



LINKING former Wesleyan missionaries to each other and to Global Partners/Wesleyan World Missions

Volume 4, Issue 1

Spring 2005

MISSIONS PRAYER MEETINGS IN BROOKSVILLE, FL

Each week on Monday evening former missionaries gather for an hour of prayer for Wesleyan missions. It is the highlight of the week for those attending. Often there will be visiting missionaries or candidates who will also join for this time of prayer.



Missionary Alumni gathered for prayer

Also the Brooksville Wesleyan Church conducts a weekly prayer service on Wednesday morning. Missionaries and WBCA village residences join in this time of intense prayer.

MISSIONS CONVENTION AT BROOKSVILLE WESLEYAN CHURCH

This year the annual missions convention was a tremendous success with Orai and Linda Lehman, Phil and Lucille Nettleton, and Cora Gorman, as the special speakers. The theme was "A Vision Worthy...of Christ's Passion."



Orai and Linda Lehman

The total amount of faith promises or cash for Wesleyan missions during the convention was over \$66,000. The church is the second highest in the Denomination with a total giving for Global Partners/WWM was in excess of \$135,000.



Cora Gorman speaking

MISSIONARY ALUMNI SERVING

DEAN PHILLIPS (Guyana, Caribbean)

Recently Dean went on a trip to Guyana with Dr. Shelton Wood. He reports, "I was privileged to visit Guyana at Thanksgiving time to attend their Bible School Graduation. The school was started in 1977 by Rev. Don Karns. There were 10 in the first graduation class, and there are 7 of these still involved as pastors and leaders of the work.

The school is now accredited and is offering Bachelor's, Master's, and Doctoral degrees. Special thanks to Dr. Shelton Wood for his help.

What a thrill to see 60 graduates march down the aisle of a large cultural center to receive their certificates and degrees, among them eight receiving their Master's degree. There are 3 now enrolled in the Doctoral program.

After forty-two years of missionary ministry I think this is one was the most rewarding. The privilege of meeting former students and retired pastors was a wonderful blessing. I was treated with such honor and respect since Guyana has a special respect for age. I told them that I never felt old before, but they were always reaching out to help this old man."

ED AND WILMA WISSBROECKER (Africa)

"What a thrill it was to be back home in Africa again. We received an invitation from Esther Phillippe asking us to return to Swaziland and fill in while she and Dorcas took a six month furlough.

We were thankful for the Brooksville Wesleyan Church and other friends who stood behind us and provided prayer and financial support. Also being retired made it easy for us to pack up and go.

We enjoyed the fellowship of the students and their response to our teaching at Emmanuel Wesleyan Bible College. One of the highlights of our time there was realizing that we were teaching in Africa on Ed's 80th birthday! We taught 3 modules as a team. Also Wilma taught an English class and Ed did some maintenance work. In addition we helped out by meeting on Wednesday evenings with a discipleship class and then taking them to help at a bush church on Sundays.

When Esther and Dorcas returned, we went to Mozambique for 3 weeks and were privileged to attend the first graduating class from the new Bible School at Xai Xai.

It wouldn't have been right to return to the States without visiting many dear friends in Zambia. We were there for a month and Ed had the opportunity to do some electrical work. We thank the Lord for once again making it possible for us to have been back home in Africa."

HARRIS AND MARCIA EARL (Columbia)

"Our trip to Haiti from December 21, 2004 to January 4, 2005 was a gift from our oldest daughter, Candace, to visit our youngest daughter, Carol, who is heading up the nurses' training school on the Wesleyan Hospital compound on the island of La Gonave.

We were warned that, due to the unstable situation in Haiti, the trip could be canceled at any moment. It was reassuring as we passed through immigration at Port au Prince, to be welcomed 2 times in English by Haitian officials, and then to be welcomed by Carol, who had flown there to meet us.

I was impressed by the friendliness and glad cooperation of the hospital staff and compound personnel. It spoke of their true respect and sincere appreciation for the missionaries. We had the privilege of attending the hospital Christmas program. An excellent Gospel message was given by one of the hospital employees. He made me proud of the Haitian staff and deeply grateful for the decided evangelistic purpose of the Wesleyan Hospital.

Marcia and I installed a high class ultra-violet water purifier in the nursing school, and sorted and categorized many boxes of valuable textile items. Carol was very grateful for an Internet cable hook-up we installed in the nursing school office. Marcia also sewed a bunch of kitchen towels.

We say thank you to nurse Edna Taylor who gave birth to what has now become such a valid Christian ministry, and to all who have made it what it is today; missionaries, visiting teams, and spiritual and financial supporters from afar."

STORER AND WILMA EMMETT (Africa)

Dr. Storer and Wilma have just returned from spending several weeks at the Wesleyan Hospital on La Gonave in Haiti. More of their report will be given next quarter.

NEWS AND REPORTS

Please send any news/report to Bob Smith, 22275 Woodlawn Ave, Brooksville, FL 34601-2702 or E-mail: bobsmith2004@earthlink.net

PARTNER POINTS

By Don Bray, General Director, Global Partners
(Adapted from CURRENTS, Newsletter for
Missionaries, February 2005)

I have just spent a terrific weekend at Houghton College Church...I was reminded again in meeting with the mission's committee that a significant part of our ministry is telling a story and giving a few key prayer requests to strengthen missions passion in a supporting church...At Houghton I shared ministry with missionaries from two other ministries...Joy and I leave February 7 for North East India national conference and ask for your prayers.

NEWS FROM ACTIVE MISSIONARIES

BOUGAINVILLE

We have opened a new pioneer church about three miles down the road from the college. It is a village called Gohe Gohe (pronounced go hey, go hey). About 50 people from our Tanamalo church (went) to encourage the new congregation. A large part of our congregation will make up the core of the new church. Community leaders spoke to give their approval and welcome to the new church. Wesley, our newly graduated pastor at Tanamalo, took part in the service. Joe, our soon-to-be-ordained new district superintendent, also took part. As I looked at these two graduates from our Mt. Hagan college, I felt a surge of encouragement that the Lord is indeed working to establish His work in Bougainville. These two young men...are a symbol of hope for the leadership of the Church.

Frank and Ruth Midavaine

BRAZIL

This is the testimony of 35 year-old Nelly Maudames. "I was a Catholic that didn't like evangelical churches. At the time I was suffering from rheumatism and arthritis in my right arm. I had done treatments but without results. My arm became permanently bent, and I couldn't straighten it. Because of this, at times I would cry out in pain. One night as I arrived from work, my husband invited me to watch a film that the church near our house was showing. I didn't much like the idea, but he insisted. We went. While watching the JESUS film, when Christ cured the blind man, I asked Jesus to heal me! At the end of the movie, the pastor asked if someone was sick and needed prayer. I went forward to receive prayer. I felt something different in my arm and was able to lift it. Then I called my husband to tell him what had happened. He was so happy for me. In that joyful moment I confessed Jesus as Lord and Savior, and I am with Him to this day."

The JESUS film Partnership

CHILE

Pastor Carlos Martinez and wife, Angelica, have served God with excellence developing more than 20 committed young pastors during their leadership in two churches over the past 15 years. Those pastors and their families form the nucleus of "Christ is the Only Answer" ministry in Chile that will celebrate its 15th anniversary in October 2005. Their desire to belong to a larger holiness church led them to join The Wesleyan Church a few years ago. And the partnership developed with the Trinity Wesleyan Church in Indianapolis has been the catalyst, which has allowed them to double their ministry in the last few years...

Another highlight, from the conference, was Pastor Rodrigo Soto's report who in late 2004 went to Uruguay, not only for an intensive seminary course, but also to start laying plans for the Church in Chile to send a couple to begin the ministry of The Wesleyan Church in Uruguay!

Jarvis and Sue Ferguson
Regional Dir. For Peru, Chile, Argentina

CROATIA

For the past four months we have been intently studying the Croatian language. Each morning Ana, our language helper, works with us on a new text (usually 4-5 sentences). Past topics include family relationships, hobbies, weather, and holiday traditions. Once we feel comfortable with the sentences and pronunciation, we practice with various shopkeepers throughout the center of town.

We were thrilled to know that even though we may be making slow progress with the language, we are still building relationships! Many shopkeepers have begun sharing news of their own lives instead of just listening to our daily-memorized texts. Josep, a watch vendor, works 14 hours a day selling and repairing watches. During the slow hours he reads his Bible, which lies within reach behind the counter. One evening we took Jonathan and Caleb to meet him. As we introduced the boys, Josep immediately recognized Caleb's name. He was so excited to tell us that he knew the story of Caleb and Joshua from the Bible! We are praying that God will strengthen our friendship with Josep and others and that He will open the doors so we can share His love with them.

Joel and Cindy Babcock

WELCOME

Dorothy (Dot) Shuman has joined the administrative services team in Global Partners. She will be working part-time in the area of accounts payable, expense report processing, analysis, and financial data entry. Her husband works in the general treasurer's office. GP welcomes her to the headquarter's family.

FROM E-MAILS RECEIVED BY JANICE BARNETT (Missionaries under appointment)

*Dave and Brenda Babcock, Austria, have just returned from teaching a 2 week class in the Wesleyan Bible School in Russia.

*Juline Keilholtz, Central Asia, has now received a one-year multiple entry student visa. Classes start soon.

*Russian missionaries, Denis, Tanya, and daughter Lada are preparing for missionary service in Ukraine.

*Due to intense prayer the spirits are not responding to an active voodoo site just outside a missionary's home in Cap Haitien! Drummers are exhausted and worshippers and priests are frustrated!

*Brian and Wendy Sheets, Houghton Campus, have just completed an intensive class on Pastoral Theology at the Wesleyan Bible School in Vladimir, Russia. They have now passed their physicals to return to Russia as career missionaries.

*George and Nancy Wenz, Ecuador, recently visited a group of Indians living in the mountains to bring Christmas gifts, clothes, boots, and food.

*Five Church Plants resulted from a recent showing of the JESUS film in Guyana.

*Matthew Blake, Europe, recently went to Krakow, Poland to meet with some pastors and church leaders who are in the process of joining The Wesleyan Church.

FROM GLOBAL PARTNERS

*Global Partners' new Albania ministry team is now in Hungary undergoing additional training and preparation. They depart for Albania on March 5.

*Wesleyan hospital staff, La Gonave, Haiti, welcomed a first year Haitian resident physician, Dr. Julien.

*Through November 516,820 people have seen the JESUS film with 150,651 responding to the invitation. The Mozambique Church has used this tool to plant an average of 2 churches per month. In a new Wesleyan Church plant there were 38 baptized. Of this number there were 16 former Muslims.

*Wisconsin District sends a Pastor Training Team to Nicaragua to conduct an annual pastor training.

*Pastor John Simamora, Wesleyan Church planter in Medan, Sumatera, led a group of Doctors and specialists to Nias Island to minister to the tsunami victims. They went under the sponsorship of World Hope International.

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MISSIONARY ALUMNI REWARDED

These alumni have gone on to their eternal reward:
Gertrude Bonner (Haiti/So. Africa) October 2004
Neal Bonner (Haiti/So. Africa) January 2005

NEW MISSIONARY ALUMNI

Bob and Brenda Bagley (Swaziland/So. Africa)
Rene and Glenda Crisostomo (Guatemala)

NEW MISSIONARIES DEPARTING

Ken & Dawn Bishop Albania
Juline Keilholtz Muslim Ministry

RETURNING TO THE FIELD

Orai & Linda Lehman Mozambique
Cora Gorman Suriname
Tom & Grace Ensz Brazil
Jeff & Beth Fussner

ON HOME MINISTRIES IN THE USA

Bill & Daphne Foster Australia
Jim & Karen Pickett Mozambique
Eric & Amber Coulter Swaziland
Brian & Cara Burke Russia
Todd & Karen Robinson Russia
Greg & Shannon Rast British Isles
Debbie Mitchell Haiti

ALUMNI: PRAYER REQUESTS

*Don Kinde (Sierra Leone) (dkinde@juno.com) – A nine hour surgical procedure to remove cancer of the esophagus. Don is doing well in recovery.
*Marion Vreugdenhil (mjvreugdenhil@bartnet.net) – recovering following colon cancer surgery in September. All the cancer was removed and no further treatment is required. (Served in Africa, Philippines)
*Alan Houston is taking treatment for early stage of cancer on his right vocal chord. Besides speaking in 2 churches, Rev. Houston is a soloist and has lost most of his voice. (Served in Zambia)
*Darlene Meeks is recovering from two strokes.
*Harold Johnson received a shunt to drain bleeding in the brain. He seems to be doing well. (Japan)

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