

## THE JANUARY 2010 MISSIONS UPDATE

contains portions of letters from various missionaries we support. We encourage you to share in the praise and also pray for these special people and their ministries. If these letters spark an interest in financially supporting one of our missionaries or serving on a Missions Care Team, please contact Pastor Dave Wardle at 224-764-4012, [dwardle@theorchardefc.org](mailto:dwardle@theorchardefc.org), or a member of the Missions Ministry Team (see back panel).



### **Nubako Selenga/Democratic Republic of Congo**

*Team Leader, ReachAfrica (former president of the Evangelical Free Churches in DR Congo)*



Christmas greetings from Niamey, the capital of the Niger Republic. We are continuing to reach out to other African nations to see how we can help with bringing the Gospel to them and help plant new churches.

Niger is the largest country in physical size in West Africa, with a population of some 14,000,000 people. It is also the poorest nation in West Africa. The Christian population in this country is 0.04% which means it is primarily an Islamic State with very little or no Christian presence at all even though Missions agencies like SIM, SIL, etc. have worked here over the years in Church Planting and Bible Translation. We have connections with two people currently living in the Niger Republic. Pastor Amangalyt, a Congolese missionary working with the Community of Free Pentecostal Churches, a church from DR Congo, and a Norwegian Mission has been in touch with me. He is a church planting missionary and has lived here for five years, planting three churches in Niamey, and seven in rural Niger. Our other contact has been the former secretary General of the Evangelical Churches of West Africa, and the President of the Association of the Evangelicals of the Niger who is interested in the possibility of launching some form of church planting movement among the unreached peoples in the Niger. On Sunday we decided to go to visit different churches – the Free Pentecostal Church

and the Evangelical Church of West Africa. Our experiences were nearly the same and we sensed a deep need for disciple making, evangelism and the need to rally prayer for the country of Niger.

We visited the Sahel Academy, a school run by SIM for children of missionaries. They have students from America, Europe, Nigeria, Ghana, and other countries. In a conversation with the administration at Sahel, it was really encouraging to hear that the very small Christian and missionary community in the Niger have decided to put aside their theological differences and work together to reach Niger with the Gospel, since, when persecution rises up in the Niger, the Muslims treat every Christian in the same manner. They see all Christians as a common enemy, so the Christians see themselves as being one and work together.

We left Bamako, the capital of Mali on December 4 at 8 am, hoping that we were going to fly from Bamako to Cotonou (the Capital of the West African county of Benin) from 10 am to 1 pm. After sitting on the plane for over two hours, we were eventually ordered to return to the terminal building so that the plane would undergo repair. By 1 am on Dec. 5, we finally flew out of Cotonou and arrived in Niamey by 3 am and were met on arrival by Pastor Amangalyt who had patiently been waiting for us. Though this final leg of our trip posed enough challenge, we are thankful to God that we made it anyhow. But we also realize that we would not report the goodness of God except for the fact that you had prayed for our safety, God's favor, and his hand upon us. We are grateful to God for his hand on ReachAfrica. This trip has given us time to talk on issues related to advancing the work of ReachAfrica, and broadened our vision and strengthened us to keep going on. We could not have come thus far had you all not stood with us. Please continue to pray for us.



### **Paul and Maria McKown/Germany Greater European Mission**



Maria and I were grateful to be back in the United States a day before my father's stepping on Heaven's shore. We will miss him greatly.

*Our English to Germans evenings*

concluded at the end of November. We had about twenty-four registered for the course. The group was comprised of about a third not-yet-believers which gave us a good mission field with plenty of space left over to encourage the German believers to be bolder in presenting Christ to their neighbors.

We are thankful for the opportunity to assist in piloting a new online course that may be used to help our new missionary candidates fulfill some of their pre-field Biblical literacy requirements. It is going well with very good interaction among our cadre of 5-6 missionaries. Discussing things of eternal significance puts an entirely different tone to online classroom work.

Maria was able to provide two weeks of sixth grade language arts classroom time at Black Forest Academy. She was able to teach one of the literature units she had written herself.

We have said that we would be prepared to return to the USA when God gave us clear direction. That has happened. We are not resigning the mission; we are not surrendering our heart for Europe; we are not retiring. We are relocating to the USA. We are anticipating that we will be commuting back to Europe as needed. We have already planned trips to Budapest, Poland and Germany in 2010. As we resettle we will be able to fill out our ministry schedule in a more intentional way. Thank you for your prayers.



### **Jay and Kathy Pinney/Montreal, Canada/ReachGlobal**

*Jay is the president of Church Planting Quebec, an interdenominational evangelical organization for launching church plants in Quebec.*



Jay was in Calgary for the Church Planting Canada's national congress, held every two years. This congress attracted over seven hundred participants and was the largest

yet. Jay did a workshop on 'Stress and the Church Planter', using material gleaned from his doctoral thesis. It went great! Thanks to all those who prayed! He also met a church planter (Jacob) from

Vancouver, with a burden for Montreal. He has experience reaching out to Muslims and planting churches. Montreal has 150,000 - 200,000 Muslims and no full time missionary to this group! Please pray for the right person to begin a church in Montreal, intentionally reaching out to Muslims. We do not know one church intentionally reaching out to Muslims. Even the Arabic speaking churches here, mainly comprised of Lebanese believers, have been hurt by Muslims in the past and do not want to reach out to them in Christ's name!

We have others around us who are hearing the Gospel: A friend of Lisa's who says she sees no evidence for God's existence, but comes to the youth group in our home anyway; a Muslim neighbor we pray for regularly due to his health problems; a man Jay met on a trip and who gladly received a New Testament to read on his way home. We have found that even some of the young people at church are confused about the Gospel and so Jay has met with a number of them, asking them the two diagnostic questions from Evangelism Explosion. Three out of five had answers which showed a lack of clarity concerning grace and faith and the fundamentals of the Gospel! Our neighbor Andrea wants to attend the Christmas service with us as a result of a simple question we asked her about her faith. Please pray for us as we reach out to our neighbors, meet with youth who need help with their faith, and live out the Gospel in tangible ways. We are far from experts in this, but God is giving us more opportunities than ever. Jay has been asked to create and teach a class on evangelism for lay leaders, to be given next Spring. Please pray with us.



**Ray and Marge Tallman/California**  
One Challenge (OC)



I (Ray) will complete my full-time tenure as Professor of Global Missiology at Golden Gate Baptist Seminary in July 2010. I will continue as an adjunct senior professor for the foreseeable future, but will be relieved of other

academic duties with my new status at that time. Now I will be free to do even more internationally. In particular, with Olivet University I will dedicate more of my efforts to training missionaries from other countries who will be engaging the world. I have been appointed Dean of the Bible college and Seminary as well. Our OC ministry continues with concentrated effort in assisting in the movement associated with discipleship and leadership training for emerging churches in the Muslim world. There are literally hundreds of churches springing up in several countries, with former Muslims now needing leadership training. Leadership is essential for a strong church. I am grateful to all of you who continue to partner with us to make this possible.

*If you would like to receive this monthly Missions Update via email, please send your request to: [echeck@theorchardefc.org](mailto:echeck@theorchardefc.org).*

**Missions Ministry Team**

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**JANUARY  
2010**

**"To glorify God  
by multiplying God-centered,  
Christ-exalting, world-transforming  
believers through the Gospel in the greater  
Chicago area and around the world."**

Mission Statement  
The Orchard Evangelical Free Church