first FM secretary. During his first year the total FM income was around \$50,000.

For several years Brother Box did not have an office secretary, which meant that he typed most of his own letters and carried the major responsibility of the office work for the FMD. He performed this tremendous task with total dedication, for as the FM work began to grow the burden of office work continued to increase. This eventually broke his health, but when he recovered he continued to work until he retired in 1975.

Though he never actually lived on a mission field, Paul Box had the heart of a missionary. For many years, along with his faithful wife, Olga, he gave himself to the cause of world evangelism. After his retirement he became an honorary FMB member. He seemed to enjoy attending the board sessions and often supplied important information concerning the history of missionary work.

Harry Scism wrote:

Paul Box came to my office on Tuesday morning, October 11, 1983. He told me that he had an offering of \$90 . . . and asked me where there might be a special need. I mentioned two or three urgent needs to him, and we decided to use the money for one of these. [He then asked for a copy of a recent photo] of the Foreign Missions Board. I told him I would send him a copy. We then discussed the School of

⁷⁶⁵ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 26, 1983).

Missions and the good time we would have together there. What a shock it was to learn later that he had suddenly passed away that evening. . . . Looking back now it seems that he came to tell us all farewell. His funeral was conducted in Brother Gerald's church in St. Louis on the 13th of October. A great soldier, a beautiful Christian, and a friend of the missionary was laid to rest.⁷⁶⁶

Paul Box was buried in a small cemetery in the St. Louis area. Inscribed on the headstone are the words, "THE MISSIONARIES' FRIEND."

January 1984 Foreign Missions Board Sessions⁷⁶⁷

The increasing demands of consistent growth pressed the FMB to make adjustments on the field as well as in the office personnel. The missionary workload in most cases required someone to oversee the work while the missionary deputized. Training facilities and programs were needed as well. The board considered many of these questions with the following results: Robert Johnson was approved as an AIMER to Brazil to work as an instructor in the Rio Bible school with Robert Norris and to serve as a furlough replacement for Brian Wiseman. The board interviewed Carl Varnell about the proposed headquarters and Bible school project in Mindanao, Philippine Islands. After discussion he was authorized to solicit \$180,000 for the project. Following are other decisions:

- To change of field for Stanley Holland from Costa Rica to Uruguay.
- To change of field for Gerald Nielsen from Norway to Sweden.
- To approve a second administrative aide in the FMD to help oversee the ever-increasing workload within the division. Dorsey Burk was elevated from administrative aide to executive assistant, and Mary Schroeder was elevated to administrative aide.
- To recommend Kevin Snashall for appointment to Taiwan.
- To recommend Robert Arthur for appointment to the Chinese ethnic group of the Philippine Islands.
- To approve Donald Hanscom to purchase property in Karachi for a headquarters church.
- To recommend H. G. Smith for appointment as RFS for the Central America/ Caribbean Region.
- To recommend George Shalm for appointment as RFS for the Asian Region.
- To recommend Mervyn Miller for appointment as RFS for the Pacific Region.

Decisions of the May 1984 Foreign Missions Board

Tough times demand tough decisions. A continual expanding of the church's borders called for personnel to energize the evangelism program. Missionary sons and daughters were now maturing and answering the call. Second-generation missionaries had the language, the culture, and the expertise to advance the front lines. Men such as Jerry Richardson, Andy Carpenter, Lynden and Allan Shalm, to name a few, surged to the forefront. During the May 1984 FMB sessions, Lynden Shalm was recommended for appointment as a missionary to India/Pakistan.

Following are other recommendations:

- Loice Sparks to Tanzania
- Roger Barcus to the Windward Islands
- Robert Filkins to France
- Michael Seymour to Chile

⁷⁶⁶ Harry E. Scism, "Memorial to the Missionaries' Friend, Paul Box," *Pentecostal Herald* (February 1984): 7.

⁷⁶⁷ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (January 1984).

- Jerry Miller to Brazil
- Daniel Lewis to Cameroon
- Michael Tuttle to The Netherlands
- Timothy Wallace to Bolivia
- Andy Carpenter to Zimbabwe
- Larry Hayes to Chile
- David Ward to Kenya⁷⁶⁸

Cultural Profiles

Many times when deputizing missionaries visit a local church, the pastor and sometimes his congregation, detect a cultural distance between themselves and the missionary. This should not be surprising. In order to minister effectively in their host country, missionaries assimilate to a certain degree to the culture of that country. This has a profound influence over the way a missionary thinks and reacts. Many times the North American church accepts the fact that newly appointed missionaries will have to adjust to the field, but the average person does not realize that when a missionary returns to the homeland, he must make a further adjustment. Missionaries feel that adjustment keenly and need time to readopt their stateside profile.

Missionaries face astronomical odds and sacrifices unknown to stateside ministry. They are reluctant to discuss these subjects because they do not know how much would be misconstrued by even their close friends. Pastors should reach out and embrace a missionary's need. Missionaries are especially touched when kindness is shown, especially to their wives and children. Expressions of appreciation are always in order for those who have left all to represent the North American church to another language and culture.

Ghanaian Village Chief Converted

Larry Blake reported that a Ghanaian village chief was converted. The presbyter of the Western Region of Ghana requested that M. R. Asamoah, a local pastor and cofounder of the UPC in Ghana, visit the small village of Bonyere. As Brother Asamoah preached, 124 responded to the gospel, and he baptized sixty-two. The gospel tent was erected in front of the village chief's house, and the chief and his wife, the queen mother, embraced the church.⁷⁶⁹

China's "Wonderful Discovery"

As of mid-2007, one-fifth of the world's population—1.3 billion—live in mainland China. For many years the Chinese people have lived under Communist rule that has severely persecuted and put to death thousands of Christian believers.

At the time of the Communist takeover in 1949 (some of this history is found in chapters 2 and 4), an estimated 650,000 Christian believers lived in China.⁷⁷⁰ Although all churches were closed, their leaders imprisoned and many executed, and their Bibles and literature confiscated and destroyed, the power of the gospel has prevailed. In 1984 the *Global Witness* published a report:

On a recent visit to Hong Kong, a government official from China acknowledged that there are approximately two million Christian believers in China. . . . The United Pentecostal Church International is producing a daily fifteen minute radio broadcast that proclaims full Bible salvation to a potential listening

⁷⁶⁸ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (May 5, 1984): 9–10.

⁷⁶⁹ Larry Blake, "Ghana with Pastor Asamoah," *Global Witness* (January–February 1984): 5.

⁷⁷⁰ David Curtis, "China's Wonderful Discovery," *Global Witness* (May–June 1984): 4.

audience of forty million. Because of our “Wonderful Discovery Radio Broadcast,” many people write to us [World Evangelism Center] thanking us for spiritual enrichment.⁷⁷¹

The above statistic shows that an average of 20,000 Chinese a day had accepted Jesus Christ between 1949 and the dated report. These new believers face imprisonment and possible death for their faith, and they must worship in secret. It is not uncommon that five hundred believers will share a single Bible, or churches will share a portion of the Scriptures. Normally one itinerant preacher travels and visits several thousand believers spread over a large area that can span several provincial counties.

A New Country Opened—Belize

Formerly called British Honduras, Belize obtained its independence in September 1981. Since it is a former British colony, the official language is English even though the country is made up of a mixture of people that speak diverse languages. T. Wynn Drost traveled to Belize to officially open the work and establish the doctrine of Jesus Name baptism. He baptized several leaders of a number of works and twenty-nine of their constituents. Belize was now an official mission field!⁷⁷²

The George White Memorial Dedicated⁷⁷³

H. D. McCrury of Indonesia reported that L. H. Benson, superintendent of the Tennessee District, traveled to Indonesia to dedicate the training facility as a memorial to George White. The beautiful classrooms and dormitories were an asset to the Indonesian work. During the dedication services forty-eight were baptized in Jesus’ name. Helen White, widow of George White, was the honored guest.

The General Board Approves the Plan to Restructure the Regions

During the 1983 General Conference in Louisville, it was decided to restructure the regional boundaries. For personal reasons, Paul Cook, RFS of the Asian Region, and Paul Leaman, RFS of the Latin America/Caribbean Region, had decided to resign their positions. They each were honored for the outstanding contributions they had made to foreign missions and to the regions they served.

FM Director Harry Scism expressed to the General Board that the role of the RFS was crucial to the growth of the worldwide missionary endeavor. The restructuring of the regional boundaries added two new regions. The supervisors who were appointed or reappointed, were as follows:

E. L. Freeman, Africa; George Shalm, Asia; Glen Smith, Central America/Caribbean; Robert McFarland, Europe/Middle East; Mervyn Miller, Pacific; with the supervisor for South America to be filled at the 1984 General Conference in Anaheim, California.

E. L. Freeman, Africa

After thirty-six years, the name E. L. Freeman was synonymous with Africa to many UPCI members. When the Freemans arrived in South Africa in March 1948, UPCI missionary work was being conducted in only one other nation on the African continent.

Because of South Africa’s well-publicized racial problems, the Freemans were forced to evangelize distinctly different sections of the population. Brother Freeman concentrated his efforts among the black tribes, while Nona began Sunday schools and held weekly Bible studies with the coloreds (mulattoes). Churches for the whites and an opening among the Asiatic Indians came in 1957.

⁷⁷¹ Ibid.

⁷⁷² “New Country Opened,” *Global Witness* (September–October 1984): 2.

⁷⁷³ H. D. McCrury, “George W. White Memorial Dedicated,” *Global Witness* (September–October 1984): 3.

In 1971, Brother Freeman was appointed as RFS for Africa. The work grew tremendously under his direction. The Freemans traveled extensively throughout the continent, which encompassed 8.5 percent of the world's population in 1984, advising 22.6 percent of the UPCI's missionary force.⁷⁷⁴

George Shalm, Asia

George and Margaret Shalm had begun their fifth missionary term when he was appointed as RFS for the newly restructured Asian Region. Four regions had become six. Brother Shalm assumed his new duties on January 1, 1984. He supervised missionary activity in an area stretching from Pakistan in the west to Japan in the east. Brother Shalm's missionary experience and years as pastor and Bible college president greatly aided him in his new task.

With a population exceeding 2.35 billion—55.5 percent of the world's population in 1984—the Asian Region encompassed the entire Asian continent except for Malaysia and Singapore and included Japan, Taiwan and Sri Lanka. In 1984, 12.5 percent of UPCI missionaries labored in Asia.⁷⁷⁵

Glen Smith, Central America/Caribbean

In January 1984, the UPCI General Board ratified H. Glen Smith's appointment as RFS of the newly created Central America/Caribbean Region. During the restructuring of the regions, Latin America was divided into two regions, South America and Central America/Caribbean. Brother Smith assumed his new duties on January 1, 1984. Glen and Rachel Smith's twenty-four years of missionary experience in the Caribbean meant they were well acquainted with the needs, problems, and blessings of the region. As RFS, Brother Smith oversaw the work of 12.8 percent of the UPCI missionary force. The Central America/Caribbean Region consisted of all the countries of Central America, the islands of the Caribbean, and Guyana, Suriname, and French Guiana. In this area were over 131 million souls, or 2.9 percent of the world's population in 1984.⁷⁷⁶

Robert McFarland, Europe/Mideast

The long-lasting missionary burden of Robert and Margie McFarland found fulfillment as he served as RFS for Europe and the Middle East. Brother McFarland's gentle Christian spirit, his wisdom, and his years of experience as a pastor, as a missionary to the Middle East, as an Indiana District official, and as general secretary of the UPCI made him well qualified to shoulder the responsibilities of this vast region.

As RFS, Brother McFarland counseled, helped, and encouraged 20 percent of the UPCI's 1984 missionary force and national workers to strive to establish strong, self-propagating churches in a region that contained 16.5 percent of the world's population.⁷⁷⁷

Mervyn D. Miller, Pacific

Mervyn D. Miller became the RFS for the newly created Pacific Region in June 1984, bringing to his new position the experience and wisdom of his seasoned ministry.

Appointed in 1964 as the first UPCI missionaries to Great Britain, Mervyn and Marilyn Miller later served as the superintendent of the Europe and British Isles District. In 1976 they transferred to Italy. Beginning in 1979, Brother Miller pastored the Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ in Little Rock, Arkansas.

⁷⁷⁴ J. S. Leaman, "Focus on the World," *Global Witness* (September–October 1984): 4.

⁷⁷⁵ Ibid.

⁷⁷⁶ Ibid.

⁷⁷⁷ Ibid.

The Pacific Region consisted of the many islands of the Pacific as well as nations such as Australia, Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, and Singapore. The combined population of this region exceeded 250 million souls, 5.4 percent of the world's population in 1984. A percentage of 12.1 of the UPCI's missionary force labored in this area.⁷⁷⁸

Paul Leaman, South America

Originally appointed in 1975, Paul C. Leaman served as RFS for the Latin America/Caribbean Region for nine years. Prior to this he pastored in Detroit, Michigan, and was a member of the FMB.

In March 1984, Brother Leaman assumed the leadership of the South American Region, acting as a liaison between the South American fields and the FMD. He served in this position until January 1, 1985, at which time he again became a full-time pastor. The FMD deeply appreciated Paul Leaman's faithful service.

The South American Region included the entire continent of South America with the exception of Guyana, Suriname, and French Guiana along the continent's northern coast. Consequently, Brother Leaman gave counsel and guidance to 20 percent of the UPCI's missionary force who labored among 5.6 percent of the world's population.⁷⁷⁹

The October 1984 Foreign Missions Board

The 1984 FMB consisted of Harry E. Scism, general director; Edwin E. Judd, secretary; Robert K. Rodenbush, OM coordinator; John S. Leaman, director of promotion and publications; board members Fred Kinzie, Wayne Rooks, T. C. Bonnette, R. P. Bell, F. V. Shoemake, L. W. Schmidt, Carl Stephenson, and RFSs Mervyn Miller, Pacific; E. L. Freeman, Africa; George Shalm, Asia; Glen Smith, Central America/Caribbean; Paul C. Leaman, South America; and R. L. McFarland, Europe/Middle East.⁷⁸⁰

1984 Foreign Missions Director's Report—Anaheim, California

In Brother Scism's report to the General Board during the 1984 General Conference in Anaheim, he documented the number of national ministers as 4,513 and gave much of the credit for the foreign missions growth to these men. The UPCI outside of North America was established in ninety-three nations with 280 missionaries under full appointment and resident in sixty-six nations, and seventy-nine missionaries under short-term appointment. Growing national churches were active in another twenty-seven countries. He reported:

As per reports received from our mission fields thus far, 48,794 have been baptized in Jesus' name and 40,056 have received the baptism of the Holy Ghost during the past twelve months. There are now 6,920 churches and preaching points. This is an increase during the past year of 922 churches and preaching points, which means that nearly 3 congregations have come into existence each day during the past year.⁷⁸¹

Partners in Missions now involved 5,995 subscribers contributing a monthly average of \$673,100.75. The average annual offering for a contributing church was \$2,795.95.

The total for FM giving was \$10,189,579.87, including an allocation of \$500,664.96 from the General Youth Division through SFC, and a contribution of \$247,000 from Mothers Memorial. What financial growth compared with the days of small beginnings!

⁷⁷⁸ Ibid.

⁷⁷⁹ Ibid.

⁷⁸⁰ "Foreign Missions Board," *Global Witness* (September–October 1984): 2.

⁷⁸¹ Harry Scism, "Annual Report to the General Board," October 1984.

Missionaries now focused upon leadership development. In 1984 there were fifty-eight Bible schools with 2,077 students and nineteen short-term seminars training another 1,050 students. The Ladies Auxiliary had underwritten much of this activity.

The short-term missionary program known as Associates in Missions continued to grow and expand as more of the fellowship became aware of the opportunity to spend time involved in foreign missions activity. In 1984 there were 79 AIMers under appointment in 27 nations.

The formative years of the UPCI laid a foundation that launched an evangelism program that astounded the world! The many innovations and adjustments were now being utilized for the fulfillment of the commission.

The atmosphere at WEC became an example of Christian unity. The Lord had blessed the fellowship with outstanding leadership and a highly efficient staff to carry the work into the dimensions God had designed for the church.

Foreign Missions Board Meetings at the 1984 General Conference

The FMB investigated a better method of screening missionary applicants. This move would give a better understanding of the application process and maintain a more complete record of the missionary on location. The decision to step to this new level was among other board decisions during this session:

- To approve an additional step in the application process in that the FMD must receive district board recommendations regarding applicants at least two months prior to the applicants' meeting with the FMB
- To accept Don D. Dobyns's resignation from missionary service
- To change of field for Robert Arthur from the Philippine Islands (Chinese) to Hong Kong
- To resolve that the China broadcast be continued through 1988 and that a special drive be launched at this conference to solicit sufficient support to finance it

Newly Appointed Missionary Families⁷⁸²

During the 1984 General Conference in Anaheim, California, the General Board ratified the appointment of the following new missionary families:

- Robert Addington to New Zealand
- Orland Johnson to Peru
- Sim Strickland to Greece
- Roger Buckland to the Philippines
- T. J. Marshall to the Philippines
- Daniel Vannoy to Haiti
- James Crumpacker to Malawi
- John Nickerson to Nigeria
- Rodger White to Malaysia/Singapore
- Sherman Hampton to Egypt
- Brian Wiseman to Brazil

Approved Associates in Missions included two veteran missionaries:

⁷⁸² J. S. Leaman, "New Appointees," *Global Witness* (January–February 1985): 6.

- Larry Hayes to Chile for up to twelve months under the supervision of Roy Well with a budget of \$20,000 underwritten by Life Tabernacle, Houston, Texas
- W. J. Thompson to the United Kingdom for up to twelve months under the supervision of the RFS with a budget of \$15,000 underwritten by Life Tabernacle, Houston, Texas
- E. O. Battle to Mexico for up to twelve months under the supervision of Richard Eaton on a self-supporting basis with no financial guarantees from the FMD

Robert Norris Appointed as Regional Field Supervisor of South America

In January 1985 Robert Norris was added to the team of regional field supervisors. He would direct the work of missions in South America.

Robert and Jeanne Norris were appointed as missionaries to Brazil on October 23, 1961.⁷⁸³ Brazil is the fifth largest nation in the world, and the largest in South America. The Norrises were named among the pioneers of the Brazilian work. Brother Norris was the founder of the headquarters church in Rio de Janeiro. He evangelized the people God placed in his hands and established churches. Along with his duties as a missionary, he established the Brazilian Bible Institute in Rio de Janeiro, which would train national leaders and provide the church with a quality ministry. The FMB appointed him as the superintendent of Brazil in October 1969. He served in this capacity until his appointment as the regional field supervisor of South America.

The six regional field supervisors were very dedicated men who traveled multiplied thousands of miles within their regions, visiting the missionaries and national churches, blessing the work through their wise counsel and anointed ministry. The FMB depended on them to represent their decisions to the field, while they in turn represented the missionary in the boardroom.

Compassion Services Created for Humanitarian Ministry⁷⁸⁴

For some time Harry Scism had envisioned a vehicle that would help to relieve human suffering during disasters. In 1985 a committee was formed to study the possibilities and bring the following report to the FMB:

Whereas, the United Pentecostal Church International fellowship is expressing a general desire in becoming more deeply involved in providing relief from human suffering abroad, and

Whereas, the Executive Board has asked Foreign Missions Division to develop a program to provide an avenue whereby this can be done through the present structure of the church,

Be it resolved that a department be formed within Foreign Missions Division to provide a program of relief for human suffering according to the following policy:

1. Name

The name of this department shall be Compassion Services.

2. Statement of Purpose

The purpose of this department shall be to provide a program of relief from human suffering resulting from famine, disaster and disease overseas where the spiritual ministry of the church can be enhanced by providing food, clothing, medical services, aid to orphans and assistance with education, agrarian development and sanitation according to James 2:15-16, I John 3:17-18 and Matthew 25:40-45.

3. Board of Directors

A) The Foreign Missions Board shall be the Board of Directors.

B) The Board of Directors shall have final authority over this program within Foreign Missions Division.

⁷⁸³ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 23, 1961).

⁷⁸⁴ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (January 9, 1985): 5.

- C) The Board of Directors shall approve all projects, which shall call for or require continuous involvement and expenditures.
 - D) The Board of Directors shall appoint members to the Coordinating Committee who are not members by virtue of other offices held.
4. Coordinating Committee
- A) A Coordinating Committee shall consist of two pastoral members from the Foreign Missions Board, the Foreign Missions Administrative Committee, three concerned pastors and three concerned laymen.
 - B) Pastoral members from the Foreign Missions Board shall be appointed by the Foreign Missions Board to two-year terms alternately with one appointment each year.
 - C) The pastors shall be appointed by the Foreign Missions Board for three-year terms with one appointment each year. Said pastors must have the approval of the General Superintendent and the District Superintendent and have an expressed burden for the full Foreign Missions program including the purposes of this department.
 - D) The laymen shall be appointed by the Foreign Missions Board to three-year terms with one appointment each year. Said laymen shall fulfill the Scriptural qualifications of a deacon, have the approval of his pastor. District Superintendent and the General Superintendent and have demonstrated a burden and concern for the entire Foreign Missions program including the defined purpose of this department.
 - E) The Coordinating Committee shall be empowered to make recommendations to the Board of Directors and Administrative Committee, actively plan and participate in promotion and fund raising from sources within and without the church and otherwise concentrate its energies to the development and coordination of the program.
 - F) The Director of Foreign Missions shall serve as Chairman of the Coordinating Committee.
5. Administrative Committee
- A) The FM Administrative Committee shall be the Administrative Committee of this department.
 - B) The Administrative Committee shall direct the daily administration of the program. It shall be empowered to make decisions in response to sudden emergencies involving expenditures up to \$20,000.00 or more if funds are specifically designated or involvements not to exceed ninety (90) days duration.
6. Finances
- A) Finances shall be managed through the structure and accounting procedures of Foreign Missions Division.
 - B) Administrative expenses shall be covered in the same manner as any other Foreign Missions activity.
 - C) Foreign Missions offering credit shall be given for monetary contributions to this program and the true value of equipment, merchandise and medical supplies within allowable guidelines set by the donor and Foreign Missions Division.
 - D) Finances shall be solicited from within and without the church.
 - E) Promotion and solicitation of finances shall encourage that contributions to Compassion Services be over and above regular Faith Promise and PIM giving. Compassion Services shall not be enrolled under the Partners in Missions program.
7. Overseas Administration
- A) As much as possible, distribution, oversight and reporting will be managed by Foreign Missions related personnel already on sight.⁷⁸⁵

Compassion Services was a bold new venture that would take decisive action to meet current crisis needs throughout the world. In the spirit of sacrifice and to demonstrate its support, the General Board fasted on January 16, 1985, and contributed the equivalent amount usually spent on the meals for that day to Compassion Services. In Matthew 25 Jesus said He was hungry, thirsty, naked, sick, and in prison, and

⁷⁸⁵ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 3, 1985): 3–4.

if His disciples—not the welfare department or social services—did not help people in dire straits, they did not help Him.

Pastor Martyred in the Philippines

A shocking incident occurred on January 2, 1985, in the Philippines. Pastor Antonio Quinco, a general-licensed minister of the UPC of Philippines, was on his way to church to conduct a Thanksgiving service when he met one of his young people on a small bridge. While they conversed, three unidentified armed men approached and asked, “Are you the pastor of the Oneness church?” After Pastor Quinco said yes, one of the men shot him twice. CSI sent \$1,500 to build a home for the widow and her eleven children.⁷⁸⁶

May 1985 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

Following are FMB decisions during its May 1985 session:

- To authorize the soliciting of \$25,000 for a Marjorie Scism Memorial church to be located in Delhi, India
- To accept the donation of property in or near Bethlehem, Israel, as proposed in a letter from Kenneth Fuller dated February 28, 1985, contingent upon the following:
 - (1) That it could be deeded to the UPCI with headquarters in Hazelwood, Missouri
 - (2) That there be a ten-year period in which to erect a suitable building for religious purposes on said property
 - (3) That there be provisions for suitable oversight of the function for which the project is intended
 - (4) That a power of attorney be given to Robert L. McFarland to act in behalf of the UPCI to accept the donation of the property⁷⁸⁷

October 1985 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

The FMB met in Fort Worth, Texas, for its usual preconference sessions. In the midst of a heavy schedule the board made the following decisions:

- To authorize the headquarters/Bible school project in Swaziland to be designated as the Paul H. Box Memorial and the solicitation of up to \$80,000 for this purpose
- To create the “Director of the Year” award for district foreign missions directors
- To change of field for David Banta from the military ministry in Philippine Islands to Korea
- To authorize the New Delhi, India, Bible school as a tribute to Ellis and Marjorie Scism, and approve the purchase of the proposed property in New Delhi, India, at a cost of \$185,000
- To change of field for John Wolfram to the Philippine Islands

⁷⁸⁶ “Pastor Martyred in the Philippines,” *Pentecostal Herald* (April 1986): 21.

⁷⁸⁷ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (May 24, 1985): 10.

Death of Boshra Sedra

As the FMB deliberated the needs of the mission fields, board members learned of the death of Boshra Sedra, esteemed leader of the work in Egypt. A tribute was given in the October 1985 *Pentecostal Herald*:

Boshra Sedra was a pastor of a small church in Luxor, Egypt. When he came to the United States as a grant student to a Bible school located in Chillicothe, Missouri, he left behind in Egypt a wife and three small children.

After enrolling in the school, he and several students were sent on a weekend meeting in Illinois. At the bus station Brother Sedra saw a copy of the *Pentecostal Herald*. His friends told him to have nothing to do with those people as they believe Jesus was His own father. Brother Sedra thought, *There are many strange doctrines in this strange country*.

Shortly after this incident, the Bible school in Chillicothe closed and the foreign students were transferred to a school in Kansas City, Missouri. One night after much persecution from some of the students, Brother Sedra felt led to find a Pentecostal church. As he searched the phone book, Brother W. I. Black's name seemed to become alive. When he called, Brother Black gave him directions to the church.

Brother Sedra walked into a men's prayer meeting. It was like cool, crystal water to the thirsty man. He fell on his knees and thoroughly immersed himself in the Spirit of God and brotherly love.

After Brother Black consulted by phone with Brother Branding in St. Louis, Missouri, he took Brother Sedra to visit Brother Branding. Later Brother Sedra often told that the midnight ride from Kansas City to St. Louis was like being in a holy chariot.

As Brother Branding explained the oneness of God to him, Brother Sedra cried out, "I see! You don't believe Jesus is His own father. You believe Jesus is the everlasting Father in Isaiah. I believe this too!" Brother Branding baptized Brother Sedra that early morning in 1956.

Through Brother Branding and Brother Black's help, Brother Sedra went to Apostolic Bible Institute in St. Paul, Minnesota. He came into the school term late but he tried very hard to grasp everything he could on the Bible doctrine of the Oneness. He always felt Brother S. G. Norris was truly an apostle.

Brother Sedra only had one year in the United States, but this foundation kept him throughout his lifetime.

On returning to Egypt Brother Sedra established the United Pentecostal Church in Luxor and other parts of Egypt. For many years he continued to preach the beautiful message of salvation. . . .

After giving many years of his life to the proclamation of the gospel, he was granted eternal promotion on September 1, 1985. His son, Brother Mokhles Sedra, along with a dedicated wife, Sister Terry, are now in Egypt faithfully continuing this beautiful ministry.

How thankful we can be that Brother Sedra came to America, made contact with the apostolic message, and then returned to his own land to preach the true gospel.⁷⁸⁸

Philippines

Gordon Mallory reported that during the Philippine tour of former Missionary Superintendent Carl Adams, 1,403 received the Holy Ghost. Brother Adams's wise and abundant ministry at the Philippine General Conference brought the ministry to a time of soul-searching, attitude-aligning, goal-refining, and "becoming one" to realize a mighty church.

During the 1984–85 fiscal year in the Philippines, 8,561 were baptized in Jesus' name and 9,268 were filled with the Holy Ghost.⁷⁸⁹

⁷⁸⁸ "Tribute to the Life of Boshra Sedra," *Pentecostal Herald* (October 1986): 23.

⁷⁸⁹ Gordon Mallory, "Philippines," *Global Witness* (November–December 1985): 3.

Zimbabwe

Wilma Ruth Nix reported that Zimbabwe had one of the greatest youth camps ever, with missionary Lynn Davis as the main speaker. He was mightily anointed, and about fifty received the Holy Ghost and more than twenty were baptized.

A lady from Bulawayo who had never before been in a Pentecostal service was at the camp. While Brother Davis preached on Sunday night, she fell to the floor and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave utterance. Many others were renewed in their walk with the Lord.⁷⁹⁰

1985 General Conference—Fort Worth, Texas

The FM director's report to the 1985 General Board reflected the consistent advancement of the work on the foreign field. Working with the 284 missionaries were 4,305 national ministers, and resident missionaries were now established in ninety-four nations, with national churches active in an additional twenty-seven nations.

The annual report showed that 60,781 believers had been baptized in Jesus' name, 64,186 filled with the Holy Ghost, and 7,532 churches and preaching points had been established. Brother Scism reported,

We have again established a new record in Foreign Missions giving. The monthly average income from Partners In Missions subscriptions is \$591,534.31, and 91% of our churches are now cooperating. The Faith Promise plan continues to be a tremendous blessing to all the churches that are using this method of raising Foreign Missions income.

The total Foreign Missions giving (not including Sheaves For Christ or Ladies Auxiliary contributions) including direct offerings this year increased by 9% over the previous year. The record giving for this fiscal year was \$10,341,178.91. (This figure includes direct offerings given to missionaries on deputation.) This is an increase of almost \$1,000,000 over the last year. In addition, we are grateful to the Pentecostal Conquerors for the allocation of \$551,860.00. We are also thankful to the Ladies Auxiliary for a contribution of \$225,000.00 from the Mother's Memorial program. This brings our grand total for the 1984–85 fiscal year to \$11,118,038.91.⁷⁹¹

The AIM program had increased to 105 workers under appointment in twenty-seven nations.

The establishment of 1,954 new churches and preaching points averaged thirty-seven new churches opening weekly. The overseas constituency increased by 105,832. This increase in one year was as much as the total overseas constituency of 1969.

The astronomical FM growth could be credited to the leadership of the division. Harry Scism had truly filled the hearts of United Pentecostals everywhere with a confidence that world evangelism could be accomplished by the church in this generation.

Eight Missionaries Appointed

The Lord was consistently opening new doors of opportunity for United Pentecostal churches, and because the local churches supported the cause of foreign missions the entire fellowship could rejoice over the thousands that had been baptized in Jesus' name and filled with the Holy Ghost. What a thrilling experience to join hands with Jesus Christ in worldwide outreach and see the Lord work through His church! In this atmosphere, eight new missionary families were appointed to serve this great cause:

⁷⁹⁰ Wilma Ruth Nix, "Zimbabwe," *Global Witness* (November–December 1985): 7.

⁷⁹¹ Harry Scism, "Annual Report to the General Board," October 1985.

- Kevin Blake to Ghana
- Theodore Grosbach to Zaire/Zambia
- Richard Carver to Papua New Guinea
- Jim Poitras to Nigeria
- Philip Ciulla to Belgium
- Ron Sharp to Puerto Rico
- Glenn Clark to the Philippines
- Mark Starin to the Middle East

November 1985 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

The board meetings during the SOM are customarily reserved for interviewing veteran missionaries who present written reports of their past missionary term. However, the November 1985 meetings addressed additional pressing matters:

- To petition the proper authorities for a ruling regarding spousal rights to a portion of ministerial retirement fund accounts paid on behalf of a UPCI minister when there is a severance of membership with the UPCI and a separation of husband and wife at the time of severance
- To adopt a proposal for restructuring the organization of the UPCI in Mexico and name the superintendents of the various new districts:
 - David Fitzgerald, Baja California District
 - RFS H. Glen Smith, Northern District
 - RFS H. Glen Smith, Southern District
 - Jose Gomez, Western District
 - Michael Edge, Eastern District
 - T. Wynn Drost, Yucatan District
- To approve a proposal from Don Dobyns to restructure the South Pacific Islands, which would separate the oversight between Don Dobyns and Jesse McKinnerney in order to facilitate the administration of the South Pacific Islands and the missionaries currently under appointment
 - Don Dobyns: Fiji, Tonga, Samoa, Cook Islands, Ellice, and French Polynesia to be known as South Pacific East
 - Jesse McKinnerney: Vanuatu, New Caledonia, and the Solomon Islands to be known as South Pacific West
- To recommend Jesse McKinnerney for appointment as field superintendent of South Pacific West
- To approve Mokhles and Teresa Sedra as AIMers to Egypt to work under Gary Reed's supervision and with personal, housing, and travel allowance to be carried by the Egyptian PIM account
- To approve a "Director of the Year" recognition program to be developed with the following criteria:
 - Complete itineraries two weeks in advance of missionaries' arrival
 - Send an itinerary of each missionary traveling in the district to FMD one week before missionary arrival
 - Schedule an average of five services per week for each missionary
 - Promote foreign missions at district conference
 - Promote foreign missions at district camp meeting
 - District director involved in PIM support in his church

- Schedule new Faith Promise services in 10 percent of churches in district
 - Attend annual seminar sessions
 - Attend General Conference directors' meeting
- To approve the Director of the Year to be awarded \$1,500 toward an authorized overseas trip to a mission field

Compassion Services Is Successful

In its first year, Compassion Services International grew to meet the needs from different parts of the world. The UPCI helped to feed the hungry, met the needs resulting from disasters, and assisted with medical and other needs. Income for the fiscal year amounted to \$92,122.50. Even though this program was in its infancy, CSI received generous contributions. This avenue of Christian service strengthened our evangelistic endeavors in many countries. CSI and world evangelism went hand in hand.

During a five-month period, CSI sent \$18,487 to relieve victims of drought in Ethiopia. After an earthquake in Chile that destroyed a pastor's home, CSI sent funds that sheltered this family from the frigid winter weather. To take advantage of the government of Belize opening the door for children's educational opportunities, CSI provided \$1,700 for a school building. The Belize government would maintain the school for the children of some of our newest brothers in Christ. CSI provided funds for a basic stock of medicines to be kept at the Bible school dispensary in underdeveloped Nigeria.⁷⁹²

January 1986 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

Following are decisions made during the January 1986 FMB sessions:

- To continue restructuring the fields for more effective growth and ministry.
 - Approve joining the U.S. Virgin Islands to Puerto Rico as a mission field to be known as Puerto Rico/American Virgin Islands.
 - Approve Lloyd Shirley as assistant field superintendent in the newly formed Puerto Rico/American Virgin Islands field.
- To approve Don Ikerd for appointment as missionary and field superintendent of South Africa, in order to establish an opportunity for new leadership to make a fresh approach to missionary involvement in South Africa, with the understanding that he remain under appointment as missionary and field superintendent of the UPC in Zambia
- To approve the headquarters and church facilities in Islamabad, Pakistan, to be designated as the R. G. Cook Memorial and authorize the solicitation of \$75,000 for this purpose.

Two New Missionary Families Appointed⁷⁹³

During its midwinter meetings, the board recommended the appointment of two desperately needed missionaries, and the General Board ratified their appointments:

- Darlene Kantola to Kenya after having served under the AIM program
- Daryl Rash to West Germany

⁷⁹² Edwin E. Judd, "What You Have Done unto the Least of These . . ." *Pentecostal Herald* (January 1986): 12.

⁷⁹³ J. S. Leaman, "New Appointees," *Global Witness* (March–April 1986): 7.

A First Century Missionary—Today!

George Shalm once wrote, “Missions is people, and people are God’s concern and the concern of God’s people. Our concern for missions can be measured by our giving—first of all, giving ourselves and secondly, giving the things we have.”⁷⁹⁴

An example of this was Ey Ja Kim. She was a young Korean girl from a well-educated, devout Buddhist family that lived on Nam Hae, an island off the Korean coast. She was educated in American universities and went on to obtain a position with one of the world’s largest chartered accounting firms. She ultimately became the manager of their Washington, D.C., area office.

Then she discovered that she had cancer. Through this she was directed to the Lord Jesus Christ and was miraculously healed, received the Holy Ghost, and was baptized in the wonderful name of Jesus Christ.

Along with experiencing full salvation, Kim received a burden and concern for her family, all of whom desperately needed God. She returned to Korea for a brief visit, and two of her sisters were baptized. There was no church for them to attend or pastor to lead them. To take care of this need, Kim withdrew her profit sharing funds from the company, added what she could from personal savings, and constructed a lovely brick church with an attached parsonage for a cost of around \$35,000. Kim later became a special part of the foreign missions team, serving Korea as a fully appointed missionary.

May 1986 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

During the May 1986 FMB sessions, the situation in Zimbabwe requiring involvement in social welfare work in order to retain missionary visas was considered. A letter from R. L. Davis dated April 10, 1986, had brought the problem to the board’s attention. The board resolved that Compassion Services funds should be used to purchase a truck in Zimbabwe to distribute food provided by another world relief organization. The truck would be operated by our mission as a testimony of our Christian concern.⁷⁹⁵

Following are other board considerations during the May 1986 sessions:

- To change of field for Gary Abernathy from South Africa to Malawi
- To reconfirm the training program in Wiesbaden to be under the direction of G. Daryl Rash with the scope to be defined after consultations with the European missionaries at the European conference in 1986
- To opt for one unified training program in Europe, even if a multiple campus concept develops
- To approve the request that the UPC of Korea be authorized to elect its own superintendent in its 1987 conference

Often a missionary resignation leaves designated funds in the record, and it is legal to use those funds only for the purpose for which they were designated. Therefore, positive PIM balances could be transferred to offset a negative PIM balance. As in each annual fiscal year evaluation, the board approved that the positive balances in the accounts of retired missionaries or those who had otherwise left the field be transferred to operational accounts with a deficit

Ten Missionary Families Appointed—May 1986

- Tony L. Smith to Mexico
- Joseph A. Bir to Paraguay

⁷⁹⁴ George Shalm, “First Century Missionaries Today,” *Global Witness* (March–April 1986): 2.

⁷⁹⁵ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (May 19, 1986).

- Leonard Plowman to Australia
- Charles Stovall to West Germany
- Terry McIntyre to Kenya
- Harold Kinney to Finland
- Lloyd Moreau to New Zealand
- Melvin Berglund to Indonesia
- Larry Haves to Chile
- Edward Raley to the military in Korea
- J. Keith Townsley as assistant missionary to the military in Japan

Death of Iris Bogue

On May 26, 1986, one of our revered missionary ladies was transferred to her eternal reward. Born May 1, 1917, she lived a fruitful life. Beverly Holden, the Australian national superintendent's wife, said it best:

As a missionary to Australia for a number of years, Iris Bogue won the admiration of so many people. In the early days when the work was small, there were many times she was a distinct encouragement. She was a fighter for truth and would often contend in her most gracious way for that which she held dear. She was a strong and honorable woman. Those of us who were fortunate to know her and learn from her have been able to multiply that teaching by passing it on to our children and many others.

I honor this wonderful lady and know I speak for the ladies of the Australian United Pentecostal Church when I say, "Thank you, Jesus, for sending this precious lady to our shores. We were greatly privileged to have known her."⁷⁹⁶

Death of Wilburn R. and Sallie Mae Pardue

Sallie Mae Pardue died on July 29, 1986. Wilburn R. Pardue was killed in an accident in Mississippi on November 12, 1986. Both were ministers for more than fifty years and served for eleven years from 1950 to 1961 as missionaries to Java.

Wilburn and Sallie Mae were saved under the ministry of S. L. Wise in Hodge, Louisiana, and when they married in 1936, they formed an effective evangelistic team.

They established or pastored five churches in Louisiana: Coushatta, Harvey, Camp Eight, Noble, and Alexandria, and as missionaries started eighteen churches in Sumatra, began a Bible school in Java, and served as field superintendent over Indonesia. After returning to the U.S., they pastored in Onawa, Iowa, and Prichard, Alabama. He served as district superintendent of Alabama from 1971 to 1975. Then he assisted in several churches in southwest Alabama while living in Saraland, Alabama, and taking care of his wife. They were buried in Jonesboro, Louisiana.⁷⁹⁷

October 1986 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

The FMB was designed to balance the representation between the missionary interests and the local churches of North America. The growth on the mission field increasingly brought pressure to increase the number of pastoral members who sat on the board. In view of this, the following decisions were made:

- To recommend the appointment of two additional members to the FMB at this General Conference for five-year terms:

⁷⁹⁶ Beverly Holden, "Tribute to Iris Bogue," *Global Witness* (November–December 1986): 8.

⁷⁹⁷ "In Memoriam," *Pentecostal Herald* (April 1987): 17.

- B. J. Hurst from the Northwest Region
- Doug Davis from the Northeast Region
- To recommend the addition of honorary members to the FMB if approved by the General Board
- To approve the members of a Coordinating Committee for Compassion Services:
 - Dan Rigdon, three-year term
 - Derold Doughty, two-year term
 - Jimmy Shoemake, one-year term
 - Ron Knott, three-year term
 - James L. O'Donnell, two-year term
 - Wallace Liles, one-year term
 - Fred Kinzie, two-year term
 - Wayne Rooks, one-year term

1986 General Conference—St. Louis, Missouri

The general director of Foreign Missions wrote the following report under a heavy weight of responsibility:

Never in the history of our Foreign Missions endeavor has there been greater opportunity to evangelize the world than today. Not only can we rejoice because of the many open doors that surround us, but we also are thrilled with the tremendous results we have already been taking place even this past year. During the past five years the overseas constituency has more than doubled. Truly God has chosen to pour out His spirit as our missionaries and nationals in many nations of the world preach the Word. This endeavor of evangelism in far off lands has been possible because of the wonderful North American church that has stood behind Foreign Missions so faithfully.

God has blessed the Foreign Missions Division with outstanding leadership.⁷⁹⁸

Edwin Judd was secretary; Robert Rodenbush was OM coordinator; John Leaman was director of promotion and publications; and an office staff at WEC shouldered their responsibilities with a dedicated burden for foreign missions.

The six RFSs traveled tens of thousands of miles in their respective regions as they ministered to the missionary family and to the national leaders and churches under their responsibility. Their dedicated service contributed greatly to the phenomenal growth of the UPC in foreign lands. The RFSs in this report included E. L. Freeman, Africa; George Shalm, Asia; Glen Smith, Central America/Caribbean; Robert McFarland, Europe/Middle East; Mervyn Miller, Pacific; and Robert Norris, South America.

The FMB met four times annually, spending many days dealing with global challenges. The FMB was blessed with seven highly qualified pastoral members who represented many years of experience in the work of the Lord. The love and compassion of these men for a lost world, coupled with their knowledge and understanding, was extremely important to the total scope of missions. The seven pastoral board members were R. P. Bell, T. C. Bonnette, Fred Kinzie, Wayne Rooks, L. William Schmidt, F. V. Shoemake, and Carl Stephenson. These men served without remuneration.

Seven Missionary Families Appointed at the 1986 General Conference⁷⁹⁹

The following couples received full missionary appointment during the 1986 General Conference in St. Louis:

⁷⁹⁸ Harry E. Scism, "Annual Report to the General Board," October 1986.

⁷⁹⁹ J. S. Leaman, "Newly Appointed Missionaries," *Global Witness* (January–February 1987): 8.

- Pierre and Raymonde Mahautiere to the Windward Islands
- Terry and Cheryl Riddick to Cameroon
- Rex and Carol Robertson to Hawaii
- Monte and Dianne Showalter to El Salvador
- Craig and Vickie Smith to Mexico
- Victor and Diana Votaw to Taiwan
- Steve and Barbara Willoughby to Thailand⁸⁰⁰ [Note: This was later changed to Singapore because a visa could not be processed for Thailand.]

Foreign Missions Board at the School of Missions, November 1986

Members of the North American military serving in foreign countries have always been a concern for the FMB; these men and women should have the privilege of attending a church or chapel service with a Pentecostal environment. The board passed the following resolutions:

- Appoint a full-time missionary to coordinate the ministry to the North American Military in each region as development of the military work deems it feasible. The position would be called “military coordinator.”
- The military coordinator would work closely with and under the supervision of his respective RFS.
- Add to military ministry policy:
 - The relationship between the military work and the national work will vary from country to country. It should be based on mutual cooperation and understanding, as they can assist each other in reaching the lost. However, the administration of each should be kept separate.
 - Ministry should be provided to the military family through seminars and publications. The writing of military-oriented articles for magazines such as the *Pentecostal Herald*, *Reflections*, *Home Life*, and *The Conqueror* should be encouraged.
 - Efforts should be made to minister to the military family through the local church, and they should be encouraged to become involved in church activities.
 - The military chaplain should coordinate his work with the overseas military work in accordance with the policy of the armed forces. The chaplain should meet with the local pastor or overseer in his area in order to work out a plan of expectation relative to the military policy requirements of the chaplain’s work and the expectations of the local pastor or overseer.
- The following points regarding the European training program should be adopted:
 - Change the name of the European school from Wiesbaden School of the Bible to the European Bible College of the United Pentecostal Church to reflect its affiliation with the UPCI.
 - The European training program should follow the curriculum set forth in the OM training manual under three-year curriculum, each year with three trimesters of eleven weeks each.
 - The curriculum for the European Institute of Evangelism and the European Congress, both held annually, should be in harmony with the overall training program in Europe.
 - The extensions of the European training program in each European nation should be developed in cooperation with assigned personnel to each country and the

⁸⁰⁰ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (January 9, 1991): 4.

director of the European training program, and the curricula should be established in harmony with the overall training program in Europe.

The board appointed a committee to review this program at the end of each school year.⁸⁰¹

Overseas Ministries Facilitates Leadership Training⁸⁰²

As a veteran missionary who understood the value of producing leaders capable of assuming national responsibilities, Robert Rodenbush, serving as OM coordinator since 1979, capably moved the training program to new levels.

Zambia, under Melvin Thacker's leadership, celebrated opening day for its Bible school. Students arrived carrying their possessions in paper sacks, but they came filled with the Holy Ghost, a call of God upon their life, and an eagerness to study the Word of God.

The Ivory Coast, under the leadership of Field Superintendent Edward Allard, celebrated the first graduation of their Bible school on December 22, 1985. Families and friends came from far and near to honor this event. Ike Terry from Bakersfield, California, was the guest speaker.

Buenos Aires, Argentina, under the direction of Superintendent Darry Crossley, dedicated its fabulous Bible school facility on June 13, 1986. Participating in the celebrations were FM Director Harry Scism and South American RFS Robert D. Norris. The Argentine missionaries in attendance were H. D. Yadon, M. H. Cunningham, and J. W. Hattabaugh.

In the Windward Islands, Henry Ritchie initiated a correspondence training course called "Discover Wonderful Truths."⁸⁰³ In June 1985, sixty-two students were enrolled, but by November of that year the number had increased to eighty-six. By January 1986 the program had 150 students enrolled.

The Center for Pentecostal Bible Instruction in Cali, Colombia, under Sidney Perdue's leadership, began its two-year study program in September 1983. Replete with a men's dormitory, a ladies' dormitory, two large classrooms with a seating capacity of fifty students each, a combined dining/study hall, a complete kitchen, library, and three offices for officials, it was a hallmark of excellence. The dedication ceremonies were held on November 14, 1985. Sallie Morley, retired missionary, cut the ribbon accompanied by RFS Robert Norris and OM Coordinator Robert Rodenbush.

E. J. Corcoran's Training Program⁸⁰⁴

Through the assistance of Overseas Ministries, the E. J. Corcorans established a Bible school in Madras, India. This was the first ministerial training program of its kind in the Tamil language of Southeast India. The intensive course concluded in October 1986 with eight young men finishing the program.

Everett and Lois Corcoran were first appointed in October 1970 as pioneer missionaries to Pakistan. From 1970 to 1987 the Pakistani church grew to 15,000 constituents and 148 churches and preaching points. This growth was largely due to the training of national ministers.

Foreign Missions Film Ministry

The FMD produced, with the 16mm photography of Vince Kelley, four dynamic films for showing in the local church environment:

⁸⁰¹ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (November 7, 1986): 9.

⁸⁰² Robert Rodenbush, "Overseas Ministries," *Global Witness* (November–December 1986): 4.

⁸⁰³ "Discover Wonderful Truths Correspondence Course," *Global Witness* (May–June 1986): 8.

⁸⁰⁴ Robert Rodenbush, "Corcorans Establish Training in Madras, India," *Global Witness* (March–April 1987): 4–5.

- *Where Rivers Run East*—set in the Amazon Basin
- *Moved with Compassion*—set in Northeast India
- *The Midnight Harvest*—the story of China
- *Sounds of Revival*—a historical overview of the Philippine revival

Except for *Sounds of Revival*, the films could be requested on a freewill offering basis. The rental price for *Sounds of Revival* was \$50 per showing.⁸⁰⁵

Miracles in Fiji

Miracles abounded throughout the fellowship through the apostolic ministries around the world. Don Dobyns of Fiji reported that when Brother Veibale, an alcoholic with a severe case of epilepsy, was baptized and received the Holy Ghost, God healed him completely. He became a faithful member and his entire family received the Holy Ghost.

Brother Samuela had not been able to walk alone for over eight years; his legs were paralyzed. During Fiji's annual conference in August 1986, he was healed, and during the conference he walked and praised God. Ten persons were baptized during the conference, and twenty were baptized after the conference.⁸⁰⁶

New Church Facility in Kyoto, Japan

The church in Kyoto, Japan, dedicated a new facility in grand Japanese style. Attending were FM Director Harry E. Scism, Asian RFS George Shalm, Paul and Shirley Dennis, Richard Lucas, and Pastor A. Jones of Brownsburg, Indiana. Pastored by Kunio Fujibayashi, the congregation financed the 200 million yen (U.S. \$1,325,000) cost of the new facility.⁸⁰⁷

Ethiopia's Annual Report

During 1986, three hundred Muslims were baptized in the name of Jesus Christ and received the Holy Ghost, and the Ethiopian revival continued unabated despite severe restrictions, persecution, and constant danger. The annual report showed Ethiopia with 150,000 constituents, 116,102 baptized in water (with 7,962 baptized during this reporting period) and 29,503 filled with the Holy Ghost. There were 892 preachers caring for 989 churches.⁸⁰⁸

The 1987 Foreign Missions Board

The January 1987 FMB consisted of Harry E. Scism, general director; Edwin E. Judd, secretary; Robert Rodenbush, OM coordinator; John S. Leaman, director of promotion and publications; pastoral members R. P. Bell, T. C. Bonnette, D. D. Davis, B. J. Hurst, Fred Kinzie, Wayne Rooks, William Schmidt, F. V. Shoemaker, and Carl Stephenson; and RFSs E. L. Freeman, Africa; George Shalm, Asia; H. Glen Smith, Central America/Caribbean; Robert McFarland, Europe/Middle East; Mervyn Miller, Pacific; and Robert D. Norris, South America.

⁸⁰⁵ "Foreign Missions Film Ministry," *Global Witness* (March–April 1987): 7.

⁸⁰⁶ "South Pacific Witnesses Miracles," *Global Witness* (November–December 1986): 3.

⁸⁰⁷ "New Church Dedicated in Kyoto, Japan," *Global Witness* (November–December 1986): 3.

⁸⁰⁸ E. L. Freeman, "Ethiopia," *Global Witness* (January–February 1987): 2.

The January 1987 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

The work of missions demands a constant atmosphere of prayer to withstand the demonic pressures and assaults. From every quarter the missionary must be on guard to fight battles with the sword of the Spirit and with faith. The January 1987 FMB sessions were dedicated to encouraging weary missionaries to remain faithful to their calling.

Another major concern was the rising cost of health care for missionary families serving in foreign fields. In times past the missionaries were responsible for the cost of their own health care, if it was available. The board resolved that health insurance be charged from missionary accounts with a \$250 deductible (Plan C), that health insurance be paid to the health insurance company for a \$1,000 deductible (Plan E), and that the FMD pay the deductibles between \$250 and \$1,000 from the anticipated savings in health insurance premiums, effective January 1, 1987, if feasible with the insurance department.⁸⁰⁹

Following are other decisions made during these sessions:

- To recommend George Szabolcsi as assistant missionary to Eastern Europe (Hungary)
- To recommend Michael Sponsler for appointment to Argentina

New Delhi Training Center

The New Delhi Training Center was dedicated as a tribute and a memorial to the ministry of pioneer missionaries to India, Ellis and Marjorie Scism. From a beginning of about 250 believers in 1949, these precious missionaries saw the church grow to 250 ministers and 30,000 members in seventeen years. Now a church of 72,000 adherents stood as a monument to their dedicated and sacrificial service in the harvest.

Ellis Scism served as superintendent of the Northwestern District from 1944 until his missionary appointment in 1948. Ellis and Marjorie Scism and their children arrived in India in 1949. Their first term was for about seven years without a furlough. In those days of extremely limited budgets, missionaries suffered the physical deprivation of natural comforts; modern conveniences were neither expected nor enjoyed. They purchased used vehicles at a minimum cost. Nevertheless, in the face of seemingly insurmountable odds, the Scisms established a Bible school and the small group of believers multiplied into tens of thousands.⁸¹⁰

The training center would benefit the church in India as well as other southern Asian nations. India's complex society allows such activity only in approved locations. The facility in New Delhi was purchased in March 1987 for \$135,000.

May 1987 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

The board was made aware of the need for additional finances to cover the education cost for missionary children from kindergarten through high school. The board resolved that—effective immediately—a sufficient amount be built into the new PIM budgets of missionaries beginning deputation ministry to cover the kindergarten through high school educational expenses for their family.⁸¹¹

Additional decisions included the following:

⁸⁰⁹ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (January 1987): 1.

⁸¹⁰ Edwin E. Judd, "A Tribute to the Missionary Ministry of Rev. and Mrs. Ellis L. Scism, *Pentecostal Herald* (June 1987): 4.

⁸¹¹ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (May 1987): 2.

- The policy governing the granting of FM offering credit for overseas travel expenses of invited speakers and those taking pastoral tours was reviewed and discussed extensively with the following action:
 - Continue to grant FM offering credit for the fare of invited speakers and their wives upon request of the invited speakers.
 - Offering credit to approved speakers for hotel and meal expenses overseas would be up to \$100 per day for one individual or \$130 per day for a couple.
 - In those cases where guests stayed in the home of the missionary in lieu of hotel and meal expenses, it was recommended that the missionary be reimbursed \$30 per day for one person or \$50 per day for a couple.
 - Credit would be given for offerings given directly to missionaries while being visited on their fields abroad.
- The 1987 General Conference cash offering should be designated for international evangelism.

National Headquarters and Training Center Dedicated in Sri Lanka

In 1949 James Burns and family arrived in Ceylon (Sri Lanka) as the first UPCI missionaries to that country. How fitting it was that the headquarters facilities in Colombo, the capital city, were dedicated as a tribute to these great pioneer missionaries who served so faithfully under severe hardships for so many years. Local saints and resident missionaries, Prince Mathiasz and Lynden Shalm, worked hard to complete the beautiful facilities. The dedication took place on March 27–29, 1987, with many attending dignitaries: Honorable Mr. L. Athulathmudali, minister of National Security; the deputy defense minister; and the Member of Parliament from Mt. Lavina. Daniel Calk of Bossier City, Louisiana, preached, and RFS George Shalm prayed the dedicatory prayer.⁸¹²

Death of Brian Wiseman

While deputizing in 1985, Brian Wiseman began bleeding from the nose and mouth. He visited several doctors but none could find anything alarming. In July 1985, the Wisemans returned to Brazil for a second term. Brother Wiseman plunged vigorously into the work even though the bleeding continued. In Sao Paulo, a surgeon diagnosed nasopharynx carcinoma of the squamous cells. On July 27, Brother Wiseman was stable enough to visit with his family, but he slipped into a coma on July 28, 1987, and at 9:05 P.M. Jesus opened heaven's gates for him.

Dorsey Burk, who knew him well, wrote:

My friend, the Brian Wiseman I knew, was a man of loving compassion who lived to tell other of the Jesus who had changed his life. To saint or sinner, to friend or stranger, Brian's standard greeting was, "Jesus loves you."

After their missionary appointment in 1979, the Wisemans deputized with their two children, Angelina 6, and Peter 3. In July of 1980, they went to Brazil to begin their missionary work.⁸¹³

October 1987 Foreign Missions Board Sessions⁸¹⁴

Very few people understand the complexity in dealing with FM matters. The diversity of cultures, languages, government policies, and situations that arise at any time makes demands on the board's

⁸¹² Donald Hanscom, "Headquarters Dedicated in Sri Lanka," *Pentecostal Herald* (November 1987): 21.

⁸¹³ Dorsey Burk, "Jesus Loves You," *Global Witness* (November–December 1987): 6.

⁸¹⁴ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 1987).

expertise and experience. Longevity on the board is invaluable because it facilitates wise decisions. The issue of term limitations was therefore carefully considered.

Amid these concerns, George Shalm's serious illness overshadowed the atmosphere of the board proceedings. The following decisions were made:

- To continue George Shalm's medical leave with normal support, and review the situation in the January 1988 meeting
- To designate the headquarters church facility in Karachi as a tribute to the ministry of George and Margaret Shalm
- To designate the church facility to be acquired in Hong Kong as a tribute to the ministry of Frank and Irene Wheeler
- To recommend Sidney Perdue for appointment as field superintendent of the UPC of Ecuador

The FMB addressed relationships between border districts and activities across the U.S./Mexican border. The brethren meeting with the FMB were N. A. Urshan, C. M. Becton, Paul Price, E. L. Holley, J. T. Pugh, and Charles Croy. Each district superintendent was invited to express the effects of this issue on his district, and each expressed a desire for full cooperation between the stateside districts and the FMD and its involvement in Mexico.

A committee that had been mandated by the board to draft proposals for guidelines relative to U.S./Mexican border affairs presented the following points for clarification and definition:

- Procedures for starting and establishing churches across the border
- How to safeguard properties
- How to safeguard investments
- The issuing and transferring of ministerial licenses and credentials and ministerial accountability with regard to the location of churches being pastored

The 1987 General Conference—Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

The FM director's 1987 report to the General Board recorded statistics that reflected increases in every area: The UPCI had 308 missionaries under full appointment and 120 AIMers for a total of 428 missionaries working in seventy-four nations, with national churches established in an additional twenty-seven nations, making a total of 101 nations.

According to the annual field status reports, 50,376 were baptized in the name of Jesus and 39,345 had received the Holy Ghost, making a total overseas constituency of 681,845. There were 8,550 churches and preaching points outside of North America and 5,373 national preachers working with our missionaries. Brother Scism reported:

The blessing of God has again rested upon Foreign Missions Division, making it possible for us to again establish a new record in Foreign Missions giving. . . . The Partners In Missions program continues to grow with presently 6,407 sources contributing. In North America 89.3% of our churches are cooperating with the Foreign Missions program. The monthly average income from Partners In Missions subscriptions is \$672,190.83. The average annual offering for the contributing church is \$3,656.51. The annual per/capita giving is \$32.22.

The record giving for this fiscal year was \$11,227,696.00. (This figure includes direct offerings given to missionaries on deputation.) In addition, the Pentecostal Conquerors gave an allocation of \$450,015.47 . . . [and the] Ladies Auxiliary [gave] \$265,000.00 from the Mother's Memorial program. This brings our grand total for the 1986–87 fiscal year to \$11,942,711.47.⁸¹⁵

⁸¹⁵ Harry E. Scism, "Annual Report to the General Board," October 1987.

Training nationals was essential to the expansion of our worldwide evangelistic endeavor. As missionaries trained nationals in Bible schools and seminars, the nationals in turn trained their own people. This was in line with apostolic methods and reaped exponential results.

While the list is far from complete, Bible schools had been established in Brazil, Argentina, Burma, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Ecuador, Ghana, India, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Kenya, Korea, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Puerto Rico, Sri Lanka, Tonga, Venezuela, and Zambia. These facilities and others represented 3,024 students and 212 short-term training programs with 12,329 students, making a total of 15,353 students studying in a total of 285 training programs operating on foreign soil.

New Missionary Families Appointed in 1987—Oklahoma City, Oklahoma⁸¹⁶

The following missionaries were introduced to the General Conference in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma:

- David Flowers to Madagascar
- Jeffrey Norris to Brazil
- Stephen O'Donnell to Hong Kong
- Paul Pool to Mexico
- Phillip Rhoads to Netherlands Antilles
- Robert Russell to Benin
- Daniel Schreckhise to Honduras
- Stanley Scism to South Asia
- Cecil Sullivan to the Philippines
- George Szabolcsi to Eastern Europe
- Stephen Wheeler to Tanzania

Australia

In 1987 the Thursday Island Aboriginal Seminar and Conference was a glorious success. Twenty-five attended the six-week seminar and received their certificates in an impressive Saturday afternoon service at the conference. Twenty were filled with the Holy Ghost and seven were baptized. During the three days of board meetings, twelve people (nine men and three women) received their ministerial licenses. Revival had begun on the northeast end of Australia and in the Torres Strait Islands, but this was only the beginning; it would spread across Australia.⁸¹⁷

Deputation Miracle for Devon Dawson

Deputation is challenging. Devon Dawson's deputation in the U.S. and Canada began on October 19, 1986, when Oliver Spencer and Mount Calvary Pentecostal Church of Taylor, Michigan, became his first PIM. Traveling the usual 40,000 miles per missionary, the Dawsons had raised 80 percent of their budget, and they were probably looking at an additional six months to raise the remaining 20 percent. However, a miracle changed all of that.

On September 10, 1987, they arrived at Christian Life Center in Gaithersburg, Maryland, pastored by Ron Libby. During the service, in about ten minutes, the following happened:

- \$1,250 per month in new PIMs raised
- \$2,800 given for a tent

⁸¹⁶ J. S. Leaman, "New Appointees," *Global Witness* (January–February 1988): 7.

⁸¹⁷ L. R. Sherry, "Australia," *Global Witness* (January–February 1988): 5.

- \$300 given for a PA system
- A new copier valued at \$1,000 donated
- A cash offering of \$3,500 received

God speaks to pastors and churches who will respond and produce miracles!⁸¹⁸

New Missionaries—by Birth

Many North Americans take for granted the support of family and friends at the births of their children. The absence of such support is keenly felt on the mission field, far from friends, families, and home. In 1987, three new missionaries were born:

- Lanae Joy, to the Stephen Nixes, missionaries to Argentina—April 29
- Laurissa Joy, to the John Wolframs, missionaries to the U.S. Military—April 12
- Megan Cherie, to the Steve Willoughbys, missionaries to Thailand—June 6

Death of Elly Hansen in Thailand

Elly Hansen, Danish nurse and former member of the Danish Resistance movement, went to be with the Lord on October 11, 1987, at 7:00 A.M., in Prankedai, Thailand. Her months-long illness with cancer had caused her severe pain. In the early part of her illness, someone asked if she would like to go to Denmark or America, but she replied, “The people of Thailand are my people and here is where I want to stay and die.” She was buried in a small Christian cemetery located a short distance from where she gave many years of her life as a missionary.⁸¹⁹

Death of Wonnee Wattanchant of Thailand

On Monday morning, December 21, 1987, Wonnee Wattanchant, wife of long-time national leader, Chaoyong Wattanchant, went to be with the Lord. When Billy and Shirley Cole went to Thailand, Wonnee was a Presbyterian Church member. Her English father was an engineer who helped to build the first railroads in Thailand. Because of her status, she attended school with the crown prince of Thailand, who was ruling at the time of her death. When she became a Pentecostal, her family lost all prestige and members were outcasts for many years.

God forewarned Wonnee of her impending death through a vision given to her son, though he did not understand the implication of the vision at the time.

Billy Cole’s thirty-three hour flight got him there in time to preside over the funeral.⁸²⁰

Thirty-year Anniversary for the Philippines

The year 1987 marked tremendous growth across the UPCI spectrum. The 1987 Philippine General Conference celebrated thirty years of revival. A crowd of over seven thousand attended the three evening services, during which more than four hundred received the Holy Ghost.

There were now 699 licensed ministers, 78,120 constituents, 354 established churches, and 1,066 outstations. During 1986, 5,263 had received the Holy Ghost. Metro Manila, a city of twelve million, had only three congregations ten years ago; now there were more than thirty congregations in this area.⁸²¹

⁸¹⁸ “Deputation Miracle,” *Global Witness* (March–April 1988): 3.

⁸¹⁹ Shirley Cole, “Unique Elly . . . Greatly Used of God,” *Global Witness* (March–April 1988): 8.

⁸²⁰ Shirley Cole, “Wonnee Wattanchant of Thailand,” *Global Witness* (May–June 1988): 8.

⁸²¹ Carl Varnell, “Thirty-Year Anniversary,” *Global Witness* (September–October 1987): 4.

Revival in Malawi

God had done amazing things during 1986 in Malawi. The growth of the church brought both joy and increased burden—joy for those who had found salvation, and burden for the millions yet unreached.

The annual report announced 1,470 baptized in Jesus' name, 1,013 filled with the Holy Ghost, five pastors promoted to general license, eight new pastors with local license, twenty-two new preaching points, and six newly established churches.⁸²²

January 1988 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

FMB decisions during the midwinter 1988 meeting were as follows:

- To change of field for Richard Carver from Papua New Guinea to New Zealand
- To recommend Roscoe Seay for appointment to Papua New Guinea
- To recommend Roscoe Seay as field superintendent of the UPC Assemblies of Papua New Guinea
- To approve the January 4, 1988, FM director's proposal regarding establishing the European Conference and Training Center as a memorial to the late A. D. Urshan, and authorize raising up to \$300,000 for this project
- To name G. Daryl Rash as project coordinator for the promotion and development of this project
- To recommend John Wolfram for appointment to Hawaii for his second term
- To recommend that the next World Fellowship Conference be held during the first week of February 1990, in either Amsterdam, Frankfurt, or Athens

“Changes of Field” Explained

As FM work expanded, changes of field for missionaries were called for frequently, but this did not always mean that the missionary relocated. Rather, missionaries' administrative duties were augmented by adjustments in field policies and appointments as the FMB delegated the missionaries' responsibilities according to the need.

Zaire and Zambia

Fifteen were baptized and fourteen were filled with the Holy Ghost during the first conference in Zaire. One of those filled was a woman who was working as a cook in a small outbuilding near the church. During the Sunday morning service she was preparing the afternoon meal for those attending the conference. As she worked, a great feeling of the power of God came over her; she fell to the ground and began to speak in tongues. God truly knows a hungry soul.

Three weeks previously in Lusaka, Zambia, twenty-one people received the Holy Ghost in one Sunday morning service. A cell ministry was started in Lusaka with over 150 in attendance during the first weeks of home fellowship meetings. Thirty saints qualified as home Bible study teachers, and already they were winning souls through this ministry.⁸²³

⁸²² Jim Crumpacker, “Malawi in Revival,” *Global Witness* (September–October 1987): 4.

⁸²³ Ted Grosbach, “Zaire-Zambia,” *Global Witness* (March–April 1988): 4.

Another Record-breaking Year for El Salvador

Bruce Howell reported that for the UPC of El Salvador, 1987 was a record-breaking year! The annual report reflected that 3,083 were baptized and 3,772 were filled with the Holy Ghost. There were twenty-one new churches established and an economic growth of 30 percent. The church totaled 25,639 constituents, 221 churches, and 341 preaching points.

Attended by 350 ministers and wives, the latest general assembly had a Faith Promise service and celebrated the fifth anniversary of Central Bible School. Five ministers were ordained.⁸²⁴

Death of Robyn Forbush, a Missionary Daughter

Robyn, daughter of Robert and Derethia Forbush, died in Hong Kong on February 9, 1988. It is sad enough to lose a child, but for a missionary on foreign soil, the weight of it seemed unbearable. Harry Scism expressed his feelings in an article in the *Pentecostal Herald*:

Robyn . . . was a missionary in her own beautiful way. I never heard her testify in church though I am certain she often shared with others the joy of salvation. I never heard her sing a special, but Robyn ministered to me each time I saw her.

As a terrible disease continued to work in her body, she eventually was confined to a wheelchair. To walk was very painful. Yet with all her suffering Robyn never complained. She always had a beautiful smile—it was genuine. Truly Robyn ministered through her very Christlike life. . . . Her funeral was held in Jackson, Mississippi, on February 13, 1988. She will be greatly missed by the church in Hong Kong, and the many Chinese whose lives were touched by her beautiful smile and loving spirit.⁸²⁵

Death of Regional Field Supervisor George Shalm

On February 17, 1988, as missionary warrior George Shalm died, a cloak of sadness fell over many who had been deeply touched by his ministry.

George Shalm of Truro, Nova Scotia, Canada, was already a veteran missionary to India under the Apostolic Church of Pentecost, a Canadian organization, when he returned to Canada to accept the presidency of a Bible college. During his involvement with the college he could never ignore his deep burden for India. When he met the UPCI Foreign Missions Board about returning to India, he explained that he had served there under appointment with another organization, and the UPCI board recommended him for appointment there.

George and Margaret Shalm had begun their fifth missionary term when he was appointed RFS for Asia. Brother Shalm assumed his new duties January 1, 1984. His missionary experience and years as pastor and Bible college president endeared him to the missionaries of the Asian Region.⁸²⁶

May 1988 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

The FMB met in San Juan, Puerto Rico, for the midsummer 1988 sessions. The decisions were as follows:

- To change C. H. Abernathy's missionary appointment from Africa to furlough replacement
- To appoint Darry Crossley as Spanish literature coordinator
- To change Mark Starin's status from assistant missionary to missionary

⁸²⁴ "El Salvador: 1987 Is Record-breaking Year," *Global Witness* (July–August 1988): 7.

⁸²⁵ Harry Scism, "Faithful unto Death," *Pentecostal Herald* (June 1988): 3, 18.

⁸²⁶ Ibid.

- To transfer James Dotson to Peru after Stanley Holland returns to Uruguay
- To recommend David E. Van Beek for appointment to the United Kingdom
- To recommend Rex Robertson as assistant field superintendent of the UPC in Hawaii
- To designate the cash offering taken at the General Conference be for the purchase of tents for the missionary fields

October 1988 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

The FMB met in Salt Lake City, Utah, prior to the 1988 General Conference. During the opening session, there was considerable discussion regarding the advisability of granting FM offering credit to churches providing motel and meal expenses while entertaining missionaries on deputation. The board decided not to give churches offering credit for this.

General Superintendent Nathaniel A. Urshan met with the board to negotiate the business of CSI to elect the members of the coordinating committee.

The CSI financial report from July 1, 1987, through June 30, 1988, was presented and accepted. Other action for CSI included the following appointments to the committee:

- Derold Doughty for a three-year term
- James L. O'Donnell for a three-year term
- Wallace Liles for a two-year term
- Wayne Rooks for a two-year term
- Fred Kinzie for a one-year term

Other board decisions were as follows:

- To approve that the minimum retirement age for a single lady or widow be lowered from sixty-five years of age to sixty years of age, when she could be considered for retirement allowance
- To recommend J. P. Hughes as RFS for Africa for a four-year term
- To recommend Garry Tracy as RFS for Asia for a four-year term
- To approve that Haiti be removed from Daniel Vannoy's appointment, leaving his appointment exclusively to the Dominican Republic
- To appoint Jerry Holt as coordinator of China Outreach Ministries to mainland China

Two New Regional Field Supervisors

John Paul Hughes was appointed as RFS for Africa to fill the position of E. L. Freeman, who had retired after forty-one years of FM service. Garry Tracy became the RFS for Asia, joining Glen Smith, Central America/Caribbean; Robert McFarland, Europe/Middle East; Mervyn Miller, Pacific; and Robert Norris, South America; making a successful team to link the missionaries on the field with the FMD.

1988 General Conference—Salt Lake City, Utah

The FM director's report to the General Board again focused upon growth:

During the past twelve months, our foreign missionaries and national preachers have given themselves totally to evangelization and the preaching of the Gospel. We have seen 1,954 new churches and preaching points established. This averaged 37 new churches opened weekly. We have also seen an increase in our overseas constituency of 105,832. It is amazing to realize that during the past year our

increase has been as much as our total overseas constituency was in 1969. We are deeply grateful to the United Pentecostal Church International with its outstanding leadership and dedicated pastors and churches who have made this tremendous growth possible.⁸²⁷

Harry Scism reported 309 missionaries who were working with 6,822 national preachers. The unified efforts of these 309 missionaries under full appointment, along with 100 associate missionaries made a total of 409 missionaries in seventy-four nations. This coupled with the efforts of the national workers, who had established churches in forty-two additional nations, brought a total of 116 nations with a UPCI presence.

The annual field status reports noted that 51,331 were baptized in the name of Jesus and 39,742 received the baptism of the Holy Ghost. The UPCI had an overseas constituency of 787,677 attending 9,803 churches and preaching points, administrated by 6,822 national preachers.

There was a record-setting income of \$11,750,896.76, a figure that included direct offerings given to missionaries on deputation. In addition, the Youth Division gave \$416,236.95 from SFC and the Ladies Auxiliary gave \$247,000 from Mothers Memorial, bringing the FM income grand total to \$12,414,133.71.

Nine Missionary Families Appointed—Salt Lake City, Utah, 1988

Nine families graced the platform of the Sixty-fourth UPCI General Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah. FM Director Harry Scism introduced the six newly appointed missionaries. C. H. Abernathy was reappointed to Africa in January 1988 after a short stateside pastorate. The Roscoe Seays were also appointed in January 1988, while the David Van Beeks were appointed in June. The remaining families were appointed during the FMB sessions in Salt Lake City.

- C. H. Abernathy to Africa
- Roscoe Seay to Papua New Guinea
- David Van Beek to the United Kingdom
- Donald Patridge to Micronesia
- Kenneth Reed to Indonesia
- David Schwarz to Costa Rica
- Steve Shirley to the Leeward Islands
- Richard Smoak to Tanzania
- Gary Sones to Mexico

More Future Missionaries—1988

The FMD proudly announced the births of several missionary children whose futures would impact their world:

- Christi Nicole, to the Darry Crossleys of Argentina—March 4
- Anna Marie, to the Tom Brackens of Taiwan—April 23
- Alisa Lauren, to the John Hopkinses of Panama—May 4
- Patrick, to the Jeffrey Norrises—October 26
- Terry LaRon, to the Tim Wallaces—December 4
- Kaylin Joy, to the Steve Shirleys—December 8
- John Paul, to the Keith Townsleys—December 8

⁸²⁷ Harry E. Scism, "Annual Report to the General Board," October 1988.

1988 Foreign Missions Board Sessions at the School of Missions

Health insurance for the missionaries continued to be a concern. An in-depth discussion about this need, as well as retirement benefits for missionaries, resulted in the following resolutions: (1) effective January 1, 1989, contributions should be made to the Ministers Retirement Fund on behalf of veteran missionaries while on deputation equal to the amount contributed to the fund on their behalf at the end of their term; and (2) as the Insurance Department offered on November 2, the FMB chose to structure a \$1,000 deductible health insurance package for FM personnel, providing the guarantee of conversion to medical insurance coverage for those leaving the FM group so long as they remained affiliated ministers of the UPCI.⁸²⁸

Missionaries with a call on their lives sometimes walk through many valleys to find God's perfect will. Despite careful interviewing and screening by the FMB, it was not uncommon for a missionary to step into an area of service only to be frustrated and discouraged. The board always demonstrated patience until the missionary found his niche. Such was the case of C. H. Abernathy, who had first been appointed to Malawi, East Africa, in 1973, but changed to South Africa in 1975. In May 1988, with the board's approval, he changed his appointment to serve as a furlough replacement and also pastored in the States for a few months. Now, with the board's approval in November 1988, he chose Zimbabwe as his first field of service in Africa for this new term.

One appointment for the coordinating committee for CSI had been left vacant. During this session, the board appointed Ronald R. Ramey for a two-year term.

Crossroads International Christian Center in Athens, Greece

Ten years after its inception, the ministry of the Crossroads International Christian Center in Athens, Greece, continued to bear fruit. Alan and Valerie Demos, who established this ministry, reported that during the church's tenth anniversary celebration eighty-five were baptized in Jesus' name and forty-five received the Holy Ghost. Many nationalities were represented in this number, including four Muslims and several former Hindus. An additional seventeen were baptized under the leadership of Panama Kylassapathen, a converted Hindu from Mauritius.⁸²⁹

Malawi

In his report for the year 1988, Jim Crumpacker recounted another great year in Malawi. A total of 1,474 were baptized in Jesus' name and 1,272 received the Holy Ghost. There were 129 congregations proclaiming the gospel and twenty-one ministers were granted licenses: fourteen local, three general, and four ordained.⁸³⁰

January 1989 Foreign Missions Board Sessions⁸³¹

The FMB met in Hazelwood, Missouri, for its midwinter 1989 sessions. A number of decisions affected the work in Asia:

- To recommend Robert Arthur for appointment to the People's Republic of China
- To recommend Garry A. Tracy as field superintendent of the UPC in People's Republic of China

⁸²⁸ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (November 1, 1988): 3.

⁸²⁹ Alan Demos, "Crossroads International Celebrates 10th Anniversary," *Global Witness* (May–June 1988): 3.

⁸³⁰ James Crumpacker, "Malawi: From Victory to Victory," *Global Witness* (July–August 1988): 4.

⁸³¹ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (January 5, 1989).

- To approve Garry Tracy to issue a donor certificate to the government of Bangladesh in the minimum amount of \$19,000 during the next five years in order to satisfy requirements to obtain recognition of the UPC there

Other decisions were

- To recommend William Patrick for appointment to Brazil effective June 1989
- To express appreciation to Mokhles and Teresa Sedra for their service as AIMers in Egypt and recommended his appointment as assistant missionary there

The Door Opens to the Former Soviet Union

In 1989 the Lord opened a door of opportunity in the Soviet Union as this vast country entered unexpectedly into an era of freedom. Sam Balca and Harold Kinney met and worshiped with Russian believers in a congregation of over 160 people.

In 1915 Andrew Urshan had brought the Jesus Name message to Leningrad. Through years of persecution under Communist rule, these saints had remained true to the doctrine. The church was now legally registered, and they could freely attend services and receive visitors from abroad. Brother Balca reported that there were at least seventy churches in the Soviet Union with a membership of fifteen thousand.⁸³²

Mokhles Sedra Appointed to Egypt

The FMB recommended the appointment of Mokhles and Teresa Sedra as assistant missionaries to Egypt. Mokhles was the son of Boshra Sedra, who founded the UPC of Egypt. The Mokhles Sedras had been serving on the AIM program to fill the vacancy left by his father's death.

The Ey Ja Kim Saga Continues

When Ey Ja Kim left her high-paying employment in Washington, D.C., to take the gospel to her home village of Nam Hae in Korea, she became a model missionary. She wrote:

The Nam Hae church keeps me very busy just preparing sermons for the Sunday evening services, and devotions for the daily dawn prayer meetings. I never thought how hard it is to be a pastor of *His* church. Getting up at 3:00 A.M. each morning is not easy for me, but by the help of God, I am managing well. Our prayer meetings start at 4:00 A.M., I teach or preach a short time, and then we pray until about 5:30 A.M.. The Nam Hae church, the Bethesda church, and the Oak Poo church are doing well. God is adding souls to the churches.⁸³³

Dangers and Thievery on the Mission Field

Melvin Thacker, missionary to Zambia, reported an incident that is all too common on the mission field: thieves who prey upon those who represent a higher level of social grace. This incident happened to Brown Mankishi of Lusaka, Zambia:

⁸³² "Door Opened to Soviet Union," *Global Witness* (March–April 1989): 7.

⁸³³ Ey Ja Kim quoted in J. S. Leaman, "Needing Direction? Take Associates in Missions!" *Global Witness* (September–October 1989): 4.

At 1:00 A.M. I was abruptly awakened by loud knocking on my bedroom window. Men were shouting, “We are the police, open up!” . . . They were not the police, but thieves. . . . My children were afraid. . . . A man shouted, “You show yourself to be a clever Christian, but now you will die.”

I prayed, “Lord, if it be your will for me to die, let me die. But if not, please help me to know what to do, and, most of all protect my children from being harmed.” I picked up my two children and started walking out, still not saying a word. As I walked slowly, I expected to feel a bullet hit me any moment. They did not see me! When they couldn’t find me in the house, they started searching outside. Though I stood very near them, they moved about as though I wasn’t there. They then took my clothes and blankets and left.

The next morning when the police came, they picked up many bullets and asked where the dead bodies were. I was able to tell them that the Lord I serve loves and protects His children.⁸³⁴

Revival Continues in the Amazon Basin

Bennie DeMerchant reported that in July 1989, thirty-five people received the Holy Ghost in Belo Horizonte, Brazil. An estimated 11,200 attended the district conference. Dennis Burgess, missionary from Paraguay, was the guest speaker.

Spencer McCool from Pontiac, Michigan, made a 2,000-mile evangelistic tour in the SFC Cessna floatplane to new, remote works where fifteen prayed through to the Holy Ghost. The floatplane has been a powerful and effective evangelistic tool for the Brazilian missionaries, thanks to the efforts of the youth of North America.

Nathaniel A. and Jean Urshan, general superintendent and wife, ministered in the September district conference in Manaus, where sixty received the Holy Ghost.⁸³⁵

Miraculous Growth Continues in Ethiopia

The Ethiopian revival was miraculous! The UPCI had sent the first missionaries, Kenneth and Bobbye Wendell, in 1968. They had been unable to get visas for their entire family, so Brother Wendell decided to go to Ethiopia at first by himself. In time, the Wendells were able to secure visas for the entire family. For several years they had great success until the Ethiopian government made them leave. The work fell under national leadership.

Brother Wendell communicated from the United States to chart the path of the church seemingly at the very gates of hell. Kenneth Wendell died in the United States. After Kenneth’s death, angels walked with the Ethiopian church leaders to establish an apostolic church with an Acts 2, 8, and 10 foundation. Many came from a variety of denominations, including Muslim. Between 1969 and January 1989 a total of 147,112 were born of the water and Spirit. In 1988 alone 16,074 were baptized in the name of Jesus Christ and filled with the Spirit. There were 1,443 churches and pastors, with a constituency of 294,800.⁸³⁶

May 1989 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

The agenda for this particular board session was filled with adjustments and administrative updates, as well as decisions that affected the missionary family:

- To change of field for Lee Sherry from Australia to Fiji/South Pacific
- To change of field for Robert Forbush from Hong Kong to Australia
- To change of field for Richard Eaton from Puerto Rico to Mexico per his request dated April 20, 1989

⁸³⁴ Brown Mankishi quoted in Melvin Thacker, “The Lord Protects His Children,” *Global Witness* (September–October 1989): 7.

⁸³⁵ Bennie DeMerchant, “Showered Blessings in Brazil,” *Pentecostal Herald* (April 1990): 12.

⁸³⁶ “Miraculous Ethiopian Growth,” *Global Witness* (July–August 1989): 3.

- To add Greece to Mark Starin's official field appointment
- To add Mexico to T. Wynn Drost's official field appointment
- To upgrade Stanley Scism's appointment from assistant missionary to missionary
- To designate the cash offering during the Foreign Missions 1989 General Conference service for Bibles and literature

The remainder of the agenda was devoted to committee work and reviewing various aspects of policy in the FM manual to ascertain the changes necessary for future action. The administration had to keep pace with the FM growth patterns. After committee reports and deliberations, the board made the following decisions:

- To change the title "coordinator of Overseas Ministries" to "coordinator of Special Ministries."⁸³⁷
- To raise the minimum PIM commitment from \$10 per month to \$15 per month.
- To incorporate the following qualifications for missionary appointment into FM policy:
 - Recommend that applicants for full missionary appointment be within the ages of twenty-four years minimum and forty-five years maximum and have no more than three children who will accompany them to the field, all of whom are under thirteen years of age at the time of appointment.
- To change the section in the FM policy pertaining to types of appointment:
 - Career Missionary: Those who apply for missionary appointment do so with the full intention of life term commitment to an FM career. One fulfilling all of the qualifications set forth below and who is ordained may be granted the status of career missionary.
 - Assistant Missionary: One fulfilling all of the qualifications for career missionary but who holds a local or general license may be granted an appointment as assistant missionary. He is sent to the field under the oversight of a more experienced missionary or RFS.
 - Vocational Missionary: This can be a selected person from any secular field, such as professionals in the fields of medicine, education, aviation, or agriculture. In such cases, a qualified professional who is not a licensed minister may be appointed as vocational missionary.
- To amend FM policy concerning the length of missionary service:
 - FM appointments shall be on a continuing basis for an indefinite period of time as determined by the FMB and the missionary, considering the needs of the field, health factors, family considerations, and other factors pertaining to foreign service.
 - Six months' furlough after two years on the field, nine months' furlough after three years on the field, and twelve months' furlough after four years on the field.
- To require all missionaries under appointment to be interviewed by the FMB a minimum of once every five years for a complete evaluation of their ministry and future involvement. Additional evaluation of a missionary's ministry and accomplishments shall be required biannually.
- To make the following a part of FM policy:
 - A missionary shall attend the SOM once for every five years of continuing service.
 - Missionaries are eligible for a three-week vacation, including travel time, for each twelve months of continuous service with no more than three consecutive weeks at a time. Vacation time cannot accumulate and must be taken within each twelve-month

⁸³⁷ The title "Special Ministries" reverted back to "Overseas Ministries" during the FMB sessions at the 1992 General Conference.

time period. Missionaries vacationing in North America should not preach more than once weekly during said vacation.

- To decide effective June 1 through October 1, 1989, deputizing missionaries should be reimbursed \$75 expense allowance for each service not scheduled on the basis of six anticipated services weekly so long as the missionary is not responsible for lack of scheduling by choice or default with said policy. After October 1, 1989, the impact of this policy should be determined and reported back to the board.

1989 Foreign Missions Board Sessions—New Orleans, Louisiana

In the interest of missionary effectiveness and the board's greater understanding of missionary applicants, an in-depth discussion resulted in the policy that recommendations from two or three neighboring pastors be sought for all missionary candidates, including their wives. Other decisions included the following:

- To change R. S. Willoughby's appointment from Thailand to Malaysia
- To appropriate \$25,000 from CSI to Ethiopia because of the famine there
- To change Larry Blake's appointment from Ghana to furlough replacement at large
- To change Allan Shalm's appointment from India and Bangladesh to India and Pakistan
- To approve John Stuart Lassetter's appointment as president of the Board of Education of the UPC of Ecuador

Longevity on the FMB was a valuable asset. It entailed background knowledge of previous decisions, which enhanced wisdom for decisions that would affect the future of foreign missions. In recognition of thirteen years of service as a member of the FMB, during which time he also served a term as regional executive presbyter, the board recommended that Fred Kinzie become an honorary member of the board. It also recommended that W. H. Cole be a member for a five-year term.

Fourteen New Missionary Families Appointed—New Orleans, Louisiana, 1989

Amid shouts of praise and victory, the UPCI welcomed fourteen new missionary families to its missionary roster. These families would carry the banner of Christ to twelve nations, the American military community in Europe and the Middle East, and the Asian and Pacific regions. Pastors responded by pledging at least \$800 per month in PIM support for each of the new missionaries, which was the equivalent of about three months of deputation.

Mokhles Sedra had been appointed in January 1989, and J. R. Black, George Corney, and William Patrick, had been appointed in the May 1989 FMB sessions.

- Mokhles Sedra to Egypt
- George Corney to Pakistan
- Danny Aber to Panama
- J. R. Black to the Bahamas
- Bennie Blunt to Fiji
- Louis Johnson to Kenya
- William Patrick to Brazil
- Richard Porter to Ghana
- Jerry Sawyer to Honduras
- C. Wayne Schrum to Military Ministry/Europe/Middle East

- Howard Smith to Bolivia
- Bradley Thompson to Guatemala
- Johnny Willhoite to missionary evangelist for Asia/Pacific
- Steve Well to Chile

Revival in Brazil

Brazil continued to receive the attention of God! In November 1989, Arthur Hodges III from San Diego, California, ministered to a packed house in Manaus, and fifty-two received the Holy Ghost. Also in November, Chester Wright ministered during the graduation exercises at Apostolic Bible Institute in Rio de Janeiro.

1989 Foreign Missions Board Sessions at the School of Missions

Each year at the SOM, the FMB dedicates time and energy to listen to missionaries' personal reports. The general director of Foreign Missions was reluctant to schedule other business, but some decisions had to be made to facilitate the work, such as the following:

- To change of field for Richard Lucas from Military Asia to Japan
- To change Richard Smoak's appointment from assistant missionary to missionary
- To expand Jerry Holt's appointment to include the People's Republic of China along with Hong Kong
- To authorize the incorporation of a new legal entity in Papua New Guinea, in the name of the International UPC of Papua New Guinea
- To approve C. Wayne Shrum as furlough replacement for Arlie Enis and to deputize for his present appointment following the return of Arlie Enis to the field

John Paul Hughes Appointed as RFS of Africa

J. P. and June Hughes had labored in Africa for eleven years. During this time they served in seven nations of Africa and visited many other nations. John and June Hughes spent part of their time in Africa serving as furlough replacements, which enhanced their contributions to so many different African countries. Wherever Brother and Sister Hughes had ministered, they had been respected and appreciated.

When the FMB considered the proper man to serve as the next RFS in Africa, they felt that Brother Hughes was God's man to fill this important role. June Hughes was a beautiful Christian lady and totally dedicated to God's work. Together they made a great team to serve our missionaries in Africa and to serve our national churches in that region.⁸³⁸

Garry Tracy Appointed as RFS of Asia

When God saw fit to take our beloved George Shalm home to his eternal reward, it became necessary to find a new RFS for the Asian Region, which contained over half of the world's population. The Asian Region was one of the most unevangelized areas of the world. How important it was that God would help to find the right man for this challenge!

After the FMB considered different possibilities, they felt that Garry Tracy was God's man to fill this important role. Garry Tracy came from the Atlantic District and was a Canadian citizen. He and his family spent two terms in Pakistan. At the beginning of his first term he was involved in completing the

⁸³⁸ "New Regional Field Supervisors Assume Leadership," *Pentecostal Herald* (March 1989): 11.

Bible school construction in Lahore. Eventually they moved to Islamabad, where they opened a new work in that capital city.

Garry and Susan Tracy had made a tremendous contribution to the work in Pakistan and their ministerial experience, both in Canada and in Pakistan, had well prepared them for this important place of leadership. Susan Tracy was a beautiful Christian lady who had faithfully stood beside her husband throughout his missionary work and ministry.⁸³⁹

Future Missionary—by Birth

- Melinda Danae, to the Jim Poitrases—March 2, 1989

Death of Glenn Bogue

After considerable pastoral experience in Gary, Indiana, from May 1939, to June 1952, Glenn and Iris Bogue went to Australia to serve as pioneer missionaries from 1953 to 1970. Through these anointed servants of the Lord many valuable contacts were made; some of the people who came to this beautiful truth during that early time are now the leaders of the UPC of Australia.

Glenn and Iris Bogue faced great hardship and considerable opposition as they proclaimed the Jesus Name message in that nation, but God gave them outstanding victory. Their zeal, enthusiasm, wisdom, and understanding made a tremendous contribution to the establishing of the Australian church. This truth was planted, and the UPC in Australia is a strong, growing church with many thriving assemblies.

After returning to the United States, Brother Bogue pastored the United Pentecostal Assembly of Bloomington, Indiana, from October 1970 to his death on Sunday, December 17, 1989, at age seventy-six. The memorial service was held at the United Pentecostal Assembly on Wednesday, December 20, 1989. We are grateful for the beautiful Christian life of Glenn Bogue and the outstanding example he was in so many ways.⁸⁴⁰

Death of Audrene Hruza Scism⁸⁴¹

Audrene Hruza Scism, wife of FM Director Harry Scism, died on October 31, 1989, at fifty-four years of age. As a teenager, she received the Holy Ghost in a revival at the First PC in Rupert, Idaho, under Pastor Carl W. Adams. Soon after this experience, she attended Pentecostal Bible Institute in Tupelo, Mississippi, for two years. In 1956 she graduated from Conquerors Bible College in Portland, Oregon. On July 5 of that year, she and Harry E. Scism were married as the closing event of the 1956 Northwestern District camp meeting in Bend, Oregon. Shortly thereafter, she went with her husband as a missionary to India.

For more than thirty-three years she served as a faithful and loyal companion to her husband, who was first a missionary to India and Southern Asia, then RFS of Asia and the Pacific, and for thirteen years, and until her death, the general director of Foreign Missions for the UPCI. Throughout the years she complemented her husband's ministry. She saw the development of a tremendous church in India and a great expansion of missionary outreach into 124 nations around the world. Hundreds of thousands of believers were affected by her early promotion from this life.

"Arriving in India as a missionary wife, the Ladies Auxiliary eventually provided Audrene a refrigerator. She stretched forth her hands and her heart to the poor and the needy."

Approximately eight hundred attended her funeral, including 135 ministers and forty-five missionary families, members of the FMB, and many general officials of the UPCI. The world grieved over the loss of Audrene Scism.

⁸³⁹ Ibid.

⁸⁴⁰ "Death of Glen Bogue," *Global Witness* (May–June 1990): 8.

⁸⁴¹ J. L. Hall, "In Memoriam," *Pentecostal Herald* (January 1990): 9.

1990, a New Decade and a New Challenge

As the curtain rose on 1990, it was apparent that God was bringing the church into a new era. In 1972 T. F. Tenney said:

For this unique time in history, God has designed the United Pentecostal Church with its ultimate objective, “The whole gospel to the whole world.” The agency of this church He has designed to reach into the regions beyond is your Foreign Missions Division. God is allowing the United Pentecostal Church International the privilege of stepping through the doors of nations to climax His plan. We could well be living in the generation to whom our Lord addressed Himself when He said, “This generation shall not pass away until all these things be fulfilled.” These are the days of full restoration of the apostolic church, of the fulfillment of Joel 2, “I will pour out of my Spirit on all flesh.” Nations are set on collision courses whose only hope is Jesus Christ. Your Foreign Missions Division continues to direct itself toward the total fulfillment of the Great Commission.⁸⁴²

January 1990 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

The FMB discussed specific concerns during its opening session: The complexity of deputation scheduling was becoming a serious problem, along with the growth of the FMD over the past decade, and the rising cost of missionary expenses on the field. The FMB viewed the negatives as a challenge and decided that the short-term answer entailed austere measures concerning the size of the missionary budget, the length of time required to raise the budget, and the overload this extended deputation travel would put on the home church. Major expenditures in some fields included housing, cost of living adjustment, children’s education, missionary benefits, and so on.

The long-term answer was easily recognized. In order for the UPCI to continue to expand around the world, the training of national leaders was essential. As missionaries poured the seeds of the gospel message and an understanding of God’s Word into the hearts of nationals, the seed was rapidly taking root, growing, and bearing fruit. Nationals preached not only to their own people, but also in many cases took the message to other tribes, races, and nations. Therefore the focus of the decade had been and would continue to be training national ministers. Along with the general order of business, the following decisions were made:

- To approve Brother and Sister Eddie Larkins as AIMers to Ecuador under Stuart Lassetter’s supervision
- To approve the Stephen Wheelers to move from Kenya to Tanzania
- To conduct the 1991 SOM at the YMCA of the Ozarks in Potosi, Missouri
- To add Argentina to Dennis Burgess’s field of appointment
- To change Michael Sponsler’s appointment from Argentina to Ecuador effective in early summer 1990
- To change Gary Landaw’s appointment from Trinidad to Puerto Rico
- To conduct ongoing reviews with Sidney Perdue regarding the uncertain political conditions in Colombia, the status of the church, and their personal feelings regarding their continued involvement in this field
- To approve the Michael Seymours to move to Peru for an additional year of service
- To authorize the registration of the UPC in Yugoslavia
 - To name Samuel Balca as superintendent of the UPC of Yugoslavia
 - To grant permission to solicit up to \$50,000 for acquiring a headquarters/Bible school facility in Yugoslavia
 - To name Jerry Andrasike as assistant superintendent of the UPC of Yugoslavia

⁸⁴² T. F. Tenney, “Annual Report to the General Board,” September 1972.

- To replace the PIM bonus with a furlough allowance of \$125 per month for each month of service abroad effective February 28, 1990
- To approve Roscoe Seay to remain in Jordan as a furlough replacement for Gary Reed and postpone his going to the South Pacific until the end of this assignment
- To approve Mark Starins to remain in Cypress as a base of operation for 1990
- To approve a convention center to be built in Iquitos, Peru, as a memorial to Arthur Downing with funds provided from the Downing family
- To authorize the First UPC of San Jose, California, to plan and conduct a crusade in San Jose, Costa Rica, in February 1991

James Burton Honored by the Venezuelan Government

In April 1989, the national board of the UPC of Venezuela had an interview with the minister of Justice and Religious Services. The main reason was to inform the UPC that each church must be registered with the government. The time allotted for the meeting was half an hour, so the fourteen board members were surprised when the meeting stretched into an hour and a half. At this point Dr. Caballero, the minister of justice, stood up, looked at James Burton, and said, “The government of Venezuela has decided to honor you for your twenty-seven years of services rendered to the Venezuelan people.” This statement came as a complete surprise; no Protestant missionary had ever been honored for working among the Venezuelan people.

On August 11, in the conference room of the minister of justice, a very formal but emotional meeting was held in honor of James Burton. Attendees included Dr. Caballero and Dr. Pulgar, representing the Ministry of Workers, several government ministers and lawyers, the UPC National Board with many of their wives, and several others who worked closely with Brother Burton. Dr. Caballero spoke of James Burton’s outstanding services to the Venezuelan people and how the country needed more men who would dedicate their lives to see others become model citizens. Dr. Pulgar read the formal act written by President Carlos Andres Perez then and presented Brother Burton with a beautiful silver medal, the second highest award given in Venezuela for outstanding achievements.

After the ceremony, some seventy-five people attended a private reception at Hotel Tamanaco. At the close of the reception the lawyer for the UPC, who was Dr. Caballero’s son, sat down beside Brother Burton and said, “When you asked me to take care of the church’s legal problems, I was happy to do it, but you were just another client. However, in these six months something has happened to me! I am going to have to make a decision. Pray for me.” Then with tears in his eyes he got up and left. The Lord was beginning to touch the hearts of men and women in government posts.⁸⁴³

News Flashes to Usher in the Next Decade⁸⁴⁴

“Worldline” was a page in the *Pentecostal Herald* that gave news briefs of happenings on the foreign field. These became important to missions services and were used as prayer reminders by the intercessors praying for missionaries.

Southern South America: As the new decade opened, Argentina sponsored a “first” for the southern zone of South America. National pastors and missionaries from Argentina, Chile, Paraguay, and Uruguay met for a power-packed, Spirit-filled subregional conference with R. E. Henson of Flint, Michigan, as the speaker. God used RFS Robert Norris to inspire the missionary family, and pastors who attended the conference reported that the excellent spirit continued in the services of the local churches.

⁸⁴³ Gail Burton, “Missionary Honored by the Venezuelan Government,” *Pentecostal Herald* (November 1989): 14.

⁸⁴⁴ “Foreign Missions Worldline,” *Pentecostal Herald* (January 1990): 13.

Paraguay: A new church in San Lorenzo was dedicated. After holding services in the pastor's home for several years, the missionaries were thankful they could finally purchase property for this local assembly. Twenty-eight first-time visitors attended a two-week revival there.

Guyana: Devon and Joy Dawson reported a tremendous spirit of unity among the ministers and saints in Guyana, with revival as a by-product. Two national preachers held a crusade in Queenstown, Essequibo, where eleven received the Holy Ghost. Twenty-five were ready for water baptism. During a six-night crusade in Enterprise with Steve Heintze of Maryland, twenty-five received the Holy Ghost. In Orealla Village, seventeen received the Holy Ghost, six were baptized, and a blind lady received her sight. In the capital city of Georgetown, seventeen received the Holy Ghost and twenty-five were baptized in Jesus' name.

San Cristobal, Venezuela: Lonnie Burton sponsored a sectional convention where over 2,500 gathered and many received the Holy Ghost. The ministry was highly anointed and the spirit of worship was fantastic. In a youth convention in Cumana with four hundred present, seventeen received the Holy Ghost. In another youth convention where 250 people gathered, ten received the Holy Ghost. For twelve years Lonnie and Gail Burton had concentrated their efforts in eastern Venezuela, where there had been only four churches. Now there were thirty-one.

Middle East: While Gary and Linda Reed were on furlough in 1990, the spirit of revival continued. Furlough replacement Roscoe Seay reported that he baptized twelve more in the name of Jesus. Most of these had received the Holy Ghost.

Worldline for March 1990

Liberia: Due to the volatile political climate in Liberia, the national conference was cancelled. However, Joe Perry of Houston, Texas, who was scheduled to preach the conference, held several services in Monrovia and Bomi Hills. Over twenty received the Holy Ghost in these services.

Cameroon: Terry and Cheryl Riddick received a tent to be used for evangelistic services provided by the funds generated at the 1988 General Conference. Approximately eighty-five received the Holy Ghost and 106 were baptized in Jesus' name through the tent ministry.⁸⁴⁵

Compassion Services—February 1990

The General Board designated the second Sunday in February to promote CSI. All over the world, crises arise; the aftermath of disaster brings starvation, sickness, homelessness and destitution. The pleas of the impoverished overwhelm our missionaries with the need to clothe, feed, treat, and shelter them. Providing relief is an integral part of reaching souls with God's saving love. Through CSI, the UPCI responds to the physical needs of the world, and doing so opens doors of opportunity to bring them the true message of salvation and love of Jesus Christ. As of February 1990 over twenty-one nations had witnessed the love for God as we gave and worked to relieve their suffering.⁸⁴⁶

Death of George Glass, Sr.

A funeral service for George L. Glass Sr. was held at the First PC of DeRidder, Louisiana, on March 20, 1990. Brother Glass was eighty years of age when he died on Saturday, March 17, 1990, in the Beauregard Memorial Hospital in DeRidder. Burial was at the Woodlawn Cemetery. N. A. Urshan, T. F. Tenney, C. E. Cooley, and Rex D. Johnson officiated.

Rex Johnson was quoted in the *Beauregard Daily News*: "To know George Glass Sr. was to know the epitome of Christianity. He was exemplary in every facet of life in representing his Jesus Christ. The greatest trait he possessed was his tremendous kindness to others. He was a giant among his peers and a father to us all."⁸⁴⁷

⁸⁴⁵ Terry Riddick, "Cameroon," *Pentecostal Herald* (March 1990): 7.

⁸⁴⁶ J. S. Leaman, "Loving God in Word and Deed," *Global Witness* (January–February 1990): 4.

⁸⁴⁷ Ben Darby, "Rev. Glass' Rites Today at 2 PM," *Beauregard Daily News* (March 20, 1990): 1.

Brother Glass held many prominent positions with the UPCI, including a pastoral post on the FMB, the UPCI's first secretary, and then as Brother Stairs's assistant. He also served as the director of Home Missions, district superintendent, district secretary, district Home Missions director, a member of the UPCI Executive Board and the General Board and, at the time of his death, was an honorary member of the General Board and the Louisiana District board.

World Fellowship Conference in Amsterdam

More than seven hundred people and delegates from seventy-six nations rejoiced in the Lord Jesus at the Fourth World Fellowship Conference in Amsterdam, Holland, on February 21–24, 1990. The presence of the Lord anointed and blessed the conference with outstanding preaching, worship, and unity. Although the conference services were simultaneously translated into several languages, the Spirit transcended the translations to bring fresh faith and inspiration to all.

The conference was outstanding in many ways. First, the time and place of the conference brought it near the political, social, and economic transition being experienced in the nations of Eastern Europe that had languished for more than forty years under Communist repression. All of Europe needed spiritual renewal, and the conference participants sensed that the time was ripe to expand their efforts throughout the Continent. In response to this urgent need, the participants pledged to give more than \$160,000 for evangelistic work in Eastern Europe.

Second, a sense of dedication and direction reflected a maturing of the church worldwide. In relating their burden and vision, national leaders revealed their commitment not only to Jesus Christ and the gospel message but also to evangelize the people in their nations.

Third, for the first time ever a Oneness delegate from the Soviet Union attended the World Fellowship Conference. Dimitry Shatrov, pastor of the church in Leningrad, his wife, and an interpreter attended the entire conference. Brother Shatrov reported that he knew of 238 Oneness Pentecostal churches with a combined membership of about 27,000. These churches were located throughout the various republics, and at least one of them had a membership of about one thousand.⁸⁴⁸

Andrew D. Urshan Memorial Building

The headquarters and Bible school building for the UPC of France was designated as the Andrew D. Urshan Memorial Building in honor of a great pioneer of the gospel. This facility in metropolitan Paris contained a church sanctuary seating four hundred, ten classrooms, four offices, a printing room, a sound room, a conference room, a kitchen, a stockroom, and a fellowship/dining hall. The building was dedicated in February 1990, following the World Fellowship Conference.⁸⁴⁹

Madagascar, Mexico, and Zimbabwe

The March 1990 *Pentecostal Herald* reported advances on several world fronts. The first Muslim was converted in the northern capital of Diego Suarez, Madagascar. According to Lloyd Scott, this predominantly Muslim city contained twelve mosques.

Also from Madagascar, David Flowers reported that Bible school students had been sent out under various evangelistic programs and over one hundred were baptized in Jesus' name and filled with the Holy Ghost. Most of these were in brand new congregations. Brother Flowers visited a new work in Tsinjoarivo and saw twenty-five converts baptized in one service.

A new work of approximately thirty people was initiated in San Antonia, Mexico, among the Indian culture. Missionary Tony Smith walked three miles into the mountains to hold services and at times faced

⁸⁴⁸ J. L. Hall, "A Report of the World Fellowship Conference," *Pentecostal Herald* (June 1990): 3–4.

⁸⁴⁹ J. S. Leaman, "The Andrew D. Urshan Memorial Building," *Global Witness* (September–October 1990): 3.

danger, but they felt God's protection. Nine were baptized in Jesus' name. They had purchased property and planned to build a church there.

From Zimbabwe C. H. Abernathy reported that seventeen were baptized and two received the Holy Ghost in a new area. The Abernathys had recently arrived and were anxious to see the work mature under their leadership.

Pakistan

Pakistan, a nation threatened by war and torn by internal strife, had experienced a great revival in the 1970s when thousands were baptized and filled with the Holy Ghost and many signs and wonders confirmed the spoken Word. Although many were converted in the 1980s, this decade was primarily dedicated to organizing and consolidating the work. However, God still moved in miraculous ways. The Karachi, Pakistan, crusade serves as an example.

During the Twelfth Annual Karachi Convention in 1990, a citywide crusade was held in this city of ten million people. Pakistani brethren were challenged to raise their own convention expenses instead of depending on a guest speaker to sponsor the event. Although the nation's average annual per capita income was equal to about \$350, they responded in a very positive manner, raising almost Rs. 21,000, or \$1,000, which would be like raising \$21,000 in North America.

Robert Mitchell from Houston, Texas, was the guest speaker. Each night crowds of approximately two thousand filled the building with many standing in the hallways and outside. Georgene Shalm, standing in the doorway during a particular service, said, "There were so many people pushing and shoving to get inside to be prayed for that it felt like the occasion in the Bible where four friends brought a man to be prayed for but because of the crush of the crowd they had to remove the roof to get him close to Jesus."

The Pakistani churches had been fasting and praying, and the results were evident. People worshiped and the Spirit moved through the building in waves. Although they had planned to call people to a special side room to receive the Holy Ghost, the crowd was too great; before Brother Mitchell finished preaching, people swarmed the altar area, receiving the Holy Ghost.

Many outstanding miracles occurred. A lady who had been in constant pain for thirteen years was instantly healed. A small child who had never walked was miraculously healed and walked across the platform. A twelve-year-old boy with a withered and deformed leg who had never walked was prayed for, and the leg straightened and became normal. Superintendent Donald D. Hanscom and RFS Garry Tracy witnessed the miracles. Eighteen were baptized in Jesus' name. Many doors were being opened in Pakistan.⁸⁵⁰

More New Missionaries

Jonathan Ray Burton was born to Lonnie and Gail Burton on May 23, 1990, in Venezuela. He was their third child.

Jason Michael was born to Richard and Jean Lucas on August 28, 1990, in Japan. He was their third son.

May 1990 Foreign Missions Board

The FMB felt a strong sense of responsibility not only to each political entity of the world but also to each distinct ethnic group. The board felt that any national church government structure should display

⁸⁵⁰ Alan Shalm, "Great Things in Pakistan," *Pentecostal Herald* (September 1990): 12.

a genuine concern for its own population and create workable evangelistic programs that would include all such groups.⁸⁵¹

Other decisions included the following:

- To reschedule regional retreats.
 - Asia 1992
 - Europe/MidEast and Africa 1993
 - Central America/Caribbean and South America 1994
 - Pacific July 30–August 1, 1991, in Fiji
- To express the FMB’s appreciation to Robert D. and Jeanne Norris—resigning because of his ill health—for their years of service as RFS for South America.
- To express the FMB’s appreciation to James and Billie Dotson for their many years of service upon their resignation from FM service due to severe health problems.
- To recommend that the U.S.S.R. be added to William Turner’s appointment and that he be encouraged to study Russian in anticipation of future involvement in that field, but that the Turners continue in Korea until September 1991.

Summer Missions Teams

The Summer Missions Team, sponsored by the Youth Division, traveled to Russia. They visited the Kazan Cathedral and conducted an outdoor service. The pitiful state of the country made it evident that the Communist promises of equality and shared wealth had never materialized. Instead, everything was old and in a state of disrepair. People struggled to survive.

In Leningrad, 250- to 275-year-old architectural wonders were remnants of the resplendent community that used to be. But everywhere the team members went, they saw that the most obvious loss under Communism had been spiritual. When SMT members jumped from the bus in Leningrad Square singing “Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus,” a curious crowd quickly gathered to experience a Pentecostal service for the first time. C. M. Becton, Jerry Jones, and Darrell Johns represented the UPCI in an outstanding way. What a thrill to see sixteen people baptized in the lake, including Tamra, the precious lady serving as the interpreter for the group!⁸⁵²

Mexico History

In 1986 the UPC work in Mexico had suffered a major setback when they lost a considerable number of members in the Northern District. However, Superintendent T. Wynn Drost reported:

We now [have] 4,111 baptized members, seventy-six licensed ministers, sixty-four established churches, and twenty-five new missions or preaching points.

It took eight years for the work in Mexico to go from zero to 1507 members in 1987. The first missionary commissioned by the United Pentecostal Church International was Johnny Willhoite who went to Mexico in 1979. After that the Richard Eatons were appointed in 1981. Both of these brethren later went to labor in other areas for the Lord.

Since 1987 we have seen a tremendous increase in Mexico, with an average growth of 140.4% each year! If we continue this rate of growth, we will have over 20,000 members in all of Mexico . . . by 1995. I personally believe that we will do it!⁸⁵³

⁸⁵¹ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (May 14–18, 1990).

⁸⁵² Mark Christian, “Summer Missions Team,” *Pentecostal Herald* (December 1990): 4.

⁸⁵³ T. Wynn Drost, “Revival Fires Burn in Mexico,” *Global Witness* (September–October 1990): 4.

It is interesting to note that considerable growth had resulted when the work in Mexico was divided into districts. At the same time more missionaries arrived in Mexico: Michael Edge in 1984, T. Wynn Drost in 1985, Craig and Tony Smith in 1989, and Gary Sones and Paul Pool in 1990.

Bophuthatswana's New Chapel

Wilma Ruth Nix reported that the Lord provided an unused convent chapel for the work in Mafikeng, Bophuthatswana. The chapel's beautiful interior was enhanced with a marble floor platform.

The first service at the new location was attended by both the past and present RFSs and their wives, E. L. and Nona Freeman and J. P. and June Hughes. The field superintendent and his wife, Don and Sharon Ikerd, were also there.

Recently a lady from India received the Holy Ghost while worshiping at her seat. Her Hindu husband was also attending regularly.⁸⁵⁴

Twenty-three Students Graduate in Sri Lanka

On October 27, 1989, twenty-three students successfully completed the three-month United Pentecostal Bible College in Colombo, Sri Lanka. The following courses were offered: Life of Christ, Bible Doctrine, Acts, History of Pentecost, Missions, Evangelism, Ministry, and Christian Living. The instructors were Field Superintendent Don Hanscom, E. J. Corcoran, Prince Mathiasz, AIMER Don David Hanscom, and national pastors D. Jonathan and Sena Karadeniya.

The general body of the UPC of Sri Lanka was very grateful to the UPCI, especially to the Ladies Auxiliary and the FMD, for support in training nationals.⁸⁵⁵

Bible School in Mbabane, Swaziland, Dedicated to Paul Box

During the summer of 1990 the beautiful headquarters church and Bible school facility in Mbabane, Swaziland, Africa, was being constructed under Mack Carpenter's supervision. The facility would be dedicated to the memory of Paul H. Box, who served as the FM secretary from 1956 to 1975. Brother Box was known as the missionaries' friend.⁸⁵⁶

October 1990 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

The erratic world economy was affecting missionaries' budgets. Housing costs were constantly on the rise as well as education costs for their children. Nathaniel A. Urshan, general superintendent of the UPCI, met with the FMB to pledge his total support, insisting that the church must continue to send missionaries. The board made the following decisions:

- To approve Loice Sparks to go to Malawi
- To add the U.S.S.R. to Harold Kinney's appointment
- To change of field for Jimmy Hall from Liberia to South Africa
- To change of field for Timothy Simoneaux to Botswana
- To add Madagascar to Don Clenney's appointment
- To transfer the funds in the Maggio estate account to the Milano building project
- To change of field for Pierre Mahautiere to Dominican Republic
- To approve T. Wynn Drost to move to Mexico as requested in his letter of March 18, 1990

⁸⁵⁴ Wilma Ruth Nix, "Bophuthatswana Has New Chapel," *Global Witness* (July–August 1990): 3.

⁸⁵⁵ Prince Mathiasz, "Twenty-three Graduate in Sri Lanka," *The Pentecostal Herald* (April 1990): 21.

⁸⁵⁶ J. S. Leaman, "The Paul Box Memorial Building," *Global Witness* (July–August 1990): 8.

- To recommend T. Wynn Drost as president of the UPC in Mexico effective in February 1991, the time of the national committee meeting
- To recommend Michael Edge as vice president of the UPC in Mexico effective February 1991
- To recommend Alex Marquez as secretary of the UPC in Mexico effective February 1991

The board discussed overseas Bible schools working with North American Bible schools in order to qualify their course offerings, making credits transferable so that national students could receive diplomas or degrees from North American Bible schools. The consensus was to leave the matter in the hands of the individual foreign Bible schools to communicate with whatever North American schools they wished. Since the FMD did not dictate the curricula of the overseas Bible schools, the matter was better handled by the foreign Bible schools themselves.⁸⁵⁷

Missionaries Are More Than Pastors of Local Churches

Another matter of concern was missionaries serving as pastors of local churches on the foreign field. The discussion was summarized in the following statement:

There needs to be a flexible policy. Missionaries should not limit their goal to establishing and continuing to pastor a singular church but rather to work from the beginning to place nationals in pastoral roles and constantly work towards outreach, church planting, training of workers and thrusting them into the harvest according to II Timothy 2:2. The concept must be varied in urban or rural settings. As a generalization, the longer a missionary serves in a pastoral role over a single congregation, the more difficult it becomes to find a qualified replacement. Missionary pastorship weakens the financial structure of the local church and further creates a condition resulting in a traumatic time of transition from a missionary to a national pastor. Full consideration should be given to the Pauline method.⁸⁵⁸

Other decisions included the following:

- To add Malaysia to Rodger White's appointment
- To change of field for Paul Suber to include Ghana along with Togo/Benin
- To adjust Else Lund's appointment to include Liberia and Ghana
- To add Cuba to Gary Landaw's appointment along with Puerto Rico
- To recommend Robert K. Rodenbush as RFS for Europe/Middle East
- To recommend James M. Burton as RFS for South America [These RFS changes for Europe/Middle East and South America are implemented as chapter 10 begins.]
- To approve that retiring RFSs' PIMs be automatically transferred to their successors
- To recommend Robert Frizzell's appointment to Southern Asia
- To recommend Danny A. Wilkerson's appointment as assistant missionary to Haiti
- To recommend Darrell Geissler's appointment as missionary at large to Spanish-speaking fields
- To recommend Arlon R. Royer's appointment to Kenya
- To approve Mack Carpenter's request for additional finance to liquidate the obligations on the Paul Box Memorial with regular disbursements throughout 1991

⁸⁵⁷ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (September 21–October 2, 1990).

⁸⁵⁸ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 24, 1990).

1990 General Conference—New Orleans, Louisiana

The FM director's report reflected the abundant blessings of God during the previous year. He attributed much of the advancement to the wealth of experience and years of ministry represented on the FMB. The annual field reports showed that 1,733 new churches and preaching points were established. The overseas constituency increased by 29,988, making a total of 901,920 constituents attending 11,855 churches and preaching points outside of North America. He reported that 65,237 were baptized in Jesus' name and 56,917 received the Holy Ghost.

There were 313 missionaries under full appointment and 136 AIMers, making a total of 449 missionaries resident in seventy-six nations. National churches were established in an additional forty-eight nations, giving a total missionary outreach in 124 nations of the world. Working with the missionaries were 7,622 licensed national ministers.

Foreign Missions Finance

The sacrificial giving of the North American pastors resulted in another record-breaking year with 89.4 percent of churches cooperating with the FM program. The monthly average income from PIM subscriptions was \$733,951. The annual average offering from contributing churches was \$3,743.34. Contributions from churches and individuals in this fiscal year reached a record-setting total of \$12,190,080, a figure that included direct offerings given to missionaries on deputation. The Youth Division gave \$427,090 from SFC, and the Ladies Auxiliary gave \$257,000 from Mothers Memorial, bringing the total income for the fiscal year to \$12,874,170.

Two Hundred Fifty-nine Training Programs

For many years the FMD had placed great emphasis on training national ministers. Because the missionaries had trained thousands of nationals, evangelism resulted in thousands being baptized. The annual report listed seventy-nine Bible schools and 180 seminars, making a total of 259 training programs. There were 2,149 students attending structured Bible school classes plus 8,360 students in short-term seminars, making a total of 10,423 preparing for the work of God.

Compassion Services International

The North American church's response to the world's social needs made it possible to meet these needs in nineteen nations. The income for CSI was \$86,300, which provided food for the hungry, clothing for the destitute, help with medicine and supplies, assistance for children's education, flood and hurricane relief, and many other desperate needs around the world.

November 1990 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

With the business of the FMD growing exponentially, the need for administrative help between sessions became increasingly necessary. The answer for this need was addressed through a motion by FMB member D. D. Davis:

Resolved that the Foreign Missions Board transfers to the FM Administrative Committee the following binding powers:

1. To prepare and adopt all necessary resolutions concerning housing allowance provisions as set forth by the Internal Revenue Code for all missionaries living on the foreign field.
2. To prepare and adopt all necessary resolutions concerning housing allowance provisions as set forth by the Internal Revenue Code for all missionaries on deputation.

3. To prepare and adopt all necessary resolutions concerning other income tax matters related to the missionary on the foreign field and/or while on deputation.
4. To establish policy and procedure to implement and operate according to any resolution adopted by the FM Administrative Committee as empowered by the Foreign Missions Board in dealing with the Internal Revenue Code and related income tax matters.⁸⁵⁹

Additional action during the November 1990 session was as follows:

- To change T. J. Marshall's appointment from the Philippines to Greece
- To change William J. Markham's appointment from Brazil to Portugal
- To add the Middle East to Arlie R. Enis's appointment
- To recommend Tom Bracken as official representative of the UPCI to the Republic of China (Taiwan)
- To authorize Christian Life College, under the direction of Kenneth Haney, to establish a Bible college in Japan, the oversight, administration, and finance of which should be shared between the FMD (through the FM director) and the RFS for Asia
- To resolve that the RFSs' compensation regarding self-employment tax, budget fee payment, and health insurance be adjusted to conform with the WEC scale for the director of promotion and publications

Missionaries by Birth and Marriage

Anthony Jared Thompson was born to Brad and Regina Thompson of Guatemala on November 13, 1990.

Nathaniel Sedra was born to Mokhles and Teresa Sedra in Egypt on February 19, 1990.

On June 2 in Nairobi, Darlene Kantola, missionary to Kenya, married Arlon Royer, pastor of Truth Tabernacle, Marysville, California.

Death of L. William Schmidt

In October 1982, L. William Schmidt had been appointed as a member of the FMB and served for eight years, during which he spent fifteen hundred hours in board sessions.

Brother Schmidt's physical condition began to deteriorate, and his loss of strength became noticeable. Even so, he attended the board meetings during the 1990 General Conference in New Orleans.

Three weeks later he came to the SOM at Carlinville, Illinois, and attended most of the board sessions even though it was difficult for him to walk. On the last night of the SOM he spoke to the missionaries in attendance. He loved missionaries, and he was pleased that his own daughter and son-in-law had served on the mission field.

On November 23, just three weeks after speaking at the SOM, Brother Schmidt passed from this life. Nathaniel A. Urshan, general superintendent of the UPCI, conducted the funeral service held at Calvary Tabernacle, Indianapolis, Indiana, on November 27.

Many affectionately called Brother Schmidt the "German Shepherd." He was known as a man of prayer, for he prayed faithfully every day for our missionaries and for the ministers of the gospel around the world. He had manifested integrity, humility, and compassion, and his love for God and the church had touched many lives.⁸⁶⁰

⁸⁵⁹ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (November 2, 1990): 8.

⁸⁶⁰ Mervyn Miller, "In Memoriam," *Global Witness* (March–April 1991): 8.

A New Church for Ivory Coast

When Edward D. Tiller, the forty-six-year-old brother-in-law of Amelia Allard, died, his family, Pastor Ron Mullings, and Truth Tabernacle in Bakersfield, California, donated the funds to build a lovely new church building in Gagnoa, Ivory Coast, in lieu of giving flowers as a memorial to this soul winner.

Prior to this the church in Gagnoa had been meeting in Pastor Dominique's home. Pastor Dominique was a very poor man who lived by faith. The Lord had blessed his congregation with a church organ and other instruments sent to them by boat from a group in Holland. Everything they had had been received through faith in God. Pastor Dominique was an example to his church in fasting and prayer.

Gagnoa was in a predominantly Muslim area, and the Muslims, along with other church groups, wanted the same property Pastor Dominique wanted, so a battle began for the property. But the church prayed and the pastor was determined. In the end, Pastor Dominique and his church were the winners, and they received the land free of charge!

During the church construction when Muslims passed the building, they turned their heads and spat. Some, however, told Pastor Dominique that he had courage.

Thankful for their new building, the Gagnoan church grew rapidly. It would have been years before they could have built a church building in this area, but the death of a soul winner in Bakersfield, California, brought life to many in Gagnoa, Ivory Coast. The pastor and church family expressed appreciation to Amelia Allard's sister, her family, Truth Tabernacle in Bakersfield, California, and Pastor Ron Mullings.⁸⁶¹

Compassion Services Make a Difference

Disaster devastated the beautiful Windward Island of Guadeloupe and reduced whole blocks of houses to rubble. The UPC pastored by Wilson St. Cyr was totally destroyed; the only thing left standing was a woebegone toilet. The church fans lay in a ravine where the winds had tossed them. Henry Ritchie, missionary to the Windward Islands, distributed food packages. They seemed like so little for so many, yet the supplies were a lifesaver.

Where do you turn for help after such a disaster? If you are a UPCI missionary, you turn to CSI, which sent funds to the Windward Islands to help the people and to help rebuild the church building that had been destroyed. Thanks to CSI, Pastor St. Cyr could again shelter his flock inside a church building. In fact, their new building was considerably stronger and better than it had been. The Lord brought some good out of the bad. The missionaries thanked CSI, the humanitarian arm of FMD.⁸⁶²

Looking Ahead to the Decade of Success

At the close of 1990, while it seemed to be true that the sun never set on the UPCI, there was so much yet to do! Millions remained unreached. Missionaries struggled with the astronomical rise in the cost of operations overseas. Inflation and the low dollar value in many countries forced missionary budgets higher and added grueling weeks of deputation. But consistent efforts somehow met the financial challenges.

When the door to Eastern Europe had suddenly opened, the challenge was so vast that few could comprehend it. Those looking forward to the new Decade of Success felt that the greatest day for world evangelism was just ahead. Churches worldwide made plans to evangelize new nations. Those involved knew there had to be a greater thrust of the harvest sickle than ever before! They expected mighty harvests in areas that had been closed to the church, especially the Muslim countries. They had faith that as Eastern Europe had opened, so would the Middle Eastern countries.

⁸⁶¹ "New Church for the Ivory Coast," *Global Witness* (July–August 1990): 7.

⁸⁶² Sharon Ritchie, "CSI Brings Some Good from the Bad," *Global Witness* (November–December 1990): 7.

In 1975 T. F. Tenney wrote:

As we rejoice [over our foreign missions accomplishments] what can we say of the silent millions in lands where freedom is greatly restricted? We constantly hear reports where even amidst political and governmental suppression the Truth moves on under severe restrictions. Constantly we understand that their faithfulness has produced fruitfulness. The gates of hell shall not prevail against His church.⁸⁶³

Brother Tenney had urged the church to anticipate future outstanding production as it fulfilled its mandate to make disciples. Indeed, subsequent annual reports indicated that the UPCI was an effective sower of the gospel and would expend every effort to penetrate the most remote areas to plant the seeds of truth. As the missionary family expanded despite world tensions and economic crises, stateside support increased. World evangelism demanded that every believer be dedicated to the task of propagating the whole gospel to the whole world.

⁸⁶³ T. F. Tenney, "Annual Report to the General Board," October 1975.

❧ Chapter 10 ❧

The Decade of Success: 1991–2000

As the Decade of Success dawned, the UPCI constituency abroad had exceeded the one million mark. Missionary work had undergone strategic changes: where evangelization had been the past priority with mission stations as the standard strategy, ministerial training and leadership development were now top priorities. During the Decade of Service veteran missionaries had advised and implemented these strategic adjustments. Many mission fields were achieving maturity, and national leaders would now assume more and more administrative responsibility.

These accomplishments and blessings came about despite increasing world tensions and tremendous economic crises. United Pentecostals everywhere gave themselves anew to the task of propagating the whole gospel to the whole world. No compiled statistics or rosters could tell the full story; what really happened must be understood in terms of the courage, sacrifice, and dedicated service of missionaries and national workers around the world.

While the church exuberantly rejoiced at the outpouring of God's blessings, thousands in lands where freedom was greatly restricted had to rejoice silently. Reports of great advances of the kingdom abounded, even under political and governmental suppression. The faithfulness of the international family in unrestricted lands had produced fruitfulness in restricted lands. The gates of hell could not prevail against His church!

Worldwide political unrest, financial upheaval, and demonic mayhem demanded a sense of urgency. Local North American churches demonstrated their dedication to missions by giving and praying for their missionary partners. Doors of opportunity opening in many lands provided the impetus for maximum endeavor and unprecedented growth patterns.

1991 Begins with Changes in the Foreign Missions Division⁸⁶⁴

In January 1991, two new regional field supervisors assumed their duties: Robert Rodenbush for Europe/Middle East and James Burton for South America. John S. Leaman moved into the position of coordinator of Special Ministries, and Mervyn Miller was chosen as the director of promotion and publications. In addition, Carl Morgan, CPA, joined the FMD staff. In April 1991, Carl Varnell was appointed as the RFS of the Pacific Region.

Robert Rodenbush Appointed as RFS of Europe/Middle East

After serving for nine years, Robert McFarland stepped out of his position as RFS for Europe and the Middle East. He and his wife, Margie, had fostered a tremendous spirit of unity, organized the work in a number of countries, and helped to register the church in several countries.

Robert and Evangeline Rodenbush accepted the challenge of serving as RFS for Europe and the Middle East. In coming years it became evident that God had prepared this couple to accomplish outstanding work in that part of the world. Brother Rodenbush had served for twelve years as coordinator of Special Ministries (formerly Overseas Ministries).

⁸⁶⁴ Harry E. Scism, "The Changing World of Foreign Missions," *Global Witness* (January–February 1991): 5.

James Burton Appointed as RFS of South America

Robert and Jeanne Norris had served as missionaries to Brazil for twenty-three years and as RFS for South America for six years. Brother Norris's physical concerns precipitated his resignation. At this writing, Brother Norris is on the staff of Apostolic Bible Institute and enjoying his teaching ministry there, although his health is deteriorating.

After much consideration, the FMB appointed James Burton as the new RFS for South America. James and Martha Burton had served as missionaries in Venezuela for twenty-nine years, during which time the work grew from a small membership in four congregations to over fourteen hundred congregations.

Brother Burton's knowledge gained from many years of experience strengthened and blessed the church in many South American nations.

John S. Leaman Appointed as Coordinator of Special Ministries

Robert Rodenbush's new appointment as a regional field supervisor left a vacancy in the office of coordinator of Special Ministries. John S. Leaman was appointed to fill this very important position. As a graduate of Apostolic Bible Institute and a pastor for ten years, along with his fifteen-year tenure as director of promotion and publications for the FMD, Brother Leaman was highly qualified for the challenge.

Mervyn D. Miller Chosen as Director of Promotion and Publications

With John S. Leaman stepping into the position of coordinator of Special Ministries, the FM leadership chose Mervyn Miller as the new director of promotion and publications.

Brother Miller's years of pastoral ministry and nine years in printing and publications qualified him to step into the position with confidence.

Mervyn and Marilyn Miller had served as missionaries in the United Kingdom and as superintendent of the European District. Later they served as missionaries to Italy for seven years and as RFS for the Pacific Region. Along with his many other duties, he was to give special attention to promoting Faith Promise.

Carl Morgan Joins the Foreign Missions Family

With ever-increasing income, the FMD workload had grown considerably. A \$12 million budget demanded the most efficient accounting methods and handling of funds. The new appointee would work closely with Edwin Judd, FM secretary, and assist missionaries with their income tax returns, among other duties.

Carl Morgan joined the staff as a full-time executive assistant. A certified public accountant, Brother Morgan's eighteen years of experience in finance and income tax highly qualified him for this responsibility.

His new position at WEC meant a reduced income and benefits for Brother Morgan, but his burden for foreign missions was a deciding factor. His beautiful Christian life and his dedicated expertise and efficiency were answers to prayer.

The Foreign Missions Board of 1991

The members of the January 1991 FMB were Harry E. Scism, general director; Edwin E. Judd, secretary; J. S. Leaman, coordinator of Special Ministries; Mervyn D. Miller, director of promotion and

publications; pastoral members Jimmy Shoemake, B. J. Hurst, W. H. Cole, and D. D. Davis; honorary members Fred Kinzie, F. V. Shoemake, E. L. Freeman, and Robert L. McFarland; and RFSs J. P. Hughes, Africa; Garry Tracy, Asia; H. Glen Smith, Central America/Caribbean; Robert K. Rodenbush, Europe/Middle East; Carl Varnell, Pacific; and James Burton, South America.

The January 1991 Foreign Missions Board Sessions⁸⁶⁵

The following decisions were made during the January 1991 board sessions:

- To recommend William D. Turner as president of the UPC Theological Research Institute of Korea until he leaves the field.
- To recommend David R. Banta as president of the UPC Theological Research Institute of Korea effective upon the departure of William D. Turner from the field.
- To recommend that all missionaries who are U.S. citizens use the FMD income tax return preparation service, that service being currently provided by Carl E. Morgan, CPA.
 - If a missionary elects to prepare his own income tax returns or has some outside tax consultant prepare his returns for him, the board requests that copies of the prepared federal income tax returns be confidentially furnished to Carl E. Morgan for his review to determine whether they contain any elements that are deemed not in accordance with the IRS code, which may cause potential adverse repercussions for the FM family. Carl Morgan and the FMD will work with the missionary in an attempt to resolve said areas of difference.
- To approve the UPC of New Zealand's election of its own superintendent.
- To authorize Bennie L. and Theresa DeMerchant, at the expense of their PIM account, to take Bennie Jr. to North America for medical evaluation and treatment.
- To remove Greece from Mark J. Starin's appointment.
- To add Singapore to R. Steven Willoughby's appointment.
- To recommend William Markham as president of the UPC in Portugal.
- To change Lynden and Allan Shalm's and Stanley Scism's appointments to South Asia rather than specifically stating India and other Asian nations.
- To recommend Carl Varnell as RFS for the Pacific Region but that he continue in his present position as field superintendent of the UPC in the Philippines.
- To decide that RFS Robert Rodenbush and Sam Balca should proceed with plans for a crusade in Russia.

Carl Varnell Appointed as Pacific Regional Field Supervisor

Considerable discussion during the January 1991 board meetings resulted in the appointment of Carl Varnell as RFS for the Pacific Region effective April 1, 1991.

Carl and JoAnn Varnell were outstanding missionaries. Before going to the mission field, Brother Varnell was the Mississippi District FM director. The Varnells served twelve years as missionaries to the Philippine Islands, superintending the work for the last four years. For a short time they had continued to reside in the Philippines while serving as field superintendent of the Philippine church along with his regional work.

⁸⁶⁵ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (January 7–11, 1991).

The Tilleys in Norway

When Eddie and Beverly Tilley arrived in Norway in 1978, they found that the Pentecostal message was not new to that area. In 1906 a Methodist minister from Norway was fund-raising in Chicago when he heard about a Holy Ghost revival in Los Angeles at a mission on Azusa Street. Traveling there, he received his personal Pentecostal experience and upon his return to Norway started a Holy Ghost revival that spread to Sweden, Finland, and all across Europe. But something was lacking.

The Tilleys began to circulate among the Pentecostal churches in an effort to find someone to whom God had revealed the truth of God in Christ. In 1985 they listened to a cassette tape of a Norwegian preaching a message on the oneness of God and, finding that his name was Brother Terkelsen, contacted him. Soon Brother Terkelsen's group began preaching and taking a stand for Oneness. Brother Terkelsen had always baptized his converts in Jesus' name, but his group would not rebaptize anyone who had been baptized with the Trinitarian formula. However, after the Tilleys worked with the group for about a year, they convinced them of the necessity of using Jesus' name in baptism.

In November 1987, eighteen adults were baptized in Jesus' name in a service near Kristiansand, Norway; the first two were Brother Terkelsen and his wife! In a second baptismal service in Oslo, another sixteen adults were baptized, including three ministers. Soon there were close to four hundred people baptized in the Nardus Church group.

People in other countries were affected by the move of God in Norway as the revival of the Name spread.⁸⁶⁶

On Tour with an AIM Evangelist—Special Ministries

This is an example of a tour of one of our Special Ministries evangelists. Frank Munsey arrived in Sao Paulo, Brazil, on January 23, 1991, to preach the Brazilian National Conference. Twenty people received the Holy Ghost, seventeen new ones repented, five backsliders were restored, and many were baptized.

After the conference Brother Munsey traveled with Bennie DeMerchant to Manaus where in one service eleven received the Holy Ghost. Early the next morning they flew in the SFC floatplane 2,500 miles into the interior and saw five filled with the Holy Ghost. They ministered in several home missions churches to encourage the people.

The next stop was Porto Alegre in southern Brazil for a youth convention in Phil Walmer's church. During five wonderful nights of services attended by at least four hundred, twenty-nine people received the Holy Ghost. One of these was a deaf teenager who spoke in tongues just like everyone else who receives the Holy Ghost.

After that meeting Brother Munsey traveled back to Manaus, where he was met by Brother DeMerchant, Crystal Jones, and Lisa Kinderman. These two women were medical doctors who were doing a much-needed work in Manaus. They flew to Manacapuru, a twenty-minute flight, to a large church pastored by Jose Dioniso de Lime. During the service two received the Holy Ghost and several were renewed in the Spirit.

Returning to Manaus, ten received the Holy Ghost on the following Sunday. On Monday evening Brother Munsey spoke at the ministerial seminar attended by more than one hundred pastors, their wives, and workers.

After the seminar Brother Munsey traveled to Belo Horizonte. Twenty-seven people received the Holy Ghost and five new ones were baptized in the evening service in Pastor Joaquin's church. During the final service of the tour the next night, 110 received the Holy Ghost at Pastor Euclides Marciano's church.

⁸⁶⁶ Eddie Tilley, "The Revival of the Name is Spreading," *Global Witness* (January–February 1991): 6.

In six years of traveling for Special Ministries Brother Munsey saw over four thousand filled with the Holy Ghost.⁸⁶⁷

The Work in Fiji, South Pacific

Lee Roy Sherry reported that God was blessing the work in Fiji/South Pacific with many souls being filled with the Holy Ghost and baptized in Jesus' name. He wrote:

We have thirty-six churches with many preaching points in Fiji, plus works in Tonga, American and Western Samoa, Vanuatu, and the Solomon Islands. Yet there are multiplied thousands who really do not know who Jesus is. . . . It is our task to see that they have an opportunity to be filled with the Holy Ghost and buried in the lovely name of Jesus. . . .

One of the best ways I know to propagate the gospel is by teaching the Word of God and training men and women through Bible schools. Our aim is to build a sub-regional college campus in Suva, Fiji, and bring students from the surrounding countries to prepare and train them for the ministry. After two years of training they will return to their respective countries to work for the Lord.⁸⁶⁸

Brazil Bearing Fruit

Since 1956 UPCI missionaries had been sowing seeds of apostolic truth in Brazil. The missionaries studied Portuguese, fasted, and prayed for the seed to grow into a strong national evangelistic church. Some missionaries died of sickness or accidents, and some had to retire, but their sacrifices, labor, and tears remain. How beautiful to see an infant work grow into a strong district! Third-generation Brazilian Pentecostal believers did not know the pioneer missionaries, but they knew the Lord. This would have been impossible without the support from North America.

New ministers were ordained every year in the Brazilian district conferences. During the September 1991 district conference in Amazonas, 184 people received the Holy Ghost, ninety-nine of these in one evening service. In the Sao Paulo district conference with one thousand present, thirty people received the Holy Ghost in the Sunday night service. In the Parana district conference with 450 present, twenty-three people received the Holy Ghost. In Ceara and Para, smaller and newer districts, fourteen more people received their personal Pentecostal experience. Another thirty people received the Holy Ghost during the November 2–4, 1990, weekend in Rio de Janeiro at the Bible school, where thirty-two students graduated.⁸⁶⁹

May 1991 Foreign Missions Board Sessions⁸⁷⁰ Creating the Veterans of Foreign Missions Program

Harry Scism's vision was to establish a new level of missionary activity involving retired missionaries, which would give them continued involvement with foreign missions. When the mechanism had been put together and the proposal prepared, the FMB accepted the organizational structure for the Veterans of Foreign Missions program. The board also made the following decisions:

- To change of field for Ron Sharp from Puerto Rico to Spain
- To recommend Ron L. Sharp as president of the UPC of Spain
- To change of field for Dan Sharp from Germany to Austria

⁸⁶⁷ Frank Munsey, "On Tour with an Associates in Missions Evangelist," *Global Witness* (September–October 1991): 4.

⁸⁶⁸ Lee Roy Sherry, "Fiji: Invest in Eternity," *Global Witness* (March–April 1991): 4.

⁸⁶⁹ Bennie DeMerchant, "Brazil—Revival in Spite of Economic Crisis," *Global Witness* (March–April 1991): 7.

⁸⁷⁰ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (May 13–17, 1991).

- To determine that CSI emergency funds should not be used to repair damaged or destroyed churches in time of crisis; however, this shall not be interpreted as a hard-and-fast rule
- To evacuate all missionaries from Pakistan to take refuge in Canada until the end of the Gulf War
- To appoint Carl Stephenson to represent the FMB on the Steering Committee of Veterans of Foreign Missions

Miracles in Ethiopia

J. P. Hughes, RFS of the African Region, wrote an article for the May/June 1991 *Global Witness*:

Recently we were in two ministers' conferences with Brother Teklemariam from Ethiopia. The ministers and missionaries in Nigeria and Cameroon were blessed by Brother Teklemariam's ministry. During our visits together, he related how God was blessing in Ethiopia. In 1990, the government gave thirteen plots of land in cities and fifty plots of land in the country for church buildings. Three churches have been built with iron sheets for a roof. More than 19,000 were baptized in Jesus' name and filled with the Holy Ghost in the past year.

In July 1990, the people of Borena called forty of the UPC preachers to come and minister. When the brethren began to open their Bibles and testify about the gospel, the people began to shoot at the preachers. However, the bullets of one gun were all duds, and the second gun exploded in the hands of the person who held it. Not one of the preachers was injured.

After the people's plan failed, they decided to accuse the preachers of throwing stones and breaking their guns. Over one hundred people signed the accusations. When the community leader examined the gun, he found that the bullet had stuck in the gun when it exploded. After that the people did not want to go to court, for they knew they would bring trouble upon themselves.

Brother Abera was pastoring five people in a village where the Protestants were afraid of the Oneness people. They believed that if the oneness doctrine was introduced in the area, people would obey the preaching and the other churches would have to close.

The elders of the community decided to get revenge on Brother Abera. Usually the government didn't request married people to go to the war front, but when they needed someone to go from this village, the elders chose Brother Abera because of their desire for revenge.

While he was in training in the People's Militia, one of the trinitarians fired three shots into Brother Abera's chest and then ran away and surrendered to the police. During the shooting Brother Abera was praising God. The Militia and many other people in the area who heard of the shooting were expecting Brother Abera to die. But after they learned that an angel of the Lord and Brother Abera's faith had saved him from the bullets, they all fell to the ground and began to praise and worship the God of Brother Abera. Many have been baptized as a result of this outstanding miracle.⁸⁷¹

Myanmar (Formerly Burma)

The Apostolic message was reaching Myanmar, formerly called Burma. No missionary had been allowed to reside in this land since the 1962 revolution, nor had there ever been a resident apostolic missionary from the western hemisphere in Myanmar. But indigenous citizens were preaching Apostolic truth.

Even though Apostolic Christianity existed in this nation since early 1964, there was no organized body until 1973. J. Ral Buai wrote:

As the Lord had given us a burden in our hearts, we organized the work with a small group of people in the early part of 1973. Since then the message is penetrating into the several ethnic groups such as Lai Chin, Tedim Chin, Shan, Kachin, Bama, Thado-Kuki and Lushai, called Mizo, etc. We are working with ten different ethnic groups in this land with all adherents totaling thirteen thousand souls. Several

⁸⁷¹ J. P. Hughes, "Teklemariam Reports Miracles in Ethiopia," *Global Witness* (May–June 1991): 8.

Oneness Christian groups are coming up through the message proclaimed by the United Pentecostal Church International.⁸⁷²

The UPC of Myanmar now had 135 local churches with over 150 licensed preachers. A four-year Bible college, Apostolic Christian Bible College, was operating in Yangon, formerly called Rangoon, the nation's capital city. God is not limited by circumstances; His truth will prevail!

Why We Celebrate

When Howard A. Goss was the general superintendent of the PCI, he wrote an article for the February 1945 *Apostolic Herald*. That article issued a proclamation in support of missions. He declared Sunday, March 4, 1945, as the first annual National Missionary Sunday of the PCI:

First, agreeing together on this day, by fasting and prayer, to seek God's blessing upon our missionary effort of spreading the gospel throughout the world during this coming year; and

Second, to make this financially possible by united effort in the giving of liberal offerings and pledges on this day, that God's great work be not hindered in this respect, but by its abundance bring honor and glory to His great name.⁸⁷³

Mervyn Miller now compared the day of "penny marches" to the present action of pastors, ministers, and local congregations who were constantly aware of the great commission in giving, going, praying, and promoting missions.

Brother Miller said that a single day of observation in those days had created a dedication to the task of world missions. Because of the burden and the ability to instill each oncoming generation with a burden, new records were set in the total overseas constituency and the total FM income. He highlighted several exceptional areas of harvest: the Philippines as the work transitioned to a national leadership; Wara, Ethiopia, where Billy Cole, pastor in North Charleston, West Virginia, preached on March 12-14, 1993, to a crowd estimated at 150,000 people and forty thousand people received the Holy Ghost; the now-open areas of Eastern Europe and Southeast Asia that were once closed to the gospel.⁸⁷⁴ Celebrating FM successes like these is no accident, since the cause was instilled in the very soul of believers from our infancy as an organization. We celebrate because we are a part of the worldwide church, and the gospel should be preached in the entire world for a witness. The church continually does this because it is consistent with the vision of our beginning.

Compassion Services Minister in Liberia

Civil war had devastated Liberia; the need was critical and the economy was in shambles. Funded by CSI, missionary Albert Stewart provided food, medicine, vitamins, and other essentials for our people and others. Testimonies abounded from the many that were saved from starvation:

There was no food and people were without money. The streets were filled with bodies of the dead or dying as a result of starvation. Testimonies from our believers there related of children dying because of the lack of food or money. If Compassion Services International had not sent the food and clothing, and Brother Stewart had not been here we were all going to die. We were dying on our feet. Thank you, thank you for coming to our rescue. Please continue to remember us in Liberia.⁸⁷⁵

⁸⁷² J. Ral Buai, "Apostolic Message in the Land of the Pagoda," *Global Witness* (July–August 1991): 3.

⁸⁷³ Quoted in Mervyn Miller, "Ample Reason to Celebrate," *Global Witness* (April–June 1993): 7.

⁸⁷⁴ Mervyn Miller, "Ample Reason to Celebrate."

⁸⁷⁵ Mervyn Miller, "Compassion Makes the Difference," *Global Witness* (July–August 1991): 4.

CSI's continued assistance was made possible through donations designated for Liberian relief. Thanks to an overflowing response to the appeal for clothing for Liberia, a 40-cubic-foot sea container solidly packed with clothing and other supplies was shipped to Monrovia, followed by a subsequent shipment of a 20-cubic-foot container.

Gospel Tent Revival in Tanzania

Stephen Wheeler reported that the church in Tanzania was growing and tasting a real move of the Spirit. Revival had come and excitement was high:

From January 18–20, 1991 we were a part of the most life-changing event ever held in Moshi, Tanzania: “The Big Moshi Crusade.” We printed announcements, broadcast on the radio, hung large banners over the highways and used a PA in the car to make everyone aware of the meeting. The Big Tent was much too small as more than 5,000 people tried to get inside. Every service had hundreds of people in the altars, many of which were healed and others had devils cast out. But most important of all, many received their own life-changing experience through the power of the Holy Ghost. From high-ranking government officials, to Trinitarian preachers, from wealthy businessmen to the poorest peasant, the Gospel tent was filled.

While taking the tent down the day after the meeting was finished, more than 2,000 people came to the Freedom Ground of Moshi hoping they weren't too late. The Headquarters church is now filled to capacity even with chairs put out, and we really don't know what to say except, “Glory to the King of Kings and Lord of Lords,” for He is fulfilling His word.⁸⁷⁶

October 1991 Foreign Missions Board Sessions at General Conference

The FMB was faced with the increasing length of time missionaries needed to raise their PIM budgets due to the rising costs overseas. Extended deputations meant longer absences from the field. The board addressed the problem by involving the districts in the quest for an answer:

Resolved that the Director be authorized to address a letter to the General Superintendent requesting the appointment of a delegation from the General Board to work with the Foreign Missions Board during the first week of January, 1992, to devise a means to implement total cooperation from our fellowship in fulfilling the Great Commission.⁸⁷⁷

Other board decisions included the following:

- To increase the minimum PIM pledge from \$15 to \$25 per month
- To change Stephen Shirley's status from assistant missionary to missionary
- To change of field for Richard Carver from New Zealand to South Pacific
- To change of field for Michael Parsons from Italy to Romania
- To change of field for Eddie Tilley from Norway/Sweden to Bulgaria
- To recommend Lloyd Shirley as RFS for the Central America/Caribbean Region effective January 1, 1992
- To change of field for J. Prince Mathiasz from Sri Lanka to Sri Lanka/Eastern Europe
- To change of field for Harold Kinney from Finland/USSR to Finland, Russia, and the Baltic Republics
- To change of field for William Turner from the Korea to the Soviet Union
- To change of field for George Craft from Netherlands to Eastern Europe

⁸⁷⁶ Stephen Wheeler, “Tanzania,” *Global Witness* (July–August 1991): 7.

⁸⁷⁷ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 6, 1991).

- To authorize solicitations of up to \$160,000 for a training facility in Hungary with same to be designated as a memorial to Daniel E. Calk
- To recommend Ey Ja Kim as assistant missionary to Korea
- To recommend Kenneth Burgess as assistant missionary to Argentina
- To recommend Johnny Grissom as missionary to Colombia
- To recommend Alex Marquez as missionary to Mexico
- To recommend Craig Sully as assistant missionary to Nigeria

November 1991 Foreign Missions Board Sessions at the School of Missions

During the SOM the Foreign Missions Board usually interviewed the missionaries in attendance in order to connect with their fields of labor. Many questions received answers during these interviews, and the missionaries appreciated the intimate time with the FMB. Other decisions the board addressed were as follows:

- To redesignate funds raised by Robert Forbush for a facility in Hong Kong for the acquisition of church property and facilities in Melbourne, Australia
 - If acceptable to the UPC of Australia and the local congregation in Melbourne, this facility will be a memorial to Glenn and Iris Bogue
- To authorize Timothy Simoneaux to officially register a Bible school in Botswana per his proposals of April 28 and October 31, 1991
- To authorize Roy Bettis to establish a residence on the island of Hawaii with understanding that it is to oversee the work in Guam and Micronesia and possibly open a work on this island per his letter of November 1, 1991
- To change of field for C. H. Abernathy from Zimbabwe to Swaziland
- To change of field for Dennis Burgess to Argentina only
- To change of field for Stephen Shirley from the Leeward Islands to the Dominican Republic

The Glen Smiths Retire

On January 1, 1992, Glen and Rachel Smith, who had recently celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary, stepped out of FM service after thirty-three years of involvement.

Glen and Rachel Smith began their ministry in 1956 and in 1958 went to Jamaica to preach revivals. They were later given full missionary appointment and went on to pioneer and establish United Pentecostal churches in many nations, including Haiti, the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, the American Virgin Islands, the Leeward Islands, The Netherlands Antilles, the Windward Islands, Trinidad-Tobago, and the Bahamas.

In 1984 Glen Smith was appointed as RFS for Central America/Caribbean, including Mexico.⁸⁷⁸

Lloyd Shirley Appointed as RFS of Central America/Caribbean

Lloyd and Nancy Shirley, 1964 graduates of Apostolic Bible Institute, were pastoring in Worthington, Minnesota, when in the early 1970s they felt a burden for the Caribbean area. They received their appointment to the Leeward Islands in February 1973. They arrived on the field with their two children, Steve and Cyllinda, in August 1974.

⁸⁷⁸ Harry Scism, "The Glen Smiths Retire," *Pentecostal Herald* (February 1992): 12.

In 1975 the Shirleys established Lighthouse Bible School in St. Croix and held short-term Bible school sessions on other islands. They also supervised pastors and AIM workers, evangelized, planted churches, and constructed and remodeled buildings.

In October 1991, the FMB recommended Brother Shirley as the RFS for Central America/Caribbean. He would supervise thirty-one missionary families and numerous AIM workers as well as assist in the oversight of over two thousand churches and preaching points. He would also oversee the work in Guyana.

January 1992 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

Director Harry Scism reported that the first multiracial conference conducted in South Africa was a tremendous success. This indicated that where secular culture had been unable to resolve racial issues, the Lord could step in and remove the barriers.

Another issue that faced this session was the weakening dollar, which was dealing a heavy blow to the missionaries who depended upon the strong dollar for maximum value. For many years, the U.S. dollar had been a benchmark against which other currencies measured their value. Actually, fixed exchange rates never really existed, just a fixed dollar against which other currencies fluctuated.

Sadly for world evangelism, the era in which the United States dominated all key phases of the world's economic life was coming to an end. A dollar crisis affected the economy in four broadly defined ways: (1) traveling overseas would be costlier, (2) prices of imported products would be higher, (3) U.S. exports would sell better, and (4) doing business overseas would be more complicated and expensive. How the dollar crisis would affect the FMD would depend upon the division's ability to encourage a greater degree of financial support from the homeland.

Other decisions were as follows:

- To recommend John F. Hopkins as field superintendent of the UPC of Nicaragua.
- To recommend Monte D. Showalter as field superintendent of the UPC in Guatemala and add the country to his appointment.
- To accept (with regret) John E. and Ruby Klemin's resignation effective March 15, 1992, and express appreciation for their years of service. Grant them retired missionary status.
- To approve a proposed constitution for Belgium.
- To appoint a Zimbabwean national as superintendent of the UPC of Zimbabwe by 1994, and the UPC of Zimbabwe should elect its own superintendent by 1996.
- To approve Paul Suber as superintendent of Ghana until another superintendent can be appointed.
- To decide that shipping allowances for missionaries returning to the field should be paid on a basis prorated according to the length of the previous increment of service.
- To approve the proposed fellowship agreement between the UPCI and the Union of Evangelical Christians in the Spirit of the Apostles (Russia).
- To grant H. Glen Smith missionary retirement status and compensation plus \$20 monthly per year for his eight years as RFS.

Because of the Times

Anthony Mangun, pastor of The Pentecostals of Alexandria, Louisiana, told the story of how nearly \$300,000 was raised for missions in one afternoon long before ministers and pastors from across the fellowship became burdened for the work of foreign missions. The men and women who gathered in Alexandria, Louisiana, for "Because of the Times" probably did not realize that before they returned home they would be afforded a unique opportunity for giving.

On Monday evening, February 3, 1992, the staff and sponsors of “Because of the Times” gathered in the Mangun home for a time of food and fellowship, and, more importantly, to pray for God’s direction and anointing during the coming days of meeting. As various speakers and committee members shared their thoughts and burdens, a solemnity of purpose and seriousness of task settled upon us. David Hale, pastor from Little Rock, Arkansas, shared his personal burden for our missionaries and their desperate plight racing a ticking clock and closing doors while having to spend extended periods of time on deputation. It seemed that a special burden for the work of our missionaries settled upon each one present. A spirit of sacrificial giving at “Because of the Times” could make a significant contribution to our missionaries. We diligently and desperately prayed that God would allow the opportunity sometime during the coming days to make the need known and see what God would do among His people.⁸⁷⁹

On Wednesday afternoon, as the congregation responded to the anointed preaching of James Kilgore, the Spirit said, “Now is the time.” Anthony Mangun stepped to the pulpit and under the anointing of the Holy Ghost made the petition known.

As a spirit of giving swept through the congregation, the eight missionaries present were brought to the front and they talked briefly about their countries of labor and the amounts needed to return them to the field. Before the service was dismissed that afternoon, almost \$300,000 was pledged. It happened February 5, 1992, in Alexandria, Louisiana—because of the times.

Ecuador Sends a Missionary to the Galapagos Islands

Located more than six hundred miles off the coast of Ecuador, the Galapagos Islands were the focus of Charles Darwin’s studies for developing the theory of evolution. The islands were famous for their historic importance, their scientific significance by an international research station supported by UNESCO, and a tourist attraction. Now the islands were important because the UPCI had a work there.

At the time Eugenio Bustamante opened the work on Santa Cruz Island there were no believers. The Ecuadorian Ladies Auxiliary provided most of his financial support.

Juan Ochoa followed Brother Bustamante, arriving in August of 1989. He continued the work that Brother Bustamante had begun, and taught Bible studies. His sister, Teodocita, spent several months there and began Sunday school classes for children. His uncle visited and helped in preaching. Brother Bravo Bolivar, national secretary, visited and preached a crusade in which a number were baptized. Brother Joaquin Velez, national vice-president, also visited and 14 were baptized and three received the Holy Ghost.⁸⁸⁰

At the time of the report the Galapagos Islands had 85 constituents, 29 baptized in Jesus’ name and 16 filled with the Holy Ghost, church property, and legal registration. Ecuador too believed that the great commission was the responsibility of the total church.

Death of Kunio Fujibayashi

Kunio Fujibayashi died at age fifty-six on February 26, 1992.⁸⁸¹ As news went out, many friends from around the world sent telegrams, letters, cards, and flowers in honor of a deeply loved, revered leader, a man who labored in Japan with Claude Thompson.

Brother Fujibayashi received the Holy Ghost at age nineteen while suffering from a serious illness. Regaining his strength after being in bed for four and a half years, he began to attend church. He shared a vision with missionary Claude Thompson to build one hundred churches in Japan. Revival came to the Kyoto Gospel Church and Brother Fujibayashi was mightily used of God despite his physical weakness.

⁸⁷⁹ Anthony Mangun, “A Spirit of Giving,” *Global Witness* (April–June 1992): 4.

⁸⁸⁰ Stuart Lassetter, “The UPC Comes to the Galapagos Islands,” *Pentecostal Herald* (February 1992): 12.

⁸⁸¹ Mrs. Koto Fujibayashi, “In Memoriam,” *Pentecostal Herald* (November 1992): 15.

On Sunday, February 23, 1992, he preached his final message using the text, “I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience . . . nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou has left thy first love” (Revelation 2:2, 4). The service went as usual, and he smiled as he shook hands with many of the saints. However, he suddenly became very ill. Two hours later an aneurysm ruptured and on the third day the Lord called him to his eternal home.

Foreign Missions Worldline⁸⁸²

Thailand: AIMers Brother and Sister Frank Poling spent several weeks in Thailand, encouraging the church and evangelizing. They visited thirty-nine churches and held forty-six services. They saw 553 receive the Holy Ghost.

Australia: Lee Stoneking spoke at the annual conference in Australia, during which approximately thirty to thirty-five received the Holy Ghost.

Paraguay: A group of Indians in the north central part of Paraguay invited missionaries to preach. The group was unique because they believed in the oneness of God and baptism in Jesus’ name and they had thought they were the only people in the world who believed this doctrine. They had six churches with about four hundred members.

Vietnam: Brother Tran, the recognized leader of the work in Vietnam, was arrested for the second time in February 1991, and sentenced for nine more years for preaching the gospel. Two other preachers were also in custody for the same reason. Despite the fact that evangelism was forbidden in Vietnam, the gospel continued to spread.

May 1992 Foreign Missions Board

The 1992 FMB members were Harry E. Scism, general director; Edwin E. Judd, secretary; John S. Leaman, coordinator of Special Ministries; Mervyn D. Miller, director of promotion and publications; and pastoral members Wayne Rooks, Carl Stephenson, G. A. Mangun, B. J. Hurst, W. H. Cole, R. P. Bell, D. D. Davis, Paul D. Mooney, Fred Kinzie, T. C Bonnette, and E. L. Freeman.

Also serving on the board were RFSs J. P. Hughes, Africa; Garry A. Tracy, Asia; Lloyd L. Shirley, Central America/Caribbean; Robert K. Rodenbush, Europe/Middle East; Carl H. Varnell, Pacific; and James M. Burton, South America.

Self-employment Equalization Policy

During the May 1992 FMB sessions, the self-employment equalization policy was introduced:

Whereas current FMD policy calls for the Division to pay an amount equal to the U.S. self-employment tax based upon each missionary’s compensation on behalf of each missionary either to the IRS, the Canadian Pension Plan (CPP), a private insurance/investment company, or to the Ministers’ Retirement Fund, and

Whereas current compensation subject to the self-employment tax benefit includes multiple items that vary in amount from one missionary to another, such as cost of living adjustment, service bonus, children’s education, housing, utilities and self-employment tax paid, which results in considerable disparity between missionaries as to the amount of self-employment tax benefit received,

Be it resolved that the FMD attempts to better equalize the self-employment tax benefit for all missionaries by establishing a base to be used for all missionaries in computing the self-employment tax benefit, which base shall be equal to the lower of:

- a. The highest U.S. dollar amount of compensation paid to any fully appointed missionary during a calendar year, said compensation to include personal support base, cost of living

⁸⁸² “Foreign Missions Worldline,” *Pentecostal Herald* (March 1992): 14.

adjustment, service bonus, furlough allowance, children's education, self-employment tax benefit paid, housing and utilities; or

- b. The maximum self-employment tax earnings level (excluding the Medicare earnings base) set forth by the Internal Revenue Code. And be it further resolved that the self-employment tax benefit will be computed according to provision of the Internal Revenue Code effective for a calendar year (currently set forth as base x .9235 x 15.3%), and be it further resolved that the self-employment tax benefit so computed will be funded to:
 - (1) The IRS for those missionaries subject to U.S. self-employment tax;
 - (2) The CPP for those missionaries subject to said Plan;
 - (3) A private insurance/investment company for U.S. citizen missionaries not subject to the self-employment tax;
 - (4) The Ministers' Retirement Fund for amounts not disbursed under item 1 or 3 above for U.S. citizen missionaries; or
 - (5) The established registered Canadian retirement plan as adopted by the UPC of Canada for amounts not disbursed under item 2 above for Canadian citizen missionaries; and

Be it further resolved that the FMB, by adopting this resolution, is stating its intent to provide all fully appointed missionaries with the same amount of dollars on an annual basis to provide each missionary with his/her retirement upon termination of service from FMD, and

Be it further resolved that the FMB, by adopting this resolution, intends to phase out the retired missionary fund by not granting retired missionary fund benefits to new retirees as the board deems missionaries to no longer have a financial need for these supplemental funds in retirement, and

Be it further resolved that the FMB empower the FM Administrative Committee to take whatever action is needed to implement the provisions set forth in this resolution.

Whereas it is in the best interest of FMD to have the ability to make direct contact via telephone with all fully appointed missionaries for purposes of conducting the business of the FMD.⁸⁸³

Canadian Tax Issue

A committee composed of Carl Morgan, Albert Foster, and Carl Stephenson conducted a comprehensive study and submitted the following recommendations regarding Canadian tax matters:

Whereas laws of Canada governing the Canadian Pension Plan (CPP) and Canadian income tax set forth provisions relative to ministerial housing allowances and identify what type payment constitutes housing expenditures with amounts deemed housing exempt from CPP contribution and Canadian income tax, and

Whereas the cost of utilities provided under a rental agreement providing housing and utilities inclusive within one charge is considered to be a qualified housing expenditure and therefore subject to neither CPP contribution nor federal income tax, therefore

Be it resolved that all missionaries subject to the laws of Canada, (i.e., CPP and income tax) be encouraged to seek housing that includes utilities inclusive within a standard rental agreement and to enter into such an agreement whenever possible in order to minimize total missionary costs charged to a PIM account.

Whereas laws of Canada governing the CPP and Canadian income tax set forth provisions relative to foreign tax credits taken on an individual income tax return and the inclusion as wages any amounts reimbursed by an employer for payment of a foreign tax on behalf of an employee, and

Whereas if no foreign tax credit is taken on an individual income tax return, amounts paid by an employer as reimbursement of foreign taxes assessed on an employee are not deemed income and are therefore not subject to provisions of the CPP nor are such amounts subject to income tax, therefore,

Be it resolved that all missionaries subject to the laws of Canada (i.e., CPP and income tax) be encouraged not to request a foreign tax credit for amounts reimbursed as a foreign tax to the missionary by FMD in an effort to reduce charges made to a missionary PIM account, and

⁸⁸³ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (May 18, 1992): 1–2.

Be it further resolved that if a missionary elects to receive a foreign tax credit on his/her income tax return filed with Revenue Canada, any resulting CPP and/or income tax liabilities are deemed the personal responsibility of the missionary and are not subject to reimbursement from the missionary PIM account.⁸⁸⁴

The Canadian Pension Plan

Whereas laws of Canada governing the CPP provide retirement benefits to an individual only if the CPP contributions have been credited to an individual's account, and

Whereas laws of Canada governing income tax require separate tax returns to be filed by a husband and wife, with each reporting his/her own income subject to appropriate income tax rates, and

Whereas based upon current FMD policy all compensation subject to the laws of Canada governing CPP and income tax is currently paid to the husband and charged as income to the husband only, therefore,

Be it resolved that all future compensation paid to missionaries subject to the laws of Canada be divided between husband and wife so that both husband and wife become subject to CPP contributions and therefore both husband and wife will be entitled to retirement benefits from the CPP, and

Be it further resolved that [the above] compensation . . . be divided between husband and wife in order to minimize the total Canada income tax liability . . . and

Be it further resolved that the FMB empower the FM Administrative Committee to take whatever actions needed to implement the [above].⁸⁸⁵

Other decisions made during the May 1992 FMB sessions were as follows:

- To add Nicaragua to John Hopkins's appointment
- To change of field for Monte Showalter to Guatemala only
- To change of field for Don Clenney to Madagascar only
- To change of field for Richard Carver to Fiji/South Pacific
- To approve Josep Rios as an AIMer to Puerto Rico to work under Lloyd Shirley
- To approve Scotty Slaydon for ordination
- To accept Robert Russell's letter of resignation
- To approve a halfway house in Singapore as projected by R. S. Willoughby
- To approve the development of a building project in Canton, China
- To recommend Carl Varnell as field superintendent of the UPC in Fiji
- To accept the resolution from the Philippine Islands regarding nationalization of the work and to approve the Philippine nationalization missionary policy plan to qualify and send missionaries
- To approve the Canadian Council of Christian Charities Foreign Medical/Hospital plan for medical insurance for Canadian missionaries
- To approve the concept to establish ACE schools in Belarus and that the FMD provide personnel for this program through AIM.

Andrew Urshan, insurance representative for the UPCI, along with Carol Myers of Gallagher Company, made a proposal to the FMB regarding a self-insurance plan for medical coverage for foreign missionaries. The board approved the concept of self-insurance, but sought for a similar plan to compare it with the Gallagher proposal.

Death of Bennie Jonas DeMerchant, Missionary Child

Born in Perth, New Brunswick, Canada, on August 8, 1976, Bennie Jonas DeMerchant passed from this life on June 15, 1992, after a complicated eighteen-month battle with bone cancer. He was the

⁸⁸⁴ Ibid., 4.

⁸⁸⁵ Ibid., 3.

beloved son of Bennie and Theresa DeMerchant, missionaries to the Amazon Basin in Brazil. He was survived by his parents and two sisters, Beth Sievers of Humble, Texas, and Pam DeMerchant of St. Paul, Minnesota.

Harry Lewis and Dana McKillop officiated at the memorial service on June 18 at Perth-Andover, New Brunswick. Forty-four ministers and many friends and relatives attended. A memorial fund was established with the FMD.

Spending most of his life on the mission field, Bennie received the Holy Ghost and was baptized at age eight. He had an unusual dedication to God and loved to pray. Bennie's meek and sincere Christian spirit and interest in missions inspired other young people and visitors to Brazil. He listened to hundreds of preaching tapes, which kept his spirit strong and positive.

At twelve years of age Bennie, seated on three cushions beside his dad, could take off and land a Cessna 172 floatplane. He and his dad flew together to the remotest areas of the Amazon jungle for revival services.

In the Toronto, Canada, hospital, Bennie prayed in tongues minutes before moving to his heavenly tabernacle. He was deeply missed by his parents as they returned to the Amazon to continue the great work they had pioneered together.⁸⁸⁶

Twenty Churches Join the UPC of Uganda

Missionary J. L. Hall reported:

Four Ugandan ministers recently attended the annual ministers' conference in Nairobi, Kenya. We were privileged to baptize two Trinitarian preachers from Uganda in the wonderful name of Jesus. We have reports of over twenty churches in Uganda that are ready to be baptized in the name of Jesus and become a part of the United Pentecostal Church. Because of your faithful prayer and support we are beginning to see a great church in war-torn Uganda.⁸⁸⁷

The Church Grows in Mainland China

In April 1992, Robert Arthur delivered 150 Bibles to an underground house meeting, which was later closed down by the police. Though persecuted, the Chinese church continued to grow and the Word of God moved forward. Chinese believers received with joy the many Bibles and literature purchased with funds donated by North American churches.

Several university students were baptized and received the Holy Ghost. Their enthusiasm for worship and the Word of the Lord was very refreshing and invigorating.⁸⁸⁸

Cuba Opens the Door for the Gospel

Two brethren were allowed to visit Cuba on April 26, 1992. Neftali Oiler, a pastor from Puerto Rico, and Juan Batista from the Dominican Republic contacted brethren of like precious faith in Cuba. The door opened for them to preach openly in four different churches.

A few weeks earlier, Guido Lopez Toledo, leader of the church in Cuba, had a vision in which he saw two pastors from different countries preaching in his pulpit. In his vision he saw it would be soon. When the brethren arrived in Cuba and found his church, Pastor Toledo told them about his vision. The Lord had answered the many prayers for open doors in Cuba. During the brethren's short visit, several repented of their sins and a family of five prepared for baptism.⁸⁸⁹

⁸⁸⁶ Mervyn Miller, "In Memoriam," *Global Witness* (October–December 1992): 7.

⁸⁸⁷ J. L. Hall quoted in Mervyn Miller, "Twenty Churches to Join UPC of Uganda," *Global Witness* (July–September 1992): 2.

⁸⁸⁸ "Church Grows in Mainland China," *Global Witness* (July–September 1992): 3.

⁸⁸⁹ Gary Landaw, "Cuban Door Opens for the Gospel," *Global Witness* (July–September 1992): 3.

Singapore

Singapore experienced a move of the Holy Ghost. In a six-month period thirty-two people were baptized and thirty-eight received the Holy Ghost. Forty-eight students were enrolled in a Bible correspondence course and fourteen in home Bible studies. The church was very young, and they felt this was a critical time for training and discipling.⁸⁹⁰

First National Convention in Mexico

T. Wynn Drost reported that Mexico celebrated its first national convention on July 17–19, 1992, and God moved in a tremendous way. Over 1,300 believers attended the convention with ninety-two receiving the Holy Ghost during the three days.⁸⁹¹

Sheaves for Christ Celebrates its Fortieth Year

The spring of 1992 marked forty years of SFC giving. Nearly all UPCI churches from across North America joined in celebrating this “Generation of Generosity.”

From its humble beginnings, with a goal of \$1 per Conqueror, or \$10,000 from all churches, and the actual offering of only \$1,500, to its present over-two-million-dollars per year accomplishments, Sheaves For Christ has made an incalculable difference in the work of God around the world.⁸⁹²

Sheaves for Christ had grown beyond everyone’s expectations. Year after year it had set new records. During the economic crunch of the 1970s the program suffered some slight declines but quickly rebounded. Evolving over forty years, regardless of economic hard times and changes in leadership, SFC remained constant in its commitment to the cause.

Revival Crusade in Brest, Belarus⁸⁹³

On June 13–14, 1992, during a citywide revival held in Brest, Belarus, fifteen people received the Holy Ghost. The civic auditorium was completely filled during each of the three services. Nathaniel A. Urshan was the guest speaker. Also ministering were Assistant General Superintendent Jesse Williams, General Secretary C. M. Becton, FM Director Harry Scism, Sunday School Director E. J. McClintock, Colorado District Superintendent B. E. Hale, and Pastors Lee Davis, Gerald Hall, and Sammy Stewart. The eyes of the world were upon this important meeting filled with the Oneness message. It was a turning point for the gospel in this part of the world.

142 Receive the Holy Ghost in Tanzania

Missionary David Ward reported in the September 1992 *Pentecostal Herald*: “In the month of June we were blessed with the ministry of Mark Reed of Troy, Michigan. In five days of services held at our headquarters church, 107 received the Holy Ghost. The following week another crusade was held at the church in Majengo, and thirty-five received the Holy Ghost.”⁸⁹⁴

⁸⁹⁰ Steve Willoughby, “The Spirit Made Me Obey,” *Global Witness* (July–September 1992): 4.

⁸⁹¹ T. Wynn Drost, “Mexico,” *Global Witness* (October–December 1992): 5.

⁸⁹² Jerry Jones, “A Generation of Generosity,” *Pentecostal Herald* (March 1992): 2.

⁸⁹³ J. L. Hall, “Revival Crusade in Brest, Belarus,” *Pentecostal Herald* (September 1992): 2.

⁸⁹⁴ David Ward, “Worldline—Tanzania,” *Pentecostal Herald* (September 1992): 12.

The Venezuelan Church under National Leadership

by Missionary Gail Burton

At sixteen years of age, Brother James Burton felt a calling to be a missionary in South America. About that same time, Martha Schafer also felt a call to be a missionary. Several years later they met and married in Cincinnati, Ohio. They decided to go to Apostolic Bible Institute to better prepare themselves for their calling. After graduating, the Burtons worked for several years in Knoxville, Iowa, while awaiting their appointment to Venezuela.

In June 1962, the Burtons and their children arrived by boat at the port of Maracaibo. They found three established churches and one just beginning. They began working in San Cristobal. Partners in Missions did not exist, and they lived in a very humble home with a cane roof. Many times rats ran across them as they slept and ate. Brother Burton became very sick with hepatitis; Sister Burton was sick with malaria, and several of their children became ill. Satan tried to destroy them, but “if God be for us, who can be against us.”

Once a young man came to service with the intention of throwing rocks, but God’s power touched him and he received the Holy Ghost and was baptized in Jesus’ name. This man was Isidro Estupiñan. Brother Isidro started pastoring a church and has become a powerful preacher and a faithful leader. The Burtons and Brother Isidro have worked faithfully together for thirty years, watching the UPC of Venezuela grow to over 400 churches and over 60,000 constituents.

In January 1991, Brother Burton assumed the responsibilities as the RFS of South America. After a year and a half of prayer, fasting, and preparation, Brother Burton felt it was time to turn over the superintendency of the UPC of Venezuela to a national leader. Brother Isidro Estupiñan was elected as president of the UPC of Venezuela.

On Saturday night, August 22, 1992, this transfer of leadership was made at the National Conference with around 14,000 believers in attendance. We were privileged to have FM Director Harry E. Scism and his wife present to officiate in this important event of the church in Venezuela. Also attending were James Gullett, Kentucky’s former district FM Director, and Jerry Burns, a former missionary to Venezuela.

Later that evening Lonnie Burton preached a tremendous message, and before he concluded, hundreds of people came running to the altar.

We are thankful to the James Burtons for their dedication and sacrifice to the work in Venezuela.⁸⁹⁵

Ethiopia Baptizes 11,080 in Jesus’ Name

Teklemariam Gesahagne wrote to the FMB, “The Lord used Billy Cole in a most wonderful way. The Wara Area was very much blessed as 7,239 new souls were baptized. Since the Wara Crusade, a total of 11,080 people were baptized in Jesus’ name.”⁸⁹⁶

October 1992 Foreign Missions Board Sessions at the General Conference

As the FMB opened its sessions, Director Harry Scism read a letter from Dong Souk Chin, superintendent of the UPC of Korea, pledging full cooperation with the UPCI regarding the ministerial standards in the Articles of Faith.

The problem of the escalating costs of FM activity on the field continued, exacerbated by an increasing number of missionaries with longer and longer deputation schedules. The board deemed it necessary to suspend interviewing any more applicants for FM appointment in the January 1993 board meetings.⁸⁹⁷

⁸⁹⁵ Gail Burton, “1992 Venezuelan Conference,” *Global Witness* (October–December 1992): 1, 7–8.

⁸⁹⁶ Teklemariam Gesahagne, “Ethiopia,” *Global Witness* (October–December 1992): 4.

⁸⁹⁷ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 2, 1992): 2.

October 1992 Evaluation of the Regional Field Supervisor Program

In May 1992 a special committee had been appointed to evaluate the RFS position. After the committee submitted its report, the board agreed that the present policy regarding the RFSs' residences and the time they dedicated to overseas duties should remain as presently stated in FM policy. The board further resolved to do everything possible to portray a missionary image for the RFSs, to enhance this concept, and to disassociate the position from being identified with WEC as FMD administrators, though they were involved in both ministries.⁸⁹⁸

Other board decisions included the following:

- To release funds from the V. A. Guidroz memorial account, the Maggio Estate account, and the Parsons building fund account to the UPC of Italy for a down payment on a facility to serve as a headquarters office
- To change the title "Special Ministries" back to the original title of "Overseas Ministries"
- To change of field for William Turner from the Soviet Union to the Republic of Russia
- To change of field for Roscoe Seay from Papua New Guinea to Australia and the Solomon Islands
- To change of field for Richard Carver from Fiji/South Pacific to Fiji
- To change of field for Lee Roy Sherry from Fiji/South Pacific to Vanuatu
- To change of field for Richard Porter from Ghana to Swaziland
- To accept Leonard Plowman's letter of resignation
- To approve Paul W. Brochu for ordination
- To approve Michael J. Patterson for ordination
- To approve the constitution for the UPC of Uganda
- To authorize Garry Tracy and Jerry Holt to purchase property in Canton, China
- To authorize J. Prince Mathiasz to solicit \$50,000 to erect a headquarters church building on property already owned by the church in Colombo, Sri Lanka
- To recommend a power of attorney for Gary C. Reed to represent the UPCI in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
- To authorize Roy Well to solicit \$50,000 to purchase a headquarters/Bible school facility in Santiago, Chile
- To approve Stephen O'Donnell for ordination
- To accept David Banta's resignation from missionary service

Jerry Jones, Pentecostal Conquerors president, presented the basic plan for the proposed Youth on Missions program to involve youth teams on extended activity in coordination with the FMD. The board approved the proposal with the stipulation that it be left open for further review as the plan developed.

Carl Stephenson Resigns from the Foreign Missions Board

During the October 1992 sessions, Harry Scism presented a letter of resignation from Carl Stephenson, which stated that his election as Ontario District superintendent precipitated his resignation from the FMB.

⁸⁹⁸ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (May 22, 1992): 11.

Joseph Beesley Appointed to the FMB

After Carl Stephenson's resignation was accepted, the FMB recommended to the General Board that Joseph W. Beesley replace Carl Stephenson.

Applicants for Missions Service

During its October 1992 sessions and after interviewing the candidates listed below, the FMB recommended them for appointment:

- Scotty Slaydon to El Salvador
- Michael D. Walmer as assistant missionary to Brazil
- Marvin R. Williams as assistant missionary to Peru
- Michael J. Patterson as missionary to Romania

Foreign Missions Director's 1992 General Conference Report—Salt Lake City, Utah

FM Director Harry Scism wrote to the General Board, "From around the world comes the same cry, 'Please tell us about God!' A janitor of the school building in Moscow, Russia, explained that [Russian children] were taught to hate the Americans—that America was our enemy. After attending service in a United Pentecostal setting, he said, 'Now we know that America is trying to help us! Please tell us about God!'" The UPCI is determined to answer that cry for help.

God had blessed the FMD with outstanding, dedicated people of God with a worldwide vision. These wonderful people included the FMB members, FM Administrative Committee, RFSs, missionaries under appointment, district directors in the homeland, and all supporting pastors and churches.

Armed with sharpened sickles, the missionary family reaped the fields around the globe as they harvested souls. Career missionaries—some veterans with years of experience and others newly appointed—increased the effectiveness of world evangelism. Pastors and churches everywhere were determined to expend every effort to send forth laborers and become a part of the harvest.

The general director of Foreign Missions reported:

Presently there are 294 missionaries under full appointment and 140 missionaries on the short-term program, giving us a total of 434 missionaries from North America. Another 7,682 national workers are preaching this gospel in overseas fields. This dedicated team is working in 121 nations.

According to the Annual Field reports received for this past year, 69,541 were baptized in Jesus' name and 59,538 received the baptism of the Holy Spirit during the past twelve months. Our overseas constituency now totals 1,050,973. Thanks be to God for enabling us to pass our goal of one million constituents overseas. Every member of the overseas church is expected to be a witness for the Lord and becomes a part of our Task Force. There are now 12,299 churches and preaching points overseas.⁸⁹⁹

Financial Resources

The FMD achieved yet another record year in finances. The burden for worldwide evangelism was felt keenly by our churches in the homeland that faithfully supported the PIM program, resulting in a record-setting total of \$13,228,215.79. In addition, the Youth Division contributed \$423,812 from SFC and the Ladies Auxiliary contributed \$273,000 from Mothers Memorial. The grand total for the 1991–92 fiscal year was \$13,925,027.79.

⁸⁹⁹ Harry E. Scism, "Annual Report to the General Board," October 1992.

As more pastors and churches became involved in Faith Promise giving, foreign missions income increased. Moreover, the FM conferences in local churches produced an increasing involvement in worldwide evangelism.

Compassion Services International

The response of pastors and churches for the 1992 Compassion Sunday, added with contributions throughout the year, brought the total income for 1992 to \$114,961.86. With these funds the UPCI extended love and compassion through its humanitarian ministry to victims of flood, famine, and various other tragedies in twenty-four countries.

New Advances in Madagascar

Madagascar, the fourth largest island in the world, rejoiced over what the Lord had done in their national conference, youth camp, and preachers' seminars. All were mightily blessed. The Holy Ghost was outpoured on seventy-three people and many people were healed during the national conference. The powers of darkness were dealt a mighty blow in the name of Jesus Christ.⁹⁰⁰

Eastern Europe

In the January–March 1993 *Global Witness*, Sam Balca reported the results from five crusades/seminars held in Eastern Europe: Belarus, Hungary, Poland, Romania, and Yugoslavia:

“Evangelists/teachers: Missionary Phil Ciulla, Missionary Harold Kinney, and Brothers Donald Knight, Earl Lee, and Frank Tamel. At least 150 people received the gift of the Holy Spirit, one new church and several preaching points were established, and several ‘independent’ churches were convinced by the evidences of the Word and Spirit that we are biblically correct, and they want to work with us.”⁹⁰¹

January 1993 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

Jerry Jones, president of the General Youth Division, further explained his proposal for Youth on Missions, a modified endeavor of the previous Youth Corps, in which the youth of North America could experience the mission field. This program had been extremely beneficial to the missionary family, so it was not difficult for the FMB to approve it.

Following are further board decisions:

- To change of field for Danny Schreckhise from Honduras to Caribbean with his involvement to be defined by job description
- To recommend Bruce A. Howell as president of the UPCI in Honduras
- To change of field for Bruce Howell from El Salvador to El Salvador/Honduras
- To change of field for Robert Arthur from China to New Zealand
- To change of field for Ron Hanscom from Pakistan to South Asia
- To change of field for George Corney from Pakistan to South Asia
- To change of field for Johnny Garrison from Nigeria/Cameroon to Nigeria
- To recommend J. P. Hughes for reappointment as RFS of Africa
- To recommend Garry A. Tracy for reappointment as RFS of Asia
- To change of field for Eddie Tilley from Bulgaria to Norway/ Sweden/Bulgaria

⁹⁰⁰ Denzil Richardson, “Madagascar,” *Global Witness* (January–March 1993): 4.

⁹⁰¹ Sam Balca, “Eastern Europe,” *Global Witness* (January–March 1993): 1, 6.

- To change of field for Charles Abernathy from Swaziland to Zambia
- To change of field for John Hopkins from Panama/Costa Rica/Nicaragua to Panama/Nicaragua
- To recommend Lloyd L. Shirley as field superintendent of the UPC in Trinidad/Tobago because of Devon Dawson's resignation,
- To recommend Lloyd L. Shirley as field superintendent of the UPC of Guyana
- To approve the policy governing visits to North America by foreign nationals
- To recommend Gary A. Landaw as field superintendent of the UPC in Puerto Rico/American Virgin Islands

1993 Foreign Missions Board Members

The 1993 FMB consisted of Harry Scism, general director; Edwin E. Judd, secretary; Mervyn Miller, director of promotion and publications; J. S. Leaman, coordinator of Overseas Ministries; members Joseph Beesley, R. P. Bell, Billy Cole, D. D. Davis, B. J. Hurst, Gerald A. Mangun, Paul Mooney, Wayne Rooks, William Schmidt, and Jimmy Shoemake. Honorary members were T. C. Bonnette, Fred Kinsey, and F. V. Shoemake. RFSs were J. P. Hughes, Africa; Garry Tracy, Asia; Lloyd Shirley, Central America/Caribbean; Robert Rodenbush, Europe/Middle East; Carl Varnell, Pacific; and James Burton, South America.

Sierra Leone—a Dream Fulfilled

Sierra Leone completed construction of its national headquarters building. On Saturday, February 6, 1993, Freetown, the capital city, was filled with compliments about the beautiful building, and an excited crowd gathered hours before the ribbon-cutting ceremony. Newspapers and radio covered the event and dignitaries were present. The church was packed with standing room only as the people began to worship.

On Sunday the same fervor filled the sanctuary as forty-two received the Holy Ghost. Twenty-five were filled in the next service. The event culminated with an audience of over one thousand packed into a 750-seat auditorium, and twenty additional people experienced their personal Pentecost. Jack Edwards of Pittsburgh, California, was the speaker. Revival was taking place in Sierra Leone.⁹⁰²

Revival Continues in Singapore

Steve Willoughby of Singapore reported a tremendous year of blessing:

The year ended with sixty-eight having been baptized in Jesus' name and seventy-three receiving the Holy Ghost. . . . We have received confirmation that we are now registered as a society known as the Tabernacle of Joy. God miraculously provided for us to get another one year visa. We also have reason to believe that we can get permanent residency in the near future.

On New Year's we had our "Vision of Joy" for 1993. We have set our goal to triple our water and Spirit baptisms, meaning we are praying for more than 200 new ones to be added to the church in 1993. We started a building fund with a goal to raise \$250,000 this year. Already one member has put up his country club membership for sale so he can give the money to the church.

. . . When Frank Tamel (Oak Creek, Wisconsin) left us, he not only left behind twenty-one people filled with the Holy Ghost, but he transmitted a big chunk of his burden for the lost to our young saints. Many have signed up to teach home Bible studies and are accepting the responsibilities for revival. Our theme when Brother Tamel was here was "The Price and Privilege of Revival." Truly God has worked in the midst of his people in Singapore.⁹⁰³

⁹⁰² Donald O'Keefe, "Sierra Leone—A Dream Fulfilled," *Pentecostal Herald* (May 1993): 16.

⁹⁰³ Steve Willoughby, "Singapore," *Global Witness* (April–June 1993): 4.

The Holy Ghost Falls in Nicaragua

Missionary John Hopkins visited Nicaragua, where God moved in a very special manner. In just eight services, 818 people were filled with the Holy Ghost. He taught a one-day ministers' seminar, met with the national board, and discussed many important issues for the work. All of the brethren experienced a real bonding during this visit. Eduardo Garcia, president of the work, was doing an outstanding service for the church there.⁹⁰⁴

The Philippine Church under National Leadership

Celedonia Ompad, a Philippine national, was elected the general superintendent of the UPC (Philippines), Incorporated. The development and growth of the Philippine church has been one of the most outstanding portions of UPCI foreign missions history.⁹⁰⁵

40,000 Receive the Holy Ghost in Wara, Ethiopia

On March 12–14, 1993, Billy Cole, FMB member and pastor of North Charleston Apostolic Church, Charleston, West Virginia, preached to a crowd of at least 150,000 in Wara, Ethiopia. Forty thousand people received the Holy Ghost and three blind people received their sight.

“People had arrived by foot, many walking great distances, by bus, truck, and any possible means of transportation. Many carried their food with them, prepared to sleep in the open during the two nights of the crusade. In this vast congregation were also many sick and crippled. . . . All were thirsting and hungering for a miraculous demonstration of God’s power.”⁹⁰⁶

Doors Open in Eastern Europe and Southeast Asia

In the April–June 1993 *Global Witness*, Sam Balca reported that areas of Eastern Europe and Southeast Asia that had been closed to the gospel were now open, creating unprecedented evangelistic opportunities. George Szabolcsi ministered in Lodz, Poland, where he baptized three more Polish converts in Jesus’ name in an indoor swimming pool. George Demiter from Yugoslavia was also a great blessing.

Reports of the meetings in the new center in Backa Palanka, Serbia, were outstanding. At least ten people received the Holy Spirit and thirteen were baptized in Jesus’ name. Missionaries and saints alike were hoping and praying for a speedy end to the war in this area of the Balkans.⁹⁰⁷

May 1993 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

Several key situations faced the FMB during its May 1993 sessions, among them legal matters in Japan and Indonesia and the rising cost of overseas operations.

Edwin Judd, FM secretary, and Carl Morgan presented the 1992–93 financial report and projected the 1993–94 FM budget. After discussing the financial status and the possibility of reducing the administrative percentage from designated offerings, the board agreed that it was neither practical nor advisable to propose a change of policy regarding the proposed deduction at that time.

⁹⁰⁴ John Hopkins, “Nicaragua,” *Global Witness* (April–June 1993): 4.

⁹⁰⁵ “Ample Reason to Celebrate,” *Global Witness* (April–June 1993): 7.

⁹⁰⁶ Harry Scism, “Holiness unto the Lord,” *Pentecostal Herald* (June 1993): 1, 16.

⁹⁰⁷ Sam Balca, “Eastern Europe,” *Global Witness* (April–June 1993): 5.

Upon Carl Morgan's recommendation, the FMB resolved to include missionary spouses' appointments simultaneously with their husbands and that they should be commissioned simultaneously with their husbands by the General Board, effective on the following dates:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Wife of</u>	<u>Date of Appointment</u>
Aber, Lori J.	Danny K.	October 1989
Abernathy, Sharon E.	Gary W.	April 1981
Addington, Judy A.	Robert W.	October 1984
Allard, Amelia M.	Edward L.	September 1971
Arthur, Dorothy A.	Robert K.	January 1984
Balca, Patricia J.	Samuel	October 1979
Bettis, L. Maurine	Roy C.	January 1973
Bir, Nancy L.	Joseph A.	May 1986
Black, Janet R.	J. Randall	May 1989
Blunt, Patricia A.	Bennie J.	October 1989
Bracken, Sandra L.	Tommy W.	May 1980
Browne, Rosa E.	William M.	October 1982
Buckland, Becky S.	Roger D.	September 1984
Burgess, Patricia A.	Dennis E.	May 1980
Burgess, E. Kay	Kenneth W.	October 1991
Burton, Martha S.	James M.	October 1961
Burton, Gail M.	Lonnie R.	September 1976
Carpenter, Bobbie	D. Mack	June 1965
Carver, Margaret A.	Richard S.	October 1985
Ciulla, Brenda J.	Philip S.	October 1985
Clark, Beverly M.	Glenn	October 1985
Clenney, Linda J.	Don	May 1983
Cogan, Antonina	John	September 1983
Cole, Winona V.	Ronald W.	October 1974
Corcoran, Lois D.	Everett J.	August 1970
Corney, Connie E.	George W.	May 1989
Craft, Cheryl	George R.	September 1971
Crossley, Kathleen M.	Darry V.	October 1975
Crumpacker, Karen L.	James A.	September 1984
Cruz, Sharon A.	Gabriel	September 1983
Dawson, Joy M.	Devon D.	May 1982
DeMerchant, Theresa S.	Bennie L.	October 1964
Demos, Valerie A.	Alan L.	October 1974
Dennis, Shirley A.	Paul A.	February 1976
Drost, Wanda F.	T. Wynn	June 1974
Edge, Marilyn L.	Michael J.	September 1983
Enis, Rebekah A.	Arlie R.	October 1975
Filkins, Belinda G.	Robert E.	May 1984
Flowers, Donna K.	David	October 1987
Forbush, Derethia B.	Robert L.	April 1981
Frizzell, Emily G.	Robert P.	September 1990
Garrison, Peggy P.	Johnny W.	September 1975
Geissler, Donna M.	Darrell E.	September 1990
Grimm, Esther E.	G. John	January 1983
Grissom, Rachel M.	Johnny D.	October 1991
Grosbach, Patricia A.	Theodore D.	October 1985
Hall, Patricia E.	Jimmy L.	May 1979
Hanscom, Joy E.	Ronald P.	September 1983
Hayes, Diane S.	Larry R.	May 1986
Holland, B. Joan	Stanley W.	October 1982

Holt, Fayette P.	Jerry T.	October 1982
Hopkins, M. Aurelia	John F.	September 1979
Howard, Janet M.	Franklin D.	September 1981
Howell, S. Diane	Bruce A.	May 1979
Hughes, June E.	John Paul	January 1977
Ikerd, Sharon L.	Donald E.	October 1973
Johnson, Martha C.	Louis M.	October 1989
Kelley, Jerolyn M.	Robert H.	May 1983
Kinney, Helena M.	Harold D.	May 1986
Landaw, Kristi L.	Gary A.	October 1980
Lassetter, Nancy J.	J. Stuart	April 1981
Louw, Rosemary S.	Llewellyn H.	September 1979
Lucas, Jean A.	Richard L.	May 1982
Markham, Bonnie J.	William J.	May 1980
Marquez, Henrietta	Alex R.	October 1991
Marshall, Jo Anne	T. J.	September 1984
Mathiasz, Suzana	J. Prince	May 1982
Moulton, Helen J.	Paul K..	October 1967
Nix, Yvonne E.	Stephen R	May 1985
Norris, Ivana M.	Jeffrey D.	October 1987
Norris, Eunice R.	Mark	September 1976
Nowacki, Anne	John	June 1976
O'Donnell, T. Lynette	Stephen R	October 1987
O'Keefe, Abigail J.	Donald H..	October 1974
Patridge, Mary S.	Donald A	October 1988
Patterson, V. Jill	Michael J	October 1992
Perdue, Mary S.	Sidney H.	October 1972
Poitras, Linda R.	James G..	October 1985
Pool, Christine	Paul D.	October 1987
Porter, Patricia A.	Richard L	October 1989
Reed, Linda Y	Gary C.	September 1979
Reed, Shelba J.	J. Kenneth	October 1988
Richardson, Vickie D.	Jerry R.	October 1974
Richardson, Theresa G.	Randall W.	May 1980
Riddick, Cheryl L.	Terry L.	October 1986
Ritchie, Sharon R.	Henry C.	September 1977
Robertson, Carol S.	Rex D.	October 1986
Rodenbush, Evangeline R.	Robert K.	September 1990
Royer, Darline J.	Arlon R.	January 1986
Russell, Brenda R.	Robert L.	October 1987
Sawyer, Brenda I.	Jerry E.	October 1989
Schreckhise, Judith A.	Daniel D.	October 1987
Schwarz, Yonda J.	David H.	October 1988
Scott, Millie D.	Lloyd G.	May 1983
Seay, Mary E.	Roscoe L.	January 1988
Sedra, Teresa A.	Mokhles B	January 1989.
Seymour, Myra J.	Michael J.	May 1984
Shalm, Georgene R.	Allan J.	October 1980
Shalm, Katherine D.	Lynden G.	May 1984
Sharp, Elli K.	Daniel W.	September 1983
Sharp, Dian L.	Ronald L.	October 1985
Sheets, Bonnie J.	C. Darrell	April 1981
Sherry, Becky S.	Lee Roy	October 1967
Shirley, Nancy M.	Lloyd L.	February 1973
Shirley, Kari J.	Stephen A.	October 1988

Showalter, K. Dianne	Monte D.	October 1986
Simoneaux, Carolyn P.	Timothy J.	May 1979
Smith, Vonda R.	Howard L.	October 1989
Smith, Delta F.	Tony L.	May 1986
Smith, Leah R.	Vondas A.	October 1973
Smoak, Pamela L.	Richard E.	October 1988
Sones, Melva J.	Gary D.	October 1988
Sponsler, K. Miriam	G. Michael	September 1981
Starin, Mariann W.	Mark J.	October 1985
Starks, Josephine S.	Dale R.	October 1980
Stewart, Tegeste G.	Albert	October 1982
Stovall, Charlotte A.	Charles T.	May 1986
Strickland, Judy L.	Sim S.	September 1984
Suber, Rita J.	Paul E.	September 1983
Sullivan, Carolyn A.	Cecil E.	October 1987
Sully, M. Lyna	Craig G.	October 1991
Szabolcsi, Dolores A.	George	January 1987
Thacker, Sharon K.	Melvin E.	October 1982
Thompson, Regina J.	Bradley E.	October 1989
Tilley, Beverly E.	Eddie A.	September 1977
Tracy, Susan A.	Garry A.	October 1978
Turner, Elizabeth Z.	William D.	October 1978
Tuttle, Dianna L.	Michael L.	May 1984
Van Beek, Maria J.	David E.	May 1988
Vannoy, Marion A.	J. Daniel	October 1984
Varnell, JoAnn	Carl H.	May 1979
Verity, M. Lorraine	John G.	October 1980
Votaw, Diana M.	Victor W.	October 1986
Walmer, Ivonne G.	Michael D.	October 1992
Walmer, Linda M.	Philip D.	October 1972
Ward, Bonnie M.	David B.	September 1979
Well, Beverly A.	Roy S.	September 1977
Well, Marizia I.	Steven D.	October 1989
Wheeler, Fritzi D.	Stephen N.	October 1987
White, Margaret E.	Rodger K.	September 1984
Wilkerson, Ginger C.	Daimy A.	September 1990
Willhoite, Marlene	Johnny L.	May 1978
Williams, Janice K.	Marvin R.	October 1992
Willoughby, Barbara A.	R. Steven	October 1986
Wolfram, Deborah A.	John M.	May 1983

This action . . . is done for the sole purpose of clarifying past minutes of the FMB. . . .

Whereas, Foreign Missions Division acknowledges the importance of the missionary family in the furtherance of budget raising activities and in enhancing supportive relationships with local churches,

Be it resolved that Foreign Missions Division requires the involvement of the entire missionary family, i.e., husband, wife and dependent children, in deputational travel and related activities within the United States and Canada, and

Be it further resolved that any deviation from this policy shall require the prior approval of the FM Administrative Committee. . . .

Whereas, current practice of the Social Security Administration entitles a wife to the larger of 1) her own personal Social Security benefit, or 2) one-half of her husband's benefit. Foreign Missions Division deems it in the best interest of U.S. citizen missionary couples to charge Foreign Missions Division compensation to the missionary husband, thereby enhancing the earnings base of the missionary husband and thereby increasing the overall Social Security benefits to the missionary couple,

Be it resolved that the Foreign Missions Board adopts as policy the practice of charging Foreign Missions Division compensation to a missionary husband as appropriate; said compensation being reported on Form W-2 as required by the Internal Revenue Service and/or the Social Security Administration, and

Be it further resolved that the practice of charging Foreign Missions Division compensation to a missionary husband as appropriate be not construed in such a manner as to lessen a missionary wife's appointment under Foreign Missions Division. . . .

Other FMB decisions included the following:

- To accept pastoral board member Paul D. Mooney's resignation from the board due to his election as district superintendent of Indiana and consequent responsibilities on the General Board
- To consider the following cities as possible choices for hosting the 1995 World Fellowship Conference: Singapore, Sydney, Australia, Athens, Greece, Jerusalem, Israel, Puerto la Cruz, Venezuela, Johannesburg, South Africa, and Nairobi, Kenya
- To change Robert Arthur's appointment to evangelist; the assignment should be for one year with a review and evaluation by the board at the end of such time
- To change of field for David and Donna Flowers from Madagascar to Malawi
- To change of field for James and Linda Poitras from Nigeria to Ghana effective upon completion of current service in Nigeria
- To accept David Van Beek's resignation from foreign missions service
- Accept C. Darrell Sheets's resignation from missionary appointment effective June 30, 1993
- Appoint Lloyd Shirley as field superintendent of the UPC in Belize
- Request the UPC of Australia to reassume legal responsibility for the United Pentecostal Assemblies of Papua New Guinea, as provided in its constitution.
- To add the following sentence to the paragraph entitled "Purpose" in Paul Moulton's May 3, 1993, proposal for a convention and training center policy for Iquitos, Peru: "Further, that the Foreign Missions Board of the United Pentecostal Church International be the sole authority as to governing the usage and expansion of these facilities.
- To recommend Stephen Nix as president of the Apostolic Bible Institute in Uruguay, and that his appointment be changed from Argentina to Argentina/Uruguay
- To communicate a resolution to the UPC of Japan with a request for action by their April 1994 General Conference, that Japan be considered as open to the sending of UPCI missionaries, and that UPCI missionaries appointed to Japan become an intrinsic part of the UPC of Japan with voting privileges as any other licensed worker and have the privilege of holding offices in the church if elected by the conference, and that the purpose of missionaries working with the UPC of Japan is to strengthen the church in its doctrinal position and purity, to foster evangelism, plant churches, and strengthen the church in biblical holiness standards
- To communicate the same resolution to the UPC of Indonesia with a request for a written expression of their decision from the board of the UPC of Indonesia to FMD by August 8, 1993, at the time of their General Conference
- To express concern for the apparent extreme cost of FMD data processing and that the FM Administrative Committee explore the possibility of reducing these costs⁹⁰⁸

⁹⁰⁸ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (May 14, 1993).

Bible School Graduation in Zambia

God continued to pour out His Spirit in Zambia. At the youth conference, thirty-four were baptized in Jesus' name and thirty-one received the Holy Ghost. Brother and Sister Charles Abernathy, furlough replacements, were doing a great job in Zambia and had won the hearts of the Zambian people. Graduation was an exciting time as thirteen young men received diplomas. E. L. and Nona Freeman were the graduation speakers.⁹⁰⁹

Revival in Cuba

For years Cuba had lain dormant as revival swept through the Caribbean Region. Churches were springing up throughout Central America, but RFS Lloyd Shirley focused his attention on the nation where revival was least expected. Visits and sermons slowly built an apostolic foundation.

A delegation of brethren from Puerto Rico went to Cuba and found seven Jesus Name churches that were working together, and there were apparently more Jesus Name people yet to discover. Accompanied by Lloyd Shirley and Gary Landaw, General Superintendent Nathaniel Urshan visited Cuba for three nights and two days. Brother Urshan said, "It was amazing to see the spiritual hunger of the people."

Gary Landaw reported:

Unity was the theme of our youth conference held in Havana. Brother Michak Lespier of Puerto Rico was greatly used of the Lord as he ministered to the youth. Twenty were baptized and five received the Holy Ghost. It was exciting to participate in the unique exuberant worship of the people. Many times, the saints had difficulty in getting to church, but when services began they were energized and sometimes the worship part of the service went for over two hours before the preaching. Brother Nathaniel A. Urshan was the special guest speaker at the ministerial part of the conference. During those services, seventeen were baptized and filled with the Holy Ghost. Cuba is in revival!⁹¹⁰

August/September 1993 Foreign Missions Board Sessions at the School of Missions

Board sessions at the SOM are generally reserved for interviewing missionaries on furlough. Each family can express situations and problems unique to their situation. Following are other board decisions:

- To change of field for Danny and Lori Aber from Panama to Guyana/Suriname
- To appoint Danny K. Aber as field superintendent of the UPC of Guyana
- To change of field for Donald and Mary Patridge from Micronesia to Trinidad/Tobago
- To change of field for Paul and Christine Pool from Mexico to Mexico/Belize
- To change of field for Roger and Becky Buckland from the Philippines to Slovakia/Czech Republic
- To change of field for Dan and Judy Schreckhise from Caribbean to Spanish Caribbean
- To change of field for Randall and Theresa Richardson from Madagascar to Mauritius/Reunion/Seychelles
- To change of field for John and Debbie Wolfram from Hawaii/South Pacific to Pacific and Southeast Asia
- To accept Michael and Miriam Sponsler's resignation from foreign missions service
- To accept Ron and Joy Hanscom's resignation from foreign missions service
- To appoint Theodore D. Grosbach as field superintendent of the UPC in Zambia.⁹¹¹

⁹⁰⁹ "Foreign Missions Worldline," *Pentecostal Herald* (August 1993): 18.

⁹¹⁰ Gary Landaw, "Cuba," *Pentecostal Herald* (August 1993): 18.

⁹¹¹ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (September 3, 1993).

132 Receive the Holy Ghost in Mexico

Mexico was a sleeping giant. However, it began to arouse after those who traveled north to the States had been exposed to Oneness truth, and once awakened, nothing could stand in the way of a growing church. The missionary family of Mexico reported:

The missionaries of the United Pentecostal Church of Mexico report on a tremendous victory in the annual National Convention held July 10-11, 1993, in the beautiful city of Monterrey. The presence of the Lord was there as over 2,100 believers gathered from all over Mexico to worship the Lord—some traveled as far as 44 hours by bus. During the convention, 132 received the Holy Ghost. There were numerous reports of healings and miracles. Mexico is in revival! Mexico now has 141 licensed ministers, 130 churches and missions, with a total of over 9,500 baptized believers and five Bible schools in operation.⁹¹²

In the largest of Mexico's camps with 9,600 attending, 125 people were baptized. In another camp where T. Wynn Drost assisted, several thousand people attended, sixty were baptized, and eighty received the Holy Ghost.⁹¹³

Vanuatu

During Lee Sherry's trip to the island of Vanuatu, the minister for Labor and Immigration informed him that there would be no problem with their visas. Brother Sherry wrote:

The conference in Vanuatu was good. Twenty-four people were baptized with the Holy Ghost and sixteen people were baptized in water in Jesus' name. Our peak attendance was over 300. We licensed seven ministers. One of them was the personal secretary to the former president of Vanuatu. I believe he will be a great help to the work.

Mr. Godwin Ligo, Deputy Director of News Department, Radio Vanuatu, and the Convener of the first New Hebrides Arts Festival, has been baptized in Jesus' name. The prison ministry is going well, with thirty inmates ready to be baptized.⁹¹⁴

October 1993 Foreign Missions Board Sessions General Conference—Louisville, Kentucky

The board rejoiced that during the past year the gospel had impacted thousands of lives in many nations. However, the lagging economy and the weakening dollar continued to be one of the greatest challenges on foreign fields. The board struggled with the many ramifications, one of which was that North American churches bowed under the weight of the increasing cost of living, which in turn affected the ability to finance the bulging FM budget.

The FMD concentrated on building missionaries' budgets so they could survive in countries where wild inflation had devalued the dollar, creating a budget deficit. Unfortunately, many PIMs misunderstood this. While the board wanted desperately to send new missionaries, its first priority was to provide adequate support for the missionaries already under appointment. The board tried to untangle these knotty issues

The Foreign Missions Director's Report to the General Board

Director Harry Scism's October 1993 report to the General Board noted that missionaries were planting more churches than ever before. The 283 missionaries under full appointment and 163 AIMers,

⁹¹² "Foreign Missions Worldline," *Pentecostal Herald* (September 1993): 18.

⁹¹³ T. Wynn Drost, "From Mexico," *Global Witness* (October–December 1993): 5.

⁹¹⁴ Lee Roy Sherry, "From Vanuatu," *Global Witness* (October–December 1993): 5.

made a total of 446 North American missionaries. These were assisted by 7,274 national workers, all of which meant that the UPCI was reaching into 125 nations.

Annual field reports indicated an overseas constituency of 1,237,790 attending 14,638 churches and preaching points; many national pastors were responsible for more than one church. The report indicated that 76,756 had been baptized in Jesus' name and 88,205 had received the Holy Ghost. This included 30,000 who received the Holy Ghost in Ethiopia in 1992, but it did not include those who received the Holy Ghost in Ethiopia during 1993. These statistics would appear in the general director's 1994 report.

The Financial Picture

Despite the economic problems plaguing North America's local churches, 1993 was again a record year for FM income. The average monthly PIM income was \$809,458.68. Contributions from churches and individuals set a record of \$13,786,246.67, including the direct offerings given to missionaries on deputation. The Youth Division contributed \$400,000 from SFC, and the Ladies Auxiliary contributed \$285,000 from Mothers Memorial, bringing the grand total for the 1992–93 fiscal year to \$14,471,246.67.⁹¹⁵

While many doors were opening, the problem was finding more effective ways to walk through them to produce a greater influx of souls. Missionaries conducted personal evangelism, citywide crusades, literature blitzes, radio broadcasts, home Bible studies, and home fellowship groups. However, Jesus Christ alone was the answer for the overwhelming needs of the world. The missionaries' goal was to lift up Jesus to a lost and dying world. As Christ touched their lives, they reached toward Him with trembling hands and hearts.

World Conference—Athens, Greece

On Tuesday, February 7, 1995, more than 1,400 people gathered at the Caravel Hotel in Athens, Greece, to attend the World Conference. This service included both a songfest and a Harvestime radio broadcast, which was preached by General Superintendent Nathaniel A. Urshan.

The crowd overwhelmed the seating arrangement of 1,300 individual seats, forcing many to stand along the walls during the services.

The conference singing, worshiping, praying, and preaching were anointed; the spiritual climate ministered to all, building faith and reviving spirits. All present were inspired toward worldwide revival and evangelism. Conference delegates' reports revealed that a harvest of souls was already in progress and growing. Representatives and delegates, including missionaries, came from more than forty-five nations.⁹¹⁶

A Church Started in Budapest, Hungary

Nearly one thousand Europeans from twenty-three nations met in Budapest, Hungary, to start a church. This project had been preceded by a year of prayer and fasting. Pastors and churches in Western Europe gave generously. With funds from Arlie Enis and Military Ministry's "Sponsor a Friend" they rented buses, and other offerings provided food and lodging for Russian and Eastern European believers who had been without religious freedom for decades. They would not have been able to attend without help.

Robert Rodenbush said, "James Kilgore, assistant general superintendent, preached the crusade. The attendance was between 900 and 1,000 nightly. The altar and aisles of the large auditorium were

⁹¹⁵ Harry Scism, "Annual Report to the General Board," October 1993.

⁹¹⁶ J. L. Hall, "World Conference Report," *Pentecostal Herald* (April 1995): 4.

filled with people seeking God. At least 40 people received the Holy Ghost. More have received the Holy Ghost since the crusade!”⁹¹⁷

John S. Leaman Reappointed as Director of Promotion and Publications⁹¹⁸

Having served as director of promotion and publications since 1991, Mervyn and Marilyn Miller felt it was God’s will to accept a pastorate in East Nashville, Tennessee. The FMB felt that John S. Leaman, who had previously held this position for fifteen years, would be the right person for the job.

Garry Tracy Appointed as Coordinator of Overseas Ministries⁹¹⁹

Since J. S. Leaman had been serving as OM coordinator, it was necessary to find someone to fill this vacancy. The OM coordinator oversees the short-term missionary program, the overseas literature ministry, and the overseas training program.

Garry Tracy had been a missionary in Pakistan for ten years. He then served as RFS of Asia, during which time he helped existing works to advance and opened new frontiers for the UPCI. Brother Tracy accepted the challenge of Overseas Ministries.

Paul Dennis Appointed as Regional Field Supervisor of Asia⁹²⁰

Garry Tracy’s appointment as OM coordinator left the Asian Region with no supervisor. The Asian Region represents at least 50 percent of the world’s population and has the greatest number of unreached people. Looking for a supervisor to make a difference, the FMB chose Paul and Shirley Dennis.

Paul and Shirley Dennis served on the mission field for nineteen years. Their first appointment was to Japan. While continuing some of their involvement in Japan, the Dennises gave more of their attention to the military work in Asia. Based in Okinawa, they assisted the military work in different parts of Asia in numerous ways.

During this time Brother Dennis traveled to different Asian countries, starting his travels with RFS Paul Cook, later with George Shalm, and then with Garry Tracy. These years of exposure to various Asian countries played an important role in acquainting Brother Dennis with the vast cultural and language differences in this massive population.

The Dennises kept their base in Okinawa. Both of the Dennises were highly qualified for the gigantic task of evangelizing the unreached of Asia.

The 1994 Foreign Missions Board

The 1994 FMB consisted of Harry E. Scism; general director, Edwin Judd, secretary; John S. Leaman, director of promotion and publications; Garry Tracy, OM coordinator; pastoral board members Jimmy Shoemake, Manuel Rogers, B. J. Hurst, D. D. Davis, William H. Cole, Francis Mason, R. P. Bell, and G. A. Mangun; honorary members T. C. Bonnette, Fred Kinzie, and F. V. Shoemake; RFSs J. P. Hughes, Africa; Paul Dennis, Asia; Lloyd Shirley, Central America/Caribbean; Robert Rodenbush, Europe/Middle East; Carl Varnell, Pacific; and James Burton, South America.

⁹¹⁷ Robert Rodenbush, “All European Evangelism Thrust,” *Pentecostal Herald* (November 1993): 13.

⁹¹⁸ Harry Scism, “Personnel Changes,” *Global Witness* (October–December 1993): 3.

⁹¹⁹ Ibid.

⁹²⁰ “Welcome Brother and Sister Paul Dennis,” *Pentecostal Herald* (February 1995): 10.

Nicaragua and Panama, Central America

Missionary John Hopkins traveled to Nicaragua's National Convention, which was also a crusade effort. Myles Young from the United States was the guest speaker. There was a great move of the Spirit as 280 people were filled with the Holy Ghost and many were healed. Over 3,000 attended.

Anthony Mangun and the Pentecostals of Alexandria purchased a strategic property in Managua for the growing church pastored by Eduardo Garcia, president of the work in Nicaragua.

In a church in Panama City, twenty people were baptized in one service. Within the previous month fifty-five people were filled with the Holy Ghost and a new building was dedicated in the capital area. Pastor James McPhail and the congregation in Visalia, California, financed that building.⁹²¹

Haiti

Many people fled Port-au-Prince, the capital city of Haiti, to avoid political and social turmoil. Despite all of this, God continued to move and the national youth president reported that 150 received the Holy Ghost during a two-week citywide youth revival.

In another report a *hougan* (voodoo priest) fell ill and went totally blind. In fear he called for the UPC pastor. Knowing the man's history of witchcraft, the pastor would not pray for his healing until he knew that the man was serious about changing his life. When the man agreed to quit practicing voodoo, the pastor burned the man's idols and other demonic paraphernalia in the man's front yard. Then the pastor prayed for the man; God touched his heart, healed him, and restored his sight. He began bringing his family to church. Danny Wilkerson spoke with this man and was moved by his new love for God and his deep sincerity.⁹²²

Suriname

Missionary Danny Aber reported a two-night crusade in Dutch Suriname attended by a thousand each night.⁹²³ Seventy-nine people received the Holy Ghost. When Brother Aber spoke about opening a Bible school, eight pastors and eighty saints came to enroll. The wealthiest man in the city offered to let him rent a furnished home for \$55 a month.

As Brother Aber was leaving the airport, the Spirit directed his attention to a man. He told the man, "I felt drawn in the Spirit to talk to you." The man began to weep, saying that he pastored a church of over three hundred people and lived forty-five minutes from the airport. He had been very discouraged, and God had awakened him early that morning and told him to go to the airport where he would receive a word. He was overjoyed to meet Brother Aber.

Donated Construction in the West Indies

Many North American churches began to get involved in the work of missions in hands-on ways. For example, in April 1994, ten men from the Apostolic Pentecostal Tabernacle, Seymour, Indiana, traveled to Nevis in the West Indies to build a church. After the team experienced two local church services, they returned home with a deeper commitment to the cause of missions and a greater appreciation for our missionaries.

Begun in 1989, the building project had been blown away by Hurricane Hugo, along with many homes. The congregation had tried to recover from this setback, but the work had progressed slowly. The project was now almost completed, thanks to the members of the building team: Pastor Larry Arrowood,

⁹²¹ John Hopkins, "Nicaragua and Panama," *Global Witness* (April–June 1994): 4.

⁹²² Danny Wilkerson, "Haiti," *Global Witness* (April–June 1994): 4.

⁹²³ Danny Aber, "Suriname," *Global Witness* (April–June 1994): 4.

Assistant Pastor Todd Smith, Associate Minister Albert Skaggs, Dave Arthur, Kevin Arthur, Joe Arthur, Paul Arthur, Roger Medaris, Robert Terrell, and Steve Trapp.⁹²⁴

Donated Construction in Guatemala

Missionary Brad Thompson reported that Nashville Builders came to Guatemala from the First UPC, Nashville, Tennessee, pastored by Ron Becton. In five days they completely remodeled the Bible school classrooms and dormitory area.

Since its inception in 1978 the Bible school had never been a complete program and thus never had a graduating class. Since going to Guatemala in 1985 as AIMers, Brad Thompson's dream had been to create a formal Bible school program and produce a graduating class. He wrote:

I cannot explain the joy I felt presenting the diplomas to our first fourteen graduates. It was truly a dream come true. In December we held our first graduation from the Institute of Pentecostal Ministries. It was a tremendous victory for the work in Guatemala.

In January we opened our doors for a new year of study and really to a new era for our Bible school. The first graduation and the remodeling have completely changed the image of our training program. Our ministers and saints are now taking greater pride and respect in the school.

We have sixteen first year students training for the ministry. They are an excellent group, and I feel as if the new environment has caused both students and teachers to enter their classes with greater excitement and enthusiasm. There is a spirit of revival in the school, and is capable of producing men better prepared and equipped to take the name of Jesus Christ to all of Guatemala.⁹²⁵

Church Dedicated in Germany

A church building was dedicated in Krefeld, Germany, on June 26, 1994. Present were Pastor Siegfried Deer, General Superintendent N. A. Urshan, FM Director Harry Scism, RFS Robert Rodenbush, and missionaries Charles Stovall, Alan Demos, and Arlie Enis.

Following is a little history about Siegfried Deer. In 1916 Andrew D. Urshan had preached in Russia for about three months, baptizing many in Jesus' name. A church was established and people began receiving the Holy Ghost.

In 1989 when the door opened for people of German descent to return from Russia to their homeland, Siegfried Deer, a descendant of this revival, emigrated from Russia. He and his family settled in Krefeld, in northern Germany. Many members of the church in Kazakhstan came to this same area so they could worship together. Brother Deer dreamed of a church building, a very expensive dream in Western Europe. The congregation had grown to 130 adult members baptized in Jesus' name and filled with the Holy Ghost. Sometimes as many as two hundred attended a Sunday service. They really did need a building!

They bought property only to find that the city would not let them build a church on it. After much prayer and searching, they found a large building that was perfect for a church. The company that owned it had gone bankrupt and was willing to sell at a low price. God began to provide the ways and means for them to close on this property. Much hard work transformed the building into a beautiful sanctuary.

At the dedication Brother Urshan preached a wonderful message and told about his father going to Russia.⁹²⁶

⁹²⁴ Larry Arrowood, "Men from Seymour, Indiana, Build Church in Nevis, West Indies," *Global Witness* (July–September 1994): 4.

⁹²⁵ Brad Thompson, "Bible School—Guatemala," *Global Witness* (July–September 1994): 6.

⁹²⁶ Charles Stovall, "A Dream Is Born," *Global Witness* (October–December 1994): 3.

Dedication of the Andrew Urshan Memorial Building

In October 1977, John and Anne Nowacki arrived in France from Canada with their two children, Emmanuel and Laureen. The Lord directed them to Melun, a city close to Paris. After they settled in nearby Rubelles, they began to search for a church building in Melun.

In August 1978, they found an old fifteen-room house in the heart of Melun. With the Lord's help they rented the building and for five months they tore down walls and renovated the building to include a chapel, prayer room, Sunday school rooms, offices, sanctuary, and other areas. On January 27, 1979, eighty-five people attended the church dedication, during which they baptized one in Jesus' name and a young lady received the Holy Ghost.

The Melun church became a mother church, for soon the Lord led Brother and Sister Nowacki to other cities in France—Troyes, Arras, Bordeaux, Paris, and others—to establish churches and install pastors. They also contacted groups of believers in Romilly, Hyeres, Menton, Angers, Grenoble, Forbach, Fromentine, and Bourges.

The Lord gave Brother Nowacki a vision of an old factory on one of Melun's main avenues. They found the building and purchased it for one million francs (U.S. \$250,000). After renovating it, the congregation moved from the rented house in downtown Melun to the newly renovated facility in February 1989. It was not long before the fellowship hall, which could seat 100 comfortably, was filled with over 180 worshippers!

This first phase of the building was dedicated during the 1990 World Conference in Amsterdam, Holland, to the memory of Andrew D. Urshan.

On June 18, 1994, the second phase of the church was dedicated. Brother and Sister N. A. Urshan, Harry and Helen Scism, and Robert and Evangeline Rodenbush were present, along with many missionaries from neighboring fields.⁹²⁷

Death of Floyd L. Borders

Floyd L. Borders passed away on July 29, 1994. He was born September 17, 1934, in Herrick, Illinois. He married Ella Mohr on May 29, 1958, and they had one son, Kevin L. Borders.

Spanning forty-three years, Brother Borders's ministry included evangelism, home missions, pastoral work in Illinois, California, Kentucky, and Tennessee, and establishing Bible schools in New Zealand and Australia.

Ill health forced him to return to the United States in November 1980. A few weeks after his return to the U.S., the church in Union City, Tennessee, where he had pastored before going to the field, called him to return as pastor. He remained there until his health forced him to retire in January 1992, having pastored that church a total of more than fifteen years.

The funeral was held at the First UPC in Union City, Tennessee. L.H. Benson and Wayne Chester spoke on behalf of the Tennessee District, and Edwin Judd spoke on behalf of the FMD. Wayne Spencer, pastor of First UPC in Martin, Tennessee, where Brother Borders had attended since his retirement, preached the main message.⁹²⁸

Over 4,000 Receive the Holy Ghost in Papua New Guinea

After Richard Davis preached the opening message during the crusade in Papua New Guinea, 2,000 came to the altar and 1,500 raised their hands to say they were healed.

Doug Klinedinst preached Saturday morning and under the anointing said that over 3,000 people would be filled with the Spirit. This prophecy proved to be true.

⁹²⁷ John Nowacki, "Dedication of the Andrew Urshan Memorial Building," *Pentecostal Herald* (November 1995): 4.

⁹²⁸ "In Memoriam—Floyd L. Borders," *Pentecostal Herald* (April 1995): 16.

On Saturday evening Billy Cole preached about receiving the Holy Spirit to a crowd of between 12,000 and 14,000. Afterwards over 4,000 people who had never spoken in tongues came forward and raised their hands, expecting to be filled with the Holy Ghost. Later the churches that were represented polled their people and announced that over 4,000 people had received the Holy Ghost!

On Easter Sunday morning 5,000 came to the altar in response to the gospel message.⁹²⁹

The 1994 Foreign Missions Director's Annual Report to the General Board

Consistent efforts had made it possible to send most of the missionaries back to the field with budgets large enough to handle the soaring cost of living in their respective fields. Director Harry Scism reported:

There are 277 missionaries under full appointment and 185 missionaries on the short-term missionary program, giving us a total of 462 missionaries from North America. A total of 11,332 national workers are also preaching this gospel in overseas fields. The United Pentecostal Church is now working in 122 nations.

Annual field reports received for this past year indicate that 104,324 were baptized in Jesus' name during the past twelve months and 151,935 received the baptism of the Holy Ghost. This is certainly a record number of people baptized in water and spirit during a twelve-month period. Our overseas constituency now totals 1,623,030. During the past twelve months our overseas constituency increased by 385,240. There are presently 14,551 churches and preaching points on foreign soil.

The United Pentecostal Church International has again stood by the cause of Foreign Missions with such outstanding support that we have another record year for Foreign Missions income. On an average each month our Partners In Missions income is \$822,813.74. Contributions from churches and individuals in this fiscal year were a record setting total of \$14,123,560.25.

We are thankful to the Pentecostal Conquerors for the allocation of \$365,500.00 from Sheaves for Christ. We're also grateful to the Ladies Auxiliary for a contribution of \$295,000.00 from the Mother's Memorial program. This brings our grand total for the 1993-1994 fiscal year to \$14,784,060.25.⁹³⁰

Training continued to be the focus of the FMD as national leaders prepared to step into pulpits around the world. There were seventy Bible schools training 2,487 students and another 9,673 in 189 seminars, as well as 6,201 students enrolled in Bible correspondence programs.

Pastors and churches gave \$68,515.02 to CSI, which made it possible to aid victims of disaster and famine in twenty-one nations. Since 1988 when CSI was started, the UPCI had received \$652,576.88, enabling the church to meet numerous needs in approximately forty-five nations.

Nine New Missionaries Appointed at Milwaukee⁹³¹

At the 1994 General Conference in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, four couples and a single lady were added to the roster of UPCI missionaries. These appointments brought the total of fully appointed missionaries to 281.

- David and Angela Doan to Okinawa
- D. C. and Jennifer Downey to Mexico
- Kathy Miller to France
- Kevin and Kathy Nix to Peru
- Leonard E. and Ping-Lan Richardson to Taiwan

⁹²⁹ Richard S. Davis, "4,000 Receive the Holy Ghost," *Global Witness* (October–December 1994): 1.

⁹³⁰ Harry Scism, "Annual Report to the General Board," September 1994.

⁹³¹ Harry Scism, "Nine Missionaries Appointed," *Pentecostal Herald* (January 1995): 10.

Looking forward to the fiftieth anniversary of the UPCI in 1995, the church had marked tremendous strides. In the Book of Acts, the word “added” was used to describe the growth of the church. Then the term changed to “multiplied.” As we have seen in this documentary, the church had now stepped up to great growth. No longer can we record all of the events in individual fields, for if we did the world could not contain the books.

A Missionary’s Attitude toward the Task

Still, despite the great growth of foreign missions, Jerry Richardson of Madagascar wrote, “When we look at the work, we think that things are going pretty good until we lift our eyes and look at the fields. How can we be satisfied with a few hundred in a city where there are hundreds of thousands? How can we relax with 20,000 believers in a nation where there are 13,000,000 that still need the Lord?”⁹³²

The January 1995 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

Jeffrey and Ivana Norris met the FMB to discuss the possibility of reopening the Brazilian Bible school. (In a previous session the board had decided to sell the property.) The board decided to rescind its earlier plan to sell the Rio de Janeiro Bible school property so long as the Brazilian church maintained and developed the property. The board wanted Jeffrey and Ivana Norris to reside on the property and develop its usage in harmony with FMD objectives and the UPC of Brazil.

Another issue was Mark Norris’s illness and necessary relocation to North America. The board authorized Mark and Eunice Norris to return to the United States as long as they continued developing and translating Portuguese literature.

Other board decisions included the following:

- To accept Paul and Helen Moulton’s resignation effective March 31, 1995, and approve missionary retirement compensation for them effective April 1, 1995.
- To continue to assume the risk on casualty/theft losses on SFC vehicles as has been done for the past twenty years, and increase by 33 percent the assessment from applicable PIM accounts for this coverage to help recover recent theft losses.
- To increase missionary personal compensation by a 2.8 percent inflationary adjustment for 1995.
- To accept C. H. Abernathy’s resignation effective upon his return from the field, compensate him as a missionary through May 1995, and approve that his retirement allowance begin June 1, 1995. Retirement status of spouses such as Miriam Abernathy will be determined in the May FMB meeting.
- To change of field for Else Lund from Ghana/Liberia to Ghana.
- To change of field for Jimmy and Pat Hall from South Africa to Kenya/Uganda/Burundi/Rwanda.
- To change of field for Paul and Rita Suber from Ghana/Togo/Benin to Togo/Benin, effective upon Jim Poitras’s arrival in Ghana.
- To approve the proposed General Constitutions for the Fijian Sector and the Indian Sector of the UPCI. (Fiji constitution to be approved after the recommended changes.)
- To approve revising the UPC of Kenya’s constitution with the minor changes recommended by the Constitution Committee.
- To recommend Samuel and Joyce Latta’s appointment as missionary evangelists with permission to operate from a stateside base if so desired.

⁹³² Jerry Richardson, “Madagascar,” *Pentecostal Herald* (December 1994): 19.

- To approve the changes requested by the Committee on Associates in Missions:
 - Approve an AIMER to depart for the field if a church gives a written guarantee of full financial responsibility.
 - Revise the AIM application form to include financial requirements for AIM appointment.
 - Print a new AIM brochure.
 - Require a nonrefundable \$100 application processing fee with each AIM application.

Death of John E. Klemin

Born on June 20, 1926, in El Paso, Texas, John E. Klemin was promoted to his eternal reward on January 27, 1995, in Portland, Oregon. In addition to extensive ministries in North America, John and his wife, Ruby Klemin (née Keyes), served in Argentina and England. They poured themselves into preaching, teaching, and training men and women.

In between mission tours in Argentina and England, Brother Klemin served as president of Conquerors Bible College, Portland, Oregon, making a lasting impression on the lives of many North American young people.⁹³³

Death of Former Regional Field Supervisor Paul C. Leaman

Paul C. Leaman, referred to by some as the “gentle giant,” was a spiritual giant who was greatly loved by all who knew him. His years of service with the FMD made a lasting impact on foreign missions work in South America, Central America, and the Caribbean. He touched the lives of literally thousands of people.

In 1971, while pastoring a missions-minded church in Detroit, Michigan, Paul Leaman was appointed to the FMB, on which he served until January 1976, when he became RFS for the Latin America/Caribbean Region. (This region was later divided into the Central America/Caribbean Region and the South American Region.) During this time he lived in Costa Rica and traveled extensively, meeting with missionaries, speaking and singing at conferences, and giving direction to many national churches.

In his unique way, Paul Leaman ministered to the missionary families by patiently listening to their heartbeat and problems and offering spiritual encouragement and counsel. All were touched by his kindness and love. Health problems eventually made it necessary for him to step out of FM work, and while pastoring in Saginaw, he was elected superintendent of the Michigan District.

On January 14, 1995, at 4:49 AM, Paul C. Leaman was promoted to his eternal reward, leaving behind a wonderful family and thousands of friends.⁹³⁴

A Miracle in Colombia

Sidney and Mary Perdue, former missionaries to Colombia, returned to the field for a visit in January 1995. Brother Perdue learned of the following miracle from Arnulfo Lizcano, a Colombian national evangelist.

In January 1995, Arnulfo Lizcano preached a revival in Caquita State in southeastern Colombia. Before one of the services, two men carried a woman in a hammock into the church and placed her on the front bench.

⁹³³ J. S. Leaman, “In Memoriam,” *Global Witness* (April–June 1995): 7.

⁹³⁴ Harry Scism, “Regional Director Paul Leaman,” *Global Witness* (April–June 1995): 7.

Brother Arnulfo asked the pastor who the lady was, but the pastor did not know. They later learned that she had been sick for six years. Unconscious much of the time, she could not walk and her muscles were atrophied. Her husband decided to bring her to the service and hired a man to help him. They walked seven hours to get her there.

After the service, Brother Lizcano and the pastor prayed for the unconscious woman. She took a deep breath, opened her eyes, looked around, stood up, and began to walk and talk. She and her husband spent the night with the pastor and his family, then they walked back home. She had been completely healed!⁹³⁵

Sri Lanka Family Camp

Missionaries of Sri Lanka reported that a recent national family camp and seminar saw a great harvest in which 109 received the Holy Ghost and forty-one were baptized in the name of Jesus Christ in the Indian Ocean.⁹³⁶

Death of Doyle Lamar Spears⁹³⁷

The first appointed missionary evangelists, Doyle Spears and his family, traveled many miles in all types of transportation to reach the unchurched. At the time of his passing in 1995, his home state esteemed him so that both the Mississippi Senate and the House of Representatives adjourned their sessions “in memory of Reverend Spears.” Born in Zama, Mississippi, he followed the pioneering footprints of his parents; God called him to preach at age sixteen. His dynamic ministry at this young age earned him the appellation, “boy wonder.”

He married Mary Faith McFarland and reared a family that extended compassionate hands to the lost. Brother and Sister Spears pastored churches in Hartford City, Indiana; Longview, Texas; and Jayess and Pearl, Mississippi. He was a powerful and effective evangelist at home and abroad. His kindness blessed many missionaries and his ministry at crusades, conferences, and camp meetings always added abundantly to national churches.

The notes to the message he had planned to preach on the Sunday night before his passing, “The Miracle Connection,” were found neatly typed in his Bible.

Death of John Brian

On March 14, 1995, after a stroke followed by a long illness, John Brian was promoted to his eternal reward. Brother Brian was an outstanding missionary in Australia from 1964 to 1977, and was greatly loved by all who knew him.

Brother Brian conducted a successful Bible school and training program in Australia, laying a solid doctrinal foundation. He also led the missionary endeavor in Papua New Guinea.

After returning to the United States, Brother Brian played a key role in formulating the Veterans of Foreign Missions Association, serving as its first president for a three-year term.

Madeline Brian stood by her husband through the years of his ministry and later his illness. She was a tremendous missionary and also played an important part in designing the operation of the Veterans of Foreign Missions Association.⁹³⁸

⁹³⁵ Sidney Perdue, “A Colombian Miracle,” *Global Witness* (April–June 1995): 3.

⁹³⁶ Prince Mathiasz, “Sri Lanka Family Camp,” *Global Witness* (April–June 1995): 4–5.

⁹³⁷ “In Memoriam,” *Pentecostal Herald* (May 1995): 17.

⁹³⁸ J. S. Leaman, “In Memoriam,” *Global Witness* (July–September 1995): 7.

Ethiopia Reports 78,000 Filled with the Holy Ghost

John Paul Hughes, RFS of Africa, said, “For decades Africa was known as the ‘dark continent’ and mission societies pleaded for volunteers to go and convert the ‘savages.’ Today there are more Christians in Africa than in America. Nowhere else is there a greater concentration of Christians.”⁹³⁹

The UPCI exceeded the one million mark in the African Region, and God was still responding to the burning hunger for spiritual renewal. People who had been disappointed in socialism, ancestor worship, and religions that did not bring peace to troubled hearts were hearing God’s Word! J. P. Hughes commented on the Ethiopian crusade: “In March, 1995, 500,000 people gathered in Ethiopia to hear the message of the new birth. Some 78,000 received the Holy Ghost. Many testified of miraculous healings. The God of the Book of Acts is still alive and building His church.”⁹⁴⁰

With this growing momentum of revival, it was not time to slacken evangelistic efforts. Brother Hughes called for more missionaries; thirteen French-speaking African countries and Portuguese-speaking African nations waited to hear the gospel. War and disease claimed millions of lives while the world watched from the sidelines. Only God knew how many could have been reached with the gospel if only someone close enough to Him would have heard and answered His call, and the home churches would have sacrificed a few conveniences in order to send him.

May 1995 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

The May 1995 FMB sessions dealt with changing IRS rules for foreign missions retirees. Carl Morgan’s expertise helped, but all of the changes created chaos in missionaries’ budgets. The new intermediate missionary category (see board decision below) would allow a lower budget for newly appointed missionaries going to a field where a veteran missionary carried the bulk of the financial load. “Field accounts” were also being considered. If field accounts were implemented, they could be dedicated to a field even if the missionary who raised the funds should be transferred.

The board also considered a report from a publications committee, which recommended securing a professional to redesign and upgrade the *Global Witness*. The possibility of limiting newsletters from individual missionaries and enlarging the *Global Witness* in their place was discussed. Following are other board decisions:

- To accept Vic Votaw’s resignation from foreign missionary service.
- To change of field for J. R. Black from Bahamas to Spanish Caribbean.
- To approve the Committee on Intermediate Level of Missionary Appointment recommendation as amended.
- To approve the reduced budget recommended for Intermediate Missionary appointment.
- To appoint Danny A. Wilkerson as field superintendent of the UPC of Haiti.
- To express appreciation to Thetus Tenney for her burden, vision, and efforts in creating the World Network of Prayer.
- To appoint a committee to study the advisability of PIM accounts for fields to supplement personal PIM budgets, thereby reducing the size of personal budgets and stabilizing support for the work whether or not the missionary remains in service there.
- To appoint Carl H. Varnell as interim coordinator of Faith Promise Ministries on a part-time basis in conjunction with his present position of RFS, with the understanding that his RFS responsibility will be adjusted in cooperation with the general director of Foreign Missions.

⁹³⁹ J. P. Hughes, “Africa Now the Center of Christianity,” *Pentecostal Herald* (June 1995): 12.

⁹⁴⁰ Ibid.

- To amend the missionary retirement policy enacted in October 1994 to provide health insurance up to the premium charged for AARP Medigap “I” rather than “G,” and add the following spousal qualifications to the policy regarding missionary retirement:
 - 1) The spouse of a retiring missionary must be at least sixty-two years of age before being included in the calculation of the retirement benefit.
 - 2) The spouse must meet the length of service requirements in order to be eligible for inclusion in the calculation of retirement benefits.
 - 3) As to the effect of possible remarriage after retirement, qualification for married benefits will be guided by the same principles as the Social Security Administration rules.
 - 4) Upon the death of a spouse after retirement, the retirement benefit shall revert to that of a single person.
- To give FM offering credit for allowable travel expenses to those going abroad in an organized and pre-approved intercessory prayer ministry, provided they have already demonstrated a ministry of intercession.

Missionary Personnel Divided into Three Categories

In 1995 missionary service was divided into three categories: Career Missionaries (CM), Intermediate Missionaries (IM), and Associates in Missions (AIM). The CM goes to the field with a higher budget due the necessity of carrying the workload of the field, such as administrative funds for national workers, hall rentals, and travel funds. He carries the financial load of the field.

The IM has a reduced budget because he works with the CM, who has the work funds incorporated into his budget. This means that the IM can be sent to the field more rapidly. The IM term is for two years and can be extended, or after serving the two-year term, the IM may apply for career status.

The AIMer goes to the field on a short-term assignment that can be extended, but the AIM budget most generally is self-invested, or invested by friends and relatives. He does not have the deputation privileges given to CMs and IMs. In defining the three levels of missionary service, the AIMer is listed with the missionary personnel without referring to the limitations of his associate status.

Sam and Joyce Latta Reappointed to Missionary Service

At its January 1995 meeting, the FMB recommended that Sam and Joyce Latta be reappointed to serve as missionary evangelists. They had previously served in Liberia (1965–1969) and Zimbabwe (1976–1985).

The Pacific Region Reports Significant Growth

The 1995 annual field reports for the Pacific Region showed another record year of growth with 10,560 baptized in Jesus’ name and 10,090 filled with the Holy Ghost. National licensed ministers increased to 1,336, pastoring 3,068 churches, and 217,712 constituents. This growth underlined the need for leadership training and Bible school programs to produce the ministers needed to guide the work.⁹⁴¹

Impact of the Falling Dollar

On the FMB since 1963 and secretary since 1976, Edwin Judd was not only a key to fund-raising, but also a motivational speaker and writer. In 1995 he wrote:

⁹⁴¹ Carl Varnell, “Pacific Region,” *Pentecostal Herald* (June 1995): 14.

In all probability you have never given a thought to the impact of the weakening American dollar upon the missions enterprise of the church. When the morning news commentator briefly states, “The dollar is down,” it probably completely escapes your attention. Unless you have tried to purchase something truly manufactured in Japan or Germany, the diminished exchange value of the U.S. dollar has probably not touched your life.

Unfortunately, this economic fact of life has a tremendous and damaging effect upon missions work in those areas of the world where the foreign exchange rate is largely influenced by Japanese or European currencies. To state it very simply, your mission’s dollar just does not reach as far when transported into those economies. If one is to maintain status quo, he is going to need more dollars to accomplish it. The only alternatives to more dollars is to cut back on that which Jesus expects a militant church to aggressively pursue: the evangelizing of the lost, the planting of the church, the establishing of the saints, and the training of others that they may also go forth into their world and fulfill the command of Christ.

Since January 1995 the missions dollar given in the United States has lost twenty percent of its purchasing power in areas of the world influenced by the Japanese yen, namely much of the Asiatic Pacific Rim nations. The same loss has occurred against the German Mark and other European currencies that have their greatest impact throughout that continent and in many African nations.

The reality of the situation is simply this: cost of living adjustments paid to missionary personnel to help them maintain a reasonable standard of living must be increased. Missionary housing and utilities costs have risen greatly. The cost of educating missionary children has escalated. The cost of acquiring and operating missionary vehicles (mostly European or Japanese manufacture) is increased by thousands of dollars. Everything a missionary must purchase on the local economy of his field will cost twenty percent more than its American equivalent. . . .

God-called missionaries are never satisfied with maintaining the status quo. They are always reaching out to accomplish more of that which the Lord the harvest has called them to do and for which the church has sent them. What a pity when golden opportunities have to be passed up because there is not sufficient money to take an extra trip, to rent a church hall, to print a supply of tracts or training literature, or to help a national evangelist relocate in a new area of the field that is ripe unto harvest. One has to wonder just how many souls will never hear of Jesus and will spend eternity in hell because there was insufficient money to finance the spreading of the gospel as Jesus commanded His church.

A Partners In Missions budget drawn up two, three, or four years ago is just not adequate where the dollar has lost twenty percent of its purchasing power. There is a limit to which the Foreign Missions Division can allow deficit spending in such a crisis situation. Terms of services have to be shortened and deputational travel extended. In many cases this one factor is the reason for missionary PIM deficits when the missionaries return on furlough.

What can you and I do about this 1995 dilemma? There is always the alternative to call the missionaries home and admit to failure in fulfilling the commission. Or, there is the better alternative to exercise better stewardship of our resources and increase our giving so that there will be sufficient to maintain missionary budgets and the work of harvest in these highly inflated fields of labor.

Perhaps you or your church’s missionary fund may have a surplus that could be gotten “out of the barn” and into the work of the Lord. An “extra” offering of this nature would be a tremendous help at such a time as this.

Perhaps the spirit of sacrifice and faith will touch your heart so that you will want to find it possible to increase your monthly foreign missions giving to meet this increased need.

Finally, if you find it impossible to do any of the above, may the Lord at least lay a burden of intercession on your heart for the work of the harvest and for the harvesters. Somewhere in the economy of God are the resources to make fulfilling His commission possible. He will not charge His church with a responsibility without enabling it to do it. Could at least part of the provision be in your custody?

May each member of the body fulfill his role in the corporate work of the church. “Go ye therefore, and teach (disciple) all nations, baptizing them in the name . . . teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you.”⁹⁴²

⁹⁴² Edwin E. Judd, “The Falling Dollar,” *Global Witness* (July–September 1995): 1, 3.

October 1995 Foreign Missions Board Sessions General Conference—Des Moines, Iowa

Director Harry E. Scism reported another year of growth.⁹⁴³ Since the previous conference in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, thousands had responded to the gospel, hundreds of new churches were established, and another FM income record was achieved. For the coming year Brother Scism placed special emphasis on crusades, personal evangelism, literature evangelism, radio evangelism, and home Bible studies.

The 1995 FM leadership included Harry Scism, general director; Edwin E. Judd, secretary; John S. Leaman, director of promotion and publications; and Garry Tracy, OM coordinator. Each continued to provide outstanding service to worldwide evangelism.

The six RFSs were J. P. Hughes, Africa; Paul Dennis, Asia; Lloyd Shirley, Central America/Caribbean; Robert Rodenbush, Europe/Middle East; Carl Varnell, Pacific; and James Burton, South America. Carl Varnell also served as interim coordinator of Faith Promise Ministries.

There were 279 career missionaries and 222 AIMers for a total of 501 missionaries, and 9,977 national ministers laboring in 131 nations.

The annual field reports showed that 103,409 were baptized in Jesus' name and 139,735 received the Holy Ghost, making the overseas constituency 1,729,173. The reports listed 16,021 churches and preaching points.

Financial Record

Despite economic problems in North America, pastors and churches made it possible for another record year for FM income. The monthly average for PIM income was \$857,574.24, setting another record of \$14,718,613.12 for the year's total. This figure included direct offerings given to missionaries on deputation. The Youth Division contributed \$490,000 from SFC, and the Ladies Auxiliary contributed \$264,000 from Mothers Memorial, resulting in a grand total for the 1994–95 fiscal year of \$15,472,613.12.

The UPCI's 80 Bible schools were training 2,660 students, another 9,561 were receiving special training in 250 seminars, and 13,156 students were enrolled in one of the many Bible correspondence programs. A total of 25,377 nationals graduated from these programs in 1995.

Compassion Services International

Offerings of love and compassion enabled the UPCI to reach into twenty nations, providing humanitarian help with food, clothing, medical supplies, and educational needs. With a total income of \$75,967.91, CSI helped the victims of famine, floods, hurricanes, and civil war.

Twenty-one New Missionaries Appointed in Des Moines

Twenty-one new missionaries—ten couples and one single lady—were appointed at the 1995 General Conference in Des Moines, Iowa. With the exception of two couples, all new appointees had gained missionary experience as AIMers.

Following are the new missionaries recommended for appointment:

- Randy and Carolyn Adams to Togo/Benin
- Christopher Baumeister to Germany
- Ronald and Terry Brian to Trinidad/Tobago

⁹⁴³ Harry Scism, "Annual Report to the General Board," October 1995.

- Steven and Danita Drost to Mexico
- Charles and Suzanna Fitch as furlough replacements for Europe/Middle East
- Cathy Killoren to El Salvador
- David and Alice Kline to Zambia/Zimbabwe
- Richard and Jo Ann McGriffin to Austria
- Raymond and Judi Nicholls to Belarus
- Robert and Karen Poole to the Africa Impact Team
- Albert and Wanda Price to Brazil.⁹⁴⁴

During the conference's FM service, emcees Kenneth Haney and Paul Mooney raised PIMs for the missionaries appointed in 1994 and 1995. A spirit of commitment and giving swept the auditorium, and pastors pledged \$39,765 in monthly support. FM Director Scism stated, "This is truly remarkable and comes to approximately \$480,000 per year in Partners in Missions support."⁹⁴⁵

Foreign Missions Board Sessions at the 1995 School of Missions

The board always used this time for fellowship and personal time with the missionary family. However, the following urgent decisions also demanded attention:

- To accept Larry and Diane Hayes's resignation as missionaries to Chile
- To change of field for Dale and Josephine Starks from Malaysia to missionary evangelists to the Asian and Pacific Regions, and that they be permitted to maintain residence in Alexandria, Louisiana
- To authorize Roscoe and Mary Seay to establish residence in New Zealand from which to continue their ministry in the Solomon Islands
- To change of field for Donald and Abigail O'Keefe from Sierra Leone to furlough replacement for the African Region
- To recommend Alex Marquez as vice president of the Iglesia Pentecostal Unida de Mexico, and grant permission for the UPC of Mexico to elect their vice president in the 1997 National Conference
- To change Darrell and Donna Geissler's appointment from furlough replacement to Spanish-speaking fields to Spain
- To change of field for Kenneth and Shelba Reed from Indonesia to New Zealand
- To establish the position of area coordinator per the suggested policy, and make the following appointments:
 - Africa:
 - French-speaking nations without resident missionaries—Edward Allard
 - Portuguese-speaking nations—James Crumpacker
 - Zimbabwe—Melvin Thacker
 - Southern Africa—Donald Ikerd
 - Indian Ocean islands without appointed missionaries—Jerry Richardson
 - Europe/Middle East:
 - Eastern Europe—Sam Balca
 - Middle East/Gulf States—Gary Reed
 - Military Ministries—Arlie Enis
 - Great Britain/Ireland—Bob Kelley

⁹⁴⁴ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 9, 1995).

⁹⁴⁵ "UPCI Gains Twenty-one New Missionaries," *World Harvest Today* (January–March 1996): 3.

- Russian and CIS nations of Central Asia—William Turner
- Scandinavia—Eddie Tilley
- Asia:
- Bangladesh—Everett Corcoran
- Hong Kong/China—Jerry Holt
- India/Nepal—Stanley Scism
- Taiwan—Tom Bracken
- Pacific:
- Malaysia—Rodger White
- Indonesia—Rodger White
- Brunei—Rodger White
- Australia—Robert Forbush
- Papua New Guinea—Robert Forbush
- New Caledonia—Lee Roy Sherry
- American and Western Samoa—Bennie Blunt
- Tonga—Bennie Blunt
- Cook Islands—Bennie Blunt
- New Zealand—Robert Addington
- French Polynesia—Kenneth Reed
- South America:
- Venezuela/Colombia—Lonnie Burton
- Central America/Caribbean:
- Cuba—Gary Landaw
- Bermuda/Bahamas/Caymans/Turks/Cacios—Gabriel Cruz
- To change Mokhles and Teresa Sedra’s status from assistant missionary to career missionary
- To deem that directors of the year choosing to attend SOM rather than travel abroad shall receive no more than \$500 credit toward travel and room expenses⁹⁴⁶

Death of A. D. Varnado

Alvin Dennis Varnado was born in Pleasant Hill, Copiah County, Mississippi, on February 14, 1900, and passed from this life on October 14, 1995. He came to know the Lord on March 18, 1926. From 1926 to 1932, he ministered in Louisiana, Arkansas, and Mississippi, preaching from flatbed trucks and brush arbors. He founded Pleasant Ridge Pentecostal Church and pastored it for nine years. In November 1940 he moved to Oil City, Louisiana, and pastored until 1944, when he moved to south Louisiana where he pastored the First PC of DeQuincy for nine years. He moved to West Monroe, Louisiana, to pastor the First PC. During this pastorate he received a missionary call to Jamaica, British West Indies.

“After serving the church in West Monroe three years, he resigned to become a missionary at age 56. With his wife Bessie, and his youngest daughter, he went to his beloved island of Jamaica, where he served as superintendent of the United Pentecostal Church of Jamaica as well as pastor of Pentecostal Tabernacle in Kingston.”⁹⁴⁷

The memorial service was at the First PC in Lake Charles, Louisiana. Louisiana District Superintendent T. F. Tenney, Pastors C. D. Thornton, Murrell Ewing (Lake Charles, Louisiana) and Sammy Stewart (Kingston, Jamaica) officiated.

⁹⁴⁶ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 1995).

⁹⁴⁷ “Memoriam,” *Pentecostal Herald* (September 1996): 19.

Prayer Walk in Moscow

by William Turner⁹⁴⁸

Over the years in Korea and now Russia, we have had visiting evangelists, seminar and Bible school instructors, even musicians and singing groups from North America, but this was the first time we ever had a visiting prayer team. College-age young people and a few older seasoned prayer warriors, traveled seven thousand miles to Moscow to spend an entire week for one primary purpose—prayer.

We contacted Brother and Sister Derold Doughty about bringing a youth chorale from Mattoon, Illinois, to our first UPCI-sponsored conference in Russia, a four-day meeting in mid-June in the city of Orenburg.

Sister Judy Doughty was willing to bring a singing group for the conference, but also wanted to bring the group a week early for “prayer walking” in various locations in Moscow. Brother Robert Rodenbush, regional field supervisor for Europe and the Middle East, and his wife also planned to take part in the prayer walk.

For several hours one morning the group walked the ancient paving stones of Red Square, under the shadow of the nearly 500-year-old, red-brick walls of the Kremlin. We passed the maroon granite mausoleum of Lenin’s tomb and moved westward toward the fabled onion-domes of St. Basil’s Cathedral.

We prayed at other locations on other days: Pushkin’s Square, Arbat, Alexander Park, and within the Metro system. Even inside the Kremlin itself, we spent a whole morning. Some prayed in the bright sunlight of the Kremlin’s Cathedral Square, flanked by the ancient cathedrals of the czars. Others sat on benches amid the shade trees in one of the most beautiful and well-kept parks in Moscow. There the name of Jesus was spoken in a place that just a few short years ago had been the central bastion of worldwide communism. Tears of intercession dripped from the chins of Spirit-filled young people from the Illinois prairie in the very heart of the 800-year-old capital of all Russians. The Kremlin walls had witnessed many things, but was there ever such a scene as this?

All week long, for several hours each day, the group interceded for Russia and the former Soviet Union. In fact, they had been praying and fasting for over a month before they came. We were already feeling the effects. A week before the group arrived, a young woman attended our services in Moscow. It was her first visit to any church other than the Russian Orthodox Church. At the end of the service, she repented and received the gift of the Holy Ghost. The following Sunday another person was filled. The Sunday after that an older sister with a serious ailment was completely healed and testified, “It felt like fire going through my whole body.”

The next week Brother David Bernard arrived, and we flew nearly 1,000 miles east to Orenburg. What a wonderful conference it was, with two days of Brother Bernard’s illuminating teaching on the Oneness of God, followed by two days of teaching on the very important subject of holiness. Hearts were opened to the Word. On the second day, when the chorale from Mattoon sang, the anointing of the Holy Ghost fell.

We saw our work for the Lord in Russia take a giant step forward in a short span of time! We are in a position for even greater things. There is no question in our minds. Prayer paved the way!

William and Elizabeth Turner were appointed as UPCI missionaries to Korea in 1978. In 1991 they became the first UPCI missionaries to the Soviet Union.

Zambian Crusade

Missionaries Melvin Thacker and Ted Grosbach recounted the crusade in Lusaka (capital of Zambia), held by Chester Wright of Maryland. Ted Grosbach wrote:

We had decided to combine a Holy Ghost crusade with our annual conference. We called it “The Crusade with a Difference.” Brother and Sister Chester Wright and seventeen saints of Antioch, the Apostolic Church of Arnold, Maryland, had come to help us in this evangelistic effort. In fact, Brother

⁹⁴⁸ William Turner, “Prayer Walk in Moscow,” *Global Witness* (October–December 1995): 1, 7.

Wright was responsible for more than just preaching. He had, with the support of many other sacrificial churches in North America, raised enough money to transport Zambians from outlying areas to Lusaka for the crusade.⁹⁴⁹

Two attendees were General Shikapwasha, commander of the Zambian Air Force, and his wife. Not only did these two wonderful people receive the Holy Ghost, but over 2,200 others found their personal Pentecost during the crusade at the ZANACO Football Stadium.

Death of Charles Darrell Sheets⁹⁵⁰

On November 12, 1995, Charles Darrell Sheets, former missionary to Haiti, died in Florida while serving as the coordinator for Haitian Ministries under the leadership of Daniel Scott, director of Ethnic Evangelism for the Home Missions Division. His objective in Florida was to connect Haitians living in North America with Multicultural Ministries.

Many officials represented the WEC at his funeral service in Collinsville, Illinois. Among those who ministered were Wayne Holmes, John Leaman, Daniel Scott, Irvin Cunningham, Lee Jackson, G. E. Switzer, Ernest Breithaupt, and N. A. Urshan. Brother Sheets was buried in the Wanda Cemetery in South Roxana, Illinois.

Death of John Balca

John Balca was the father Samuel Balca, missionary to Eastern Europe, and Anne Balca Nowacki, wife of John Nowacki, missionary to France. He was born on October 14, 1903, in a small village in Yugoslavia. Although his education stopped at grade four, he was an excellent shoemaker and owned a few acres to help sustain his family. He lived a simple life, but in the spiritual realm he was a man of great significance. His influence in Europe was far-reaching. By the time he was in his early twenties, he had baptized hundreds of people.

Armed with the revelation of the mighty God in Christ, he proclaimed the oneness of God and baptism in the name of the Jesus Christ, and he believed that Holy Spirit baptism was essential. He carried the message of salvation to Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Norway, France, Poland, Bulgaria, and Australia. However, most of his ministry focused on his beloved Yugoslavia. There he traveled mostly by bicycle or on foot, suffering beatings, poverty, deprivation, and threats from the Orthodox Church and communists.

In 1956 when he moved from Yugoslavia to Canada, he left behind at least 40,000 baptized members in about forty established churches and approximately thirty preaching points.

In 1991 Brother Balca suffered his initial stroke, and in early 1995, a second stroke left him incapacitated and needing professional care. He died on November 22, 1995.⁹⁵¹

Tanzania's National Conference

David Ward reported that during the first nine months of 1995, the headquarters church in Moshi was blessed with a continual outpouring that produced 149 filled with the Holy Ghost and 56 baptized in Jesus' name. The Tanzanian UPC now numbered 3,500.⁹⁵²

⁹⁴⁹ Theodore Grosbach, "The Crusade That Made a Difference," *Pentecostal Herald* (November 1995): 5.

⁹⁵⁰ Daniel Scott, Personal Journal, November 14, 1995.

⁹⁵¹ J. S. Leaman, "In Memoriam," *World Harvest Today* (July–September 1996): 7.

⁹⁵² David Ward, "Tanzania," *Pentecostal Herald* (December 1995): 19.

January 1996 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

The general director of Foreign Missions was concerned about the ramifications of rumblings from maturing fields. The board's decision would establish policy for transferring a field's leadership from the missionary to the nationals. Many fields were approaching this milestone, so a proper decision depended on the quality of leadership the field had produced and whether the field was ready to accept this responsibility. A wrong decision could be misunderstood. The board took considerable time and caution in discussing the matter. Other decisions included the following:

- To approve the proposed Internal Constitution of the Full Gospel Church "Good News," Russia/Kazakhstan, and the working agreement between that body and the UPCI
- To discuss the ramifications of a loose worldwide fellowship arrangement with other Oneness groups that are not officially part of the UPCI
- To accept George and Connie Corney's resignation and, at their request, transfer their partners to Lynden Shalm, a Pakistan field account, and Allan Shalm
- To accept Jerry and Fayette Holt's resignation because he accepted the pastorate of the UPC in Lewiston, Idaho
- To change of field for Kevin and Lolita Vacca from Taiwan to China and Hong Kong
- To recommend that the RFS for Asia be appointed as president of the UPC of Hong Kong Ltd.
- To approve a foreign campus ministry within the structure of the FMD with the FM director to serve as director of this ministry and with Clifford Readout as coordinator
- To accept the report from the Committee for Missionaries Based in North America with the following action:
 - That missionaries with residential status in North America receive the following benefits:
 - 1) The same housing and utilities allowances as for overseas housing
 - 2) A one-time shipping/relocation allowance for a new field with no return or subsequent shipping allowances to be paid
 - 3) Ladies Auxiliary appliances as needed with the understanding that they remain the property of the FMD
 - 4) An average of \$200 per month for car allowance with the understanding that they provide their own vehicle by ownership or rental including adequate property and liability insurance protection
- To consider the New Zealand situation with the following action:
 - UPCI missionaries in New Zealand should be organized under the leadership of the RFS with a structure that allows them to minister with freedom and to pursue their burden for evangelizing the people of New Zealand without discrimination as to racial or cultural distinctions, and to work as harmoniously as possible with the UPC of New Zealand or any others of like precious faith who wish to fellowship with us
- To change of field for Paul E. and Rita Suber from Togo/Benin to the French Caribbean
- To change of field for Harold D. and Mary Kinney from Finland/Russia/Baltic Republics to Austria/Estonia/Latvia/Lithuania
- To change of field for William D. and Elizabeth Turner from Russia to Russia/Kazakhstan
- To change of field for Sim S. and Judy Strickland from Greece to Greece/Albania/Armenia
- To change of field for Jimmy L. and Patricia Hall from Kenya/Uganda/ Burundi/Rwanda to Kenya/Burundi/Rwanda
- To change of field for Arlie R. and Becky Enis from Military Ministries, Middle East, to Germany/Luxemburg/Military Ministries in Europe/Middle East

- To change of field for Charles T. and Charlotte Stovall from Germany to Germany/ Austria
- To change of field for Melvin E. and Sharon Thacker from Zambia to Zambia/ Zimbabwe
- To change of field for Cole W. and Wanda Price from Leeward Islands/Spanish Caribbean to Leeward Islands
- To increase the basic personal support for missionaries by 2.6 percent for 1996
- To appoint Theodore D. Grosbach as superintendent of the UPC of Zaire
- To appoint Carl H. Varnell as general superintendent of the UPC Inc. (Philippines), effective for the year 1996
- To appoint S. N. Ekpendu as superintendent of the UPC of Nigeria
- To appoint James Poitras as area coordinator of the English-speaking countries of West Africa
- To go on record that the board favors the organization of Puerto Rico as a district of the UPCI if this is acceptable to the governing body of the UPCI
- To authorize the FM director to set up a Missionary Kids association with the FMD and to serve as director of same
- To recommend the appointments of the following:
 - David and Kathy Brott as CMs to the Philippines and Pacific/Asia Regions
 - Mack and Bobbie Carpenter as CMs to Lesotho
 - Brian and Esther Henry as IMs to Papua New Guinea
 - Edward and Della Kennedy as IMs to Mauritius/ Reunion/ Seychelles
- To accept Rex and Carol Robertson's resignation effective February 12, 1996, since Hawaii is scheduled to become a UPCI district on that date⁹⁵³

Origin of the Global Council

During its January 1996 sessions the FMB authorized Harry Scism to establish within the FMD a Leadership/Church Development Ministry and appoint a special committee to prepare a proposal for same. This would set in motion the formation of the future Global Council.

Venezuelan Conference

The pastors' conference for Venezuela was held February 26–29, 1996, in the capital city of Caracas at the headquarters church pastored by Isidro Estupiñan, president of the UPC of Venezuela. Nathaniel A. Urshan, UPCI general superintendent, and his wife, Jean, were the guest speakers. The ministers and their wives were greatly blessed by the Urshans' ministry. On Wednesday evening, Brother Urshan ordained twenty-nine ministers. According to Brother Urshan, this was the second largest group of ministers he had ordained, with Ethiopia as the largest.

That same evening, RFS James Burton officiated at the graduation of thirty students from the Intensive Bible Course.

The Lord richly blessed the conference with 427 ministers and 319 of the wives present. At the close of the previous year, Venezuela had 447 churches with more than 73,000 constituents.⁹⁵⁴

Hawaii Becomes a District

The UPCI General Board granted Hawaii full district status at the General Conference in Des Moines, Iowa, in October 1995. On February 10, 1996, the UPC of Hawaii became a UPCI district. The

⁹⁵³ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (January 12, 1996).

⁹⁵⁴ Gail Burton, "Venezuelan Conference," *Pentecostal Herald* (June 1996): 21.

FMD commended the ministers and saints of Hawaii on this progressive step. N. A. Urshan, general superintendent of the UPCI, presided at the election of officers for the new district, which had nine churches and one preaching point on the island of Molokai.

The Oneness message had come to Hawaii soon after the turn of the century. Charles Lockbaum, a convert of the Azusa Street revival, held services on Kalihi Street in Honolulu. In 1912 Clair D. Stiles, a Salvation Army officer, came to Hawaii. He converted to the Oneness message in 1925 while attending one of Charles Lochbaum's tent revivals.

Brother Stiles began his first pastorate at 1072 Kilauea Street, Hilo, Hawaii, on June 6, 1925. He first joined the PAW but later transferred to the UPCI when Wynn T. Stairs, then the UPCI foreign missions secretary, visited Hawaii. Brother Stiles faithfully served the Lord until his death in 1964.

Other missionaries who served in Hawaii included Oscar Vouga, H. C. Weaver, Clarence Johns, L. J. Bradley, Carl M. Hensley, Lewis Manual, R. E. Holley, J. T. Clark, W. E. Scott, Rex Robertson, and John Wolfram.⁹⁵⁵

Peru—Harvest '96

Peru's National Conference was in Iquitos in February 1996. Previous to the conference a national pastor reported that in five services twenty-seven received the Holy Ghost. Missionary Marvin Williams wrote, "By the time Missionary John Hopkins of Panama began ministering faith was high and 86 more were filled with the Holy Ghost. In another service in the village of Indiana the following Tuesday night, another 15 were filled with the Holy Ghost. Fifteen were baptized in Jesus' name on Sunday afternoon. In those ten services, a total of 128 were born again of the Spirit of God."⁹⁵⁶

Conference in Kenya

by J. L. Hall, missionary to Kenya, Rwanda, and Burundi⁹⁵⁷

We thank God for an outstanding Annual Ministers Conference that convened March 1, 1996. Approximately 200 pastors and preachers gathered in Nairobi, Kenya, for a time of worship, fellowship, and business. A New Ministers Seminar was held at the beginning of the conference. After completing the seminar sessions and meeting the national board, twenty-nine new ministers received local licenses. Seven preachers were ordained during the conference.

We were privileged to have representatives from Tanzania, Rwanda, Uganda, and Ethiopia attending the conference along with our guest speakers, Reverend Ernest Breithaupt, Illinois District superintendent, and Reverend J. L. Jenkins, Illinois District Foreign Missions Director.

The conference theme was "Together in Prayer, in Ministry, and in Revival." The presence of the Lord blessed every service. God truly spoke to all of our hearts. We rejoiced to see so many of the elders of the UPC of Kenya weeping, dancing, and worshipping together. On Sunday the presence of the Lord saturated the service, culminating in a great victory march by the leaders of the UPCK. We heard testimonies of healing, many received the Holy Ghost, and a baptismal service was held. The sight of several hundred preachers kneeling before God, rededicating themselves to preaching the truth in Kenya and other east African nations, will stay in our minds.

We are thankful for the revival fires that burn in East Africa. We believe God for greater harvest in 1996.

⁹⁵⁵ "Hawaii Becomes an Organized District," *World Harvest Today* (July–September 1996): 5.

⁹⁵⁶ Marvin Williams, "Peru—Harvest '96," *Pentecostal Herald* (May 1996): 25.

⁹⁵⁷ Missionary J. L. Hall, "Kenya Gets It Together," *World Harvest Today* (July–September, 1996): 4.

Chinese Summit 1996

On May 23–26, 1996, delegates from ten different nations gathered in Hong Kong for the first Chinese Summit in the history of the UPCI. The group of some twenty-five people spent hours prayerfully considering the challenge of reaching people in mainland China as well as the millions of Chinese in the free world, especially those living in Asia. One person from the group said, “In addition to the challenge of reaching Chinese in the free world, we spent a great deal of time discussing the challenges of reaching Mainland China.”⁹⁵⁸

China, with its 1.3 billion people (summer 2007 figure), represents the greatest challenge to Christian missionary work in the world today. An estimated thirty thousand Chinese are converting to Christianity every day, and as many as 80 million Christians in mainland China worship in underground churches.

Brief History of Missionary Work in China

- **1865** Hudson Taylor founds the China Inland Mission. At one time 900 missionaries in China were associated with the China Mainland Mission.
- **1907** Pentecostal missionaries arrive in China from Europe. Later, independent Pentecostal missionaries from the U.S. arrive in China.
- **1910** Missionaries that would later be affiliated with the organizations that merged to form the UPCI begin to arrive: Alice Kruger, later married to Dan Sheets, the George Kelleys, Elizabeth Stieglitz, and Mae Iry. Carl and Mabel Hensley arrive in 1915 and somewhat later Garland and Eleanor Leonard. Frank and Irene Wheeler arrive in 1939.
- **1949** At the end of the Communist revolution there are 157 missionary societies in China with approximately 30,000 Chinese workers and 13,000 organized churches.
- **Post 1949** Missionary work in China becomes difficult. There are approximately twenty-two missionary societies working underground in China.

1996 Regional Field Supervisors' Reports

In 1996, RFSs' reports showed that the missionary family was extending the borders of the kingdom. John Paul Hughes of the African Region recounted the Wara Crusade in Ethiopia. Paul Dennis, of the Asian Region reported that forty-eight Thais received the Holy Ghost during the Thailand annual General Conference, and ninety-five Chinese attended the conference in Taiwan where five were filled with the Holy Ghost. Cole and Wanda Price of the Caribbean Region reported that between February 16 and 21 twenty-eight people received the Holy Ghost in Nevis and eighteen in St. Martin. Robert Rodenbush of the Europe/Middle East Region wrote, “The gospel message has spread into sixteen countries in five years! Fifty-two new churches and preaching points were started. The number of believers has doubled in the last two years in the region. Five new countries in the region now have their first resident missionaries on location.”

Carl Varnell of the Pacific Region reported that in three services of a crusade in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 101 were filled with the Holy Ghost. In Fiji while Missionary Richard Carver was on deputation, his twenty-one-year-old son, John, preached an open-air meeting during a lunch hour. Sixty employees from a garment factory gathered, resulting in six being baptized and two receiving the Holy Ghost.

James Burton of the South American Region said great things were happening in South America. Phil Walmer reported that during a conference preached by Billy Cole, fifty-nine received the Holy Ghost

⁹⁵⁸ Missions Report: “Chinese Summit,” *Pentecostal Herald* (September 1996): 21.

and a number of notable miracles occurred. Local pastors reported that more than fifty more received the Holy Ghost following the conference.

The 1996 Foreign Missions Board

Administrative Committee: Harry E. Scism, general director; Edwin E. Judd, secretary; John S. Leaman, director of promotion; and Garry A. Tracy, director of Education/AIM.

Regional directors: John Paul Hughes, Africa; Paul A. Dennis, Asia; Lloyd L. Shirley, Central America/Caribbean; Robert K. Rodenbush, Europe/Middle East; Carl H. Varnell, Pacific; and James M. Burton, South America.

Pastoral members: Doug D. Davis, Manuel Rogers, Jimmy Shoemake, B. J. Hurst, Gerald A. Mangun, Wayne Rooks, R. P. Bell, Joseph W. Beesley, and William H. Cole.

Honorary members: Fred Kinzie, E. L. Freeman, and T. C. Bonnette.

Guest observers: Robert L. McFarland, VFMA (Veteran Foreign Missionaries Association), M. David Johnson, Richard A. Denny, Johnny L. King, and Paul V. Reynolds.

May 1996 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

With many thousands receiving the Holy Ghost and the missionaries' expectation and vision constantly expanding, it was important to record personal appraisals in the minutes.

- Billy Cole reported the outstanding results of the Holy Ghost crusade in Papua New Guinea.
- Johnny King reported his observations of the crusade in Ethiopia.

During this board meeting the titles of some of the FMD officials were changed to enhance the understanding of their job responsibilities:

- Coordinator of Overseas Ministries changed to director of Education/AIM.
- Coordinator of Faith Promise Ministries changed to director of Faith Promise Ministries.
- Regional field supervisor changed to regional director.
- Director of promotion and publications changed to director of promotion.

Other important matters were discussed and approved:

- To amend the FM missionary policy concerning regional directors' retirement:
 - The regional director retirement benefits are to be calculated according to all provisions of the Retired Missionary Program as established by the FMB on September 24, 1994, and as amended on May 11, 1995, and any future amendment as may be made to the Retired Missionary Program. It is understood this step could result in the only benefit being that of Medicare Part B (or equivalent program) and Medicare Supplement, (or equivalent program) reimbursement.
 - In addition, each retired regional director shall be granted a bonus equal to U.S. \$25 per month for each year of service as a regional director. This service bonus should be subject to annual cost of living adjustment.
- To accept Donald Patridge's resignation tendered in his letter of April 5, 1996.
- To terminate Lloyd Scott's ministerial status as a missionary serving in Madagascar.
- To approve the plans for a China Summit to be held in Hong Kong May 23–26 with representatives of Chinese people and missionaries from throughout Southeast Asia, China, and Taiwan.

- To change of field for James A. and Karen Crumpacker from Malawi to Malawi and Mozambique.
- To recommend James A. Crumpacker as superintendent of the church in Mozambique.
- To change of field for David and Donna Flowers from Malawi to Malawi and Mozambique.
- To change of field for Philip and Brenda Ciulla from Belgium to Belgium and Switzerland.
- To change of field for Charles W. and Suzanne Fitch from furlough replacements, Europe/Middle East, to Aruba, Bonaire, and Curacao Islands.
- To approve the Leadership Development International program, which is designed to provide leadership training for national leaders while on location.
- To approve Kevin Vacca as missionary pastor for New Life Church in Hong Kong.
- To approve J. P. Hughes's report as he received it from the Apostolic Church of Ethiopia concerning the project funds raised for this purpose and sent to the field during the past year.
- To approve the proposed constitution for the UPC of Scandinavia as amended.
- To recommend Eddie Tilley as director of the UPC of Scandinavia.
- To recommend Ed Claus Ankarcrona as secretary/treasurer of the UPC of Scandinavia.
- To approve Robert and Margie McFarland as AIMers to the Middle East.
- To approve a subregional conference for the Andean countries of South America for 1998 to be held in Bolivia.
- To approve a subregional conference for Europe on August 4–8, 1997.
- To recommend Richard Lucas as assistant superintendent of the UPC of Japan.
- To approve that service tenure for IMs be calculated according to on-field experience, thereby not counting time involved in deputation ministry.
- To approve J. P. Hughes's report on the farewell service for Johnny and Peggy Garrison in Nigeria and the transfer of leadership of the Nigerian church to a national superintendent.
- To recommend Filipo Ciulla as the UPCI official representative to Switzerland.
- To approve Regional Director Robert Rodenbush's report on the status of the Saudi Arabian churches. He reported over two hundred in a recent rally with thirty-five receiving the Holy Ghost and over one hundred baptized since the first of the year.⁹⁵⁹

3,000 Receive the Holy Ghost—Papua New Guinea

by Brian Henry⁹⁶⁰

For the first time ever, the General Conference of the United Pentecostal Assemblies of Papua New Guinea convened in Port Moresby, the capital city. Billy Cole, Douglas Klinedinst, Eli Hernandez, Jarrell Hanks, Buck Wilson, and Alvin Rucker were the evangelism team. Missionaries John Wolfram and Robert Rodenbush were also present. Two members of the Parliament attended the services and were visibly moved by the power of God. The testimonies of the two members of Parliament and the entire services were televised by national television. That night as the entire nation watched, several hundred were filled with the Holy Ghost.

Sunday night's service was the highlight! Thousands of people gathered under the stars and began worshipping the Lord. Brother Klinedinst preached and then spoke words of faith to the congregation as Billy Cole laid his hands upon him. At that moment, a great shout of praise went forth, and approximately 3,000 people were filled with the Holy Ghost.

⁹⁵⁹ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (May 9, 1996).

⁹⁶⁰ Brian Henry, "3,000 Receive the Holy Ghost," *Pentecostal Herald* (June 1996): 3.

60,000 Filled With the Holy Ghost—Wara Crusade, Ethiopia

John Paul Hughes, regional director of Africa, reported that the crusade in Ethiopia held in March 1996 was attended by 300,000. He said that at least 60,000 received the Holy Ghost.⁹⁶¹

Persecuted for the Gospel's Sake

The words of Jim Jacobson, president of Christian Solidarity International, goaded the slumbering conscience of many United Pentecostals: "More people today are being tortured, imprisoned, maimed, and killed for their faith than ever before in history."

The *World Christian Encyclopedia* estimates that as many as 160,000 Christians are slaughtered for their faith in Christ every year. They are killed either by ruthless mobs or by direct government action. Untold thousands of others waste away in jails or reeducation camps.

In Sudan in six years more than 1.3 million Christians and other non-Muslim people were killed. During the 1980s individual Christians, including clergy, were assassinated, imprisoned, tortured, and flogged for their faith. In southern Sudan a Christian slave could be bought for as little as \$15. Escaped slaves told of brandings, beatings, and long-term sexual abuse. A human child could be bartered for a camel, a cow, even a supply of cigarettes.

In Pakistan Islamic leaders asked that the death sentence be imposed upon anyone converting from Islam to Christianity. More than five hundred cases were pending in the courts.

The Iranian government and the Islamic elite disdained Christians. Although the Iranian government guaranteed the free practice of religion, this did not apply to Christians. Though there were evangelical churches in Iran, they were not allowed to accept converts from Islam because in Iran conversion was a crime punishable by death.

In China churches were raided, resulting in the arrest of three hundred believers for illegal religious activities. One official of the Reagan administration said, "Meanwhile, many in government, media, and mainstream religion . . . looked the other way while Christians . . . [became] one of the modern world's most persecuted minorities."⁹⁶²

At times Teklemariam Gesahagne and other Ethiopian pastors were imprisoned, jailed, and beaten, and some of them were killed for their testimony. Yet the church continued to reach His world despite the threats of a hostile world.

The Frank Polings Minister in Thailand

Brother and Sister Frank Poling were appointed to Thailand as AIMers. On one of their many trips there, Frank Poling, pastor emeritus of First Apostolic Church, Tallmadge, Ohio, wrote:

We arrived in Thailand on December 5, 1995 and returned to the United States on February 20, 1996. We were in Thailand for a total of seventy-six days. We had sixty-four services and witnessed 271 new Thai people receive the Holy Ghost.

We also witnessed to some Presbyterians in two villages. Their pastor and nine church members received the Holy Ghost and were baptized in water in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. We began services in their villages and expect to claim many more of them for the kingdom of God.

We also began a new work among the Akha tribal people in northern Thailand, where thirty-four received the Holy Ghost in three services. We are presently working with four tribal groups, the LaHua, Hmong, Karen, and Akha.

I am happy to report that the work of the Lord is progressing very well in Thailand, and our endeavor is to help establish people and places of worship throughout the entire nation.

⁹⁶¹ J. P. Hughes, "House Is Full—Fields Are Empty," *Pentecostal Herald* (June 1996): 12.

⁹⁶² David Barnett, ed., *World Christian Encyclopedia*, vol. 1 (USA: Oxford University Press, 1990).

Sister Poling and I feel honored to represent the Foreign Missions Division through the Associates In Missions ministry.⁹⁶³

300 Receive the Holy Ghost in Nigeria

After a five-night Nigerian crusade attended by three thousand nightly, the Africa Impact Team reported that three hundred received the Holy Ghost with eighty baptized in Jesus' name. Eight were healed of various diseases.⁹⁶⁴

Foreign Missions Board Sessions at the August 1996 School of Missions

Besides missionary interviews during the SOM, the board addressed a few important issues:

- To appoint David Brott as coordinator of Leadership Development International for one year.
- To establish a PIM account to fund Leadership Development International.
- To authorize the general director of Foreign Missions to proceed with plans for the proposed Leadership, Evangelism and Prayer Conference for national leaders to be held in early 1998.
- To change of field for Craig G. and Lyna Sully from Nigeria to Ivory Coast.
- To change of field for Kevin D. and Lolita Vacca from China/Hong Kong to Taiwan.
- To recommend William Ortiz as superintendent of La Iglesia Pentecostal Unida de Puerto Rico.
- To authorize Steve Shirley to construct a missionary residence on the Bible school property in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, with approximately \$55,000 advanced from FMD to be recovered from the future missionary occupant's housing allowance at approximately \$1,200 per month. Said authorization is contingent upon a favorable auditor's report, which should be forthcoming within the next week.
- To accept Michael Edge's resignation because his physical condition will not allow him to function effectively as a missionary to Mexico.
- To recommend James D. and Martha Burton as CMs to Uruguay effective immediately upon ratification and continuing after the termination of his service as regional director for South America.
- To resolve that any future appointed regional directors be required to live in the metro St. Louis area unless exception is authorized by the FMB due to compelling circumstances.
- To authorize the UPC of Japan to appoint its secretary-treasurer.
- To release approximately \$150,000 to construct the proposed Bible school facility in Papua New Guinea, contingent upon final approval of Area Coordinator Robert Forbush, who is scheduled to visit Papua New Guinea in the near future.
- To appoint Robert L. Rodenbush as the initial president of the MK Association to serve for a three-year term.
- To appoint Robert Harris as the initial vice president of the MK Association to serve for a two-year term.
- To appoint Loretta Scism as the initial secretary-treasurer of the MK Association to serve for a term of one year.

⁹⁶³ Frank Poling, "Retired to Associates in Missions," *World Harvest Today* (July–September 1996): 3.

⁹⁶⁴ "Missions Report Around the World," *Pentecostal Herald* (July 1996): 21.

- To appoint B. J. Hurst to represent the pastoral members of the FMB on the MK Association Steering Committee.⁹⁶⁵

September 1996 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

Joseph Beesley's resignation as a pastoral board member and the need to appoint regional directors for South America and Africa resulted in a lengthy dialogue. After reviewing the missionary ballots for South America, it was apparent that a consensus had not been reached. A prayerful consideration resulted in the following decisions:

- To recommend Daniel L. Scott as regional director for South America
- To recommend Jerry R. Richardson as regional director for Africa
- To recommend Francis W. Mason as the Canadian representative to the FMB due to the resignation of Joseph Beesley
- To recommend B. J. Hurst as a member of the FMB for a five-year term
- To recommend D. D. Davis as a member of the FMB for a five-year term
- To recommend John S. Leaman for director of promotion for a two-year term
- To accept Albert and Melanie Price's resignation as IMs
- To approve that Micronesia be divided into two fields as follows: Micronesia East—comprised of Marshall Islands and Kiribati; Micronesia West—comprised of Guam, the Federal States of Micronesia, Palau, and the Northern Mariana Islands
- To change of field for John and Debbie Wolfram from Pacific/Southwest Asia to Micronesia West, Vietnam, and the Pacific Region
- To change of field for Richard K. and Jo Ann McGriffin from Austria to Germany/Austria
- To grant permission to the Philippine church to amend its constitution to allow for the election of the national superintendent
- To appoint Stephen O'Donnell as coordinator of Chinese Evangelism Ministries
- To approve the constitution for Malaysia
- To appoint Edwin E. Judd as honorary member of the FMB effective January 1, 1997
- To change Philip and Brenda Ciulla's appointment from Belgium/Switzerland to Belgium/Switzerland/Italy⁹⁶⁶

Twenty-five Missionaries Appointed in San Antonio

During the 1996 General Conference in San Antonio, Texas, twenty-five missionaries in addition to the regional directors were appointed: Jerry and Beth Burns, Evangelism-Training; Joseph and Jean Collins, Daniel and Holly Drost, Lynne Jewett, Glenn and Esther Wakefield, and Alex and Angela Marquez Jr., Mexico; Wayne and Sofia Monday, Panama; Kelly and Valerie Nix, Brazil; Mark and Cammy Kondas, Hungary; Tim and Jane Olson, Russia; Chris and Paula Richardson, Madagascar; Brad and Lycia Schreckhise, Honduras; Mark and Robin Shutes, Belarus; and Brian and Lakelie Williams, Kazakhstan.

⁹⁶⁵ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (August 27, 1996).

⁹⁶⁶ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (September 22, 1996).

The Missionary Kids Association⁹⁶⁷

The MK Association was formulated during the 1996 General Conference. It was an organized structure through which ministers, pastors, churches, and friends could assist MKs in various ways. Missionaries' children often spent their entire childhood on a mission field, and needed reorientation and understanding when reentering the homeland. This would be the task of the MK Association. Some of the charter members were Harry Scism, Thetus Tenney, Janet Varnado Trout, Jonathan Suber, David Bernard, Nona Freeman, Nate Turner, Lindsay Shalm, Daniel Sedra, Angelica Starin, and Kyle Kelley.

Also during the 1996 General Conference the board recommended twenty-seven missionaries for appointment, eight of which were missionary kids reared on the field. Most of the new appointees were AIMers, many coming home just in time to meet the board. Many of them returned to the field until their deputation in late 1997 or early 1998.

101 Receive the Baptism of the Holy Ghost in Malaysia

by Leow Thiam Aik, superintendent, UPC of Malaysia⁹⁶⁸

A little more than a year ago, Missionary Dale Starks made a trip throughout Malaysia holding 'Turn Up the Heat' seminars. Up to that time, although our churches have always been quite good to worship the Lord, we were not intercessors. Some, including myself, caught the burden for intercessory prayer, and things began to change. For instance, in the church that I pastor, more than eighty people were baptized in Jesus' name during the last six months of 1995.

While the churches were busy preparing for a crusade in West Malaysia's chief city, Kuala Lumpur, the churches were called to fast for seven days. During the time that Missionary Dale Starks was recovering from a severe medical condition, he continued to help us by writing a five-lesson course, using the blood, water, and Spirit plan of salvation. He also wrote a five-lesson new converts course, for we were anticipating good results from the crusade. Our saints were busy teaching Bible studies right up to the crusade. Although our finances were limited, we advertised.

Finally the great day arrived. We had rented a 600-seat auditorium in downtown Kuala Lumpur. Our goal was to have 500 people in attendance and 100 to 120 filled with the Holy Ghost. During the night services the crowd ranged between 250 to 400, which was still the largest congregation we have had in any of our past meetings.

Forty-one people received the Holy Ghost on the first night. Miraculous healings took place on the second night, and thirty more people were filled with the Holy Ghost. A total of 101 received the Holy Ghost.

3,000 Receive the Holy Ghost in Pakistan

Three thousand received the Holy Ghost during a crusade in Pakistan on October 24–26, 1996. A federal cabinet minister called the crusade the largest Christian convention ever held in the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.⁹⁶⁹

Despite political upheaval with three major political demonstrations planned and a countrywide transport strike, the convention site was an island of peace for three days. Crusade evangelist Billy Cole, Doug Klinedinst, Jerry Burns, and Regional Director Paul Dennis ministered with great power and anointing.

The missionaries had hoped for crowds of ten to fifteen thousand people, but were amazed when up to forty thousand gathered for the final service. People came from all over Pakistan—and even from Afghanistan—in response to the advertising that began two months earlier and from the news of miracles.

⁹⁶⁷ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (August 29, 1996): 10.

⁹⁶⁸ Leow Thiam Aik, "101 Receive the Holy Ghost," *World Harvest Today* (January–March 1997): 9.

⁹⁶⁹ J. S. Leaman, "Holy Ghost Power Prevails in Pakistan," *World Harvest Today* (April–June 1997): 4.

The minister of Political and Religious Affairs, the minister of Population and Welfare, and the parliamentary secretary of Foreign Affairs also attended.

A Muslim lady of high estate said, “You must help me!” For twenty-eight years her left hand had been frozen in a tightly clenched fist. Recorded by the video camera, Billy Cole prayed for her, her hand suddenly opened, and she shouted, “It’s free!” A man about the age of fifty pushed his way through the crowd shouting, “I’m healed! I’m healed!” Invited to the platform, he told the crowd that he had been paralyzed for two years. He had been carried into the meeting but now danced across the platform.

Mozambique

Missionary Jim Crumpacker of Malawi reported that Mozambique, recovering from thirty years of civil war, had been reduced to the bottom rung of the social ladder with an average annual income of \$70. During the war over one million refugees fled to neighboring Malawi, and while there many found peace in a personal experience with God. When the war was over, the refugees went back to their country carrying God’s truth. Brother Crumpacker worked toward registering the church in Mozambique.

We made two trips to the capital, Maputo, to see what the requirements for registration were. All papers were submitted last year, and our first general conference was held in March 1996. We had forty-three ministers that attended the conference . . . twenty people received the Holy Ghost and seventeen [were] baptized.⁹⁷⁰

Prague, Czech Republic

Prague, capital city of the Czech Republic, built on seven hills and scarred by barbed-wire wounds of Communism, was one of the most vital cities on the European continent. Prague had endured the Hussite Wars, the Counter-Revolution, and more recently, being held a hostage of Communism for forty-one years. In 1989 the city was “opened” to evangelism. Regional Director Robert Rodenbush wrote:

Evangelistic activities included covering the city with prayer! We began with a seven-day prayer walk with a total of more than 2,000 combined hours of prayer being offered throughout the city by Brother and Sister Doughty and the Mattoon Prayer Team and others who joined us from the Region. Simultaneously, the Youth on Missions team, led by Brother Scott Graham of the General Youth Division, distributed more than eighty thousand gospel invitations. Brother Doughty and the Mattoon Youth Choir in key locations in the city also conducted street services. During a street meeting, one lady received the Holy Ghost! The Regional Conference on Evangelism was the climax of evangelism outreach, highlighted by the ministry of Brother Billy Cole. In three nights, seventy-five people received the Holy Ghost and several miracles of healing were reported. During the conference, Brother Nathaniel A. Urshan, general superintendent, gave the keynote message and Brother Harry Scism, general director of Foreign Missions, challenged us to the need of reaching our world.

Missionary Roger Buckland reports that the evangelistic efforts have had a tremendous impact on the city! Regular church services are being conducted in Prague and the results of this great evangelistic effort is being reaped.⁹⁷¹

Death of Wilma Ruth Nix

Missionary Wilma Ruth Nix was a dedicated servant of God who pioneered two African fields, establishing churches and a Bible school in each field.

In 1966 at thirty-four years of age, Wilma Ruth Nix applied for missionary appointment to Zimbabwe (formerly Rhodesia). She was appointed in 1967 and arrived in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, in

⁹⁷⁰ Jim Crumpacker, “Mozambique,” *Pentecostal Herald* (September 1996): 12.

⁹⁷¹ Robert Rodenbush, “Prague—Czech Republic,” *Pentecostal Herald* (November 1996): 18.

December 1968. After twenty years in Zimbabwe, she went to Mafikeng, Bophuthatswana, to open this new field. On August 17, 1996, Pastor L. E. Westberg dedicated a beautiful new church building in Mafikeng to the glory of God. At the time of her death there were five congregations and a Bible school in Bophuthatswana.

On November 1, 1996, when returning from Johannesburg to Mafikeng, Sister Nix was in a serious automobile accident. Although she was flown to one of Johannesburg's finest medical facilities, she never recovered. William Nix, her cousin and superintendent of the Michigan District and who had played an important role in Wilma Nix's missionary ministry, stayed by her side in prayer and support. She was promoted to her eternal home with Jesus on November 22, 1996.

On November 27, her first funeral service was held in Mafikeng in the very building just dedicated. A second service in Houston, Texas, on November 30 was attended by N. A. Urshan, H. E. Scism, and many other officials who expressed their great appreciation and admiration for this valiant soldier of Jesus Christ.⁹⁷²

Edwin E. Judd's Retirement

In 1972 Edwin E. Judd wrote the first FM manual. Almost from the beginning of the Foreign Missions Division of the UPCI, Brother Judd played an important role. In the time frame of this documentary the overseas constituency doubled seven times. In 1963, the annual income of the division was \$348,000. In 1996, the annual income was \$16,507,762.18. The increase was a product of PIM; local churches and pastors could more readily sense the work of missions as a partnership. Edwin Judd's consistent personal commitment to subscribe every local church possible into the program maintained the total church's interest.

In 1996, after thirty-two continual years of service—as an FMB member, director of promotion, RFS, and FM secretary—Edwin Judd retired. He was loved, respected, and honored by all who knew him. He was well known for his efficiency, commitment, integrity, and fairness. He stepped out of the position of FM secretary on December 31, 1996, but continues to serve on the FMB as an honorary member.⁹⁷³

Death of Frank Reid Wheeler

Frank R. Wheeler was born in Chicago, Illinois, on February 23, 1900, and passed from this life on January 15, 1997.

At age fourteen he worked on ranches to support his mother and siblings. In time, together with his brother, he bought a ranch and also became a rodeo rider.

At age twenty-eight, when he was a ranch foreman for the governor of Colorado, he felt the call of God on his life. He went to Parma, Idaho, where he attended a revival meeting conducted by Mattie Crawford. Here he met evangelist Irene Daisy Lakey, who became his wife.

Together, Frank and Irene Wheeler dedicated their lives to the service of the kingdom of God. After building a church in Wichita, Kansas, they left to evangelize in several southern states, preaching in schoolhouses, parks, brush arbors, and any other place where they could assemble an audience. They would often use cattle tanks, bathtubs, and rivers to baptize their converts.

In 1937, they felt a call to do missionary work in China. They traveled to churches in North America to raise funds for their support. When they arrived in Canton, China, in 1939, the Japanese had captured the city, but they were able to start many churches and an orphanage before Japan and the United States became engaged in World War II. They became prisoners of war. In 1942, they were exchanged for Japanese prisoners and sailed for the United States.

⁹⁷² Harry E. Scism, "A Child of the King," *World Harvest Today* (April–June 1997): 5.

⁹⁷³ Harry E. Scism, "Dedicated to Serve," *World Harvest Today* (January–March 1997): 4.

In America, the Wheelers continued to start new churches, but in 1946, when China reopened to missionaries, they went back to Canton, where they did missionary work for another three years before the Communist government began ruling the nation.

Back home again in the United States, Frank and Irene pastored and built churches until they retired in Santa Rosa in 1978. However, in retirement he still walked the streets of the city, knocking on doors and passing out tracts.

Paul Price, superintendent of the Western District, preached the memorial service.⁹⁷⁴

The Foreign Missions Board of 1997

The Foreign Missions Board of 1997 consisted of the following:

Administrative Committee: Harry Scism, general director; Carl Varnell, secretary, J. S. Leaman, director of promotion; and Garry Tracy, director of Education/AIM.

Pastoral members: Jimmy Shoemake, Manuel Rogers, B. J. Hurst, D. D. Davis, William H. Cole, Francis Mason, R. P. Bell, and G. A. Mangun.

Honorary members: Edwin E. Judd, T. C. Bonnette, Fred Kinzie, and F. V. Shoemake.

Regional directors: Jerry Richardson, Africa; Paul Dennis, Asia; Lloyd Shirley, Central America/Caribbean; Robert Rodenbush, Europe/Middle East; and Daniel Scott, South America. Richard Denny became the regional director of the Pacific in early 1997.

John Paul Hughes Transitions to International Teaching

Due to physical difficulties, J. P. Hughes stepped out of his role as director of the African Region. J. P. and June Hughes had made a tremendous contribution not only to every field in which they had served during their many years of missionary service, but also as a regional director. Brother and Sister Hughes continued their foreign missions service with an international teaching ministry.⁹⁷⁵

Jerry Richardson Appointed as Regional Director of Africa

Since Brother Hughes stepped out of regional leadership for Africa at the end of 1996, the FMB welcomed the newly appointed regional director for Africa and his wife, Jerry and Vickie Richardson. Brother and Sister Richardson served in Madagascar for many years, demonstrating capable leadership. They moved to St. Louis in January 1997.⁹⁷⁶

Jerry Richardson attended Conquerors Bible College. In 1974 he and Vickie married, and they received their missionary appointment to Madagascar. When his father, Denzil Richardson, retired from Madagascar in 1980, Jerry assumed the superintendence of the Malagasy church. Jerry and Vickie Richardsons' experience in Madagascar prepared them for added responsibility. In September 1996 the FMB recommended his appointment as the regional director for Africa.⁹⁷⁷

James Burton Appointed to Uruguay in 1997

James and Martha Burton had felt the call to missionary service in Uruguay thirty-six years ago. However, because the need was greater in Venezuela, they accepted the decision of the FMB to serve there. Under their leadership the church in Venezuela grew from four congregations to more than 1,400. After Venezuela's transition to national leadership, the Burtons served as regional director of South

⁹⁷⁴ "Memoriam," *Pentecostal Herald* (February 1998): 14.

⁹⁷⁵ "Change in Regional Leadership," *World Harvest Today* (January–March 1997): 5.

⁹⁷⁶ Ibid.

⁹⁷⁷ Dorsey Burk, *Foreign Missions Insight* (Hazelwood, MO: Word Aflame Press, 1997), 12.

America. During his tenure the work prospered and developed in numerous ways, but after six years Brother Burton stepped out of this responsibility that required extensive travel.

Now the Burtons were appointed to Uruguay, South America, the land of their original missionary call.⁹⁷⁸

Daniel Scott Appointed as Regional Director of South America

Daniel and Joretta Scott served as missionaries to Ecuador for nine years but had to return to the United States when Brother Scott's health deteriorated. While in the U.S., God led them into a productive ministry working among ethnic people living in North America. He was appointed the coordinator for Spanish Ministries in 1981, and in 1992 accepted the directorship of Ethnic Evangelism Ministries for the Home Missions Division. In 1995 the Scotts moved to St. Louis to operate the ministry from WEC. Through it all, however, the Scotts retained their burden for foreign missions. The Scotts accepted regional leadership in South America in 1996.⁹⁷⁹

Carl Varnell Elected as Foreign Missions Secretary

Carl Varnell was elected to serve in the vacancy left by Brother Judd's retirement. The FMD has had only three elected secretaries since the inception of the UPCI and since the position of FM secretary was created: Paul Box, Edwin Judd, and the newly elected Carl Varnell.

Carl and JoAnn Varnell were no strangers to foreign missions, as they had served faithfully in various FM capacities for many years in addition to his eighteen years of pastoral ministry in the United States.

In 1979, after Brother Varnell had served as FM director for the Mississippi District for three years, Carl and JoAnn Varnell were appointed as missionaries to the Philippines, where Brother Varnell served as president of the Bible school in Manila, pioneered a new Bible school in Mindanao, and from 1986–90 served as superintendent of the UPC in the Philippines. Later he served as RFS for the Pacific and director of Faith Promise Ministries.

The FMD welcomed Brother Varnell as foreign missions secretary.⁹⁸⁰

The January 1997 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

Harry Scism introduced the two new regional directors: Daniel and Joretta Scott, South America, and Jerry and Vicki Richardson, Africa. Richard Denny was being considered as director for the Pacific Region. Following are other board decisions:

- To recommend Keith and Elizabeth Ikerd for appointment as IMs to Bophuthatswana
- To recommend John H. and Corinne Nickerson as CMs to Nigeria
- To approve the constitution of the UPC of Hungary
- To recommend Robert L. and Judith Bentley as IMs to Baltic Republics
- To accept Dennis and Pat Burgess's resignation from missionary service
- To accept Paul and Christine Pool's resignation from missionary service
- To accept Chris and Mary Baumeister's resignation from missionary service
- To accept Roger and Margaret White's resignation from missionary service
- To recommend Lloyd L. Shirley as field superintendent of the UPC of Belize
- To recommend Raymond D. Nicholls as official UPCI representative to Belarus

⁹⁷⁸ "Change in Regional Leadership," *World Harvest Today* (January–March 1997): 7.

⁹⁷⁹ Ibid.

⁹⁸⁰ "Welcome, Brother and Sister Carl Varnell," *World Harvest Today* (January–March 1997): 5.

- To change J. P. and June Hughes's appointment from regional director, Africa, to CM, International Teaching Ministry
- To change of field for Gary A. and Kristi Landaw from Puerto Rico/Spanish Caribbean to Puerto Rico/Spanish Caribbean and Tobago
- To change of field for Jerry and Brenda Sawyer from Honduras to Honduras/Belize
- To approve Ted Grosbach's proposal to sell the 172 Cessna airplane and replace it with a 206 Cessna
- To appoint Edwin E. Judd as Faith Promise Ministries director for a two-year term
- To appoint Mervyn D. Miller as Faith Promise Ministries representative at large
- To appoint Gordon G. Mallory as Faith Promise Ministries representative at large
- To change of field for Harold Kinney from Austria/Baltic Republics to Austria
- To recommend Richard A. Denny as chairman of the board of the UPC, Philippines Inc., effective at the 1997 Philippine General Conference
- To approve an increase of 2.9 percent for 1997 in personal missionary allotment.⁹⁸¹

Sunday School Division and Missionary Children's Education

From the anxious moments of appointment at General Conference to the thousands of deputation miles traveled to leaving grandparents, other relatives, and school friends, all MKs have at departure to the field is Mom, Dad, and a promise of God's continual blessings. The Ladies Auxiliary Division supplied missionaries with appliances, and the Youth Division with transportation, but concern for the children's education was a constant worry for missionary parents.

Because missionaries and their children are quality people, MKs must receive a quality education. Many of these children become missionaries, and their education prepares them for their future. That is why the Sunday School Division created a program to provide education for missionary children, and it presented the plan in the February 1997 *Pentecostal Herald*:

How may you fit into the plan? You don't have to go—you don't have to have a whole country on your shoulders. You do not have to sell your home, your furniture and your automobile, leave your grandparents and other relatives, and friends; nor will you have to become accustomed to a new culture. But you can be part of a unified effort to give to the Educational Fund for Missionary Children. Our goal is to provide the total finances for all schooling expenses for missionary children in the 1997–98 school year. We believe it can be done. With your help we can achieve our goal.⁹⁸²

South America, a Continent Aflame

South America was a land of extremes, identifying with the spiritual state of the people who lived there. An incredibly short distance separated unsurpassed beauty from the undesirable and the unattractive.

The UPCI, recognizing the challenge of evangelizing the people of this fabulous continent, sent a body of qualified missionaries to the field. They brought South America to its knees with powerful ministries and prayer vigils.

Several years earlier, spiritual warfare and tremendous persecution forced Colombian believers to flow into neighboring countries like the molten lava of an erupting volcano, leaving scarcely a city or town untouched. The gospel took root and flourished. The same was true for Portuguese-speaking Brazil—evangelism obsessed the church. The believers' faith in Christ was synonymous with a dedication to witness about His love and grace. Witnessing believers viewed people with love and compassion,

⁹⁸¹ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (January 10, 1997).

⁹⁸² Ronald Nation, "Consider Our Missionary Children," *Pentecostal Herald* (February 1997): 4.

weeping over cities and towns until they reaped a multi-national harvest. The church transformed the mentality of people who had been steeped in religious ritualism.

Returning in February 1997 from a four-country tour, deeply moved by the missionaries' desire to reach their world, newly appointed Regional Director Daniel Scott was impressed with the unsurpassed quality of the UPCI missionaries. Their world revolved around effective evangelistic methods and what they could do to enhance the already productive programs. The UPCI constituency around the globe should be filled with a sense of gratitude for the high caliber of the men and women who represent our message.

Death of Lewis Morley

Lewis Morley was born in England in April 1915. He came through Canada in 1930 where he met his future wife, Sallie Lemons. They each went to separate mission fields in the 1950s, Lewis to Venezuela (1956–1958) and Sallie to Colombia. On the field they met again and worked together at different locations. In 1957 they went to Jamaica to be married.

They returned to Colombia to take over the work that missionary Bill Drost had started. From 1958 to 1977 the work spread and became one of the most productive mission works in UPCI history.

When Brother Morley was sixty-two years of age they retired to the States where they continued to work among the Latin American people in Houston, Texas. From there they moved to Florida where they continued to work with the Spanish in the Miami UPC pastored by Wayne Rooks.

Lewis Morley was called to his reward on Friday, March 28, 1997. Several of his friends and co-laborers participated in his memorial service: his pastor, Wayne Rooks, Mark Hattabaugh, Sidney Perdue, and Daniel Scott. His former regional director, Edwin E. Judd, brought the closing remarks.⁹⁸³

Richard Denny Appointed as Director of the Pacific Region⁹⁸⁴

Elected as the FM secretary during the 1996 General Conference in San Antonio, Carl Varnell had continued to serve as the Pacific regional director until January 1, 1997. As was the procedure, the missionaries working within the Pacific Region had the opportunity to express their desire, and their overwhelming response was for Richard Denny as the new regional director. The FMB concurred and recommended Richard Denny to the General Board. God had ordained the Dennys to step into this great challenge.

After pastoring in the United States, Richard and Coral Denny were appointed as missionaries to the Philippines where they labored for eleven years. Their special interest in Bible school training and church planting was greatly appreciated, and they were extremely successful in all of their activity for the kingdom of God in the Philippines.

Later, after returning to the United States, they pastored in Seattle, Washington. During the six years prior to his appointment as regional director, Brother Denny served as district superintendent for the Washington District. Brother and Sister Denny were qualified leaders and stepped into the leadership of the Pacific Region reaching for excellence.

The Philippine Church Celebrates Forty Years

March 5–9, 1997, were glorious days for the UPC of the Philippines. A citywide crusade in Manila climaxed the annual General Conference, which celebrated the church's fortieth anniversary.

During the business sessions Romeo Navallo, who had served for several years as assistant general superintendent, was elected general superintendent. Brother Navallo and the Executive Board expressed

⁹⁸³ "Tribute to Lewis Morley," *World Harvest Today* (April–June 1999): 3.

⁹⁸⁴ Harry Scism, "Richard Denny—Regional Director," *Pentecostal Herald* (May 1997): 10.

strong support for Richard Denny's appointment as the chairman of the board of the Philippine church and as regional director of the Pacific. On Saturday, March 8, twelve to fifteen thousand people flowed into the Araneta Coliseum for the beginning of a great crusade. Former Regional Director Carl Varnell reported:

A 1,500-voice choir under the direction of Sister Carla Burton filled the coliseum with Pentecostal praise as the Sunday crusade service began at 10:00 A.M. By 10:30 the coliseum was completely filled. The Sunday attendance peaked at an estimated 25,000 to 30,000 people. About 5,000 people were turned away, for no more room for seating remained in the building.

Tears flowed freely across the congregation as Reverend Billy Cole preached a message of repentance and then led the people in prayer. The tears gave way to shouts of joy as the Lord responded with a mighty outpouring of His Spirit. At least 3,000 to 4,000 people spoke in tongues for the first time. Praise continued to ascend to heaven for a long time as thousands of others were renewed in the Spirit throughout the vast auditorium.⁹⁸⁵

Many miracles of healing occurred in the Sunday service: a blind man received his sight and a deaf lady her hearing, several cripples walked, a man who was brought in on a stretcher walked out, and others received healings of many sicknesses and diseases.

Sixty-five North American visitors were there to provide support in prayer and worship in the services. Gordon Mallory, North American coordinator of the Dream Team, inspired everyone to believe for a one-million-soul revival in the Philippines.

All of this opened a new dimension for the work in the Philippines. The church was challenged to reach for a renewed commitment for revival. A prophecy stated that God would use the Philippine church to bring revival to Asia and many other parts of the world.

The May 1997 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

Many of the decisions during the May 1997 FMB sessions dealt with restructuring positions and realigning personnel due to administration, resignation, termination, or retirement changes. The decisions were as follows:

- To accept Danny and Lori Aber's resignation as missionaries to Suriname
- To change of field for Roy and Maurine Bettis from Guam/Micronesia to Micronesia East
- To change of field for Gary D. and Melva Sones from Mexico to Spain
- To change of field for Terry L. and Cheryl Riddick from Cameroon to Cameroon/Africa Impact Team
- To change of field for John F. and Aurelia Hopkins from Panama/Nicaragua to Panama
- To change of field for Jerry E. and Brenda Sawyer from Honduras/Belize to Belize
- To recommend Roy C. Bettis as field superintendent of the UPC of Eastern Micronesia
- To recommend ratification of Robert E. Forbush as superintendent of the United Pentecostal Assemblies of Papua New Guinea
- To recommend Lloyd L. Shirley as field superintendent of the UPC of Guyana
- To recommend Gary A. Landaw as field superintendent of the UPC of Trinidad-Tobago
- To recommend Stephen R. Nix as missionary supervisor of Iglesia Pentecostal Unida de Nicaragua
- To change of field for Robert E. and Derethia Forbush from Australia to Missionary Prayer Evangelist at large
- To appoint Jerry L. Burns as coordinator of Multimedia Ministry

⁹⁸⁵ Carl Varnell, "Philippine City Wide Crusade," *Pentecostal Herald* (June 1997): 13.

- To approve Vondas and Lea Smith's retirement effective August 1, 1997
- To change of field for Monte D. and Dianne Showalter from Guatemala to Missionary Evangelists and approve their move to the United States, the specific location to be approved by the FM Administrative Committee
- To appoint Harry E. Scism as director of CSI
- To designate the church in Glasgow, Scotland, as a center for CSI
- To terminate William and Rosa Browne as missionaries to Peru
- To approve the Statutes of the Federation of the UPC of France as presented
- To approve the constitution of the UPC of Hungary as presented
- To approve the Articles of Association of the UPC of Greece as presented
- To approve the Internal Constitution and bylaws of the UPC of Jordan as presented
- To recommend Richard S. Willoughby as area coordinator for Indonesia, Malaysia, and Brunei
- To recommend Daniel L. Scott as field superintendent of the UPC of Bolivia effective immediately
- To recommend a UPCI Men's Ministry
- To eliminate the negative cost of living adjustment (COLA)
- To ratify the FM Administrative Committee's termination of R. Mark Norris as a missionary to Brazil due to a physical handicap (so he can qualify for permanent disability)
- To appoint Johnny Garrison as North American Africa Impact Team representative for a term of one year, this appointment to be reviewed after one year
- To approve the proposal for three subregional African conferences: missionaries may attend at PIM expense, provided they have positive balances in their accounts. The regional director can spend up to \$1,000 per subregional conference from his PIM account
- To recommend Tommy W. Bracken as general superintendent of the UPCI to the to the Republic of China—Taiwan
- To appoint Roy Chen as secretary/treasurer of the UPCI to the Republic of China—Taiwan
- To recommend Richard L. Lucas as superintendent of the UPC of Japan
- To recommend that the UPC of India turn over the supervision for the West Bengal State to the UPC of Northeast India
- To approve the registration of the New Life Foundation of Romania
- To approve the Euro-Mediterranean subregional conference to be held February 27–March 2, 1998, in Athens, Greece⁹⁸⁶

Death of Wayne Rooks, Foreign Missions Board Member⁹⁸⁷

Wayne Rooks, well known and respected pastor from Miami, Florida, was appointed to the FMB in 1973. For twenty-five years Brother Rooks worked closely with the FMD as a pastoral member of the board, offering valuable input and opening his home to our missionaries, regional directors, and any other FM personnel passing through.

On May 16, 1997, after a week of FMB meetings, Brother Rooks died suddenly from heart failure. The passing of this dedicated man was indeed an eternal promotion. The FMD greatly missed Brother Rooks.

⁹⁸⁶ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (May 9, 1997).

⁹⁸⁷ Harry E. Scism, "In Memory of Wayne Rooks," *Pentecostal Herald* (September 1997): 20.

The Foreign Missions Board Sessions at the 1997 School of Missions

The FMB was concerned about Allan Shalm's family continuing to live on the field while he was on deputation, especially since Pakistan was strongly opposing the work. The welfare of the missionary and his family was always the board's chief concern. However, after discussion with Brother Shalm, concern was minimized. Other board decisions included the following:

- To require each missionary to attend General Conference once in every five years in his official capacity as a missionary and to man a booth at that conference.
- To accept Melvin and Sharon Thackers' resignation.
- To approve the working agreement between the Gospel Church and New Life Christian Center of St. Petersburg, Russia, and the UPCI.
- To resolve that beginning with the 1997 SOM, IMs will pay only for room and board plus allowable per diem and travel expenses. CMs' accounts will bear the cost for the balance of SOM expenses on an equitable basis.
- To appoint Robert W. Addington as president of the Field Fellowship of New Zealand.
- To resolve that the FMD pay a prorated share of the 1996 self-employment tax equalization for missionaries that terminated foreign missions service during the year.
- To accept Edwin E. Judd's resignation as director of Faith Promise Ministries.
- To appoint Mervyn D. Miller to fill the unexpired term of the director of Faith Promise Ministries.⁹⁸⁸

Foreign Missions Board Sessions at the 1997 General Conference

Darrell Johns was chosen by secret ballot to be recommended to the General Board to fill Wayne Rooks's unexpired term as a board member. He was appointed for a term of five years. Following are other board decisions:

- To accept Paul and Rita Suber's resignation from missionary service.
- To change of field for John and Deborah Wolfram from West Micronesia/ Vietnam/Pacific to West Micronesia/Pacific.
- To change of field for Bennie J. and Patricia Blunt from Kingdom of Tonga to Kingdom of Tonga/Western Samoa.
- To change of field for Robert E. and Karen Poole from Africa Impact Team to Africa Impact Team/Cameroon.
- To change of field for David A. and Alice Kline from Zambia/Zimbabwe to Zimbabwe.
- To rescind the earlier decision not to supply appliances to IMs and approve that appliances be provided to them from the allocation for this purpose from the Ladies Division.
- To resolve that IMs should serve a minimum of two full years on the field at that level before being considered for appointment as CMs and that cost of living adjustment (COLA) be built into IMs' budgets. Housing allowance for IMs should be limited to \$500 per month in lower COLA fields and \$800 per month in higher COLA fields. Necessary working funds for IMs should be raised as field account PIMs rather than personal account PIMs, and deputizing IMs should receive normal per diem allowances for Christmas vacation.
- To accept a letter of resignation and fellowship card from Beverly Clark, wife of Philippine missionary, Glenn Clark. Accept Glenn and Beverly Clark's resignation as missionaries of

⁹⁸⁸ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (August 28, 1997).

the UPCI because of Brother Clark's voluntary surrender of his fellowship card and ministerial status.⁹⁸⁹

The Foreign Missions Director's Report at the October 1997 General Conference

As United Pentecostals gathered in Detroit, Michigan, they rejoiced over God's blessings on the missionary family's efforts in world evangelism.

The FMB recorded their appreciation for Wayne Rooks's twenty-five years as a pastoral board member. His untimely death had deeply affected the board members; it was obvious he was greatly missed.

Brother Scism reported:

Foreign Missions has been blessed with another record year of income. In fact, our percentage of increase is the greatest we have enjoyed for the past several years. On an average each month, Our Partners In Missions income is \$987,628.97. Contributions from churches and individuals in the fiscal year were a record setting \$16,688,617.82. . . . The Youth Division [has] again blessed our missionaries by allocating \$575,000 for Sheaves for Christ vehicles. The Ladies Division has given \$313,000 from their Mother's Memorial program. How grateful we are for the strong support given by these two divisions. This brings our grand total for the 1996-97 fiscal year to \$17,576,617.82. This total reflects a 5.32% increase over last year.

There are presently 266 career missionaries. . . . The new intermediate level of full missionary appointment has 44 missionaries. . . . The third level of missionary service, known as the Associates in Missions, now has 253 missionaries. . . . This gives us a total of 563 missionaries from North America. Working with these North American missionaries are 14,588 national ministers preaching this glorious gospel in 135 nations.⁹⁹⁰

According to the 1996 field reports, 111,892 were baptized in Jesus' name and 146,447 received the Holy Ghost. This translated to a daily average of 307 baptized in Jesus' name and 401 filled with the Holy Ghost.

The overseas church had 1,908,943 constituents attending 20,348 churches and preaching points, with 3,384 new churches and preaching points established during the year. This translated to a daily average of ten new churches and preaching points.

The FMD set a goal to have a constituency of 3 million by Pentecost Sunday 2000. Director Harry Scism remarked, "God has raised up the United Pentecostal Church for such a time as this. Celebrating the harvest we shall continue bringing in the sheaves."⁹⁹¹

Compassion Services International

Clifford Gustafson was named the new coordinator for CSI. Larry Williamson of Reach Out America worked with the FMD to supply food, clothing, and other necessary items for humanitarian ministry. The Good Samaritan Center in Stockton, California, also assisted CSI in helping thousands who were stricken with famine, floods, hurricanes, disease, and other calamities.

Illness and Death of JoAnn Martin Varnell

JoAnn Varnell was born on October 31, 1945, to Norris and Ruby Martin in Columbia, Louisiana. She received the Holy Ghost and was baptized in 1957. She was a faithful and active Christian with a great love for the Lord.

⁹⁸⁹ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 9, 1997).

⁹⁹⁰ Harry E. Scism, "Annual Report to the General Board," October 1997.

⁹⁹¹ Ibid.

She married Carl H. Varnell on April 18, 1964, in Olla, Louisiana. They evangelized until joining T. L. Craft in Jackson, Mississippi, as assistant pastor of First PC. They served there until moving to Tupelo, Mississippi, to teach at the Pentecostal Bible Institute and serve as associate pastor of Bible Chapel, the on-campus church. In 1968 Brother and Sister Varnell moved to LaGrange, Georgia, to pastor a home missions church. In 1970 they became pastor of a church in Magee, Mississippi, until moving back to Tupelo, Mississippi, in 1973 to pastor the First PC.

In 1978 Brother and Sister Varnell were appointed as missionaries to the Philippines. Brother Varnell served as president of the Manila Bible College, then they moved to Davao City on the island of Mindanao to pioneer a new Bible college. There they purchased property and remodeled a building to house Apostolic Institute of Ministries. In 1986 Brother Varnell was appointed as the general superintendent of the work in the Philippines and continued in this capacity until his appointment as regional director of the Pacific in January 1990. In October 1996 Brother Varnell was elected as FM secretary. Throughout Brother Varnell's ministry, his wife was always at his side and deeply involved in the work of the Lord. She was greatly loved by the people in the Philippines as well as the missionaries of the Pacific Region and throughout the world.

During the last days of her life, she had several unique experiences. A few days before her death, she awakened Brother Varnell in the night and told him that she had seen an angel in the room. The last two nights before her death she sang in her sleep "Jesus Paid It All" and "He's Sweet I Know," but the next morning she did not recall singing.

JoAnn Varnell died [October 15, 1997] on her daughter's birthday at 3:00 P.M., almost exactly thirty years to the hour from when Carla was born. The day following her death, Brother Varnell received a call from a prayer intercessor who told him of a vision she had a few days before Sister Varnell's death in which she had seen a large cornfield. A hand reached down from heaven, plucked an ear of corn from the field, and took it back to heaven. The intercessor then saw a plowed field that had not yet been planted. The same hand reached down from heaven to plant the ear of corn in the empty field; immediately it was filled with corn as far as the eye could see.

The FMD established a memorial account to honor Sister Varnell by building a church in the Philippines dedicated to her memory.⁹⁹²

Foreign Missions Board Sessions⁹⁹³

Foreign missions work was escalating rapidly. Because missionaries began to expect more, the Lord responded according to their faith. Entire fields suddenly ignited with revival. Consequently the responsibilities of the FMB increased, and the regional directors took on a new level of administrative authority as they assumed much of the decision-making process, which they shared with the field superintendents and the area coordinators through an electronic reporting process. Other board decisions included the following:

- The Sunday School Division Save Our Children offering should be divided equally among the missionaries with educational needs.
- Deputizing missionaries should not anticipate returning to the field more than once during furlough with FMD approval. Any exception to this policy will require special FMD approval.
- AIM applicants who are licensed ministers wishing to work as pastors in Mexico for more than six months and who are not invited or recommended by any of the fully appointed missionaries should be required, upon request of the Mexico Field Fellowship, to be interviewed by the Mexico Field Fellowship as part of the approval process, and applicants must transfer their ministerial license to the FMD before departing for the field.

⁹⁹² Foreign Missions: "JoAnn Varnell Walked with God," *Pentecostal Herald* (December 1997): 17.

⁹⁹³ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (January 5, 1998).

- Change of field for Gary and Sharon Abernathy from Malawi to Zambia.
- Change of field for Charles and Suzanne Fitch from ABC Islands to furlough replacement, Europe/Middle East.
- Change of field for Donald and Abigail O’Keefe from furlough replacement, Africa, to Zimbabwe.
- Change of field for Scotty and Krista Slaydon from El Salvador/Nicaragua to El Salvador.
- Accept Dale and Josephine Starks’s resignation from missionary appointment because of illness.
- Accept Marvin and Janice Williams’s resignation from missionary appointment.
- Change of field for Everett and Lois Corcoran from South Asia to International Teaching Ministry.
- Approve the establishment of a “JoAnn Varnell Prayer Center” in the Philippines. The location and cost of this project is to be determined after consulting with the church in the Philippines.
- Approve the proposed temporary constitution for Guyana.
- Approve the proposed constitution for Papua New Guinea.
- Approve a 3 percent increase in the missionaries’ personal support base for 1998.

1,400 Attend Dedication of Ghana Bible School

After more than a decade of service in Nigeria, West Africa, James Poitras and his wife had a change of field to Ghana, West Africa. His job description was twofold: 1) revive the work, and 2) reopen the Bible college. The college had been closed for seven years as a result of severe political crisis, and ministerial training was nonexistent in the UPC of Ghana.

A great miracle of supply occurred when Brother and Sister Tom van der Kooi in Australia announced that they would donate U.S. \$45,000 to complete the construction of the school in Ghana. Added to the more than \$25,000 donated during the Poitras’s deputation, the school was well on its way to being funded!

After the Poitras’s arrival in Ghana, people started receiving the Holy Ghost in every service. In the first two and a half years more than 5,609 people received the Holy Ghost. Fifty-seven new churches and preaching points were established and the church began reaching out to every region of the country and beyond. With more than 8,159 members, they were ever conscious of the need for training more leaders. Brother Poitras reported:

We enjoy so much working with Sister Else Lund, who has been under full missionary appointment for thirty-five years, with twenty-six years right here in Ghana. Sister Lund has been actively involved in the training of every national minister that we presently work with.

The training program was opened immediately. The old dormitory was refurbished and our first classes were held in one of the dorm rooms. Uncompleted graduates from 1988 were graduated and ACTS (African Center for Theological Studies) Ghana was open within six months after our arrival.

After two terms of the new curriculum of ACTS, we began teaching both first and second year students at the same time. This meant that we were using both the dorm/classroom and the headquarters church chapel. The Bible school was off and growing!

Brother Milton Rhodes, a retiree from Pennzoil in Louisiana, and his wife came to take charge of the building project. It took six months to complete and is a great credit to the UPC in Ghana and worldwide. Brother and Sister Harry Scism recently dedicated the building with more that 1,400 people attending the dedication. The building is not just another Bible college but a center for the training ministry of all Ghana. We administrate our correspondence Bible school from this building. The building holds our four-year ministerial development classes and it houses our Reaching Through Teaching Ministries.

Recently we have opened Portable Bible Schools (PBS) in many areas of the country. Last month alone, 291 people completed the first level of this program. We have approximately 700 students across the nation taking this PBS program.⁹⁹⁴

A Miracle in New Zealand

Robert Addington related the story of a New Zealand miracle:

Since 1969 the UPCI churches of New Zealand have rented school halls and empty rooms to have services. The routine of coming early, cleaning after the previous patrons, setting up chairs and musical instruments, putting up Sunday school materials, and then taking everything down was a chore. Sometimes another group would be waiting to use the premises after our service, forcing us to cut our service short or leaving little time for fellowship. It was always difficult to have a few extra days for special meetings.

Having no permanent building for use, we used homes for prayer meetings and special services. Community halls were also known for cold drafts in the winter—not very warm or inviting. The entire UPC fellowship owned only one church building and one house that was used for offices.

Many visitors questioned our stability because we did not have a proper church building. We have prayed for the day when we could purchase our own building for a training center and headquarters church.

About a month ago the Lord opened the door for us to purchase a three-year-old building which costs US \$260,000. Yes, that is a lot of money, but for what we are getting it should cost two or three times that amount in the city of Auckland. It is everything we need! Our entire fellowship is thrilled with the prospect of having our own building.

How did God open the door? It was through the witness of one of our saints to his boss. Sam King's life touched the owner's heart. When he discovered that we were looking for a building, he offered this one. Not only was it at a reasonable price, but he also offered to carry the mortgage if we could come up with US \$65,000, one quarter of the price. (We borrowed the money.)

This two-level, 8,500 square foot building is an opportunity from the Lord. The second floor was formerly a club and needs no renovations for the church to move in. The bottom level already has two leased businesses that will help with the mortgage payments. I cannot describe how excited the New Zealand Field fellowship is and willing to embark on this venture.

It is time for this country to take notice of our wonderful gospel. A building is our best soul outreach tool.⁹⁹⁵

Death of Lucile Farmer⁹⁹⁶

Lucile Farmer went home to be with the Lord on Saturday, December 20, 1997, eleven days prior to her eighty-second birthday. She had suffered for eighteen years with Parkinson's disease and resided at the Oregon Hood River Care Center the last eight years of her life. Even in this confining atmosphere, Lucile's godly life and testimony touched many people.

Lucile was born to Anna and Dayton Darrah on December 31, 1915, in Vallecitos, New Mexico. When she was eight, her family moved to Albuquerque, where they discovered a Pentecostal church pastored by Samuel C. McClain. For many years Lucile's father persecuted her and her mother for their faith, but their faith held strong. Later Lucile, her mother, and her children worked for several years in a home missions church in Superior, Wyoming. She spent a year at Pentecostal Bible Institute in Tupelo, Mississippi, as dietician and kitchen supervisor.

In October 1963, the UPCI appointed Lucile Farmer as a missionary to Ecuador, where she pioneered a number of churches. She later went independently to Israel because that country disallowed missionaries. Golda Meier helped her get into Israel. While in Israel Lucile developed Parkinson's disease and the government forced her to return home. At that time Lucile was fluent in five languages.

⁹⁹⁴ James Poitras, "Except the Lord Build the House," *Pentecostal Herald* (February 1998): 13.

⁹⁹⁵ Robert Addington, "A Miracle in New Zealand," *Pentecostal Herald* (March 1998): 10.

⁹⁹⁶ Foreign Missions: "Memoriam," *Pentecostal Herald* (April 1998): 15.

Returning to America, she settled in Hood River, Oregon, where a home missions work, Apostolic Truth Tabernacle, was just beginning. Her burden for Spanish-speaking people and her prayer ministry became a great strength for the church.

The memorial service, on January 9, 1998, at Apostolic Truth Tabernacle was attended by family, friends, and church officials. Harry Scism, general director of Foreign Missions, brought the main message and Pastor Ray Sirstad of Hood River, Oregon, spoke of Lucile's extensive influence, especially her prayer ministry. M. David Johnson, superintendent of the Oregon District, and Elias Limones of Concord, California, also attended.⁹⁹⁷

First Graduating Class of the UPC College of Theology, Cameroon⁹⁹⁸

Hosted by Peace Tabernacle Church, Bokoko, Cameroon, on November 22, 1997, the first class graduated from the UPC College of Theology, Cameroon. Garry Tracy, director of Education/AIM, and Jerry R. Richardson, regional director of Africa, were present.

Twelve young men and one lady dressed in sparkling green robes were proud not only of receiving a theological degree, but of receiving spiritual enlightenment as well.

The UPC-COT began on January 25, 1995. As this first class graduated, the church was gearing for God to abundantly pour out His Spirit upon this fertile country. Most of the graduates were already working in the vineyard as assistant pastors; the young lady was soon to marry one of the pastors.

Three graduates delivered speeches: During the commissioning ceremony the class president appealed to his fellow graduates to "march as messengers of Pentecost into every province of Cameroon and then to the regions beyond. Together we will do an effective work to obtain a crown." In his salutatory address, Didier Mbom said, "Our strong prayer is that God should empower us to withstand the resentment of sound biblical preaching and teaching where messages on salvation, judgment, holiness, and hell are not acceptable." In his farewell address Ngum Amslem Mendong said, "We will remain true to our convictions, unwavering advocates of the Oneness of God movement." This graduating class doubled Cameroon's ministerial constituency, bringing the number of ministers to twenty-five.

Death of Samuel Baker

As Harry Scism opened the FMB sessions in May 1998, he announced to the board that Samuel Baker, former missionary to Brazil, had died. He gave a short history of how Samuel and Lois Baker had pioneered Porto Alegre and Sao Paulo, leaving deep footprints of their missionary service. Brother Scism requested prayer for the family:

Samuel Baker was born on April 1, 1920. He and his wife and dedicated family served as missionaries in South America. They worked in Uruguay from 1954 to 1956. Later they served in Brazil from 1956 to 1969 and again from 1972 to 1975.

Brother Baker, as one of our first missionaries to Brazil, played an important part in laying a solid foundation for the church in that land. Brother Baker died on May 10, 1998. He will be long remembered for his foreign missionary service of 21 years.⁹⁹⁹

May 1998 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

Following are the decisions made during the May 1998 FMB sessions:

⁹⁹⁷ Author's note: I worked with Lucile Farmer in Ecuador. She was a grandmother to my children who were young during the time we served in Ecuador. No godlier woman ever walked the earth than Hermana Lucila Farmer (Sister Lucile Farmer).

⁹⁹⁸ Didier D. Mbom, "First Graduating Class—Cameroon," *Pentecostal Herald* (May 1998): 14.

⁹⁹⁹ Harry E. Scism, "In Tribute to Samuel Baker," *World Harvest Today* (April–June 1999): 3.

- To accept Richard and JoAnn McGriffin's resignation from missionary appointment to Germany/Austria.
- To change of field for Gary A. and Kristi Landaw from Puerto Rico/Spanish Caribbean/Trinidad and Tobago to Spanish Caribbean/Trinidad and Tobago.
- To legalize the status of Mark and Eunice Norris due his physical condition:
 - Mark Norris is physically disabled and no longer able to continue in missionary work. He has been awarded Social Security disability benefits and Workman's Compensation benefits. There is a deficit in his PIM account. Mark and Eunice Norris should be approved for retired missionary status.
- To change of field for Else J. Lund from Ghana to International Teaching Ministry.
- To approve the constitution of the Asia Military District as revised.
- To approve the external statutes for the Czech Republic.
- To approve the proposed property purchase in Calcutta, India, as recommended by the Asian regional director.
- To approve the endorsement of the Cuban evangelism proposal as recommended by the regional director of Central America/Caribbean.
- To resolve that per diem be extended to a missionary following deputation for a maximum of thirty days unless the delay is due to reasons beyond his control.
- To approve a Pacific Regional Conference to be held in the Philippines May 26–28, 1999.
- To approve that a Brazilian publishing division be added to the Brazilian constitution and that the present publishing activity be incorporated into the system as requested by the regional director.
- To authorize the Global Council meeting to be held in Paris, France, September 8–10, 1998. Listed below are the missionaries who would be involved and the countries from each region that could send delegates, who would travel at their own expense.
 - African Region missionaries Jimmy Hall, Don Ikerd, and Ed Allard
 - African Region nationals from Ethiopia, Zambia, and Ivory Coast
 - Asian Region missionaries Prince Mathiasz, Tom Bracken, and Richard Lucas, and Ey Ja Kim as interpreter
 - Asian Region nationals from Northeast India, Korea, and Pakistan
 - Central America/Caribbean Region missionaries Gary Landaw, Bruce Howell, and Wynn Drost
 - Central America/Caribbean nationals from the Leeward Islands, Jamaica, and Nicaragua
 - Europe/Middle Eastern Region missionaries, Gary Reed, Sam Balca, and John Nowacki, and George Szabolcsi as interpreter
 - Europe/Middle Eastern nationals from Italy, Great Britain/Ireland, and Hungary
 - Pacific Region missionaries Richard Carver, Steve Willoughby, and Lee Sherry
 - Pacific nationals from Australia, Philippines, and Malaysia
 - South American Region missionaries Stuart Lassetter, Bennie DeMerchant, and Darry Crossley
 - South American nationals from Venezuela, Colombia, and Peru¹⁰⁰⁰

Tribute to L. D. Lewis

L. D. Lewis was born on October 6, 1934. As a minister of the United Pentecostal Church, Brother Lewis and his very committed wife were appointed as missionaries to the Philippines in May of 1978. Brother and Sister Lewis served in the Philippines from 1978 to 1986, making a tremendous contribution to

¹⁰⁰⁰ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (May 15, 1998).

the church in the Philippines. Much of their time was spent in the Bible college, training men and women for the harvest and for places of leadership.

Brother Lewis was promoted to his eternal home on June 6, 1998.¹⁰⁰¹

The Dream Team Crusades

In 1982 God challenged Gordon Mallory's faith for a one-million-soul revival in the Philippines. Brother Mallory shared his experience with the church in the Philippines, and the dream was born. In 1996 God confirmed to Brother Mallory that the dream was not dead but that the dream lived on. He approached the FMD, which approved a plan to hold crusades in every town and provincial capital in the Philippines during the next three years. Many pastors across the North American fellowship became a part of the Dream Team and committed to sponsor and preach crusades in the Philippines.

Brother Mallory, Dream Team coordinator; Richard Denny, director of the Pacific Region and the Executive Board of the UPC (Philippines); and the FMB agreed that the Philippine Dream Team revival would be dedicated to the lovely lady of prayer, JoAnn Varnell. Brother Varnell and the family were honored that the prayer chapel and the revival effort in the Philippines would be dedicated to her memory.

The following news briefs recount some of the Dream Team crusades in the Philippines:

Santiago City: Three thousand full-color posters and twenty thousand full-color handbills resulted in a full coliseum. The Spirit of God fell so mightily that the team members led by Johnny Arcovio could not keep track of the people who were speaking in tongues for the first time. After three days, the total names of those filled with the Holy Ghost reached 582. Eighty-two miraculous healings occurred. Up to this time there had been no church in this city.

Manila: In a children's crusade with Lloyd Squires, 329 children received the Holy Ghost. In crusade meetings with Greg Wilbanks and Robert Henson, 449 people received the Holy Ghost.

Naga City: Pastor Trinidad said that ninety-eight new people received the Holy Ghost and fifty-four received healing in the crusade with Ron Townsley.

Batangas: Forty-one people received the Holy Ghost and twenty-seven were healed in the ministers' seminar with Michael Blankenship and Robert Hall. In three days of crusades, 409 people received the Holy Ghost and seventy-seven were healed. God healed a seven-year-old girl who had never spoken. As the ministers prayed she began speaking slowly: "Jesus, Jesus!" The shocked mother, an unbeliever, acknowledged, "This is a miracle."

Bayombong: Three people who were blind with cataracts received instant healing and rejoiced when they could read the Bible for the first time. Many other miracles occurred: cancers disappeared, deaf ears opened, goiters and cysts dropped off, and arthritic pain vanished. The area of this crusade had been the center of satanic activity for the region, but God broke that control. A total of 169 people received the Holy Ghost under the ministry of Clifford Barnett and other members of the Dream Team.

Davao City: In the March 1998 Philippine General Conference under Richard Denny's and David Johnson's ministry, seven hundred people received the Holy Ghost. Two crippled persons left their crutches behind. Several growths were instantly healed. During the last day of the conference, God took control as the congregation packed the gym, and more than two thousand people outside also felt the Spirit. Philippine General Superintendent Navallo said, "During the Executive Board meetings, the deliberations were very brotherly and in a very easy atmosphere. I know that God is now ready for the greatest revival in the Philippines."¹⁰⁰²

Europe/Middle East

The vast Europe/Middle Eastern Region contained seventy-two countries and spanned fourteen time zones. It was an area of various cultures, many languages, and great diversity of philosophies, religions, and opinions. Although the region could boast of being the birthplace of Jesus Christ, the

¹⁰⁰¹ Harry E. Scism, "In Tribute to L. D. Lewis, *World Harvest Today* (April-June 1999): 3.

¹⁰⁰² Foreign Missions: "The Dream Lives On," *Pentecostal Herald* (June 1998): 11.

people continued to worship gods of economics, intelligence, and political power. Apathy toward the church and the true gospel was the greatest challenge.

Hundreds of hours of prayer, consistent fasting, and organized prayer walks could pull down the strongholds that had held the people captive for so long. Regional Director Robert Rodenbush said, “It’s happening!”¹⁰⁰³

- Strategic nations in the Middle East recognized the UPC church. In Jordan, the UPC was the first church to receive such recognition in thirty-seven years! Other countries such as Egypt, Greece, and Bosnia-Herzegovina, also gave the UPC government recognition. Doors once closed were now open!
- In the past seven years, twenty-two new countries had been opened to this gospel message, and we now had believers in forty-two countries of the region.
- The first Euro-Mediterranean Conference was held in Athens, Greece, with delegates from thirty-three nations.
- A man from the United Arab Emirates received the Holy Ghost and the wife of a Baptist pastor from Bethlehem was baptized in Jesus’ name. Another pastor from Bethlehem was baptized and started a church.
- In East London, a whole congregation was baptized in the name of Jesus.
- In St. Petersburg, Russia, more than four hundred people received the Holy Ghost in 1997.

Maturing National Churches

With many of the national mission endeavors of the world seeking a greater autonomy and a greater evangelistic thrust, many of the maturing fields began progressing toward a national leadership. This would free many of our missionaries to transition to a reduced role in the national administration or to pioneer another unevangelized field. The transition to a national leadership in most cases involved a fulfillment of the FM purpose of establishing a self-governing administration. This involved establishing a self-propagating, self-supporting church.

Below are some of the national churches that in 1998 had a national administration and that elected their own general superintendent:

- | | |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| • Ethiopia | 970,000 constituents |
| • Philippines | 152,400 constituents |
| • Venezuela | 80,000 constituents |
| • NE India | 67,853 constituents |
| • South India | 38,000 constituents |
| • Burma | 13,197 constituents |
| • Colombia | 23,478 constituents ¹⁰⁰⁴ |

Memorial to Charles Henry Abernathy

Charles and Janet Abernathy began their ministry in Akron, Ohio, and after some pastoral ministry, which included pioneering a home missions church, they entered into foreign missionary work in Africa. They were appointed as missionaries in 1973 and served in Malawi, Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe), and South Africa. After doing an amazing work for the Lord in South Africa, they eventually went back to Zimbabwe. During this time Janet was called home to be with the Lord on June 6, 1991.

¹⁰⁰³ Robert Rodenbush, “It’s Happening—Europe/Middle East,” *Pentecostal Herald* (June 1998): 16.

¹⁰⁰⁴ Harry E. Scism, “Protecting Our Investments,” *Pentecostal Herald* (June 1998): 3.

Charles Abernathy then moved to Swaziland to work with the Mack Carpenters. Charles married Miriam Storms in January 1992 in Indiana, and they eventually returned to Africa. Later they spent some time in Trinidad/Tobago, West Indies.

After he retired from missionary work, Brother Abernathy continued to preach as often as possible and when his health would permit. Eventually, God called him home on August 14, 1998.

Charles Henry Abernathy gave many of his best years to foreign missions work. His dedication and commitment to worldwide evangelism impacted all of us who had the joy of working with him.¹⁰⁰⁵

Missionary Cindy Collins's Miracle

In 1999, Cynthia Collins, wife of Darrell Collins, missionary to Bolivia, received a miracle healing. Doctors found a tumor and recommended a biopsy and an immediate surgery. When the doctors took additional X-rays before surgery, they could not find anything. The Collinses had appealed to their PIMs for prayer support and thanked them for their prayers.¹⁰⁰⁶

Foreign Missions Board Sessions at the 1998 School of Missions

During the 1998 SOM the board met returning missionaries for a time of interaction. Other board decisions included the following:

- To accept Keith Ikerd's resignation from missionary service
- To authorize the sale of the residential missions property in Nairobi, Kenya, for \$150,000 or more and that the proceeds from such sale be used in Kenya
- To separate promotional expenses from administrative expenses in the budget
- To accept D. C. and Jennifer Downey's resignation from Mexico and transfer his ministerial license to the district of his choice
- To change of field for William D. and Elizabeth Turner from Russia/Kazakhstan to Russia/Kazakhstan/Ukraine
- To change of field for Michael J. and Vilita Patterson from Romania to Romania/Moldavia
- To place the Chittagong Hill Tract under the Northeast India UPC
- To approve subregional conferences: The Netherlands—August 9–13, 1999; Russia and CIS—St. Petersburg, September 16–19, 1999; and Euro-Med—Athens, February/March 2000
- To approve the regional conference in The Netherlands, August 6–9, 1999
- To approve the East Meets West, Phase Two, Conference in Budapest, Hungary, August 1–4, 2002
- To approve the Internal Constitution and Bylaws for the Czech Republic
- To approve the construction of a John Brian Memorial in Fiji¹⁰⁰⁷
-

3,000 Receive the Holy Ghost in Colombia

Nearly eighteen thousand people crowded into a convention center designed to accommodate a much smaller number, yet the people kept coming. The aisles disappeared as the overflow from the several balconies and seating sections filled every available empty space. The people immediately got lost in a spirit of worship.

¹⁰⁰⁵ "Memorial to Charles H. Abernathy," *Pentecostal Herald* (October 1999): 20.

¹⁰⁰⁶ "Cindy Collins' Miracle," *Pentecostal Herald* (January 2000): 21.

¹⁰⁰⁷ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (August 27, 1998).

Guest speaker, UPCI General Secretary Cleveland Becton, overwhelmed by the spiritual atmosphere, turned and whispered to Regional Director Daniel Scott, “What are they going to do with all these people? There is nowhere for them to sit.” It was obvious that the overflow would stand during the entire service with no thought for the inconvenience. Despite terrorism, severe persecution, and poverty, the Colombian believers came together to share a common faith. North American congregations that had faithfully underwritten the missionary program would have been pleased to witness such a sight as this National Conference. This was the fruit of their sacrifice!

What a wonderful thing it would be if the congregations in North America, annually renewing their commitment to evangelize the world, could witness just one of these scenes. If our local churches could experience the powerful atmosphere of these services, they would realize that this activity is an answer to the tears shed in prayer as the saints in the homeland trace their fingers over the map depicting our Foreign Missions family. The sacrifices and prayers of our people are producing men and women of quality, energetic to get this ever-saving gospel to their countrymen. They are filling the many thousands of churches . . . around the world.¹⁰⁰⁸

The Foreign Missions Secret of Success

What was the secret of the membership growth on the foreign field? The missionaries produced effective leaders who could assume the work of missions. They poured themselves into an indigenous leadership to duplicate their own leadership qualities. They maximized the missionary investment by developing Bible schools that turned out men and women burdened to reach their own people. Bible schools and training programs were the secret behind the exploding foreign field constituency.

2,000 Receive the Holy Ghost in Ecuador

The traditional location of the Ecuadorian National Conference could no longer contain the crowds. By faith in August 1998 the leadership decided to move the event to the beautiful Rumiña Sports Arena near downtown Quito. Attendance soared to over thirteen thousand; many walked in off the street.

A group of pastors from the Tennessee District led by the Tennessee District FM Director Jeff Young ministered along with South American Regional Director Daniel Scott. So great was the response that men began to jump from level to level to get to the altar area. Several distinctive groups (easily identified by ethnic dress), experienced a tremendous wave of the Spirit, leaving over two thousand filled with the Holy Ghost in its wake.¹⁰⁰⁹

Foreign Missions Board Sessions at the 1998 General Conference

The FMB presented a resolution to the General Conference to make the regional directors legal voting members of the board, rather than voices without votes. The resolution passed, and the board stepped into the future for administrative policy. An additional resolution adopted on the conference floor made the six regional directors active voting members of the FM Administrative Committee.

The six regional directors were Jerry R. Richardson, Africa; Paul A. Dennis, Asia; Lloyd L. Shirley, Central America/Caribbean; Robert K. Rodenbush, Europe/Middle East; Richard A. Denny, Pacific; and Daniel L. Scott, South America.

Other board decisions included the following:

- To approve the policy for the Global Council of the UPCI and the Global Commission for Missions and recommend the same to the General Board

¹⁰⁰⁸ Daniel Scott, “Colombia—Seedbed of Revival,” *Pentecostal Herald* (September 1998): 20.

¹⁰⁰⁹ Daniel Scott, “Regional Director Report to the Foreign Missions Board,” October 1998.

- To approve the proposed African Evangelism Council
- To change of field for Robert P. and Gayle Frizzell from South Asia to Asia
- To recommend Gerald C. and Darla McLean as IMs to Nigeria
- To recommend B. Scott and Linda Guinn as IMs to Mexico
- To recommend Walter and Shirley Droke as IMs to Kenya.
- To recommend Karl H. and Mary Smith as IMs to South Africa
- To recommend Mark J. and Eve Ann Drost as IMs to Mexico
- To recommend Christopher T. and Michelle Weber as IMs to Brazil
- To recommend Robert Lester and Elizabeth McFarland as CMs to Israel/Palestine
- To recommend Carlton L. and Dana Jackson as IMs to Guatemala
- To recommend Bobby and Tanya Lewis as IMs to Poland
- To recommend Allan C. and Angela Fackler as IMs to Cameroon
- To recommend Stephen and Jean Tir as IMs to Slovakia
- To recommend Russell L. and Adriane Riddick as IMs to Africa Impact Team, Cameroon, and Equatorial Guinea¹⁰¹⁰

Foreign Missions Director Harry Scism's 1998 Annual Report

At the 1998 General Conference in Greensboro, North Carolina, the FM Director's report to the General Board and the FMB related that the UPCI now had 484 missionaries residing in 136 nations of the world. Further, daily averages were now seven new churches and preaching points established, 325 baptized in Jesus name, and 326 filled with the Holy Ghost. The reports from the field showed that nearly two million constituents in overseas United Pentecostal Churches were rejoicing in this glorious salvation!¹⁰¹¹

Harry Scism further reported 15,882 national licensed ministers serving 21,407 churches. The financial report showed a total FM income of \$18,061,036.42, including offerings given directly to deputizing missionaries. During an average month, PIMs provided \$1,049,400.33. Brother Scism's statement, "We are committed to evangelism worldwide," was the underlying motivation for his successful years as the general director of Foreign Missions.

At this juncture the nationalization of Jamaica and Colombia created a need to establish FM policy that would connect maturing nations to the worldwide UPCI body. As each mission field matured into an autonomous entity, an organic bond between that entity and the international body had to be forged so that the body of Christ would not become fragmented. Granted, the purpose of the church was not to perpetuate an organization; its purpose was to perpetuate world evangelism by the united efforts of its constituency throughout the world. However, the legalization of the church by the various foreign governments would complicate the forging of such organic bonds.

In 1973 the idea of a World Fellowship Conference had been discussed on the General Conference floor. The idea became a reality on November 1–10, 1976, at the first World Fellowship Conference in Jerusalem, Israel, the birthplace of the church. It was a venue for fellowship of the church's leaders. Fellowship provided discussion, but the problem of a legal, organic bond to keep the church intact remained elusive. This need became increasingly apparent as more and more maturing national works became autonomous. It was decided that the World Fellowship Conference should be the forerunner of a Global Fellowship for the church, and the conferences should convene every four years.

¹⁰¹⁰ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 1998).

¹⁰¹¹ Harry Scism, "Annual Report to the General Board," October 1998.

Evangelism and Leadership Conference

Foreign Missions convened the Evangelism and Leadership Conference on January 22–30, 1998, in Alexandria, Louisiana, with forty-eight national leaders present from forty-two nations. This meeting charted the course to create what later would be called the Global Council.

The Global Fellowship—September 1998

The fusion of ideas, programs, and principles at the Global Fellowship fine-tuned the church's mission around the world. Those who have never participated in foreign missions would not understand the powerful effect of the Global Fellowship on national leaders and missionaries alike. In this atmosphere of people whose calling and vision produced values conducive to effective evangelism, T. F. Tenney uttered his concluding remarks:

Institutions need to continually be revived. The church is where it is because of a man called Jesus . . . and a place called Calvary. It is well established that new doctrines are not to be entertained, but new methods for ministry and missions should remain the priority of the leadership. Much like the mother of Samuel taking new garments to a growing child, new patterns and new methods will address the effectiveness of world missions. The church while answering these needs must keep the program simple and not succumb to the temptation to over institutionalize the church body.

The Global Council must not fear criticism. For every man who would take a hammer and chisel to make an idol out of a man, there is double that number that would take a hammer and nails and crucify him. As the task involves the responsibility to evangelize a world, the church must not bow to pressure. The Body of Christ has a commitment to the commission and must remain committed. There will always be critics. However, allow it to be noted that Jesus never silenced his critics. We must not be afraid to venture into new territory. The Lord is merely shifting the load to make it lighter and more effective.¹⁰¹²

The Global Fellowship would make it possible for all nations that had achieved autonomy to feel connected to the mother church. The organic bond provided by the regional directors was the answer to proper representation for third-world countries and would forge the worldwide church into one indivisible body. The gospel could be extended throughout the world facilitated by an innovative leadership outside of North America, and the churches in third-world countries would feel a confidence to share in the burden of world evangelism.

General Superintendent Nathaniel Urshan co-chaired the Global Fellowship with FM Director Harry Scism. Assistant General Superintendent Jesse Williams, James Kilgore, and D. D. Davis, were an important part of the Global Fellowship proceedings; they ensured that the framework of the global policy would follow the principles of purpose as the North American church perceived them.

As the Global Fellowship concluded, it was evident that the wise counsel of maturing third-world administrators had made the necessary adjustments to the embryonic policies created in Alexandria, Louisiana, in January 1998. During the 1998 General Conference in Greensboro, North Carolina, the UPCI General Board unanimously approved the structure and policies formulated by the Global Fellowship.

World Evangelism and Leadership Conferences Are Planned

After the first Global Council in Paris on September 8–10, 1998, FM Director Harry Scism expounded on the significance of the Global Council:

¹⁰¹² Minutes: UPCI Global Fellowship (September 8–10, 1998).

Reports of widespread revival bringing thousands to the New Testament experience . . . have stirred us to a new vision of God's purpose for the United Pentecostal Church. . . .

The overseas church is growing rapidly! This body of believers in other lands now numbers over 2,000,000 reported constituents. In 1997 every day over 300 were baptized in water and received the Holy Spirit, and every day seven new churches/preaching points were established. With over 15,000 licensed ministers and over 21,000 churches overseas, we have a very strong force for worldwide evangelism.

Before us is a great challenge. First, every effort must be made to protect this great body of believers from the effort of the enemy to divide and destroy. We must remain united in purity of doctrine and in holiness of living. We must find ways to strengthen one another, support one another, and encourage one another.

Further, this great task force must become an organized, coordinated army of Apostolics marching forward together in worldwide evangelism. As the strength of the overseas church is joined with the strength of the church in the United States and Canada, it puts us in a position to make a great impact as we are endued and empowered by the Holy Ghost. The challenge has now become a plan of action!

The first Global Council . . . met in Paris, France, from September 8–10, 1998. Under the chairmanship of General Superintendent Nathaniel A. Urshan, this international group of carefully chosen delegates representing six regions of overseas work and the United States and Canada brought together a beautiful plan of action. Many months have been spent in gathering input from foreign missionaries, national leaders, and general board members in the United States and Canada. . . .

The basic plan of action will begin with a meeting of the Global Council . . . in the year 2000. This meeting will be held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Two delegates from all organized United Pentecostal Churches around the world will be invited. This Global Council will plan to meet every five years. The general superintendent [of the UPCI] will chair this great international meeting when he is present. Otherwise the general director of Foreign Missions will chair it. A second council known as the Executive Council . . . will have seven delegates from each of the six foreign missions regions plus seven delegates from the United States and Canada. This council will meet in between the meetings of the Global Council.

Under the umbrella of the Global Council, a Global Commission will be formed. This will be an international commission for missionary work through which all missionary endeavors . . . will be united. We fully expect that as we unite our missionary endeavors, the present 500 missionaries will be increased to 1500 missionaries in the coming few years.

This Global Commission will begin with a Regional Commission in each region to be held in 1999. We will make plans first on a regional level to coordinate the missionary work of all nations in each region. Next we will make plans for the first Global Commission meeting. Only those nations that are either sending missionaries to other lands or giving missionary support will be a part of the regional and global commissions. The Regional Commissions will meet each year and the Global Commission will meet every two years. The Regional Commissions will be chaired by the regional directors, and the Global Commission will be chaired by the general director of Foreign Missions.¹⁰¹³

During the Paris meeting, as participants looked at the world map with special attention to the 10/40 Window, they discussed how they could evangelize this unreached area of the world. One by one delegates from different nations mentioned how they had contacts in different areas of the 10/40 Window. Excitement mounted as they became even more aware of the fact that *together* they could impact the world. Brother Urshan remarked that plans made during the Global Council should move forward as quickly as possible. With God's help the UPCI would take this leap forward.

Regional Directors to Provide the Organic Bond

The six regional directors were recognized as a necessary part of the organic bond needed to unite churches outside of North America with the mother church. The world leaders agreed that the mature, autonomous fields should share in the responsibility for world evangelism in both economics and personnel. Third-world nations should send missionaries to evangelize those areas of the world yet unreached.

¹⁰¹³ Harry E. Scism, "A Leap Forward," *Pentecostal Herald* (December 1998): 5.

After two full days of discussion, the leaders attending the Global Council in Paris unanimously approved the policy of evangelization and missionary participation. This policy was to be presented to the UPCI General Board at the 1998 General Conference.¹⁰¹⁴

Death of Benjamin D. Urshan

Benjamin D. Urshan was born on October 28, 1906, in Abajaloo, Azerbaijan, Persia, now known as Iran. He passed from this life on October 21, 1998.

Brother Urshan was the youngest of five brothers: Andrew, Timothy, Josephus, Joseph, and Benjamin. They emigrated from Iran in the early twentieth century and became well known among Oneness Pentecostals for their ministry as evangelists, pastors, writers, and missionaries. Benjamin traced the story of his life in his autobiography, *Survivor*.

In 1918, at age twelve, Benjamin left Iran and went to England to live with a Pentecostal couple, where he attended school, learned the English language and waited to come to North America. He immigrated to Canada in October 1923 and lived in Montreal until 1927. While attending Emmanuel Church in Montreal, Benjamin was baptized in the name of Jesus Christ in February 1924, and he received the Holy Ghost on November 10, 1924.

He was twenty-one years old when he left Montreal to evangelize in churches in Canada. After meeting and preaching for Howard Goss in Toronto, Ontario, his brother Andrew and Brother Goss felt that he was ready for ordination. On October 28, 1928, on his twenty-second birthday, Howard Goss and Frank Small ordained Benjamin into the ministry.

Benjamin accepted the pastorate of his first church in New Westminster, British Columbia, where he remained for a year and a half. One highlight of his pastorate in New Westminster happened in February 1929 when G. T. Haywood held a two-week Bible conference and revival in the church.

In the summer of 1929 Benjamin went to the United States to evangelize. In California he became acquainted with Pentecostal pioneers such as Harry Morse, Glenn Cook, and Frank Ewart. Later in Oklahoma he met C. P. Kilgore. In April 1930, he was chosen to pastor Midway Tabernacle in St. Paul, Minnesota, where he became engaged to marry Alice Lent. However, when he returned for a visit to Canada during the summer, the immigration authorities stopped him from reentering the United States. It took more than a year before they approved his immigration to the United States, and he and Alice were not able to marry until January 13, 1932.

In 1935 the Urshans resigned the pastorate in St. Paul to evangelize, but in 1936 accepted the pastorate in Duluth, Minnesota, where they remained for the next twenty-five years. In the summer of 1960, the Urshans left Duluth to become missionaries to Iran, his native country. After a short and successful ministry in Iran, they returned to the United States in 1962 and pastored a church in Clintonville, Wisconsin. Then they accepted the invitation to pastor in Albuquerque, New Mexico, where they pastored until April 1983, when they retired from pastoral ministry. However, they later helped open and establish the Living Word UPC in Rio Rancho, a suburb of Albuquerque.

Brother Urshan's memorial service was held in Albuquerque, New Mexico. His nephew, Nathaniel A. Urshan, officiated and was assisted by Daniel Urshan, K. F. Haney, Jonathan Urshan, Mike Mullins, Ray St. Clair, and Mike Reider.

Benjamin was survived by Alice, his wife of sixty-six years, one daughter, Joy Tschawusehian, and two sons, David and Paul. His life touched the hearts and lives of thousands of people, inspiring them by his unwavering faith in God.¹⁰¹⁵

¹⁰¹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁰¹⁵ "Memoriam," *Pentecostal Herald* (December 1998): 17.

Hungary

Worldline reported that forty-nine new converts were baptized in Jesus' name in Hungary, and four Bible schools were operating with a total of 126 students. Ten national Hungarian teachers were on staff to help handle the load.

The leadership seminar in Budapest was attended by fifty-eight leaders from six Eastern European nations. Seven were baptized and fifteen received the Holy Ghost at the recent annual Hungarian General Conference.

Short-term missionaries were a tremendous blessing in reaching into the Asian communities in Hungary. With language skills in English, Hungarian, Chinese, and Japanese, many souls were being touched. There was a great need for more short-term missionaries.¹⁰¹⁶

Revival in the Pacific Region

Pacific Regional Director Richard Denny reported that various fields were reaping a nonstop harvest:

Fiji: God gloriously visited the Fijian General Conference in November 1997. During the week of conference 387 people received the Holy Ghost, 194 of them during the Sunday morning service.

Guam: More than one hundred received the Holy Ghost during 1998. Missionary John Wolfram was directing this wonderful move of God in Guam.

Marshall Islands: The new Bible school in Majuro opened its doors in February, thanks to Christian Life College and the Mission Builders of Stockton, California. AIMers Brother and Sister David Kent were administrating the school under the supervision of Missionary Roy Bettis.

New Caledonia: Lee and Becky Sherry, missionaries to Vanuatu, ministered to a group of Ni Vanuatu in Noumea, New Caledonia. Thirteen in this group were baptized in Jesus' name. This resulted in the establishing of a church there. Brother Denny had been praying for a French-speaking missionary for this area.

Papua New Guinea: The Papua New Guinean church was busy with their general conference, which always convened during Easter week. During this conference approximately nine thousand people were filled with the Holy Ghost!

Philippine Islands: Dream Team Crusades and missionary involvement helped the Philippine church to stay focused on evangelism. North American pastors enjoyed working hand in hand with the missionaries and national preachers in crusades throughout the islands. One recent crusade in Davao saw about five thousand filled with the Holy Ghost.

Samoa: Bennie Blunt met with a Samoan group that was interested in the oneness of God and water baptism in Jesus' name. The result was the beginning of our first church in this island nation.

The Republic of Palau: This island nation received its first witness of the Acts 2:38 message when the church in Gerald, Missouri, supplied the first church building in Palau. It was a thrill to witness a country receiving the apostolic message for the first time in history.¹⁰¹⁷

The January 1999 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

An air of appreciation permeated the board sessions at WEC when career missionary Else Lund met the board to receive the board's appreciation for her thirty-six years of service in West Africa.

Resolution 1, ratified at the 1998 General Conference, had given an automatic 10 percent increase to a PIM commitment from a local congregation for a missionary returning home for deputation who had served in mission service for twelve or more years. A letter and a list of missionaries returning to the states for deputation would inform pastors who was eligible for the automatic increase. If they did not

¹⁰¹⁶ "Worldline," *Pentecostal Herald* (November 1998): 23.

¹⁰¹⁷ Richard Denny, "Pacific Region Report," *Pentecostal Herald* (August 1999): 15.

wish to provide the 10 percent increase, pastors could return an enclosed card that indicated their negative response.

When the FMB approved changes of field, most of the time it was to effect a more efficient administration of missionary work. As the work on any field became more self-sufficient, missionary positions were adjusted to allow for growth and development of national leaders. This was also true for the modifying of constitutions or revising of internal regulations.

Other board activity included the following:

- To accept Ray and Judy Nicholls's resignation from career missionary service
- To accept Donald and Abigail O'Keefe's resignation from career missionary service
- To change of field for Craig G. and Lyna Sully from Ivory Coast to Burkina Faso
- To change of field for C. Lynne Jewett from Mexico to Guatemala
- To adopt the Africa Evangelism Plan as presented
- To appoint Andy Carpenter as project coordinator for the Africa Evangelism Plan for a two-year term
- To change of field for Roscoe L. and Mary Seay from Solomon Islands to Australia/Solomon Islands
- To resolve that missionaries under appointment be referred to as career, intermediate, or AIM missionaries, and that missionaries who are no longer under appointment be referred to as veterans
- To approve the proposed constitution for Czech Republic and Slovakia
- To approve the proposed constitution for the Asian Military District
- To approve the constitution for the UPC of Belize as amended
- To approve the uniting of the church in Bophuthatswana with the UPC of South Africa
- To approve the regional director for South America and Bennie DeMerchant to work with the Brazilian National Board to reorganize the work into four regions: North, Northeast, Central, and South, with a fifth region to be defined
- To recommend Kevin L. and Jeanine K. Blake as CMs to the North Caribbean and Bahamas
- To recommend Raymond S. and Michele W. Sloan as IMs to Uruguay
- To recommend Chester L. and Carole W. Terry as IMs to Australia
- To approve a 3 percent increase in missionary personal support base for 1999¹⁰¹⁸

9,000 Receive the Holy Ghost in Papua New Guinea

Brian Henry gave an account of the tremendous outpouring of the Holy Ghost and miracles in Papua New Guinea during the annual Easter Conference: "Perhaps the most notable miracle concerned a blind man, the father of one of our pastors . . . but Saturday morning the Lord completely healed him!"¹⁰¹⁹ Douglas Klinedinst was the conference speaker, and nine thousand received the Holy Ghost during the meeting!

Pacific Region Report

Tremendous things were taking place in the island nations of the Pacific. In Fiji God graciously visited the General Conference in November 1999. During the week 387 received the Holy Ghost. Then during the Sunday morning service 194 people were filled in a mighty outpouring of God's Spirit. During 1999 more than one hundred people in the Guamanian church were filled with the Holy Ghost. Everyone

¹⁰¹⁸ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (January 6, 1999).

¹⁰¹⁹ Brian Henry, "Papua New Guinea: 9,000 Receive the Holy Ghost," *World Harvest Today* (July/August 1999): 2.

rejoiced with John Wolfram for this wonderful move in Guam. In the Philippines, pastors from North America enjoyed working with the missionaries and national preachers as they visited. Over five thousand received the Holy Ghost!¹⁰²⁰

Spanish Harvestime

Harvestime's first Spanish broadcast was recorded in March 1995 during the annual Spanish Evangelism Conference in the Bonaventure Hotel, Los Angeles, California. In 1997 Harvestime began officially airing Spanish Harvestime on several radio stations in the U.S. and reaching out into other countries.

Pastor Jerry Miranda in Salem, Oregon, said, "Spanish Harvestime was the tool that God used to let [people] know it's in Oregon too! Thank you, Harvestime, for going the extra mile and reaching into the other languages as well."¹⁰²¹

Through the ministry of T. Wynn Drost, Spanish Harvestime was reaching into other Spanish-speaking countries. Luis R. Rodriguez, national treasurer of the UPC in Uruguay, related some results: "It is a great blessing for us to be receiving the cassettes of the radio program every week; we have now found a radio station. We are also sharing the cassettes with the brethren so that they can listen to them in their homes, and the teachings that Brother Orosco is giving have been a tremendous blessing. Many Trinitarians are recognizing the name of Jesus Christ."

In 1999 there were over 400 million Spanish-speaking people in the world. Spanish was the second-most spoken language in the U.S. with over 27 million Hispanics living there. The U.S. had now become the fourth-largest Spanish-speaking nation in the world. What a thrill that Harvestime was now available to reach them through the broadcast or cassette tapes.¹⁰²²

French Harvestime

Along with the Spanish language broadcast, the French-speaking people were hearing the gospel through the energetic ministry of John Nowacki. A successful missionary serving in France, Brother Nowacki was just as powerful over the airwaves. He declared the universality of the gospel. In a letter to N. A. Urshan, John Nowacki wrote:

I would like to share some exciting news that I just received regarding our French Harvestime broadcast, "Le Temps de la Moisson." I knew that we were being heard in several nations for we have received letters from Canada, the United States, France, Italy, Holland, and Belgium.

However, Brother Paul Majdling, our pastor in the city of Bordeaux, was very happy and called me with this exciting news. A sister in his church received a phone call from her mother, who lives in Montreal, Canada, telling her that last Sunday something great happened in their church.

Here is the story:

Her pastor, Luis Fontalvo, a Colombian minister who has a Oneness church in Montreal, Quebec, gave this testimony last Sunday: "A Quebecer listening to the LTM broadcast came under deep conviction to be baptized in Jesus' name. Urgently he started to search for a church that baptizes in Jesus' name in that city. Not finding what he was looking for, he went to a Bible bookstore somewhere in Montreal, inquiring about a Oneness church. They directed him to Luis Fontalvo's church. There he was baptized in Jesus' name. Pastor Fontalvo told his congregation that this man heard the good news preached by missionary John Nowacki on the radio and as a result wanted to be baptized in Jesus' name for the remission of his sins. Praise the Lord!"

¹⁰²⁰ Richard Denny, "Pacific Region Report," *Pentecostal Herald* (August 1999): 15.

¹⁰²¹ Jerry Miranda quoted in J. Hugh Rose, "Reaching Our World," *Pentecostal Herald* (October 1999): 5.

¹⁰²² T. Wynn Drost, "Reaching the Spanish-Speaking World," *Pentecostal Herald* (October 1999): 5.

We were very happy to hear such a report, even though this man did not go to one of our churches. I believe that all who heard this testimony will be listening to the broadcast, and who knows what God will do?

I am so very happy for this wonderful news. This is the first person, as far as we know, who was convinced about baptism in the wonderful name of the Lord after hearing our radio broadcast. This is very encouraging for our team here and for the many Christians who pray daily for this international effort. . . .

Sincerely yours for French Harvestime broadcast, "Le Temps de la Moisson."¹⁰²³

Death of E. L. Freeman¹⁰²⁴

At 8:25 A.M. on October 5, 1999, Elpho L. Freeman, minister, pastor, missionary, and missionary supervisor, received his promotion to a better world. Brother Freeman was born on August 26, 1917. He began preaching in 1939, was ordained with the UPC in 1942, and went to South Africa as a missionary in 1948. Twenty-four years later he became RFS of fifty African countries. When he retired in 1989, he had helped to establish churches in twenty-three countries.

His funeral service was held at the First PC in Minden, Louisiana, with T. F. Tenney and Tom Barnes officiating. Brother Freeman's last request had been that in lieu of flowers, love gifts be sent to the South Africa Bible Institute.

His wife, Nona, gave a written tribute that revealed that Brother Freeman had received a call to Africa before his seventh birthday. From his very first revival in 1939 he focused on missions. When he went to Africa in 1948 it was well known that no sacrifice, trouble, or hardship ever made his decision waver. Gifted with a gentle spirit, amazing faith, divine anointing, and a vivid sense of humor, he blessed everyone with whom he came in contact.

A Scene in Togo

In October 1999 Randy Adams visited a church in the remote village of Kpalimedi, Togo. French was Togo's official language, but in remote villages such as Kpalimedi, most of the people spoke their native dialect and did not speak or understand French, much less English.

The building was filled with praying people, and the presence of the Lord was manifested in a wonderful way. The pastor of the local assembly, Pastor Isidore, beckoned Brother Adams to the back of the building, where a man was praying in very clear English. He was repeating over and over again, "God, I have received your plan. God, I have received your plan." The man was receiving the Holy Ghost, but his "other tongues" happened to be Brother Adams's native tongue.¹⁰²⁵

Foreign Missions Director's Report at the 1999 General Conference

FM Director Harry Scism gave his report to the General Conference in Birmingham, Alabama. In 1999, 105,697 were baptized in Jesus' name and 110,599 were filled with the Holy Ghost, raising the overseas constituency to 2,115,858 in 136 nations of the world! Working with the 498 appointed missionary personnel were 17,823 national ministers serving 25,450 churches and preaching points. During this twelve-month period, 4,043 new churches and preaching points were added, averaging eleven new congregations daily.¹⁰²⁶

¹⁰²³ John Nowacki, "A Letter to General Superintendent Nathaniel A. Urshan," *Pentecostal Herald* (October 2000): 7.

¹⁰²⁴ Memorial Brochure, October 13, 1999.

¹⁰²⁵ Randy Adams, "Speaking with Other Tongues," *World Harvest Today* (January/February, 2000): 4.

¹⁰²⁶ Harry Scism, "Annual Report to the General Board," October 1999.

The Foreign Missions Director's Greatest Joy

To see the church grow numerically brings great joy as souls are baptized in the precious name of Jesus and filled with the Holy Ghost.

During my years of missionary service, I have seen large numbers of people baptized in the name of Jesus Christ and filled with the Holy Spirit. I once saw over 350 baptized in Jesus' name in one baptismal service. When traveling with Brother Cole, I have seen many thousands filled with the Spirit in just one service. . . .

I have also had the joy of seeing the United Pentecostal Church organized in many nations with outstanding leaders in place and an established organization moving forward in evangelism. I have also had the joy of seeing many beautiful buildings erected in lands overseas serving as headquarters churches, Bible school facilities, and local churches.

As we approach the new millennium . . . the Foreign Missions Division has enjoyed phenomenal growth because of the marvelous way that our pastors and churches [have given] themselves unselfishly to the furtherance of God's kingdom worldwide. God has blessed this sacrificial giving in abundance with the result that we now rejoice in tremendous growth.

In 1946, just after the merger, it was reported that overseas there were 240 churches. Today, there are 25,450 churches and preaching points in the overseas church. At the time of the merger, we were working in 9 nations, whereas today we are working in 136 nations. At the time of the merger, the foreign missions work had much less than 10,000 members and probably more likely around 5,000 constituents. Today, we are well over 2,000,000 constituents in the overseas church. We praise God for this wonderful growth!

However our greatest joy comes from knowing that the overseas church is walking in truth!

Many of our national preachers have come out of some form of Christianity into this beautiful apostolic truth. Some have brought many from their congregations with them. Others have been ostracized and condemned as heretics.

Many have given up good financial income and secure positions in order to stand for truth. Some have not only been put out of their circle of friends, but even their families have disinherited them. From being very popular in their former religious circles, they are now condemned as "Jesus only heretics" and stated to be a part of a cult!

Worldwide we must ever place a high priority on the proclamation of truth! To walk in truth means more than numbers, buildings, and financial success.

The importance of the oneness of God needs to burn in our hearts as a bright flame sending us forth to herald this message around the world. . . . How often I have heard overseas preachers tell of the new power that came to their ministry when they understood who Jesus really is.

Water baptism in the name of Jesus Christ is not just a method of baptism, but it is an extremely important part of salvation and brings many to the point of separation from their former religious background. They may claim to receive the gift of the Holy Spirit in other churches, but when people are baptized in Jesus' name for the remission of sins, they are no longer welcomed in many other groups. How glorious to be buried with Christ in Jesus' name and walk in truth.

Living a separated life, being filled with God's Spirit, and striving to please Him in all we do is very important to walking in truth. Yes, the greatest joy we have as a result of the giving of ourselves to foreign missions work is to see the church walk in truth.¹⁰²⁷

Death of Dale Starks

Dale R. Starks was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota, on September 13, 1935, and passed from this life on December 15, 1999, survived by his wife, Josephine. He was born into the kingdom of God on December 25, 1955, in Leesville, Louisiana.

Brother Starks began his ministry in 1958. He pastored several churches in Louisiana before becoming involved in home missions work in Minnesota and Virginia. He served in the U.S. Army and was stationed at Fort Polk. In 1976 Brother and Sister Starks went to Stuttgart, Germany, where they

¹⁰²⁷ Harry Scism, "Our Greatest Joy," *Pentecostal Herald* (December 1999): 14.

established a church. From the Stuttgart ministry, approximately thirty of the two hundred or so baptized were preaching the gospel at the time of his death.

In 1981 the Starkses resigned from the Stuttgart church to become missionaries to Singapore and Malaysia and later missionary evangelists to the Asian and Pacific Regions.

The Starkses established their “Spiritual Growth Ministries” in 1984. The ministry began as a means to distribute the book *Pretty Bird*, but expanded to include a website, and an online Bible school. Brother Starks authored fifteen books.

Louisiana District Superintendent T. F. Tenney, Regional Director Richard Denny, and FM Director Harry Scism officiated at Brother Starks’s funeral service held at the Pentecostals of Alexandria in Alexandria, Louisiana.¹⁰²⁸

The January 2000 Foreign Missions Board

The 2000 FMB consisted of the following:

Administrative Committee: Harry E. Scism, general director; Carl Varnell, secretary; John S. Leaman, director of promotion; and Lloyd L. Shirley, director of Education/AIM.

Pastoral members: R. P. Bell, D. D. Davis, B. J. Hurst, Darrell W. Johns, Gerald A. Mangun, Francis W. Mason, and Manuel W. Rogers.

Regional directors: Jerry R. Richardson, Africa; Paul A. Dennis, Asia; Bruce A. Howell, Central America/Caribbean; Robert K. Rodenbush, Europe/Middle East; Richard A. Denny, Pacific; and Daniel L. Scott, South America.

Honorary members: Fred Kinsey, Edwin E. Judd, and T. C. Bonnette.

As the church began to venture into a new decade, the board met at WEC to make decisions that would affect FM activities around the world. CSI was becoming a very effective ministry that had provided humanitarian aid to a growing number of survivors of disasters around the world. Many times CSI was among the first disaster-relief group to arrive on site. Other board actions included the following:

- To appoint Clifford Gustafson as coordinator of CSI for a term of two years.
- To appoint Richard Denny, Jimmy Shoemake, Kenneth Haney, Gordon Mallory, and Floyd Odom as members of the Philippine Dream Team Steering Committee for two-year terms.
- To accept James and Martha Burton’s resignation due to physical illness.
- To approve the revised Fijian constitution.
- To approve the constitution of the United Apostolic Church of Russia.
- To approve the constitution for the United Apostolic Church of Ukraine.
- To approve the constitution for the UPC of Yugoslavia.
- To approve the constitution for American Samoa as modified.
- To approve the constitution for Samoa as modified.
- To resolve that in processing applications for upgrade from intermediate to career missionary status, the board should obtain recommendations from the regional director, area coordinator, and/or field superintendent.
- To change of field for Jerry L. and Beth Burns from Evangelism and Training, Central America/Caribbean/South America to Missionary Evangelist at large.
- To change of field for Philip and Brenda Ciulla from Belgium/Switzerland/Italy to Belgium/Switzerland.
- To change of field for Robert S. and Tanya Lewis from Poland to Germany.

¹⁰²⁸ “In Memory of Dale Richard Starks,” *Pentecostal Herald* (October 2000): 16.

- To accept Timothy and Carolyn Simoneaux's resignation effective December 31, 1999, and grant severance as provided by FM policy.
- To appoint Rufus M. and Pamela J. Parker as IMs to Asia Military Ministries/Japan.
- To appoint J. Robert and Candice L. Harris as IMs to United Kingdom.
- To resolve to subsidize MKs' post-secondary education, provided the MK is enrolled in full-time college classes of twelve semester units per term. Such subsidy should be \$150 per month, adjusted annually for inflation, for as long as the student is enrolled in post-secondary education until he reaches age twenty-two, and should be disbursed from the parent missionary's PIM account, retroactive to September 1999.
- To appoint a committee to formulate a plan and policy to enhance the potential of CSI.
- To approve the constitution for Micronesia West as modified.
- To approve the Internal Constitution for Niger and request that an English translation be filed with FMD.
- To approve the Internal Constitution for Guinea.
- To appoint Daniel L. Scott as president of the Instituto Biblico Apostolico del Uruguay due to James Burton's resignation and Uruguay not having a resident missionary.
- To approve a 3 percent increase in missionary personal support base, which increase is equivalent to the 1999 cost of living adjustment granted to WEC personnel, effective January 1, 2000.¹⁰²⁹

New Missionaries Appointed

At the January 2000 board meeting, the UPCI General Board ratified the appointments of Robert and Candice Harris to the United Kingdom and Rufus and Pamela Parker to Asia Military Ministries/Japan. Both were given an IM appointment.

Ladies Ministries Student Support

The FMD received \$250,000 from the Ladies Ministries Student Support for 1999. This support was vital to the training of national ministers and workers. Because of the ladies' previous allocation, 114 Bible schools had trained 4,631 students in 1998–99. Two hundred fifty-five seminars had given further ministerial leadership training to 13,220 students.¹⁰³⁰

The May 2000 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

The board ordered a study of FM decisions to determine how decision-making authority could be given to missionaries, field superintendents, regional directors, the FM Administrative Committee, and the FMB. The idea was to leave only the more difficult decisions for the general director of Foreign Missions and the board. The report would be submitted to the FMB at the next School of Missions.

Other board action included the following:

- To accept John and Debbie Wolfram's resignation from CM appointment.
- To change of field for Stephen R. and Lynette O'Donnell from Hong Kong to Hong Kong/China.
- To change of field for Ronald D. and Terry Brian from Trinidad to Trinidad and Tobago/ABC Islands.

¹⁰²⁹ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board: (January 6, 2000).

¹⁰³⁰ Gwyn Oaks, "Give the World a Pastor," *Pentecostal Herald* (June 2001): 3.

- To change of field for Theodore D. and Patricia Grosbach from Democratic Republic of Congo/Zambia to Democratic Republic of Congo/Botswana.
- To approve an increase for IM car/travel from a maximum of \$250 per month to \$300 per month and housing from a maximum of \$800 per month to \$900 per month.
- To approve James Crumpacker's request to authorize the church in Malawi to appoint its own superintendent.
- To approve Allan Shalm's recommendation to authorize the church in Pakistan to elect its own superintendent.
- To approve the proposal to nationalize the UPC in Dededo, Guam, and for the church to elect its pastor.
- To endorse Tim Simoneaux's Bible school in Botswana.
- To request that Daniel Scott, regional director of South America, give a report on his recent trip to Uruguay and the severe persecution in Colombia, since several pastors have been kidnapped and held for ransom.
- To approve the amendments to the constitution in Guyana.
- To reinstate Howard and Vonda Smith's CM appointment in order that they can transfer their missionary appointment to Spain. This has the approval of their former regional director.

Inasmuch as many of the deputizing missionaries were at the time from Canada, and complex immigration policies needed to be studied to determine that the FMD was complying with all the rules dealing with deputation, the board resolved to engage the services of the legal firm, Lathrop & Gage of St. Louis, Missouri, to determine what the FMD must do to fully comply with the INS and IRS regarding missionaries who were not U.S. citizens, and that the legal counsel should see that U.S. citizen missionaries were fully compliant with Revenue Canada and Customs and Immigration Service in Canada, and that the Executive Regional Presbyter and the CGA and Business Administrator for Canada were informed of this decision.

Revival Continues in Ecuador, South America

Stuart Lassetter reported from Ecuador that "during two recent months, 456 were baptized in Jesus' name and 443 received the gift of the Holy Spirit! We now have 155 licensed ministers taking care of over 534 churches and preaching points with over 15,000 constituents!"¹⁰³¹

Fifty-four Years in Jamaica

W. T. Witherspoon, who first traveled from North America to Jamaica, saw the challenge and opportunity in this beautiful island. From that beginning, missionaries and Jamaican leaders poured their efforts into the work to the point that they celebrated the Fifty-Fourth Annual General Conference in Kingston, Jamaica.

W. S. Stewart, general superintendent of the UPC of Jamaica, set aside this conference as a time to remember Jamaica's heritage with the theme "Preserving Our Heritage."

On Monday night special honor was given to those missionaries, missionary superintendents, and Jamaican superintendents and leaders who had served so faithfully. Paul and Beth Reynolds, Janet Trout, Ruth Pair, and Glen and Rachel Smith's presence brought special joy. All of these represented others who were involved in the history of the Jamaican church. Brother Scism reported,

¹⁰³¹ Stuart Lassiter quoted in Daniel Scott, "South American Regional Report," *Pentecostal Herald* (June 2000): 10.

The presence of our general superintendent, Brother Nathaniel A. Urshan, brought an added dimension to this conference. The North American church . . . played a very important part in the formation of the church of Jamaica. However, twenty-three years ago when Brother and Sister Paul Reynolds left Jamaica, the leadership of the Jamaican church was handed over to a Jamaican general superintendent. Since that time, the church has continued to grow and develop. Brother Paul Reynolds on Wednesday night . . . commended the Jamaican church, with approximately 10,000 people present in that service, for the fact that they have remained “true to the doctrine, true to standards of righteousness, and true to the things that we hold dear to our hearts.”

There is today in Jamaica a strong, vibrant, powerful United Pentecostal Church with outstanding Jamaican leadership. Thank God for those who were willing to go, to those in our wonderful churches in North America who were willing to sacrifice and give, and for all who were willing to pray.¹⁰³²

Ecuador’s Transition to National Leadership

The FMD’s ultimate goal was to establish a self-propagating, self-supporting, and self-governing national church in each of the 136 countries in which the UPCI has extended the gospel either through a resident missionary or by licensed national ministers, and that number was growing consistently. This tremendous challenge had inspired the North American component to give sacrificially until FM income reached an unprecedented dimension. Dedicated missionaries matched this giving with sacrificial service.

FM evangelism had produced amazing leaders in third- and fourth-world countries. Powerful Bible school programs, many of them underwritten by Ladies Ministries, were training innovative ministers, and they filled the pulpits of UPCI churches around the world.

The most recent transition to national leadership was in Ecuador, South America. Several missionary families had served in Ecuador until Stuart Lassetter guided the process through its final course. Darrell Johns, FMB member, spoke during the country’s general assembly. During this meeting, Ecuador’s ministerial body voted overwhelmingly to ratify the appointment of the new national president, Leonardo Becerra.

Daniel Scott, regional director of South America, who had earlier served as one of the founding missionaries in Ecuador, was filled with emotion as Leonardo Becerra, a product of the first graduating class of the Ecuador Bible Institute in 1977, accepted the mantle of leadership. The 1,000-seat sanctuary of the Quito church was filled with ministers and their wives for this historic new beginning. The work would now be accomplished through national leaders who had been trained to meet the many challenges that faced the church in this hour.¹⁰³³

Foreign Missions Board Sessions at the 2000 School of Missions

With the increasing duties of the FMB, it was decided that the pastoral board members would attend special district meetings to provide the grassroots constituency with information about the developments taking place on the field. Pastoral members would interact with their respective regions in behalf of the FMD and provide input and recommendations from their respective areas to the board. Further, the pastoral members would make annual reports at the January board meetings about activities within their respective regions.

Board meetings during the SOM were dedicated to personal interviews with the missionaries returning to North America for deputation. However, one other situation required a board decision in that missionaries’ accounts should begin crediting to the Global Council account the \$10 per month currently being charged to missionary accounts for the World Conference. This would not result in any change to the missionaries’ budgets.

¹⁰³² Harry Scism, “Fifty-four Years in Jamaica,” *Pentecostal Herald* (June 2000): 12.

¹⁰³³ Daniel Scott, “Foreign Missions and National Leadership,” *Pentecostal Herald* (September 2000): 14.

Foreign Missions Board Sessions at the 2000 General Conference

With the decision-making edging downward and relieving the FMB of much of the preliminary decisions, the FM Administrative Committee could now authorize projects of up to \$50,000, with the recommendation of the regional director. For projects exceeding \$50,000, the FM Administrative Committee could poll the members of the board between meetings to obtain approval.

Medical leave was another issue that caused increasing alarm. The increasing number of missionaries meant more medical needs (some deemed as emergencies), and since the board and the FMD had every desire to respond to the missionaries' medical needs with compassion and to ensure proper care, the board adopted the following policy:

- Medical leave should be defined as treatment requiring a return to North America. There should be four levels of medical leave as follows:
 1. Medical leave—up to three months
 2. Extended medical leave—three months to one year
 3. Long-term medical leave—one year or more
 4. Permanent medical leave—disability retirement

Each of these categories required the necessary approval. The regional director could authorize a simple medical leave for up to three months; after that, the request had to be made to the FMB.

Other board decisions included the following:

- To approve the constitution for Belarus.
- To approve the constitution for Lebanon.
- To change of field for G. Randy and Carolyn Adams from Togo/Benin to Togo/Benin/Gabon.
- To change of field for Carlton L. and Dana Jackson from Guatemala to Windward Islands.
- To change of field for Craig G. and Lyla Sully from Burkina Faso to Burkina Faso/Niger.
- To change of field for Roy S. and Beverly Well from Chile to furlough replacement.
- To resolve that the FMD pay the insurance cost for board members when traveling abroad to visit missions fields and for official FMD travel. Further, subject to the approval of the Insurance Department, the FMD should provide IMG Missionary Plus insurance, as provided by Adams and Associates of Columbia, South Carolina, for newly appointed missionaries until they depart for the field or reach the maximum time allowed under the policy while on deputation, and that missionaries be covered by Aetna when they depart for the field.
- To recommended to the General Board for appointment the following:
 1. R. Keith and Melanie Nix as IMs to Peru.
 2. Philip L. and Twyla Tolstad as IMs to South Africa.
 3. Antonio and Jessica Marquez as IMs to Mexico.
 4. Steven and Jean Tir as IMs to Slovakia.
 5. N. Lee Young as IM to New Zealand.
 6. N. Kirby and Mary Parker as IMs to Malta.
 7. Phillip D. and Sandra Rhoads as CMs to Suriname.
 8. Raymond D. and Judith Nicholls to return as CMs to Poland after spending a short time in North America.
 9. Rigoberto L. and Leticia Martinez as IMs to Mexico.
 10. Anthony P. and Diana Bir as IMs to Paraguay.
 11. Paul and Beverly Moorefield as IMs to United Kingdom.
 12. Change of field for J. Stuart and Nancy Lassetter from Ecuador to Leadership Development International and International Teaching Ministry, and further approve that

the Lassetters should establish their residence in Puerto Rico subject to the agreement of the district superintendent.

13. Express appreciation to the General Assembly of the UPC of Ecuador for the appointment of John Stuart Lassetter to serve as an honorary member of the National Board, but that he should not be appointed president for life.

Randy and Carolyn Adams arrived on the field on December 9, 1996, becoming responsible for Togo and Benin. As decided in the 2000 board sessions, they took on the added responsibility of Gabon.¹⁰³⁴

The Foreign Missions Director's Report to the 2000 General Conference

The General Conference convened in Birmingham, Alabama, on September 21–October 1, 2000. FM Director Scism's report to the General Board related that the UPCI now had 487 missionaries residing in 137 nations of the world. The theme for this conference was "Follow the Fire."

Brother Scism reported another record year. The flame of Pentecostal fire burning around the world brought tremendous excitement and joy. The FMD leadership provided an environment of extraordinary growth as the reports of the past year were examined. The director reported:

Two hundred thirty career and 80 intermediate missionaries are under appointment, as well as 177 serving as associates in missions during this reporting period, giving a total missionary personnel of 487. Serving 2,293,184 constituents attending 26,137 churches and preaching points in 137 nations of the world were 18,395 national ministers. A total of 138,494 were baptized in Jesus' name and 129,833 received their personal experience of the Holy Ghost. This indicates that over 356 converts received the Holy Ghost every day!

The past year's finances increased 6.2897%. A total cash income of \$17,944,039.99 was reported. Plus direct offering credit of \$3,228,302.20, making a total of \$21,172,342.19. The General Youth Division provided \$730,000.00 from the Sheaves For Christ drive, the Ladies Ministries gave \$308,000.00 from its Mother's Memorial funds for missionary family appliances, and the Sunday School Division supplied \$68,207.68 for missionary kid's education—a grand total of \$22,278,549.87. Another record year!

The Foreign Missions Division operated 134 Bible school programs where 4,726 students were trained, and printed and distributed 4,594,020 pieces of literature.

The World Network of Prayer had a national coordinator listed for 74 nations, directing prayer requests that resulted in thousands standing daily before the throne of God.¹⁰³⁵

Twenty-one New Missionaries Appointed

Twenty-one new missionaries were appointed in Birmingham, Alabama, during the 2000 General Conference:

- Anthony and Diana Bir to Paraguay
- Antonio and Jessica Marquez to Mexico
- Rigoberto and Leticia Martinez to Mexico
- Paul and Beverly Moorefield to the United Kingdom
- Ray and Judi Nicholls to Poland
- Keith and Melanie Nix to Peru
- Kirby and Mary Parker to Malta
- Steven and Joan Tir to Slovakia

¹⁰³⁴ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (September 21, 2000): 6.

¹⁰³⁵ Harry Scism, "Annual Report to the General Board," September 21–October 1, 2000.

- Phillip and Sandra Rhoads to Suriname
- Phil and Twyla Tolstad to South Africa
- Lee Young to New Zealand

Rob and Candi Harris (United Kingdom) and Rufus and Pam Parker (Asia Military/Japan), January 2000 appointees, were also presented at the conference.¹⁰³⁶

Holy Ghost Fire Ignites Sacrificial Giving

As the Indiana Bible College choir sang, the Lord moved greatly among the constituents attending the 2000 General Conference in Birmingham, Alabama, to respond to the needs of foreign missions. There were twenty-one new appointees to various fields and fifty-five planned Follow the Fire crusades around the world. Because of the powerful move of the Holy Ghost in the service, \$52,000 was received in the cash offering, \$2.1 million was pledged in new PIM commitments, and \$1.1 million was pledged to the crusades. Anthony Mangun was the speaker, and the Holy Ghost continued to move as he preached under a heavy anointing. When he concluded, the altar overflowed as men and women responded. Many lingered at the altar as they dedicated their lives to fulfilling the great commission. World missions was more than just a monetary commitment!¹⁰³⁷

November 2000 Global Council in Kuala Lumpur

Delegates from all over the world attended the first official Global Council on November 8–10, 2000, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. World leaders gathered to unite the missionary endeavor for worldwide evangelism. For the first time in UPCI history, missionaries from North America and national leaders jointly sought avenues to reach the world with the gospel. Delegates' expenses were financed by their own countries.

The basic purpose of the Global Council was twofold. First, it was designed to unite the church worldwide in a closer bond of fellowship and unity. Second, the Global Council provided, through the Global Commission, an avenue of greater evangelistic thrust. Not only did the North American church feel a burden for missions and to send missionaries, but other countries were now involved with many more becoming involved. The Global Commission would unite the evangelistic efforts regionally and internationally.

No longer could we think of a missionary as being exclusively American or Canadian. Now we realized that the great commission was given to all people who were baptized, filled with His Spirit, and ready to answer the call to missions. Missionaries from Africa, Asia, South America, the Pacific, Europe and the Middle East, and Central America and the Caribbean, as well as North America could work with the same purpose toward the same goal through the Global Council.

The Global Council was a giant leap forward in establishing a truly international church made up of brothers and sisters from many different lands, but all with one faith, one doctrine, and one purpose.¹⁰³⁸

The Prospects for Perpetual Revival

J. L. Hall, editor-in-chief of publications for the United Pentecostal Church International, asked, "Is it possible that the church could have perpetual revival?"¹⁰³⁹ FM activity throughout the entire world has set out to prove that revival can happen at any time and any place that Jesus Christ is lifted up. The Cross

¹⁰³⁶ J. S. Leaman, "New Appointees," *World Harvest Today* (January–March 2001): 4.

¹⁰³⁷ J. L. Hall, "Report on Birmingham General Conference," *Pentecostal Herald* (January 2001): 2, 5.

¹⁰³⁸ Harry Scism, "God Giveth the Increase," *Pentecostal Herald* (January 2001): 22.

¹⁰³⁹ J. L. Hall, "The Reach for Revival," *Pentecostal Herald* (March 2003): 12.

speaks of His infinite love toward all people, not just in the Christian world. This is in keeping with one of the greatest chapters ever to be written, as we close the story of the Decade of Success.

The UPCI as an organization has accepted the responsibility to represent Christ in the world. Revival *must* become a perpetual action as numbers multiply and produce a church worthy of its existence.

The immensity of the task of reaching our world with the gospel made it imperative that every missionary dedicate their energies to evangelism. The innovative ideas that were implemented during the Decade of Service took root and flourished with a bold leadership on the field. That is why the Decade of Success accomplished the positive levels that propelled the work to what should be the Crowning History to be Written before the appearing of our Lord.

As the Decade of Success came to a close, the UPCI constituency anticipated the future. Could any decade improve upon what had taken place during the past ten years? It must! We could not simply “hold our own.” The light would be spread where spiritual darkness yet dominated so much of the world by cooperatively expending the strengths of a tremendous missionary family. The missionaries, by their dedicated service, implied that they would continue to meet the challenge with a positive outlook and prayerful expectation. The prospects for perpetual revival were tremendously bright!

❧ Chapter 11 ❧

The Crowning History to Be Written: 2001–2005 United Pentecostals, Couriers of the Jesus Name Message

Globalization had transformed the world by the year 2000. A generation gap complicated the already difficult cultural gap that had faced the church for many years. Global communication through e-mail took the older generation by surprise, and third-world believers purchased computers and got on the information highway. Common elements of any issue could no longer remain disconnected; they were discussed and judged on the keyboard of a computer.

Growing affluence and increasing education produced questions that many North American leaders found difficult to answer. Right or wrong, a missionary program in which the North American missionary was the dominant leader—as had been practiced successfully from the beginning—had produced a church on foreign fields that tested the leadership-development process. Love for the missionary was never questioned; his loving influence was an unwritten law, and his dominance was never considered a negative factor. He had brought spiritual awareness that opened the doors to salvation, and the gospel had taken root through him. The missionary had come to establish the church, and once established, national leadership was to assist in producing a self-propagating, self-supporting, self-governing administration. Proprietorship of the church was never the issue; world evangelism was the issue, and national leadership was the objective.

What then was the objective of the national leader? Nationalism was no longer a threat; it was a way of life. Third-world governments insisted on the proper ingredients in the church bylaws before they would issue a charter. The charter was necessary before legal recognition could be registered. Some North American leaders did not understand because they had never lived on the mission field they had supported financially. Secular government regulations did not prohibit ministering the truth; they only wanted to ensure that the emerging church on their soil was loyal and that church teachings would not undermine or weaken the government in any way.

Numbers in third-world churches were surpassing the numbers in the homeland by an increasing margin. Numbers translate to people, and people ask questions. The FMD understood not only the problem, but also the necessary solution. That is why the General Board and the General Conference, with visionary foresight, had approved an international version of the Articles of Faith in which there was no weakening of the doctrinal content, only an adjustment of certain points that did not relate to other countries. Internationalism became not only a coveted state, but also a necessary one. The world leaders of the UPCI must be bound together by a common cord, and that cord was the International Articles of Faith.

The world economy spiraled upward as the international church expanded. The cost of living abroad, as well as the cost of administering the church, began to affect evangelistic opportunities. The great commission and Jesus' imminent return necessitated an adjustment in methodology. Did not the maturing third-world church share the responsibility to evangelize the world? The answer was yes. Should not the church that had been birthed and nurtured by a missionary have a vision outside its own borders? Again, the answer was yes. This was a problem for the Regional Missions Program, but it was a good problem.

How should all of this be regulated? Who would oversee the many activities involved? These questions were brought to the Global Council, a forum in which national leaders could wisely counsel proceedings that affected global evangelism.

The Foreign Missions Board of 2001

The 2001 FMB consisted of the following:

Administrative Committee: Harry E. Scism, general director; Carl H. Varnell, secretary; John S. Leaman, director of promotion; and Lloyd L. Shirley, director of Education/AIM.

Pastoral members: D. D. Davis, B. J. Hurst, Darrell W. Johns, Gerald A. Mangun, Francis W. Mason, Manuel W. Rogers, and Jimmy Shoemake.

Regional directors: Jerry R. Richardson, Africa; Paul Dennis, Asia; Bruce A. Howell, Central America/Caribbean; Robert K. Rodenbush, Europe/Middle East; Richard A. Denny, Pacific; and Daniel L. Scott, South America.

Honorary members: Fred Kinsey, Edwin E. Judd, R. P. Bell, and T. C. Bonnette.

The January 2001 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

A number of issues faced the FMB during its January 2001 sessions. With prayerful consideration, each issue was discussed and resolved. Among the decisions were the following:

- To accept James N. Corbin's ordination with the Associated Brotherhood of Christians and grant him ordination to affiliate with the UPCI
- To approve James Corbin's AIM application to work in Bangladesh for twelve months under the supervision of Regional Director Paul Dennis, with an interview to be given for missionary appointment at General Conference 2001
- To approve long-term disability for Ronald Cole beginning January 10, 2001. Continue medical benefits as advised by the UPC of Canada and requested by Daniel Scott, his regional director
- To continue compensation to Winona Cole with 60 percent of allowable personal support until she is approved for retirement benefits in Canada.
- To recommend Derrald J. and Barbara Hilderbrand's appointment as IMs to The Netherlands
- To recommend Stephen P. and Kristin Schobert's appointment as IMs to France
- To recommend Christopher R. and Paula Richardson for upgrade from IM status to CM status
- To recommend David A. and Alice Kline for upgrade from IM status to CM status
- To recommend Harry E. and Helen Scism's appointment as CMs to International Training and Evangelism Ministry
- To authorize a 4 percent increase in missionaries' personal support base for inflation for the year 2001
- To increase missionaries' personal support base by 6 percent beginning January 2001
- To approve utility subsidy for IMs on the same basis as CMs effective January 2001
- To require that missionaries leaving for the field must clear all outstanding debts and that the policy regarding missionaries leaving for the field with outstanding debts be made a part of inbound missionaries' orientation
- To decide that MK post-secondary education will not be available to newly appointed missionaries until they complete deputation, raise their budget, and are on the field
- To change of field for Louis M. and Martha Johnson from Kenya to Burundi/ Rwanda.
- To appoint Jerry D. Miller as field superintendent of the UPC of Guyana effective April 27, 2001
- To appoint Stephen Smith as president of the Bible college in Guyana
- To approve the Missionary Field Fellowship policy for Spain
- To approve the purchasing of church property in Madrid, Spain, as requested by a recent polling of board members

- To approve the proposed constitution and bylaws for United Arab Emirates
- To change of field for Richard S. and Margaret Carver from Fiji/South Pacific to Australia/South Pacific¹⁰⁴⁰

755 Receive the Holy Ghost in Mexico

As of February 2001, the UPC of Mexico had nineteen districts, each with its own superintendent, district board, and annual district convention. All of these districts held conventions in the last quarter of 2000, after the National Convention. The fifteen district conventions that had already been held were attended by 8,416, and 755 received the Holy Ghost.¹⁰⁴¹

Death of Wanda Drost

Wanda Drost died on January 15, 2001. Nancy Shirley, wife of former regional director for Central America/Caribbean, had labored with Wanda in that region. She describes her friend's beautiful life:

You were always the awesome hostess with fresh perked coffee awaiting our awakening—whether in your comfortable home or in a hotel in the midst of a busy schedule. Often you refreshed us.

Although the road of life twisted and turned through many nations, you knew how to be abased and how to abound. Through heartaches, victories, disappointments, good times, and bad, you remained steadfast, uncomplaining and positive. Your legacy of love, joy, service, sacrifice, and enthusiasm will live on.

What a privilege and honor to have known and worked with you! I have been enriched.¹⁰⁴²

Follow the Fire Crusades

To celebrate the centennial of the outpouring of the Holy Ghost in the twentieth century, the FMD planned evangelistic crusades designed to follow the sun as it traveled over the time zones. The total energy of the UPCI was dedicated to making these crusades the most successful events in the history of the church. While crusades in major cities reported attendances of thousands, there were also minor crusades in local churches in small villages and rural areas. Missionaries worldwide endeavored to replace the period after the final word in the Book of Acts with a comma to continue the dramatic history of God's church in the world.

Besides Ethiopia and the Philippines with their reported tens of thousands, churches in areas that had been difficult to establish the gospel added to the unprecedented number receiving the Holy Ghost. Europe and the Middle East reported amazing results, as did Central America and the Caribbean. Asia broke the barrier of ancestor and idol worship to add to the number.

South America Follows the Fire

South America ignited revival fires during the Follow the Fire crusades as revivalists such as John Hopkins and T. Wynn Drost poured transforming ministry into the work. Rito Suarez of Chicago ministered in his native Colombia, and over three thousand were filled with the Holy Ghost. An evangelism team from Tennessee ministered in Ecuador, and over two thousand were filled in one service. A citywide crusade in Manaus, Brazil, in the Assembly of God Convention Center attended by more than ten thousand resulted in an outpouring on an incalculable number. Some AOG officials remarked, "This is the largest crowd this center has ever housed!"¹⁰⁴³

¹⁰⁴⁰ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (January 11, 2001).

¹⁰⁴¹ T. Wynn Drost, "755 Receive the Holy Ghost in 2000," *Pentecostal Herald* (February 2001): 22.

¹⁰⁴² Nancy Shirley, "My Tribute to a Lovely Lady," *World Harvest Today* (April–June 2001): 5.

¹⁰⁴³ Daniel Scott, "PIM Newsletter to the Constituency," Spring 2002.

98,182 Receive the Holy Ghost in Philippine Crusades

Pacific Regional Director Richard Denny reported that the Philippine Dream Team held crusades throughout the Philippines. While implemented by the Dream Team, these thirty-six crusades were incorporated into the overall FMD plan for Follow the Fire crusades to celebrate one hundred years since this century's outpouring of the Holy Ghost. Richard Denny wrote:

How can a person explain the majesty of the moving of God's Spirit as it swept through the multitude of people? God certainly responded as thousands of people lifted both their arms and their hearts in an attitude of repentance, faith, and worship.

It is estimated by the officials of the United Pentecostal Church of the Philippines that 94,182 people were filled with the Holy Ghost in the thirty-six crusades. We rejoice with the church in the Philippines in what God has done. Many were involved in the vision, planning, organizing, and implementation of the crusades. These dedicated people were rewarded as they witnessed God's blessing. There are many reports of various miracles of healing and deliverance. One sister from Modesto, California, made a trip to Manila. She was instrumental in bringing her entire family to a crusade, and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost.¹⁰⁴⁴

Divine Visitation in Cameroon

Missionary Rusty Riddick reported that the A-Team spent ten days in Cameroon after the national constituents prayed and fasted, believing God for a 100-soul spiritual outpouring as they took part in the Follow the Fire program. During a four-night crusade, God filled 113 with the Holy Ghost!

1,413 Filled with the Holy Ghost in Guatemala

The biggest event ever held in the history of the UPC of Guatemala was a Follow the Fire crusade. Mark Hattabaugh preached the four services, during which over 6,500 people attended and 1,003 were filled with the Holy Ghost. A week prior to the crusade, Anne Suarez and her team from Chicago held a Children's Crusade, and 410 children received the Holy Ghost.¹⁰⁴⁵

Fiji Celebrates Follow the Fire

Richard Flowers and C. M. Becton were the special speakers in Fiji as the church experienced a move of the Spirit. During the three nights, 158 were filled with the Holy Ghost.¹⁰⁴⁶

The May 2001 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

The board met in the beautiful Caribbean country of San Martin and marveled over the results of the Follow the Fire crusades. The constituency of the UPCI was following the principles of the early church in that the church multiplied daily. The various boards governing the UPCI were focusing more upon evangelism and less upon problems. This phenomenal growth brought increasing demands on the FMB. The board decided:

- To approve that Ministers Retirement Fund benefits be extended to IMs who have served at least four years on the field as IMs

¹⁰⁴⁴ Richard Denny, "94,182 Receive Holy Ghost in Philippines," *Pentecostal Herald* (March 2001): 23.

¹⁰⁴⁵ "Guatemala," *World Harvest Today* (October–December 2001): 4.

¹⁰⁴⁶ Richard Denny, "Fiji Has a Holy Ghost Outpouring," *Pentecostal Herald* (June 2001): 12.

- To cover all FM executives, missionaries, and board members with AD&D insurance, it being understood that this includes both husbands and wives
- To accept George and Dorie Szabolcsi's resignation as CMs to Hungary
- To change of field for Robert E. and Karen Poole from Africa Impact Team/Cameroon to Sierra Leone
- To resolve that when a missionary companion dies while under missionary appointment, personal support for the surviving spouse shall remain the same
- To resolve that personal compensation to missionaries should be the same per appointment status, regardless of whether the missionary is married or single
- To resolve that personal compensation to missionaries who retired before the current retirement program was in place should be the same regardless of whether the missionary is married or single
- To approve AIMers Jack and Michiko Coolbaugh' plans for the construction of a Bible college in Thailand
- To recommend M. Jackson and Michiko Coolbaugh for appointment as IMs to Thailand
- To approve Kevin Nix's appointment as area coordinator for Northern South America
- To approve the proposed constitution for Israel
- To approve the constitution for Bolivia
- To approve the constitution for Uruguay¹⁰⁴⁷

Baptism Asian Style

Under the guise of a picnic, a bus laden with sixty-five people made its way to the ocean. The beach was jammed with a noisy holiday crowd, but the resourceful Pentecostals got in the water and under the pretense of playing and swimming, diverted attention away from the Vietnamese pastor as he quickly baptized ten new converts in the name of Jesus.¹⁰⁴⁸

August 2001 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

The board considered a report about immigration rules for deputizing missionaries from other countries traveling in the United States and U.S. missionaries traveling in Canada. The board resolved that, to comply with IRS and INS regulations, all Canadian missionaries must apply and be approved for an R-1 visa before deputizing in the U.S. The reverse requirement for U.S. missionaries traveling in Canada would be investigated. Other decisions included the following:

- To appoint Donald Butler as a Faith Promise Ministries representative for a two-year term
- To approve the proposed job description for the Faith Promise Ministries representative
- To recommend upgrading Mark and Cammy Kondas's status to CMs
- To approve the constitution for Botswana
- To approve the constitution for Nigeria when amended to include a dissolution clause.
- To approve the Ten Year Evangelism Plan for Russia and the Commonwealth of Independent States
- To approve a plaque to honor Brother Bellette to be presented during the General Conference of the United Pentecostal Assemblies of Australia in January 2002 [Brother and Sister Bellette were pioneer missionaries to Irian Jaya, Indonesia, but Brother Bellette passed away shortly after their

¹⁰⁴⁷ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (May 10, 2001).

¹⁰⁴⁸ "Worldline—Vietnam," *Pentecostal Herald* (August 2001): 22.

arrival in Irian Jaya. Margaret Bellette continued to minister there, establishing and building the church in Jaya Pura, Indonesia, and training a pastor for it.]

- To accept Alex Jr. and Angela Marquez's resignation as IMs.
- To change of field for Samuel and Joyce Latta from Missionary Evangelist/Zimbabwe to Missionary Evangelist.
- To upgrade Edward and Della Kennedy's status from IM to CM.¹⁰⁴⁹

Foreign Missions Board Sessions at the 2001 General Conference

Several months prior to the 2001 General Conference, Harry Scism had announced that he would not seek reelection as general director of Foreign Missions. Instead, he requested an appointment to International Leadership Training. The imminent leadership transition was anticipated with mixed emotions. Other board decisions included the following:

- To approve the proposed constitution for the UPC of Croatia.
- To approve the proposed constitution for the UPC of Bangladesh.
- To increase deputation per diem to \$125 per service, when services are not arranged, up to a maximum of five services per week. Guarantee that when the deputizing missionary offering is less than U.S. \$125 per service, the missionary will be reimbursed up to the U.S. \$125 minimum offering per service.
- To establish an "open door evangelism fund" in order to respond quickly to evangelistic opportunities, with disbursements subject to board approval.
- To approve that the FMD distribute the Baskerville estate funds as follows:
 - \$5,000 for the Pacific regional director deficit.
 - \$5,000 for the South American regional director deficit.
 - \$60,000 for the General Conference Bible school building projects.
 - Deposit the remaining funds in the Open Door Evangelism fund.
- To approve that the Asian Regional Conference be held November 14–17, 2001, in Bangladesh.
- To discontinue FMD offering tax preparation as a service to the missionary family. The FMD will continue to provide up to \$200 per year for tax preparation, will work with the Church Division to provide the necessary information and W-2 forms, and will offer direction to the missionaries concerning parties qualified to prepare taxes.
- To approve Robert L. and Judith Bentley's status upgrade from IM to CM to the Baltic Republics.
- To recommend the appointment of the following missionary candidates:
 - David A. and Kelley Dibble as IMs to the Philippine Islands.
 - Jonathan A. Sherry as IM to Vanuatu.
 - Franklin D. and Janet Howard as CMs to Brazil.
 - Ricky D. and Von de Leigh Robinson as IMs to Turkey.
 - Michael G. and Lisa Long as IMs to Vanuatu.
 - Justin C. and Shera Argabright as CMs to Mozambique.
 - James N. and Elizabeth Corbin as IMs to Bangladesh.

Director Harry Scism offered advice for the future:

- We should not have a possessive spirit. We are elected or appointed to serve and need to keep a servant's spirit.

¹⁰⁴⁹ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (August 29, 2001).

- Changes are taking place in the church and in organizations. We need to recognize these changes and adapt our programs to address these changes. Churches are now having direct involvement in missions and are sending finances to the field without directing the finances through organizations.
- We must always recognize that we work under the authority of the general superintendent and General Board.
- Avoid critical talk that could cause problems on the field as well as in North America.
- We should work toward eliminating the 10 percent administrative deduction from project funds.
- We should be careful to keep the goodwill of donors by honoring direct offering credit.
- We should encourage and expand the short-term missionary program.
- We should continue to appoint candidates who have not had previous AIM experience.
- We should keep the right spirit and attitudes.

The Foreign Missions Director's 2001 Report

In his report to the 2001 General Conference held in Louisville, Kentucky, October 4–8, FM Director Harry Scism opened his address to the General Board with deep emotion:

I have had the joy of working with the Foreign Missions Division as General Director for the past 25 years. These have been years of blessing and growth as we together in Foreign Missions have done our best to reach around the world with this glorious gospel.

This has been a year of phenomenal growth. Since the Birmingham General Conference last year, over 200,000 have received the baptism of the Holy Spirit in evangelistic endeavor. The Follow the Fire crusades in addition to other crusades have been very productive, especially since great attention has been given to follow-up with a high rate of retention. The General Conference Foreign Missions offering last year made this great crusade endeavor possible.¹⁰⁵⁰

Field reports clearly indicated tremendous growth in the overseas constituency. A total of 124,896 were baptized in Jesus' name and 123,030 received the Holy Ghost, translating to a daily average of over 337 receiving the Holy Ghost and over 342 being baptized. Since January 1, 2001, many additional thousands had been baptized in water and Spirit as a result of the Follow the Fire crusades.

Brother Scism further reported that finances had increased by 8.0658 percent. Missionary offering receipts totaled \$19,411,759.93, while direct offering credits were \$3,477,488.77, making the FMD income \$22,889,248.70. The Youth Division's SFC program contributed \$821,240.84, and the Ladies Ministries' Mothers Memorial gave \$365,000, which brought the grand total to \$24,075,489.54!

The report states that there were 237 career missionaries and ninety-seven intermediate missionaries. Associates in Missions had 177 appointed, making a total of 511 missionaries. There were 20,666 national ministers preaching this gospel to 2,755,893 constituents attending 28,416 churches and preaching points in 142 nations. During the year 2000, 3,150 new churches and preaching points were established. This is an average of nine new churches and preaching points every day.

Again the FMD gave an important place to the training of national ministers. This year missionaries operated 137 Bible schools, which were attended by 2,963 students. In addition to the established Bible school program, there were 547 seminars where 24,457 students received short-term training, as well as 3,575 students involved in correspondence ministry.

Increasing demands for literature resulted in over 3,720,700 pieces of literature being printed in thirty-one languages.

¹⁰⁵⁰ Harry Scism, "Annual Report to the General Board," October 2001.

Nathaniel Urshan Steps Down as General Superintendent

During the seventy-seventh annual General Conference October 4–8, 2001, General Superintendent Nathaniel A. Urshan let it be known that he would not accept another term. At the same time, Harry Scism, general director of Foreign Missions, stated that he would not let his name be considered for reelection.

During the October 10 business session, the General Conference of ministers elected Kenneth F. Haney as the new general superintendent of the UPCI. He would assume the responsibilities of this position in January 2002. In the same business session, the General Conference elected Bruce A. Howell as the general director of Foreign Missions. He would also assume the responsibilities of this position in January 2002.

Brother Urshan had led the international church with strength and compassion and challenged the constituency to evangelize the world and to train believers in a holiness lifestyle, devotion in prayer, and in worship. His leadership, enhanced by his anointed ministry, motivated the international membership to reach for new heights of faith in God and to excel in the work of the kingdom of God. He was bold in his representation of the UPCI and his aggressive charges to advance the cause of the church. His office was always open to receive ministry and laity alike, rejoicing with the successful and weeping with the sorrowful.

Thousands of ministers and spouses crowded into the reception room to honor Nathaniel and Jean Urshan for their twenty-four years of excellent leadership.

Kenneth F. Haney Elected as General Superintendent

On October 10, 2001, Kenneth F. Haney was elected as the general superintendent during the General Conference in Louisville, Kentucky. He had pastored the Christian Life Center in Stockton, California, for thirty years.

At the passing of his father in 1972, Kenneth Haney resigned his position as international youth president of the UPCI, which he had held since 1969, to assume the pastorate of the Stockton church. At the time of Brother Haney's election as general superintendent, Christian Life College was celebrating its fiftieth year of operation and had sent over five thousand alumni throughout the world.

Christian Life Center, with its 2,400-seat sanctuary, was the hub of fourteen satellite churches, including Spanish and Southeast Asian language churches. The UPCI rejoiced to welcome both Kenneth Haney and his wife, Joy, to international leadership.

Harry E. Scism Steps Down as Director of Foreign Missions

When Tom Fred Tenney resigned as general director of Foreign Missions in 1976, the General Board appointed Harry E. Scism as the FM director. Most of Brother Scism's life had been spent in missionary service, first as assistant missionary under his father, Ellis Scism, in India. At the time of his appointment as general director of Foreign Missions, he was serving as RFS of the Asian Region and living in Manila, Philippine Islands.

During his twenty-five years as general director of Foreign Missions, the church enjoyed tremendous progress and growth. The overseas constituency of three hundred thousand had grown to more than three million. From 3,458 national churches and preaching points, the graph had consistently risen to 28,416 national churches and preaching points. From 3,017 national preachers, the overseas church now had a roster of 20,666 national preachers. In 1976 the home church was supporting 184 missionaries in seventy-two nations, a number that increased to 511 missionaries in 142 nations.

Many ministries had been added to the FMD, including Associates in Missions (AIM), Friendship International, a campus ministry, Compassion Services International (CSI), the humanitarian and relief ministry, Leadership Development International, a ministry designed to train administrative leadership in

the worldwide church, Global Training Institute, designed to train teachers, Faith Promise ministry, the financial base for the PIM program, Missionary Kids Association, and the Veterans of Foreign Missions Association. Brother Scism's extensive vision brought to birth the crowning creation, the Global Council, an international body to unite the leadership of the church worldwide, with an arm that included the Global Commission, designed to address a worldwide missionary endeavor.

Brother Scism was adept at delegating responsibilities, surrounding himself with many team members, and extending his leadership to the regions of the world through his regional directors. He gave much credit for his successes to the wisdom and collective years of experience of the pastoral members of the Foreign Missions Board.

Bruce Howell Elected as Director of Foreign Missions

A former dean of Christian Education at Jackson College of Ministries, Bruce Howell and his wife, Diane, received their appointment to El Salvador in May 1979. For twelve years they lived and worked amidst a civil war that took the lives of eighty thousand people; innumerable times God protected them from battles that escalated in front of their home. Brother Howell supervised the national work, taught in the Bible school, and pastored the headquarters church. He trained national leadership to assume the work and in 1999 declined to allow his name to stand for election as president of the UPC of El Salvador. In October 1999, upon the recommendation of the FMB, the General Board of the UPCI appointed Brother Howell as regional director for Central America/Caribbean.

In October 2001, the General Conference of the UPCI elected Bruce Howell as general director of Foreign Missions. He succeeded Harry E. Scism, who chose to return to the mission field after directing the FMD for twenty-five years. Brother Howell's leadership reflected his passion for the lost and his enthusiasm to see God's kingdom fill the earth.¹⁰⁵¹

Brother Howell retained his responsibilities in the Central America/Caribbean Region, including the superintendence of Honduras, until the FMB recommended a successor.

Twenty-three Missionaries Appointed

Twenty-three new missionaries were introduced to the General Conference in Louisville, Kentucky, in October 2001. Three couples had been appointed in January, one couple in May, and seven couples in October.

- Justin and Shera Argabrights to Mozambique
- Jack and Michiko Coolbaugh (Jack was a nuclear engineer) to Thailand
- James and Elizabeth Corbin to Bangladesh
- David and Kelley Dibble to the Philippines
- Derrald and Barbara Hilderbrand to The Netherlands
- Frank and Janet Howard for a reappointment to Brazil after a time in the States
- Mike and Lisa Long to Vanuatu
- Loren and Felicia Miller to Trinidad/Tobago
- Rick and Von de Leigh Robinson to Turkey
- Steve and Kristin Schobert to France
- Jonathon Sherry, son of a missionary, to Vanuatu
- Harry and Helen Scism, retiring from the position of general director of Foreign Missions, to International Training¹⁰⁵²

¹⁰⁵¹ J. L. Hall, "Report on the 77th Annual Conference," *Pentecostal Herald* (January 2002): 3.

¹⁰⁵² Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 7, 2001): 18–19.

Our Work Is Far from Finished

As 2002 dawned, an overseas constituency of over 3 million underlined the urgency of the commission; our work was far from finished. Dorsey Burk, former missionary to Germany and serving as executive assistant to the director of promotion, wrote an illuminating article for the *Pentecostal Herald*:

Because of the dedication and drive of our missionary staff, Foreign Mission Division is fulfilling the prophetic words of Christ, “Ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.” We are going to the uttermost parts of the world!

At the beginning of the new millennium, the United Pentecostal Church International is now in 142 nations. Strong, vibrant and mature churches of over 30,000 constituents exist in Venezuela, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, India, Pakistan, El Salvador, Jamaica, Mexico, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Brazil, and Colombia. In recent years inroads have been made into nations such as Sudan, Niger, Mali, Gabon, Nepal, Bhutan, Laos, China, Vietnam, Cambodia, Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Kazakhstan, Armenia, and Albania.

However, our work is far from finished. . . . Presently, sixty-two nations are without a United Pentecostal Church International witness.¹⁰⁵³

The Foreign Missions Board: One Thousand Years of Collective Experience

It was exciting to celebrate fifty-seven years of successful FM endeavors. Looking over the shoulder of the 1945 merger that formed the UPCI, we claimed the legacy from another era when the church was coalescing for the task of world missions. As in the business world where companies merged and businesses folded, success was most likely generated by an innovative board of directors with sharp insight and vision.

The trend of the church’s expansion depended largely upon the ability to challenge fast-changing times with long-range vision. The UPCI had certainly succeeded in the business of multiplying churches around the world. The UPCI should be extremely grateful for the expert advice of the Foreign Missions Board—with a collective one thousand years of ministerial experience.

The FMD was not about size or status; it was about world evangelism and fulfilling the great commission. As I pondered the decades of reports and advances by the FMD, a dominant thread emerged—prayerful pastoral board members sustained a firm balance for the church through countless overseas crises and financial struggles. In the midst of changing times, God prepared and provided leaders who were dedicated to serving their generation, many of them without remuneration.

The January 2002 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

Several items faced the FMB in its January 2002 sessions at WEC. The decision-making changes that extended downward to the field level and left the major decisions to upper-level decision makers had received a positive response from the world of missions. Steve Schobert, a computer programmer, wrote the software program that would automatically register decisions from anywhere in the world in the FMD electronic files. Steve Schobert presented the new decision-making software to the board. It would take two years to bring this tremendous breakthrough into full operation.

The board learned that many missionaries were suffering from extreme fatigue and physical problems due to stresses, rigorous schedules, and expanding responsibilities of the field. Regional directors addressed this subject in the following examples: (1) Daniel Scott reluctantly made a motion to accept Ronald Cole’s letter of resignation, as he had been on medical leave for nearly two years and Peru was suffering from the absence of a field superintendent; (2) Jerry Richardson made a motion to accept Donald Ikerd’s resignation as superintendent of South Africa and area coordinator to the southern area of

¹⁰⁵³ Dorsey Burk, “Who’s Who in Foreign Missions,” *Insight* (May 2002): 20.

the South Central Subregion of Africa and to grant him extended medical leave; (3) Richard Denney made a motion that Roscoe Seay's medical leave be extended.¹⁰⁵⁴

Other board decisions made during the January 2002 sessions were as follows:

- To approve the ministerial license application forms for national ministers requesting transfer of credentials to the UPCI in North America.
- To designate the Bible school in Lima, Peru, as the "Paul Leaman Memorial."
- To designate the Bible school project in Spain as the "Ima Jean Kilgore Memorial."
- To dissolve the Unipen New Life Foundation in Hungary.
- To recommend T. Wynn Drost's appointment as regional director for Central America/Caribbean for a four-year term.
- To accept Robert and Judith Bentley's resignation as missionaries to the Baltic States of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania effective February 1, 2002.
- To approve the change in FMD policy on Benefits after Termination, pages 8–10, FM Manual, by deleting the words, "of his present term." The motion as amended would read, "When a missionary terminates service with the FMD after serving four years or more on the field, he shall be entitled to the following." (This policy gives the missionary three months of missionary pay and the missionary's health benefits in order to settle his family in the homeland.)
- To accept Allan and Angela Fackler's resignation as IMs to Cameroon effective February 1, 2002.
- To deny the proposal for a leave of absence and accept Kelly and Valerie Nix's resignation as IMs to Brazil effective immediately.
- To change of field for Mark A. and Robin Shutes from Belarus to Belarus/Baltic Republics.
- To authorize soliciting funds up to \$500,000 for the E. L. Freeman Memorial in Johannesburg, South Africa.
- To approve Eglise Pentecotiste Unie Internationale en Cote d'Ivoire's request to elect its own president.
- To approve a 5 percent cost of living increase in basic personal support for IMs and CMs for calendar year 2002.¹⁰⁵⁵

T. Wynn Drost Appointed as Regional Director

The FMD welcomed T. Wynn and Judy Drost to its leadership team. In its January 2002 meeting, the General Board, upon the recommendation of the FMB, appointed Brother Drost to replace Bruce Howell as the regional director of Central America/Caribbean.

Brother Drost would supervise an area that encompassed the Caribbean islands, the Central American nations, and Mexico. Also included in the region were Guyana, Suriname, and French Guyana, which were linked to the region by language and culture. This area was populated by over 176 million souls, or 2.87 percent of the world's population. The UPC had 243,605 constituents, 2,117 licensed ministers, and 2,939 churches and preaching points in this region. According to the 2001 annual field report, 25,969 people were baptized in the region and 29,679 received the Holy Ghost in the last reporting period.

Wynn Drost was born to pioneer missionaries in Cali, Colombia, and spent most of his life on the mission field. He had served as a missionary in six different nations. He worked with his parents in Spain. He founded the UPC of El Salvador in 1975. In 1981 he and his family moved to Guatemala and assumed the oversight of both Guatemala and Nicaragua. In 1984 the FMB added Belize to his portfolio and

¹⁰⁵⁴ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (January 2002).

¹⁰⁵⁵ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (January 2002).

southern Mexico in 1986. Since 1989 Brother Drost had lived in Mexico City. At the time of his appointment as regional director, he was serving as the field superintendent for the UPC of Mexico. Under his leadership the nation had experienced great revival.¹⁰⁵⁶

The Executive Global Council—Johannesburg, South Africa

One of the most exciting events of the year 2002 was the Executive Global Council meeting in beautiful Johannesburg, South Africa. Forty-nine elected delegates represented the regions and dealt with finalizing the policies created during the 2001 Global Council in Kuala Lumpur. The delegates understood that every local church anywhere in the world shared the responsibility of world evangelism. A new day had dawned!

It was becoming increasingly important to address globalization issues, the phenomena of a new millennium that seemed to erase borders and transform the world into a global family. It was not yet clear how globalization would affect everyday lives, but the church family was beginning to see that globalization was indeed affecting world evangelism. The secular world was already a world community, crudely interconnected by technology. The Global Council, a dream of former FM Director Harry Scism, would interconnect the rapidly expanding work of missions. The Global Council was considered the key to world evangelism before our Lord's return.

The formation of the Global Council was a step into the future! It provided the church with its greatest opportunity ever to unite the forces of the global family to fulfill the task of world evangelism. While the sacrificial labor of the missionary family had planted the gospel in 146 countries to date—far exceeding the estimated possible goals—the future promised a greater impact as this new medium propelled the gospel.

What Is the Global Council?¹⁰⁵⁷

The Global Council was the coordinating body that brought the UPCI's leaders from around the world together for two objectives: (1) to ensure loyalty to doctrine and adherence to holiness, and (2) to coordinate an evangelism program that would effectively reach a lost world. The International Articles of Faith had been unanimously approved as the legal platform that gave the international leaders a solid, mutual foundation. The Global Council ensured coordination of all administrative bodies of the international church.

How did it work? Every national organization affiliated with the UPCI was a member of the Global Council with a right of representation on the council. To ensure that every member nation had equal representation, the superintendent or a representative appointed by him, was the first delegate. The Global Council convened every five years; between these sessions the Executive Council was empowered to represent the worldwide body.

The Executive Council

Each region sent seven delegates to the Executive Council. The general superintendent of the UPCI chaired the Executive Council. If for any reason he was unable to preside, the general director of Foreign Missions served as chairman. By virtue of his office, the general superintendent of the UPCI chose the North American delegates to the Executive Council.

¹⁰⁵⁶ Bruce A. Howell, "Welcome T. Wynn Drost," *World Harvest Today* (April–June 2002): 3.

¹⁰⁵⁷ Bruce A. Howell, *Foreign Missions OnSite* (Spring 2006): 2, 6–7. In this article Bruce Howell explains the Global Council, Global Commission for Missions, and Regional Commission for Missions.

The Global Commission—the Missionary Arm of the Global Council

The Global Commission was a select committee for the purpose of organizing the evangelism process. All members of the Global Council that were sending and/or regularly supporting missions outside of their own nations were considered members of this commission. The general director of Foreign Missions chaired the sessions of the Global Commission, and its first session was scheduled for March 26–28, 2004, in Johannesburg, South Africa.

The Global Commission would organize evangelistic outreach to ensure that all countries of each region would be properly evangelized. Under the administrative guidelines of the UPCI Global Council, the Regional Missionary Program would be implemented. The emphasis would be ascertaining the need, supplying funding, and sending missionaries. The Global Commission would coordinate sending the missionaries, deciding which missionaries would go, and which nations would receive the missionaries.

As the FMD grappled with the need to finance world missions and evangelize the world's more than 6.5 billion people, the Global Council shouldered the bulk of the responsibility. There had been no greater era in which so much depended upon the outreach ability of the UPCI! The formation of the Global Council highlighted the awareness that evangelizing the world was possible.

To implement these possibilities and face the problems that came with them, the delegates patiently modified the program until they had a workable and uniform principle successfully operating throughout the world. The FMD recognized that the task was always complex and worrisome; however, the future depended upon how vigorously the church met the challenge. The future would not wait; dying souls needed to be reached before it was too late.

Death of Ralph Vincent Reynolds¹⁰⁵⁸

Ralph Vincent Reynolds was born on March 16, 1913, in Picton, Ontario. As a young boy he stood on a chair, waved his arms, and shouted at the top of his voice. When asked what he was doing he replied, "I'm preaching!" However, as a young man he declared strongly that there were two things he would never do: preach or teach. Fortunately for those to whom he ministered, Ralph V. Reynolds spent sixty-six years preaching and teaching.

Ralph Reynolds held credentials with three church organizations: Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada, Apostolic Church of Pentecost, and the UPCI. After ministering for six years, he was first ordained with the APC in 1942 at Picton, Ontario, and in 1946, his ordination was transferred to the UPCI. His new-birth experience took place in February 1934, at Picton.

He felt that organization was simply a means to an end: evangelism. Without evangelism there was no reason to organize. Everyone must hear the gospel; therefore, organization was vital. He said at various times,

There is no such thing as a perfect church organization simply because the organization will be made up of humans. The United Pentecostal Church International is one of the greatest church organizations in the world, but she is not perfect. The reason is quite apparent. Ralph Reynolds is a member and he plans to remain a member. Perfection is a desired goal but it is not the ultimate one. This is and can only be evangelism, reaching the lost, saving souls.¹⁰⁵⁹

Ralph V. Reynolds taught public school in Ontario, Canada, twelve and one-half years and science and mathematics for two years at King's College in Vancouver.

Brother Reynolds served in many official capacities in the UPCI:

- Two years as northwest regional presbyter and Executive Board member

¹⁰⁵⁸ "In Memory of Ralph Vincent Reynolds," *Pentecostal Herald* (June 2002): 16.

¹⁰⁵⁹ Ralph Reynolds and Joyce Morehouse, *From the Rising of the Sun* (New Westminster, BC: Conexions, 1998), 139.

- Twenty-four years as a member of the General Board
- Eighteen years as an honorary member of the General Board
- As district superintendent of two districts
- On five different district boards
- One year on the FMB
- Three years on the Board of Christian Education
- Eight years as missionary under appointment to Jamaica
- Founded four Bible schools, including the first on a foreign field
- President of five Bible schools
- Named “Writer of the Year” in 1985 by Word Aflame Publications

After more than forty-five years of administrative responsibility, including the years he spent in Jamaica as an appointed missionary, Brother Reynolds was happy to turn this type of work to others. But he never lost his love for pastoring; during his ministry, Ralph Reynolds pastored eighteen churches and never lost the vision of opening one more church, literally up to the day he died, October 16, 1999. For many years, Ralph Reynolds was unsurpassed as a Oneness Pentecostal author. He wrote sixteen books and twenty-four units of the Alpha Bible Correspondence Course, and published four different periodicals over a fifty-year span.

The May 2002 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

With the growing overseas constituency and the accompanying legal risks, it was necessary to retain a corporate attorney, Vern Schneider, to conduct a study of the structure of the FMD and the method of processing applications. The board resolved to receive the report on the legal recommendations as proposed by Vern Schneider. Other board decisions included the following:

- To begin contributing to the Ministers’ Retirement Fund for IMs four years from outbound orientation, after they have raised their budget.
- To accept Don and Linda Clenney’s resignation as CMs to Madagascar.
- To accept Ed and Nilah Gann’s resignation as IMs to Bolivia.
- To accept Wesley and Debbie Morgan’s resignation as IMs to Australia.
- To change of field for David L. and Donna Flowers from Malawi/Mozambique to South Africa.
- To authorize the FM Administrative Committee to further develop the seniors’ tours and missions involvement concept.
- To refer the incorporation of CSI to a committee consisting of Bruce Howell, Harry E. Scism, Edwin Judd, Robert Rodenbush, John Leaman, R. P. Bell, D. D. Davis, B. J. Hurst, and Jimmy Shoemake.
- To resolve that the FMD set the maximum amount for each All Risk Insurance claim at \$15,000, less the \$200 deductible.
- To approve the revised constitution for the Pentecostal Church of Hong Kong, Ltd.
- To approve the request for \$5,000 to investigate the possibility of opening new works in Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, with funds to come from the Open Door Evangelism fund.
- To accept Daniel Scott’s resignation as regional director of South America effective December 31, 2002, and that he assume the position of executive administrative assistant to the general director of Foreign Missions with an appointment in International Training.
- To approve the revisions to the constitution for the UPC of Israel.

- To amend the shipping policy by adding as item 9 the following statement: “It should be understood that shipping may be taken in cash or in shipping cost and applies only to shipping of personal effects and does not apply to shipping of missions-owned equipment.”
- To accept Robert and Karen Poole’s resignation as IMs to Sierra Leone.¹⁰⁶⁰

Daniel Scott

Daniel and Joretta Scott felt that since their ages were advancing, they should devote the remainder of their lives to training national leaders for the maturing foreign fields. Bruce Howell, general director of Foreign Missions, needed an executive administrative assistant. When the Scotts discussed with Brother Howell their burden for training, both needs were met.¹⁰⁶¹

In the May 2002 board sessions, Brother Scott was appointed to International Training and as the FM director’s executive administrative assistant. This change would be announced during the 2002 General Conference.

Daniel and Joretta Scott were first appointed as missionaries to Ecuador in 1968, where they developed a strong national leadership. Brother Scott’s ill health forced them to leave the field in 1977, but after recovering his health, he was appointed the director of Spanish Ministries in North America for the Home Missions Division. In 1991, Brother Scott was appointed as the director of Multicultural Ministries, and in 1996 he returned to South America as regional director. “He served with excellence and understanding. We know the Lord will bless Brother and Sister Scott as they continue to serve the cause of missions in the International Teaching Ministry.”¹⁰⁶²

Death of Telie Dover

Roxie Artelie Dover Greer was born on July 7, 1916, and died on June 11, 2002. She will always be remembered as “the missionary.” In May 2002, about a month before she died, Telie Dover Greer wrote to her family:

I have no earthly wealth to pass on to you; but loved ones; I give you my final words: I have come to the decision that it is time for me to go on. I have finished my race and I am tired. I have asked the Lord to take me home. . . . I survived much in my life . . . rejection and obstacles, thieves with machetes, being caught on fire, nearly drowning, terrorism and revolution, being bitten by India’s deadliest snake, hunger, famine, drought, heat, and hardship. I survived to tell you to *press on*. Preacher, preach on! Singer, sing on! Teacher, teach on! Soul winner, win on! . . .

Never give up! Never forget the power in His Name! It’s the only Name. Never forget the power of His Spirit! It’s the only Spirit. Never forget the power of godliness! It’s the only way. And please, never forget the power of endurance. It is what wins the race! Endure to the end. Finish strong! I love you.¹⁰⁶³

Telie had gone to India in the 1940s. At the time of her death there were over one hundred thousand Pentecostals in Northeast India and neighboring Burma, Bangladesh, and Nepal. She and her husband were missionaries to Panama in the 1960s. During her life she was a missionary, evangelist, pastor’s wife, public school teacher, principal, Bible college teacher, and encourager to many people.

Telie was preceded in death by her husband, Talmadge Greer. At her passing, her family requested that in lieu of flowers contributions be made to foreign missions in Asia.

¹⁰⁶⁰ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (May 8, 2002).

¹⁰⁶¹ The office of executive admin assistant to the FM director was established in 1955. George L. Glass served from 1955 to 1958 (at which time the position was called assistant foreign missions secretary). A. D. Gurley served from 1958 to 1962. The office was vacant until 2002, when Daniel Scott was appointed to fill it temporarily in order to recreate the policy and procedure for the office. Scotty Slaydon was appointed on a permanent basis during the 2005 General Conference in Richmond, Virginia.

¹⁰⁶² Dorsey Burk, *Insight: Foreign Missions Directory* (Hazelwood: Word Aflame Press, 2004), 46.

¹⁰⁶³ Telie Dover Greer in a personal letter to her family, n.d., ca. May 2002.

Ministers who participated in her funeral service were N. J. Scott, Kent Greer, Landis Greer, and sermon by T. W. Barnes. Nathaniel and Jean Urshan, T. F. Tenney, Kenneth Haney, Harry Scism, G. A. Mangun, Paul Dennis, Billy and Shirley Cole, Charles and Frances Grisham, Fred and Pat Foster, and Stanley Scism sent letters of condolence.¹⁰⁶⁴

Death of Helen Alberta White

Helen White, former missionary to Indonesia, was promoted to glory on Wednesday, June 12, 2002, following a brief illness. In 1938, Helen and her late husband, George, pioneered the work in Java, Dutch East Indies, now known as Indonesia. Their efforts were interrupted by World War II.

Following the war, the Whites returned to the field, laboring there until 1974, except for when political conditions made it impossible. After her husband died on December 18, 1976, Helen's burden took her back to the East Indies as an AIMer. She made her last of several trips in 1993 when she was eighty-three years old.

Sister White's commitment to the call was an example to younger generations. Her legacy consisted of 51,000 constituents and 488 churches and preaching points of the UPCI of Indonesia.¹⁰⁶⁵

Death of Robert McFarland¹⁰⁶⁶

Robert Lester McFarland was born in Akron, Ohio, on September 23, 1923. He married Marjorie Guinn, daughter of Walter Guinn, a renowned leader in the UPCI. As a pastor, Robert's leadership was outstanding. In 1957 he felt a call to foreign missions and sailed to Libya, North Africa. Denied a visa to Libya, his appointment was changed to Jordan. In 1961, due to an emergency that endangered his family, he returned to the United States to pastor a church in Marion, Indiana. In 1975 he was elected as the superintendent of the Indiana District. In 1976 he was elected general secretary of the UPCI. In 1981 he resigned as general secretary to become regional director of Europe and the Middle East. He returned to Indiana in 1991 as an honorary member of the Indiana District board, and also of the General Board.

Brother McFarland died on July 22, 2002. His funeral service was held in the Indiana District Conference Center, July 27, 2002. Several ministers were involved in his funeral service: Paul D. Mooney, Robert L. Stroup, Robert K. Rodenbush, Harry S. Scism, N. A. Urshan, and T. F. Tenney. He was buried in the Glen Haven Memory Gardens, Richmond, Indiana.

Ecuadorian National Conference

August 10, 2002, concluded Ecuador's greatest conference with attendance in excess of 10,500. During the Saturday evening altar service some actually climbed over the balcony rails—men and women alike—to get to a place to pray. At least two thousand people received the Holy Ghost, many coming in off the street.¹⁰⁶⁷

The August 2002 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

As was the custom, the SOM sessions were dedicated to personal interviews with missionaries returning to the homeland. This provided each missionary family with an opportunity to interact with the FMB. However, there were several items that needed the board's attention:

¹⁰⁶⁴ Memorial Brochure for Telie Dover Greer, June 13, 2002.

¹⁰⁶⁵ "Helen Alberta White," *Pentecostal Herald* (September 2002): 23.

¹⁰⁶⁶ Memorial Brochure for Robert McFarland, July 27, 2002.

¹⁰⁶⁷ Daniel Scott, "Ecuador National Conference," *World Harvest Today* (October–December 2002): 3.

- To accept Wesley Morgan's voluntary surrender of his ministerial license
- To receive a report from the general director of Foreign Missions regarding his meetings with the national board in the Philippines, now called the Philippine Executive Board
- To recommend Ronald D. and Terry Brian for upgrade from IM to CM status
- To change of field for Ronald D. and Terry Brian from Trinidad and Tobago/ABC Islands to Haiti
- To recommend Jerry D. and Janeace Miller for upgrade from IM to CM status¹⁰⁶⁸

October 2002 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

During its October 2002 sessions, the FMB took the following actions:

- To accept Paul and Shirley Dennis's resignation as regional director of Asia and recommend a change of field from Asia regional director to Furlough Replacement at large
- To accept Donald and Sharon Ikerd's resignation as CMs to South Africa
- To accept Edward and Amelia Allard's resignation as CMs to Ivory Coast
- To accept Franklin and Janet Howard's resignation as CMs to Brazil
- To accept Robert and Tanya Lewis's resignation as IMs to Germany effective September 19, 2002
- To appoint Paul Mooney as FMB member at large
- To recommend Darry and Kathy Crossley for appointment as regional director of South America
- To change of field for Jerry and Janeace Miller from Tent Evangelism to regional evangelist, Central America/Caribbean
- To change of field for Jimmy L. and Patricia Hall from Kenya, Burundi, Rwanda, to South Africa
- To change of field for Phillip L. and Twyla Tolstad from South Africa to South Africa/Malawi
- To recommend Lynden and Kathy Shalm for appointment as regional director for Asia
- To express sincere appreciation to R. P. Bell for twenty-seven years of service as a pastoral member of the FMB
- To recommended the following missionary appointments:
 - Victor W. and Diana Votaw as career missionary evangelists, Asian Region
 - Amy Sawyer as IM to Belize
 - O. Steven and Cheri Smith as IMs to Guyana
 - Edward N. and Naomi Hosmer as IMs to Japan
 - James M. Jr. and Letitia Robertson as CMs to Tanzania
 - Nicky G. and Pamela Siscoe as IMs to Ghana
 - Terry and Cynthia McFarland as IMs to the United Kingdom
 - Robert A. and Sheri Moses as IMs to Russia
 - Janice N. Hersey as IM to Russia
 - H. Mike and Mary Showalter as IMs to Russia
 - William C. and Ramona Schlegel as IMs to Turkey
 - Robert L. and Lisbeth Dame as IMs to Bolivia¹⁰⁶⁹

¹⁰⁶⁸ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (August 26, 2002).

¹⁰⁶⁹ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 22, 2002).

2002 General Conference—Phoenix, Arizona

The Lord richly blessed the foreign missions service; the theme was “Before You an Open Door.” From the opening hymn, “It’s All in Him,” to the final amen, His presence filled the arena. For two hours the congregation worshiped, raised \$450,000 in cash and pledges to establish six regional print shops to print tracts and other gospel literature, raised over one hundred PIMs for the eleven newly appointed missionary units, and listened to Bruce Howell’s anointed ministry. At the end of the message as the altar filled with people responding to the move of the Spirit, 493 people filled out a form indicating that they wanted to be personally involved in missions.¹⁰⁷⁰

The 2002 Foreign Missions Director’s Report

Bruce Howell gave his first report as general director of Foreign Missions during the 2002 General Conference in Phoenix, Arizona. He extolled Harry Scism’s twenty-five years of leadership:

It should be pointed out that the accomplishments of this past year are the results of the work of my respected predecessor, Reverend Harry E. Scism and his wife. . . . The transition that took place after General Conference to the new leadership has been nothing less than that of a Christian gentleman. Thank you Brother and Sister Scism for making this transition such a pleasant one for my wife and me. I will always hold you in highest esteem for your labor of 25 years as our General Director.¹⁰⁷¹

The six regional directors were Jerry and Vickie Richardson, Africa; Paul and Shirley Dennis, Asia; T. Wynn and Judy Drost, Central America/Caribbean; Robert and Evangeline Rodenbush, Europe/Middle East; Richard and Coral Denny, Pacific; and Daniel and Joy Scott, South America.

Brother Howell explained that as of December 31, 2002, two of the regional directors would change positions. Paul and Shirley Dennis had served twenty-seven years as missionaries and eight years as regional director of Asia. Brother Dennis would become a furlough replacement at large. Daniel and Joy Scott served as missionaries for nine years, as director of the Home Missions Division’s Ethnic Ministry for seventeen years, and as regional director for South America for six years. Brother Scott would be involved in international training and would also serve as the executive administrative assistant to the general director of Foreign Missions.

2002 Statistical Report¹⁰⁷²

In 2002 there were 240 career missionaries and ninety-two intermediate missionaries serving in the foreign field, along with 186 associates in missions, for a total of 518 missionaries. On the field the number of national licensed ministers had risen to 21,328 in 146 nations.

During the 2001 calendar year, 115,663 had been baptized in Jesus’ name and 126,270 had received the Holy Ghost, indicating that over 346 had received the Holy Ghost and over 317 had been baptized in water each day of the year. During special crusades, 204,977 had received the Holy Ghost, making a total of 331,247 receiving the Holy Ghost with an average of 908 a day.

As of December 31, 2001, the UPCI overseas constituency numbered 2,818,075 attending 28,553 churches and preaching points. During the same reporting period, 3,155 new churches and preaching points had been established, an average of nine new churches and preaching points every day!

Each year the UPCI gave sacrificially to create a record year in finances with an increase of 4.953 percent for the 2002 fiscal year. Missionary cash receipts totaled \$20,621,666.23, which included CSI offerings of \$139,954.89. Direct offering credits, or finances paid to deputizing missionaries and services

¹⁰⁷⁰ J. L. Hall, “Report on the 78th General Conference,” *Pentecostal Herald* (January 2003): 6–7.

¹⁰⁷¹ Bruce Howell, “Annual Report to the General Board,” October, 2002.

¹⁰⁷² Ibid.

rendered the division, were \$3,429,640.35. The Youth Division through SFC contributed \$866,100, and the Ladies Ministries through Mothers Memorial contributed \$350,800 for a grand total for the year of \$25,268,206.58 in foreign missions income.

The escalating growth of the UPCI required strategic planning for national leadership to assume administrative, pastoral, and evangelistic duties. This vital issue was the main focus with seminars training 14,594 men and women, 138 Bible schools with 4,121 students, and an additional 7,914 students enrolled in correspondence courses.

Darry Crossley Appointed as Regional Director of South America

Darry and Kathy Crossley's involvement in missions began in July 1974 in Argentina under the OM program. They taught in the Bible school, set up the national financial books, pastored in San Justo, and held revivals and seminars. The Crossleys received a missionary appointment to Argentina in October 1975.

Brother Crossley was elected as president of the UPC of Argentina in 1982. After Daniel Scott's resignation, Brother Crossley was appointed as regional director of South America in September 2002.¹⁰⁷³

Lynden Shalm Appointed as Regional Director of Asia

Lynden Shalm replaced Paul Dennis as regional director of Asia. Brother Dennis had stepped down from this position to seek an appointment as a furlough replacement. Brother Shalm, an MK reared in India, was president of United Pentecostal Bible Institute in Fredericton, New Brunswick, when he and his wife, Kathy, were appointed to Pakistan and Sri Lanka in 1984. He had been serving as general secretary of the UPC of Pakistan, principal of New Life Training Center in Lahore, and supervisor of the Central District. He would assume his new position as regional director of Asia on January 1, 2003.¹⁰⁷⁴

Twenty Newly Appointed Missionaries

Following are the twenty newly appointed missionaries introduced to the 2002 General Conference:

- Robert and Lisbeth Dame to Bolivia
- Janice Hersey to Russia
- Ed and Naomi Hosmer to Japan
- Robert and Sheri Moses to Russia
- Jim and Latitia Robertson to Tanzania
- Amy Sawyer to Belize
- William and Ramona Schlegel to Turkey
- Mike and Mary Showalter to Russia
- Nick and Pam Sciscoe to Botswana
- Steve and Cheri Smith to Guyana
- Vic and Diana Votaw as missionary evangelists to Asia

¹⁰⁷³ "Foreign Missions Appointments—Darry Crossley, Regional Director," *World Harvest Today* (January–March 2003): 6.

¹⁰⁷⁴ "Foreign Missions Appointments—Lynden Shalm, Regional Director," *World Harvest Today* (January–March 2003): 6.

Paul and Shirley Dennis—Furlough Replacements

Paul and Shirley Dennis had served as regional directors of the Asian Region for eight years. Appointed as missionaries to Japan in 1976, they later moved to Okinawa and built a church from among the U.S. Army, Navy, Marine, and Air Force personnel on the island. He became the coordinator of Military Ministries in Asia. Brother Dennis was appointed as regional director of Asia in 1994, and for eight years had successfully guided the missionary personnel and national leaders throughout the vast and densely populated region.

Muslims Are Converted in Malawi

Karl Smith, missionary to Cape Town, South Africa, spoke at the crusade in Zomba, Malawi, October 12–13, 2002. Zomba was Malawi's third largest city. Eighteen congregations participated and 299 were filled with the Holy Ghost.

Zomba District was Malawi's strongest Muslim area. The Malawian population was 20 percent Muslim, but in Zomba it was over 45 percent. Jim Crumpacker wrote, "The most excited testimonies were of the Muslims who had left their faith and were coming to Christ. We are rejoicing in the Lord for the wonderful Zomba Crusade."¹⁰⁷⁵

Sallie Morley: Ever the Missionary

Retired Colombian missionary, Sallie Lemons Morley, was neither famous nor impressive by earthly standards, but her name was well known in heaven. Simply put, Sallie Morley was a soul winner. Her passion was door-to-door evangelism, street meetings, and winning the lost. She was animated and enthused about reaching people with the truth.

As the wife of Lewis Morley, Sallie was placed on a pedestal. She was his queen and his total companion in missions. Sallie was a "Woman of the Word." She would be thrilled to know that one of her Bible studies, "More to Life Bible Study Series" was being published in Spanish as "Mas a la Vida." Ladies Ministries designated funds to translate the series.

After the death of her husband, Lewis, Sallie returned to Colombia with her adopted Colombian son, Arley, who had promised Brother Morley that he would care for his mother. Alzheimer's disease had robbed her of the ability to live independently, but not of her zeal for soul winning. Arley arranged for someone to escort her every day to one of her beloved Colombian parks where she passed out tracts and invited people to church. So ingrained on her soul was the mandate to win the lost that as other mental abilities faded, evangelism remained as natural to her as breathing. Ann Suarez wrote:

In Sallie Morley's presence I was convicted of the need to influence others for the kingdom of God. If I had cowered in Sallie Morley's presence, how much more would I tremble when I stood before God? I knew then that I could not meet Him empty-handed. Hispanic women need to be part of the "Women of the Word" army of soul winners! The Bible studies are a tool that will help get the job done. We are anticipating great results as we use these tools to work for the kingdom of God!¹⁰⁷⁶

Ann and her husband, Rito, had labored consistently throughout the Latin world, teaching, preaching, and facilitating the work of God wherever Spanish was spoken.

¹⁰⁷⁵ Jim Crumpacker, "Muslims Saved in Malawi," *Pentecostal Herald* (March 2003): 21.

¹⁰⁷⁶ Anne Suarez, "Más a la Vida," *Pentecostal Herald* (February 2003): 19.

National Leaders and Regional Directors Create an Organic Bond

The national leaders that had been trained by missionaries abroad were concerned about their future involvement. They wanted to continue a strong spiritual bond with the North American church to lend evangelistic continuity. Continued dialogue indicated that world leaders were requesting a leadership that would not only forge that bond, but also would lead them confidently into the future. They accepted the regional directors as the organic bond with the international church. This level of organizational format was approved by the Global Fellowship in Paris, France, January 22–30, 1998,¹⁰⁷⁷ and confirmed by the Global Council in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, November 8–10, 2000.

It was also imperative to establish a permanent long-range program of incorporating these world leaders into the Global Council. This would ensure the church's journey into the future. Apostolic values had been poured into the emerging leaders in today's spiritual arena. The church was experiencing the greatest growth ever recorded in its history. The success of growing congregations internationally would be viewed not as an extension of a dominant culture, but as an international body gaining new and exciting potential. That is why the church was committed to radical change! As the international body continued to develop into full maturity, it would continually call for evangelism plans to be modified accordingly.

An Evaluation

The success of the Global Council depended upon how vigorously the church met the challenge; North America alone could not decide and implement all that needed to be done. There had never been an era in which so much depended upon so few to forge ahead into new and exciting frontiers.

The history of the UPCI is an ongoing chronicle of world evangelism that had energized the constituency to reaching every nation. Reports of unprecedented numbers receiving the Holy Ghost daily around the world emphasized the tenacity of the church's commitment to missions and underlined the purpose for which this documentary was written. The fervor of this consuming burden to share the gospel with the world must never be relaxed; with multiplied millions yet unevangelized, the church was racing the Rapture. However, with many mission fields now achieving spiritual maturity and producing ministers who exemplified the same evangelistic burden, the church moved into a new dimension. Newly autonomous third-world countries were sending missionaries into unevangelized areas. This new chapter of missionary service will mean unprecedented growth of the international church and will demand that the financial burden for world missions be carried not only by the North American church, but by the entire fellowship. No one was exempt from the task—we are the international church!

The real challenge facing this generation as it related to missions was *change*, and effective changes were being made. The FMB recognized that creativity and flexibility were indispensable to meeting the opportunities that were open to the church, and that God was calling upon our leadership to adjust the methods of missionary outreach in order to accomplish the task of world evangelism before His return. The church would welcome a change in logistics while retaining the changeless principles of doctrine. The international constituency greatly valued the message of truth as they continued to modify evangelistic strategy.

The future would not wait while church leaders equivocated; the world harvest needed workers from all over the world, and it needed them now.

¹⁰⁷⁷ Harry E. Scism, *Pentecostal Herald* (December 1998): 5.

Planning for Progress—December 2002¹⁰⁷⁸

The Planning for Progress meeting of the FM Administrative Committee was held at WEC on December 16–20, 2002. This meeting was designed to initiate innovative ideas and work out the details before presenting them to the FMB.

Attending this meeting were Bruce Howell, Carl Varnell, J. S. Leaman, Lloyd Shirley, Paul Dennis, Richard Denny, T. Wynn Drost, Robert Rodenbush, Jerry Richardson, Darry Crossley, and Lynden Shalm. Daniel Scott was the recording secretary. Darry Crossley was introduced as the new regional director for South America and Lynden Shalm was introduced as the new regional director for Asia.

The following video productions were proposed for 2003:

- Asia: Sri Lanka
- Central America/Caribbean: Mexico
- Africa: Zimbabwe

The following were the proposed as “Unreached Nations”:

- Western and Central Asia: Mongolia and Afghanistan
- Africa: French West Africa
- Central America /Caribbean: Cuba
- Pacific: East Timor
- South America: unevangelized cultural groups
- Europe/Middle East: Western and Central Asian nations

Below are several proposals the Planning for Progress committee planned to present during the midwinter FMB sessions:

1. Hold a summit on Muslim evangelism.
2. Create a Regional Missionary Program.
3. Committees to be appointed: Crisis Management Plan for each region, and Leadership Development International.
4. The Regional Commission for Missions should meet in the regions in 2003, according to policy.
5. Duties assigned for the Executive Global Council in Johannesburg, South Africa March 26–28, 2003:
 - a. Regional directors should be prepared with minutes of their regional meeting at Kuala Lumpur and minutes of any additional meetings that pertain to the Global Council.
 - b. Translation: No regional director should be involved in translation at the Council, though he should schedule the availability of translation.
 - c. Hospitality: Baskets should be provided for each room, and this hospitality should be coordinated by the host regional director.
 - d. Visas for delegates: Each travel agent should ascertain the need for a visa. The host regional director advises that the visa should be requested for the entire schedule. Yellow fever is the only required shot, and this would be available at the airport.
 - e. The International Articles of Faith in a new format should be provided in the languages of the delegates.
 - f. Teachings on the Articles of Faith: baptism, principles of holiness.

¹⁰⁷⁸ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Administrative Committee Planning for Progress (December 2002): 2.

- g. Suggested theme: “Together We Can” should be the theme for the Executive Global Council.

Unprecedented Harvest throughout the Six Regions of Foreign Missions

During the 2001 calendar year 331,247 people received the Holy Ghost in overseas churches. There were 115,663 people baptized in the name of Jesus Christ, and 1,053 new churches were added to the church roster. All six regions of the UPCI were harvesting souls. Following are excerpts from the 2002 field reports.

Wara Crusade

John described the praise response of the multitude around the throne in Revelation 19:6 as “the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings.” Those words perfectly depicted the roar of praise that went up from more than four hundred thousand people in the tabernacle area during the Wara Crusade, March 9–10, 2002, in which 114,000 received the Holy Ghost. This was the eleventh annual Wara Crusade with speakers Doug Klinedinst, Rick Maricelli, James Stark, Daniel Garlitz, Eli Hernandez, Tom O’Daniel, and David Ward. Along with the main crusade, Brother and Sister Bob Morgans conducted services for more than seventy thousand children, thirty thousand of whom received the Holy Ghost.¹⁰⁷⁹

Special Thanks to William H. (Billy) Cole

Jerry Richardson, regional director for the African Region, was excited about what had been happening in Ethiopia over the past few years. The annual Wara Crusade had produced such national interest that multiplied thousands were gathering under the hot Ethiopian sun to experience a personal Pentecost. He expressed appreciation to William (Billy) Cole for his ministry to Ethiopia with the hope that many would continue to experience the Holy Ghost and that the crusades would lead the world in revival:

Over nine years ago Brother Billy Cole agreed to go to Wara, Ethiopia, to hold a crusade in conjunction with their national conference. The Ethiopian church had never before tried such an endeavor. They were experiencing continual growth, but since that time the Wara Crusade has become an annual event leading the church into even greater growth and evangelistic effort. For the last four of these crusades, it has been my privilege to watch this very unusual man at work. He has great ability in molding together a group of men from many different places into one team. That team then is able to meet the needs of the Ethiopian people during the few short days they are together. I was there and saw him suffer a heart attack resulting in hospitalization in Addis Ababa, but he overcame that. Did this keep him from returning the following year? No, he continued to go back. He also suffered from the long airplane travel, but that too did not deter him. The high altitude of Addis Ababa made breathing difficult for him, but he kept going. With physical problems and constant pain . . . he insisted that he be there. . . . He is driven by a desire to see the lost brought to Jesus Christ. . . . He is truly loved and highly esteemed by the Ethiopian church.

The effects of this ministry will not be accurately and completely known until Jesus returns. Brother Cole has helped to awaken a call for revival in the heart of the church worldwide. . . . The harvest is truly abundant but will fall to the ground and be lost if the church is not motivated and activated to reap the harvest. . . .

What . . . have been the immediate results of the crusades in Wara, Ethiopia? Recently I viewed a draft of a book being written by Brother Teklemariam, the superintendent of Ethiopia. It is impossible to accurately count the number of people in attendance, as well as how many received the Holy Ghost for the first time. I am borrowing some reports from Brother Teklemariam’s journal.

¹⁰⁷⁹ James H. Stark, “Report on the 2002 Wara Crusade,” *Pentecostal Herald* (June 2002): 13.

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>SPIRIT</u>	<u>BAPTIZED</u>	<u>HEALED</u>	<u>ATTENDANCE</u>
March 13-15, 1992	20,000	30,374	8,042	130,000
March 12-14, 1993	97,948	43,327	12,512	250,000
March 11-13, 1994	75,207	35,882	12,000	300,000
March 10-12, 1995	82,366	56,176	21,000	400,000
March 8-10, 1996	65,857	45,519	24,857	450,000
March 7-9, 1997	23,417	29,659	24,254	450,000
March 13-15, 1998	32,931	30,377	22,556	400,000
March 12-14, 1999	30,000	35,000	15,000	400,000
March 10-12, 2000	28,000	No Report	22,000	380,000

These numbers would be incomplete without the fantastic crusade held in 2002. In that crusade, 114,000 adults were filled with the Holy Ghost and 30,000 children.

Africa

The regional missionary sent to Mozambique by the Brazilian national church was excited about a pastor and forty-four members of his congregation whom he baptized. Thirty-nine more were to be baptized soon.

In the newly organized field of Niger, missionary Craig Sully reported that five received the Holy Ghost in a recent service.

In Botswana, eleven children received the Holy Ghost in two weeks.

In Johannesburg, South Africa, nineteen were baptized and three received the Holy Ghost. In Cape Town, South Africa, seventy received the Holy Ghost in a tent meeting.

From Zambia, Missionary Gary Abernathy shared the news that a presbyter of another church group was baptized in Jesus' name. Another Trinitarian pastor was baptized and was to baptize his church in Jesus' name, and he planned to baptize six more churches he was associated with. A former Muslim was baptized in Jesus' name and received the Holy Ghost. Fifteen of his family members became Oneness.

Ethiopia now had a constituency of 1.7 million. During the March 2003 Wara Crusade, more than four hundred thousand gathered and 195,000 were filled with the Holy Ghost.

From Burkina Faso, Craig Sully reported that hungry hearts were filled with the Holy Ghost during their national conference. From the Central African Republic, Randy Adams wrote that in an outreach effort to this new nation over 120 pastors, evangelists, and church leaders from Trinitarian groups attended a two-week seminar. Thirty-four were baptized in Jesus' name. James Poitras stated that twenty-seven people received the Holy Ghost at the ladies' conference in Ghana. Albert Stewart reported that in war-torn Liberia, 155 received the Holy Ghost in crusades around Monrovia, and 161 were baptized in Jesus' name. Theodore Grosbach rejoiced that in the Democratic Republic of Congo, 273 received the Holy Ghost in crusades held in Kinshasa and Lubumbashi.¹⁰⁸⁰

Holy Ghost Poured Out in Madrid, Spain

Regional Director Robert Rodenbush reported that two thousand were filled with the Holy Ghost during the Follow the Fire crusades in the region, and he rejoiced over the twenty-nine new countries opened to the gospel over the past few years. During Spain's national conference in Madrid, the building was filled to capacity with many standers lining the walls and some sitting on steps and the floor. In two nights 106 received the Holy Ghost. Robert Rodenbush wrote:

Spain now has nineteen revival churches and more than 1,235 constituents, and they continue to open new works throughout the country. It was reported that 2,000 had received the Holy Ghost in

¹⁰⁸⁰ Jerry Richardson, "The Africa Region," *Pentecostal Herald* (June 2003): 6-7.

churches, crusades, and conferences last year. For many years missionaries and nationals have worked faithfully and diligently to prepare the fertile soil of Europe and the Middle East Region for a great harvest. The time has come for revival in this part of the world.¹⁰⁸¹

Revival Sweeps through Asia

More than half of the world's population lives in Asia, nearly 40 percent of them in China and India. Newly appointed Regional Director Lynden Shalm traveled throughout the region with former Regional Director Paul Dennis.

Myanmar: Myanmar (formerly Burma) was a nation ripe for a move of God, and the UPC was well organized for revival. The national leadership under Brother Buai was strong. The Holy Ghost fell in the Sunday morning service in the headquarters church. The hunger in the hearts of the people in churches in the capital city of Yangon was palpable.

Thailand: Robert and Gayle Frizzell met Brothers Shalm and Dennis. Brother Frizzell had been serving as the area coordinator in nations near Thailand; God was moving in Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, and in the area known as the Golden Triangle. Brothers Shalm and Dennis joined Jack Cunningham and a large team of North American pastors who had come for the Thailand's General Conference, at which Bruce Howell was present. From the first night, the building was filled to capacity. Jack and Michiko Coolbaugh brought the Bible school students and they greatly inspired the worship. On the final morning of the conference God baptized sixty-four with the gift of the Holy Ghost! National Superintendent Chaiyong was doing a great job leading the revival in Thailand.

Hong Kong: One of the world's greatest financial centers, Hong Kong is strategically located next to Mainland China. Stephen O'Donnell brought together the Hong Kong Chinese pastors for a meeting to discuss their burden and vision. The following day Brothers Shalm and Dennis journeyed into Mainland China where arrangements had been made to meet a church leader who had in the past been jailed and persecuted for the gospel's sake. Hong Kong was the open door to reach into southern China with the apostolic message.

Taiwan: The church in Taiwan was experiencing a move of God. The Tom Brackens and the Leonard Richardsons were seeing revival in their churches. The Chris Bracken family was working alone in Taiwan's largest city, Taipei. They made many sacrifices to start a work there. All the Taiwanese missionaries could speak and translate into the Mandarin language, which opened the door for them to travel into Mainland China to preach the gospel. A new Bible school in Taiwan blessed the church by establishing new pastors and leaders.

Korea: Brothers Shalm and Dennis flew with Ey Ja Kim to the southern city of Mokpo where thirty-four Korean church leaders gathered together for three days to pray and brainstorm ways to better evangelize their world. One Korean pastor recounted the fifteen journeys he had made into Northern China to take the gospel message. Some Korean pastors had been jailed for preaching the gospel in Northern China.¹⁰⁸²

Pacific Region

Australia celebrated fifty years of history during its general conference in the Canberra area, during which many received the Holy Ghost. Superintendent John Downs challenged the church to double its constituency during the next year.

Three crusades were held in three major cities of Malaysia since the first of the year. In one city alone 121 were filled with the Holy Ghost, with a total of 248 for the three crusades.

In the Philippines Daniel Scott, traveling with Bruce Howell, preached a service in which twenty-four ministers were ordained. One hundred were filled with the Holy Ghost under Bruce Howell's anointed ministry. Rebel military activity affected the conference, but it did not stop the worship of the

¹⁰⁸¹ Robert Rodenbush, "Holy Ghost Poured Out in Madrid, Spain," *Pentecostal Herald* (April 2003): 20.

¹⁰⁸² Lynden Shalm, "The Asian Region," *Pentecostal Herald* (June 2003): 8.

people or the ministry of the Spirit. It seemed that God designed the conference for the preachers because He greatly uplifted and encouraged them to endure and reach out to new areas.¹⁰⁸³

Central America/Caribbean

T. Wynn Drost reported a 10.8 percent growth for 2002, bringing the constituency to 270,210. During the same reporting period, 28,696 were baptized and 32,368 were filled with the Holy Ghost. There were 2,015 ministers pastoring a total of 2,847 churches and missions. A great team of thirty-seven missionary families (units) worked in a very dedicated manner in the CAC Region, alongside a great team of national pastors and leaders. Some countries were under national leadership.¹⁰⁸⁴

South America

In Ecuador the Bible school expansion made room for additional students. This had become a necessity to produce the leadership for the growing Ecuadorian constituency. National President Leonardo Becerra's central church saw unprecedented growth; since the building seated only a thousand, they went to a two-service schedule in which members could attend only one of the two services.

The local church in Rosario, Argentina, baptized 130 in one month. In a youth and children's crusade in Buenos Aires, attended by approximately two thousand, fifty youth and fifty-six children received the Holy Ghost. Puerto Alegre, Brazil, also celebrated a youth convention attended by almost a thousand, and many received the Holy Ghost. Manaus, Brazil, was beginning to look like the Bible school capital of the world, with twenty-eight Bible schools operating in the Amazon Basin.¹⁰⁸⁵

American Soldiers Baptized in Kuwait

How many times have you heard, "What if *you* were out in the desert, and there's no water, well, would God let you be baptized then?"

Courtesy of the Marines' 3rd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment and several other units in Regimental Combat Team One, we now have our answer: God will provide you a Jesus-Name preacher, sandbags, tarps and enough water to baptize everyone who wants to be saved. It's as old a miracle as Abraham discovering a ram in the thicket.

Darrin Mortenson, staff writer for the *North County News*—which covers the San Diego, CA, market—was serving as an embedded reporter with the regiment. He filed this story from Camp Inchon, Kuwait, headlined "Marines find solace, unity in baptisms," from which we've pulled these excerpts: "Promising to walk the 'hard and narrow path to righteousness,' dozens of Marines were baptized Sunday in a sandbag-lined pool in this desert camp not far from the Iraqi border. . . . The hour-long ceremony was the beginning of another week of waiting for the 3rd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment and several other units in Regimental Combat Team One, that have been positioned here for nearly a month.

"However, the troops here were oblivious to the diplomatic wrangling thousands of miles away. On Sunday, they were concerned with more immediate matters: their redemption. Like dozens of his comrades before and after him, Sgt. Scott Fleming, of Texarkana, Texas, stripped down in front of about 100 Marines and dropped his clothes to the sand. A bit embarrassed, but standing straight and confident, he stepped forward to the edge of the pool and gave his testimony before his fellow Marines.

'For me, it's like taking the hard path in the Marine Corps,' he said. 'I want to take the hard and narrow path to righteousness.'

"After Fleming knelt in the pool and reaffirmed his faith, Navy Chaplain Tom Webber plunged his shaven head and bare shoulders into the water. 'I hereby baptize you in the name of Jesus Christ,' Webber said as Marines shouted and clapped.

¹⁰⁸³ Richard Denny, "The Pacific Region," *Pentecostal Herald* (June 2003): 9.

¹⁰⁸⁴ T. Wynn Drost, "The CAC Region," *Pentecostal Herald* (June 2003): 10.

¹⁰⁸⁵ Darry Crossley, "The South American Region," *Pentecostal Herald* (June 2003): 11.

“The scene was repeated dozens of times as troops stepped forward professing their faith and confessing their waywardness. ‘I sort of strayed when I got in the Marines, like a lotta guys do, I realized it was the wrong path,’ said another, a non-commissioned officer from 3rd Battalion’s weapons platoon, ‘That’s why I’m here today, to promise my fellow Marines that I will walk the right path,’ ‘I figured there would be no better place to be baptized than before my fellow Marines,’ said another.”

Their comrades cheered on each one as they sunk their hardened, tattooed torsos beneath the sandbags to dip into the baptismal water.¹⁰⁸⁶

Retiring Missionary Personnel

R. P. Bell, a pastoral member of the FMB for twenty-seven years, had influenced many board decisions with his wisdom and compassion. He served the states of Texas, Louisiana, and Missouri as a FMB member at large. He was retiring from his position as pastoral representative to the FMB.

Edward and Amelia Allard were first appointed as missionaries in January 1972, and had served in Senegal, Ghana, and Ivory Coast, West Africa, for over thirty years, enduring hardships to proclaim the gospel. Brother Allard was instrumental in opening Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger to the UPCI.

Mack and Bobbie Carpenter were appointed as missionaries to South Africa in 1965. After sixteen years of faithful, productive service, ten of those years as field superintendent, they transferred to Swaziland and pioneered a strong church there. He retired to the States to pastor a church in Kentucky, but the Lord returned him to Africa in 1996 to pioneer the new field of Lesotho, where he again produced a strong church.

Don and Sharon Ikerd were appointed to Kenya in October 1973, then they transferred to Zambia to pioneer that field. At his retirement, Zambia had thirteen thousand constituents. The FMB requested that the Ikerds move to South Africa in February 1986, to oversee the racially divided church. Even before the fall of apartheid, he brought unprecedented unity to the church. Because of severe health problems the Ikerds retired from missionary service.¹⁰⁸⁷

Paul D. Mooney, FMB Pastoral Member

Paul D. Mooney, pastor of Calvary Tabernacle, Indianapolis, Indiana, was appointed as a pastoral member at large for the FMB. Brother Mooney had a proven record of love for and involvement with foreign missions. He replaced R. P. Bell, who retired from the pastoral ministry.¹⁰⁸⁸

The January 2003 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

FM Director Bruce Howell welcomed Paul Mooney to the board as a new pastoral member. Also, honorary board member status was conferred on Harry Scism for his many years as general director of Foreign Missions, and to R. P. Bell for his many years of service as a member of the FMB.

Following the legal advice of the corporate attorney, the board took a very important action in that at no time could a candidate be disqualified as a result of negative medical information. Rather, the qualification must be made a part of the interview when candidates were asked to respond whether or not they could fulfill the requirements of the job description. All medical questions were removed from the applications, and extant medical information was placed in a confidential file under lock and key. FM Secretary Carl Varnell confirmed that these actions had been duly performed.

Other decisions included the following:

¹⁰⁸⁶ Kenneth E. Lamb, staff writer for the *Miami Herald*, reprinted in the *Pentecostal Herald* (June 2003): 22.

¹⁰⁸⁷ Dorsey Burk, “Don Ikerd Retires,” *World Harvest Today* (April–June 2003): 8.

¹⁰⁸⁸ “Foreign Missions Appointments—Paul D. Mooney, Pastoral Member,” *World Harvest Today* (January–March 2003): 6.

- FM Director Bruce Howell discussed the plans for the Executive Global Council meeting, requesting Daniel Scott to read the minutes of the committees that met during the last Planning for Progress meeting concerning the Global Council.
- To grant extended medical leave to Bonnie Markham for one year.
- To change of field for Loren D. and Felicia A. Miller from Trinidad and Tobago to the Leeward Islands.
- To change of field for James A. and Karen L. Crumpacker from Malawi/Mozambique to Kenya.
- To approve the production of the PRISM video magazine.
- To approve charging missionary accounts for the actual expenses incurred by the IT Department and WEC Support Center.
- To receive the report of the committee on the definition of affiliation as stated here and attached as Addendum K:
 - Any national church organization that adopts the International Articles of Faith and maintains an active relationship and works in harmony with the UPCI and other UPC affiliates worldwide may, with the approval of the FMD of the UPCI, be an affiliated church organization.
- To approve Brian D. and Esther J. Henry for upgrade to CM status.
- To approve the establishment of an Eastern European area-wide Missionary Field Fellowship and appoint Roger Buckland as chairman.
- To accept Mack and Bobbie Carpenter's letter of retirement.
- To approve a 3 percent increase in missionary personal support for 2003.¹⁰⁸⁹

Death of Carl Stephenson

Carl Stephenson was born on July 29, 1931, in Nacogdoches, Texas. At age ten he was baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Later he received the Holy Ghost during a revival held by E. L. and Nona Freeman, and by 1949 he was holding revivals.

He served as pastor of Bethel Tabernacle in Winnipeg, Canada, and First UPC on Greenwood Avenue in Toronto, Canada. He served as a member of the FMB from 1971 to 1993, leaving the board due to his election as superintendent of the Ontario District, in which position he served until his death on April 9, 2003.

A memorial service at Faith Sanctuary, Toronto Canada, was held on April 15, 2002. Kenneth Haney, general superintendent of the UPCI, delivered the message, and other ministers involved were John Leaman, A. McLaughlin, W. Budgell, R. Kingsley, K. Pollard, T. Dummitt, and G. Hanscom. David Stephenson, a son, and Barry Harper, a son-in-law, were also involved.

Carl Stephenson's ministry would long live in the hearts of missionaries, General Board members, and those he mentored throughout his life. He was influential and taught mainly by example. He was a man of faith who dearly loved missions.

One of Brother Stephenson's biggest dreams (next only to the very beautiful new Ontario District Campground), was the 2003 General Conference in Toronto, of which he would have been "host." His vision was a packed arena and hundreds receiving the Holy Ghost.¹⁰⁹⁰

¹⁰⁸⁹ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (January 2003).

¹⁰⁹⁰ Gordon D. Kierstead, Toronto, Ontario, "Canada: Site of Many Historic Oneness Pioneers and Events," *Pentecostal Herald* (August 2003): 3.

France

During a forty-day season of prayer and fasting, the work in France began to see the glory of God manifested in a special way. John and Anne Nowacki reported:

In our headquarters church in Melun, in a Sunday school seminar and children's crusade with Brother and Sister Oliver, thirty-five people received the Holy Ghost, two demon-possessed men were delivered, and over 450 were in attendance.

In our Haitian church in a suburb of Paris, eleven people were baptized in the name of Jesus and a few received the Holy Ghost.

In our church in Arras in northern France, some people walked into our service Sunday morning and five received the Holy Ghost!

We are starting a new church in Monaco! On March 30 we were there, and seventeen Filipinos were in the service hungry for God. As we were worshiping and exalting the name of Jesus, the Lord showed me how the darkness was fleeing and the light of the gospel was covering the city nation of Monaco. Jesus is the light of the world!

Last weekend in our church in Longwy in eastern France, a depressed area with a high rate of suicide, we had revival services. We had over thirty first-time visitors and six people received the Holy Ghost. And listen to this! We had much opposition in that city looking for a church building. Now the mayor is giving us a school building in a prime area, overlooking the city of Longwy!¹⁰⁹¹

It seemed that from east to west, there was hunger for God as never before. It was happening in France and in Europe. These were some of the highlights of the great and wonderful things our God was doing in an area that many missionary societies called extremely difficult.

A Bathtub Baptistery in China

During a trip to China in 2003, Bruce and Diane Howell prayed over a bathtub in a particular apartment. Since that time over two hundred people were baptized in that tub.¹⁰⁹²

April 2003 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

This FMB session had a heavy agenda. One of the important issues was the amendment procedure for the International Articles of Faith, since this document dealt with the bonding of the worldwide church through the Global Council. The procedure had been carefully studied and formatted; any amendment required a two-thirds majority vote of the Global Council delegates and the constituency:

Resolved that . . . the proposed procedure be presented to the next Global Council for ratification.

“Any amendment to the general policy of the Global Council shall be submitted in writing to the Resolutions Committee, and will require the signatures of three Global Council delegates.

“Any amendment of the International Articles of Faith-2003 Edition, shall be submitted in writing to the Resolutions Committee, and will require the signatures of five Global Council delegates. Any amendment of the International Articles of Faith-2003 Edition shall require a unanimous vote of the Resolutions Committee in order for it to be presented to the Global Council. A two-thirds majority vote of the Global Council delegates present will be required to adopt an amendment to the International Articles of Faith-2003 Edition.

“In addition, all amendments affecting the International Articles of Faith-2003 edition shall be taken to the Conference of every Global Council member organization to be voted on, requiring two-thirds of that organization's voting constituency in session for ratification. Further, said resolutions shall require two-thirds of the Global Council member organizations ratifying before they can be implemented.”

¹⁰⁹¹ John Nowacki, “France,” *Pentecostal Herald* (July 2003): 11.

¹⁰⁹² “China,” *Pentecostal Herald* (November 2003): 48.

If not already stated in Global Council policy, that Robert's Rules of Order be used as the rules that govern the parliamentary procedure of the Global Council.¹⁰⁹³

May 2003 Foreign Missions Board Sessions¹⁰⁹⁴

The question of stateside residences for Paul Dennis and Daniel Scott was addressed. Due to the fact that both couples were continuing in missionary service, it was a difficult decision for the FMB inasmuch as missionaries under appointment usually had a regional director to work under and a region to live in. The board made the following decisions:

- To approve a resolution for stateside residences for Paul Dennis and Daniel Scott due to the circumstances of their appointment. In Daniel Scott's case, his job description as executive administrative assistant to the general director of Foreign Missions requires his living near the WEC:

Whereas Paul and Shirley Dennis have many years of excellent missionary service, and whereas while serving as Regional Director of Asia the Dennises were required to have a residence in the United States and purchased a home in Oklahoma, and whereas they have been appointed furlough replacement and will be spending many months each year abroad, and whereas the Dennises plan retirement in the near future, be it resolved that we approve a United States residence for Paul and Shirley Dennis.

Whereas Daniel and Joy Scott have many years of excellent missionary service, and while serving as Regional Director of South America the Scotts were required to have a residence in the United States and own a home in Missouri, be it resolved that we approve a United States residence for Daniel & Joy Scott due to the nature of their job description.

- To amend item 6 of the shipping policy to read, "Upon shipping missions equipment to the field, the missionary will need to raise the funds to cover the shipping cost."
- To approve the FMD mission statement as presented by the Resource Team.
- To approve a name change from Friendship International to Global Campus Ministries.
- To approve the definition of affiliation as presented to and defined in the Executive Global Council meeting in Johannesburg, South Africa, and attached as Addendum C.
- To change of field for Samuel and Patricia Balca from Eastern Europe to France/Monaco.
- To approve the establishment of a Middle East Field Fellowship.
- To approve the establishment of a Great Britain and Ireland Field Fellowship.
- To approve a \$10,000 disbursement from the Open Door Evangelism fund for Open Door Iraq.
- To accept T. W. and Judy Drost's resignation as regional director of the Central America/Caribbean Region effective immediately.
- To approve the Crisis Management proposal. (This formulated the policy for what missionaries should do in the case of a developing crisis that would require their immediate departure.)
- Approve the International Articles of Faith Procedure as proposed and attached as Addendum G. (The International Articles of Faith were presented to the Executive Global Council and approved in their original form by the General Board as the basis of fellowship worldwide.)
- Approve a subregional conference for the Southern Cone of South America for October 15–18, 2003.
- Change of field for Louis and Rosemary Louw from Namibia to Namibia/South Africa.
- Approve the policy to establish a Field Fellowship for South Africa.
- Approve the procedures for selecting a CEO (superintendent) for a field, attached as Addendum I.
- Approve the revised constitution and bylaws for the UPC of Kenya, thus authorizing them to elect their own national superintendent.

¹⁰⁹³ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (April 3, 2003) Addendum B.

¹⁰⁹⁴ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (May 6, 2003).

- Approve the report of the committee on Regional Missionary Program funding in North America attached as Addendum J, and authorize the general director of Foreign Missions to appoint a special committee to further study and make plans for implementation.

Open Door Ministry—Iraq

The FMB formed the Open Door Ministry to take advantage of doors opened by emergencies. Money was set aside so that the FM Administrative Committee could respond immediately.

The end of Saddam Hussein's reign in Iraq opened doors to the UPCI, and Regional Director Robert Rodenbush appealed to this fund so he could reach hungry souls in Iraq. As soon as it was safe for missionaries to move freely, they took humanitarian aid and evangelism to Iraq with "Operation Iraqi Open Door."

Some 2,200 Oneness Iraqi believers had suffered through Saddam's reign of terror and the war that ousted him. They needed food, shelter, clothing, medical supplies, and other basic necessities. They also needed fellowship, encouragement, and assistance to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ. The fall of Saddam allowed—at least briefly—religious freedom for our brothers and sisters there. Brother Rodenbush wrote:

We must act quickly and be ready to assist the Oneness believers with tracts and other tools to reach their countrymen with the gospel. Our plans include literature and Bible distribution in the Arabic language and the printing of literature as soon as funds are available, buildings for prayer houses and meeting places for believers, humanitarian aid containers, filled with relief goods and trucked to Iraq, buildings for use as literature, medical, and humanitarian centers, and staffed medical centers. Visits by Iraqi Operation Team members will encourage the believers in Iraq as evangelism and prayer teams are organized to go and assist our believers.¹⁰⁹⁵

A Brief History of the Gospel in Iraq

In previous years the missionaries serving in Iraq had made great progress. Men listed in this documentary hazarded their lives to raise up a work, living and dying to bring hope to a people in the ancient Bible land that included Nineveh.

J. B. Thomas arrived in Palestine on January 17, 1930, laboring with Timothy David Urshan and Louise Dickson. Thomas went on to Baghdad, Iraq. Unable to speak the language, Brother Thomas found a Persian brother whom Abraham Urshan had baptized in Jesus' name and who became his interpreter.

In January 1935 the *Apostolic Herald* published a list of missionaries affiliated with the PCI. This list included Ishmiel Adam of Iraq. In 1939, Howell Youkhanan was outgoing to Baghdad, and in 1945, the missionary board appointed Brother and Sister Paul Bayne to Iraq. The Baynes asked to live in Baghdad, arriving in May 1947. The September 1949 *Pentecostal Herald* lists the UPCI missionaries and includes Howell Youkhanon in Iraq. Civil war made it impossible for missionary work to continue because their lives were in constant peril. National believers in Iraq had to shoulder the burden to carry the message.

In 2003, Gary and Linda Reed, missionaries to the Middle East, contacted apostolic survivors. They learned that in the 1960s, God had revealed this truth to an evangelical pastor in Baghdad. He began services in homes. Many believers were imprisoned by the brutal Iraqi dictator. Other believers were shoved into the front lines of the Iran-Iraq war and killed. Many believers fled from the country. At the end of the 1990 Gulf War, only five Apostolics remained in Iraq. But the climate in the country changed and God opened a great door for the truth in 2003. Linda Reed wrote:

¹⁰⁹⁵ Robert Rodenbush, "Operation: Iraqi Open Door," *Pentecostal Herald* (September 2003): 27.

There are times when God dramatically opens a door of opportunity. Such is the case in the country of Iraq. In the 1960s, God revealed the truth of the Oneness of God to a pastor in northern Iraq. Brother Matta lived in the ancient city of Nineveh. He began services in homes, and many people came to the truth. He traveled to neighboring Shiite villages, preaching and praying for the sick where God performed wonderful miracles.

After the Gulf War of 1990, Christians all over the world began praying for the people of Iraq. God heard those prayers and began a sovereign act. By the year 2000, there were 2,200 Oneness believers in Iraq. Seven hundred and fifty came from the same small villages where Brother Matta had preached in the 1960s. By the year 2000, there were seven churches in northern Iraq, five in the south, and two in Baghdad; these met in homes and did not have legal status.

After the turn of the century, Gary Reed visited Iraq. God led him to the Apostolics in Baghdad. They were excited to make contact with other Oneness believers. The United Pentecostal Church International is presently working on a plan to take concentrated aid to these Apostolics. Many times minority Christians receive aid only after the Muslims have been helped. Under the proposed plan, the UPCI will rent facilities for worship and for the distribution of aid; the UPCI will also solicit the help of medical personnel to administer health care.

God has put an open door before us that no man can shut. Oneness believers in Iraq need our help to become legal churches. Most important, they are in immediate need of basic survival supplies and medical care. This is our opportunity to affect the entire Middle East with the gospel.¹⁰⁹⁶

The Reeds confirmed that Iraqi Apostolics were vibrant Christians. They worshiped freely and were committed to their faith. Since they knew the culture and language of the Middle East, it was possible that God would use them to bring great revival to the entire region.

By the year 2005, there were over 2,500 Apostolics in Iraq. A leader of seventeen churches in Iraq joined the UPCI. According to him, many apostolic Iraqis planted churches in Algeria, Libya, and Yemen, where missionaries were forbidden.¹⁰⁹⁷

The August 2003 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

The FMB sessions during the SOM in Carlinville, Illinois, were primarily for personal interviews with the missionaries. In these particular meetings, the board dealt with a number of resignations and qualified several requests for upgrade from intermediate to career missionary status. The decisions were as follows:

- To accept Roy Bettis's resignation with regrets for his failing health, effective January 31, 2004
- To accept Jerry Burns's resignation effective August 31, 2003, with appreciation for his years of service as Multimedia Ministries' first coordinator
- To accept Gabriel Cruz's resignation effective February 29, 2004
- To accept Michael Showalter's resignation effective August 31, 2003
- To accept Danny Wilkerson's resignation effective August 31, 2003.
- To accept Kevin Nix's resignation effective immediately
- To change of field for William Turner from Russia/Kazakhstan/Ukraine to Russia/Ukraine
- To recommend Lynne Jewett for upgrade from IM to CM status
- To recommend Daniel W. and Holley R. Drost for upgrade from IM to CM status
- To recommend Walter W. and Shirley A. Droke for upgrade from IM to CM status
- To recommend Mark A. and Robin R. Shutes for upgrade from IM to CM status
- To recommend Brian E. and Lakelie A. Williams for upgrade from IM to CM status
- To recommend W. Bradley and Lycia A. Schreckhise for upgrade from IM to CM status¹⁰⁹⁸

¹⁰⁹⁶ Linda Reed, "The Open Door in Iraq," *Pentecostal Herald* (September 2003): 15.

¹⁰⁹⁷ "Eyes on the Middle East—Great Revival Has Begun," *OnSite* (Winter 2005): 8–9.

¹⁰⁹⁸ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (August 2003).

The October 2003 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

The FMB continued to seek a proper answer for the deputation dilemma. While the scheduling of missionaries throughout the fellowship had been improving, the board was reluctant to appoint new personnel due the backlog of CMs who were due for furlough and deputation, which made appointments necessary only to open a new field or to fill a vacuum created by unexpected circumstances. With this in mind, the board made the following decisions:

- To request proposals from several committees that are studying the deputation process in order to improve it
- To approve the appointment of the Executive Committee of Democratic Republic of Congo of the UPC
- To approve UPC of Ghana's request to elect a national superintendent in the fourth quarter of 2005
- To approve the church in Mexico's request to elect their own president at the earliest possible date
- To recommend John Hopkins as regional director for Central America/Caribbean for a four-year term
- To change of field for James and Linda Poitras from Ghana to Regional Teaching Ministries/Ghana
- To change of field for Robert and Jerolyn Kelley from United Kingdom to United Kingdom/Ireland/Channel Islands
- To change of field for Allan and Georgene Shalm from South Asia to South Asia/Afghanistan
- To change of field for Paul and Shirley Dennis from Furlough Replacement to Furlough Replacement/International Teaching
- To approve an increase in deputation per diem from \$125 to \$135 per the same policy as adopted by the board in October 2001
- To resolve that T. W. Drost return to CM compensation effective October 2003, as a result of his resignation as regional director of Central America/Caribbean¹⁰⁹⁹

John Hopkins Appointed as Regional Director for Central America/Caribbean

John Hopkins, a Texas Bible College alumnus, was pastoring in New York City when he and his wife, Aurelia, received their appointment to Panamá in September 1979. In 1985 his responsibilities expanded to include Costa Rica. In the following four years, the Costa Rican church grew from seventeen churches to forty-two churches, and the constituency more than doubled. During this same time twenty-two new churches were established in Panamá.

In 1992 Brother Hopkins relinquished the superintendence of Costa Rica and accepted the oversight of the Nicaraguan church until 1997. During that time the Nicaraguan church grew from 105 churches to over 263 churches and reached a constituency of 13,000.¹¹⁰⁰

Richard Flowers and Billy Cole, Pastoral and Honorary FMB Members

During the 2003 General Conference in Toronto, Canada, Richard Flowers, pastor of Emmanuel Pentecostal Church in Mesquite, Texas, was appointed to the FMB. W. H. (Billy) Cole was appointed as an honorary member of the FMB.

¹⁰⁹⁹ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (October 2003).

¹¹⁰⁰ Dorsey Burk, *Insight: Foreign Missions Directory* (Hazelwood, MO: Word Aflame Press, 2004), 102.

Bruce Howell's 2003 Annual Report to the General Board—Toronto

This past year twelve new countries opened to the gospel as missionaries and/or regional missionaries answered the call.

Comparative Statistics:

	2002	2003
Constituents	2,818,075	3,003,517
Churches and Preaching Points	28,553	28,351
National Ministers	21,328	22,881
Baptized	115,663	107,232
Holy Ghost without crusade numbers	126,270	112,238
Holy Ghost including crusade numbers	331,247	315,994
Nations	146	170

Missionaries

	2002	2003
Career Missionaries	240	244
Intermediate	92	98
AIM	186	229
TOTAL	518	571

Regional directors report that we now have new works in Africa: Central African Republic, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, and Gambia; Asia: Bhutan; Central America/Caribbean: St. John Island and San Andres Island; Europe/Middle East: Faeroe Islands, Latvia, Malta, and Monaco; and Pacific: New Caledonia.

Finances

We experienced another record year. We also established a plan to resolve our deficit in administration. We now thank God for an ending fund balance of **\$4,929,305.46**.

	2001/2003	2002/2003
Missionary offering receipts	\$20,389,428.99	\$20,969,317.51
Compassion Services International	139,954.89	239,339.71
General and Administrative Funds	92,282.35	212,229.42
Total Contributions	\$20,621,666.23	\$21,420,886.64
Direct Offering Credits	342,964.35	325,048.98
Total For Foreign Missions	\$24,051,306.58	\$24,671,370.62
Youth Division/Sheaves For Christ	866,100.00	830,000.00
Ladies Ministries Mothers Memorial	350,800.00	355,000.00
Grand Total	\$25,268,206.58	\$25,856,370.62

This shows an increase in giving of: **\$588,164.04**

Training

The urgency of this unprecedented hour demands that the training of national leaders throughout the world become a priority. With the increasing constituency it is only natural that a new potential and powerful leadership should emerge to accept the challenge of reaching their world. Our missionary family is creating quality individuals loyal to the doctrine to step to the front and multiply exponentially the proficiency of the ministry.

The comparison of the last two years:	2002	2003
Seminar Training	14,594	12,709
Bible Schools	138	159
Students	4,121	4,611
Correspondence Training	7,914	1,841

Mission Statement

Our FM Team created a new design for our Mission Statement that would adequately keep pace with the spirit of our people's desire to reach the lost: *To Every Tribe and Nation—JESUS—send the message, train messengers, produce self-supporting, self-propagating, self-governing churches—establish fellowship in truth and holiness.*

Mercy Medical Network

After devastating earthquakes and turmoil of wars that sent refugees to areas where we could minister to them, our missionary team mobilized to minister to their physical needs. We discovered that this opens doors to share the message of salvation. This gave birth to a new ministry called Mercy Medical Network.

Executive Global Council

In the Executive Global Council in South Africa, the delegates from all the regions overwhelmingly voted to accept the International Articles of Faith to ensure doctrinal purity; standards were established that defined an affiliated work.

List of Targeted Countries

The countries in our sights are as follows: Africa: Angola, Congo, and Guinea; Asia: Afghanistan, Macao, SAR, and Mongolia; Central America/Caribbean: Bermuda and Dominica; Europe/Middle East: Andorra, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Gibraltar, Iceland, Slovenia, Tunisia, and Uzbekistan; Pacific: Brunei, Cook Islands, East Timor, and Yap; South America: Numerous people groups without a witness.¹¹⁰¹

Separation of Ethiopia

After FM Director Bruce Howell gave the above statistics to the General Board, there was a closed ministers' meeting to discuss the doctrinal problems involving the ancient Coptic Church dogma creeping into the Ethiopian constituency, which affected their understanding of the dual nature of Jesus Christ. The FMB had designed a way to resolve the situation, but before it could take action, Ethiopian ministers attending the closed ministers' meeting communicated to the field the dialogue that took place. This created a misunderstanding in the Ethiopian administration, which resulted in what could be termed as a premature decision to separate administratively from the UPCI. This created a drastic drop in the UPCI's worldwide constituency, as well as a decrease in licensed ministers listed in the FM reports. Regional Director Jerry Richardson worked until May 2005 to bring about reconciliation, at which time he proposed that the work be restarted. The FMB approved his plan and appointed him as the official representative to Ethiopia.¹¹⁰²

Death of Alejandro Rafael Marquez

Missionary Alex Marquez Sr. was promoted to a heavenly reward on November 21, 2003, following complications from a surgery.

¹¹⁰¹ Bruce Howell, "Annual Report to the General Board," September 2003.

¹¹⁰² Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (May 10, 2005): 5, 11.

At age eighteen Alex Marquez left Mexico and headed to California to live with his aunt and uncle. There he was baptized in Jesus' name and received the Holy Ghost. In the early 1980s, he carried the Jesus Name message back to his mother in Ximiquilpan, Mexico, and baptized her. Feeling a heavy burden to reach his country, he sold his photography business in 1986 and moved to Mexico. Within five years after returning to Ximiquilpan, his ministry produced over thirty churches and almost two thousand believers.

In 1987 Brother Marquez became the legal representative of the UPC of Mexico and was appointed as a UPCI missionary in 1992.¹¹⁰³

The James Dotsons Honored

James and Billie Dotson were appointed to Chile, South America, in 1963. Once the church was organized in Chile, Brother Dotson answered an urgent call to head the Bible school and ministerial training program in Lima, Peru. While serving there he was stricken with a severe heart condition. Because of deteriorating health, he resigned his appointment on May 16, 1990.

Pastor and Sister Gerald Sawyer and the church congregation of Laurel, Mississippi, declared and celebrated, "James Dotson Day." Special speakers were Edwin Judd, Daniel Scott, R. P. Kloepper, Barry Chandler, and James Moulter.¹¹⁰⁴

The 2004 Foreign Missions Board

It should be noted that the FMB included pastoral members who had dedicated many years of service to foreign missions without personal remuneration. Only actual expenses for travel, meals, and lodging were reimbursed.

Administrative Committee: Bruce Howell, general director; Carl Varnell, secretary; J. S. Leaman, director of promotion; and Lloyd Shirley, director of Education/AIM.

Regional directors: Jerry Richardson, Africa; Lynden Shalm, Asia; John Hopkins, Central America/Caribbean; Robert Rodenbush, Europe/Middle East; Richard Denny, Pacific; and Darry Crossley, South America.

Pastoral members: D. D. Davis, B. J. Hurst, Darrell Johns, Francis Mason, Paul Mooney, Manuel Rogers, G. A. Mangun, Jimmy Shoemake, and Richard Flowers.

Honorary members: Edwin E. Judd, T. C. Bonnette, Billy Cole, Fred Kinsey, R. P. Bell, and Harry E. Scism.¹¹⁰⁵

The February 2004 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

The midwinter FMB sessions, heretofore held the first week of January, were changed to February to synchronize with midwinter General Board sessions, which were also changed in 2004.

The FMB decided that deputation itineraries of missionary candidates who had processed applications should be delayed until there was a possibility of actually initiating their service. Additionally, the "date of employment" needed to be defined as the date when the missionary was given an itinerary. This would safeguard the budget from the escalating costs of health insurance.¹¹⁰⁶

Additional official action included the following:

¹¹⁰³ Dorsey Burk, "In Memoriam," *OnSite* (Spring 2004): 15.

¹¹⁰⁴ Daniel Scott, "The Dotsons Honored," *World Harvest Today* (January–March 2004): 8.

¹¹⁰⁵ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (February 2004).

¹¹⁰⁶ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (February 20, 2004): 14.

- To approve Bennie DeMerchant for a trip to East Timor financed with up to \$5,000 to come from the International Evangelism account. (This was to ascertain a possible future regional missionary being appointed from Brazil to this Portuguese-speaking country.)
- To approve a 2 percent cost of living adjustment in monthly missionary personal support for 2004.

Global Commission for Missions

The Global Commission for Missions met April 28–29, 2004, as required by Global Council policy. The purpose of this commission was to coordinate the efforts of the FM outreach of the churches sending, the missionaries going, and the nations receiving. It maintained records and coordinated FM activity as decided by the Regional Commission. The commission is described in the Global Council Procedure and Policy as follows:

This [Global Council of the UPCI] shall be a standing committee and shall be referred to as the Global Commission for Missions.

All membership organizations of the Global Council, which are sending and regularly supporting missions outside of their own nations, shall be considered as members of this Commission. The Commission shall be divided into two parts:

Regional Commission for Missions—Within each region of the Global Council an annual meeting shall be held of delegates of the countries that are sending missionaries, or regularly supporting missions outside their borders. Guidelines shall be established for working together within the region. These guidelines shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Government registration in new countries, fellowship, shared missions financing, coordinating personnel from multiple countries and Regional and Area Authority
2. The regional director shall chair the Regional Commission for Missions

Global Commission for Missions—Every two years, two delegates from each region shall meet in a Global Commission for Missions meeting. One of these delegates shall be the regional director and the other shall be elected by the membership of the Regional Commission for Missions. The general director of Foreign Missions will chair the meeting of the Global Commission for Missions. The work of the commission shall be twofold.

First, it shall organize the outreach to assure that all countries of the region will be properly evangelized. The goal shall be to formulate able leadership in each place that shall have a strong loyalty to the foundation laid by the Global Council.

Second, their emphasis shall be ascertaining the need, supplying funds and sending personnel. Since in many cases there will be multiple countries involved in reaching one nation, there will need to be a clear definition of what is to be provided, by whom, and how it will be administered. The purpose of this commission shall be to coordinate the efforts of the FM outreach of the churches sending, the missionaries going, and the nations receiving. Since this could vary greatly from region to region or even area to area, then it is best decided on a regional basis. If a missionary is sent from one region to another region, the two regional commissions should work together. If there are funds being combined in a common treasury, proper guidelines for the receiving and disbursing of funds shall be formulated.¹¹⁰⁷

The Global Commission consisted of the following delegates: African Regional Director Jerry Richardson and delegate Randy Adams, Asian Regional Director Lynden Shalm and delegate Samuel Ma, Central America/Caribbean Regional Director John Hopkins and delegate Steve Shirley, Europe/Middle Eastern Regional Director Robert Rodenbush and delegate Sim Strickland, Pacific Regional Director Richard Denny and delegate Steve Willoughby, South American Regional Director Darry Crossley and delegate Bennie DeMerchant.

¹¹⁰⁷ Minutes: Global Commission for Missions (April 29, 2004).

The Regional Missionary Program

Until recently, sending missionaries had been considered the sole financial and administrative responsibility of the North American church. However, the exploding world population demanded an adjustment. For this transition the FMD needed a broad base of support from all sectors of the church. As in every new venture, there was anxiety, but once the new program was in place, it resolved conflicts, established priorities, and set the course for achievement.

The missionary family strained to take advantage of the many open doors of evangelism. Under the Regional Missionary Program, maturing fields were sending missionaries into unevangelized areas. The Global Council was a sending agency to oversee and administrate the evangelistic outreach. It was now recognized that the great commission was the responsibility of every nation, and many nations were now fulfilling this task by sending missionaries into the field.

The FMD had laid the groundwork necessary to pursue an effective and unerring course in world missions. The Regional Missionary Program, in which the more mature mission fields sent out missionaries into unevangelized areas, meant that confidence must be placed in the national leadership's ability to lead. Dedicated missionaries had trained this kind of leadership.

As a new beginning for regional missionary appointments that by policy must be approved by the Global Commissions for Missions (the missionary arm of the Global Council to provide a legal process for national missionaries to be appointed), this process spelled out the administrative responsibilities of dealing with unexpected situations. During the 1st Global Commission for Missions on April 29, 2004, a report listed eleven regional missionaries approved by the commission.

1. Africa

- a. Peter Mua, from Cameroon to Equatorial Guinea, appointed March 2002.

2. Asia

- a. No appointment requested

3. Central America/Caribbean

- a. Michael Herbert, from St. Croix to Caribbean St. John, appointed March 16, 2004
- b. Luís Vásquez, from Mexico to Cuba, appointed March 16, 2004
- c. Geraldo Guevarra, from Mexico to Spain, appointed by grandfather principle (he was already on location) and approved by the Global Commission for Missions for legality
- d. Waner Merisier, from San Martin to ABC Islands (Caracao), appointed March 16, 2004

4. Europe/Middle East

- a. Bagrat Hayrapetyan, from Greece to Armenia appointed December, 2003

5. Pacific

- a. Loudebin Delez, from Philippine Islands to Republic of Palau (already on location, and ratified by National Board August, 2004), approved by the Global Commission for Missions for legality

6. South America

- a. Cezar Augusto Moraes, from Brazil to Mozambique, appointed November 2001 (already on location and approved by the Global Commission for Missions for legality)
- b. Alcina Maria Santos Lima, from Brazil to Portugal, approved by Brazilian National Board, and endorsed by Regional Commissions for Missions February, 2004
- c. Geraldo Riascos, from Colombia to Panamá, approved by the Global Commission for Missions for legality
- d. Jaime Rodriguez, from Colombia to Panamá, approved by the Global Commission for Missions for legality¹¹⁰⁸

¹¹⁰⁸ Minutes: Global Commission for Missions (April 29, 2004).

Death of Evelyn Judd, Wife of Edwin Judd

Evelyn Minor and Edwin Judd were married on Thanksgiving Eve 1943. The course of their lives together carried them to Tupelo, Mississippi, and the Pentecostal Bible Institute, remaining on the staff there for five years, during which time they started a church in Shannon, Mississippi. Over the next fourteen years, Brother Judd served on the staff at Conquerors Bible College. He then moved to St. Louis to serve as FMD director of promotion, and then as regional field supervisor for South America, and they lived in Quito, Ecuador. Evelyn Judd was a faithful companion to Brother Judd's ministry and affected many lives in a most positive manner. She died on January 17, 2004.¹¹⁰⁹

The May 2004 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

During the May 2004 FMB sessions, the revision of CSI ministry was an important item. While the ministry was not limited to believers only, our people needed to be ministered to during times of significant damage and loss. The FMB received the report of G. R. Travis, CSI director, on the proposed changes for CSI and Mercy Medical Network and authorized Brother Travis to work on the necessary revisions and bring the proposal back to the board for approval. The board appointed Dr. Marcus Cobb to serve as medical director for Mercy Medical Network for a two-year term, and Dr. Crystal Jones to serve as assistant medical director for a two-year term.

Other board decisions included the following:

- To change field for Joseph and Jean Collins from Mexico to Portugal
- To approve trustees for the UPCI of Nigeria as proposed by the regional director of Africa
- To change field for David Brott from International Teaching Ministry to Missionary Envoy
- To approve the request of the Central America/Caribbean Region to change the name of the North American support group from Stormforce to CCMpact Team, and further approve the organization and structure for CCMpact as proposed
- To transfer the career missionary appointment of Henrietta Marquez to Associate in Missions for one year under Antonio Marquez's supervision, and appeal to her late husband's PIM donors to transfer their support¹¹¹⁰

Mercy Medical Network of CSI

The FMD's objective for this humanitarian work was to establish churches in areas heretofore closed to North American missionaries. This program was launched in 2004. It included medical professionals (physicians and registered nurses) who met on a quarterly basis to plan for the establishing of overseas medical clinics and to ensure the presence of a medical professional to give credibility to the operating clinic. These professionals worked and traveled without remuneration or travel expenses when working overseas. Their travel expenses were reimbursed only during the planning sessions at WEC. G. R. Travis was appointed by the FMB to function as the chairman of the CSI,¹¹¹¹ under which Mercy Medical Network operated. The Steering Committee members were as follows:

G. R. Travis	Chairman
Daniel Scott	Secretary
Angie Clark	Promotions
Dr. Marcus Cobb	Medical Director

¹¹⁰⁹ "In Memoriam," *Foreign Missions OnSite* (Spring 2004): 15.

¹¹¹⁰ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (May 3–6, 2004).

¹¹¹¹ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (August 19, 2004): 10.

Dr. Crystal Jones	Assistant Medical Director
Sandy Leaman, RN	Recruiter
Mark Majors	Team Coordinator
Steve Drury	Accounting & Fund Raising
Paul Mooney	Administrator of Procurement (Equipment & Supplies)
Lloyd Shirley	FMD Liaison
Scotty Slaydon	Missionary

The functioning clinics to initiate this ministry were in Pakistan, El Salvador, and Haiti. The FMB approved the Steering Committee members and initiating clinics.¹¹¹²

Kevin Blake Appointed as Faith Promise Director

Due to Mervyn Miller's resignation as Faith Promise director, the board recommended that Kevin Blake be appointed as Faith Promise director for a two-year term.¹¹¹³

The director of Faith Promise Ministries is charged to "aggressively promote the Faith Promise concept of raising missionary support throughout our fellowship in North America and around the world."

Kevin and Jeanine Blake received appointment to Ghana in October 1985. As the son of veteran missionaries, Larry and Ruth Blake, Kevin was already familiar with West Africa. In Ghana, he taught in the Bible school, directed the Bible correspondence course training program, headed up the national crusade team, served as Pentecostal Conquerors president, and ministered in local, national, and regional meetings.

After completing one term, the Blakes returned to North America where they ministered as assistant pastor in Euless, Texas, before accepting the pastorate in Sparta, Illinois. However, their love for missions never left. In January 1999 they were reappointed as missionaries to the North Caribbean/Bahamas. As area coordinator of the English-speaking North Caribbean, the Blakes pastored in Freeport, Bahamas, and had oversight of outreach efforts throughout the hundreds of islands that made up their area of responsibility.

Brother Blake was appointed the director of Faith Promise Ministries in 2004.¹¹¹⁴

David Brott Appointed as Missionary Envoy

The FMB created a new position to assist missionaries who found it difficult to stay away from the field for the extended time it took to raise an adequate budget. The missionary envoy would assist in raising funds for PIMs and projects. The board recommended David Brott for the position for a two-year term.¹¹¹⁵

Working under the direction of FMD's director of promotion, the missionary envoy "shall promote the Foreign Missions Division of the United Pentecostal Church International to the North American fellowship. He shall aggressively raise Partners in Missions support for assigned missionary accounts. He shall also raise funds for approved projects as prioritized by the FMAC."

David W. Brott, a 1971 graduate of Conquerors Bible College, and his wife, Kathy, received their first appointment to the Philippines in May 1983. He served as the Manila evangelism coordinator and president of Apostolic Center for Theological Studies. After one term, the Brotts returned to America and pastored Bethel Christian UPC in Omaha, Nebraska for ten years. He served on the district board for eight years and directed ministers' training seminars.

In January 1996, the Brotts were reappointed as missionaries. They were involved in the beginning of FMD's new leadership ministry and served as Leadership Development International's first coordinator. He served four years in this capacity and later served as the coordinator of LDI for the Pacific Region, field

¹¹¹² Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (May 3, 2004): 18.

¹¹¹³ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (May 4, 2004).

¹¹¹⁴ Dorsey Burk, *Insight: Foreign Missions Directory* (Hazelwood, MO: Word Aflame Press, 2004), 45.

¹¹¹⁵ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (May 4, 2004).

superintendent of Micronesia West, and area coordinator of Micronesia/Philippines. His 34-year ministry includes 20 years of pastoral experience.

He was appointed to serve as the missionary envoy in 2004.¹¹¹⁶

Death of FMB Member F. V. Shoemake

F. V. Shoemake was a commanding figure. Missionaries meeting the FMB commented many times that his personality was gentle, but when he asked questions, his gaze demanded an answer. Brother Shoemake pastored for many years in San Jose, California, and when he retired from the pulpit his son, Jimmy, became the pastor. James Kilgore wrote a tribute to this great man:

Outside of his immediate family, I probably knew F. V. Shoemake better than anyone—not just because he was married to my sister, but because early in my ministry, I looked to him for guidance and inspiration. F. V. Shoemake walked uprightly at home, just as he did in the pulpit; his integrity remained unblemished throughout his life. He loved his family and showed it. His sincere love for God’s work was outstanding and his love for foreign missions was second to none. He readily gave of his earthly goods and finances. He served on the FMB until the day he died. F. V. Shoemake was a godly man. His integrity remained unblemished throughout his life, and his sincerity in serving God and the people of God was without parallel. His sincere love for God’s work was outstanding; he was one of the most unselfish men I have ever known.¹¹¹⁷

F. V. Shoemake built houses and churches. Without doubt he could have been a multimillionaire, but he chose rather to be a builder of men. His earnest response to the call of God far surpassed his earthly talents and professional abilities. He was a Christian and a fisher of men, and his life would long be a testimony to all who were blessed by his far-reaching ministry.

Death of Stanley Warren Chambers¹¹¹⁸

The Pentecostal world stopped for a short while as the funeral service for former General Superintendent Stanley W. Chambers was held at New Life Center, Bridgeton, Missouri, on June 5, 2004. Over the years through many dangers, toil, and difficulties, he was an outstanding source of strength and encouragement for the UPCI. At the merger that formed the UPC Stanley Chambers was too young to serve as general secretary, but a conference floor vote waived the rule, and he was elected. After serving many years in that position, he was elected as general superintendent.

After retiring as general superintendent, he was elected superintendent of the Missouri District. After his tenure as district superintendent, he asked to serve as a missionary replacement and spent many happy hours on the field. He also assisted his son-in-law and daughter, Robert and Jerolyn Kelley, in Scotland.

Ministers gathered from across the United States and Canada to say their final farewell to the last remaining official to participate in the merger that formed the UPC. Participants included General Superintendent Kenneth Haney, Garry Tracy, Jerry Jones, Cleveland Becton, sons-in-law Robert Bentley and Robert Kelley, Stanley O. Gleason, Stephen Willeford, Harry E. Scism, Ronnie Guidroz, Jerry Green, Murrell Ewing, Robert Whalen, Jesse Williams, Paul Price, and Nathaniel A. Urshan.

“In honor of Brother Chambers’s sixty-four years of ministry, the Chambers Scholarship Fund was established to provide financial assistance for young ministers pursuing theological training so that the truth of this gospel may continue to spread around the world.”¹¹¹⁹

¹¹¹⁶ Dorsey Burk, *Insight*, 46–47.

¹¹¹⁷ James Kilgore, “A Tribute to Elder F. V. Shoemake,” *Pentecostal Herald* (June 2004): 56.

¹¹¹⁸ “S. W. Chambers,” Memorial Service Brochure, June 5, 2004.

¹¹¹⁹ *Ibid.*

New Missionary Personnel—2004

The July 2004 *Pentecostal Herald* lists the following missionary appointments:

- IMs Daniel and Debbie Barkley to Chile.
- IMs Lonnie James and Demarys Burton to Venezuela.
- IMs Danny and Sherry Davis to South Africa.
- IMs Patrick and Jean Groves to Sudan/Kenya.
- IMs Joel and Lisa Richardson to Gabon.
- IMs Charles and Stacey Robinette to Switzerland.
- IMs John and Sherri Hemus to the United Kingdom.
- IMs Terry and Cindy McFarland to Ireland.
- IMs Marcus and Renee Brainos to France.
- IMs John and Vonda Guidry to Spain.
- IMs Carter and Joanna Moore to Fiji/Tonga/Samoa.
- IMs Brent and Jennifer Schreckhise to Honduras.
- IMs Shane and Dena Hayes to San Andres Island.
- CMs Daniel and Judy Schreckhise to Furlough Replacement.
- IMs Edward and Mary Simmons to Thailand.
- IMs Patrick and Jean Groves to Sudan/Kenya.¹¹²⁰

Pentecost Sunday Reports from the Field¹¹²¹

Reports came from many areas on Pentecostal Sunday, including areas new to the message of Pentecost:

Malta: Kirby and Mary Parker reported that sixteen attended their Pentecost Sunday activities, a 100 percent increase over their first Pentecost Sunday in June 2003. They thanked the Lord for this progress. Seven nationalities were represented: six Maltese, three Americans, three Filipinos, one Norwegian, one Chinese, one Moroccan, and one Brit!

Hong Kong: Stephen and Lynette O'Donnell reported that twenty-seven people received the Holy Ghost in the international church.

France: John and Anne Nowacki were thankful for their 2004 Pentecostal Convention attended by more than eight hundred people. All of their churches were represented, and all of their ministers were there except two who were ill. At least twenty-four people received the Holy Ghost and ten were baptized in Jesus' name. The messages that FM Director Bruce Howell preached in the two services greatly inspired everyone who attended.

Trinidad: Gary and Kristi Landaw reported that despite torrential rains throughout the weekend, at least forty-five people received the Holy Ghost, a wonderful victory. They appreciated Chris Shearer's ministry and word of faith.

Okinawa, Japan: Rufus and Pam Parker and David and Angela Doan reported that American military personnel and Japanese alike danced, shouted, and rejoiced in the Lord in special services over Pentecost Sunday weekend. One Okinawan received the Holy Ghost.

Austria: Harold and Helen Kinney reported three people baptized in Vienna with a Pentecost Sunday attendance of 117.

Vanuatu: Lee and Becky Sherry reported that in one church thirteen were filled with the Spirit on Pentecost Sunday.

¹¹²⁰ Foreign Missions, "New Missionary Appointments," *Pentecostal Herald* (July 2004): 37.

¹¹²¹ Foreign Missions, "Pentecost Sunday Reports," *Pentecostal Herald* (September 2004): 40.

Dominican Republic: Steve and Kari Shirley reported over 120 people filled with the Holy Ghost in Pentecost Sunday services.

The Netherlands: Mike and Dianne Tuttle reported that Spring Bible Camp and Pentecost exploded in Holland! In the combined services they had six baptized in Jesus' name, at least three filled with the Holy Ghost, and a good number of youth that prayed through to a new dimension in their walk with God. Harold Linder was guest speaker at the Spring Bible Camp.

Poland: Ray and Judi Nicholls reported that they baptized Agnieszka, a sixteen-year-old girl, a new member of their church in Legnica. She told Judi that she wanted "the fire that I have heard about."

American Samoa: Bennie and Pat Blunt reported that two received the Holy Ghost in Pago Pago, American Samoa, on Pentecost Sunday!

Malawi: Phil and Twila Tolstad reported that in services in Mulanie held by Bible school students on Pentecost Sunday five received the Holy Ghost. Two received the Holy Ghost in Miracle Tabernacle in Bvum-bwue. In the newly established church in Dedza, nine people received the Holy Ghost and a deaf man was healed. Ten were baptized and five received the Holy Ghost in Zomba; three received the Holy Ghost in Chikwawa.

Bolivia: Darrell and Cynthia Collins ended the "Times of Refreshing" conference in La Paz, Bolivia, on Pentecost Sunday with a crusade service, and ninety-eight people received the Holy Ghost! There were also several miracles of healing. One lady who was deaf in her right ear was healed. Also, one man who had suffered a lot of back pain after having back surgery was instantly healed.

Madagascar: Chris and Paula Richardson reported that in the capital city of Antananarivo, with about fifty churches reporting, 149 received the Holy Ghost on Pentecost Sunday.

Hungary: Mark and Cammy Kondas reported baptizing twenty-three in Jesus' name on Pentecost Sunday in Northeast Hungary.

South Africa: Jim and Pat Hall reported an outstanding Pentecost Sunday in Chatsworth, South Africa, with Pastor Gordon. The church was full with several visitors. Brother Hall preached on the subject "God Is Not Through with You Yet." The altar was full.

Windward Islands: Henry and Sharon Ritchie reported that one local church had over two hundred people, the most ever in their Sunday night service.

Czech Republic: Roger and Becky Buckland reported a record attendance of fifty-four people in Prague, with guest speaker, Paul Mooney, and three baptized in Jesus' name.

The August 2004 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

The FMB interviewed the missionaries who had returned to North America after serving on the foreign field. The board addressed other situations during this SOM:

- To approve William Markham to make three return trips to the field during furlough due to legal matters and his leadership requirements in Spain and Portugal
- To accept Brian and Lakelie Williams's resignation as CMs to Kazakhstan
- To recommend Christopher and Michelle Weber for upgrade to CM status
- To recommend Karl and Mary Smith for upgrade to CM status
- To authorize the establishment of a "Compassion Lebanon" account
- To recommend Scott and Linda Guinn for upgrade to CM status¹¹²²

Official Registration in Israel after Fifty Years of Struggle

Robert and Beth McFarland reported that after fifty years of struggle by Apostolics trying to register a UPCI presence in Israel, the battle suddenly ended in victory on September 14, 2004. The UPCI was now registered. Brother McFarland wrote, "I am so thankful to report after many long days of prayer,

¹¹²² Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (August 23–26, 2004).

fasting and holding on to God's promises, the registration of the International Biblical College is now in my hands."¹¹²³

The October 2004 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

The FMB had constantly addressed the issue of harmony between the ministries under its administrative care. The general director of Foreign Missions and his predecessors realized that it was important to bring the FMB members into full understanding of the function of each ministry. It was their opinion that the Mercy Medical Network would function more productively with a 501(c) (3) IRS status. Therefore they authorized the MMN Steering Committee to proceed with plans to incorporate Apostolic Medical Society International; the final draft of incorporation would be presented at the February 2005 FMB meeting.

Additional board decisions included the following:

- To appoint Cylanda Nickel as secretary of the MK Association for a term of two years
- To appoint Francis Mason as the board representative to the MK Association Steering Committee for a two-year term
- To appoint Lloyd Shirley to serve as the Leadership Development International coordinator for a two-year term
- To appoint Manuel Rogers to serve as the board representative for the Steering Committee of the Veterans of Foreign Missions
- To change of field for Richard and Margaret Carver from Australia/South Pacific to Australia/South Pacific/Papua New Guinea
- To change of field for Allan and Georgene Shalm from South Asia/Afghanistan to Pakistan/Afghanistan
- To accept Justin and Shera Argabright's resignation as CMs to Mozambique
- To approve the Guatemalan church's request to elect its own superintendent
- To change of field for Shane Hayes from San Andres Islands to San Andres Islands/Colombia, and resolve that Shane Hayes remain in the Central America/Caribbean Region under John Hopkins's supervision, and further resolve that Shane Hayes endeavor to visit the two main Colombian conferences each year to honor their support in official matters
- To recommend Bryan Abernathy for appointment as the director of promotion for a two-year term
- To resolve to proceed with plans to allow missionaries that are not U.S. citizens to obtain green card status at personal expense, and further resolve that a report be given to the board in February 2005
- To express sincere appreciation to J. S. Leaman for twenty-nine years of service to the FMD as director of promotion

The 2004 Foreign Missions Director's Report¹¹²⁴

In his annual report to the General Board during the 2004 General Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah, Bruce Howell expressed deep appreciation to the pastors and saints of the local churches for their continued financial support. The boundaries of the UPCI were being increasingly extended while other organizations were downsizing due to dwindling donations.

He honored John S. Leaman and his wife, Shirley, who had given twenty-nine years of their lives to the FMD. During their tenure the number of missionaries increased from seventy-four to 612.

¹¹²³ Robert McFarland, "Israel after Fifty Years of Struggle," *Pentecostal Herald* (January 2005): 7.

¹¹²⁴ Bruce Howell, "Annual Report to the General Board," September 2004.

Field Statistics

Field statistics reflected that the constituency had grown from 1,337,472 to 1,408,437 over the last year. The separation of the work in Ethiopia due a doctrinal issue resulted in a decrease, but the problem, while expected to be resolved, remains in discussion as of this writing.

There were 19,230 churches and preaching points, 11,749 national ministers, with 80,869 baptized in water and 88,740 filled with the Holy Ghost during this reporting period. The UPCI was now operating in 170 countries of the world.

The missionary family consisted of 243 CMs, 111 IMs, and 241 AIMers, equaling 595 North American missionaries, and the seventeen regional missionaries made a total of 612 UPCI missionaries. Four new fields had opened: Mongolia, Tuvalu, Iceland, and Azerbaijan.

Compassion Services International

G. R. Travis was the director of CSI, the UPCI humanitarian arm. Through Mercy Medical Network, under the umbrella of CSI, during tours to Pakistan and El Salvador, 2,059 patients were treated, 1,360 Bible studies were given, 878 children were in children's services, churches received fifty-five new members, and four new cell groups were formed.

2003–04 Financial Statistics

Foreign Missions experienced another record year with cash contributions of \$22,264,961.05, direct offering credits of \$3,230,194.42, Youth Division's SFC contribution of \$462,759.74, and Ladies Ministries' Mothers Memorial contribution of \$408,000, for a total record offering of \$26,365,915.21, an increase of \$509,544.59.

The "Wait" of the World

Bruce Howell stated, "We are thankful for the countries where we have established churches and hundreds of thousands of constituents, but something is weighing heavily on me, and that is the wait of the countries and multitudes that still have not heard. May I share with you the weight of what I feel?"

"There are 138,000 more lost people in the world tonight than there were last night. When you arrive at your church next Sunday, there will be about 1 million more lost people in the world than when you arrived there the week before.

"Each year ends with about 50 million more lost people in the world than when the year began. Around the world about 146,000 people will die within the next twenty-four hours. Most of them will not know the plan of salvation that we find in Acts 2:38.

"A line composed of all of the lost people in the world would circle the earth thirty times. This line grows at the rate of twenty miles per day.

"And while they wait, I feel the weight. Let's reach our world for Jesus. Please do not be a spectator, but join with us as we endeavor to do something about the wait or is that the weight?"¹¹²⁵
Below are the "Wait of the World" nations and dependencies without a UPCI missionary or work:

Africa: Angola, Cape Verde Islands, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Republic of Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Mayotte, Sao Tome and Principe Senegal, Western Sahara

Asia: Afghanistan, Bhutan, British Indian Ocean Territory, North Korea, Macau, Maldives, Mongolia

Central America/Caribbean: Anguilla, Araba, Barbuda, Bermuda, Dominica

¹¹²⁵ Bruce Howell, "The Wait of the World," *Pentecostal Herald* (October 2004): 25.

Europe/Middle East: Algeria, Andorra, Bulgaria, Channel Islands, Gibraltar, Iceland, Iran, Kyrgyzstan, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Isle of Oman, San Marino, Slovenia, Svalbard, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Yemen

Pacific: Brunei, Darussalam, Christmas Island, Cocos (Keeling) Islands, Cook Islands, French Polynesia, Johnston Atoll, Kiribati, Nauru, New Caledonia, Niue, Norfolk Island, Timor-Leste, Tokelau, Tuvalu, Wallis and Futuna

General Conference 2004—Salt Lake City

Excitement filled the air as UPCI missionaries entered Salt Lake City's Delta Center from eight staging areas around the arena carrying large national flags and praising God. This began the FM service at the 2004 General Conference. With "The Wait of the World" as the theme, the service was directed by Darrell Johns and Phil DePriest and a committee comprised of Bruce Howell, John Leaman, Mike Williams, Norman Paslay, Ron Macey, Paul Mooney, L. J. Harry, Scott Graham, Dorsey Burk, and Laura Demos Payne.

From the opening song by the Christian Life College choir directed by Laura Payne, to the first message by Mike Williams, to the unprecedented PIM fund-raising by Paul Mooney, to the emcees, Ron Macey and Norman Paslay, God's presence was supernaturally manifested. Fifteen missionary families would be sent back to the field as a result of the sacrificial giving during the service.

The service's second sermon by FM Director Bruce Howell crowned the service. In speaking about the burden to reach our world, he told the story "One-Way Missionaries" about pioneer missionaries of old who packed their belongings in their caskets, signifying their commitment to their calling. At the close of the service, 211 people filled out forms, expressing their desire to become involved in foreign missions, and dropping them in a casket Brother Howell had used as a visual aid.¹¹²⁶

John Leaman Retires

In November 1975 the FMB asked John S. Leaman to serve as the director of promotion and publications. For the next fifteen years promoting Faith Promise giving consumed his weekends while the weekdays found him attending to the general affairs of Foreign Missions. During these years he made several trips to visit missionaries on location.

At the 1990 General Conference in New Orleans, Brother Leaman assumed the responsibility of the coordinator of Special Ministries (later known as Education/AIM). Under his leadership the AIM program continued to grow while overseas Bible schools maintained a high standard of training.

In September 1994 the FMB asked Brother Leaman to return to his former position as director of promotion. Brother Leaman continues to hold Faith Promise services on the weekends.

Brother Leaman tendered his resignation during the February 2004 FMB meeting. Even though he resigned from office responsibilities, effective December 31, 2004, he continues to promote Faith Promise giving. During the General Conference in Salt Lake City, the FMD honored him for twenty-nine years of continuous service.¹¹²⁷

Bryan Abernathy Chosen as Director of Promotion

In September 2004, upon FMB recommendation, the General Board appointed Bryan Abernathy to serve as director of promotion. Brother Abernathy brought a unique perspective to his new position. First, as a teenager he went to Africa with his missionary parents, Charles and Janet Abernathy, who served in Malawi, Zimbabwe, and South Africa, and knew firsthand the sacrifices and blessings of being a missionary—including deputation.

¹¹²⁶ Dorsey Burk, "2004 General Conference," *OnSite* (Winter 2004): 12.

¹¹²⁷ Dorsey Burk, "Rev. and Mrs. John S. Leaman," *OnSite* (Winter 2004): 1–2.

Second, he understood the responsibilities of a district FM director and the challenges of scheduling missionary travel.¹¹²⁸

Isaac A. Keyes Memorial Center—Thailand

The Isaac A. Keyes Memorial Center for Christian Studies was dedicated February 10, 2004, near Chiang Rai, Thailand. Randy Keyes, assistant general superintendent of the UPCI, and son of Isaac A. Keyes, preached the dedication message. The future of the work of the UPCI around the world depends on these learning institutions as outlined in our International Articles of Faith.

In February 2004, Bonnie Keyes, her sons, Randy and Rick, their families, and a delegation led by I. J. Cunningham joined National Superintendent Chaiyong Wattanchant, board members, and M. Jackson and Michiko Coolbaugh in the dedication of the beautiful facilities. The FMD expressed special thanks to the Billy Cole family, who pioneered the work, the Keyes family and their congregations, who sacrificially gave to make this a reality, and the leadership of the Thai church, who gave their support to the Coolbaughs. The Coolbaughs worked untiringly to see a piece of property in the midst of rice fields become a beautiful complex for training apostolic men and women.¹¹²⁹

Foreign Missions in 2005

The year 2005 dawned with tremendous challenges facing the FMD. Uncertain economics caused a great deal of anxiety. However, United Pentecostals refused to bend to the pressure and maximized their financial commitments to the missionary family.

FM ministries reached into every level of social structure. Chinese Evangelism was coordinated by Stephen O'Donnell, CSI and Mercy Medical Network by G. R. Travis, Faith Promise by Kevin Blake, Global Campus Ministry by Monte Showalter, Global Training Institute and Leadership Development International by Lloyd Shirley, Multimedia by Bryan Abernathy, Veterans of Foreign Missions Association by Jerry Holt, World Network of Prayer by Dorsey Burk, Missionary Kids Association by Philip Flowers, president, and the Missionary Envoy was David Brott.

Daniel Scott, executive administrative assistant to the general director of Foreign Missions, coordinated the many committees and special meetings of the FMD. The tasks of the division for 2005 appeared monumental but exciting. Planning for Progress sessions of the FM Administrative Committee in January and August, FMB sessions in February, May, and September, CSI meetings in January, April, August, and October, and the General Conference Crusade Committee, and the many tasks of the General Conference were among the major sessions that coordinated the mechanism of foreign missions under Bruce Howell's administration. With an organization so extensive, the kingdom of darkness exerted every effort to thwart progress, but the UPCI stayed on track!

The 2005 Foreign Missions Board

Administrative Committee: Bruce A. Howell, general director; Carl H. Varnell, secretary; Bryan D. Abernathy, director of promotion; and Lloyd L. Shirley, director of Education/AIM.

Pastoral members: D. D. Davis, Richard Flowers, B. J. Hurst, Darrell Johns, G. A. Mangun, Francis W. Mason, Paul D. Mooney, Manuel W. Rogers, and Jimmy Shoemake.

Honorary members: R. P. Bell, T. C. Bonnette, W. H. (Billy) Cole, Edwin E. Judd, Fred Kinzie, J. S. Leaman, and Harry E. Scism.

¹¹²⁸ Dorsey Burk, "Welcome Brian Abernathy," *OnSite* (Winter 2004): 2.

¹¹²⁹ Bruce Howell, "Isaac A. Keyes UPC Center," *Pentecostal Herald* (September 2004): 10.

Regional directors: Jerry R. Richardson, Africa; Lynden Shalm, Asia; John F. Hopkins, Central America/Caribbean; Robert K. Rodenbush, Europe/Middle East; Richard A. Denny, Pacific; and Darry V. Crossley, South America.¹¹³⁰

The February 2005 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

A heavy midwinter schedule combined with the increasing growth of the overseas church brought additional items to the agenda. Changing times created the need to restructure the responsibilities of the office officials. The general director of Foreign Missions took advantage of John Leaman's resignation as director of promotion to make a number of adjustments in management. John Leaman was recommended for appointment as an honorary FMB member.

Other FMB decisions included the following:

- To recommend Darry Crossley's appointment as president of the UPC of Peru for a two-year term.
- To accept the recommendation from the Committee on Associated Persons and adopt the name change to Associated Ministers.
- To give a 3 percent cost of living adjustment increase to all missionaries, post-secondary education MKs, retired missionaries, retired regional directors, and all retired missionary programs.
- To approve Cathy Killoren for upgrade from IM to CM.
- To change of field for Phillip and Twyla Tolstad from South Africa/Malawi to Malawi/Mozambique.
- To accept Robert Frizzell's resignation as area coordinator of Southeast Asia.
- To accept Robert Frizzell's resignation as official representative to Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Thailand, and Myanmar.
- To approve the constitution of the UPC of the Central African Republic.
- To approve the constitution of the UPC of the Republic of Gabon.
- To recommend Karl Smith's appointment as missionary superintendent of South Africa for a two-year term.
- To approve Robert and Dorothy Arthur's resignation/retirement effective at the FMB meeting in February 2005.
- To approve Robert and Candice Harris's resignation effective December 31, 2004.
- To approve Else Lund's resignation/retirement effective at the FMB meeting in February 2005.
- To approve Derrald and Barbara Hilderbrand's resignation effective January 1, 2005.
- To approve Craig and Lyna Sully's resignation effective December 13, 2004.
- To approve Russell and Adriane Riddick's resignation effective December 26, 2004.
- To approve Kevin and Cathy Nix's resignation effective January 17, 2005.
- To approve the Pentecostal Ministry working under the charter of the Brethren of Christ in Cuba as explained in the report of the regional director of Central America/Caribbean. While we continue to pursue a legal charter in Cuba under the UPCI, the Pentecostal Ministry as defined above will be our means of evangelizing Cuba at this time.¹¹³¹

¹¹³⁰ Dorsey Burk, "Foreign Missions Board Members," *OnSite* (Spring 2005): 2.

¹¹³¹ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (February 14–18, 2005).

Ecuador

During a previous national conference, the Ecuadorian leadership realized that even the larger convention halls could not contain the growth the country had enjoyed. From the very beginning, Ecuador has been a fruitful field. Leonardo Becerra, national president of the UPC of Ecuador, reported that in the second quarter of 2004, 230 people were baptized and 120 received the Holy Ghost.

During the July 2004 National Convention, the stadium was packed with fifteen thousand Pentecostals rejoicing in the Holy Ghost. National vice president of the work in Argentina, Raul DeAsis, spoke under the anointing. It was impossible to count those who received the Holy Ghost as they crammed into the altar area. Brother Becerra said, “Only God knows how many were filled with the Holy Ghost!”¹¹³²

Australia

Chester and Carole Terry reported wonderful services at their National Ladies Retreat in New South Wales, Australia. Over two hundred ladies attended; three were baptized, and several received the Holy Ghost. Nancy Grandquist did a marvelous job, and the retreat was so blessed.¹¹³³

The Ministry of Compassion Services International

An earthquake that struck off the coast of Sumatra on Sunday, December 26, 2004, triggered a deadly tsunami that devastated Asia, affecting Indian Ocean nations from Indonesia to Somalia. The waves took the lives of hundreds of thousands and left millions homeless and displaced.

On Friday, January 7, 2005, CSI’s SMART (Strategic Management Assessment Response Team) members Mark Majors, Danny Smith, Rodney Ryder, Andrew Tennyson, and Randy Clark, RN, departed Kennedy International Airport in New York City, bound for Sri Lanka. The six-member North American team consisted of professionals from the fields of medicine, international relations, international missions, and disaster assistance.

They were met by Regional Director Lynden Shalm and Prince Mathiasz. The Sri Lankan government welcomed the team with open arms, and they were certified by the Government Information Department, Ministry of Health, and U.S.A.I.D. CSI was the first humanitarian organization to distribute food, water, and medical care into many of the remote areas of Sri Lanka where over thirty-eight thousand were killed.

When the other SMART members departed Sri Lanka, Randy “Butch” Clark, clinical services coordinator, remained behind for an additional week to provide much-needed medical assistance and to work with the next CSI disaster assistance team who arrived in Colombo on Sunday, January 16, from Singapore.

Regional Director Lynden Shalm, who remained in Sri Lanka to help in further disaster assistance, was a huge asset to the team. Raised in India, he was a veteran missionary with a vast knowledge of South Asia.¹¹³⁴ UPCI constituents not only prayed but gave over \$600,000 to assist in the relief effort. Construction teams provided temporary housing, and mobile medical clinics remained on location to provide continual service to the injured.

In February 2005, 221 people were baptized in Jesus’ name in the Northeast Region of Vietnam. In the Central Region, CSI funds repaired six pastors’ homes destroyed by flooding and typhoons. The North Region reported several hundred converts. In the South Region, over 100 mountain people received the Holy Ghost.

¹¹³² Leonardo Becerra quoted in Darry Crossley, “Ecuador National Conference,” *Pentecostal Herald* (January 2005): 7.

¹¹³³ Chester Terry, “Ladies’ Retreat,” *Foreign Missions OnSite* (Winter 2005): 6.

¹¹³⁴ Dorsey Burk, “Tsunami in Asia,” *OnSite* (Spring 2005): 1–2.

When Hurricane Ivan hit Grenada, Windward Islands, Carlton Jackson interrupted his deputation long enough to fly there to check on the saints and church properties. It was nothing short of a miracle that he and Pastor David Jackson, Hohenwald, Tennessee, were allowed into the country. There was no food, water, or electricity on the island. Entire homes were flattened, roofs were torn off, and cars were crushed beneath trees and electricity poles.

Dana Jackson wrote:

Upon arrival Brother Jackson said that it was worse than he could have imagined. There is not a tree standing on the Island, and 90% of all of the homes were destroyed. However, the house that we were renting was untouched. My husband called crying to tell me that it was a miracle. Brother Jackson will be setting up the Mercy Medical Network/Compassion Services International to use our home as a base . . . From what the local people are saying, Grenada has been set back thirty years.¹¹³⁵

On Sunday, September 12, 2004, the MMN/CSI team met Carlton and David Jackson in Grenada. They spent five days going from one village to another, distributing food and water and assisting with any medical care that was needed. They laid tarps over some of the church roofs to prevent water from getting into the buildings. MMN, the medical arm of CSI, was the first medical assistance to enter Grenada after the hurricane.

July 2005 “Focal Points”

“Focal Points,” a monthly, single-sheet FM publication designed as a line of information to the local church, highlighted newsworthy events. Below are some highlights from the July 2005 issue:

Togo: The pastor and forty members of a Trinitarian church affiliated with the UPC in Togo were now attending the Bible school.

Benin: During the national conference, twenty-one people received the Holy Ghost. Many were healed, and many experienced deliverance.

Senegal: Eight people were baptized in Jesus’ name in Dakar, the capital of Senegal.

Haiti: Ron and Terry Brian reported that during the last week of April, the church in Sous Dallas, Haiti, pastored by Brother LaPorte, held a week of street meetings. Many repented and thirty-six people received the Holy Ghost.

Else Lund—Forty-two Years as a Missionary

Else Lund was appointed as a UPCI missionary to Liberia in October 1962 and arrived on the field the following April. She faithfully and effectively served the Lord in Africa and in Denmark, after her appointment to International Teaching. In March 2005, the FMB accepted her letter of resignation. At the time of her retirement, she was the senior UPCI missionary, having been under appointment longer than any other missionary.

In her letter of resignation she stated:

For over forty-two years I have been allowed to be a career missionary with the United Pentecostal Church International. These have been the happiest years of my life. If it were possible I would be happy to do it over and over again—except the part from November 6, 2003, when I broke my hip. When I was first appointed to Fassama, Liberia, in October 1962, the only other work there was in Bomi Hills and the only other country in Africa with UPC missionaries was South Africa, and they were Brother and Sister [E. L.] Freeman. Look at Africa now! How great is our God! At that time I was so happy to be in Africa, in the jungle mission at Fassama.

¹¹³⁵ Dana Jackson, “Mercy Medical Network Responds,” *OnSite* (Winter 2005): 13.

I recall one night as a group of us were returning from a village service held at Bella Balma, about an hour and a half walk one way. We were walking single file as the path was very narrow, and some were talking as loudly as possible, probably to scare any wild animals around. Some were carrying lanterns, and some of us had flashlights. Then I thought to myself, “I could spend the rest of my life here.” It was so satisfying carrying the gospel to the uttermost parts of the earth.

I transferred from Fassama, Liberia, to Accra, Ghana, in 1971 where Brother and Sister Rodenbush and their son Rob were. Brother Rodenbush had already begun the College of the Bible where I also taught. I took for granted that I would spend the rest of my life there. I felt indeed in the perfect will of God. Then in 1997 I began to feel another change coming. In November 1998 I came under International Teaching Ministries and have enjoyed teaching from country to country.

Before I left Liberia, we began to see more of a move of God since more nationals were taking part. In Ghana there was great revival. As pastors learned the truth, they would bring in their whole churches. They were repenting, being baptized in the name of Jesus for the remission of sins and being filled with the Holy Ghost. It was miraculous! It was wonderful! The Bible school was the key . . . the training of the nationals. What a great work!

I have had the wonderful privilege of seeing the hand of God in multiplied salvation of souls, healings, miracles, and untold things. We have been lost in the fog in our UPC mission plane, the Tri-pacer, over the jungle of Liberia; and then a couple of years later, we had a plane wreck on the mission air strip at Bomi Hills in the same Tri-Pacer. Needless to say the plane was totaled, but we all walked away. I have been in coups, attempted coups, an accident, a break-in, several attempted break-ins, civil war, malaria untold times, and on and on. Jesus will never fail you. Praise His holy name!

I have been most privileged to be a career missionary with the United Pentecostal Church International. I love this church. The call of God is the most wonderful thing under heaven.¹¹³⁶

In 1996, in honor of her silver anniversary of ministry in Ghana, the Ghanaian Ladies Auxiliary gave her an authentic kente cloth and officially proclaimed Sister Lund the “Queen Mother of the UPCI of Ghana.”

In 1998 Sister Lund was appointed to the International Teaching Ministry, becoming an itinerant teacher, traveling from country to country. While most of her teaching was in Africa, she spent several months in Denmark, the land of her ancestry.

Else Lund was an extraordinary lady who made an extraordinary impact on the church. The FMD honored her and gave thanks for her ministry.

Death of H. D. McCrury

H. D. McCrury, former missionary to Indonesia, went home to be with the Lord on Friday, February 25, 2005. Brother and Sister McCrury served as career missionaries from 1971 to 1985. Only eternity will reveal the effects of their ministry both in foreign missions and North America. Brother McCrury was a faithful and loyal supporter of foreign missions and after retiring was involved for several years as the Tennessee District FM director.¹¹³⁷

Because of the Times 2005

Because of the Times, the independent conference of The Pentecostals of Alexandria hosted by Pastors G. A. and Anthony Mangun, had been a great supporter of foreign missions. Each year missionaries were presented to the great host of pastors from across North America, who in many cases supplied the needed financial support to return them to the field. Dorsey Burk reported:

At this year’s Because of the Times, a record breaking \$18,152 in Partners in Missions pledges was raised for thirty-three missionaries, representing a \$4,600 over the amount raised in 2004. Because of the

¹¹³⁶ “Forty-two Years,” *OnSite* (Summer 2005): 1, 6.

¹¹³⁷ H. D. McCrury, Missionary to Indonesia—Promoted,” *OnSite* (Spring 2005): 12.

phenomenal response, four of the six missionaries who were featured this year were ready to return to the field soon after the conference . . . Thank you, Pastor Anthony Mangun, for opening your church and your heart to missionaries.¹¹³⁸

Death of Former General Superintendent N. A. Urshan

On March 11, 2005, Nathaniel A. Urshan, former general superintendent of the UPCI graduated from this life to his eternal home. He was born August 29, 1920. From the beginning of his ministry, Brother Urshan played a pivotal role in UPCI affairs, first as an evangelist who touched the lives of countless thousands, as pastor of Calvary Tabernacle in Indianapolis, Indiana, as a district official, and finally as general superintendent. He was a friend and brother to the fellowship as he traveled to support the work of God. Nathaniel and Jean's ministry is legendary to both the Home Missions and Foreign Missions Divisions.

The funeral service was shared by the world as stateside pastors as well as missionaries on the foreign field watched it online. Participants were General Superintendent Kenneth F. Haney, General Secretary Jerry Jones, Jessie F. Williams, James L. Kilgore, Harry E. Scism, James R. Blackshear, Paul R. Price, C. M. Becton, Paul D. Mooney, Jack Cunningham, Edwin Harper, Daniel L. Butler, James A. Johnson, Robert W. Caveness, Stephen Goldsmith, Joel A. Urshan, and Jonathan Urshan. Anthony Mangun was the emcee. Tim Goeglein represented President George W. Bush. Interment was in Washington Park East Cemetery, Indianapolis, Indiana, with Robert Rodenbush, Arless Glass, and Ronald L. Guidroz officiating.¹¹³⁹

Death of James David Flynn

James Flynn was born January 24, 1955. He died on April 25, 2005. His work in Georgia of the former Soviet Union will long be remembered. It is fitting that William Turner, who worked alongside him, wrote a tribute to his friend:

When I think of James Flynn, I think of his boyish good humor, his love for the Lord and for Christie, his loyal and cooperative spirit, but most of all, I remember him for his courage. He continued on the journey when lesser men would have turned back to more familiar and comfortable places. He fought the good fight until he finished his course. He never gave in . . .

James and Christie passed through the Valley of tears in their work in Georgia, and they dug down deeper until they made it a well. Out of pain came power. Out of what seemed a failure came fruitfulness . . .

Now the Lord has chosen a new path for them to walk. It was God's time to take Brother James David Flynn home to glory. Somehow in the midst of sorrow, a new path of blessing and service will open for Sister Christie.¹¹⁴⁰

May 2005 Foreign Missions Board Sessions

Issues that confronted the board necessitated policy changes from time to time. Because SFC no longer was responsible for repairing missionary vehicles, and since each missionary contributed to the vehicle repair fund, the board changed the name from SFC Auto Insurance Fund to Auto Accident and Theft Fund.

Since the definition of "all risk" insurance was somewhat misleading, the name was changed from All Risk Insurance to Personal Replacement Policy in order to identify it with the replacement of insured items.

¹¹³⁸ Dorsey Burk, "Because of the Times," *OnSite* (Spring 2005): 2.

¹¹³⁹ "Nathaniel A. Urshan, Man of Destiny," Memorial Service Brochure, March 17, 2005.

¹¹⁴⁰ William Turner quoted in Dorsey Burk, "Tribute to James David Flynn," *OnSite* (Summer 2005): 16.

The increasing number of ministers traveling to the field to assist the missionary program necessitated changes in the policy that coordinated this activity:

Resolved that we change the name for Associated Persons to Associated Ministers and recommend all individuals who qualify be approved for the new status.

Be it resolved that we amend the resolution to approve Associate Persons and Associate Ministers and offer an appointment in both categories.¹¹⁴¹

James Kilgore met with the FMB to communicate his burden and to offer his services to overseas ministry. He presented a plan to pay his own expenses through offerings; he would not accept offerings that interfered with PIM pledges. The board gave him the official title of Associated Minister.

Below are further decisions made during this session:

- To approve a plan of action for restarting the work in Ethiopia.
- To abolish from the policy the option for furlough after two years.
- To approve Mark and Eve-Ann Drost's resignation as IMs to Mexico.
- To accept Glenn Wakefield's resignation as an IM to Mexico.
- To approve Robert and Derethia Forbush's retirement as CM prayer evangelists.
- To approve up to \$20,000 for the program, Open Afghanistan, from the Open Door fund.
- To approve an increase in the minimum PIM pledge from \$25 to \$50.
- To change of field for Raymond and Michele Sloan from Uruguay to the Dominican Republic and recommend an upgrade from IM to CM status.
- To approve the Constitution and Bylaws for the UPC of Poland.
- To approve the Missionary Field Fellowship for policy France/Monaco.
- To approve the Missionary Field Fellowship policy for Greece.
- To accept Mervyn Miller's resignation as director of Faith Promise Ministries with reservation and appreciation.
- To resolve that FMD continue to provide personal support to Henrietta Marquez until the May board meeting.
- To approve disbursement of up to \$30,000 from the Open Door Evangelism fund to launch the Regional Missions Program, but that it be considered as an advance to be repaid in one year.
- To resolve not to pay ransom. With terrorism as an increasing threat to missionaries, the FMB engaged the services of the UPCI corporate attorney to prepare a Ransom Waiver to be signed by missionaries.
- To approve Kathy Miller's resignation as CM effective May 1, 2004.
- To approve Roscoe and Mary Seay's medical retirement as CMs, effective February 29, 2004.
- To approve Eddie and Beverly Tilley's resignation as CMs effective March 31, 2004.
- To change of field for Brian and Esther Henry from Papua New Guinea to Scandinavia.
- To change of field for Tommy and Sandra Bracken from Taiwan to Taiwan/China.
- To change of field for Karl and Mary Smith from South Africa to South Africa/Regional Evangelism, African Region.

South African Because of the Times

David and Alice Kline reported that the Anthony Manguns, the Tom Fred Tenneys, Mike Williams, and FM Director Bruce Howell, along with the Pentecostals of Alexandria, held a "Because of the Times"

¹¹⁴¹ Minutes: UPCI Foreign Missions Board (May 9–14, 2005): 2.

in Lesotho, South Africa. Fifteen leaders traveled from surrounding areas to join the saints of Lesotho. Many testified that the meetings changed their lives.¹¹⁴²

Death of Philip G. Tolstad Sr.

When he was five years old, Philip Gustav Tolstad felt the call of God to be a missionary to South America. In 1946, following his military duty as a surgery technician on a Navy transport during World War II, Brother Tolstad founded and pastored the UPC of Billings, Montana, and then attended Apostolic Bible College in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

The Tolstads received their missionary appointment to Uruguay in 1951. Brother Tolstad opened and supervised works in Uruguay, Argentina, Chile, Paraguay, and southern Brazil. Returning from the field in 1963, the Tolstads founded the Forest Avenue Pentecostal Church in Amsterdam, New York. They pastored in Twin Falls, Idaho, Tulsa, Oklahoma, and Auburn and Olympia, Washington, and then evangelized and helped smaller churches in the Midwest. Philip G. Tolstad Sr. died at age eighty-one in Olympia, Washington, on May 12, 2005. His son, Philip Jr., is a missionary to Malawi/Mozambique.¹¹⁴³

Oneness Seminars in Kenya

Jim and Karen Crumpacker reported that Pastor Dan Butler of Bellflower, California, held a seminar with an organization of ninety-two churches. As a result, the bishop and overseers were baptized in Jesus' name. They in turn baptized the pastors, and the pastors would baptize their saints. Fifteen of the pastors expressed a desire to attend the Bible school in Nairobi.¹¹⁴⁴

Revival of the Name in Nigeria

The following derives from a conversation in June 2005 between John Nickerson, missionary to Nigeria, and the author:

In 1999 while on deputation, Corrine and I felt God speaking to us about changing our method of evangelism in Nigeria. Although tent evangelism was, and still is, very successful, we knew that with trying to reach 134 million souls with the gospel we needed to hear from God as to how to do it. We needed to find out where He was working and work with Him. God promised He would give us churches we didn't build and we would reach thousands by reaching the ministry of our country.

Lincoln Graham, pastor from the New York Metro District, called to tell me that God had been sending Nigerian preachers into his church and he was baptizing them in Jesus' name. He explained that one of these preachers had invited him to visit Nigeria. I encouraged him to accept the invitation.

After Pastor Graham returned to the States, I told him how God was dealing with me about reaching Nigerian ministers. After prayer, we felt to organize a ministers' conference with the help of the ministers Brother Graham had baptized. We would ask David Bernard to be the speaker. During the 1999 General Conference, I told Brother Bernard what was happening in Nigeria. He said he would teach the seminar on Jesus' name if we could get two hundred ministers committed to attend. The Holy Ghost assured me that this could be done, so we began to make plans.

Corinne and I began writing letters of invitation went to Nigeria and to set up the venues for three ministers conferences: in Lagos, in Benin City, and in Delta State.

Brother and Sister Graham came to Nigeria with Brother Bernard, and the theme for the conferences was "That We May Know Him."

¹¹⁴² David Kline, "Lesotho," *OnSite* (Fall 2005): 6.

¹¹⁴³ Dorsey Burk, "In Memoriam," *OnSite* (Fall 2005): 12.

¹¹⁴⁴ Focal Points (August 2005).

We were amazed that 528 preachers attended the first two-day seminar in Lagos. Brother Bernard taught under the anointing of the Holy Ghost, and following that first meeting we baptized 103 preachers in the swimming pool of the conference hotel.

Since then we have held ninety-two ministers' conferences, teaching the oneness of God and baptism in Jesus' name. Besides David Bernard, several men of God have ministered during these conferences: David Huston, Trevor Neil, Ted Grosbach, Cole Price, Harold Churchill, and Graham Russell. Lincoln Graham, and my fellow missionary, G. McLean, and myself were always involved as well.

As of June 2005 we have baptized over 1,500 Trinitarian preachers in Jesus' name in twenty-three of Nigeria's thirty-six states. Most of these men have rebaptized their congregations in Jesus' name as well as their minister friends. We have no idea how far this has expanded. However, God keeps the record and knows how far this sovereign work of the Holy Ghost has spread. We have gone back to some of these churches on occasion and see these pastors teaching from Brother Bernard's book, *The Oneness of God*.

Revival continues in Nigeria. We expect to reach into the remaining thirteen states, located mainly in the north of Nigeria. God has promised us believers from every tribe and tongue. Thank God for His promise! He will give us the harvest.¹¹⁴⁵

Guatemala, Central America

Brad and Regina Thompson reported that Guatemala experienced beautiful growth from April through July of 2005. The field now had 172 licensed ministers, 165 established churches, and over 250 daughter works. More than seven thousand attended the regional conventions in which 391 received the Holy Ghost.¹¹⁴⁶

Revival among Australian Aborigines

Revival fires were burning in the aboriginal community with over fifty receiving the Holy Ghost and being baptized. On a return trip to the outback to teach some of these new converts, Chester Terry and others baptized four additional aborigines and six received the Holy Ghost.¹¹⁴⁷

August and September 2005 “Focal Points”

National conferences and special meetings, along with Bible School graduations, were reported in the August and September 2005 “Focal Points”:

Indonesia: Rodger and Margaret White wrote that 114 people were baptized in Jesus' name, including a number of pastors and church leaders from other denominations. Pastor and Sister Maurice Gordon of Denver, Colorado, were the guest speakers.

Greece: Twenty-one people received the Holy Ghost during the national conference. Jonathan and Maria Strickland experienced a great service at the Crossroads Church with special guest, Filippo Ciulla, and twenty were filled with the Holy Ghost.

Glasgow, Scotland: Harvest Bible College completed the school year, and the superintendent of Great Britain and Ireland, Leroy Francis, Regional Director Robert Rodenbush, and former FM Director Harry Scism officiated at the graduation.

Malawi: For a children's crusade, 459 children were registered and 113 children received the Holy Ghost.

Botswana: The general conference ended with sixty-six being filled with the Holy Ghost and fifteen baptized. David Ward was the evangelist, with David Flowers and Jannie Smith from South Africa as the teachers.

Bangladesh: In a relatively new field, 161 were baptized in Jesus' name in the northern area.

¹¹⁴⁵ John Nickerson, missionary to Nigeria, in a discussion with the author at WEC, St. Louis, Missouri, June 2005.

¹¹⁴⁶ “Guatemala,” *FM Focal Points* (August 2005).

¹¹⁴⁷ Chester Terry, “Australia,” *Pentecostal Herald* (2005 General Conference Special Issue): 23.

African Center of Theological Studies: Eight students graduated from Jim and Linda Poitras's ACTS. Twelve were baptized and over seventy students were involved in the training.

Belize: Missionary Amy Sawyer reported that during three days of national convention, thirty-six received the Holy Ghost.

Mercy Medical Network

Ron and Terry Brian reported that CSI's Mercy Medical Network established a temporary medical clinic in Haiti. Workers in the MMN clinic treated 3,319 adults and 155 children who could not afford the local medical clinics' fees. CSI workers distributed 1,100 pounds of rice in five remote areas, with the result of forty-eight baptized in Jesus' name and thirty-six filled with the Holy Ghost.¹¹⁴⁸

Foreign Missions Board Sessions at the 2005 General Conference

Scotty Slaydon, a productive missionary to El Salvador, was approved to fill the permanent position of executive assistant to the general director of Foreign Missions. This meant that the Slaydons resigned as career missionaries. The executive assistant position had been created under Wynn Stairs, and George Glass Sr. had filled it until he was elected as director of Home Missions. A. D. Gurley was then appointed and served until a serious illness caused his resignation in 1962. In 2002 Bruce Howell asked Daniel Scott to serve in this capacity, which he did until Scotty Slaydon's appointment.

Other board actions included the following:

- To approve the Suriname constitution
- To approve the Ethiopian constitution
- To approve the proposal from the Committee on PENTECOM as presented to the board
- To change of field for Theodore and Patricia Grosbach from Democratic Republic of Congo/Botswana to Democratic Republic of Congo
- To change of field for David and Angela Doan from Japan to Japan/Vietnam
- To change of field for Philip and Twyla Tolstad from Malawi to Uganda

Foreign Missions Director's 2005 Report—Richmond, Virginia

FM Director Bruce Howell opened his report by honoring the UPCI leadership. He felt that their global vision was a key element to the success of the church's foreign endeavors. Another key element was the united years of experience and wisdom displayed by pastoral members of the FMB who had served with a quiet dignity and without remuneration.

In his report to the General Board he expressed appreciation for Daniel Scott, who had served as his executive assistant for two and a half years while Brother Scott was also involved in international training. Brother Scott would now devote his ministry to international training and other projects to advance the cause of missions.

Statistics from the 2005 Report

The missionary roster now listed 247 career missionaries, 107 intermediates, and 281 AIMers for a total of 635 North American missionaries. The Global Commission's Regional Missionary Program had commissioned seventeen regional missionaries, bringing the total number of UPCI missionaries in 2005 to 652.

¹¹⁴⁸ Ron Brian, "Mercy Medical Network Responds in Haiti," *Pentecostal Herald* (Special Issue 2006): 23.

The report also indicated advances on many other levels, including four new nations—Anguilla, Guinea, Macau, and Senegal—registered with their respective governments to make a total of 175 countries in which UPCI missionaries were expanding the boundaries of the kingdom. The Regional Missionary Program had placed missionaries in Mozambique, Cuba, Armenia, and Portugal.

Compassion Services International

The year 2005 was a turning point as CSI sent disaster relief teams to Asian countries devastated by the tsunami. UPCI medical personnel donated service in temporary medical clinics, relieving the suffering of thousands of patients. CSI constructed temporary shelters and restored water wells, even in areas controlled by militant rebels. CSI also introduced two new field representatives to assist in creating the necessary financial base for this ministry. As hearts of United Pentecostals were touched by the suffering of victims of disaster, CSI's income had reached a record \$737,802.35. CSI director, G. R. Travis, was commended for developing areas of relief, education, agriculture, and construction.

2004-05 Financial Report

Despite economic difficulties in North America, Director Howell was gratified by the dedication of local churches and pastors as they continued to sacrificially provide the necessary financial base for foreign missions. Brother Howell further stated, "Thanks to the missionary family and the work of our executives and staff, our administrative fund is in the best condition it has been in many years. Because of this improved financial condition, we were able to transfer \$180,000 from administration to clear deficits in our Unrestricted Designated Fund. Thanks to our budget committee, Foreign Missions Board, Brother Varnell, and the finance team for their guidance in this endeavor."¹¹⁴⁹

A breakdown of the financial report shows that missionary offering receipts for 2005 were \$22,249,975.22, CSI \$737,802.35, General and Administrative Funds \$135,009.03, making a contributions total of \$23,122,786.60. Direct offering credits totaled \$3,425,485.16, making a subtotal of \$26,548,271.76.

Youth Division's SFC contributed \$630,539.68, and Ladies Ministries' Mothers Memorial gave \$415,000 making a grand total for FM income of \$27,593,811.44, an increase of \$1,227,896.23 over the past year.

Appreciation for the Global Council

Director Howell reiterated the FM pledge: "To every tribe and nation—Jesus." As maturing foreign fields shouldered the responsibility of evangelizing the lost, new visions of involvement brought increased appreciation for the Global Council. At the Second Global Council slated to meet in Bangkok, Thailand, November 9–11, 2005, approximately two hundred world leaders would improve evangelistic methods throughout the world. The agenda would also include policies to govern the International Articles of Faith and the affiliation of churches. With 1,500 Trinitarian pastors baptized in Nigeria, the Global Council through these approved policies could better protect the integrity of doctrinal content of the UPCI. What a legacy as the church sharpened its vision to enter a more effective realm in 2006!

2005 General Conference—Richmond, Virginia

In an auditorium filled with worshipping Pentecostals, the 2005 General Conference in Richmond, Virginia, was a spectacular event. Only days before the conference, Hurricanes Katrina and Rita devastated the southern coast of the United States from Texas to Alabama, causing unprecedented

¹¹⁴⁹ Bruce Howell, "Annual Report to the General Board," September 2005.

destruction and leaving untold thousands homeless. Many had speculated that the conference would be poorly attended due to these calamities. However, many evacuees purchased clothing and left refugee centers to seek solace among the church family.

When General Superintendent Kenneth Haney mentioned that these catastrophes had touched our own people, conference attendees poured out of their seats to toss cash and checks on the altar. Combined with the Home Missions offering taken for that purpose, over \$800,000 was donated. CSI, as well as district superintendents and campgrounds, ministered to those in need. Churches were repaired or rebuilt and saints were cared for.

Culminating the General Conference, the FM service projected one of the boldest moves ever by raising over \$1 million to wipe out deputizing missionaries' deficits so they could return to the field. Fifteen missionaries were presented to the conference, and the PIM commitments were sufficient to send them all back to their fields. The cash offering was over \$150,000.

Scott Graham, former youth president, spoke under such heavy anointing that the conference crowd sat spellbound under a blanket of conviction. It was time that all United Pentecostals accepted the task of world evangelism. He said, "What could be done if every United Pentecostal Church would shoulder the financial burden to reach the lost? There is no reason why 20 percent of our churches have given nothing to Foreign Missions." The crowd flung themselves on the altar, either to present themselves as potential missionaries or to repent.

In the Sunday night crusade service, Billy Cole preached to a crowd containing many whom volunteers had invited from the streets. Altar workers documented 405 who received the Holy Ghost.¹¹⁵⁰

November 2005 Focal Points

Highlights from the November 2005 Focal Points included the following:

Argentina: Over four hundred people received the Holy Ghost during a crusade in Rosario, Argentina, where Raul DeAsis, vice president of the work, served as pastor.

Spain: A record crowd of 192 attended the Northwestern Region's annual youth camp, where twenty-two were filled with the Holy Ghost and thirteen were baptized. Others wanted to be baptized in their local assembly where their entire family could be present for the great event.

South Africa: With 125 people attending the South District youth camp, ten were filled with the Holy Ghost.

Karen Tribal People: After Robert Frizzell visited the Karen tribal people in Southeast Asia, he requested prayer for persecuted Christians throughout the region, especially those in Myanmar, which, in July 2005, closed churches, Bible schools, Christian music schools, and all training seminars of all church organizations.

Death of Margaret Shalm

Margaret Shalm of Fredericton, New Brunswick, former missionary to India, and wife of former RFS of Asia, George Shalm, who preceded her in death, died on Friday, October 7, 2005, at age eighty. She was a member of the First UPC of Fredericton, New Brunswick. The Fredericton *Daily Gleaner* published her obituary.

Born in Regina, Saskatchewan, Margaret, at age seventeen, moved with her family to Vancouver, where she lived for five years before marrying George. They pastored for a short time in Dapp, Alberta, after which they were appointed as missionaries to India. Margaret and George spent twenty-three years in India, during which time they reared their three sons. While just a teenager, Margaret had been called to India, an experience that ignited a passion and commitment not only for that nation, but also for world missions. She was a strong financial supporter of missions throughout her life.

Margaret's sense of humor and infectious laugh always lifted everyone's spirit. Her sense of devotion and her deep prayer life touched both young and old. As a pastor's wife, she served alongside

¹¹⁵⁰ "2006 General Conference Service," *World Harvest Today* (Winter 2006): 4-5.

George in Nova Scotia and Ontario. In 1976, she moved with George to Fredericton, where he served as principal of United Pentecostal Bible Institute. In 1982, Margaret and George were once again appointed as missionaries to Asia. A year later, George was appointed as regional field supervisor for Asia. She moved with him, first to Pakistan and later to St. Louis. When George passed away in 1988, Margaret settled in Fredericton, where she was actively involved in the church until her final illness.

She was survived by her three sons and their wives: Allan and Georgene, missionaries to Pakistan and South Asia; Lynden and Katherine, former missionaries to India and Pakistan, presently serving as regional director for Asia, and Warren and Linda of Napanee, Ontario.

The funeral service was on Tuesday, October 11, 2005, at the First UPC with Pastor Raymond Woodward officiating. Interment was at the Fredericton Rural Cemetery on Woodstock Road. In lieu of flowers, donations were requested for the Margaret Shalm Memorial Fund to build a church in Pakistan.¹¹⁵¹

Global Council—Bangkok, Thailand¹¹⁵²

The Second Global Council met in Bangkok, Thailand, on November 8–11, 2005. There were 171 attendees including 124 official delegates and forty-seven wives who accompanied their husbands. General Superintendent Kenneth Haney and FM Director Bruce Howell co-chaired the activities. The delegates represented 171 countries and 171 languages

A procedure for amending the International Articles of Faith had been formulated in the Executive Global Council sessions in Johannesburg, South Africa, March 26–28, 2003. This action of the Executive Global Council by policy had to be approved by the full Global Council. This is portrayed in the following fulfillment of policy:

Any amendment to the general policy of the Global Council shall be submitted in writing to the Resolutions Committee, and will require the signatures of three Global Council delegates.

Any amendment of the International Articles of Faith-2003 Edition, shall be submitted in writing to the Resolutions Committee, and will require the signatures of five Global Council delegates. Any amendment of the International Articles of Faith-2003 Edition shall require a unanimous vote of the Resolutions Committee in order for it to be presented to the Global Council. A two-thirds majority vote of the Global Council delegates present will be required to approve an amendment of the International Articles of Faith-2003 Edition.¹¹⁵³

However, in order to safeguard the Articles of Faith, the Global Council decided to refer the procedure to a committee for further study.

The Global Commission met on November 8, 2005, during the Global Council sessions. This special committee represented the nations that were sending or receiving missionaries and consisted of African Regional Director Jerry Richardson and delegate Randy Adams, Asian Regional Director Lynden Shalm and delegate Samuel Ma, Central America/Caribbean Regional Director John Hopkins and delegate Steve Shirley, Europe/Middle East Regional Director Robert Rodenbush and delegate Sim Strickland, Pacific Regional Director Richard Denny and delegate Steve Willoughby, South American Regional Director Darry Crossley and delegate Lonnie Burton. FM Secretary Carl Varnell and Education/AIM Director Lloyd Shirley attended to represent the FMD.

The Regional Missionary Program was funded by an endeavor of the North American church to match, if possible, a dollar ratio of three-to-one of the regional sum raised. This financial report was presented during the Global Commission for Missions:

¹¹⁵¹ Obituary, *Fredericton Daily Gleaner*, October 9, 2005, New Brunswick, Canada.

¹¹⁵² "Global Council, Bangkok, Thailand," *OnSite* (Spring 2006): 6–7.

¹¹⁵³ Minutes: Global Council 2005 (November 9–11, 2005).

<u>Region</u>	<u>Funds given</u>	<u>Matching funds</u>
Pacific	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 6,000.00
Africa	\$15,382.17	\$ 30,764.34
South America	\$21,996.29	\$ 43,992.58
Europe/Middle East	\$ 3,250.00	\$ 6,500.00
Central America/Caribbean	\$ 7,414.52	\$ 14,829.04
<u>Asia</u>	<u>\$ 3,000.00</u>	<u>\$ 6,000.00</u>
Total	\$54,042.98	\$108,085.96

The Global Commission received reports from the regional commissions in order to update the regional missionary roster:

Africa:

Brother and Sister Peter Mua from Cameroon appointed to Equatorial Guinea

Asia:

(none at present)

Central America/Caribbean:

Brother and Sister Luis Vasquez from Mexico appointed to Cuba

Brother and Sister Michael Herbert from St. Croix appointed to St. John

Brother and Sister Waner Merisier from St. Martin appointed to ABC Islands

Brother and Sister Clarence Edwards from Guyana appointed to Suriname

Europe/Middle Eastern:

Brother and Sister Bagrat Hayrapetyan from Greece appointed to Armenia

Pacific:

Brother and Sister Loudebin Delez from the Philippines appointed to the Republic of Palau

South America:

Brother and Sister Caesar Augusto Moraes from Brazil appointed to Mozambique

Alcina Maria Santos Lima from Brazil appointed to Portugal

Brother and Sister Geraldo Riascos from Columbia appointed to Panama

Death of Michael and Marilyn Edge

Michael and Marilyn Edge died in a tragic automobile accident in Honduras. A tremendous missionary couple dedicated to the Spanish-language culture, Mike had represented his country at the Global Council in Bangkok, Thailand, only a few days earlier.

Mike and Marilyn had served first in Mexico for a number of years, and after a serious illness from a heart condition, they applied to go to Honduras and were accepted. Near dusk on Wednesday, December 7, 2005, they were traveling near the small town of El Guano when they abruptly came upon a stalled automobile blocking the roadway, without lights or any other warning to roadway travelers. Mike's SFC Nissan pickup caromed off the stalled auto and collided head-on with an oncoming auto. Mike was killed instantly, and Marilyn died about an hour later in the hospital.¹¹⁵⁴

The funeral service was held in Pearland, Texas, attended by FM Director Bruce Howell and his wife, Diane, FM Secretary Carl Varnell and his wife, Gail, and Director of Education/AIM Lloyd Shirley and his wife, Nancy.

¹¹⁵⁴ News Report, *Honduras Diario la Presna* (December 10, 2005): 1.

Steps Forward for South America¹¹⁵⁵

Ecuador: Ecuador's Bible Institute began the fall term with fifty-three students enrolled. The student body was unique in that each student was rigorously screened for men and women who would be actively involved in opening new works.

Bolivia: A Trinitarian church in Cochabamba of 190 members became affiliated with the UPC of Bolivia. Eight of their young people enrolled in the Bible school. A Methodist pastor and twenty-six of his congregation were baptized in Jesus' name.

Argentina: In a Rosario crusade sponsored by Florida Pastors in Missions, more than four hundred received the Holy Ghost. The UPC of Argentina now controlled or owned eight radio stations that broadcasted the gospel around the clock.

Chile: Two hundred were enrolled in courses offered in Bible school extensions.

Colombia: There were 350–400 churches and preaching points throughout the country. In three crusades held in Cali, Palmira, and Bogota, the altars were so full that it was difficult to get an official count of those who received the Holy Ghost.

Death of Elga O. Battle

The news of Elga O. Battle's death evoked many emotions. Brother Battle had suffered from cancer and debilitating treatments. Although he had achieved remission several times, his advanced age and precarious health finally gave way to his transfer to a heavenly reward on January 9, 2006.

Born December 7, 1925, he became an outstanding person. He served his country in the United States Navy, and his Lord in many capacities. From the beginning of his missionary career, his passion was winning the lost. Everyone who knew him was aware of his love for and dedication to missions. After the withdrawal of Colombia he co-founded the work in Ecuador. His fellow missionary to Ecuador, Daniel Scott, remarked many times that no finer missionary ever served the cause.

Elga O. Battle and his wife, Claree, served five years as missionaries in Uruguay, and four years in Ecuador. Under his leadership the charter for the UPCI of Ecuador was obtained from the Ecuadorian government, officially registering the church in that country. With a strong call to Brazil, Brother Battle requested a change of field, but due to a delay in the visa process, he accepted the pastorate of Mt. Zion Apostolic Church in Goshen, California. He served as the Western District FM director, and then returned to the mission field as a Bible school teacher in Baja California, Mexico.

Elga Battle was the epitome of faithfulness, honesty, hard work, and dedication not only to the church, but also to his family.¹¹⁵⁶

Papua New Guinea

Missionaries Richard and Margaret Carver reported that the National Sunday School Conference was filled with children, teachers, parents, and pastors from around the Highlands region. God blessed the conference wondrously with eighty children filled with the Holy Ghost and seven baptized in the lovely name of Jesus on Sunday morning. Eleven others went back to their churches to be baptized. Hundreds of children and young people went to the altar for prayer and received healing. The problem was that there was not enough space to hold the crowd of approximately one thousand.¹¹⁵⁷

¹¹⁵⁵ Darry Crossley, "South America Region Newsletter," January–March 2006.

¹¹⁵⁶ "Elga O. Battle," Memorial Service Brochure, January 9, 2006.

¹¹⁵⁷ Richard Carver, "National Sunday School Conference," *OnSite* (Spring 2006): 5.

It Is Possible to Evangelize the World in This Generation!

In 1945 there were forty missionaries serving on nine foreign fields under the UPCI banner. In 1951 there were fifty, in 1954, seventy-one, and by 1969 there were 112 missionary families in 29 fields. In 1973 the UPCI supported 128 missionaries, and in 1978 there were 200 missionaries serving fifty-eight nations of the world. In 1985, 284 missionaries had established a registered church in sixty-seven nations, with growing national churches in another twenty-seven countries, for a total of ninety-four countries. In 1995, 501 missionaries were operating in 131 nations, and at this writing 635 missionaries are serving in 175 countries.

The United Nations lists 211 countries in the world (a number that changes constantly), which leaves only thirty-six countries without a UPCI presence. While many of these countries are open to third-world missionaries, they are closed to North American missionaries. This is why the Regional Missionary Program is vital to the missionary cause. And why should it not be? The great commission was that believers should “go into all the world.” This mandate is for the international church body, not just the North American component.

UPCI missionaries have accomplished outstanding evangelistic advances in all six regions under the productive leadership of our regional directors. By no means should the church feel that the mission has been achieved; however, the many effective training programs are producing leaders well prepared to effectively meet the challenges of world evangelism. They are opening new frontiers daily. Trained and prepared national leaders and ministers are placing the church in a position to do more than has ever been done before. Yet there is and will always be a great need for North American missionaries.

The future has every promise to be as exciting as the mission compound and the headquarters churches of the past. This promising future creates the conviction that it is possible to evangelize the world in this generation.¹¹⁵⁸

Appreciating the Foundation

The world is at our fingertips. The UPCI has created a world-missions team that is establishing the church around the world in innovative ways. Where many mission societies establish satellite churches or a colonized structure, the UPCI has almost from the beginning used the three-pronged approach of establishing self-propagating, self-supporting, self-governing churches. Changing times affect missiological methods, but the task remains the same: “Go ye into all the world . . .”

Having been involved in missions since 1968, I will testify that the UPCI missionaries are among the most un-self-centered leaders I have ever known. They have suffered heartaches and made sacrifices that were as foreign to the average person as the fields on which the missionaries served. They have represented the North American church honorably. When they accomplished their task or when their health was broken or when age forced them to retire, they tossed the keys to another along with their blessings for a future made possible only by their sacrifices. The only recompense they ask for is to fulfill the will of God and for the approbation of their North American colleagues. Each missionary will be rewarded by God for accomplishing a difficult task, and each local assembly that partnered with him or her will receive an equal reward.

In the introduction of this documentary, I wrote the following paragraph:

Modern technology, transportation, and communication have shrunk the globe. Every nation is uniquely connected and interdependent; therefore, the time has come for the church outside of North America to begin networking within the program of evangelization for the success of the church’s common cause. The UPCI must view itself and have others view it as a major courier of the gospel. The church must understand that today’s activity is the flipside of the apostolic coin. Not only must each nation that has received the gospel get involved in evangelizing the lost, but it must also shoulder the responsibility of

¹¹⁵⁸ Bruce Howell, “The Vision of the Foreign Missions Division,” *Pentecostal Herald* (January 2002): 20.

administrating the results. The examples of Peter's and Paul's ministries must continue to guide the church as it effectuates the work of reconciliation throughout the world.

Since the past is behind us and the future is before us, we must work in the present to ensure the success of our UPCI mission. Now that many rough roads have been smoothed and many rivers have been crossed, we venture into the future. Where we go will depend upon the support and confidence of the entire international church body, our God-called missionaries that are laboring far away, and upon the FMD leadership. What a momentous time to serve in missions!

The Legacy of Our Foreign Missionaries

With its strong and solid foundation buried beneath and bearing the weight of six decades (1945-2005), the UPCI must never forget those who pioneered the work of missions around the world. Since there is no Missionary Hall of Fame, this documentary serves as a monument in honor of those courageous pioneers. Those who now serve on the front lines must keep in mind that the historic events recorded in this tome were current events for them. Their labors comprised normal everyday activities that the Master church builder used as the cement and steel reinforcement for the foundation upon which to build our modern-day missions.

At this writing I am mindful of our many veteran missionaries, with health broken by the rigors of missionary service, still doing everything for the kingdom that their waning strength will allow. They courageously carried the banner of the Oneness message, prepared the path for every future missionary, and will pass from this life with few accolades.

Our missionaries have extended the ministry of the UPCI to an incredible number of countries. Together with the local churches, they have created what is considered the largest organization of Oneness believers. From its founding at the merger of the Pentecostal Church Incorporated and the Pentecostal Assemblies of Jesus Christ in 1945, the United Pentecostal Church International as an organization has experienced growth in the following manner:

Description	1945	2006
Churches	761	27,727
Ministers	2,338	28,240
Missionaries	40	715
Nations	9	179
Constituency	100,000(?)	3,000,000

Results of Foreign Missions Division efforts in the last five years:

New Nations	146	181
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During the 2006 and 2007 reporting years the United Pentecostal Church opened churches in Anguilla, Guinea, Macau, Senegal, Ethiopia, New Caledonia, Aruba, Bulgaria, East Timor, Congo Brazzaville, and others.

Baptized over the previous 6 years	567,408
Holy Ghost (6 years)	1,037,695
New churches in 2006	1,608
New ministers in 2006	4,727

Special Ministries of the United Pentecostal Church International

World Network of Prayer is like blood to the body; no prayer in the church means a lifeless church! We are thankful for our coordinator in the office who handles missionary requests and our missionary wives who head up the prayer effort in the six regions of the world. Many of our nations have national prayer coordinators.

Compassion Services International ministers to the physical needs of the world in times of natural disaster. This ministry is progressing under the leadership of the director of CSI and the steering committee.

Mercy Medical Network and the Apostolic Medical Society are organizations of UPCI medical professionals who travel around the world ministering to needs of the different communities in the nations.

Wings of the Wind is a global association of UPCI pilots who minister in remote areas of the world. This ministry works hand in hand with the churches of each country and with Mercy Medical Network and the Apostolic Medical Society.

Education

Global Association of Theological Studies (GATS) is a worldwide training program that meets the needs of this technological age. We are now producing programs that will offer four levels of study: certificate level, diploma level, associate's degree, and bachelor's degree.

Leadership Development International teaches and mentors our emerging leaders with new concepts of directing and guiding the churches in their nations.

Global Training International sponsors highly qualified professors and instructors who work in the different educational programs of the nations. These men train the trainers! We need quality teachers in every nation to minister to the educational needs of the world.

Regional Missions motivate and encourage all churches in every nation to become sending agencies. We have twenty-eight regional missionaries, whose applications have been received and processed by the Regional Commission for Missions in the six regions outside of North America. The supervision of the work and funds come from the Asia, Africa, Central America/Caribbean, Europe/Middle East, Pacific, or South American Regions. The UPCI is a global church; missionaries do not come only from North America or Europe!

Indigenous Language Summits are meetings of Chinese-, French-, and Spanish-speaking countries with the goal of pooling resources to better minister to the nations that speak these languages.

More than 100 evangelism crusades were funded by the 2006 General Conference! These will take place around the world in the next two years.

The Global Council and Executive Global Council chart evangelism and encourage cooperation of all organizations affiliated with the UPCI. Every five years the full Global Council with two representatives from each of our 177 countries are invited to attend this meeting. This organization guides the fellowship of all of our worldwide churches.

Global Connection is a quarterly publication that goes to all of the leaders of our worldwide churches in the six foreign regions.

Veterans of Foreign Missions is the company of retired missionaries as explained below.

Retired Missionaries—2005

Please allow the following two missionaries to represent the many veteran missionaries.

Beloved Sallie Lemons Morley has one desire: to pass one more gospel tract to a lonely Colombian. Tenderly cared for by her adopted Colombian son, Arley, and a Colombian nurse, even though Alzheimer's disease has robbed her mind, at this writing she still faithfully attends the Palmira church.

Arley hires an attendant to push her wheelchair through the streets of her beloved Colombia so she can hand out tracts.

Advanced age has robbed Nona Freeman of her former physical strength, but not of her spiritual strength. In her nineties she still travels extensively, ministering to local churches. Drawing from the wisdom garnered from almost six decades of ministry, she wrote an advice column for *Reflections*, the national magazine sponsored by UPCI Ladies Ministries. She has written fourteen biographical and inspirational books, the most recent of which are *Everything Is Gonna Be All Right* (2005), about her husband, “Bug,” and *A Prophet in Our Time* (2007), about T. W. Barnes. During the summer of 2007 she impacted many churches on tour with a drama about her life, *Nona, the Girl Who Ran from God*, written by David Norris.

The FMD honors the men and women who have devoted their lives to the cause of Christ overseas. Retired UPCI missionaries are a select few who have given at least twenty years of service on the foreign field and have reached the age of sixty-five. The small monthly pension they receive is only a token of the gratitude for their sacrifices that have led to revival and strong, stable churches.

The retired missionaries at the close of 2005 were the **Ed Allards**, Ghana, Senegal and Ivory Coast; the **Roy Bettises**, Australia and Micronesia; the **James Burtons**, Venezuela, Uruguay, and regional director of South America; the **Mack Carpenters**, South Africa, Swaziland, and Lesotho; the **Ronald Coles**, Peru; the **Everett Corcorans**, Pakistan, South Asia, and International Teaching; the **James Dotsons**, Chile and Peru; **Nona Freeman**, South Africa, and the African Region; the **John Paul Hugheses**, Furlough Replacement, regional director of Africa, and International Teaching; the **Don Ikerds**, Kenya, Zambia, and South Africa; **Ruby Klemin**, Argentina and the United Kingdom; **Margie McFarland**, Jordan and the Europe/Middle East Region; the **Mervyn Millers**, United Kingdom, Italy, and regional director of the Pacific; **Sallie Morley**, Colombia; the **Paul Moultons**, Peru; the **Mark Norrises**, Brazil, the **Robert Norrises**, Brazil and regional director of South America; the **Sidney Perdues**, Colombia and Ecuador; the **Denzil Richardsons**, the Philippines and Madagascar; **Valda Russell**, Liberia; the **Daniel Scotts**, Ecuador, regional director of South America, and executive administrative assistant to the general director; the **Roscoe Seays**, Australia, Papua New Guinea, and the Solomon Islands; the **H. Glen Smiths**, Jamaica, Caribbean, and regional director of Central America/Caribbean; the **Vondas Smiths**, Bolivia; and **William J. Thompson**, Colombia.

~ Appendix ~

A Missionary Who Should Not Be Forgotten

On March 2, 2001, Raymond Sloan, a newly appointed missionary to Uruguay, and I searched for the grave of Levi Bishop Sly, the first Oneness missionary to Uruguay. We wanted to find his grave because of the circumstances surrounding his death.

Through research I found that in 1921 he was a missionary to Ambato, Ecuador.¹¹⁵⁹ After serving there until 1925, he went back to the States to care for an aging mother.¹¹⁶⁰ Unable to escape the call to missions, he was drawn to Uruguay and traveled to Montevideo where he set up missionary activities in New Paris, a small town on the outskirts.

Pauline Tolstad in *An Open Door*, a story of their early years as missionaries to Uruguay beginning in 1952, wrote of the Slys: “The Slys were strong courageous people, former Methodists who had learned the Jesus Name Holy Spirit message and had determined to do their part in preaching the gospel to the whole world. . . . These people were Jesus Name missionaries before the Mission Division was formulated and organized. . . . They launched out without established support.”¹¹⁶¹

Elga O. Battle, former missionary to Uruguay, reported in Montevideo, Uruguay, that four Russian men and their families were converted by Brother Sly. According to Leopoldo Stasianuk, a young Polish immigrant, the Slys found sympathy for the gospel among an Armenian family and lived in their home. Among the very first converts was Juan Drozd, a young Russian immigrant. Leopoldo had fled to Uruguay in 1937 to escape the atrocities of the German invasion. He recalled that what the believing brethren remembered most was the tremendous influence the Slys had on their lives. They impacted his own life and brought him to Christ. The Slys as missionaries without sufficient support, suffered tremendously the lack of food and necessities, but were determined to bring the gospel to Uruguay.¹¹⁶²

All of this seems to be verified in a letter written by Ida Sly to the PAJC headquarters in 1937:

Six months after my husband departed this life, I was forced to leave because of ill health and a general breakdown, but before we left, we gave them our chairs, bookcase and table to fit up a place to have prayer meetings. They are going on with God and are being faithful. . . . God has sent a man and his wife from Poland, baptized with the Holy Ghost and having a wonderful testimony. . . . John [Drozd] was filled with the Holy Ghost and called to the work. We were led of the Spirit, after fasting and praying and ministering to the Lord, to lay our hands on him, according to Acts 13:2-3. . . . I am glad to report that he is proving true and faithful, and is crying to God and me, to send a missionary. . . .

I read so much news from the different foreign countries, and I thank God that His truth is there, but South America is neglected, and needs spiritual help.¹¹⁶³

According to my records, L. B. Sly attended an open-air meeting and came down with fever. All secular records show that the fever was the cause of death, but also that his body was weakened by hunger and malnutrition, making it impossible for him to fight off the illness. Pauline Tolstad confirms this in her book. When Brother Sly was dying he called Juan Drozd to him, laid his hands on him, and authorized

¹¹⁵⁹ Hilda Reeder, *History of the Foreign Missionary Department of the PAW* (Indianapolis: Foreign Missions 1950), 53.

¹¹⁶⁰ “Brother Sly at Carrolton, Illinois,” *Pentecostal Outlook Annual Issue* (February 1924): 280.

¹¹⁶¹ Pauline Tolstad, *An Open Door* (Eureka Springs, Missouri: Ozark Mountain Press, 1990), 6–10.

¹¹⁶² Leopoldo Stasianuk, in personal conversation with the author, ca. May 2001.

¹¹⁶³ Ida Sly’s letter to the PAJC headquarters published in *Pentecostal Outlook* (May 1937): 16.

him to carry on the gospel work of Uruguay until a minister came. Levi Sly died on September 2, 1934, and was buried in Montevideo's British Cemetery the next day. The cemetery is located about one and a half miles from our central church on Avenida Ocho.

After locating the grave, I called Elga Battle with the news. Brother Battle replied that he knew where Brother Sly was buried, and that he, along with many of the church people, at the request of L. B. Parent, former missionary to Chile, placed the tombstone on the grave. Brother Parent provided funds for this act of kindness. From whatever point of view, one must consider that Brother Sly's work lives on in Uruguay.

Gravesite 1695 bears the family name of Bishop, Brother Sly's middle name. Due to the Uruguayan custom of adding a maternal name after the family name, the cemetery mistakenly used Sly as the maternal name and Bishop, a middle name, as his paternal name. This small error seemed to conceal the location of his grave for many years. If I had thought to ask, Brother Battle could have solved the mystery years earlier. Standing at the gravesite with Raymond Sloan, I was deeply moved. Raymond Sloan would carry on the work initiated seventy years ago by a missionary who "fell to the ground and died," bringing forth much fruit. The tombstone states that Levi Sly was "a missionary apostle." Levi Bishop Sly died for the cause, and his memory will live on as a missionary apostle!