

MISSIONS NEWSLETTER

GLOBAL PARTNERS GLEANINGS ...

JANUARY | FEBRUARY 2010

AFRICA

God has ripened the harvest in Africa. The church is exploding - like reading Acts all over again. Priorities of African Church Development: Assist in equipping and enabling African leadership.

ASIA AREA

7 billion people . . . Myanmar - 57 churches - Union Biblical Seminary - outreach among Buddhists (this is news from just one of the countries). In this area . . . 11 countries, 218 churches, 563 preaching points, 15,000 members, 3 Bible schools

CARIBE-ATLANTIC AREA: HAITI, GUYANA - SURINAME - FRENCH GUINEA

Guyana - 100 years - end of slavery - imported Chinese indentured servants. Doris Wall works with Amerindian

Haiti - 60 years - 100 churches - 70 plus schools: La Gonave hospital 50 years

Vision: Transform the country by having a clinic at each church as an outreach - a Christian University to train professionals.

Suriname - Fr. Guiana - 40 years - multi-ethnic - Afro-Caribbean. Stuck in Stage 4 - Leadership development

EUROPE AREA

Known as the Prodigal Continent - 731 million - less than 2% Christian. Story from Macedonia - at Easter you take an egg and go to family members and ask forgiveness

IBERO-AMERICAN AREA

19 countries plus Spain, Equatorial Guinea and hopefully Cuba . . . Peru 1904 - indigenous - this past year gave \$3,200 to missions. Spain has 5 families, 7 churches (Argentina) 8th church to be planted by a Spaniard. Argentina has 8 churches.

PACIFIC AREA

Bougaville, Australia, Solomons, New Zealand, Indonesia Papua New Guinea. Jesus Film Team has had many results with the showing of the film - converts. New Zealand is located on the North Island and has the vision to go to the South Island.

TURKIC/ARABIC AREA

500 million people - 40% of people are unreached - why? Political opposition, people group barriers and persecution.

What is happening today: Salvations, new churches - 10-12 house churches in 10 years; dream/visions, technology

Needs: Prayer, support (20 missionaries waiting to go)

JESUS FILM PARTNERSHIP JF - Point of the Spear - 24 teams in 15 countries, limited resources - need more teams - every respondent is a disciple - \$15,000 yearly for a team

In the last 6 years JESUS film teams have: planted and average 1 church per week (79 in 2008). Shown film to 2.5 million viewers. Received over 1 million responses

Lois McKnight, Trenton, Ontario

MEXICO NEWS

The Powassan Team is returning to Todo Santos plant in Ensenada February 15 - 25 to add a second story to the addition we did last year. The congregation is now about 60 people! They have expanded their ministry. They now meet on Saturday as well as Sunday worship in addition to the Wednesday children's program. We hope the addition of a large upper room will allow them to all meet in one space for worship. What a great problem to have! In addition to that, monies have been sent to Mexico for the purchase of land for a church in Puerto Renasco at the top of the Sea of Cortez and money will be sent in the new year to purchase land for a church in the North of Ensenada in the La Pressa area. God is on the move. Mark Parker's church has just completed another trip to Vincente Guerrero and is considering an additional trip in the new year.

We've discovered a source of Spanish Bibles (the same edition as the six cases we had sent down from the northern zone of our district a couple of years ago) right in Ensenada. These Bibles are given to new believers and have all been used up. Therefore, we'll need to purchase a few more cases. Donations to cover the cost of Bibles can be sent to the Canadian Missions Board. Please keep Mexico in your prayers. God is on the move!

Dave Johnston, Powassan, Ontario

EGYPTIAN CHURCH SEIZES THE DAY...

The Wesleyan Standard Church of Egypt is experiencing exciting days of openness with the Islamic government! New church locations are being explored. Long standing requests for permission to build or expand are being approved. We praise God for this season of freedom for the church! During November, Earl Conley travelled to Egypt with Global Partners Director of Operations, Peter Moore and the GP Area Director. I (Don) will be joining a group who will be attending the annual Conference in March.

We would like to encourage you to lead your church in a special Christmas appeal for this ministry. God has opened many doors in recent days for the Egyptian church. In January 2006 a strategic proposal was submitted to the local authorities in the city of Tima. This significant facility expansion required government permission prior to any construction. In early November 2009 (almost three years later), permission was finally granted - PTL! In some cases the government has revoked permission due to inactivity on approved projects. The local pastor of our largest church (300-350) in Tima, Egypt, believes we must seize this opportunity as quickly as possible. His church has committed to raise a significant portion of the funds for this expansion. The amount represented in the project summary below is the amount they have requested for help from the North American Wesleyan Church.

Would you consider providing an opportunity for those in your church to give to this specific need in our global Wesleyan family this Christmas season? You may choose to take a special offering, promote this for individuals to respond through direct donations, or perhaps your mission committee or LBA could designate funds for this project. In simple math, if every church on the Central Canada District were able to give \$500 by the New Year, this timely opportunity would be completed in time for us to host the annual conference in March at the location of the expansion.

Tima Conference Expansion, Egypt | WM06-1316 Goal: \$22,750 USD

The Wesleyan Standard Church of Egypt is preparing for its 90th celebration in March of 2010. This facility expansion will allow for all accommodation to be provided onsite in Tima at the location of the annual National Conference. Phase One (approximately \$10,000) will allow for the completion of the exterior of the expansion. This will prevent the local authorities from revoking the permission finally granted after three years of requests. The remainder of the project funds will provide for the completion of two separate floors of accommodations for all the pastors of the Egyptian church and will eliminate the future expense of additional accommodation for this annual event.

Individuals/churches may make their cheque payable to "The Wesleyan Church of Canada" earmarked for project #: WM06-1316 (Tima, Egypt Conference Expansion). Cheques should be mailed to:

The Wesleyan Church of Canada, 1830 Mountain Road, Moncton, NB E1G 1A9

DS Don Hodgins & Peter Moore (Global Partners Egypt Liaison)

NEWS IN BRIEF . . .

- Congratulations are extended to Stephanie Gilmer on her recent appointment to World Hope Canada, Executive Director, Ottawa office. Stephanie is the wife of Sheldon Gilmer, Field Representative for Ghana.
- Missions Day at the Belleville Wesleyan Church, November 7 was a great success. In addition to the interest and enthusiasm generated by the occasion, funds were raised for missions.
- A pastor's seminar was held in Sakomono, Ghana during early November conducted by Dr. Peter Rigby (Kingston) and Rev. Brent Russett (Ottawa) with thirteen pastors registered.

- The Annual Ghanaian Conference was held at Sakomono with Dr. H.C. Wilson, Global Partners Director in attendance.
- Atlantic Wesleyan District plans to send a team to Ghana in January 2010.
- Earl Conley accompanied Peter Moore, Global Partners Operations Director and the Director of Turic/Arab Region as they visited several churches in Upper Egypt during November 2009.
- Tima Egypt Conference Expansion Project has been launched with work begun and funds being raised. The completion of the project will provide accommodations for pastors to attend the annual Egyptian conference and 90th Anniversary Celebrations.