

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

Volume 4, Issue 4

## WMAF MEMBERS ON ASSIGNMENT!

# DR. BARRY ROSS ON STUDY ASSIGNMENT IN JERUSALEM

During my three month summer break I came to Jerusalem, Israel, arriving on June 10, 2005. I stayed at the Tantur Ecumenical Institute. This is a large, sprawling stone building with several wings and stories, on about 35 acres of land on a hilltop. It was purchased in 1971 for the purpose of establishing a study center. There are basically two types of persons who come: those in the Scholars Program, staying a month to a year, and those in short-term, one-month study programs that include daily lectures and/or field trips up and down Israel.



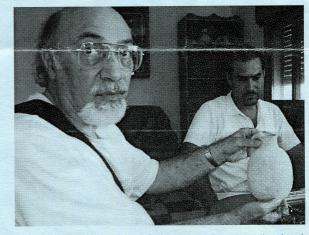
On June 19, Fathers' Day, I worshipped in Bethlehem at the Christmas Lutheran Church. The congregation was about half American visitors. The service was mostly in Arabic, but they gave us bulletins that had most of the service in English. In my times of coming to Israel in past years this was my first time to worship with Christian Arab brothers and sisters. It was a moving experience. Following the service they served Arabic coffee in the fellowship room. It was the first I've had in years, and it was quite an eye opener, to say the least!

After lunch, a dozen of us took taxis across Jerusalem to the Holocaust memorial, called Yad Vashem, and spent about 2 hours there. It is very large, with many, many heart wrenching, mind numbing photo displays and realistic video



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presentations throughout the large complex. Perhaps the most heart gripping scene was the Children's Memorial, where, a single lighted candle is made to appear as thousands, through a vast arrangement of mirrors, as you walk through the darkened building. A voice is reading, 24 hours a day, one by one, the name, age and place of death, of some 1.5 million children who died in the Holocaust.



I went to Israel to write a commentary on the book of Amos. Fountain Press, Pune, India, will publish it, as they did my commentary on Isaiah. Since being here I have been able to research thousands of pages and hundreds of articles.

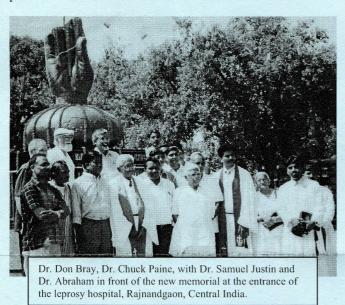
(Barry and Margaret spent many years as missionaries in Japan. Dr. Ross also taught in a seminary in India.)

#### **ON ASSIGNMENT (Cont.)**

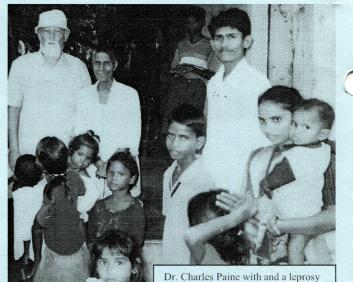
# CELEBRATING A CENTURY OF MINISTRY IN INDIA

Asia Area Director Paul Turner reports that the October 6-9 centenary celebration at the Wesleyan Leprosy Hospital in India brought visitors from across India and North America. Dr. and Mrs. Charles Paine were privileged to attend the celebration as they were on their way to Africa to assist in the hospital in Zambia. Global Partners General Director Don Bray gave the principal address on Saturday and Sunday, challenging the pastors and the members of the Central India District to believe God for future ministry to touch the hurting and marginalized people. A dream of the institutions is to open a training school for children whose parents are recovered leprosy patients; pray for this to become a reality. Please also pray that patients, who are often told there is no hope, would come to Jesus to receive His grace, deliverance, and hope of eternity.

For a century hundreds of leprosy patients have been treated and cared for by Wesleyan missionaries and people. Many have come to know the love of Christ through this ministry. Several are now living normal lives with their families. The Rajnandgaon hospital is well known in this part of India.



To commemorate this milestone a local artist created a monument, which is placed at the entrance of the hospital compound. There is a plaque at the base of the monument with the names of the various missionaries who have played a major role in the hospital. These names are: Rev. F. R. Whistler, Founder 1905-1928; Rev. Earl Fiddler 1927-1945; Rev. Jehart Henson 1931-1967; Miss Ruth Curtis 1944 –1968; Miss Hazel P. Compton 1945-1961; Dr. (Miss) R. Bibbee 1952-1992; Dr. Charles Paine 1960-1965, 1998-2000; Miss Leonett White 1968-1989; and Dr. (Miss) P. Detamore 1988-1992.



Dr. Charles Paine with and a leprosy family at Asha Nagar (City of Hope)





Dr. Chuck and Grace Paine, Dr. Don Bray, Mrs. Debra Hallman, Mrs. Ann O'Dell, Dr. Paul Turner, and Mrs. Glenda Hoyle.

Leprosy patients are now being treated in their homes. Therefore, the hospital is largely for patients with acute problems related to their leprosy. Also there are patients who have no home or family to care for them, therefore, they are cared for through the hospital facility.

#### GROUP OF WMAF MEET IN MARION, INDIANA



On December 7, 2005 a group of former missionaries got together for an informal time of fellowship in Marion, Indiana. Present were three former General Secretaries of Wesleyan World Missions: Rev. Ermal and Gloria Wilson, Dr. Robert and Louise Lytle, and Dr. Wayne and Virginia Wright. Other former missionaries who were able to attend were: Harold and Edna Johnson (Japan), Dr. Barry and Margaret Ross (Japan & India), Mrs. Ruth Smith (Short Term), and Paul and Darlene Meeks (Philippines, Zambia, Albania).



# WMAF MEMBERS MEET IN THE HOUGHTON AREA

On October 22, 2005 WMF and WMAF members gathered for a meeting at the Houghton Church. Dr. John Nystrom was the MC. Rev. Todd Leach offered prayer before the meal. Dr. Storer Emmett was the special speaker. There were a total of 39 in attendance. They will have another joint meeting in April with Karen Daughtery as the speaker.

#### NOTES FROM YOUR MISSIONARIES

**Croatia** –Joel and Cindy Babcock write, "Praise God for His healing touch on Dubravka, a former drug addict. God completely healed her from chronic hepatitis. Dubravka and her 3 year old son, Lovre, attend The Wesleyan Church. Ask God to grant us favor with immigration officials. We are working to have some documents translated by a lawyer. We hope this is the last step toward receiving our living permits. Sretan Nova Godina (Happy New Year)!" **Cambodia** –A recent Wesleyan youth convention was held September 27-29 in Phnom Penh, and over 40 young people attended. All the speakers at the convention, with the exception of missionary Greg Fernandez, were young Cambodian Wesleyan pastors. The theme was "Created to Become Like Christ." Unsaved young people came to Christ, and those who were already Christians were empowered to serve Christ zealously. Pray for these young people, in various stages of their Christian walk, as they seek to learn more about Jesus and to follow Him.

**Germany** –With 75 million unchurched people living in Germany, there is a decreasing knowledge of Christianity. Many see the Church as irrelevant to society. Pray for: \*revival in the Church;

\*the new Wesleyan church started in Stuttgart;

\*God to provide a pastor for the Munich Wesleyan Church; \*a new wave of church planting;

\*long-term workers to be called to Germany;

\*The Wesleyan Church of Germany to be a beacon of light to those who are lost and without hope.

**Mexico** –Latin American Area Director Rick West reports that the presence of God was awesome during the 7<sup>th</sup> Latin American Missions Conference sponsored by JIBACAM (the Wesleyan Latin American missions organization). The conference was held in Puebla, Mexico, on October 29 – November 4. Thirteen nations were represented, and more than 130 Latino leaders came together to answer the call of the Great Commission. Rev. Anita Carrion, former DS of Peru, was commissioned to serve as the first missionary sent out by The Wesleyan Church in Latin America. She plans to leave in February 2006 for Equatorial Guinea in West Africa. Pray for her as she raises her support team and makes plans for a February departure.

**Karis People** –Missionary Alicia has completed the editing of the Karis people music book. This will be a vital tool for ministry among the Karis people.

**Swaziland** –Missionaries Rick and Eunice Cox report that Bheki, a recent Emmanuel Wesleyan Bible College graduate, has had the opportunity of leading the Jericho Church pastor and his wife to Jesus. The Jericho Church is a cult that mixes Christianity with ancestral worship, many witch doctors are a part of this church. After accepting Jesus as his Savior, the Jericho pastor had to leave his church. Through Bheki's message seven of the Jericho Church were saved. Following graduation Bheki was assigned to pastor a church he planted in the mountains.

## FLORIDA WMAF MEETING TO BE HELD

The Florida chapter will have its annual meeting on March 21, 2006 at 12:00 noon beginning with lunch in the Nicholson Dining Center. The meeting will follow in the Elliott Community Center after lunch.

## **NEWS AND REPORTS**

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

## JESUS FILM TESTIMONIES - Sept. 2005 Indonesia:

My community called me "Mr. Cripple" because my foot was injured by a wild pig. I was raised in the Marapu religion and no Christians were brave enough to come to my village. Finally a Wesleyan pastor from the JESUS film team came and shared the gospel with me. My heart opened to Jesus and I attended a Christian meeting. The pastor prayed for my foot and it started improving until it was healed. Now my house is used for the church service.

# Sierra Leone:

A village imam (priest) has been saved. This man is from one of the most resistant tribal groups. He is a well known and influential Muslim leader. In another district 17 strong Muslim leaders have been won to Christ quite recently.

an was watching the JESUS film when he y fell down. We stopped everything and began to pray for him. After about a half hour he got up and spoke just a few words in a strained and strange sounding voice: "I...know...Je...sus...myyy..." Now he is like a small child. He can speak and accepts Jesus.

#### NEWS NOTES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

\*El Salvador –In spite of numerous difficulties the World Hope Medical team was able to hold clinics in several locations. In Soyapango they saw 300 patients, among whom were several gang members and their families. All of them heard about the love of God. A total of 42 people were saved during the clinics.

\*Karis People –There are now more than 100 people who are a part of the house church network that is Eternal Life Church. "We are praying that in the next 5 years there will be 15 mature local believers leading cell groups in various locations."

\***Papua New Guinea** –There are 6 men who will be coming for the first year of Bible School. There are 3 second year students and 2 third year students coming back for their final year of study. \*Swaziland –At their November graduation ceremony the students at Emmanuel Wesleyan Bible College delivered a check for almost 9,000 Rand (USD\$1,300) to World Hope. This was the result of their annual faith-promise giving and was designated for the tsunami relief in Sri Lanka.

\*Albania –The Nettletons write: "One special day in Albania was in the village of Gramsh where Ken and Dawn Bishop live. They took us for a visit with their friend and language helper, Ardion. He is blind physically, but has amazing spiritual insight! While his wife served us tea, I kept thinking of the remarkable privilege of the Bishop children! Eva, Joshua, and Steven have the splendid opportunities of seeing up close the fervent love for Jesus of the Albanian Christians.

**New Zealand** –Emily Fussner, 14 year old daughter of Jeff and Beth Fussner leads a Sunday after acon Piblo study for 10-12 year old girls from the book the topic is "Finding True Inner Beauty."

#### **FYI (For Your Information)!**

John and Ruth Putney (Puerto Rico) are enjoying retirement. Their address is: 142 Country Road 23 #A, Harrisville, NY 13648. E-mail: jrputney@aol.com

**Tom and Jean Dutcher** (Puerto Rico) welcome any WMAF persons who would like to share to pass by. Their address is: 115 West Main Street, Sidney, NY 13838.

**Fran and Leni Strong** (Sierra Leone). Fran is teaching at Univ. of Buffalo and has made several trips to China teaching English in rural middle and high schools. He invites anyone who has a love and burden for China to contact him. His address is: 1957 Hess Road, Appleton, NY 14008. Telephone: 716-778-5927.

**Eunice Louise Van Metre** (Peru) last year (June 28, 2005) was 99 ½ years old. She is living in Green Acres Nursing Home in Beaumont, TX. E-mail for her niece is: beckyyoes@gt.rr.com

#### WMAF persons entering their eternal reward:

- 1. Dr. Don Kinde (Sierra Leone)-Oct.6, 2005
- 2. Rev. Henry Ortlip (Haiti)-Sept. 26, 2005
- 3. Rev. Ron Heavilin (Puerto Rico)-May 15, 2005
- 4. Dr. William Phillippe (Africa)—Oct. 27, 2005
- 5. Rev. Walter Hotchkin (PNG)-July, 2005

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