



LINK

LINKING former Wesleyan missionaries to each other and to Global Partners

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Harris & Marcia

The Earl's were honored during a noon meal at Wesleyan Village in Brooksville, FL on September 26th, 2011. In their 20 years residence there, they led ministries in five different prisons and four nursing homes, mailed literature to Jamacia, and assisted children and adults in transportation to Sunday School and worship services. Harris wrote numerous Bible study booklets and Marcia was Wesleyan Women's Outreach Director for the local church.

Harris was born to missionary parents in Plattsburg, NY, one of nine children. Attending the West Chazy Wesleyan Methodist Church, he early sensed God's call to missionary service. Marcia Forsythe was born in West Brownsville, PA, one of eight children. She attended the local Wesleyan Methodist Church and entered college to prepare for work as a missionary doctor. Harris and Marcia met at Houghton College and realized they had similar life goals. Working his way through college, Harris learned the printing trade. One day, a friend asked him, "Have you considered becoming a missionary printer?" The question moved Harris for some time.

Harris and Marcia married in 1947. They pastored a church in NY while waiting for their missionary application to be processed. They were needed in Columbia, South America, but visa permits were not being accepted there. Eventually, the Earls were requested to enter Columbia as printers. In 1954, they left the USA for Columbia to be in charge of the extensive printing plant in Medellin. God blessed their ministry across 36 1/2 years and they sent literature to other Spanish language areas as well.

Five children were born in the Earl home in the USA: Candace, Mark, Melanie, and Carol, and Jeffery who was born in Columbia.

The Earl's enjoyed a wonderful Thanksgiving day with Melanie and Bob, grandchildren and great grandchildren. That evening Marcia finished her course the Lord ordained for her. She and Harris were married 64 years and Marcia was the most loving Christian soul Harris ever knew. Harris can be contacted at 2795 Drake Court, Gibsonia, PA 15044. His mobile phone is 412-992-6203, and email address is <hdearl7@gmail.com>.

Inside this issue . . .

JIBICAM	2
WMAF Shunem House	2
Africa Growth	3
Missions 3rd Generation	3
Mrs. Elizabeth C. Phillips	3
Mongolia Leader Training	4
General Conf 2012 Alumni	4
Mrs. Priscilla Edling	4
Mrs. Cecilea Bahadur	4

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A Global Partners' Minute

with Dr. Wilson



I recently attended the biennial convention of JIBACAM, our Ibero America Area missions department, held in Medellin, Colombia. This was my third time to meet with them following earlier conventions in Lima, Peru and Panama City, Panama. There is a continuing high level interest and activity in taking the gospel to other countries, and JIBACAM is responsible for starting works in Spain, Mali and Equatorial Guinea. Very inspiring time!



One of the highlights of the convention was a special time of prayer for Mariquel McKella, wife of our leader in Panama, Jose McKella. Mariquel's father was killed in Colombia in 1998 as a martyr for the sake of the gospel, and this was her first trip back to Colombia since that time. The presence of God was very real as we all shared in prayer for her and the extended family.

--- by Dr. H. C. Wilson, General Director Global Partners

WMAF Get-Together Indianapolis

Shunem House, Noblesville, IN, hosted a WMAF Get-Together October 29th. Forty missionaries attended, representing 402 years of service.

Sharing, testimonies, greetings, and updates were enjoyable. Dr. Ermal Wilson with his "Moses rod" (cane) (at right with wife Gloria) shared victories of the past and bright hope for the future. Gertrude Fulk prayed for young missionaries and God's Kingdom work in the world. Paul Wilson sang and led in hymn singing. Dr. Art O'Dell shared an inspirational time of devotion, challenge, and even good laughs.

After a delicious meal prepared by Wesleyan Women from



the Sheridan, IN church, Dr. John Connor, Rev. Fran Lane, and Rev. Peter Moore inspired us with what is going on in our "Wesleyan World."

Those attending were: Med & May Bailey, Art O'Dell, Joe & Pat Estes, Clifton & Arletta Ashlock, Norman & Kim Wilson, Paul Wilson, Ermal & Gloria Wilson, Bill and Joyce Moore, Elaine Newton, Richard & Barbara Barker, Robert & Kay Bickert, Gertrude Fulk, Marilyn Hunter, Doris Scott, John & Marge Conner, Jim and Roxene Lo, Chuck & Ruth Pierson, Steve & Kathy Ullom, Bob & Suzanne Vardaman, Jeannette Spratt, Jim & Jeanette Vermilya, Charlie & Joy (Vermilya) Alcock, Fran Lane, and Peter Moore.

--by Jim & Jeanette Vermilya, Directors of Shunem House Ministries

Africa Area Leads Growth Statistics

The Africa Area has become the fastest growing mission area of Global Partners according to statistics for 2001-2010 reported recently at the Leadership Council meeting in Indianapolis. The work of Global Partners around the world is divided into seven areas ranging from historic areas such as Africa and Latin America to the newer areas such as Europe and the Middle East.

The past decade has arguably been the most fruitful period of the entire 120-year history of the Wesleyan Church's ministry in Africa. Years of sacrificial missionary service combined with faithful prayer and financial support are now yielding an unprecedented harvest. Besides leading the other areas in overall growth, churches within Africa lead the Wesleyan Church world-wide in specific growth measures.

The greatest numerical growth in membership was in Mozambique, with a growth of 11,158 in membership over the decade. The greatest growth in number of churches was in Zambia with 121 added. Officially, the greatest percentage growth in membership was in Sri Lanka (Asia). One could reason however, that the growth rate in Uganda/Kenya was actually much higher, but their percentage growth can't be calculated since they started from 0.

At the end of 2010 the official statistics show Africa as having 1,180 churches with 80,970 members. Wesleyan churches in Africa reported that last year 9,323 people were converted and 5,636 were baptized. Praise God for an abundant harvest!

-- by Dr. Robert Bagley, Africa Area Director, GP



Bob with Rev. Damian Asumu, leader of The Wesleyan Church in Equatorial Guinea, west coast of Africa. (See Dr. Wilson's GP Minute on page 2.)

Missions Third Generation

Last year, Rev. Meredith House, veteran missionary, went to be with the Lord. His grand daughter is a GP missionary in Albania. Here's her thoughts about Rev. House on the anniversary of his death.

"I was very lucky growing up. I had a lot of very strong Christian role models who lived out what it meant to follow the Lord. This included all four of my grandparents. My grandfather House (on my mom's side) was an incredible man.

"Uno was one of his favorite games. One time, all the kids were playing Uno and Grandpa comes waltzing over asking to join. Of course we let him but he had to start out with a handful of cards while we kept the couple of cards we had. Turns out he won because he had secreted out the wild cards and draw fours! He confessed and gave us a big grin!

"I always looked up to my grandfather. He always helped other people. He would visit people in our church (even when he wasn't pastoring). If you missed service two Sundays, he would hand you a visitor's card to fill out and ask where you had been.

"His humility impressed us all. He did many things behind the scenes and never bragged. I had the privilege of being able to know him for just over 23 years of my life."

---by Katie Hawkins, GP missionary in Albania

Mrs. Elizabeth Clark Phillips

Rev. Mrs. Elizabeth C. Phillips died November 2, 2011 in Millville, N.J. She was born July 16, 1922 and following ministerial training, became an ordained minister with credentials recently in the Florida district of The Wesleyan Church.

She married Dean H. Phillips Jr. on March 10, 1945. The Phillips pastored Wesleyan Churches in Maryland, and then served 41 years as cross-cultural missionaries with the Wesleyan Church. Their career led them to Eastern Caribbean Islands, Trinidad, Tobago, Jamaica, Guyana and parts of South America from February 1947 to August 1988.

Her husband Dean preceded her in death on January 18, 2011. She is survived by her son: John Howard Phillips and wife, Jonny; 2 daughters: Joyce and Doris Phillips; 6 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren all of Millville, N.J.

A memorial service for Mrs. Phillips was held Nov. 7th with burial in the Greenwood Memorial Park in Millville, N.J.

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Mongolia Leadership Training



Prayer for Bor Undur

Recently, our leaders attended quarterly Bible School in Gacchurt. Chris taught Old Testament Survey to give a better understanding of how the stories and characters fit together. The Old Testament came alive for these leaders when they caught the idea of the grand scope of scripture in historical context. Chris also taught Bible Study Methods with emphasis on interpretation and application. The leaders want to train the lay leaders in their churches to be more effective cell leaders.

Wednesday night Bible study has been a wonderful time to dig in to the scriptures with our people. The study in 1 Corinthians the past few weeks has been inspirational as we worship, pray, and fellowship in God's word. Pray with us for the work in Bor Undur and the workers there.

---by Chris & Tiffany Sumpter, GP Career

General Conference 2012 Alumni

The 12th General Conference of the Wesleyan Church will convene in Lexington, KY (June 2-6). The WMAF plans to have an informative display table at the Conference to highlight its diverse activities.

A video display will portray missionaries when in active service and as they are today. Please send your pictures and info to: Philip Myers, 8056 Luke Court, Brooksville, FL 34601. Send digital photos to wmyers113@tampabay.rr.com (after tampabay it is rr as in road runner). Include a note about where you served and the years you were active on the field.

You may contact Phil or Elsie Myers at (352) 397-3049. Thank you for your attention to this big undertaking.

-- by W. Philip Myers, WMAF Committee

Mrs. Priscilla Edling

Mrs. Priscilla Edling died November 4th in Leesburg, FL. She and her husband, Dr. John Edling, served in medical cross-cultural missionary service with the Wesleyan Church in Haiti from 1952-'68 & 1979-'88.

Mrs. Cecilea Bahadur

Mrs. Cecilea Bahadur, 76, wife of Dr. Eric Jang Bahadur, district superintendent of The Wesleyan Church – Pakistan, died Nov. 12th of an apparent brain hemorrhage. She founded Wesleyan Christian Schools that today number 8 schools and 900 students. She is survived by her husband, three sons, and one daughter.