

January – April 2009

ACTION

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



Miracles in
ECUADOR

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Member Care in MOZAMBIQUE *Africa*

By Michael and Shawnea Tallman

We called ourselves the "Prayer and Care Team." Most people envision back-breaking labor, medical clinics, or teaching vacation Bible school when they hear of short-term missions. However, member care generally does not come to mind. Jesus often ministered to his disciples, listened to their struggles, and asked probing questions to help them understand. The confidential member care details, which might be common to many, are generally magnified under stressful conditions of the mission field. I can only attempt to reveal a glimpse into the culture, works, and conditions that challenge missionaries in Mozambique.

Shortly after landing in Nampula, Berry Johnson (MFMI), Kent Eller (MFMI), Michael Tallman (Clinical Psychologist), and I had a foretaste of Dave and Ann Dedrick's every day life. As the electrical power pulsed back on from momentary total darkness while waiting for luggage at the airport, Ann casually commented that we should not worry because it was "normal." Dave rushed to get our bags loaded into the car as it is not safe to sit still for too long. We bounced in and out of deeply cratered potholed roads to the Wycliffe Ministry compound. Once there, Dave and Ann briefed us on the best mosquito net and insecticide spray for optimum malaria prevention. Even with all of these early indications, we were taken off-guard about the battle in which we were engaged.

The Every Community for Christ (ECC) Village Church Planting Trainers, who mentor and train church planters throughout Mozambique, were gathered for a conference at the Wycliffe Ministry compound. The interagency cooperation is remarkably evident as several missionaries from other agencies came to support the conference. There is a comprehensive, united plan for claiming Mozambique for Christ. The focus of the Village Church Planting program is empowering nationals with the Word of the Lord.

We spoke at the conference and spent time with the international and national missionaries as well as the trainers.

Mike Thiessen, from the Biblical and Theological Seminary of Maputo, shared about the new certificates and degrees offered at the school.

The mosquito-netted bunks were comfortable, and the fellowship in the cottage was excellent. After a night of fitful sleep, I asked if anyone else heard the noise. They asked me what it sounded like; I described it as the "sounds of Hell." My husband, Michael, was quick to point out that he had also battled all night. We were reminded of the spiritual battle for the souls of Mozambique. Every night, around 3:00 a.m., the missionaries endure the call to prayer from nearby mosques. The need for combative prayer is essential to remain free from the spiritual assault. Like soldiers, who recognize the emotional and spiritual toll of battle, they will have better ability to fight the good fight.

In our short time in Mozambique, there were numerous enemy attacks—no water, flooded roads, flat tire, wrecked car, Cholera, robbery, and sick children. The driver did not sleep all night because he feared robbery of his truck. His fear was not unjustified. Just after we left, the compound was robbed the next day. Safety is an ever-present and justified concern. However, those serving Him know that the war is won and so persevere despite the challenges they face in daily life.

The "Word of Life" churches of Mozambique have many hardships to endure. We visited stick huts with leaky grass roofs occupied by sick and hungry children. Yet, the spirit of love overcame their conditions as they greeted us with warm smiles and sang praises to God for our visit. Also in Zambezia, we visited some of the new churches.

Despite the many challenges in Mozambique, God is doing amazing things in the hearts and souls of people. Lives are being changed, people are coming to Christ, and churches are being started in many areas because of the trained laymen reaching out to tell others how they can have a personal relationship with Him.



Some of the sick and hungry children of Mozambique.

MFMI TEAM VISITS MOZAMBIQUE NATIONAL ECC WORKERS

By Berry Johnson

It is exciting to see firsthand that the partnership between MFMI and Every Community for Christ (ECC) is bearing fruit in Mozambique. Each province is claimed in prayer and ECC teams are entering the provinces with the Gospel. Many are praying for a "great awakening."



Michael & Shawnea Tallman, Kent Eller, and Berry Johnson in front of a church.

In January, we visited many teams and attended the ECC Conference in Nampula, and worshiped with new church plants by Paito Halari. We met 13 ECC Trainers; Juka Fernando, Country Coordinator; Xavier Massingue, translator of materials; and Antonio Nacuatina, the trainer responsible for 50 churches started in the Mocuba area in 2008.

We traveled with Dave and Ann Dedrick, Juka and Elaina Fernando to Mocuba to see new churches. It was exciting to visit five locations where in some places the roads were so wet and difficult that four-wheel drive vehicles could not get through. However, we met 35 bi-vocational church planters.

We left Mozambique with a renewed vision to come home and do all that we can to support Merrill Evangelism for Mozambique.*

- 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.
- 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.

People are coming to Christ in increasing numbers. Witch doctors are being converted and are now bi-vocational church planters. We are at 24 percent of our goal, which is up 10 percent from December. I want to encourage you to pray about being involved in this exciting ministry through prayer and financial giving. To God be the Glory.

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



Chuck and Juanita Merrill in concert.



Volume 50

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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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Miracles in Ecuador

By Ed Anderson

God surrounds his people like the mountains surround Jerusalem (Quito), and they cannot be shaken or moved. Like Mount Zion, (Mountain Cotopaxi), they stand high and lifted up as they trust in the Lord. Such faith is shown by the missionaries in Quito who stay committed to the task set before them.

On the flight into Quito, we talked with a dermatologist, who said that 95 percent of Ecuadorians are only religious. However, many are afraid to give up their traditions and superstitions.

We met Mery, the cleaning maid at the Bed and Breakfast guest house who has become a beaming, happy witness since her conversion. Before that she was deeply involved in traditions and superstitions.

It is encouraging to see the efforts of the “Merys of Ecuador” (lay people) and pastors like Carlos Flores who leads the Fountain of Life congregation in Riobamba. The church of 60 to 70 people meets in a rented dance hall in the southern mountains of Ecuador. Pastor Carlos took us to a quiet neighborhood where they have purchased a lot to build a small church. They have a building fund of about \$2,000 (USD) to start buying materials, which will cost about \$25,000. Riobamba, a historic town of about 225,000

“Until God breaks your heart you will never know the full ministry God has for you.”

– Ed Anderson

people, is at an altitude of about 9,500 feet, located at the center of the country and is of strategic importance to the whole country. It is surrounded by snow capped peaks in a large agricultural plain. The Indians that continue to farm the rich black soil bring their produce into the central market.

The typical Ecuadorian makes \$180 to \$220 (USD) per month. Those that depend on the government such as teachers and the military earn about \$110 per month and at times have to go without pay. Church leaders and pastors find it difficult to get education. Even so, they are eager to plant house churches and cell groups as an extension of their churches. The theological leadership courses generally take about four years to complete and costs about \$3,500. Some scholarships may be provided if there are donations made for these theological classes by extension. Family obligations often become obstacles to discourage the student pastors; however, encouragement of brothers and sisters in the Lord helps them.

The day we visited a prison a woman from Taiwan was released after serving six years. She had become a believer through the prison ministry. The next day after her release she was deported to Taiwan where

In Riobamba; Ed and Pat Anderson, Pastor Carlos Flores (in military dress) with his wife Elisa, and a deacon, Carmita.



Mery the maid and Augusto the gardener.

she desires to bring her family and friends to a saving faith in our Lord and Savior. I was surprised that many elderly Indian women are in prison because they were knowingly or unknowingly caught with drugs trying to provide for the needs of their families.

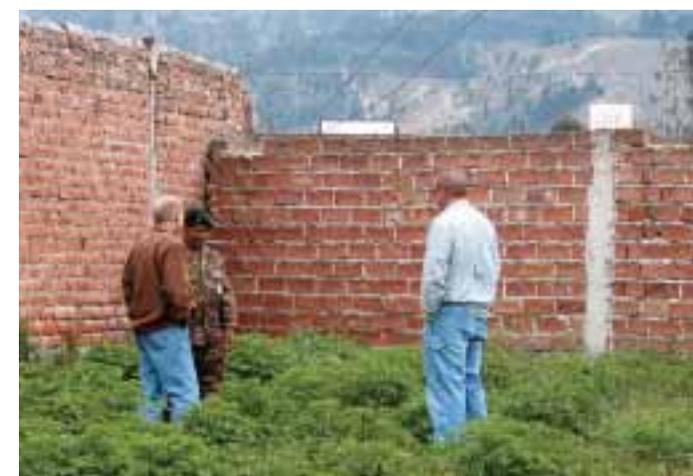
Kelly Chambers, OMS missionary, is heading up a distribution of wheelchairs for July 2009. A church in the U.S. has indicated that they will purchase 500 or 1,000 wheelchairs for distribution through the Ecuadorian churches. It will be a significant evangelism tool for the local churches. Each person or church that contributes will encourage the government officials, the missionaries, the pastors, and the people.

We, who visit, are more than picture takers. When we return home with broken hearts and a passion for changed lives, we give time and money for the cause and do what God nudges us to do for His kingdom.

As Mery the maid said, “I can go directly to Jesus now.” May God speak to each of us regarding going outside our cozy comforts to a wider vision of God’s call to action.

Would you like to help buy the materials and have the opportunity to go next November and work beside the newly committed Christians to construct their new church for worship and education? Getting your hands dirty for the gospel and sharing a vision of the Glory of God with new Christians is a life changing and life invigorating opportunity that makes life worth living. A spiritual uplift happens.

“Until God breaks your heart, you will never know the full ministry God has for you” – Ed Anderson



Pastor Flores with Doug Tankersley and Darryl Chambers inspecting the lot where the church will be built.



Ed and Doug Tankersley.

Ecuador

SEMBEC – The Evangelical Bible Seminary of Cuenca

By Tom Stiles

Danilo Capelo, a young man from Cuenca, was looking for more Bible training. He desired to plant churches, and realized he needed to understand Scripture better. A seminary in Quito was ten hours away by bus, so he continued his search. He found another seminary four hours away in Guayaquil. When he interviewed with the director of the seminary in Guayaquil, he asked Danilo why he didn't apply to SEMBEC, a seminary in Cuenca. Danilo immediately contacted the SEMBEC director, Jorge Mogrovejo, about attending. Three years later, Danilo completed seminary studies and is now working as a pastor in a local church.

I first arrived in Cuenca in 1979 through the Missionary for a Year (M-1) program. The Prince of Peace Church was the only OMS-related church in town. The Upper Room, a second church, was established in the early 1980s. I was struck by the need for trained pastors. Soon Jorge and Lynn Mogrovejo and other OMS missionaries began to meet and pray for guidance on how best to help the evangelical churches in Cuenca train leaders.

Guayaquil and Quito were too far away for most families to move for three years of theological



training. Additionally, many cults and New Age influences were a strong impact on many people in Cuenca. The lack of deeper understanding of Scripture caused many people confusion, which affected the churches. After informal extension--inductive training, it became apparent that the key was more intensive Bible training. This required a more formal approach.

In 1995, the Evangelical Bible Seminary of Cuenca began with four students from OMS-related churches in Cuenca and Saraguro. They met in a small rented apartment for classes. For ten weeks

this was a new experiment because no other Bachelor's program was available for the 400,000 people of Cuenca. The seminary grew as many "Cuencanos" were eager to study the Bible.

Jorge Torres was an active communist as a teenager hoping for a changed society. When there was a demonstration, he was one of the first angry youth to charge the streets throwing rocks at buses or banks. He turned to alcohol after becoming disillusioned with communism's empty promises and violence. The alcohol soon drove his wife and little daughter out of his

Seminary's rented space in Cuenca.



Crowded seminary classroom in Cuenca.



Tom Stiles and Jorge Torres.

reach. When he was barely in his twenties, Jorge was drunk on the street. A pastor talked to him, led him to the Lord and to Alcoholics Anonymous, and he found victory over alcohol. Jesus began changing his life. He wanted to share that with others and started Bible 'cell groups' instead of communist cells. Soon he wanted to know how to study and understand the Bible and found SEMBEC to be that place. Today, he is a dynamic pastor for a church of 300 people.

For thirteen years SEMBEC has dreamed of having its own building. As long as there were only 10 to 15 students, most rented houses were large enough for classes. However, property has been purchased to construct a two-story seminary building large enough for 20-30 students, a chapel, and offices for the secretary and director.

October 2008, SEMBEC accepted 50

students, which confirmed the need for larger facilities. The class sizes range from five to thirteen students, much too large for the current rented facilities. We plan to begin construction January 2009, and move in by October for the fall classes.

If you would like to take part in helping with the construction, please contact Men for Missions (see page 11 or call 317-881-6752). We would like you to visit us and help build this essential part of God's Kingdom in Cuenca. There are spaces available for you on work teams in April and September 2009. Please come and be a part of what God is doing in Ecuador.

We are still in need of \$50,000 to finish the construction. If you would like to help financially with the construction, please send your gift to "SEMBEC construction" Project #402840.

Site of future two-story seminary building.



WHY GO TO JAPAN?



Japanese people visit Buddhist temples and Shinto shrines to pray. This is more of a social practice than religious acts as most of them don't know for what or to whom they are praying, let alone the teachings.



By Douglas Wolfe, Sr.

January 2007, God began planting a desire in my heart for Japan. The decision to go was a two-year-work in progress. It had nothing to do with acquiring funds because I knew God would supply. It had even less to do with the adventure of traveling to Asia.

I thought missions work was for specially anointed people of God to go full-time to a foreign country. Before my introduction to MFMI, I read, *A Guide to Short-Term Missions* by H. Leon Greene, M.D. It was about the practicality of becoming a short-term medical missionary. Little did I know at the time God was preparing my heart to do missions work.

Two gentlemen from MFMI attended our Saturday morning men's breakfast and talked about starting another MFMI Council in New England. I was intrigued about starting a laymen's group for short-term missions work. I have been a Christian for forty-four years, and have never heard of such a thing.

In May 2007, the Pioneer Valley MFMI Council was formed, and I took the "bull by the horn" to lead the new council of six men and two women.

Prior to the new council formation, Gary Dinas was an active member of the North Quabbin Council in Salem, Massachusetts. He has traveled to Japan many times and wanted others to take an interest in the work. When our council was formed, Gary transferred his membership to us. He showed pictures of the people of Japan, which caught my interest.

My first overseas MFMI trip was to Bogota, Colombia in December 2007. I caught the "fever" and no longer was a state-side "pew warmer." I was very active in church, but overseas mission work is different. It rejuvenates, activates, tests, and takes you out of your comfort zone, and ultimately strengthens your faith in God. Doing missions work is practical and yet carries a spiritual context that emanates the reality of who we are – created by Holy God.

In 2008, MFMI advertised work teams to Japan, and I decided to go in November. This decision was difficult because Satan attacked my mind with negative thoughts about going. I fought this battle until October 13, 2008, when peace of mind came after I made the final decision. God won the battle over the fight between good and evil, and He used our small team to touch many lives that we came in contact with.

Dave Haas, Steve King, and I had the privilege of discipling Phil Deluca, a new Christian of only two months. Like Timothy, in the New Testament, Phil was led to the Lord by his grandmother's witness and love for him. This was Phil's first time to fly in an airplane, first trip to a foreign country, and first time doing any kind of missions work. It was fascinating to hear his testimony and to see the changes that have occurred in his personal life due to the transformation through his faith in Jesus Christ.

The Japanese Biblical Seminary students and faculty were enthralled, curious, and amazed at the step of faith Phil took to go to Japan as a new believer. If helping to disciple Phil was one of the reasons I was prompted to go, it was worth it.

Japan is an industrialized nation in spiritual bondage due to their historical/ancestral and pagan/polytheism beliefs. Of the 125.92 million people, Buddhism is 40.5 percent, Christianity is 0.7 percent, Shintoism is 54.1 percent, and other religions are 4.7 percent. Japanese people visit Buddhist temples and Shinto shrines to pray. This is more of a social practice than religious acts as most of them don't know for what or to whom they are praying, let alone the teachings.

Our small, four-man-team completed the residing and painting of the trim on the home of the president of Tokyo Biblical Seminary. We also painted a guest house car-port. I also had the opportunity to play trombone in the Arai Church as well as the Seminary's Japan Holiness Church the two Sundays we were in Japan.

Our small, four-man-team completed the residing and painting of the trim on the home of the president of Tokyo Biblical Seminary. We also painted a guest house car-port.



David Haas and Philip Deluca.



David Haas.

Doug Wolfe, Sr.



The team, students, missionaries, and friends.



Korea Cabbage for Breakfast!

By Susan Hoffelder

Cabbage for breakfast, lunch, and dinner everyday. I did not like the taste of Kimchi, the spicy hot cabbage eaten with chopsticks. However, I love the Koreans who eat it.

Recently, I taught conversational English in Seoul, South Korea, through Men For Missions International. I found that I was being spiritually nourished by the students committed to the call of God; by the missionaries preparing for service in the field; by co-teachers as we discussed our teaching methods; and by the Holy Spirit as we worshiped together.

From the time we awakened at 6:00 a.m., attended chapel, and broke into classes, I was fully aware of my responsibility to teach English language skills. Even more importantly, I encouraged the students to grow in their Christian faith. Ironically, it was I who grew in my faith. My students made me examine my own commitment to Christ.

God called Joseph Lee, a senior at Seoul Theological Seminary into the ministry, and he has developed his musical ability to lead worship. His mischievous personality shines like his coal black hair.

Although missionaries, Karl and Grace Song, faced discouragement, they overcame it. Their two young daughters, while at English camp, became sick and were hospitalized. Karl explained that his family and he really liked living in the United States for the past ten years and did not want to leave, but he felt God's strong call be missionaries in the Philippines. Thus, they left their comfortable home in the United States for the mission field.

David Kim was bashful and shy, but his deep conviction and love for Christ was evident in his desire to learn more of the English language.

Cultural differences among the teachers added another dimension to the mission trip, but they enjoyed camaraderie and wonderful Christian fellowship. The Australian teachers were William McAdam, Laura Morris, and Justine Glover. The Irish teachers were Dean Lappin and Steve Mairs. The Canadian teachers were Melissa Neufeld and Roger Foard. The United States teachers were Mary Ann Hubbard, Susan Hoffelder, Barbara Pak, and Miha Hayes. The treatment of the English language from each teacher added to the cultural diversity. University teachers, Hannah

and Chad McDonald also taught and hosted a dinner for the teachers in their apartment. Susan Truit, Director of Adventures in English (AIE) 2008 Camp, scheduled a home visit with a Korean family, worship at the Yoido Full Gospel Church, where approximately 600,000 worship, a trip to the North Korean Observatory and DMZ area, and many other unique adventures in South Korea, which were all enjoyable.

Supplies for teaching, excursions, transportation, meals, and housing were provided by OMS. Serving as an English teacher in Seoul is a fantastic and an absolutely unforgettable way to spend three weeks of your life. It is a mission trip you will never regret and never forget. God's great commission to "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations" (Matt. 28:19) is intended for you and me to obey. You can have it all—serving God, fellowship, travel, and all the spicy cabbage (Kimchi) you will ever want in your whole lifetime!



Above: Teachers enjoying a typical Korean meal.
Below: Students enrolled in the English class.



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 46 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
03/21	Ecuador (Women)	Indy	1550
03/27	Ecuador (Work)	Indy	1600
04/04	Ecuador (Construction)	t/b/a	1700
04/24	Japan, Tokyo (Prayer)	Indy	1500
05/01	Haiti, Cap (Work)	Indy	1350
05/02	Ecuador, Cuenca (Const)	Indy	1700
05/11	Japan, Tokyo (Work)	Indy	1350
05/16	Mexico City (Prayer)	Indy	1100
06/06	Haiti, Cap (Work)	Indy	1300
07/07	Hungary (English Camp)	Indy	2350
07/07	Hungary (English Camp)	Indy	2350
07/11	Haiti, Cap (Work)	Ft Pierce FL	1250
07/11	Ecuador, Cuenca (Const)	Portland	1700
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
08/08	Ecuador (Work)	Newark	1500
10/13	Haiti, Cap (Work)	Columbus	1300
10/24	Uruguay (Prayer)	Pittsburgh	1850
11/06	SW Haiti (Evangelism)	Indy	1600
11/13	SW Haiti (Evangelism)	Indy	1600

You can teach English! Join an English Camp Team this summer. Teams provide powerful opportunities of interaction and fun between workers and campers through conversational English, and times for sharing about your life of faith. Teams are scheduled to Asia, Hungary and Ukraine this year. See the team schedule above.

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 _____

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Country _____

Phone(s) _____

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

Setting The Prisoner Free

Radio 4VEH Reaches Beyond Prison Walls To Transform Lives

By Kate Michel, Radio 4VEH

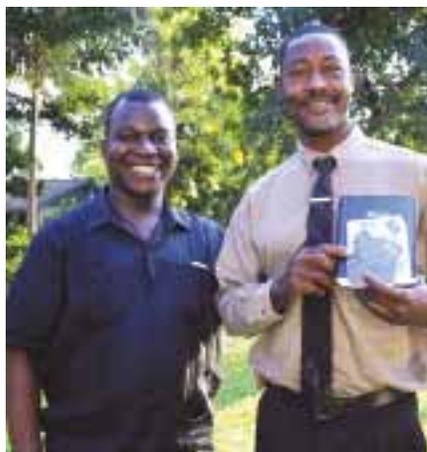


Photo by Gill Shoemaker
Radio 4VEH presenter, Pastor Bade Siméon (left), rejoices with the 'new' Macksen.

Macksen says, "God changed my life through the ministry of Radio 4VEH and Pastor Bade Simeon. Radio 4VEH does a lot for me with its Morning Meditation program. Pastor Bade is my spiritual father. I was a drug addict but now I am a strong Christian because of the ministry of Radio 4VEH."

Production Director at Radio 4VEH, Pastor Bade Siméon, presents the 5:00 a.m. program, *Morning Meditation*. Pastor Bade recently shared this story from a listener:

Macksen used to be a bandit – a dangerous criminal who was a threat to society. He smoked, drank, and did drugs. Eventually, his life of crime caught up with him, and the police tried to arrest him. The three police officers who arrived at his house were unprepared for this black-belt karate expert, and had to leave when they realized they couldn't match Macksen's skills. The police chief then sent 22 heavily-armed police officers who struggled, but managed to arrest Macksen.

With the crimes he had committed, he was going to prison for a long time. While in prison, he overheard Morning Meditation, the radio program I present on Radio 4VEH. He began listening every morning, and his heart softened.

Some time later, I was given the opportunity to preach at the prison where Macksen was held, and I shared with the prisoners from Romans 10:13 that "anyone who calls on the name of Jesus will be saved!" Macksen began to think, "I am in prison for the rest of my life for what I have done on this earth. If I do not accept Jesus, I will be in prison for all of eternity."

A few days later, Macksen accepted Jesus as his Savior.

Today, this man rejoices in his new life in Christ. Wherever he goes, he carries a Bible with two photos inside: one before he went to prison, with long dreadlocks, a joint in his hand, living on the streets; the other photo is Macksen all cleaned up, both inside and out.

Yes, I want to help change lives like Macksen's through Radio 4VEH

Here is my gift to reach Haitians through effective Christian radio (Project #404890)

- \$ 50 (US)
- \$ 100 (US)
- \$ 250 (US)
- \$ _____ (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.

A Teen's View of Haiti

By Jonathan Schultz, Canada

I am 14 and I went to Haiti, which completely changed my outlook on life as a teen.

I really did not know what I was getting into. My first image of Haiti was the beautiful mountainscapes; little did I know what I would be seeing in an hour. Doreen Wallace drove us safely through Cap-Haitien to the OMS compound. From my eyes it was a lush tropical paradise. We quickly settled in and walked to the clinic. Honestly, it was disturbing. Sure we have to wait in the ER, but we get out and are taken care of. I was so thirsty, but I couldn't



Team at prayer tree.

take a drink because some of the Haitians had not drunk in a day or two. The sights our group saw in the clinic were heartbreaking!

Later that day, we drove five miles to the new Seminary site. I was so excited! Getting to work on a building that may change the nation was just too good. After learning how to mud the walls, thanks to "Dan the tile man," Al and I began to work together. He was sure fun to work with!

Each night, we heard amazing stories of how the missionaries got to Haiti. Matt and Stacey Ayars' story spoke to me the most. It showed me that if you give your life to the

Savior, amazing things happen. Before meeting, Matt was a jock and Stacey was a focused musician. Thanks so much for the stories!

Kate Zlotnicki was our host and friend. Amazingly, she convinced me to speak to an English as a Second Language class. So from the new seminary to the old, in sweaty clothes with grout and mud all over, I spoke to the class in French, and it was translated into English. It was great to answer their questions.

We walked to the famed prayer tree which has roots like benches. People came alive in praise.



Jonathan and mom, Marci.

Be part of a New Day in Haiti

Radio 4VEH reaches further than any other ministry in Haiti into the hearts and minds of listeners wherever they are, preparing the way for God's transforming work in their lives.

- PRAY that the potential of radio ministry be maximized, reaching people where they are with the hope of the Gospel.
- PRAY for presenters like Pastor Bade, who speak God's message across the airwaves.
- PRAY for all Radio 4VEH listeners, including those who "overhear" the message, that their hearts will be touched by the Holy Spirit, and they will have courage to respond.



Team ready to work.

MFMI Prayer Initiative Update

The MFMI Prayer Initiative began in January 2005, with five target countries: Haiti, Ecuador, Japan, Mozambique, and Spain. The plan is really quite simple. We are believing the promise that God made to Joshua, "Wherever you place your foot, I will give you" (Josh. 1:3). So we are literally and purposefully stepping on the countries of OMS and claiming them for Christ. Claiming these countries for Christ, we are expecting God to raise up the country champions (those who represent and champion prayer), and recruit an army of intercessors to tactically and strategically intercede for the souls of the people in the countries of OMS.

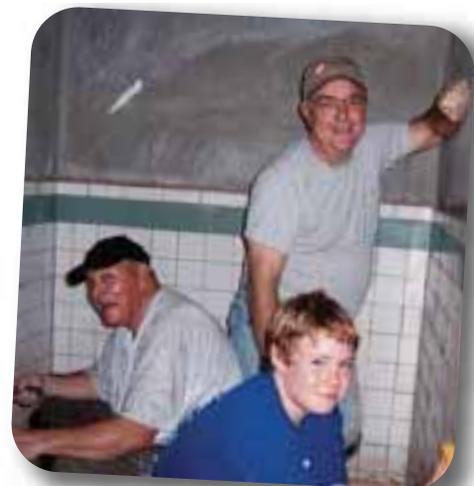
The MFMI Prayer Initiative (PI) has now grown to ten countries, with seven having country champions. The countries with country champions are Haiti, Ecuador, Japan, Mozambique, South Asia, Spain, and Uruguay. We are still believing God for country champions for Brazil, Hong Kong/East Asia, and Russia. In addition to the present ten countries, Hungary and Mexico have expressed interest in being a part of the Prayer Initiative in 2009, and we are presently working with missionaries in those countries to plot a plan of action. We have an initial PI prayer team scheduled for Mexico in May, 2009, and hope to take a PI prayer team to Hungary later in the year.

God is providing MFMI with a plan and unique window of opportunity to go, step on the ground, and claim entire nations for Christ. Dave and Ann Detric were the original country champions for Mozambique and are now full-time missionaries there. Dave and Ann recently wrote, "We remain intercessors here! Some days I envision my armor is reflecting the prayers of the intercessors of the PI, and here I can direct them to the right spot!" Through prayer we are seeing God work in amazing ways.

We are seizing the opportunity, while the doors are open, to GO to some of the most spiritually hostile places of the world and DO some of the hardest work in missions, PRAY! God is waiting. Are you ready to enlist in the battle for the souls of the countries of OMS? For complete information contact MFMI Prayer Initiative Director, Dick McLeish at (317) 881-6752 or e-mail at rmcleish@omsinternational.org



MFMI Prayer Team preparing to enter voodoo stronghold in Haiti.



Working on bath remodeling, Jonathan, Al Nason (left), and George Foster (standing).

Al Nason got to meet his Starfish Kid (an OMS school sponsorship program), which just may be the best that can happen in Haiti. It was such a magical moment for him. I got to meet Jonas, who my father had told me so much about. It was way too cool, to see and talk to a friend of my father. We bonded and talked every day.

I didn't get to experience much of the Haitian culture, as we worked in the walled compound of the new seminary. However, every night, the cooks made a Haitian meal, and I got to talk to the cooks. Personally, I loved the cornmeal! The corn, cheese, and corn meal tasted amazing!

Although it was only a week, I think I experienced a lot; spiders that are quick as lightning, true stories of Voodoo from Dr. Bill Cooper, learning to tile, driving in horrible road conditions, being in a culture opposite from ours, and being in a five foot wide plane with no bathroom really capped it!

This year, I hope to bring students from my school to Haiti with the help of Art Deurksen. Haiti will always be a part of my life, and I now know a part of life most will never see. Hmm, maybe I can help my peers experience what I experienced in Haiti.

THEY KEEP GOING

Those from U.S. going to OMS fields January – March, 2009:

Russell Aldridge • Jose Banales • Alfred & Carolyn Beck • Paul Beckman • Jeff Behringer • Frank Bell • Kim Bellish • Tom Black • Jeff Brianas • Craig Brown • Jeff Bumgardner • Jerry Caskey • Thomas & Susan Clippert • John Campbell • Danny Carr • Robert Cline • DeVon Cole • Randy Coleman • Rebecca Coleman • Andrew Conrad • Brandon Crowley • Darrell Crowley • Mark & Michelle Dinnage • Randy Dodd • Mike Dragon III • Kayla DuBois • Linda Eastwood • Kent Eller • Julian Elofson • Tina Elton • Bill Evans • Jeff Flater • Carol Fogler • Jeff Fritzen • Bernie Gibson • Troy Gillespie • Tim Graves • Diane Gray • Bill Hailey • Phillip Halcomb • Russell Hanson • Don Hardesty • Marlon Heffner • Orny Heffner • Lyle Heiss • Eric Herbst • Rebecca Herr • Stan Hightower • Wesley Hill • Michele Holcomb • Sandy Hunt • Darin Jacobson • Berry Johnson • Katrina Kent • Kim Kessler • Ricky Kessler • Wesley Knisley • Bob Kumpf • Veriton Kunze • Robert LeBay • Phillip Lenker • Mitch Lucie • Christina Madonia • Jennifer Mahin • Melissa Mahin • Jonathan & Ruth Mannschreck • Tiffany Martin • Alisha May • Coner McCoy • Bonnie McCune • Scott Mikkelsen • April Mittleider • Autumn Montagnino • Fred Morrell • Dan Morris • Tony Neargarder • Kevin Nussbaum • Bryan Odegard • Rob Ostrander • Bobby & Brenda Page • Stephen Palmer • Rocky Pavokov • Marlin Peachey • Bob Petruccio • Erin Picone • Gene & Shelba Pollic • Amber Rangeloff • Izack Rangeloff • Megan Rangeloff • Robert Renshaw • Westin Roberts • Dennis Rogers • Shelby Rogers • Dan Schertz • Jenna Schlecht • Eric Schroeder • John Schroeder • Brad Seymour • Richard & Laurie Sheriff • Don Smith • Frank & Sue Smith • Ralph Smith III • Phillip Sprenger • Laura Springer • Emily Stein • Melissa Stewart • Patrick Sullivan • James Suttle • Michael & Shawnea Tallman • Don Thomas • Trent Thompson • David Tompkins • Neil Tompkins • Richard Verdery • Tim Voll • Terry Walters • Nancy Walton • Mary Warner • Robert Wegman • Jack West • Doug Wolfe • John & Susan Wright • Richard Zellers • Sheila Zimmerman

Those from Canada going to OMS fields January – March, 2009:

Alexis Adams • Heather Almas • Greg Anderson • Joel Anderson • Jared & Tawny Babcock • Les & Ruth Babcock • Darryl Babe • Gail Batchelor • Deborah Bevaart • Craig Bramley • Jeremy Brydges • Keith & Heather Burns • Nick Capra • Kaylea Charette • Nicole Cornin • David Coutts • Chris Culp • Bailey Darrah • Mel Dear • Joyce Dekorte • Russ Demeny • Esther Demol • Jacob Dixon • Jennifer Dokter • Matthew Doney • Art Duerksen • Marcus Frei • Jane Garner • Katie Gibson • Leanne Gosse • James Harvey • Matt Henschke • Janine Hewitt • Jacinda Hirning • Jean Huzel • John Keunen • Suzanne Bourret-Kilpatrick • George Krahn • Renee Lapointe • Pete Larkin • Gunther & Diane Laubenstein • Francois Lavictoire • Rollande Lavictoire • Pauline Leonard • Anne McCallum • John & Dorothy McCluskey • Anna Miller • David Mullock • Ron North • Yveta Ojero • Esther Pauls • Michael Putici • Debra Rogers • Cassandra Rutledge • Don & Frieda Rutz • Jack Ryvers • Ron & Donna Schorr • Alex Schultz • Richard Schultz • Lindsay Shields • Jeff & Shari Shoemaker • Henny & Elizabeth Spoelstra • Jim & Joan Turnbull

Those from U.K. going to OMS fields January – March, 2009:

Brendan Daly • Marcus Dancey • Nathan Dancy • Herbie Dunn • Jim Grosser • Philip Howe • Reuben Kirkland • Nigel McKee • Martin O'Grady • David Patterson • Sammy Patterson • Alan Russell • John Sawyers

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

40th Anniversary Celebration of MFMI in the United Kingdom.

June 19th - 21st, 2009

Newcastle, Co. Down Northern Ireland. Main speaker: Dr. Ronald Smith, former Chairman of the OMS Board.

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.

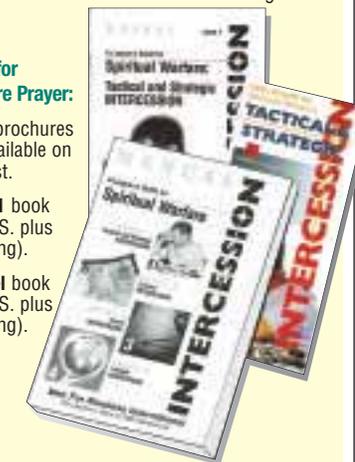
For more information or to order, please contact Dick McLeish at (317) 881-6752, or e-mail: rmcleish@omsinternational.org

Tools for Warfare Prayer:

FREE brochures are available on request.

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

4 Level book (\$5 U.S. plus shipping).



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.

A Call to Prayer

When I hear disturbing news from many Middle Eastern and Asian countries, I cannot help but think of many friends who live in those areas of the world. Some religious radicals are convinced that the murder of others is a pass into paradise, but the Word of God clearly states otherwise. Christians are called to a higher standard to forgo hatred demonstrated by some religions and to embody the love as presented by our Savior.

I have learned that the people from these countries are not much different from us, with the exception of extreme spiritual and human depravity that often compounds life's usual challenges. I am reminded of the words of Ephesians 6:12, *For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.*

Please pray for those from that part of the world. Pray for the millions who are in the prison of *this present darkness*. About 80 percent of the people live in rural areas and depend on farming for daily existence. Pray for their daily needs. About 20 percent live in urban areas where poverty, crime, and despair reign. We can pray *with* our friends in this part of the world and still join them in their battle *against the rulers of darkness*. Continue to pray for funding of the training centers, training of leaders, and for the protection of those who labor there.

You can be a part of an MFMI Prayer Team to some of these most difficult areas of the world (see page 11 or call MFMI for details, 317-881-6752).

—John Cooper



An MFMI Prayer Team in an extremely hostile spiritual environment in South Asia.

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 294,677 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.

Strengthening the Church in Mexico



Valetta, far right, with team in Mexico.

By Valetta Crumley

I joined six other women on a trip to Mexico City. Needless to say, we had a great time with each other. At first, seeing our OMS missionaries made it seem like going home.

When the famous Mexican recording artist, Luci Villa, came to Christ no one would have dreamed of the many ways God would use her life to touch people of all levels of society. On Sunday morning, when we arrived at a church filled with hundreds of joyful, worshiping Mexicans, I did not recognize Luci dressed in a dark purple jacket greeting people. She gave a normal Mexican greeting—a hug and a kiss on the cheek.

Luci invited us to one of the house churches she has begun and now leads. Since completing seminary, she has joined the church-planting ministry of OMS. In an area of 350,000 people without any churches, she had planted four house churches and plans to plant many more. To visit her, we drove a couple of hours through the city in bumper-to-bumper traffic with cars and trucks weaving in and out.

We found the store-front congregation packed with people, spilling into the sidewalk. I shared a testimony followed by Luci's challenge. Two women prayed to receive Christ. On one end of the packed room many children listened to their own special story followed by a craft. We also had the opportunity of prayer walking around the area of Luci's church plant.

Susan Brabon, the team leader, drove through streets where prostitutes are active. She said, "Pray that the Lord will raise up a ministry to the prostitutes." Each team member wrote down the name of a street to pray for the women living on that street. There are 250,000 prostitutes in Mexico City. Again, we realized the importance of the Bible training seminary where Mexican men and women are trained. A pastor shared a goal of their church to start 150 house churches in the coming year.

Last year a woman, who considered suicide, read my book, *Thrice Through the Valley* and came to Christ. The woman's daughter, two grandchildren, and she attended our women's meeting. It was a special joy for me to meet her.

Our team interacted with the missionary staff, attended women's meetings, shared in a Mothers of Pre-School (MOPS) children, made home visits, attended English classes, prayer walked, and enjoyed cultural events to better understand the people. The Basilica and the Pyramids are very interesting cultural things to see in Mexico.

Mexico City is at an elevation of 7,000 feet. The greater metropolitan area houses nearly 35 million people. We saw a mixture of wealth and poverty and were told that 66 percent of Mexico City lives in poverty.

The OMS team is enthused and focused on the ministries of the Every Community for Christ church planting teams; the Seminary Training Center; the national church; and growing national leadership.

As the national church is strengthened, it will lead social outreach; ministry to street children; weekends to strengthen marriages; feeding program for the Companario's house church network; and promotion of prayer throughout all ministries. At the present time, these ministries are done in partnership with missionaries.