

September – December 2009

ACTION

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



Mozambique
Windows
Of Opportunity

Mozambique Windows Of Opportunity

By Dave & Ann Dedrick

"To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven..." Ecclesiastes 3:1

We are well into our third year in Mozambique as 'second-career' missionaries, and it has been a time of remarkable change. What was true yesterday, or even this morning, no longer applies as we sense God's blessing on this land, and He opens up new doors for ministry. Around the capital city of Maputo, roads are improving, traffic lights work (most of the time), more jobs are available, children are progressing through the education system, government processes are being streamlined, more and more goods are available, HIV programs are expanding, and a country-wide spraying program is dramatically reducing the incidence of malaria. All these things bring much hope for the future.

However, as you move from the cities into the rural areas, the significant change shocks you into realizing Mozambique remains one of the poorest countries in the world. It is in these places we see people readily put their faith and hope in the living God of the Bible. We see lives transformed through an eternal hope that brings the *peace that surpasses all understanding*. Philippians 4:7

Just like the country, the OMS work is rapidly changing. We have seen the number of OMS-related churches in Mozambique grow to over

110 churches spread across five of the ten Mozambique provinces. But sustainable growth is always accompanied by a moving of God's Spirit as He responds to the heart-felt prayers of His people. We must be steadfast in prayer so we *do not labor in vain*. 1 Corinthians 15:58

The Men for Missions International prayer champion, Karlene Clendenning, validated the church planting work firsthand last March, when she visited and shared in churches throughout Mozambique. She gained valuable insight for strategic prayer. MFMI teams in January and October have provided important support to our



Children at church under a tree; outside of Nampula, Mozambique.

fledgling Mozambican denomination as we penetrate into areas considered impossible to reach only a few years ago.

The first planned seminary extension site is currently under construction in Mocuba, Mozambique. It will initially function as an ECC training center, but is being constructed with an eye for the future as our seminary program matures. The site will include a well and classrooms and eventually provide housing for students to stay at the facility during training times. The government has approved our plans, and we are thrilled to participate in the moving of God's Spirit in the Zambezia province.

As you would expect, the challenges are substantial. During the past year, leaders have fallen



Mozambique remains one of the poorest countries in the world.



Women gathering water at the Picoco church well.

to morality issues; long-standing church people have returned to witch-doctors in times of great stress or family pressure; untimely deaths of leaders; integrity issues; and a host of other challenges that grieve our hearts and the heart of God. But with the challenges have come great victories. New leaders have emerged, Bible study groups have expanded, permits and licenses have been granted, government offices have been helpful, baptisms have increased, people continue to be saved in large numbers, and His church continues to grow. He is at work.

The time is NOW and there is urgency. Experts believe that the HIV epidemic has not yet peaked, and this dreadful disease continues to take so many. Life expectancies are still some of the lowest in the world. Infant and child mortality continues to be high. The doors are open, the seeds are scattered, and there is little doubt that God's spirit is moving across the land. It is the remarkable generosity of God's people that make all of this possible, as we go and reach the nations for Christ. May we all continue to be faithful with our hearts, resources, talents, and prayers. Is God calling you?

We want to thank you for your prayers and your financial support. Please pray about going on one of the teams next year to support the ECC teams through Merrill Evangelism for Mozambique*, so we can help the church planters keep sharing the great news of Jesus Christ. We all know prayer is the key, and we would love to have you join us in praying for Mozambique.

Our project goal for 2009 is \$89,425. For the project-to-date we have received \$58,850.

You can help us reach our year-end-goal of \$30,575 by:

- Supporting one of our four ECC Teams for one year at \$9,900.
- Provide for the Mocuba Training Center—\$30,000 construction project.

Optional gifts can be used to:

- Furnish 300 Bibles at \$5.00 ea.
- Purchase 4 Mopeds at \$2,500 ea.

***Support for this ministry should be designated Mozambique Project #406630. Please make checks payable to OMS International and send to MFMI.**



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Executive Editor: Warren Hardig; **Associate Editors:** Ken Milone, Jerry Mattocks; **Office Editors:** Michelle Dinnage, Velma Hardig; **Graphics:** Gene Bertolet

Founder: Dr. Dwight Ferguson

Executive Director Emeritus: Harry Burr

Cover: Children at Picoco Church. Photo by Ann Dedrick.

For more information contact: Men For Missions International, P.O. Box A, Greenwood, IN 46142-6599; Phone 317/881-6752, Fax 317/865-1076, mfm@omsinternational.org Internet http://www.mfmi.org

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.

INTERNATIONAL:

Executive Director - Warren Hardig

CABINET PRESIDENTS:

United Kingdom - Jeff Jones

Canada - Marlin Martin

United States - Bill Glace

NATIONAL DIRECTORS AND OFFICES:

AUSTRALIA - Francis Wong, 3 Zala Court, Rowville, Victoria 3178, Australia, Phone 61 3 9798 6122, Mobile: 61 403 069 963, MFMI.Aust@gmail.com

Director of Great Britain and Ireland - Herbie Dunn, 82A Clanconnel Gardens, Waringstown, Craigavon BT66 7RR, Northern Ireland, Phone (44) 28/38882483, Fax (44) 28/38820100, herbiedunn@utvinternet.com

CANADA - Marlowe Janke, 101, 120 Country Hills Landing NW, Calgary, Alberta, Canada T3K 5P3 Business 403/250-1033, Home 403/ 280-0157, Cell 403/618-1888, Fax 403/250-1150 mjanke@steppermomies.ca

Canadian Office Administrator - Charlotte Kroes, Box 265, Mount Forest, ON N0G 2L0, Phone 888/417-5256, Fax 519/323-0479, mail@mfmcanada.ca

Canada Eastern Region - Art Duerksen, Director, 293 Wellington St. N., Unit 132, Box 148, Hamilton, ON L8L 8E7, Phone 905/522-5494, Fax 905/522-3317, aduerksen@mfmcanada.ca, czavitz@mfmcanada.ca

SOUTH AFRICA - Wendell Bole, P.O. Box 210, Bassonia, SA 2061, Phone (27) 92/900-0749, bole@icon.co.za

UNITED STATES - Kent Eller, P.O. Box A, Greenwood, IN 46142-6599, Phone 317/881-6752, keller@omsinternational.org

Internet/E-Mail - The Internet OMS home page address is http://www.omsinternational.org

If you would like the E-Mail address of an OMS missionary, direct your inquiry to the U.S. MFMI office at mfm@omsinternational.org

Director of Ministry Teams - Bill Evans, P.O. Box A, Greenwood, IN 46142-6599, Phone 317/881-6752, Fax 317/865-1076, bevans@omsinternational.org

Director of MFMI, OMSI, and ECC Prayer Ministries - Dick McLeish, Phone 317/881-6752, Fax 317/865-1076, rmcleish@omsinternational.org

MFMI-US REPRESENTATIVES:

Northeast - John Schultz, 8442 Yeakel Road, Zionsville, PA 18092-3451, Phone 215/679-5462, j_schultz@juno.com

East Central - Gene Pollic, 301 S.E. Greenville Ave., Winchester, IN 47394, Phone 815/440-7413, g.pollic@mfm.org

Northwest - Howard Young, 12584 SW Winterlake Dr., Tigard, OR 97223-7864, Phone 503/579-3024, hyoungttb@aol.com



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It's a Jungle Out There

By Garth Cartledge – OMS Regional Director

We have all heard this phrase before, usually associated with a difficult task that takes a great deal of planning with many steps in order to achieve success. This definition held true for us as we really were in the jungle! In May, my wife, Becca, and I took 11 University of Indianapolis students to Yantzaza, Ecuador, for a medical mission trip. This is an annual trip held in conjunction with OMS and the University. Nine of the students are nursing students. The other two students, our son, Benton, is a Spanish minor and his girlfriend, Lauren, is an Occupational Health major. This meets the University requirements that each student needs to complete a two week intensive class for which they receive three credit hours.

Our 11 year old daughter, Liana, also went as the trip videographer.

The trip was arranged by OMS Missionary, Susan Stiles. We were assisted by other OMS missionaries from Ecuador; Lynn Mosgroveho, Julia Henry, and Darryl and Kelly Chambers. We were also honored to have Dr. and Mrs. Charles Bruerd, Dr. Hal Kime, and nurse, Howard Rains serve with us. While in Yantzaza, we joined-up with Ecuadorian pastors from the Chaski Ministry who oversee local churches in the area.

After arriving in Quito, for a very short night's sleep, the group boarded a plane to Loja, Ecuador, followed by a very beautiful four hour ride through the Andes Mountains to Yantzaza. Each day we traveled to a different village chosen by the local pastors in the jungle and set up the clinic. The Chaski Ministry Group had been working in these villages to set up house churches and cell groups.

Due to the remoteness of each village, it is difficult for the villagers to travel to get medical attention. On average, the group saw 140 patients each of the five days of clinics. Many of these were children suffering from maladies such as intestinal parasite and malnourishment. The doctors issued nearly 2,000 prescriptions and every child was given a 30-day supply of vitamins.



Above: Medical team from the University of Indianapolis, Indiana, in Paquisha, Ecuador.



Left: Dr. Charles Bruerd from New Mexico examining an Ecuadorian baby.

The students rotated their time between providing triage, assisting the doctors, and working in the pharmacy filling the prescriptions. There was also ample time to play with and love on all the children.

Many an impromptu soccer game broke out during the week. The goal of each student, to use their training and education in a cross-cultural setting, was achieved with great success. Evenings were closed with a time of personal sharing and devotion and how God worked through the team during the day.

The group finished our trip by returning to Quito, and we enjoyed the comfortable OMS guesthouse with some warm showers! We took a cable car ride up to 15,000 feet, which provided spectacular views of Quito. From there we visited the Equator, where we stood in both hemispheres at the same time. On our last day in Quito, we visited the Indian market for shopping and souvenirs.

Yes, we were in the jungle of Ecuador, from the plant-life to the city-life, but our God was in our midst. He provided the right team members, and He opened hearts with His message of hope and salvation. As we claimed in Luke 10:27, our Lord helped us love our neighbors so that there was no real *ouch*, but we shared in the joy of 243 new brothers and sisters who accepted Jesus through our work.

11 team members
10 days
500+ tracts
30 new Christians
14 rebar towers
26 UV index
1 tasty cuy (guinea pig)

By Alan Landes

The numbers never tell the whole story. A short-term missions team from Ovid Community Church in Anderson, Indiana, traveled to Ecuador, March 27-April 5, 2009, with two ambitious goals: To reach the unsaved in Salcedo, and to start construction on the long-awaited new church in Río Bamba. The trip transpired from the church's desire to partner with the Central District churches in Ecuador.

A year before, another group from Ovid traveled throughout the Central District visiting and praying for the pastors, their families, and each church's leadership. From that trip, God directly led Ovid Community Church to its current partnership with the churches in Pillaro, Salcedo, and Río Bamba.

After spending the first three days together, the team split into two different groups. One group, a construction team of five people, traveled to Río Bamba. The second group, an evangelism team of six people, traveled to Salcedo. For the next four days in Río Bamba, the team worked fervently, under the hot Ecuadorian sun, to build the fourteen rebar for the columns of the new church. With only a pile of rebar rods and a roll of wire, the team bent, twisted, and wired together the towers and the supporting grates for the columns. Energized by the camaraderie of the Ecuadorian workers, Pastor Antonio Zabala and missionaries, Darryl and Kelly Chambers, the team accomplished their goal!

At the end of each work day, the group had the opportunity to spend quality time with the local church members by attending nightly cell group meetings. During the four days in Río Bamba, not only did the group begin building the church, but they began many long-lasting friendships as well!

In Salcedo, the evangelism team accompanied by missionary, Doug Tankersley, worked hand-in-hand with Pastor Luis Orozco and the members of Iglesia



Top: Ovid Community Church construction team in Río Bamba.
Above: Team with Pastor Antonio, and Lidavina Zabala at the end of a week of ministry.

Jesucristo de Nazaret church. During the morning, the team participated in door-to-door evangelism ministry aimed at reaching the unsaved in the cities of Salcedo and Cusubamba. Each afternoon the group took part in a time of singing, sharing, and preaching at the main marketplace in downtown Salcedo. They performed a silent drama, handed out tracts, and helped make salvation bracelets for children and adults alike. Each night Pastor Luis showed a movie and presented the salvation message in the same marketplace. At the end of a very busy three days, more than five hundred tracts were handed out, sixty salvation bracelets were made, and thirty people came to know Christ. Another forty people asked for prayer and follow-up on the part of the church! Each member of the group was amazed by God and how He can work through us, in spite of language and cultural differences, to advance the work of His Kingdom.

The members of Ovid Community Church are very excited about God's plans for their future relationships with the churches in the Central District. They consider it a joy and an honor to serve God and fulfill His purpose through these long-term partnerships. It is great to work hand-in-hand and shoulder-to-shoulder with our brothers and sisters in Ecuador while fulfilling the same greater purpose! Ovid is already in the planning stages for the next trip to Ecuador and is anticipating another great adventure for Christ!

MFMI Prayer Team to the Republic of Ireland

“For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.”

— Ephesians 6:12

By Robin Sloss - Team Leader

On the Men For Missions prayer team to the Republic of Ireland, our motto for the week was “Little Is Much When God Is In It.” Indeed, we proved that to be true. We were based in a lovely home three miles outside Westport.

Our team consisted of Norman and Faith Lyons from Liverpool, and Audrey, Stephanie, Leanne, and me from Moneymore, North Ireland. It was my privilege to lead the team. Each morning and evening, we enjoyed devotions, praise, and prayer time. However, we especially enjoyed times of prayer at the house and at each area that we visited.

It was a real privilege and blessing to be part of the Sunday morning service at Grace Community Church in Roscommon. This is a small congregation, which was started about four years ago by Pastor Michael Walsh, and his wife Amy.

We went to Croagh Patrick – the Holy Mountain in Co. Mayo and stood at the foot of the mountain, prayed around the sign “Croagh Patrick – This Holy Ground,” and claimed it for the Lord. Also we travelled to Knock and visited the Basillica.

At the Achill Island, we visited and prayed with Joan McAlister of the Irish Evangelical Band for the efforts of the team in that area. The island’s natural beauty and historic features are phenomenal, and before heading home, we prayed at Doogart Beach.

By Thursday, we were over half-way through our

Prayer Walk when we visited two small villages: Mulranny and Newport. Like many other areas of Ireland, there is no evangelical witness except a couple of families in Newport. As we drove through Mulranny, we found a beautiful Chapel and went inside to look around. As we left, a young woman entered the Chapel, and she looked so unhappy. Through perhaps the smiles on our faces, she may have seen something different about us! Outside the Chapel we took time and prayed for the people of that area. On our way home, we stopped in Newport and prayed in the centre of the village for God to strengthen the few witnesses, and that through them many more people will come to know Jesus as their personal Saviour.

After lunch on Friday, we felt it necessary to return and pray at the “Croagh Patrick – This Holy Ground” sign and claim the mountain for God. When we arrived we saw a true statement written on Reek Sunday: “Come Back To My Son.” Yet, so many people’s eyes are still in darkness.

After sharing a most wonderful and blessed week together, with the continuous presence of God, we said our farewells on Saturday morning. Our team was not huge; nevertheless, as our motto for the week was “Little Is Much When God Is In It.”

We thank and praise God for His love, care, faithfulness, guidance, and blessing through the week. We need to remember as the chorus goes, “Ireland Needs the Saviour, this isle so green and fair, is burdened with sin and with broken lives, and few there are who care. Souls are drifting downward, precious souls for whom Christ died, oh carry the message to Irish hearts, of Jesus the crucified,” that this emerald isle of ours needs the Saviour every bit as much as anywhere else in the world. We need to continue to bring this island of ours to the Lord in prayer.

On behalf of MFMI, we count it a real privilege to have stood and prayed for the people of Ireland. We believe there is a wind of change blowing in the Republic of Ireland.

“Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving;” Colossians 4:2



Prayer Team, from left: Robin and Leanne Sloss, Audrey Sloss, Stephanie Sloss, Norman and Faith Lyons.

How Transporting Solar-Powered Radios Involved a Trucker in Missions



Roger Fornwalt unloading the radios at Missionary Flights International (MFI).

By Roger Fornwalt

It began last year when we had an order of 8,000 radios that needed to be checked out and tested to make sure they would work. MFMI Cabinet President, Bill Glace, took on the responsibility and had a group of people in his church do this tedious project. They worked for weeks testing the radios and repackaging them so they could be shipped into Haiti. (See article in last issue)

Once the radios were ready to go, we had the problem of figuring out how to transport them from OMS headquarters to Florida and then into Haiti. Our office had contacted Missionary Flights International (MFI) in Ft Pierce and asked them if we could store the radios in their facility, and send them in on planes when they could. MFI agreed to transport them. However, we still needed to get the radios down to MFI from MFMI headquarters.

Warren Hardig met Roger Fornwalt in a church where he spoke a few months ago. Roger is a truck driver for a pet food company, and he makes regular trips down to Florida. So, Roger said that he would talk to his boss to see if he could go on to Fort Pierce to deliver the radios at MFI. After hearing about the radios and the reason for doing this, Roger's boss agreed to let him take them down. On June 24, Roger came to MFMI headquarters and picked up the radios and delivered them to MFI.

Roger shares his experience delivering the radios to MFI.

“I want to share about the details of my journey with involvement with OMS International. For several years, our church has been involved in missions through giving and taking overseas missions trips. Even though I was intrigued, I really didn't think about personal participation in mission trips until three years ago after my son (Trevor Fornwalt) got involved. As of last year, this increased interest, excitement, and renewed vision came through a phone call from Warren Hardig, and my son and I went to Ecuador.

A couple of notes here: 1) I think I came to this conclusion partially because a) I knew I didn't want my son to go alone (you must understand that I had lots of reservations about the trip); and b) although, I knew he would be okay, I just wanted to come alongside someone and help. And 2) It is really frustrating to go through life and live your dreams because you wait on someone else for them to be possible. The trip was great! The country was gorgeous. And the people? The relationships made the trip. We had interests in common, with no awkwardness, and we enjoyed the time we spent together. It was fantastic!

Just another day driving a truck...In June, I received a phone call from MFMI headquarters, and they asked me if I could take a load of radios to Florida, to be shipped to Haiti. I picked up the radios in Greenwood, Indiana and put them on my load. What an opportunity to serve and use my occupation for those in need. I realized that while waiting on God to send me on the mission field again with my son that I can impact many lives here.”

A Piece of Our Heart Left in Haiti

Our group returned to Delaware, but each of us left a piece of our heart in Haiti. We were deeply touched by the sad conditions we saw in this country.



Top: Rick Martin on Citadel. Above: Diane Baker and Kim Montague at Citadel.

By Bob Schroeder

On July 22, 2009, a group of ten left Delaware for a week-long mission trip to Haiti. OMS missionaries in Haiti, Matt and Stacey Ayars, had spoken at our church earlier in the year and soon after their visit, God put His plan into action. Our team was led by Rick Martin, who had lived in Haiti for three years as an infant when his parents were missionaries there. Nearly forty years after his missionary assignment, Rick's father, Sam, returned to Haiti this time as member of our team. Zack Martin, a nephew of Rick's and a grandson of Sam's, represented the third generation of the Martin family on the team. Our arrival in Haiti was somewhat delayed due to one of the airlines having some financial difficulties that had to be worked out. God used this time to allow our team to bond through this minor adversity!

Matt was at the Cap-Haitien airport to greet us and smooth our way through customs. We piled into the OMS truck minus half the team's luggage, which would sporadically arrive through the following week. The drive from Cap-Haitien to the OMS compound in Vaudreuil was quite the experience. The seeming chaos all around us is a daily routine for many Haitians. As we drove through the city, a United Nations tank manned by Chilean troops pulled in behind our truck as if to escort us. We joked that God had sent us protection.

Matt and Stacey gave us a tour of the OMS compound, which houses a medical clinic and a seminary for training local Haitians to be pastors. We then traveled to the new, nearly-completed seminary compound that will replace the 55-year old original. Our team spent most of the week there priming and painting the exterior walls and some interior rooms of a two-story dormitory. We framed and poured concrete sidewalks, as well as some indoor plumbing work. Our work crew was led by South Jersey native, Don Hulme, who has generously donated his time to lead the work on the construction project. OMS missionary, Sam Aberle, also helped coordinate our work activities during the week.

On Sunday, at a church in Cap-Haitien, we saw firsthand how God is working in this ministry. The pastor of the church is a seminary graduate and a friend of Matt and Stacey's. Another seminary graduate and friend of the Ayars' gave a powerful and convicting message. It was based on Psalms 116 asking, "...What will you do for God after all He has done for you?" The songs of praise and worship resounded off the walls of this tiny church. Even though most of us could not understand the Creole words being sung, we were moved by the heartfelt praise.

The team did have some free time during the week, so one day we toured the Citadel. It is a fortress built on a mountaintop by Henri Christophe, who was a key leader during the Haitian slave rebellion after Haiti gained independence from France at the beginning of the 19th century. The Aberle family joined us for a hike to the fort and a tour. The mountaintop views from the fort were amazing, and the team was blessed to have this experience.

On the last full day in Haiti, we completed the work at the seminary by lunchtime. After lunch, we spent the rest of the afternoon on a community evangelism walk. We broke into three groups with each group led by a seminary graduate who translated for us. The opportunity to see the community so intimately and speak on God's behalf was an experience none of us will soon forget.

Our last dinner in Haiti was at a restaurant overlooking the city of Cap-Haitien. The team hosted the three woman Haitian kitchen staff and the Ayars family, including six month old Lilly. It was a wonderful evening punctuated by the sounds of a local reggae band during the latter stages of the meal.

Our group returned to Delaware on July 31, but each of us left a piece of our heart in Haiti. We were deeply touched by the sad conditions we saw in this country, but equally encouraged by the God-inspired work of the courageous missionaries and seminary students. With the new seminary nearly finished, we can see that God is providing hope for the future.



Our team spent most of the week there priming and painting the exterior walls and some interior rooms of a two-story dormitory.



On Sunday, at a church in Cap-Haitien, we saw firsthand how God is working in this ministry. The pastor of the church is a seminary graduate.

Ukraine

English Camp in the Ukraine

By David Morton

It almost didn't happen for one of us. Seven hours before leaving Australia for her short-term mission in Kiev, Ukraine, Michelle Norman finally received her visa from the Ukrainian Embassy. All the plans, all the hopes, and all the dreams teetered on the edge while we all prayed and waited for God to form our team for Ukraine.



English Campers: Vlad, Vlad, and Sergei.

Churches and individuals partnered with us financially and prayerfully to cover our trip. In addition to Australia, we were called from Northern Ireland, New Zealand, and the United States. We were a diverse group with hilariously different accents teaching English and sharing our faith with Ukrainian students. From the beginning of the July 2009, camp on the outskirts of Kiev, the 21 students and 8 team members formed a permanent bond. Many used the word "family" to describe the connections.

Randy and Shelley Marshall, field leaders in the Ukraine, had four goals for the students: 1) have fun; 2) learn English; 3) have a cross-cultural exchange; and 4) learn about faith in Christ. Daily activities included group games, Bible discussions, English lessons, silly songs, testimonies, cultural talks, a Jesus movie with discussion, worship, and the occasional picnic or campfire.

Most of the Ukrainians came from an Orthodox Church background, which does a good job teaching about God's transcendence. What they learned at camp is God's nearness or imminence. And it happened quite naturally. In small groups we discussed success or the future, and



used Scripture to show that God speaks directly into our lives today. The movie we watched about Jesus emphasized His humanity. Many saw Jesus for the first time as a real person. The testimonies of the team members displayed our dependence on a faithful God. We worshiped like God could hear us.

How do non-Christians worship? For a moment the students watched. And then they all joined in praising this God who was becoming more real to them as the week went on. By the final night the worship was awe-inspiring.

Near the end of camp, I wrote in my journal: "My boys at camp, Vlad, Vlad, and Sergei, seemed suddenly more open to Jesus than ever before. They said they liked the idea of a relationship with Jesus more than all the ceremonies and religion." As a team, we had asked for this moment. By the end five students prayed to receive Jesus as their Savior. Twenty of the twenty-one said that they would join Randy's English Club, Bible study, or Life Group. The students learned English, had fun, and discovered other cultures. But most significantly, God brought them together to fill their hearts with a holy curiosity and a sense of God's great love for them.

It was difficult to walk away at the end of camp. Many team members left a piece of their heart in Ukraine. I, for one, plan on making the trip next year, and I'm already recruiting people from my church who would like to see God at work in Ukraine.

English Campers with teachers and staff.

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 52 countries. MFMI consists entirely of laymen for the purpose of helping 419 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 55-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 Haiti entering Voodoo cave.

2010 World Ministry Teams

Dates	Field (Project)	Depart	Cost
01/07	Haiti (Seminary Ded.)	Ft. Pierce	1000
02/10	02/21 South Asia (Medical)	Indy	2000
02/22	02/29 SE Asia (Prayer)	Indy	2000
03/02	03/09 Haiti (Evangelism)	Indy	1350
03/13	03/20 Haiti (Women Evang)	Indy	1350
04/20	04/29 Haiti (Work)	Fort Pierce	1000
05/02	05/16 Ecuador, Cuenca (Med)	Indy	1750
05/10	05/22 Haiti, Ranquette (Work/Evang)	Indy	1400
07/17	07/28 Ireland, Shannon (Evang)	Indy	1900
10/16	10/23 Haiti (Evangelism)	Indy	1300
11/12	11/20 Hungary (Prayer)	Indy	2200

We have a great opportunity here at OMS Headquarters for work teams to come and help with demolition and rebuilding of the main administration building. This will start January 15, 2010, and go through May 1, 2010. We need people for that time period. Paul Jones will be heading up the project, and we want to invite you to help us update and remodel the building for the future. Food and housing will be available at the OMS campus, and we would like for teams to come for a few days or a few weeks. If you are interested, please contact:

Bill Evans at 317-881-6752
Or email: bevans@omsinternational.org

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 _____
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Questions & Answers

Testimony of John And Merna Shields

Submitted by Geri Kittler

Some stories simply must be told. Often we are humbled by the generosity of a family or individual, and this is no exception. John and Merna Shields from Craigmyle, Alberta, Canada, (a small Hamlet located between Hanna and Drumheller, Alberta), have been contributing to Sonny Solar for several years. This 79 & 81 year old couple (married 60 some years) put their pocket change into a jar. When it is full, they pass it on to Archie and Geri Kittler, MFMI Canadian Cabinet member, to make sure it gets sent to OMS Canada for "Radios for Haiti" Project #70094. If either of them requires the change for the car wash, etc., John insists that it be replaced by "paper money."

Like many seniors, John & Merna survive primarily on their pensions. In spite of their seemingly "financial limitations," they continue their longstanding membership with the Gideon Association—still driving to schools within a 40 mile radius to distribute New Testaments to grade five students. They are also members of the Christian Cowboy's Association, which includes traveling to Rodeos all over Alberta to assist with a Sunday morning service, singing, sharing, and praying for the Cowboys and any interested Rodeo guests. They also serve and give to their local church. They are involved in all this in addition to giving to "Radio's for Haiti."

On their farm, they still care for a few head of cows and horses. Until about two years ago, John was still roping. Prior to retirement, John and Merna were in the auction business, and they still help their son with sales. They grasp every opportunity to share their faith and make special effort to



John and Merna Shields.

share the Gospel with people they know who are on their death bed. Bible Study and prayer are a vital part of their lives together, as well as singing! In fact, Johnny shares often that prior to going to sleep every night they sing "How Great Thou Art".

We trust you have been both challenged and encouraged by the testimony of these special but ordinary folk, as we have been! If John and Merna knew we were writing about them, they would be the first to tell you that they have experienced more than their share of challenges and difficulties, including various health issues. However, they would want us to say, "Tell the people it's not

the amount of the gift given, but rather the heart behind it; and although, the job description may change, even daily, we are never too old to serve the Lord!" If we were to ask them today, "How are you?" they would answer, "BLESSED" or "BETTER THAN WE DESERVE!"

H.E.A.R.T.S. (Haitians Educated And Ready To Serve)

December 9, 2009

CHRISTMAS SHOW

St. Andrews Presbyterian Church
Fergus, ON

Contact John McCluskey:
johndorothymccluskey@hotmail.com

Proceeds from show to Haiti Schools

Haiti (Almost) 60 Years of Radio 4VEH



Help Us Celebrate Radio 4VEH's 60th Anniversary in 2010

By Kate Michel, Radio 4VEH

Sixty years is a long time. For Haiti, the history books talk of oppression, repression, political turmoil, dictatorships, sanctions, lawless secret police, hurricanes, violent gangs, flooding, food shortages, and riots.

Yet in all this time — longer than an average Haitian's lifespan — Radio 4VEH has been sharing Jesus Christ with listeners all over Haiti and beyond. Thank God that in all the turmoil of life, Radio 4VEH is there as a voice of hope. We are so excited to use this 60-year milestone in 2010 to praise God and celebrate lives changed through this radio ministry, while keeping our eyes firmly fixed on the task before us.

Our listeners — up to one million people each day — listen one by one. God changes lives one by one. For example, Pastor Voltaire, senior pastor of a large influential church in Cap-Haitien knows that Radio 4VEH played a critical role in his own life and ministry.

"I wasn't born in the church — I was born Catholic, and in Haiti, you know that means Catholic and Voodoo. The first time I heard the Gospel was on Radio 4VEH, on a radio program called Paroles Vivantes (Living Word), a radio drama series written and directed by missionary Rachael Picazo."

"Every week, I went to a friend's house to listen to Radio 4VEH. For a long time, Radio 4VEH was my pastor, my church."

Praise God for the legacy of lives changed then and pray for those listening to Radio 4VEH right now across Haiti and worldwide on the internet.

Share Your Radio 4VEH Stories

God has used Radio 4VEH to bring people closer to Himself — listeners in Haiti, local staff, missionaries, and of course, MFMs. If you have been involved in funding Radio 4VEH, praying for the ministry, building the radio station, sponsoring radios with Sonny Solar or distributing radios, or in any other way — we want to hear from you!

Email: Kate Michel, Radio4VEH Marketing & Communications Director at kmichel@radio4veh.org

Or write to Kate Michel, Radio 4VEH, PO Box A, Greenwood, IN 46142, USA



Calling All Runners! 10K Fundraiser in Haiti

Last year's race was so successful we hope you will join us for Radio 4VEH's 10K Fundraiser race in Cap-Haitien — run a 10K race through the streets of Cap-Haitien, Haiti and help launch the 60th Anniversary Celebrations there.

The race date is Saturday, January 16, 2010. The 5-day trip also includes a day of evangelism and distribution of solar-powered radios, fix-tuned to Radio 4VEH. The cost is \$2000, which includes a special contribution to Radio 4VEH and other OMS ministries in Haiti.

Contact Bill Evans at Men For Missions International for more details.

Email: info@mfmi.org or bevans@omsinternational.org
In the US, call 317 881 6755 ext 377

And if you can't get to Haiti, why not organize a 10K Fundraiser in your own area. Make sure you let us know how you're getting involved!



Hundreds of runners from across Haiti — as well as visitors from Canada, the US, the Dominican Republic, and UN troops stationed in Haiti — ran last year's 10K race.

South Africa Bible and Bike Tour

By Wendell Bole
MFMI National Director in South Africa

Wendell Bole is the new MFMI National Director in South Africa. He came to visit MFMI headquarters in June to find out all he could about OMS and MFMI, as he is new to the organization. Wendell is a world champion medalist, owner of The Cycle Hub, visionary and director of Circle of Faith, and co-coordinator of the BIBLE AND BIKE TOUR. He rode in the TOUR that covered a distance of 5,212 km in 40 days (August 31-October 9, 2009) through six Provinces in South Africa. Below is a summary from Wendell of this tour.

I liken this tour to two journeys from the Bible. The 40 days Moses spent in the desert and the walk to Emmaus. You see FAITH is more important than miracles and like Moses; we stepped out in Faith to do what GOD had called us to do.

We rode for 40 days mostly not knowing where we would sleep each night, yet we always had a roof over our heads and a meal in our tummy. Like Moses, we never gave thought of what lay ahead, except that we had a daily purpose to trust and serve the LORD. He was faithful in every way. We ministered in churches and schools. We met people who will be part of

Bikers from left: Sheldon Bole, Wendell Bole, Fernando Laranjeira, Percy Beneke, and Ian Smit.

MFMI in the future.

GOD made a divine connection between a missionary from Zambia who was praying for help, and a congregation that we met 18 days later with a desire to work in Zambia.

As Moses endured the plagues, we endured the WIND, always there and in our faces. Day 39 was the most difficult. I prayed to GOD to stop the wind or turn it around, but it just howled on. Did JESUS not receive 39 strikes? Did JESUS not cry out, "My GOD, my GOD, why have you forsaken me?" Matthew 27:46. Our FAITH was tested. We suffered the HILLS that never seemed to stop! It gave us reason to pray and pray! GOD taught us to call out to HIM for strength and

endurance. You see, hills can be like life's challenges, and by calling to GOD you will find strength. HE will lift you up.

We endured HEAT but only for three days, and the RAIN was unpleasant. The COLD lasted for four days. Our plagues were mostly the weather and terrain.

If we could have known what awaited us around the corner, would we have carried on? At times, we were tested as we are tested with our daily walk with JESUS. We do not know what awaits us around the corner or over the next hill. But through FAITH we know what lies ahead with JESUS. As we rode we became stronger, so did our FAITH. It strengthened daily as we rode with JESUS.

Only when JESUS broke the bread did the two men on the road to Emmaus realise who HE was, but we could feel HIM with us all the time. A wrong number connected us to a town, there was JESUS. We prayed for rain in a town, there was JESUS. The strangers we met, there was JESUS. The protection on the road, there was JESUS. The beauty of the fields, there was JESUS. The hospitality of people, there was JESUS.

We praise HIM and thank HIM for this opportunity to serve HIM. Will we do it again? For sure, if it is GOD'S will.



THEY KEEP GOING

Those from U.S. going to OMS fields July – September, 2009:

Joshua Aberle • Tim Aman • Miriam Arnold • Matt Atkins • Melissa Atkins • Jennifer Atkins • Phil & Shirley Atkins • Joy Atkinson • Barry Baker • Bryan Baker • Dylan Baker • Ed & Diane Baker • Joshua Bassette • Pam Bassette • Tom Brien • Larry & Marian Byrnes • Tom & Lois Calvert • Louise Campbell • Richard Center • Lon Claycomb • Randy Cloud Jr • Joan Cosby • Vicki Costa • Laura Courtney • Nancy Courtney • Ellen Cusack • John Cusack Jr • Mike & Pat Dragon • Nicholas Driscoll • Colleen Fitch • Katherine Fitch • Harlen & Martha Fleming • Maury Graham • David & Sharon Haas • Joseph Haigh Sr • Warren & Velma Hardig • Bill Harkisheimer • Craig & Laurie Hartsock • Levi Hartsock • Laura Hendrickson • Rebecca Hinaman • Doug Hoffman • Julie Holtje • Deric Horting • Bill Houia • Nicole Janho • Todd Jay • David Keckley • Victoria Kerr • David Keys • Virginia Keys • Matthew Kofron • Jeff Krill • Rick Martin • Sam Martin • Vickie Martin • Zach Martin • Jennifer McCormick • Steve Medley Jr • Ryan Meyer • Sharon Mishler • Kim Montague • David Morton • Dan Morris • Ted Mowry • Tom & Tracy Mowry • Eric & Julie Nelson • Harold Nelson • Michelle Norman • Brittany Petree • Gene & Sharon Printz • Bob Schroeder • David & Anne Shireall Jr • Alfred Singelton Jr • Bob Stahly • Folmer & Marilyn Strunk • Megan Stueber • Anna Sunderland • Isaac Sunderland • Luke Sunderland • Robert & Jane Sunderland • David & Alyce Tejral • Trent Thompson • Troy Thompson • Brian Voos • Calvin & Pat Waugh • Brent Weaver • Gisela Wheeler • Betty Wilson • Daniel Winterholter • Jan-Michael Wood • Harold & Maxine Yoder

Those from Canada going to OMS fields July – September, 2009:

Art Duerksen • David Dyck • Emily Gulden • Ron Gulden • Jeff Hageman • Don & Colleen Leeson • Joe Martin • Albert NyKamp • Lysie NyKamp • Sarah NyKamp • Hank Radstake • Eric Wuest

Those from United Kingdom going to OMS fields July – September, 2009:

Bertie Armstrong • Brendan Daley • Herbie Dunn • Philip Hawe • Reuben Kirkland • John O'Grady • Martin O'Grady • Tommy Reyburn • Alan Russell • John Sawyers

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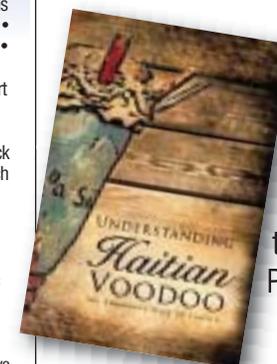
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Understand Voodoo and You Will Better Understand Haiti



Emmanuel Felix Examines Grip of Voodoo on the Haitian People

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Out of Our Comfort Zone

By Steve Phillips

The last 17 years I have coached little league baseball in my hometown, Salem, Illinois. I enjoy coaching, but for the past few years, the Lord has placed it on my heart to go on a construction mission trip. I am not a carpenter by trade, but I grew up on a farm and have tackled construction projects before.

At the same time the Lord was talking to me about a mission trip, Brett Bundy was home from Haiti, and we talked about taking a team to Haiti from Salem. Brett is originally from my home church, Salem First Baptist, and I have known him for several years. Toward the end of 2008, I found eight other local men interested in going on the trip.

The cost of the trip was about \$1,300 per person. We had two breakfasts and one spaghetti dinner to raise money. Our church gave very unselfishly for this trip. At the same time my nephew was also raising money to go on a mission trip to Thailand for the entire summer. So our church was challenged to give generously for both of these trips.

Two or three men going on this trip said that they would pay their own way. However, we each only had to pay the \$250 deposit because of the way our members gave. This was an answer to prayer! Our church has always been mission-minded and this proved that once again.

The purpose of our trip was to do construction and maintenance on a new seminary that is being built just outside of Cap-Haitien to train students to lead churches. Our team did a lot of welding, tiling and grouting, painting, and concrete work. We got a lot of work done in the four work days out of the seven that we were there. There is still much more to be done to finish the seminary.

One afternoon we were involved in evangelism by handing out radios and witnessing in a small village about an hour drive from the OMS compound. We had a great afternoon as there were 16 professions of faith. This definitely got us out of our comfort zone.

While we were still in Haiti, all the members of our team talked about going back, and I think even after being back for a few days that is still the feeling. Our purpose was fulfilled for this trip, and it was beyond our expectations. As we share with our church and friends about the trip, I realize that it had as much of an impact on us as it did on the people of Haiti.



Back row, from left: Gary Watson, Larry Dodd, Andy Smith, Steve Phillips, Dustin Friedrich, Danny King, Ronnie Donoho. Front row: George Nattier III, Jon Weild, Larry Becker.



Preparing the walls for painting at the seminary.

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 2010 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 304,917 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.