

THE NOVEMBER 2009 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).



Jonathan and Meta Nelson / Spain

Jon is director of the Latin America Training Network, an online school of theology.



The Spanish Free Church theological school (EET) is finishing the fourth week of the new school year. Jon is coordinating the academics, advising students, and overseeing course creation. He is also

teaching New Testament this year, which gives him the opportunity to interact online daily with students from Germany, Spain, and Peru. Jon is also continuing his research on Spanish Reformation themes as time permits. He will be giving a talk on "Calvin and Spain" at the University of Valencia next month.

Meta is in the United States working with her LATN team to develop two new courses, including a training workshop for our teachers.

An exciting new project in our city is the Zaragoza Christian School of the Arts, which has been enthusiastically embraced by churches. Jon played a modest role in planning and launching the school. Classes began the first week in October.

The upcoming Christmas musical is a great outreach opportunity involving more than 150 people from many evangelical churches in Zaragoza. It is actually a gift to us from a large church in Curitiba, Brazil, which has produced it with great success for the last several years. It is a big challenge getting ready for two performances at a large Catholic high school on December 26th.

Please pray for EET's director, Herbert Poganatz, and board president Francisco Portillo as they travel in Ecuador and Peru this month, building relationships and finding out how EET

can serve the needs for pastor training there.



Jill Hall / TouchGlobal / Minnesota

Jill serves as Director of Finance and Business as Mission (BAM).



I made my first trip ever to Bismarck, North Dakota. I'm really getting adventuresome this year—first Congo, now Bismarck. Bismarck is the only place I've ever been where I have walked out of the door from

my hotel, got on the airport shuttle, and to the airport, got checked in and through security and got to my gate all in only 10 minutes (which would have been great, had my flight not been delayed for 3 hours—but that is another story). So why was I in Bismarck you ask? I was representing ReachGlobal at the STEER missions conference. And what is STEER? STEER is a group of farmers and ranchers supporting missionaries and missions projects by growing crops or raising dedicated livestock and donating the proceeds from their sale to missions. STEER has donated almost \$900,000 to missions in the past year.

It's been just a year since I started directing the EFCA's child sponsorship program, GlobalFingerprints. In October 2008 we had 610 orphans sponsored in Congo. As of today, October 21, 2009, we have 917 orphans sponsored in Congo. There are 307 more kids today that are going to school and have access to health care than there was a year ago. I am trusting God that He would provide sponsors for a total of 1000 orphans sponsored by January 1, 2010.

I would appreciate your continued prayers for GlobalFingerprints. We are starting the process of assessing potential new countries to expand into — which is no small task. There is so much need in so many places. We are seeking to be led by God and are asking God to give us wisdom and discernment as to the location(s) where we are supposed to expand to. Please pray for all of the logistical and relational details that will be involved in setting up a child sponsorship program in a new location. We are looking to have this new area selected by early in 2010 and to have the program set up and ready to run within six to nine months after the location is selected — a very ambitious timeline.

Next week I am going to venture to yet another new location in the U.S. — Lincoln, Nebraska. I will be attending a conference with a colleague on the subject of human trafficking. This is a topic that I know basically nothing about; however, it is a reality in some of the parts of the world that TouchGlobal works. My purpose in attending this conference is simply to learn and to expand my knowledge of what is happening around the world, what can be done to combat it, and how to care for those who are being rescued from it.



Tim and Jan Stoker / Florida/Wycliffe Bible Translators

Tim is the accounting operations manager at the U.S. Headquarters of Wycliffe Bible Translators.



We're proud to introduce to you Mr. and Mrs. Nic H e n d r y c h s . Our daughter's wedding on June 19th in Grayslake, Illinois, was a wonderful and beautiful occasion that was enjoyed by all.

Work in Wycliffe's Finance Department is moving along... As always there are a number of projects underway. One of my staff has just led us through a change to a new corporate credit card provider. (We have nearly one hundred card holders.) We can now administer the card ourselves via an online system. Another project underway is to identify a system that can open all of our incoming contribution mail (checks, return receipts, notes and even envelopes), decipher what it can from the images, and then sort the contributions by type. A third project that has consumed a lot of time for me and several other staff is the development of a simpler "ministry budget" form for our members. It will provide members a somewhat more generous and uniform estimate of how much financial support they need to raise for their ministries.

The Jesus Film (produced by a Campus Crusade ministry) has been translated into nearly 1100 languages. Many of the translations of Luke are done by or in partnership with Wycliffe. This film is often the first translated Scripture that people ever hear in their own language, and seeing it in video

form has a powerful impact on people. The Gamo people of Ethiopia, having never seen a film in their own language, reacted with awe when Jesus spoke directly to them in their own language—hundreds responded to the invitation to believe. Praise God for the Gamos' sensitivity to the Gospel and pray for God's continued blessing as the Jesus Film teams provide this powerful resource in languages all over the world. Day by day, bit by bit, Bible translation is being done. To find out more about what is happening, check out Wycliffe's website and link from there to YouTube, Facebook, Twitter, and other online resources.



Henry and Marcette Happ / Costa Rica / ReachGlobal

Henry serves with the Latin America Training Network in Costa Rica.



We covet your prayers as we strive together "to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up." At LATN's online seminary, ProMETA, we are doing

just that with a larger student body than we've ever had before! It is exciting to know that so many Latin American leaders are committed to growing in the knowledge and wisdom of the Lord so they can serve Him better in the ministries He's given them. Please continue to pray for our students as well as our staff!

Perhaps the most encouraging words we heard this summer came to us from Dr. Tite Tienou, the dean of Trinity Evangelical Divinity School and Trinity International University. After carefully reviewing our master's degree programs, Dr. Tienou wrote: "The ProMETA programs compare favorably to degree programs found at our institution, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, and with similar programs throughout the United States. We would encourage other academic institutions to recognize ProMETA as legitimate, academically sound master's level programs of study, and would welcome your graduates into our advanced degree programs." This endorsement is significant and encouraging, and we praise God for it!

I (Marcette) was leading one of the lessons at an international women's Bible study. Knowing the variety of religious backgrounds and the wide range of beliefs represented in our group, I was unsure of the response to the question, "What does Jesus Christ mean to you?" God faithfully led three different women, two of them new to the group, to share from their hearts about their relationship with the Lord and His importance to them. Though that Bible study is not an official ministry of ReachGlobal, it reflects one of our core values as missionaries, the need to partner with other Christian workers to reap a greater harvest for the Lord.

Henry has also had such an opportunity recently when he was invited by an associate to check out a computer lab ministry in a neighborhood that is home to several thousand Nicaraguan refugees. This associate is teaching basic computer skills to a number of teenagers, but he has asked Henry to help investigate ways to provide the area with Internet access and to offer additional training to the adults that have expressed interest. Please pray that by working together to provide marketable skills to the poor people of this area, Henry and Brendan will also be able to share the love of Christ with them.

If you would like to receive this monthly Missions Update via email, please send your request to: check@theorchardefc.org.

Missions Ministry Team

Beth Su Anderson, Jon Goreham, Joy Goreham, Liz Lightbody, Gary McKee, Sue Ryl, Rich Stienstra, Debbie Wardle, Amy Wilson, and Pastor Dave Wardle.



Arlington Heights Campus

1330 North Douglas Ave
Arlington Heights, IL 60004
847.392.4840

Barrington Campus

(Temporarily meeting at Hersey HS)
1900 East Thomas Ave
Arlington Heights, IL 60004

www.theorchardefc.org

MISSIONS

UPDATE



NOVEMBER 2009

"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