

# O N O W A R D

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## TANZANIA: TWELVE NORTH AMERICAN WOMEN

12 NORTH AMERICAN MORAVIAN WOMEN ARE ATTENDING THE PROVINCIAL WOMEN'S CONFERENCE. THEIR PURPOSE IS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CONFERENCE ALONGSIDE THE WOMEN OF TANZANIA AND BE AN ENCOURAGEMENT TO THEM. BOTH, THE NORTH AMERICAN WOMEN AND THE TANZANIAN WOMEN, WILL BE ASKED TO SHARE THEIR STORIES. THERE WILL BE TRANSLATORS PRESENT THROUGHOUT THE MEETING TIMES.

A CONTINGENCY OF THESE WOMEN OF THE NORTH AMERICAN PROVINCES EQUIPPED AS MEDICAL PERSONNEL WILL BE VISITING A HOSPITAL, AN ORPHANAGE, SOME HOMES OF FAMILIES PARTICIPATING IN THE ADOPT-A-VILLAGE PROGRAM. THEY WILL ALSO BE HELPING FELLOW NURSES, ESTHER TESH (NC) AND MARION PERRIN (ALBERTA) LEARN ABOUT THE CURRENT ADOPT-A-VILLAGE MODEL TO HELP PREPARE THE BOARD OF WORLD MISSION (BWM) TO EXPAND ORPHAN AND VULNERABLE CHILDREN MINISTRIES INTO OTHER REGIONS OF THE WESTERN PROVINCE OF TANZANIA, BEYOND THE TABORA/ SIKONGE REGION. THE BWM HAS BEEN ASKED BY THE BISHOP OF THE WESTERN PROVINCE TO CONSIDER THIS EXPANSION AND IS CURRENTLY EVALUATING THE FEASIBILITY OF THIS REQUEST.

*Kim Bartholomew is the HIV/Aids Coordinator of the Board of World Mission. To get involved, email: kim@mcp.org*

## GRASSROOTS—HIV/Aids

The Moravian Church in Western Tanzania is preparing for the Provincial Women's Conference, which will take place July 14-20, 2008 in Tabora. This conference will bring together 200 women from all over the Western Province of Tanzania and twelve women from the United States and Canada. We will have representatives from all congregations of the Western Province. The theme is "Women and Evangelism: For Such a Time as This." The Western Province has a large area which needs to be evangelized; therefore, it is the intention that through this conference, women will be empowered and motivated in their work of evangelism. The bible study for the conference will be on the book of Esther which will be lead by two Pastors from North America as well as Tanzanian women from the Western Province. HIV/AIDS is a big problem in our country and women are a vulnerable group since they are the caretak-

ers for people living with AIDS. We believe that it is important for women to know how to protect themselves as well as encourage each other as caregivers to those living with HIV/AIDS. During the conference, there will be time for women to share their stories with the intent that they will be able to find comfort and courage which will lead to forming support groups among themselves. Poverty is another problem that affects women of Tanzania. The Women's conference will hold sessions to discuss and learn Economic Development and Entrepreneurship which will enable them to start and run small businesses. We are looking for someone to put together a presentation or DVD of all pictures gathered from the Conference. Please pray for this conference and its preparations.

Submitted by *Mary Kategile*

## Cultural Challenges Create Opportunity

### Capetown, South Africa

#### Church Activities

The congregation where I am based (it is called Moravian Hill in District 6 if you know the Cape Town region) is doing great, it is quite a small Church and pretty much most of the congregation are all drawn from one big family, whom are lovely, and have been massively supportive of me. Indeed, they have become my surrogate family here in Cape Town. I preach at this Church once a month and then we also have sister Churches (i.e. those affiliated with us and we share resources) in two places called Hanover Park and Garden Village. I also preach at these Churches perhaps once a month.

Everyone here speaks and understands

English, for the older generation it is the second language though as Afrikaans is the first. I can only converse in English – my Afrikaans is limited to 'dankie' – which means thank you, a good one to know, but the other words I have learned are mainly swear words, which is



what happens when you hang out with street boys and youth groups! When I am not leading the services often the message is in Afrikaans so I just do my best to follow along, as the congregation does their best when I preach to understand my strange accent. The lady in the launderette still thinks I am called Wessel, and

I have been in there every week for the past 7 months!

Beyond Sunday's we as a Church have tried a few new things, and continued some  
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## A Message From Our President - *Prayerful Travel*

Mission trips are sometimes complicated by differences in culture, priorities, sense of urgency etc. All these differences can be further complicated by the question, "why would someone (a stranger) travel thousands of miles to do something for me or share their faith"? Sometimes thinking that the rest of the world should respond and think in like manner can be a flawed attitude. God created a very diverse population on our planet earth with the hope that we would value cultural differences. One culture is not better than the other, they are just different. Differences such that we may learn from each other and never stop learning. So, in planning your next Short Term mission trip, it might be helpful if it is broken down into phases. The phases could be:

Phase One—Preparation

Phase Two—The Trip

Phase Three—Steps On Return

In Preparation for any mission trip, the first step is to engage the team in a time of prayer regularly. Set an objective for the team, what will you be doing on this trip? Study the culture and understand their way of life and customs. We

are all different but we are servants of the Lord. How can both parties benefit, sometimes we receive more than we give. Communicate with the people on the ground at your destination, to minimize any surprises. Agree on logistic in terms of accommodations, local transportation, meals, worship, opportunities. Establish a budget early and decide on fund raising options and prepare a schedule. Start planning early, some international trips might require 9 to 12 months pre-planning. Some trips might require pre-visits to ensure the infrastructure is in place for your team to achieve its objective.

**The Trip!** On arrival at your destination, one of the biggest issues can be adaptation to cultural differences in food choices. Remember your host, are giving you their best. Do not offend your host by not eating. Local foods prepared differently may not make you sick but the water might. If bottled water is not available boil your water. Again the water might be clean but different to your body. Extend a word of gratitude to your host whenever possible. Extend an invitation to your host and those you are working

with to join your daily devotions. Journal your trip, such that you can share your experience.



Next, are the Steps On Return! Meet with your team and assess what went well and what could be improved. Establish next steps in terms of follow-up trips or fulfillment of any promises that were made on the trip. Prepare a presentation to share with your congregation, the Onward (the Mission Society's mission publication), and the Mission Society.

The first Moravian missionaries went out to parts unknown to evangelize people who were enslaved either physically or emotionally. They walked in those persons "shoes" and showed by example the love of Jesus Christ. God wants us to be pre-occupied with the needs of others regardless of our differences. So, let us go out and spread the word to show our gratitude for the blessings that have been bestowed on us.

*Evon Crooks, member of New Philadelphia Moravian Church, is the President of the Mission Society Bd of Directors.*

## The Universal Language—Ministry of Music in Costa Rica

To say my Spanish is limited would be an understatement! I can say a few phrases but a full conversation is out of the question. In the beginning of May I found myself in Port Limon Costa Rica interviewing students of the new school of music and worship. The majority

only spoke Spanish. So I tuned to our common language: Music. I started off with a few melodies and chords. We hummed a few bars back and forth. Before too long we were joining in a praise songs or anthems. Sometimes I could catch a few lines in Spanish and sing along. Other times I accompanied as they sang and we praised the Lord together. It was wonderful to see their faces light up as we made music together. Music truly is the universal language. This



*Joe Mixon and one of the youngest musicians at the new School of Worship and Music in Limon, Costa Rica. for which over 60 new students will participate in the new ecumenical ministry.*

new school will not only develop music and worship skills; it will bridge our worlds together to the glory of our Lord, Jesus Christ. *Submitted by Joe & Lisa Mixon of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.*



*Rt. Rev. Sam Gray assists a new student in emerging School of Worship and Music in Costa Rica*

**IF YOU HAVE MUSICAL GIFTS AND WISH TO PARTICIPATE IN MORAVIAN MUSIC MINISTRY AROUND THE WORLD, CONTACT THE BOARD OF WORLD MISSION; 336-773-1732 OR 610-868-1732**

## Pray For Access and the Burmese Bible to Victims



In one week it was reported to the world that Burma (Myanmar) truly was going to open its doors to foreign aid. Another week goes by and the news brings more disappointment and frustration as things never seem to be as they appear at first sight

Reports from the delta are horrific and still the authorities obstruct those wanting to help. Homeless victims are being told to leave their makeshift camps and "go

home." Lines of cyclone victims along the roadside are being described by the government as giving the country a bad name!

A group just back from the delta report the following. "After several hours on small creeks we reached villages that after nearly three weeks had not received help yet. No proper food, no clean drinking water, some even without clothing. Their clothes had been taken by the flood waters. There were still bodies floating in the rivers. The smell of death was all over."

Locals with aid have been arrested and questioned by the police. A Christian woman had been out on the street with two bags of clothing. She was arrested and questioned and kept over night in the same place that in October many monks had been kept in. Down at the wharf the guys in grey were after people who wanted to bring aid to the delta or just came back from there. They would con-

fiscate even boats or cars. An old law, by which locals in possession of dollars would be charged with up to 20 years in prison, seems to be used as a threat against people again.

- As Churches are reaching out to people with practical help, they are finding a huge need for the word of God. Pray that 5000 Burmese Bibles can be sourced, purchased and distributed.

- Pray for access to the places that need help.

- Pray for the helpers, that as fresh teams go to the affected areas those who have been working for the past two weeks would get refreshment and counseling.

*The Woo family is currently serving as missionaries to Asia.. Let's celebrate the birth of their third son, Zach, as they prepare to return to ministry.*

## Antioch DVD Available

The Antioch Project of the North American Moravian Board of World Mission (BWM) was created to build leadership and discipleship of our young adults through one-year Antioch experiences around the world. Anyone between the ages of 21 and 30 are invited to participate.

The Antioch DVD has been released and is available (free) to your church or Mission Committee. It is a means of bringing information and missional energy to your congregation. Contact your local Mission Ambassador, or the Board of World Mission at 336-773-1732 or 610-868-1732 or email [sbeaman@mcsp.org](mailto:sbeaman@mcsp.org) in order to obtain your copy of the DVD.

The Antioch Project was inspired by the early church city that served as a missionary base for the Apostle Paul.

## Children At Risk Around The World

*Who are the children at risk around the world?*

- Street children
- Prostitution
- Sexually abused
- HIV-Aids families/parents
- Victims of war
- Armed children of war
- Exploitation

*Providing assistance to children ...*

- Appropriate care
- Prevention
- Awareness education
- Rescue from problems-break the cycle
- Improve the quality of life, teaching
- Services: legal aid, counseling, health care, skills training, etc. which empowers children

*Thinking strategically:* Children are created in God's Image. Jesus embraced children. Children have to reach out to children.

ONWARD is published by the Moravian Mission Society, South, Inc. Subscriptions cost \$10./year. Editor: Glenna J. Tasedan. Mission Society membership is \$20./year for Seniors & Students, and \$25./year and includes Onward each month. *Checks are payable, and mailed to:* Mission Society, 500 S. Church St., Winston-Salem NC 27108. News submissions to: [moravianonward@yahoo.com](mailto:moravianonward@yahoo.com). Pray Every Day ministry participation to Helen Gullledge at [helen@akcc.org](mailto:helen@akcc.org). ONWARD is on the world wide web at: [www.bethabara.org/ONWARD.htm](http://www.bethabara.org/ONWARD.htm)

# Mission Trip to West Africa

## *A peek inside a secret cell group*

*“Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” Matthew 5:10 (NIV)*

In a quiet room away from curious and accusing eyes, a young African male tells his story to a safe group of Believers from America. The 21 year old describes living in a dark world and tells of the first time hearing of a love that holds no boundaries and surpasses all understanding. He hears of the Gospel through a video called “Jesus.” The young man decides to give his life to a Lord who is forgiving and offers eternal life. In a country where being a Christian is illegal; he is faced with a heavy price to pay.

The young man was bursting with his new Love and could hardly contain his emotions. He decides to have a tattoo of a cross etched on his upper right arm. Constantly aware of the dangers, he keeps his arm covered while in public. But one day while swimming in a public pool, he does not notice a police officer approaching him. The police officer moved toward him, grabbed his right arm exposing the tattoo and demanded to know the reason for the cross. The boy stood silent as the police officer preceded to brutally strike him. He was escorted into a cold court room where a harsh judge asked him in front of other witnesses, “Are you a Christian?” The young man boldly confessed, “Yes sir, I am.” The judge then sentenced him to spend three days in solitary confinement and said the boy was to return to his courtroom and proclaim his Muslim faith. If he refused, he would face a terminating sentence. Death by beheading is the country’s punishment for publicly representing a Believer in Jesus Christ.

The young man spent three days inside a room too small to even lie down in and snubbed of water, food or light. He was frequently visited by the policemen whose goals included brutally persuading him to reverse his decision and regain his faithfulness to his Muslim upbringing. The young man’s father

visited and also told him his only chance of freedom was to deny Christianity. Being a Christian was not only illegal in this country but seen as a dishonorable act against the family.

Three days passed and the judge asked how the young man pleaded. He boldly reported, “I am a believer in Jesus Christ!” The perplexed judge perhaps showed mercy because of the boy’s intense bravery and excommunicated him from his country and family instead of giving him the death sentence. He was taken to the border and left penniless, carrying only the clothes on his back and never to return to his family or country again.

Today this young African man is now a cell-group leader of an underground church in another western African country predominately occupied by Muslims. He holds private services within private homes where they can worship. Although risky, there are many small cell groups arising to spread the Gospel. Each cell group consists of two to 35 people and are scattered throughout Africa. Our medical team was blessed to witness a few services.

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*“I challenge you to think of the power of the Word while we sit safely in the beautiful oak pews of our rich burgundy sanctuary of Friedberg Moravian Church. We are blessed to worship freely and sing along loudly with the grand organ to the grace-filled love of our Jesus.”*

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Young men and women sat singing praise and worship songs to an African drum, revealing their testimonies and praying to our Lord Jesus in at least five different languages. They must meet in secret with the constant threat of exposure and harsh punishment which could lead to death. One leader of such a cell group whom I met last year while being in Africa came to visit me. He came and asked our team to pray for him and his group. Sixteen of his members had been discovered and thrown in jail. He could not spend any time with us during our two week medical trip due to the threat of others being placed in jail.

I believe that we as Christians can learn a great lesson from these courageous individuals. I challenge you to

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# Letter To The Editor

*A follow-up reflection on the Gospel and our different cultures.*

Thanks to Sister Tasedan. We all can appreciate how Glenna Tasedan presented the importance of an attitude of learning and humble spirit for Christians considering witness and service in other countries and cultures (“Learning about Theology from the Third World” in the June 2008 Onward). Her article is helpful before our mission journeys.

Sister Tasedan describes the witness and growth of Christian faith within the many cultures of the world in terms of contextualization and syncretism. Contextualization is placing the Gospel message in the “rhythms and world view” of each culture. Syncretism, in effect, is going too far to combine the Gospel with other religious beliefs.

Many aspects of our culture and of other cultures are intertwined with religious beliefs. This is so for language, music, visual arts, dance, food, family relationships, healing, agriculture, and the ceremonies for birth, child naming, courtship, marriage, and death. So judgments need sensitive insights about the appropriate relationship of Christian faith to these traditional parts of people’s lives. The Gospel works from within.

I think just as the United Bible Society requires that Bible translations be done by native speakers, so we also should leave questions of syncretism to the Christian natives of each culture. Especially those of us in short-term service should withhold criticism when practices of the Church and Christians in other places seem strange to us. Ours also seem strange to them.

We will be less judgmental about possible syncretism of Christians in other cultures if we consider how we American Christians handle it in our own. We can better understand that to cut out all syncretism would make difficult our witness here and anywhere else, because we would become focused on prohibitions. We could readily get bogged down in non-essentials.

Christian practices in the United States, as in other places, include much syncretism, some of it inherited from the *Continued on Page 9*

July

# Pray Every Day

2008

1. Jeremiah tells us that the day is coming when the city will be rebuilt for the Lord. Pray for the rebuilding of the many devastated areas that as they are rebuilt, that the Holy Spirit of the Lord will fill them and that broken lives will turn to Him as the Only source of strength and salvation.

2. Pray for all of our men and women in the military, "Keep them safe, oh Lord. Pray for peace among the nations for Israel, and especially pray for the peace of Jerusalem.

3. Pray for Star Mountain Rehabilitation Center in Ramallah, Palestine and for those who work there. Pray for their safety and protection.

4. Pray for Franklin Graham and Samaritan's Purse, ministering all over the world. Pray especially for the areas of the world where help is needed and governments forbid Christian charity.

5. Pray Safiatu and Mohamed Braima as they labor for the Lord in Sierra Leone. Ask the Lord of the Harvest to send laborers to work beside them. Praise Him for the marvelous work already done there.

6. **Sunday** - As we celebrate in worship today, remember to thank God for the awesome history we have as Moravians. Thank Him for the life of Jon Hus who gave it all so that we might know and worship the Savior in truth.

7. Pray for the students and staff of Alaska Christian College. Praise God for the lives won for Him there. Praise Him for the students who worked so diligently on their presentations for the fund raising trip to California.

8. Pray for the team to Labrador as they depart for home from the coastal community of Hopedale, Labrador; Glenna Tasedan, Sam Gray and Tim Byerly. They completed one week of youth camp and one week of a Music Workshop.

9. Pray for Helen Gulledge as she travels to NC. Pray for the staff and faculty of Alaska Christian College and the work teams who will be working there. Pray for the students as they face life in their villages and are away from the support of the college family.

10. Since He has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of light, let us thank Him for those who serve Him with their very lives. Thank Him for those in your life who brought the light to you.

11. Rich and Barb Asher from Dillingham Moravian Church are serving in medical missions in the Sudan. Pray for them. Ask God to bless their work there and to keep them safe.

12. We pray for our President and for those seeking office in this great land, that they may hear Your voice, Lord, and act accordingly, that we might turn again to you for leadership.

13. **Sunday** - It is important for us to gather as a family to worship regularly. Ask the Father to bless the church programs, groups and leaders who minister in Jesus' name. Be ever thankful for the God-given right to worship.

14. Thank you Lord for the gift of music. Thank you especially for Moravians who have put your message of love and forgiveness to music and for songs of worship and adoration. Bless my soul with your gift, oh Lord.

15. Thank you, Father, for those who serve you and others so faithfully. Bless those who put personal comforts second to fulfilling the mission you call us to... spreading the Gospel message. Encourage them and bring peace to them.

16. Pray for the Moree family in France with Wydiffé Bible Translators. Pray for their health, encouragement and financial support. Pray for friends and coworkers who will encourage and support them.

17. We lift the directors of the Board of World Mission as well as the Mission Societies of the Moravian Church around the World. We pray for vision and discernment and many opportunities for them to reach others for you.

18. Pray for summer youth programs. There are many young people stepping out in faith to minister to others at camps, on mission trips and service projects who need our prayers. Use them. Grow them and protect them we pray.

19. Pray for the people of Myanmar suffering from the devastation of the cyclone. Pray for the relief agencies and governments who are trying to help and are meeting much resistance. Pray the peace of God over that land.

20. **Sunday** - "Praise the Lord oh my soul. All that is with in me, praise His holy name." "Come into His presence with thanksgiving and into His courts with praise." Give to Him the sacrifice of praise.

21. Thank you for those who use their gifts and talents to lead and witness to young people in your name. Help all of us to reach out to the youth around us and help us to be good witnesses to them.

22. Pray for Gerard and Norvelle Goff Rudy as they witness and serve in Ahuas, Honduras.

23. Remember the wonderful works He has done, His miracles, and the judgments he uttered. 'Ps 105:5

24. You oh Lord are my refuge and my strength. Teach me to trust you every day in all that I do and say. May my life become a pleasing legacy for you.

25. Phil Raeford from Friedberg Moravian Church is serving in Mexico among the Mixtec people. Pray for doors of opportunity to be open for him to share the gospel and the love of Christ with many.

26. Charlie and Vickie Brent are ministering to international students at Texas A&M. They are praising God that Vickie has completed her treatments and is doing well. They do have a need for financial support and continue to seek opportunities to witness and minister to the students.

27. **Sunday** - It is good to be in the house of the Lord. Thank Him for receiving you into His loving presence. Praise Him for His grace and mercy. Give Him your time and your talents. Serve Him by serving others.

28. Pray for doctors Bill and Peggy Hoffman from Central Moravian Church in Bethlehem, Pa. who are serving through the HIV/AIDS ministry in Tanzania.

29. Pray for Caroline and Michael Woo from Advent Moravian Church serving in Asia. Father remind them daily of your love and our support. Bring them to our hearts and minds frequently.

30. We lift Michael Tesh from Christ Moravian Church and his wife Cecelia serving with YWAM in Kenya. Bless the children in the orphanage they are running. Keep them safe and prosper the chicken/egg project they have undertaken.

31. Michael and Brenda Brent from Friedland Moravian Church who are serving with Campus Crusade in Croatia. Keep them safe and bless them with many young people who come to know you through their ministry.

# South Africa: Cultural Challenges Create Opportunity

*Continued from Page 1.*

previous work which just needed a little push. On a Wednesday evening we have bible study which has been great fun, we get about 8 people (50% of the congregation!) and they are so encouraging and [I hope] learning lots. We have tried to demystify a few things and keep things simple, as that is what they want and all I can manage.

On a Tuesday night I travel into Hanover Park – a fairly large area where many people moved to when forced relocations took place during apartheid. Here I run a youth group for the Church for 13-21 year olds. We started with 11, and are up to about 20 regular attendees. We just spend an hour and a half just doing together; from music quizzes and games, to singing and exploring bible themes, and it seems to go well. They are very reluctant on the singing (possibly based on my own reluctance) but again I found myself singing solo in front of a few of them, which was traumatic for all concerned.

There are a lot of other one off events that I am involved with for the Church, but the bulk of my time in this area is the preaching, bible study and youth group.

## Community Based Activities

Part of the overriding *mission* of my time here is to focus on the local community, which is pretty much a 2 mile radius round the Church. Within this there is a great scope of South African life, from the homeless and street children, to the extremely wealthy (in comparative terms) college students and local residents north of the Church, in a suburb called Gardens.

Part of my task has been to do something, anything, with the students and staff situated at the college next door to the Church (called Cape Peninsular University of Technology). This has been a difficult challenge. We have partnered with another church called *His People* to provide a once a month prayer meeting in our Church building here, which is going well.

From my second week in Cape Town I have been volunteering each lunchtime at a local food shelter, serving meals to men, women and [sadly] children. This is good, keeps me very busy, and numbers have dramatically increased over the past few weeks from

about 250 guests per day to now about 450, an increase so big that it caused the local paper to write an article! Here most of the people, in fact them all, speak Afrikaans as their first language so in my time there I have said and understood relatively little, but hopefully my presence is useful and I reckon that together we've served in the region of 50,000 meals in the past 7 months (the project has been running for many years).

The majority of my time, certainly Wednesday's through Saturday's, is with the street children. I tend to visit the day drop in centre (called the Home-stead) 3 or 4 times each week to see the boys and just keep a familiar face with them, and I see them all the time round the streets of Cape Town. On a Thursday afternoon I did an 8 week photography project with four of the older boys, as we toured Cape Town, both photographing the parts the tourists see, and the parts that the street boys see, and that was eye opening and a real privilege to spend time with them. We have developed the pictures now and they have come out well, and are due to be part of an exhibit later this month. Pic3 shows one of the pictures that we took which is included in the exhibit.

As a sort of end of photography project treat, I decided to take the boys to watch the local football team (Ajax Cape Town) play a big team from Johannesburg (Kaizer Chiefs). I bought 4 tickets as one boy could not make it as his Mum was due to come and meet him, but when I went to collect the other boys his Mum had not arrived, in effect stood him up. Rather than leave him behind I said he should come with us and we'd buy a ticket at the gate for him. What I didn't realise is that Kaizer Chiefs are like the Manchester United of South African soccer and everyone in the world was trying to get into that game. So we had 4 tickets and 5 of us. The short of it is, that with dubious connections, bartering, and a bit of creative energy, and some extra cash, we managed to get in. The game was great (1-1 it finished and a missed penalty). I found out later that week that the boy whom we brought at the last moment, whose Mum had failed to turn up, was celebrating his birthday that day. Thank God we took him along, and we all had a good time.

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## Streetchildren

### Interview with Russell

*Question:* How difficult is the challenge in working with the street kids?

*Russell:* It is truly easy work to spend time with them doing stuff that we all enjoy, i.e. swimming, watching movies, playing soccer. The hard part is when you know they are making mistakes in their choices, or being taken advantage of, which is beyond my own scope of control, if you like what I am able to influence.



*Question:* Please expound...

*Russell:* For instance when I am with them they are not sniffing glue, taking 'tik', or say being used for prostitution. They are normal teenage boys, enjoying normal teenage things. But when they lose that element of accountability and if you accept "parenting", (be it the Church, the homeless Charity, or just a friend/person) then old habits and bad habits become more tempting... It is not to say that they do those things instantly they are away "from prying eyes", but it is an option and through a lack of love more than anything in the past, it is an option too many of them chose.

*Question:* How are they taken advantage of? Prostitution?

*Russell:* Some, by no means all, but a significant majority are used in a variety of ways...perhaps for crime, doing some petty stealing for an older person to fund a habit, or perhaps to get themselves a bit of money. Depending on the situation and how desperate things are, for either the boy, or the one controlling them, then what they have to do may become "more extreme", certainly in our eyes.... Sadly this has included examples of them being used as sexual objects, either as they seek  
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August

# Pray Every Day

2008

1. Pray for Michael & Brenda Brent serving in Croatia. Charlie and Vicki Brent are serving in College Station, Texas with Bridges International and continue to have medical financial needs. The US dollar in relation to the value of foreign currency is affecting their financial need.
2. Today's doctrinal text says to "do the work of an evangelist; carry out your ministry fully." From 2 Tim. Pray for full understanding of God's desire for you in your ministry.
3. **Sunday**—God is so good. His mercy is truly everlasting. He is faithful and waiting for praise and worship in His house today.
4. Pray for the Bishops of the Moravian church around the world as they minister to the servants of our Lord Jesus.
5. Lift Lisa Mixon and Sheila Beaman who serve diligently the Board of World Mission and the Mission Society. They are great assets to us.
6. The Antioch project is reaching many young people for Jesus in a unique way. Pray that it will continue to grow.
7. Pray for peace and mercy for the thousands of people who have lost homes, families and everything they had in the disasters around the world.
8. Pray for the seven that are traveling to Barbados. George Tasedan is working a community soccer workshop and all are assisting in a Vacation Bible School. Pray that all children will receive Christ in a new way.
9. Pray for Mark Ebert and the Moravian Disaster Response. Ask God what your role in this vital ministry should be. Pray for the safety of those serving in this way.
10. **Sunday**—Worship the Lord in His house today. Praise Him for His goodness to you this week. Lift those in need to Him. Reach out to invite others to join us in the experience of a relationship with Him.
11. Pray for Safiatu and Mohamed Braima and their missionary efforts in Sierra Leone. Praise God for the many open doors he has provided and for the lives that have been added to the Lamb's Book of Life through their loving ministry in Luawa-Yiehun, Sierra Leone, West Africa.
12. Pray for Helen Gullidge and the students and staff of Alaska Christian College. Praise Him for the wonderful ministry to native youth taking place there and for the many blessings she has received by being there.
13. In remembrance of the prayer and intercessory efforts of our forefathers, pioneers in faith and missionary zeal, ask God to help us to carry on those traditions of caring for others that they established. Pray that we might find that kind of zealous initiative.
14. Pray for those who are shut-ins and are unable to get out to worship and do routine activities. Pray also for widows, widowers and others who are might be alone or lonely.
15. Thank God for the Morees and others who are working to translate the bible into languages that others may receive the good news of Jesus. Pray for peace, health and support for them.
16. Ask God to give Sam Gray and Will Sibert vision and discernment in leading the Moravian Mission efforts in North America. Thank God for their tireless efforts and for their commitment. Praise God for the newly formed Antioch Board and its members from all over the North American Unity to define the Antioch impetus.
17. **Sunday**—Sing praises to God. Make a joyful noise. Study the Bible to hear His will for you. Honor Him with your time and your talents.
18. Pray for the leaders of our country, cities and churches. Pray that they will hear the voice of the Lord, and act accordingly. Pray for discernment in the upcoming election, that God's will be done all over this land.
19. Pray for all retired ministers, pastors, Sunday school teachers, bible study leaders, as well as those who are still actively leading in these activities of worship.
20. Thank God for camp opportunities where young people can learn more about Jesus and what it means to be a servant. Pray for the leaders and counselors that they would reach many for Jesus.
21. Pray for the presidents and members of the PECs, the president and all members of Mission Societies of the Moravian Church. Pray that many other people will take interest in and support them.
22. Lift all new and emerging and small struggling churches and fellowships of the Moravian Church. Pray that many will come along side them to encourage and support them.
23. Thank the Lord for Christian homes and Christian schools. Pray for children everywhere who do not have the benefit of either. Pray for someone to come into their lives to share the good news of Jesus' gospel with them.
24. **Sunday**—Pray for students preparing to return to school. Pray for the teachers and other personnel who will be responsible for them enrich the young people of this world. Many hopes, dreams, and achievements are represented by these who will become our future leader.
25. Pray for Tom Conrad and the seminary in Bethel Alaska. Pray for the students and their families. It is not easy for them to spend that much time away from home.
26. Thank God for all Stephen Ministers. Pray that they will be available to those who need their ministry.
27. Merciful Father, bless the efforts of those who are working together to overcome the damaging effects of HIV/AIDS in Tanzania. Bless medical and missionary personnel as they seek to bring aid and comfort to these, your people. We especially lift the Hoffmans to you.
28. Pray for George Goff who flies a mission plane into the deepest areas of Honduras to take people to the Moravian hospital. Praise God for George's loving pastoral care.
29. Give thanks to God for Michael and Cecilia Tesh and their dedication to the orphans, pre-schoolers, and babies in the "Ray of Hope" compound in Shimba Hills in Mombassa, Kenya, East Africa. Pray for blessings on their chicken/egg project.
30. Pray God's protection on Caroline, Michael, Samuel and Ian Woo as they live and witness to people in Asia. Pray for peace and support for them as they minister so far away from friends and family.
31. Pray for those people in jails around the world, both civilian and military. Pray for those who take the word into jails and prisons. Ask that many hearts will be open to receive Jesus during such hard times.

*Contributor to the Pray Every Day this month was Helen Gullidge. To contribute to Pray Every Day next month, email Helen@AKCC.org.*

## STREETCHILDREN: *Interview with Russell*

*Continued from Page 6*

to find love wherever they can grasp it, or more ordinarily, to get some money. I must clarify that this is very rare, but sadly, has been proven to be the case in some boys' lives.

*Question:* Your short-term solution has been to establish relationships; spend time with them. Do you formally have spiritual time with them? Bible study?

*Russell:* Not specifically, certainly no Bible study. However we have conversations which are not formal in structure *Continued from Page 6*

and we do cover questions regarding faith, and specifically who they think God is. It is about trying to show them God's love without it seeming like I have a hidden agenda of evangelism and conversion. Hopefully the actions will speak louder than any words. With more time and resources then a short Church service could be offered, but this requires more skills and time than I have, which is sad, but the

opportunity certainly exists.

*Question:* Where do these kids sleep? Are they all subsisting on what they can acquire on a daily basis?



*Soccer with the street boys*

*Russell:* there is enough space at the moment, and there are obviously a number of charities and government organizations offering these services, but for some, living on the streets is a definite choice they make

*Question:* What has been the most rewarding? Describe a moment

that was most fun, fun, fun?

*Russell:* Attending the local soccer game - which was a chance for us all to be just boys, having fun. It reminded me of being back home with my mates, watching the game, laughing and joking. it made my own time here seem worthwhile, and hopefully gave the boys with me a glimpse of a normal life.

*Interview done on May 12, 2009 by Glenna Tasedan*

## South Africa— Cultural Challenges

*Continued from Page 6*

Of those four boys, three have now moved onto an older street hostel, which is giving them basic skills for the workplace (such as wood/leather/metal work), and I have continued my friendship with them and meet up once a week on a Saturday afternoon when we chat and just hang out.

Cape Town, and South Africa, remains somewhat of an enigma to me, at times I love it, the climate, the people, the beauty, but at times I struggle, particularly with the crime, the political incompetence and the disparity between rich and poor.

I find it quite lonely at times, which seems strange considering its size compared to Labrador, but I think when I was in Labrador people always "knew me", and would make time, whereas here I am just a tiny fish in a very big pond.

*Russell Winfield, from London, England, is serving the Moravian Church in Capetown, Africa.*



*Russell & his new friends at the Ajax Cape Town game that turned out to be a birthday celebration*

## Alaska Journey



It has been an extremely busy couple of weeks here at ACC. The students all had finals then we took them to a Christian retreat center outside of town where the program was centered on their life away from ACC. Each student here has an adult mentor who spends time with them weekly and is always available to them. The mentors played a larger role in the retreat time.

Three days of graduation fell right after the retreat including lunch and banquet for students and families here at ACC. There was a ceremony the morning of graduation when 9 students were baptized.

A group of students and adults will leave for California where they will perform in Covenant Churches to raise money for the college. This is a Non-profit organization and must raise enough support for its' entire existence. If and when accreditation is complete, they will become eligible for some federal funds.

I have decided that this is a "cleft in the rock". It is a true haven for these children and a source of God's love that is real and tangible. It is also made known to them as they leave that they can call anytime and can return for a short stay if they need a safe place to go to.

Please continue to pray for the special place God has placed me, "for such a time as this". I do not deserve such blessing!

*Helen Gullede is serving as a cook at the Alaska Community College.*

# Kingdom Living

## Go and Preach, Go and Serve, All Out Love

The following article is comment on the journal article "Kingdom Living; The Gospel on Our Lips and In Our Lives" by Dr. Steve Strauss, EMQ 41:1, regarding the relationship between evangelism and ministry to human need in the lives of Jesus disciples. Please submit your responses to: [MoravianOnward@yahoo.com](mailto:MoravianOnward@yahoo.com) or [gjas29@yahoo.com](mailto:gjas29@yahoo.com).

The relationship between evangelism and ministry to human need in the lives of Jesus disciples should be as aptly stated in Strauss' *Kingdom Living*, is about seamlessly going about the business of doing both – proclaiming the Gospel as well as meeting human need. That is not to say that both should not be done with the same passion 100% of the time, but rather that there is more opportunity to share the Gospel to people whether we're at a gathering, waiting in line at the grocery store, talking to the bookseller at the counter, or sitting at

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*"The person next to us will receive the Gospel in a positive way if they have had food and water in the past 24 hours, or if they have heat in their home for their family on a cold winter night."*

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the sickbed of an unbeliever. Unless one is not out amongst people in a society, there is constant opportunity to evangelize, and should be made a priority upon every encounter with passing people. I theorize that how much time I spend meditating, praying, communicating with other believers, studying the scriptures, and living the Gospel, will determine with what ease I reflect servanthood upon all encounters. My only problem is that the house needs dusting & vacuuming, the dogs need care, there are meals to cook, appointments to keep, work to do, and that places significant pressure on my reflective and study time. One just has to read "*Little Flowers of Francis of Assisi; A new translation*", by Hopcke & Schwartz, to remind ourselves just how simple our lives can be.

The phrase, "Kingdom Living is the seamless task of sharing the love of Jesus in tangible ways and sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ without hesita-

tion or consideration" is poignant. I would add, "with intention." The question of priority doesn't need to be discussed if we are focused on our Savior. To love those around us as we love ourselves. The person next to us will receive the Gospel in a positive way if they have had food and water in the past 24 hours, or if they have heat in their home for their family on a cold winter night.

We can learn from poor Francis in that if he wasn't praying (share & serve), he was on his way to pray (share & serve), if he didn't stop his journey to pray (share & serve). That is the imperative of the Good News; Go and preach, and go and serve, all out of love. Amen.

*Glenna Tasedan serves as Intern to the North American Moravian Board of*



## West Africa — Secret Cell Groups

*Continued from Page 4*

think of the power of the Word while we sit safely in the beautiful oak pews of our rich burgundy sanctuary of Friedberg Moravian Church. We are blessed to worship freely and sing along loudly with the grand organ to the grace-filled love of our Jesus. I ask the congregation of Friedberg to remember those who so bravely stand up for Jesus. And please ask yourself, "What would I honestly do, if I was presented with a decision between an exile or death sentence OR proclaiming my Lord Jesus Christ as my Saviour?"

*Debbie James is a member of Friedberg Moravian Church.*

## "HOLISTIC MISSION

*affirms the necessity of both social engagement and gospel proclamation."*

*Mark Russell*

## Letter to the Editor

*Continued from Page 4*

ancient Church and some of our own making. For example, we celebrate Easter with remnants from long-ago pagan fertility festivals. Our churches invite children to hunt for plastic eggs; the Bible verses inside only emphasize the syncretism. Still, by time our children reach the age of confessing their faith, whatever in our culture has the power to distract them, it is not Easter eggs. Probably members in our congregations are among the readers of the daily horoscopes in our newspapers; most likely consider it just a fun diversion. We American Christians combine Advent and Christmas with shopping, and materialism, which many pursue with a dedication characteristic of a competing religious fervor. Well, this can be a real challenge for faith. We give our national flag a place of honor in our sanctuaries; our Christian ancestors could not have imagined that rendering to Caesar the things that are Caesars would include bringing a symbol of the empire into their worship.

Yet, through it all—sometimes despite it all—Christ enters lives, homes, communities, and into all the world. So when we are in another culture, perhaps feeling a little tired, a little homesick, a little critical, we remember that away from home, we are not away from God or from fellowship with other Christians. Sister Tasedan reminds us that God is already working among a people before we arrive. What a great opportunity to know better our Lord and his working in wondrous ways!

And the benefit of shared cross-cultural Christian learning is available as well when we provide for Christians from other places to visit and serve in our congregations. *Ted Wilde is the retired Exe. Director of the N.A. Moravian Board of World Mission.*



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*Mark Your Calendar—Moravian World Mission Lovefeast-November 2nd, 2008*