

INSIDE

FACES...
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PARTNERS
(THROUGHOUT)

Action!

MAY 2021

vol 85:3



Friendly Faces

In a world of conflict, isn't it refreshing to see friendly faces? In a world of losses and isolation, isn't it encouraging to be a team—a winning team? In a world of confusion, isn't it special to know the truth, to share a common purpose?

World Bible School celebrates friendships and partnerships at many levels. Most important is the awesome privilege of 1 Corinthians 3:9, "For we are God's fellow workers." God brings us together as His one body sharing His one Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:13), each member gifted for His mission (1 Corinthians 12:14-27). While all share their faith, some specialize in messaging and teaching, some in encouraging, some in giving and some in serving (Romans 12:4-8). Some form teams like Paul's (Acts 20:4). World Bible School is such a team, brought together to equip and serve the wider body. In the March *Action!*, we introduced WBS technicians. In this issue, we show more of their friendly faces.

The WBS team prepares teaching tools and opportunities. WBS recruits everyday Christians as teachers and connects them with seekers. Then WBS connects the most responsive students with follow up, congregations and training schools.

Those brought to Christ often prove to be the most productive partners, bringing thousands more.

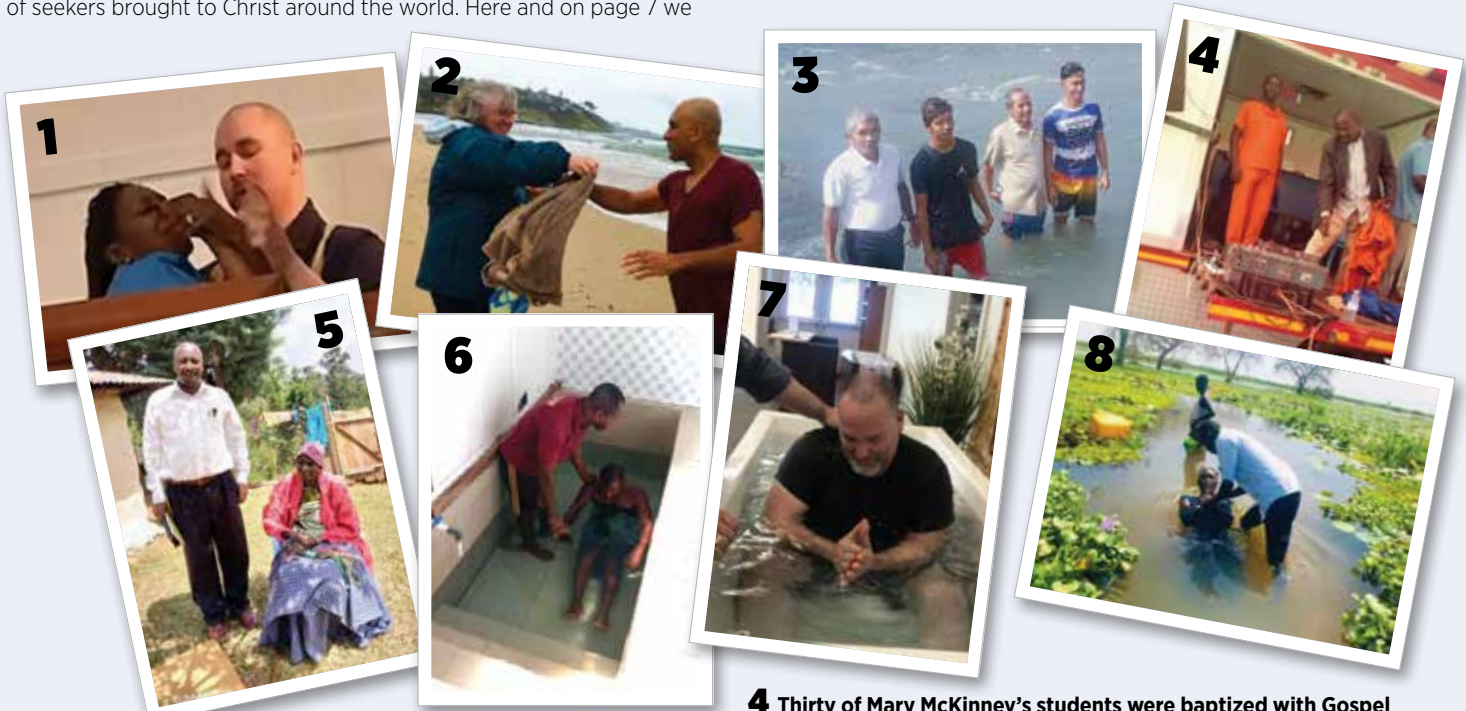
From beginning to end, evangelism—both local and global—is all about Christ and the teamwork He leads and empowers. This issue celebrates our many partners and, as space allows, shows their friendly faces.



FRIENDLY FACES THAT WELCOME

Every workday, World Bible School's core staff on this side of the globe—20-30 friendly faces—meet by Zoom for a Bible thought and prayer. Virtually every day, our Zoom meeting features new reports of seekers brought to Christ around the world. Here and on page 7 we

offer a recent collage of Christians who are welcoming their friends, mainly taught through WBS, into God's family. We thank our friendly teachers and follow up partners whom the Lord uses so effectively. We rejoice with the Lord and His angels for each friend made and rescued for eternal life.



- 1** Francina Race was baptized by preacher Dennis Saultier.
- 2** Lesley welcomes Vishal after being baptized by her husband Brett near Melbourne, Australia.
- 3** Adrian, with three souls added in the Philippines

- 4** Thirty of Mary McKinney's students were baptized with Gospel Chariot Missions, Buyende, Uganda.
- 5** Eric baptized 105 year old Rebecca, Kenya.
- 6** Religious leader Solomon comes to Christ, Uyo, Nigeria.
- 7** Kirk assists Rob, Vermont U.S.
- 8** Lam Dau of South Sudan

FRIENDLY FACES OF YOUTH



WBS' David Harper reports (top) that youth minister Keith O'Neal has familiarized his high school juniors and seniors with WBS at Concord Rd church of Christ in Brentwood, TN. At this work party, they processed lessons for students who live in Zambia and are incarcerated in maximum security prisons. Concord's WBS follow up partners in Zambia include Thomas Sakala, Melvin Kalimanshila and Rodgers Chuulu. Feedback from the young people affirms their desire to serve actively.

(middle) WBS' William Bush reports that Evangelism University recently promoted use of the WBS Study Bible. EU participants bought 1,042 of these Bibles for personal and evangelistic purposes. EU is held early each year in Savannah, TN. The event

is designed for high school leaders in youth groups who are spiritually ready to begin sharing the Gospel with those around them.

(bottom) Many WBS students are young people. Gibril's photo shows high school students in WBS' PREP program, Ghana, West Africa.

Mathetis Partnerships

BY TIM YAEGER BIRMINGHAM, AL

God brings people and ministries together at the right point in history. He combines their talents for the greatest effect. Over the years, WBS has partnered with many sister ministries.



Mathetis—the social network for spiritual growth—is another example of God's wonderful orchestra of pooled talents. WBS has produced and is producing the Mathetis originals, but the demands of digital culture require a regular stream of fresh content. The key to this effort is *partnerships*.

Mathetis is blessed with talented partners—with more on the way. Dan Winkler has provided in-depth content for Grace and Forgiveness. Apologetics Press has brought their expertise to prove the existence of God. Hidden Bridge Media

continued on p6

Caring for the Lost



Jesus had a reason for every one of His actions. He was revealing His Father's will, obeying it, and leading by example. One great example is found in Luke 10:1-2.

The Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on.... And He said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest."



Jesus sent His disciples out as *partners* for the Gospel.

In March, John Reese introduced the **Care Challenge**, setting in motion more opportunity for you to partner with WBS. We are following Jesus' example as He continues to send laborers into His fields. WBS is all about laborers partnering for the Gospel. Your financial partnership empowers the entire team to "share Jesus."

The "harvest is plentiful," but so are the opportunities and the WBS tools that take advantage of those opportunities. From the proven paper program, to new Bibles and lessons, to world-class online tools (such as the stunning **Mathetis** social media platform, **Spoken**, and new **WBS apps**), the world is being reached. But what if we could do more? We can!

Consider how to follow Jesus' example that emphasizes partnerships. Pray for more laborers. Say "Yes!" to the **Care Challenge** to bring more laborers into harvest fields. The result is "fruit for eternal life." Covid has caused many more to think about life's purpose and destiny. Turn Covid cares into Kingdom care for literally millions who are lost and seeking answers. Join with many WBS friends to reach the million dollar goal. Partner with a one-time gift or by becoming a monthly financial donor. Join us today and be a true partner for life: eternal life.

Pat Brown is always available to talk to friends of WBS—individuals and churches. Contact him at pat@worldbibleschool.net.

Come Visit with Us!

After Covid canceled last year's event, **Red River Family Encampment** will return **June 26 -29, 2021, with the theme, "The GOD Who Keeps His Promises."** World Bible School's **Richard Patton and Ron Pottberg** plan to be there and look forward to seeing you. Attendees can pre-register online at rrfe.org. For information about RRFE, call 806-468-7676.



Likewise, **Harding University's Annual Lectureship** resumes **September 26-29, 2021. The theme: "Invincible - Courageous Faith In Troubled Times: A Study of the Book of Daniel."**



WBS has been asked to make two presentations. **John Reese (current WBS president), Brian Davis (WBS president-elect) and Tim Yaeger (WBS VP for Technology and Digital Strategies)** and family members plan to be there. Visit us at our sessions, at our prominent WBS and Mathetis booths, and at the WBS lunch. For information about Harding, call 501-279-4000.

EDITOR: JOHN REESE

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BETTY AND FRIENDS

Betty Choate and her late husband J.C. have used literature and media to great effect. A recent *World Evangelism* newsletter recounts, "J.C. was writing his first book, *Sermon Outlines*, when he held a Gospel meeting in Winona, MS, staying at the home of the Burtons, and meeting Betty when she was 12 years old. She sold his book to several people, never dreaming that at the age of 80, she and World Evangelism co-workers would be dealing with about 250 titles in Winona, supplying thousands of copies free of charge to mission fields throughout the world, and funding the printing of monthly magazines and study materials in countless languages and countries through the decades."

Betty also writes, "Looking at the practicalities, never has the church had greater tools for spreading



the Gospel to every creature under Heaven.... We have the Internet, YouTube, radio, TV, the printed page [and] among those of our brotherhood: World Bible School, World Video Bible School, World English Institute, Apologetics Press, Focus Press, Gospel Broadcast Network, Magnolia Messenger, Christian Courier, House to House, our own 'World Evangelism' program, and countless others working tirelessly among us. The tools are in your hands to be used!"

OUTREACH PRINT MINISTRY

BY SYLVESTER IMOGH IGARRA, NIGERIA

I was converted in 1979 through Bible correspondence courses sent from the U.S. As teenagers, we started a congregation in my village as soon as we were baptized. We continued to utilize the lessons from WBS and others in teaching, preaching and in evangelism until we now have as many as 50 congregations in our county alone and more than 40 in nearby counties we adopted as our local mission fields.

For several decades, we received Gospel literature from the U.S., until changes caused severe literature shortages in Nigeria. This created the hunger that forced me to start writing tracts and books. Thus, as a "child of necessity" and like the mustard seed, began the Outreach Print Ministry (OPM) of the Ugbogbo congregation, with \$15 monthly for the printing of tracts sent by the Sioux Falls church of Christ in South Dakota.

In time, we received help from Jim McPeak and the Orange-



Sylvester and Sandra Omogoh

vale church of Christ in California. They have used World Bible School lessons for evangelism in many places in Africa. In 2015, they provided the funds for the Risograph printer. That was a great advancement. Then the Camelback church of Christ in Phoenix provided even bigger printing machines. Thus, in 2016, we started full scale production of tracts and books in Igarra.

Since 2009, I have written over 200 tracts. 4 million tracts were printed between 2009 and 2016. Since then, 4.5 million more have been printed, distributed in 2,276 shipments. Additionally, I have written and published 19 evangelistic books. Our presses have produced 59,600 books. Places using OPM report 689 baptisms and 15 new congregations started.

With a population of about 200 million, Nigeria has at least 20% of Africa's population. Right now, churches of Christ count about 500,000 members in 5,000 congregations. Nigeria has very high potential to take the Gospel to other African countries. And the printed page is a veritable tool for that work!



New Life Behavior Ministries' Buck Griffith (center) visits with John Reese and Brian Davis about Bibles for prisoners.



Matt Wallin, House to House/Heart to Heart: **To our friends at WBS, Thank you! We love and appreciate you and your good work in the kingdom. It has been our special honor to partner with you in recent issues of House to House. Together we have signed up hundreds for online Bible studies and given away hundreds of WBS Study Bibles. Thank you for your friendship. (House to House reports an average of at least a baptism a day in 2020.)**

I thank my God...because of your PARTNERSHIP in the Gospel from the first day until now. Philippians 1:3-5

FRIENDLY INTERNATIONAL FACES

Editor's Note: *In the March Action! we began introducing WBS' technical staff and key sister ministry volunteers. Here we continue with an emphasis on leading languages. As lessons are adapted to more languages, the full support of your faithful friendship will become even more important.*



**GARRETT
MCGILVRAY**

Garrett works with the French World Outreach ministry of Crieve Hall church of Christ in Nashville, TN, partnering with WBS for the French **École Mondiale de la Bible**. Garrett and FWO director, Barry Baggott, coordinate pairing French-speaking teachers with students from the *francophone*—French-speaking—world. Originally from Cleburne, TX, Garrett is a graduate of Freed-Hardeman University with studies in Bible and French. Garrett and Jessica have four children.



**TIM
BRUMFIELD**

Tim was raised on a dairy farm near Portales, NM, with 8 siblings. He studied Bible at Lubbock Christian College, married Janet Thompson, then graduated from Sunset School of Preaching in 1979. After studies in Portuguese language and missions at Abilene Christian University, Tim and Janet became missionaries in Salvador, Brazil (1984–1996), where their children, Melissa and Jesse, were born. From 1996 to 2017, Tim taught evangelism at Sunset International Bible Institute in Lubbock and served as International Student Coordinator. In January 2018, Tim began fulltime work with WBS, serving to reach the Portuguese-speaking world.



**DANIEL
AMARO**

Daniel was born in Fortaleza, Brazil in 1996. He was raised in a Christian home and was baptized in 2012. He participated in Adventurers in Evangelistic Missions in João Pessoa, Brazil, then served with a congregation. In 2017, Daniel received a scholarship to study Bible at the EBNESR (often called Ebenezer) Bible School in Recife and spent two years as an intern. In August of 2020, he began work with Portuguese World Bible School—**Escola Bíblica Mundial**—in Salvador, Brazil, where, he says, “I find myself serving and being part of this project that has already reached many souls.”



**CARLOS
HERNANDEZ**

Carlos and Emy have two boys, Kaleb (6) and Joshua (nearly 2). Carlos is professionally trained in English, has studied at the Bible School of the Americas and has a B.A. from Bear Valley Bible Institute's extension program in Panama. He was a missionary in Colombia, then worked with Latin American Missions, including translating for instructors. Currently, he is a minister in Guadalajara, Honduras, leads WBS' Spanish Support, and translates for WBS online tools and follow up. Carlos says, “My experience with WBS has been a tremendous blessing. I serve God and people through these awesome tools, and grow with encouraging co-workers. I am always excited about reaching the lost and equipping Christians to teach the Good News of Jesus.”

from p2 Mathetis Partnerships

brings thought-provoking lessons about the church. **Ripple of Light** produced the Mathetis Original videos and courses from their own podcast series. **Foundation Christian Academy** has pioneered using Mathetis in an academic Bible class environment. **Evangelism University** equipped young people to teach the Gospel using Mathetis and the WBS Study Bible.

The most significant partnership, though, is when YOU share Jesus! We are partners with every congregation and every Christian using Mathetis and WBS to make disciples who obey all that Jesus commanded.



Friends for India

BY JOEL COPPINGER VISALIA, CA

World Bible School of Tulare County (wbstc@lightspeed.net) began work in India with Jake Coppinger's travel there in 1982. Responsiveness led to translation of WBS lessons into six Indian languages. Since then, 10 million lessons have been distributed, nearly 90,000 have been baptized, and over 1,600 congregations have been planted because of this ministry. Two Bible colleges have been established and 1,672 preachers have been trained and dispersed to 16 nations.



Believing *no one cares how much you know until they know how much you care*, we have helped thousands of disaster victims, beginning with India's worst tsunami. 280 orphans have been provided with food, shelter, clothing and a Christian home and education. 3,000 students are currently enrolled in our Christian schools. Hand looms, cows, goats, fishing boats, housing and self-sustaining assistance has been offered to hundreds of thousands. Over 5,000 wheelchairs have benefited the handicapped. A Mobile Health Clinic bus cares for medical needs and a Mobile Gospel Team bus helps to share the Gospel. This ministry is a mission that sows the love of Christ and His Good News. God is glorified.

FRIENDLY FACES THAT WELCOME continued from p2



1 A new church plant, one of Bal Laguna's WBS works in the Philippines



2 Mauryn reports 28 baptized by teams in Kenya.



3 Robert helped bring an entire denomination into Christ, Liberia.



4 Eric prepares parolees for baptism, Bomet, Kenya.



5 Tawanda with new converts, Chuware, Zimbabwe

We can't say it enough: We are so thankful for our friendly teachers and follow up partners whom the Lord uses so effectively!

Texas - Sierra Leone Partnership

BY **JACOB SESAY** FREETOWN, SIERRA LEONE



30 souls were added to the Body of Christ

WBS in Sierra Leone. The funds provided travel for WBS rep Jacob Sesay and his team to conduct a campaign in Kono.

Jacob reports, "The mission I was charged with [by Hillcrest] turned out to be very successful. WBS coordinator Momoh Bickarie and I your humble servant were able to organize five days of intensive teachings.... Friends this was a tireless teaching as the participants were sincere and willing to learn. We have an average of 40 to 50 participants on a daily basis, 9 am to 4:30 pm.... I could not believe what my eyes see on that day as 30 persons including religious leaders stood up with the desire to be baptized.... The urge was so serious that we have to suspend classes for a few hours to hire 20 motor bikes to take us to much water. It was a distance but we finally arrived. Yes we are there! 30 souls added to the Body of Christ. God is so good and we give Him the glory!"



The Hillcrest church of Christ in Abilene had a little unassigned money and wondered how it could best be put to work for the Lord. Their contact, Brian Davis, suggested a partnership with

Friends at Mission Printing

Guy V. Caskey (1917-2003) and his wife Jessie were missionaries in East Africa, Southern Africa and Jamaica. They saw firsthand the hunger for literature in developing nations, which led to the establishment of Mission Printing, Inc. (MP) in Arlington, TX, over 40 years ago. The current president of MP is Tom Garner. Richard Renfro is the vice-president/coordinator of MP's container program and workforce which is "99.9% volunteer labor." Richard's aerospace career took him to many countries, making him ideal for contacts and logistics. Since retiring in 2001, he has devoted much of his time to MP, cost-effectively shipping some 3 million pieces of Christian literature in four ocean containers annually. Richard says, "WBS is a good organization for MP to share its extra container space. We share some of the same destination points for delivery. We have shipped WBS Bibles and/or WBS Lessons to Nigeria, Uganda, Ghana and Kenya. Later this year we plan to send WBS material in our containers to Cameroon and Zimbabwe. Next year, MP plans container shipments to Tanzania, Liberia, Ghana and maybe Nigeria with possible pallet loads of WBS material. God has blessed us with good volunteer distributors in every country that we ship. God continues to provide us with dedicated volunteers and faithful donors."



New Birth for Betlehem

BY **JOHN ED CLARK AND KEVIN CLARK**
FRESNO, CALIFORNIA

Pictured below are Nigussie Abebe, Betlehem Teka, and her father, Teka Abebe. Brother Nigussie is the preacher at the Sebata congregation south of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Teka is his brother and Betlehem is his niece. Nigussie was led to the Gospel through the World Bible School correspondence courses. Over the years, he faithfully led his family and his neighbors to the truth of God's Word and matured the congregation in Sebata. He baptized his brother several years ago and is pictured baptizing Betlehem.

We look at the world and we ask, "How can we reach this world with the Gospel?" The answer is simple; we do it one soul at a time, as seen in Sebata. The old equation is still true. If each



member of the Lord's church would reach one person or bring someone to be taught each year, it could be done in a generation! God help us to do that!

John Ed adds, "Amharic WBS inside Ethiopia is an active and great ministry. Almost every leader in Ethiopia is a former WBS student!"

Eternal Life for Maurice

BY **BRIAN DAVIS** CEDAR PARK, TEXAS

The late Doyle Kee, based in Geneva, Switzerland, had a profound impact on the French-speaking world. He and his wife, Barbara, taught many through correspondence materials including French World Bible School. Barbara continues that prolific work today. In the early 2000s, Doyle sent a container of French WBS materials to the young church in Lubumbashi, Democratic Republic of Congo. The container proved well worth the effort, leading to 26 congregations now thriving in that area. That growth reflects in part the influence of Maurice Kapako, son of an Italian father and Congolese mother, who was converted by means of the shipped courses. He started a congregation in Likasi, DRC. "Papa Maurice," as he was affectionately known, taught and led faithfully until



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his passing, February 14, 2021. Brian Davis—president-elect of WBS—often taught with Maurice when serving as a missionary to the region. Brian concludes, "We are so happy to have played a role in Maurice winning the victory in Christ!"

UPCOMING...

