

September – December 2008

ACTION

MEN FOR MISSIONS INTERNATIONAL
The Laymen's Voice of OMS International

MFMI
is at work in
Mozambique
through young
evangelists
and church
planters

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The Road Ahead in

MOZAMBIQUE

The Road Ahead in MOZAMBIQUE

Africa

By Dave & Ann Dedrick, Mozambique

An expression we have heard repeatedly is that “Maputo is not Mozambique and Mozambique is not Maputo.” Last October, we confirmed that statement in this beautiful country of 22 million people, where only about three million live in and around Maputo.

Ann and I traveled north by car with Melvin and Sharon Kelly and Juka Fernando, Every Community for Christ (ECC) country coordinator. Our purpose focused on encouragement and accountability for the ECC teams and surveying the ministry needs in the churches.

Two days later, we arrived in Mocuba at Pastor Antonio's packed church, and people were hungry to hear the word of God preached. Pastor Antonio has embraced the ECC model of evangelism and has 15 people he is teaching how to plant churches plus three other trainers and their groups. The potential for church growth in this area is phenomenal. One young man rides a worn bicycle three hours to participate in the training so he can train his group in his home village. At the end of the singing, preaching, teaching, and sharing, we sat with several trainers and church planters, discussed their lives, work, and God's abundant blessing of the area church growth. We heard testimonies from former witch-doctors, a hired assassin, and former soldiers repenting of atrocities committed during war. Lives are being changed by an encounter with Christ. You could feel the presence of God as we worshiped and studied together.

We arrived in Nampula, the third largest city in Mozambique, and after spending time with the ECC trainer, we visited three church plants located 30 to 100 km south of Nampula. Many people accepted Christ in response to the Gospel message. While the needs were overwhelming; inadequate clothing, little food, and no medical care, the main request was, “Please send us someone to teach us about God, and when are you coming back to teach us more?” Our hearts were filled with compassion and our eyes filled with tears as we prayed with a lady dying of HIV-related disease, several with untreated malaria, a man with an untreated hernia, malnourished children, and children with Malaria, fevers, and diarrhea. We cannot

ignore the 'least of these' and must reach out with compassionate ministries that do not foster dependency.

The six-hour drive to Gurue was quiet as we considered both the good and bad things we had seen in Nampula. I thought of Jesus as He looked out at the 5000 hungry people. He was filled with compassion and then took action. In Gurue we met with two trainers and the leadership of churches. This area has rich farmland with tea plantations, beautiful mountains, and general agriculture, and the needs are not as apparent. With increasing economic wealth, there is decreasing interest in following the “One who owns the cattle on a thousand hills.” Both trainers remarked, “The land is hard and the people are resistant to the Gospel.” The local government is pushing for a special witchcraft ceremony at our church in Gurue related to the land itself. We're saying, “No way,” but it provides a snapshot of cultural thought in this hard area.

We started back thankful for the prayer coverage and for those who are preaching the gospel in Northern Mozambique. God was gracious, Christ was preached, people were given hope, and we need to prepare plans for the future.

Join us on the road ahead in Mozambique. Maybe you are being called to assist with ECC, compassionate ministries, or simply to love those that God puts in your path. What we are looking for are people willing to lay down their lives for the only cause that matters...all of their lives - for that is what it will take.

Missionary Dave Dedrick with ECC Team on trip north.



MFMI-U.S. Joins ECC for Mozambique Project

Men for Missions International (U.S.) is undertaking a new partnership with Every Community for Christ (ECC) to establish four new evangelism teams in Mozambique. Many are praying for a revival and “great awakening” in Mozambique. Each province is claimed and now ECC teams are entering the provinces with the Gospel, and they need to be covered with prayer.



Berry and Lois Johnson from Montgomery, Alabama are the champions for the Merrill Evangelism project for Mozambique.

These national teams will consist of two or more people to establish training centers in Maputo and three of the Northern provinces. The teams are bringing back a lot of good news along with challenges to find land to build training centers to train local pastors. Each team will also have an assigned set of equipment for doing evangelism with the Jesus Film.

This is exciting, and we want all of you who are praying for Africa to join us to support these nationals as they reach out to untrained pastors with discipleship and lay leader training. Now is the time before other sects reach the heart and souls of these people who are influenced by a heavily Muslim area, and where there is much witchcraft.

Our goal is to raise \$185,000 over the next three years.

- Your contribution of \$9,900 will support one ECC Team for one year.
- You can furnish 300 Bibles at \$5.00 ea.
- 4 Mopeds & maintenance at \$2,500 ea. (See cover)
- 3 Training Centers at \$21,000 ea.
- Furnishings, books, and materials for Training Centers at \$5,300 ea.
- 3 sets of Jesus Film projection & power supply equipment at \$5,300 ea.

Currently, we are at 14 percent of our goal. The process has already started to put some of these teams on the field. The Lord is moving in amazing ways as demonstrated by 60 new worship groups in one area last month. I would like to encourage you to pray about being involved in this exciting new ministry through your prayers and financial giving. To God by the Glory.

The account is the Merrill Evangelism for Mozambique, Project #406630



Chuck and Juanita Merrill in concert.



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Cover: ECC workers on the road in Mozambique. Photo by Dave Dedrick

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Men For Missions International is the laymen's voice of OMS International. Through MFMI thousands of men from multiple church affiliations and every walk of life have found a channel for harnessing and releasing personal skills and abilities in practical, direct missionary involvement. Participation with overseas witness and work teams has fired them with new zeal for soul winning at home as well as abroad. No dues are required and membership is open to any man who pledges: I will do whatever God asks me to do; I will go wherever God asks me to go; I will give whatever God asks me to give.

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Tears on the Ground

By John & Linda Cooper
MFMI Prayer Champions for South Asia

Therefore, when Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her weeping, He groaned in the spirit and was troubled. And He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to Him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus wept. Then the Jews said, "See how He loved him!"
(John 11:33-35)

At the death of His friend Lazarus, Jesus wept with those who were weeping.

We entered the compound grounds of the school and orphanage at Osm....(name withheld for security). The situation had not changed in a year since my last visit. The single story school, offices, and dormitory are constructed with metal roofs and masonry walls. One hundred eighty-eight boys and girls are cared for at this location.

school and orphanage at Osm..... The situation had not changed in a year since my last visit. The single story school, offices, and dormitory are constructed with metal roofs and masonry walls. One hundred eighty-eight boys and girls are cared for at this location. Only the boys are housed at the site. Some sleep on the floor. The rooms are dark and poorly ventilated. In the heat of summer, the metal roofed buildings become unbearable. The girls are housed in the nearby village and travel each day to the compound. This is one of five locations in the

This was my third trip to South Asia. The purpose of the trip was to gather more information about the country, to help me be a more effective prayer champion. Randy, a young man from my home church, traveled with me, and it was his first mission trip.

Some things began to feel familiar but others were brand new. To see nearly 800 new believers make their commitments of faith through baptism, stirred our hearts. We saw and experienced God's Glory and power change lives. Next, we saw the impact upon those who received food and medical aid after the devastation of a cyclone. Many organizations from this country had helped meet their need. It was a demonstration of God's compassion through the church.

But then, we entered the compound grounds of the

country that cares for over 750 orphan children through the national church. The facilities at the other four locations provide for better housing, health, and sanitation needs.

As we entered the grounds, we were met by the leaders and the orphan children. They stood in front of the foundation of a yet to be completed training center and housing facility. The foundation to the building was started in 2002, but funding to complete it has yet to be obtained. Ronobir, their newly installed leader, came to us and fell to his knees. He then grasped our feet tightly and began to weep. His tears were sobs of anguish for the children. So much love! So much need! I had felt this same anguish a year ago,

We asked the staff and children to turn toward the structure, praying and asking God to "raise up this building!"



Soon we were all on the ground, crying out before the Lord. We wept with those who were weeping.

and it was immediately rekindled. Soon we were all on the ground, crying out before the Lord. We wept with those who were weeping.

Seeing the children stand before the incomplete foundation again tore at my heart. Several of us worked together last fall to make an application to an international humanitarian organization. The hoped for funding was not granted. In that moment at the foundation, I began to purpose in my heart to see the building come into fruition, not by human effort but by God's plan. This year as we prayed, I became aware of spiritual forces that have come against the ministry

at Osm..... It is an area that has been resistant to the spread of the Gospel. Satan holds many areas of the country as "strongholds of his dominion." But, he is a defeated foe. So, we asked the staff and children to encircle the building and to face outward, lifting their hands and calling out for God to send His Spirit and to break down Satan's stronghold over the area. We then asked them to turn toward the structure to pray and ask God to "raise up this building!" Brick and mortar are a physical manifestation. You see it's not just about the brick and mortar, it's about building God's Kingdom and breaking down Satan's strongholds.

The newly installed leader came to us and fell to his knees. He then grasped our feet tightly and began to weep. So much love!



Every time I go to South Asia, I understand more about the nature of the battle. I also leave a part of my heart. I believe Jesus calls us to weep because He would. When I return home, I come with more resolve to do what I can. I must first call upon the Lord, pray, and then tell the story. I know that God already has in mind the resources needed to raise up the building at Osm..... His supply is sufficient.

In October 2007, the ladies at my home church did a bake sale, dinner, and a special offering to help raise \$4,000. It is a seed offering start. Our prayers are to raise a total of \$74,000 the next year and to begin construction. This will send them on the way to the completion of a four-story brick and masonry building.

The facility will be used as housing for the children and as a regional training center. We cannot do this alone. MFMI and OMS has established an account (#407260) so that you too can join in "raising up this building" to the Glory of God. We need your help.

So we must pray, sending our tears and petitions before the Throne of Grace. We must act as God directs with our time, talents, and treasure. God's promise is that He can wipe away the tears. There will come a day when those who minister at Osm..... will be filled with joy for what God has done and their tears will be tears of joy. I am looking forward to the celebration.

Running Late In Haiti

By Pastor Thomas C. Black

Since 2004, Pastor Thomas Black has returned to Haiti to teach a two week intensive course on Spiritual Warfare at the Emmaus Biblical Seminary.

Each year the class starts a little slow as we determine academically where the students stand on spiritual warfare. As the first week progresses, I find myself increasingly behind schedule. And the farther behind I get, the faster, it seems, the end of the term approaches.

I do not like being a full day of hard study behind. If we get ahead of schedule, I wonder if my students are "getting it." If we get behind, I fear skipping something that may be very important in the long term.

The Trail Behind Us

After covering a lot of ground, I challenge the students to question their world-view and to evaluate a biblical spiritual world-view up against their own. For anyone to learn they have been "wrong" in the past can be quite a trying experience. Since this is a thirty-hour seminary course in just two weeks, there's no time for sympathy - only data download.

While efficient data download is remarkably ineffective, sympathetically working with the students through some of their questions and objections is surely the best way to make things stick. They have good, relevant questions, which do as much to reveal their internal struggles as their theoretical ones. In the process, I hope that lessons are indelibly learned.

I also taught a somewhat complete Angelology, Satanology, and Demonology including such topics as origin, limits, freedom, and responsibilities of these beings. I attempt to harness the teachable moments for a useful application when the moment seems right.

I challenge them with new understanding of some Bible passages, which have perhaps been passed over. By the same token, they challenge my positions and push for other potential explanations. More than once, they cause me to pause either to evaluate the translation or clarify my position. Frequently, they offer startlingly difficult insight into a culture heavily shaped by voodoo.

After finishing the largest of the five class segments, which is predominantly a systematic theology of the spiritual realm, I announced a quiz and sent them to prepare.



Pastor Black with Cessna in Haiti.

The Next Leg of the Journey

The second major segment of the class revolves around the less spectacular aspects of Spiritual Warfare - namely dealing with personal sin. Some Christians never think or never dwell on the angelic or demonic implications of sin. Many prefer to think that such beliefs reflect ancient superstitions, which have been vanquished by medical or psychological science. I used to be one.

However, many Christians with a rudimentary awareness of the demonic are terrified of the other end of the spectrum. There are those who see a demon under every tree and blame the devil for every hang nail. The truth lies in between.

The second major division (out of five) in the course delved into trying to determine the cause and effects of personal sin in our own lives. Through this section, pens scribble, the chalk board is filled, emptied, filled, emptied and filled again. Hands fly into the air, opinions are expressed, questions are asked, and future pastors gain the tools to help identify, isolate, and cut off sources of sin in their own lives.

A third segment of the class is on the Armor of God. They learn about how to defend themselves, and how God defends them, and in the fourth segment, they also learn about exorcisms and power encounters while focusing on the monumental importance of abiding in Christ who is our victory. Living victoriously in Christ and helping others do the same is the focus of the fifth and final segment.

The Road Ahead

My hands are coated in chalk dust, and two weeks have flown by at a spectacular rate. The third quiz is on my desk. They walk in and out of class mumbling as they struggle to grasp all of the concepts presented and compile them into one meaningful stream they can hold in the palm of their hand.

I'm smiling because even though I've been behind for most of the class they have learned, not merely to pass a test but to live in victory. These men understand the value of every class they take. In two more years, they plan on walking down the aisle, gripping a diploma, and moving into ministry prepared for whatever the devil throws at them.

I'm pleased to report they all did very well on the final test.

Ireland God Will Make a Way ...when there is no other way

By Maxine Norman, Menahga, Minnesota

"God Will Make a Way" is a song based on Isaiah 43:19b, "I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland." These words were meaningful to me following the unexpected death of my husband, Oscar. On September 10, 1997, my world was suddenly whisked away, and I was numb with shock for a long time.

Oscar went to Camp Pallentanga, Ecuador, twice with MFMI. He was an electrician and thrilled to help wire the all-purpose building and hang light fixtures. After two short-term missions experiences, we decided that when we retired from our jobs we would annually volunteer for a work team with OMS/MFMI.

When Warren Hardig phoned to ask how I wanted the memorial monies used, he gave me the best advice. He said, "Let me advise you to live that dream. Don't let that dream die with your husband."

The following summer OMS invited me on an evangelism outreach team to Ireland. My first response was, "NO WAY! I do NOT know how to go door-to-door and share the Gospel. It sounds TOO scary, plus it's way out of my comfort zone."

However, I decided maybe God was nudging me to move outside my comfort zone. I completed the application and made sure OMS knew my lack of skills and inability to serve in evangelism.

I was chosen for the team. The next task was to raise \$1,500 in support. Asking people to contribute monetary support for a missions trip was not on my list of favorite things to do.

Convinced that no one would contribute; money came in exceeding the needed amount. I humbly acknowledged that God was "making a way for me!"

In July 2008, the Ireland team delivered free Christian literature to approximately 4,900 homes in Co. Roscommon.

Ireland has been known as the "land of saints and scholars." We visited Croagh Patrick or "the Reek," a 2,510 foot "holy mountain" near Clew Bay, Co. Mayo. The last Sunday in July, pilgrims from all over Ireland and the world come to make the climb.

The OMS team joined with Irish Evangelistic Band (I.E.B.) to distribute free drink, and literature as pilgrims came down from the mountain. I saw the tortured look in the eyes of a young man who said he climbed this mountain for "sins." We encouraged him to find that Jesus has already paid the price, and he no longer had to "hope" for abolition of sins.

Why go with OMS?

• **Prayer**—Each day we committed the team to Christ. Our prayer partners back home helped as fear of approaching strangers was erased and stamina and safety were provided.

• **OMS/local churches**—Grace Community Church, in Co. Roscommon, a partner church in the 2008 outreach—a local connection to preserve the fruit of our labors.

• **OMS/ordinary people**—Skilled laborers are needed for MFMI project teams and trained pastors are needed for preaching the Word.

Would I go again?

ABSOLUTELY! I was convinced God could not use me. He proved me wrong. Short-term missions experiences have taught me that coming

alongside an existing church in another culture is very encouraging to the long-term missionaries.

Are you willing to give up ten days next summer to bring the Word of eternal life to lost souls in Ireland? You might find, as my friend who went with me this summer said, "It was life-changing!"

The Ireland team.



Haiti Eye Opener

By Roger Epp

“I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest.” (John 4:35b)

Mackenzie’s dark eyes peered into the screen door of the common room at OMS Headquarters in Cap-Haitien. His shiny black skin glistened in the tropical sun, but his stature and spindly legs gave him the appearance of a boy half his fourteen years – the lingering effects of early malnutrition still evident in his frail body.

“He’s been hanging out here for several years now,” one of the missionaries said. “We take care of him.”

Our leadership team from Meadow Brook Fellowship, Leamington, Ontario, had just arrived in Haiti for a Vision Tour – a cross-cultural experience with a view to open our eyes to missions in a new way.

As a ‘newbie’ to foreign travel, I had few pre-conceived expectations for what Haiti would look, feel, sound, and smell like. I had scoured Haiti’s northern coastline using the satellite photograph feature of Google Maps. I recall sighting the unmistakable aerial profile of a luxury cruise ship moored in the clear, blue waters just off the white sandy shore of the tourist resort at Labadie, a short distance from Cap-Haitien. “Would Haiti be like that?” I pondered.

As we disembarked the Lynx aircraft at Cap-Haitien airport last October, we were confronted with a very different view of Haiti. The sight of people living in squalor and poverty; the smell of rotting mounds of garbage in the streets; the cacophony of loud voices; and car horns assaulted our senses. OMS worker, Brad Reimer, negotiated our vehicle through insane downtown Cap-Haitien traffic as we headed towards the OMS compound in outlying Vaudreuil. “People shouldn’t have to live like this,” exclaimed Pastor Graham later as we reflected on our Haitian experiences.

Mary Lou Wunker presented the vision for a new campus for Emmaus Biblical Seminary. Later that week we prayed directly for Mary Lou and fellow seminary faculty, Matt and Stacey Ayers, during a debate over French or Creole language used in chapel. Under Dan Shoemaker’s direction and with the assistance of MFMI work teams, campus buildings were being constructed.

We met with Gill Shoemaker, Director of Starfish Kids. She told us how \$25 a month covers tuition, shoes, and book costs for children in Cap-Haitien. They are succeeding at assisting a new generation of young Haitian students gain literacy skills.

Radio 4VEH station manager, Rev. Storly Michel, and technician, Scott Hagemann, gave us a vivid picture of Christian broadcasting in Haiti. Radio 4VEH meets people’s spiritual needs for accepting Christ, engaging in Bible study, and listening to Christian music. They are given practical help on topics such as health, farming, ani-



Mackenzie.



People shouldn’t have to live like this.

We headed towards the OMS compound in outlying Vaudreuil. “People shouldn’t have to live like this,” exclaimed Pastor Graham later as we reflected on our Haitian experiences.

mal care, family living, language study, and weather forecasts. They also presented Radio 4VEH’s challenges – the most critical being the cost of fuel for their diesel-powered hydro-generators.

The attending physician gave us a tour of Bethesda Medical Clinic where he daily cares for 150-200 patients. He showed us how the clinic provides basic medical care, inoculations, X-ray services, and HIV/AIDS testing. He also demonstrated how a simple birthing kit consisting of a birthing mat, gauze, plastic gloves, string, and a razor blade could drastically reduce incidents of infant deaths from Tetanus.

The cramped accommodations and lack of adequate light and ventilation at the Champin school in downtown Cap-Haitien were disheartening to see. School principal, Pastor Ceradieu, and his teaching staff appeared sad and resigned to educate kids in such an environment. Fortunately, funds are now in place to fix the dilapidated school roof. We were greeted with the glistening smiles of excited students and teachers and bright, airy classrooms - visual proof of how good education was at that bustling school site.

As early as 5:00 a.m. each Thursday, Haitian Christians gathered to worship God and pray for their country under an old tall tree, a short walk from the OMS compound. Our group witnessed a large congregation of men and women praying loudly, holding their hands heavenwards, and waving their hands reverently in the air. Two lay pastor-women took turns leading the gathering in songs, prayers, and times of quiet meditation.

How could one convey to the folks back in Canada what we observed firsthand in Haiti? How had the ‘Vision Tour’ affected us individually? What would be an appropriate response for us as church leaders?

Each member of the leadership team came back irreversibly and forever changed from our Haitian experience. It was remarkable to experience ‘close up and personal’ how God is at work in the clinic, the schools, the churches, the seminary, and Radio 4VEH in Cap-Haitien.

We decided to produce a brief DVD portraying how each elder was affected by what we saw in Haiti. We shared the video at gatherings with friends and meetings of care groups at Meadow Brook Fellowship and encouraged individuals to respond as God would lead in donating to the work of OMS in Haiti.

The Young at Heart Seniors’ Group decided to send the proceeds of a recent soup luncheon to Radio 4VEH.

Currently, we are devising a program at the church whereby we will encourage young leaders in our church to venture out and experience the mission field.

Was the Vision Trip to Haiti a success? Without a doubt, yes! Our eyes have been opened to a ripe harvest field in Cap-Haitien.



Dan Shoemaker.



Champin school.



Clinic tour with physician.



Delivering Ambefort care packages.



Introducing the team.



Prayer time under the prayer tree.

MFMI: More than a Laymen's Voice

By Warren Hardig

A farmer with livestock and orchards sensed God's call to a short-term mission assignment. He obediently visited another country, preached, shared his testimony, got his heart broken for the people, and pleaded with God on their behalf. He returned home to folks who had little interest in his exciting report. The story could have been in *ACTION* magazine except this saga is about a minor prophet named Amos. He was a bonafide layman, called to deliver God's message and give voice to his personal walk with God. Amos was willing to do, go, give whatever God asked.

Since 1954, the Amos model is alive and well through MFMI. Founder, Dwight Ferguson, was gripped by the reality that missionaries on OMS fields were struggling to balance work and ministry while laymen warmed the pews of homeland churches, unchallenged, and uninvolved in the greatest privilege of all – lending a hand and sharing a personal witness abroad. His vision was that laymen would go to those hard places, and "speak" the love of Christ through a personal witness and selfless service to missionaries and to those to whom they minister. Thus, a name and tagline emerged: Men For Missions International, the laymen's voice of OMS International. Still today there is great untapped potential embodied in that word "voice."

Voice of Service. Thousands of laymen, with calloused hands and tender hearts, have gone to OMS fields to work and share a witness. They often speak through their actions – laying block, roofing a church, digging a water well, building a clinic or a church, or serving on a medical team. Providing help with intensive tasks gives more freedom to missionaries to preach, teach, or plant churches.

Voice of Witness. Many laymen (and laywomen) have visited OMS fields with the purpose of sharing testimonies of their personal walk with the Savior. Over the past quarter-century these lay-troopers, formerly known as "crusaders," have enjoyed incredible success encouraging missionaries and national workers. They have testified in humble churches, on street corners, along jungle paths, in prisons, wherever the interested, curious, and even angry detractors have congregated.

Voice of Sharing. The vision of MFMI has produced a missions marvel within the laity of modern day homeland churches – ordinary men, women, and entire families experience missions up close and personal. They return home with reports to inform, inspire, and involve their entire congregations in foreign missions. This reporting has spawned numerous MFMI Councils, work teams, witness teams, intercessory prayer teams, and prayer groups.

Voice of Intercession. I'm moved by the intercessory prayers of this layman, Amos. God revealed to him His plan to judge the sin and people of the northern kingdom of Israel. Amos passionately interceded for Israel, and God heard the layman's prayer and spared the nation. Before I went to Haiti the first time, my prayer life for missions and the world was pretty simple; "Lord, bless the missionaries and servicemen wherever they are." Before I landed back on American soil, I began praying passionately for the missionaries and their children by name. Later, as I traveled the central fourteen states as an MFMI Regional Director, I discovered that it wasn't just in my home in southeastern Illinois that "crusaders," bitten by the missionary bug, bowed their heads at the table or in front of a refrigerator covered with missionary prayer cards. They also prayed in their barns, on tractors, and in offices. Families welcomed me into their homes to hear what was happening at OMS Headquarters and around the world. The real work of strategic intercession (praying from a distance) begins when people return home and eagerly await the next opportunity to return to the mission field as a tactical intercessor (praying on site).

Maybe someday our name and tagline will read, "Men For Missions International, the informed intercessory voice of OMS International." Until then, I am going to continue telling people that MFMI's prayer initiative is the greatest adventure of my life. Through intercessory prayer, the real work of OMS is accomplished by softening strongholds of the enemy; releasing needed funds for missionaries and projects; and recruiting more missionaries. I recently read that, "Prayer is the greatest unused force in the world" – Gordon Cove. We are looking for intercessors willing to go and become informed.

What is MFMI?

Men For Missions International (MFMI) is the laymen's voice of OMS International (OMS), a faith mission headquartered in Greenwood, Indiana, and serves Christ in 43 countries. MFMI consists entirely of laymen for the purpose of helping 375 OMS missionaries evangelize, plant churches, develop Christian leadership, and eventually partner with the national churches that evolve.



Warren Hardig, MFMI Executive Director

MFMI accomplishes its task through men from every walk of life who are willing to make this spiritual commitment:

I will *do* whatever God asks me to do;
I will *go* wherever God asks me to go;
I will *give* whatever God asks me to give.

The commitment between an MFMer and God manifests itself through a variety of MFMI opportunities. Missionaries are served within the U.S. through MFMI area representatives and MFMI Action Groups (formerly called Councils). A local Action Group is comprised of MFMs who meet periodically to pray for missionaries, help support their projects, and acquire greatly needed items. They also financially assist their members to join teams heading to foreign mission fields.

Known as "The Short-term Mission Specialists," MFMI has organized and helped over 20,000 men and women serve on OMS mission fields during its 50-year history. A current team list appears in this issue (see list at right).

MFMs help missionaries by releasing their personal skills and abilities in a variety of practical, direct ways. Included are work and medical teams, teams which help with local evangelism, teams that go to pray and distribute literature, and other opportunities for those who are prepared to teach. Teams are often involved in one or more of these ministries.

MFMI has no dues nor formal trappings. We exist to serve Christ by assisting OMS. Our mandate is compassion, pure and simple. Our priority is establishing the Lordship of Jesus Christ in each man's life, and our goal is to provide opportunities for personal obedience to the Great Commission. **For more information contact the MFMI office in your country (page 3).**

About MFMI's ACTION Magazine

MFMI's *ACTION* magazine mailing list and readership continue to grow. We've been successful in keeping this unique missions-focused men's publication coming to you without a required subscription fee because you've consistently helped in its production and mailing. **Please designate gifts for ACTION to proj. #444520 and send to office in your country (page 3).**

Our goal is to make the *ACTION* worthy of its message and welcome in your home. As MFMs share their experiences, you can better grasp the magnitude of God's use of laymen throughout the world and also keep informed of major events, which impact OMS, MFMI, and the Great Commission.



A world of opportunity awaits you at www.mfmi.org



MFMI Prayer Team in a "closed country."

2009 World Ministry Teams

Dates	Field (Project)	Depart	Cost
01/03	Colombia (Work)	Erie	1250
01/13	Mozambique (Prayer)	Indy	2500
01/22	Haiti, Cap (Work)	Troy, MI	1300
01/24	Haiti, Jeremie (Witness)	Indy	1600
01/31	Haiti, Jeremie (Witness)	Indy	1600
02/07	Haiti, Jeremie (Witness)	Indy	1600
02/07	Ecuador (Construction)	t/b/a	1550
02/14	Haiti, Jeremie (Witness)	Indy	1600
02/15	Hungary (Work)	Lexington	2100
02/28	Ecuador (Medical)	Indy	1500
03/10	Haiti, Cap (Work)	Erie	1250
03/14	HK/East Asia (Prayer)	Indy	2400
03/21	Mexico (Construction)	Indy	1300
03/21	Haiti/Dominican (Prayer)	Indy	1750
03/24	Haiti, Cap (Work)	Akron/Canton	1250
03/25	South Asia (Prayer)	Indy	3200
03/25	South Asia/India (Vision)	Indy	2200
04/04	Ecuador (Construction)	t/b/a	1550
04/15	South Asia (Prayer/Teach)	Pittsburgh	2500
04/15	South Asia (Medical)	Indy	2500
05/02	Ecuador (Construction)	t/b/a	1550
05/11	Japan, Tokyo (Work)	Indy	1350
06/06	Haiti, Cap (Work)	Indy	1250
07/11	Ecuador (Construction)	Portland	1550
07/11	Ukraine (English Camp)	Denver	2350
07/13	East Asia (English Camp)	Indy	2500
07/23	Haiti, Cap (Work)	Columbus	1300
08/01	Ukraine (English Camp)	Denver	2350
10/13	Haiti, Cap (Work)	Columbus	1300
11/06	Haiti, Jeremie (Witness)	Indy	1600
11/13	Haiti, Jeremie (Witness)	Indy	1600

MFMI Ministry Teams are constantly forming or changing. Call MFMI at (317) 881-6752 for the latest information.
t/b/a = to be announced

Please send info about Team to _____ Dates _____

My Gift for *ACTION* budget: \$ _____ (Proj. #444520)

Please send *ACTION* to the names and addresses enclosed.

Please remove my name from the *ACTION* mailing list.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State/Prov _____ Zip or Postal Code _____

Country _____

Phone(s) _____

E-Mail _____

Please make checks payable to OMS International and mail to the office in your country (page 3).



The Word on the Street...in Haiti

By Kate Michel

If you're one of the hundreds of people who have visited Haiti through MFMI in the last few years, you've probably been to Radio 4VEH, the Evangelistic Voice of Haiti.

You may even have helped build the radio station.

Have you wondered what happens to the words that travel across the airwaves every minute of every day?

The building is the starting point for the 'broad-casting' (literally, communicating or sowing a message widely) of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the message of hope and transformation that only Jesus brings. Radio 4VEH sows the seeds widely and then carefully and over time, cultivates. What a joy it is to hear that those seeds have landed on the fertile soil of Haitian hearts.

I've had a unique view of this ministry that is so effective in reaching Haitians where they are – in places, moments and attitudes of spirit where no pastor or evangelist can go.

I'm married to Storly Michel, Radio 4VEH Station Manager until just recently, and presenter of some of its most listened-to programs, including the daily Bible reading in Haitian Creole, Bib La.

When Storly first told me about Radio 4VEH, I had no idea of the people who rely on this radio ministry every day to know God's Word and to learn how to live out their faith in their daily struggles.

A visit to a packed church in Grande Rivière du Nord, northern Haiti, soon showed me how much listeners appreciate Radio 4VEH – nearly everyone in the several-hundred-strong congregation waved both hands energetically to say they listened to Radio 4VEH.

After years' living in Cap-Haitien, where Radio 4VEH is based, I got used to people recognizing Storly's voice, stopping him on the street – at the market, in the bank, on the road – to let him know 'Pastè Storly, mwen koute 4VEH chak jou!'

"Pastor Storly, I listen to Radio 4VEH every day!"

Or 'M di Bondye mèsi pou Radyo a – m' li Bib mwen chak jou ak Radyo 4VEH'

"I thank God for Radio 4VEH – I read my Bible every day with Radio 4VEH"

In good times and bad, day after day, the word on the street in villages, towns and cities across Haiti is this:

Radio 4VEH reaches where no pastor or evangelist can go. Radio 4VEH is making an eternal difference in the lives of Haitians.

The New Day in Haiti plan:

- Maximize radio potential through programming, distribution of radios, and new coverage areas.
- Build, equip, and train the Radio 4VEH team to accept full responsibility for operations.
- Fully inform and involve existing and new partners in the radio ministry of Haiti.
- Continue the offensive prayer initiative that is largely responsible for dramatic changes there.
- Fund the budget of Radio 4VEH. **Increased costs—especially for fuel— and worn-out equipment** are seriously hindering the ministry.

You can help by praying, giving, and going.

Help keep Radio 4VEH on the air

Soaring fuel costs this year have placed a heavy burden on ministry. Your gift will help keep this effective radio ministry on the air, reaching Haitians with a message of hope in Jesus Christ.

Yes, I want to keep Radio 4VEH on the air

Here is my gift of:

\$ 50 (US) to reach Haitians through effective Christian radio (Project #404890)

\$ 100 (US) to reach Haitians through effective Christian radio (Project #404890)

\$ _____ (specify amount)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip/Code _____

Email _____

Please make checks payable to: OMS International and send to the office in your country. Addresses on page 3.

"You want to take who where?"

By Garth Cartledge

I'm not sure this was the first thought that crossed my mind when my wife suggested the medical mission trip, but I'm sure it was in the top two.

Let me explain the who and the where. The who was comprised of 15 students from the University of Indianapolis. The where was Milagro, Ecuador.

My wife, Becca, is the Lab coordinator/parish nurse coordinator in the School of Nursing at the University of Indianapolis. Every student is required to complete a two-week intensive study during their four years at the school. Her idea was to use an MFMI trip to teach students how to apply their nursing knowledge in a cross-cultural environment. The university approved trip was announced. Thirteen students signed up to go and received academic credit for this venture.

The team was comprised of nursing, physical therapy, premed, art, and psychology students. The important team training began several weeks before departure to Ecuador in May 2008.

After a day of sightseeing, the team traveled to Milagro, where we set up the medical clinic in the daycare center in the 'Los Pinas' neighborhood. This area is very impoverished and had suffered record-breaking floods earlier this year.

This site was selected to assist an OMS International church plant. Many from the local congregation enthusiastically assisted the team by evangelizing the patients while they waited to see the nurses and doctors. By week's end, we had served nearly 660 patients, 40 of whom accepted Jesus.

The students were doing triages, assisting the nurses and doctors with patient exams, filling prescriptions, washing ears, and taking blood sugar and pregnancy tests.

Everyone had the opportunity to do hands-on work

and gained valuable experience working with patients. There was also ample time to interact with and show God's love to the Ecuadorian people.

The team was blessed with an outpouring of love from the local body of Christ. Pastor Leopold and his wife, Damaris, and family opened their home to the team, prepared our meals, and serenaded us.

Dr. Elton Lehman from Ohio and Anna Claire Cobb, a Nurse Practitioner from Kentucky, also joined our team. Meeting us in Milagro were OMS missionaries, Tom and Susan Stiles, Dr. Bill and Ilene Douce, Kim & Guido Orellana, and BJ and Andi Williamson.

Before the team departed for Indianapolis, we had two days of sightseeing. This was a great time for the team to debrief, unwind, and experience some more of the Ecuadorian culture.

As with many mission trips, it not only impacted the Ecuadorians we served, but many on the team felt the affects of God's call on their own lives as well. I am sure that this will not be the last mission trip for many of these students.

So what's next? Due to the interest in this trip this year, plans are currently being made for a return trip in May 2009. The 'where' has already been decided. We are just waiting for God to send the 'who'.

Right: Dr. Elton Lehman and Sam Southworth removing a tumor.

Below right: Becca Cartledge, RN (r) Kristen Zimmerman (center) Kristal Gearhart (l) performing ear washing.

Below: The Ecuador Medical Team.



Ukraine What I learned at English Camp

By Stephen Platt, from UK

I pray you may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge. (Eph. 3:18)

These words were on a note on my pillow when I arrived at English camp in Ukraine this summer. Over the following two weeks, I would certainly know His power and His love in new ways.

The English camp is run by OMS missionaries, Randy and Shelley Marshall. The university students ranged in age from 18-22.

To learn and practice English

The students and team members had great fun during the daily lesson time, where we learned about topics such as homonyms. As an Englishman, I found difficulty coming to terms with 'medal' being paired with 'metal', to the exclusion of the far less controversial 'meddle!'

This trip reminded me that God is able to use even the simplest of skills to further His Kingdom. It was great to be able to use such an every-day skill as the English language to come alongside the students and demonstrate God's love in a practical way.

To experience a three-way cultural exchange

Each day during the camp, team members and students presented cultural talks designed to introduce an element of Ukrainian, American, or English culture.

The Ukrainians showed the team around Kiev and invited a team member to stay at their house over night. This was a unique chance to see Ukrainian

culture from the inside and to build friendships with the students.

To investigate what it means to have a relationship with Jesus

The Ukrainians were given ample opportunity to practice their English during open discussions. Specific passages of scripture were explored, and there were discussions about a Hollywood re-enactment of Jesus' life, which we watched in sections over the course of the camp.

Each evening, the students joined the team in worship and heard the team members' testimonies. I shared my testimony, and there were many opportunities to share about God's faithfulness. I was also reminded of God's provision in my life and was able to share several examples. This was a tremendously faith-building exercise for me, and I saw simple testimonies begin to open the eyes of the students to the reality of God's love.

To have fun

Activities throughout the ten-day camp ranged from organized sports/games to zany skits, tea time and campfires, to impromptu renditions of national anthems of the respective countries. The activities, including lessons and discussions, were great fun, and everyone was involved in the camp schedule.

This camp was an excellent way to spend my summer holiday, and I would certainly recommend this type of

mission to others who want to obey Jesus' command to "go and make disciples of all nations" and who wish to see God work in people's lives.

Six students committed their lives to God as a result of what they had heard and experienced at camp!

A prayer for the students: "Lord, don't let Your Word return void. Let the fruit of this year's summer camp be just the beginning of life-long relationships with You."

A prayer for us: "Lord, break our heart for those that do not yet know You, and show us how we can do more to proclaim Your name and demonstrate Your love in word and deed, for Your glory. Amen."



Laura Courtney (US) leads discussion group.



Ukraine team with Ukrainians after frisbee game.

In Action

THEY KEEP GOING

Those from U.S. going to OMS fields July – September, 2008:

Lillian Agler • Kris Berryman • Jessica Berryman • Deremi Bordeaux • Jeff Bordeaux, Jr • James & Marian Bradley • Janice Brown • Tyler Brown • Jose Cabrera • Rodger & Vicki Cameron • Wesley Chan • Richard Cobb • Jon Cole • Rosa M Cordova • Laura Courtney • Nancy Courtney • Ana Maria Cruz • Marilyn Cuthbert • Ivelisse Ramos de Viera • Nathan Dean • Mark & Michelle Dinnage • Carl Engle • Carl Jay Engle • Corey Engle • Jeremy & Angela Ellis • Alfredo Feliciano • Delores Forest • Allison Frazier • Dustin and Bobbie Gardy • Emily Gibbs • Brock Graves • Tim Graves • Lauren Gross • Terri Halverson • Jim and Amber Hayes • Jonathan Hayes • Jose Herrera • Matt & Leticia Hess • Lee Ana Hess • Rafael Hess • Brad Hochstetler • Patrick & Georgine Ho • Susan Hoffelder • Andy Hummel • Darin Jacobson • Tyler Jenkins • Abigail Johnson • Byron Johnson • Ed Johnson • Brandon Kaminski • Carter Kaminski • Sandra Kilbo • Jan Knutson • Matthew Kofron • Katie Kroese • Anna Leckie • Sarah Leckie • Olivia Lee • Joel LeMaire • Yuning Liu • Steve Long • Theodore Long • Aaron Lopez • Abel Lopez • Adan Lopez • Amaris Lopez • Gloria Lopez • Heather Lucas • Michael McCowan • Rafael Moreno • Dan Morris • Jacob & Susan Mueller • Maxine Norman • Michelle Norman (Australia) • Rick & Leslie Olson • Kevin & Denise Pearson • Walter Pereyra, Jr • Michael Powell • Lauren Pupillo • Sally Retz • Charles Robinson • Keren Rohe • Steve Runck • Michelle Sampson • James Sawyer • David & Vicki Shafer • Zach Sidnam • Charles Small • Lucas Small • Claire Stewart • Nichelle Sturm • Kevin and Colleen Summers • Jeff Szymanski • Brad Trail • Manuel Vargas • Neil Von Arb • Alison Wagner • Marcy Walden • Keith & Sheri Wardlaw • Jason Wilson • Tom & Martha Wilson • Lois Wong • Jack Yu

Those from Canada going to OMS fields July – September, 2008:

Hailey Amis • Les Babcock • James Bentum • Kyle Bouwknacht • Amanda Boyce • Tyler DeJong • Rick Elliott • Carol Folkeringa • Kurt Frers • Gerry & Rita Gordon • Jeff Hageman • Ira Heebner • Marlowe Janke • Daniel Poelman • Grant Sikstrom • Alyssa Vander Meulen • Melissa Neufeld • Adrian Vandenberg • Catherine Wilgosh

Those from U.K. going to OMS fields July – September, 2008:

Sandra Armstrong • Louise Campbell • Herbie Dunn • David Elwood • Timothy Elwood • Denis Ferguson • Ivan Gillespie • Eddie Kidd • Steve Platt • John Sawyers • David Steele • Jonathan Tuft

See what God is doing!

Missions in the Midwest Family Retreat

June 26-28, 2009

Held at: Crowne Plaza Indianapolis Airport (same location as last year)

OMS International invites you to our family retreat. Come see what God is doing through the ministries of OMS.

Highlights include:

Camp MAX-a dynamic kid-size missions program led by the OMS Children's Missions Resources team for children age 3-fifth grade.

Youth Program-a hands-on experience led by Mike & Pam Bandy for sixth-twelfth grade.

Adults-hear first hand testimonies of how God is working. Be spiritually challenged, and enjoy fellowship with missionaries.

1-800-588-5414

We in MFMI believe that powerful, warfare intercession can change lives and nations. We have seen God's power at work in Haiti in response to deliberate, specific intercessory prayer on behalf of people struggling to intercede for themselves. The type of intercession deployed for Haiti is outlined and explained in a 100 page, 4-Level manual, which is designed for individual and group study. Level-1 (of the 4-Level manual) is also available as a separate guide. Each of the four levels is ideal for a quarter of group study.

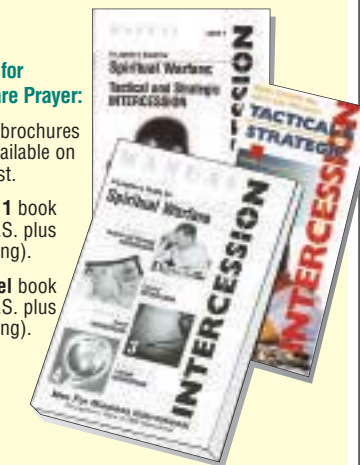
For more information or to order, please contact Dick McLeish at (317) 881-6752, or e-mail: rmcleish@omsinternational.org

Tools for Warfare Prayer:

FREE brochures are available on request.

Level 1 book (\$2 U.S. plus shipping).

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Other Books from MFMI

The Story of MFMI: Of Guts and Grace—Fifty Years with MFMI (\$9.95 U.S. plus shipping)

Mighty Prevailing Prayer by Wesley Duewel (\$10 U.S. plus shipping)

Order from MFMI: P.O. Box A, Greenwood, IN 46142-6599, or call (317) 881-6752.

Bonjou Mezanmi!

From a Haiti short-termers blog

It's only been three weeks since I've arrived in Haiti, but it seems like such a long time because so much has already happened.

I've been working mainly at Bethesda Medical Clinic taking vitals, doing basic physical exams, drawing blood, etc. I've also been shadowing the Haitian doctors and nurse practitioners. Working at the clinic has been quite amazing. We have prenatal clinic and well baby clinic every week, hypertension/diabetes clinic every other week, and tuberculosis clinic once a month. We also have HIV/AIDS clinic everyday, so you can imagine I'm learning a lot here.

Last weekend we did a mobile clinic up in the mountains (well, all we have around us are mountains). We saw 250 patients, and I drew lots of blood.

Several mission teams came and left these past few weeks. We had one medical team that was here for a month and a couple of construction teams for a week each. It's been great working and having fellowship with them, and it was sad to see them go. They've certainly made my time here very enjoyable. In a couple weeks all the other short-term missionaries will be gone, but there'll still be long-term missionaries with whom I can interact (and speak English). So I have not been feeling lonely at all like I did in Haiti last year and in Kenya the year before.

Bondye beni w,
SunMin Kim
<http://zanmihaiti.blogspot.com>



SunMin Kim (r) on short-term mission in OMS clinic in Haiti.

**For your
Visit...**

Simply check the list of MFMI teams and the reply coupon in this issue.

Men For Missions International (MFMI) has arranged a full slate of teams to go to OMS mission fields in 2009 to work, observe, witness, and pray. Utilization of laymen is critical to OMS as it seeks to expand its ministry throughout the world. Last year alone, over 259,000 came to know Jesus as their personal Savior through the efforts of OMS and its national churches.

Many laymen are now forming teams to go to the mission field. You can be part of this great movement of laymen as they seek to honor Christ by giving personal obedience to the Great Commission. Call MFMI (317) 881-6752, or the national director in your country (page 3), for team dates and costs.

Tax receiptable gifts may be mailed to MFMI, P.O. Box A, Greenwood, IN 46142-6599.

Short-Term Adventure in South Korea

By Melissa Neufeld, Canada

God has been preparing my heart for South Korea. I knew I was to go to South Korea but didn't know when or with which organization. God guided the way, and I had the honor of going as a guide in the OMS "Adventures in English" (AIE) program. It is held every summer at the Seoul Theological University. The purpose of the program is to help improve English of Korean Christians. I taught Bible study, conversation class, and Chapel/Evangelism class. God knew exactly what students I was to have in my group! I had college students, pastors, and missionary candidates. My main goal was to uplift and encourage my students in their vision and in their faith.



Melissa Neufeld in colorful Korea.

We had orientation in Korea before the actual camp and went through the materials. The actual AIE camp was two weeks and went daily from 7:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. The students could only speak English during this time.

I can honestly not put my experience into words. It was a time of absolute joy and of God lifting me up. I was there to be a blessing and encouragement; however, the Korean Christians blessed me in so many ways. I fell in love with the people, the country, and the prayer passion of the Korean Church. There was such amazing fellowship in Christ during AIE!

All I can do is thank Jesus for His goodness! I am so glad that I followed God's voice and plan for me to go to Korea for AIE in 2008. It was an appointed time for me and God prepared the way, as well as my heart. I continue to trust Jesus with my future, and I will follow His voice when He makes my next adventure known.

"Let your light shine for all the nations to see, for the Glory of the Lord is streaming from you" (Isaiah 60:1). This verse was very special and impor-



The Adventures in English Camp with 75 students, 12 guides, and 10 Korean staff. Melissa was one of the guides. Other guides came from Australia, United States, and Ireland.