

## THE MAY 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, or a member of the Missions Ministry Team (see back panel).



### **Daniel and Amy Bush/Scotland/ ReachGlobal**



*Daniel and Amy direct Oil Lamp Initiative at the University of Aberdeen. Their ministry is to connect Chinese students with the gospel message, and disciple those who come to faith in Christ.*

Since the beginning of the year, work with the students through our Oil Lamp Initiative has been continuing with our Friday evening events. Our relationships continue to deepen with those students who have made Oil Lamp a regular part of their lives. The large numbers, however, that we witnessed at the beginning of the school year have evaporated, so that our group consists mainly of six committed students plus a few ministry helpers. We are not dismayed by the numbers, for this group of students has fully embraced the Christian nature of Oil Lamp and has not turned back. Although none of these students has yet embraced Christ, they nevertheless are open to hearing of him and about our wonderful faith.

Our end-of-month gatherings have broached topics such as "Science and Faith" in January; "Facing Fear and Anxiety" in February; "Suffering and the Problem of Evil" in March, and "The Key to Certainty about Christ" in April. Films that we have shown at our mid-month ministry-through-movies nights have included "The Green Mile," "Love Comes Softly," "I Am Legend," and "Joseph" (from The Bible Collection). All of these films have elements that allow for Christian commentary, and movie nights are always a fun relationship building activity.

Dan has been invited to return to China to teach over 100 hours of Christian theology, ethics, and strength discovery in the month of August. He will also give a series of lectures on sanctification, and couple of large group presentations on topics such as those that were handled out in Oil Lamp end-of-month gatherings, and he may possibly preach in an international church. It will be a very busy month. Working with students here in Aberdeen will come to an end with the closure of the school year to allow Dan the time needed to prepare for his teaching load in China.

Prayer Requests: Please pray for the hearts of the students who have committed themselves to participating in Oil Lamp activities. Pray that the Holy Spirit would do his work of rebirth upon them through the Word.



### **Jill Hall/ Minnesota/TouchGlobal**



*Jill serves as part of TouchGlobal, the compassion ministry arm of the Evangelical Free Church of America (EFCA). Jill directs GlobalFingerprints, the EFCA's child sponsorship program, works with micro-enterprise projects around the world, and oversees finances and operations for the division.*

Life is full, much is going on, things are going fast (and seem to be accelerating), but all is good. Since I last wrote:

- I did a backpack-making trial with 40 teens in preparation for making 5000 in Columbus in June. We came out with 10 finished red backpacks, rather than the planned for 40. So, we learned that we need to address our process and move to using an assembly line approach in order to actually get completed backpacks.
- I ordered 200 sewing machines for making the backpacks. (Ask me some day and I'll tell you how God's hand is in even the details of finding the right vendor for sewing machines).
- I did a quick trip to Michigan and spoke for a class at Midland EFC and was able to share about TouchGlobal.

- I spent a couple of days down at our Crisis Response headquarters in New Orleans and had fun talking risk management and liability insurance, and other fun financial and operational topics. I also had my first experience eating crawfish.

- I spent two days in TouchGlobal Leadership team meetings with my colleagues from around the U.S.

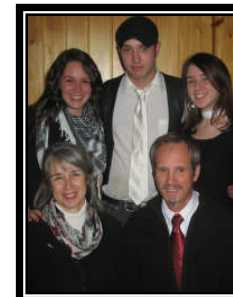
- I spent two days at the Christian Alliance for Orphans Summit VI and learned much about orphan care issues and was able to network with other individuals and organizations who are working in this area.

- And I've been prepping to go to Haiti to see how GlobalFingerprints child sponsorship program might set up a modified program along with the church in Haiti and send short-term teams to minister to children and their care givers. It will be a long trip, leaving Monday and returning on Friday, May 14. On the ground we will be partnering with the EFCA Crisis Response team who has set up base just west of Port-au-Prince in the Gressier/Leogane area.

I would appreciate your continual prayers whenever God brings me to mind over the next couple of weeks. I am expecting this trip to be good, but to be intense. There is a very real spiritual darkness in Haiti (with Voodoo being practiced everywhere) and we are going to break the darkness and to be a light, showing God's love to a very dark, poor place. Our ministry during this trip will focus largely on meeting with churches and other organizations serving children and accessing who might be the right people to partner with going forward.



### **Jon and Meta Nelson/Spain/ ReachGlobal**



*Jon serves as academic coordinator of the Evangelical Theological School (EET) and as the church history department head for ProMeta, the master's level seminary. Meta currently serves on the course development team of this institution.*

This week, fifty students from all over Latin

America and Europe are finishing the semester with ProMETA (LATN). That includes four in Jon's Reformation history course: two from Venezuela and one each from Costa Rica and Mexico.

ProMETA's careful and prayerful approach to online post-graduate training over the past decade has become a model for others who see the potential of what the press now calls the "iSeminary." One was the result of the birth of the Evangelical Theological School (EET)'s undergraduate online program in 2004 in Spain. The EET and ProMETA now have a formal partnership.

Meta is developing workshops for ProMETA and EET to teach the best practices for online learning. Jon is training new EET staff on the details of online course production and writing his own courses.

We will be presenting these workshops in May in Costa Rica. Please pray for safe travel and for God's blessing on our work and our relationships. With these great opportunities come tough times. We have an enemy who doesn't want the good news of Jesus Christ to spread. As we have sealed this partnership we have felt opposition as never before. Sometimes it brings tears, but always it pushes us back to seek God and ask Him to sustain us.

 **Darryl and Debbie Cedergren/Idaho/  
Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF)**



*Since the summer of 2004 Darryl trains new missionary families as they enter MAF and prepares them to serve overseas.*

MAF began ministering to the needs of the people of

Haiti in 1986. That need greatly increased after the recent devastating earthquake in January. Our Disaster Relief Team arrived in a few days, and we dispatched one of our new Kodiak aircraft, along with support personnel, to assist our team already there.

Thankfully none of the MAF homes fell in the quake. Sadly, one of MAF's Haitian staff members was killed when the university he was attending

collapsed. He was a strong Christian young man who will be sorely missed.

Within Haiti, MAF flew relief supplies, along with relief workers, missionaries, and medical teams to outlying areas in desperate need. We also flew critical patients to outlying medical facilities better equipped to give necessary medical care. We have recently transitioned our response from disaster relief to long-term recovery.

Our prayer is that the earthquake will inspire Haitians to seek Christ, our Hope. One missionary reported that the Haitian president recently announced that there would be no work for three days for the purpose of fasting and prayer. This is absolutely historic. If you ever were in Haiti as a visitor or missionary, could you have imagined such a pronouncement? God is at work in Haiti.

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

**Missions Ministry Team**

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# MISSIONS UPDATE



**MAY  
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