



# ONWARD

MORAVIAN MISSIONS PUBLISHED BY THE MISSION SOCIETY, SOUTHERN PROVINCE

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Now IS THE TIME OF GOD'S FAVOR, NOW IS THE DAY OF SALVATION II Corinthians 6:2 (NIV)

**Peace and goodwill are now to us most graciously displayed, and life eternal we obtain from God in Christ our Head.**

Hymn 174R

Daily Text, December 3,



## Coffee in Sarajevo

There is a great little café in Sarajevo quite close to the Short-Term International Team's (STINTer's) apartment called Torte I To. It's great for three reasons— large mugs of coffee, scrumptious cheese cake, and NO SMOKING.

I spent ten hours at Torte I To during my October shepherding trip. When in Sarajevo I meet with our long-term staff, Josh and Taylor (!), our Bosnian staff Ceca, our six STINTer's, and Alen, a student leader. That makes for a lot of coffee and cheese cake!

Josh and Taylor are in the midst of tremendous transition. They are our first long-term American Staff in Sarajevo, so are first to wade through the bureaucracy of establishing residency, while at the same time learning language and finding a pre-school and babysitting help.

The STINT team is transitioning too as they learn to live together, work together, socialize together, worship together and celebrate holidays together—that's a lot of "together" with people you are just getting to know.

Ceca often is called upon when challenges arise. For example, she was the one who ended up trying to calm down three or four angry Muslims after the Success outreach, a typical occurrence when proclaiming Christ as the only way in this Muslim culture.

My focus with staff and STINTer's is spiritual and emotional care. In Sarajevo, keeping focused on Jesus as your all in all is no easy task. I praise God for how he is using this team to proclaim His name!



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Michael & Brenda Brent

Split, Croatia



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## A Message From Our President—Looking Ahead



As we look forward to 2010, history teaches us to study the past to avoid repeating mistakes in the future. So, let's take a quick look at 2009. In 2009 the Mission Society supported 13 full time missionary families world-wide. These missionaries have dedicated their lives to minister to the spiritual, social, physical and economic needs of humanity, from witnessing to church planting. The short-term mission program supported approximately 75 adults on 12 different mission teams in 10 countries. The Mission Society also supported 126 youth on short-term mission trips as part of the Young Partners in Mission program.

Each year, missionaries attend the Mission Society Directors' meeting and share news from their respective ministries. We were privileged to have updates from Tommy Waggoner and Randal Vernon who discussed installation of Solar Panels in Ahuas, Honduras; Leah Weatherman shared insights from her service with youth and medical personnel in Honduras; Glenna Tasedan spoke about her pastoring internship in Labrador; Michael and Brenda Brent updated us on their ministry both in Bosnia and Croatia; Donna Tesh and Ted Kimball warmed our hearts

with their update from Kenya; Tasha Lee spoke about refugee resettlement here in the Triad; and George and Glenna Tasedan provided information on their anticipated full-time service in Labrador.

The Mission House at Hope Moravian also hosted junior and senior high groups from the Virgin Islands attending summer camp at Laurel Ridge. This group spent their first night in the Mission House and enjoyed the hospitality and accommodations. The Virgin Island group along with a small group from the Jamaica Province provided an international flavor to praise and worship during summer camp at Laurel Ridge. Two counselors and two campers from New Philadelphia Moravian also participated in Senior High Camp at Camp Hope in Jamaica.

2009 also witnessed cuts in the Mission Society's budget in response to negative return on the Society's financial investments. The Mission Society is dependent on return from financial investments to meet its annual budget. These investments resulted from contributions from various estates that are either restricted or non-restricted. Over the last three years, the Mission Society's investments yielded a total loss

of about 3.8%, or a loss of approximately 1.3% per year. Due to the need to draw on the Society's investments to support missionary programs, especially in down markets, the total value of the Mission Society investments lost about 25.8% over the last three years. This has resulted in the Society spending investment principal instead of investment return to support missionary programs. So, without new or additional contributions, the Society could exhaust all operating income in a few years.

As responsible stewards, the Society has reduced the 2010 budget by 20% in response to investment losses. To minimize any hardship on our missionaries, we are asking that you prayerfully consider a contribution in this effort. Contributions may be sent to:

Mission Society  
500 South Church Street  
Winston-Salem, NC 27101

Evon Crooks, President

*For those to whom much is given much is expected.*

Luke 12:48

## Moravian Disaster Response—The Need of Hope



Mark Ebert

If you do not know by now, Hurricane Ida came ashore on the northern coast of Nicaragua and Honduras on November 12, 2009. The complete extent of damage is not fully known at this time, but assessments are being made and we will have a much clearer picture in a few days. A lot of crops have been destroyed by the flooding and a number of

houses have been blown down by the wind. Food may be the greatest need for now.

Donations can be made to the Board of World Mission to help in the recovery effort. Please make your check out to BWM "Disaster Relief" and not to either country so we will be able to use these funds where the need is greatest. We will announce if work

teams will be going in the future. Mark Ebert  
mebert@mcsp.org



# A Little Taste of Mexico in Nicaragua

Salutations and blessings,

Well, the rain has finally stopped. Praise God. Our house and our clothes don't smell much like mold anymore. We are glad to be back in Puerto Cabezas again after a brief stay in Costa Rica. We have come back refreshed and ready to meet the challenges of the next six months.

During the last couple of weeks we have been working on a small business for our friends Exdel and Victoria. They have a small child for whom we are the Godparents. Victoria can't get away to work, so Eunice is going to help her work at home. They live right near the church and people pass by all day long, so we are going to put a tortilla stand outside her house. Although tortillas aren't as popular as in Mexico, they are a growing demand here. Eunice tried the idea out at our house first and we had moderate success. Our house is a little out of the



*Phil and Eunice*

Way, and we know that with, highfoot traffic and visibility the business will take off. We are hoping it is enough for them to cover basic food costs and allow them to catch up on some debts. Last week Eunice and I went out with our neighbor to cut down posts to make the stand. Next week we are going out to collect the palm fronds for the roof. We are going to cook the tortillas on an old oil barrel, like they do in Mexico. So, as you can see there is very little up front capital, and the profit margin is quite good.

Apart from the business, we are staying busy taking care of our plants and continuing to help out with our local church.

This week our youth are going to visit the jail for the first time. A neighbor of ours accidentally shot his Ex-wife in the head (no joke), and we are going to visit him as well as the other inmates. Hopefully, we can have an impact with our time there.

Eunice is staying busy working at the clinic three days a week. She has learned a lot about treating people in a non-city environment.

Also, with limited medicine available we are trying to find out all we can about natural remedies.

treating people in a non-city environment. Also, with limited medicine available, we are trying to find out all we can about natural remedies.

I hope everyone enjoys their Thanksgiving, if we could find a turkey we would eat it. It will probably be a feast of ham, I mean spam, and the ever delicious rice and beans. Have an extra piece of pumpkin pie for us. We are very thankful for our marriage, our hot peppers in our garden (a little taste of Mexico), our friends at home and abroad, our families and our spiritual partners. Thank you all for your continued prayers and support.

Blessings, Phil and Eunice Raiford



*Collecting Palm Fronds*

## *FEET FIRST YOUTH SUMMIT*

### *Renews Excitement for Mission*

The last week-end of October, October 30—November 1, 2009, brought ten young adults together at Little Church on the Lane in Charlotte, NC. Lisa Mixon, Director of People in Mission for the Board of World Mission; the Rev. Sam Gray, Director of Intercultural Ministries for the BWM; and the Rev. Billy Flippin, Associate Pastor at Little Church on the Lane, led the young adults in mission activities. Four of the participants have been a part of the Antioch Project, and shared their excitement and passion about missions with the group.



Sam Gray Challenges Young Adults

The weekend was filled with worship and fellowship, but it did not stop there. Plans were made for a Young Adult Mission Board. Saturday afternoon was filled with compelling ideas and thoughts and delegating tasks amongst the group.

The Moravian Church is blessed to have such wonderful community among its congregations, and that was evident at Feet First. The teamwork and willingness to help in whatever way possible to give a voice to young adults is what made the weekend such a success. The focus was not on ourselves and what we in the group had done but instead, it was on improving opportunities for those who wanted to be involved in Moravian mission work.

The weekend for me was a great time of renewing my excitement for **missions. Friday night, Billy Flippin spoke on Paul's pray for the Ephesians.** He reminded us that in Ephesians 3:17, being rooted in love has nothing to do with what we can do or will do, but it has everything to do with what we are doing. As cliché as it may sound, we are not the future, we are the *now*.

*Melissa Foster, Friedland Moravian, Church, Winston-Salem, NC*

Feet First Participants  
Lovefeast, Nov. 2009



1. Now that you are known by God, how can you turn back again to the weak and beggarly elemental spirits? Pray for Dusty Harrison serving with Greek Intersarsity Campus Ministry, Clemson University.
2. You were bought with a price; therefore glorify God with your body. Pray for Brian and Heather Marx who have been accepted by MAF and in ministry in Indonesia. Brian is a licensed pilot and Heather a Christian chalk artist.
3. Now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation.
4. The greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like one who serves. Bless Safiatu and Mohamed Braima as they work and build and serve in Sierra Leone.
5. Here we have no lasting city, but we are looking for the city that is to come. Pray for the Antioch Project that many young people will find new and exciting ways to serve the Lord.
6. Sunday-Show me a sign of your favor. Pray for Steve and Ann Marx as they work with MAF in Nampa, Idaho. Thank God for their years of service.
7. Whoever is steadfast in righteousness will live, but whoever pursues evil will die. Pray for the staff, students and faculty of Alaska Christian College and for Helen Gullede serving there.
8. The Lord Jesus Christ gave Himself for our sins to set us free from the present evil age, according to the will of the Father. Pray for church planters like Rob and Annie Thiessen in Mexico.
9. Everyone who hears these words and acts upon them will be like a wise man who built his house on a rock. Pray for the many underground churches and home churches around the world.
10. By grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God. Thank God for all Stephen Ministers. Pray for others to be willing to be trained to help people in this ministry.
11. The holy city of Jerusalem will come down out of heaven from God, having the glory of God. Pray for the Woo family as they live and witness.
12. Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice, and let them say among the nations, "The Lord is King." Pray for all seminarians and their teachers.
13. Sunday-Bless the Lord, who redeems your life who crowns you with love and mercy. Pray for shut-ins, widows, widowers and others who are alone or lonely. Ask God to put one of these people on our heart today.
14. It is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for His good pleasure.
15. "Because your heart was repentant and you have humbled yourself before me, I also have heard you," says the Lord. Pray for all Moravian Fellowships and emerging churches.
16. Our help is in the name of the Lord who made heaven and earth. Pray for financial support for church congregations that are suffering loss due to the economy of their region.
17. Devote yourself to prayer, keeping alert in it with thanksgiving. Thank God for your pastor and Bible teachers and church leaders.
18. The Lord our God protected us along all the way that we went. Lift the leaders of our mission efforts and all missionaries to the throne of grace.
19. We have all sinned; we have committed iniquity and have done wickedly. Pray for Moravian Disaster Response and for the many lives they touch.
20. Sunday-God has chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that He has promised to those who love Him. Pray for Dr.s Gerard and Norvelle Goff Rudy as they witness and serve in Ahuas, Honduras.
21. God will deliver the needy who cry out, the afflicted who have no one to help. Pray for Michael and Cecelia Tesh and the children in their orphanage. Thank God for their traveling safety and their health.
22. God will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. Pray for George Goff, his safety and for the many lives he touches as he flies them to medical facilities.
23. All nations will come and worship before you, oh Lord, for Your acts of righteousness have been revealed.
24. Thanks be to God who always leads us in triumphal procession in Christ and through us spreads everywhere the fragrance of the knowledge of him. Pray for the church and the people of Labrador and for George and Glenna Tasedan who are preparing to permanently serve there.
25. Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God Emmanuel. Break forth into our lives freely and we will serve you in any way You ask!
26. Let our lives never become routine as God has exciting adventures for us each minute; in His Word and even in silence.
27. Sunday-There are moments for all believers when the eternal breaks into the normal routines of daily life - when God himself comes to visit us. On this holy day, are we anticipating his divine presence to break into our lives?
28. Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening. Pray for Michael and Brenda Brent serving with Campus Crusade in Croatia. Thank God for the young lives brought into the kingdom through their faithfulness.
29. Lord, bring to mind those You wish us to intercede for.
30. Pray for all children around the world. May Jesus become real in their lives.
31. Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary - holy and true.



1. New Years Day-This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it. Praise God for allowing us a new year in which we can serve Him.
2. Out of the depths I cry to you. O Lord, Hear my voice. Pray for God's intervention on behalf of those suffering religious persecution.
3. **Sunday**-Be ye kind one to another, even as God for Christ's sake has forgiven you. Call out to Jesus for guidance and discernment.
4. I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you. Knowing God's word is the best weapon we can have in this world. Help a child learn God's word. Pray for the Woo family as they live and witness to people.
5. The things that come out of the mouth come from the heart. Put on the breastplate of God's righteousness that your heart might be protected from the darts of the evil one. Pray for missionaries around the world.
6. The Lord watches over the alien and sustains the fatherless and the widow, but He frustrates the ways of the wicked. Ask a special blessing upon our Bishops. Thank God for their years of service and dedication.
7. The Lord sets the prisoners free, gives sight to the blind, lifts up those who are bowed down. The Lord loves the righteous. Pray for those who are incarcerated and feel forgotten.
8. The kingdom of heaven is like a hidden treasure. Pray for those who worship in secret because they have no freedom of worship.
9. Say to those with fearful hearts, "Be strong, do not fear; your God will come!" Ask God's blessing and protection on the men and women serving in the armed forces and their families.
10. **Sunday**-This is the message we have heard from Him and declare to you; God is light; in Him there is no darkness. Pray for all ministering in cultures other than their own. May the fruits of their labors be plentiful.
11. Do not forsake your mothers' teachings. They will be a garland to grace your head and a chain to adorn your neck. Pray for the Tesh family.
12. Pray for the Braima's. Give them and all others ministering in your name strength for today, peace for tonight and hope for tomorrow.
13. Thank Him for fellowship, and community Bible study, and for the leaders and students who attend these studies. Pray that they would take much light into this dark world.
14. Whoever loves his brother lives in the light, and there is nothing in him to make him stumble. Pray for new Moravians willing to 'Go.'
15. Pray for the Moravian Clinic in Awas, Honduras. and for Dr. Norvelle and Gerad Rudy as they minister there. Pray for the patients and the clinic employees. Pray that god will always be honored there.
16. The Lord is near to all who call on Him in truth. Pray for Ruth and George Goff of the Honduras Moravian Church serving with Alas de Socorro in Honduras.
17. **Sunday** -"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God," who is, and was, and who is to come," says the Lord Almighty. Praise Him. Pray for the leaders of our mission efforts.
18. The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer .
19. Pray for Michael and Brenda Brent from Friedland Moravian Church who are serving with Campus Crusade in Croatia and for all those faithful servants working with Campus Crusade on college campuses everywhere.
20. Let the righteous rejoice in the Lord and take refuge in Him .Let all the upright in heart praise Him! Pray for Steve and Ann Marx as they work with MAF.
21. Just as He is holy who called you, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy." Pray for the church and the people of Labrador.
22. You have made known to me the path of life; You will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand. Pray for all children - may they have food for this day.
23. The eyes of the Lord are on those who fear Him, on those whose hope is in His unfailing love. Pray for Brian and Heather Marx.
24. Pray for all Moravian ministers; active or retired today.
25. **Sunday** - Pray for George and Glenna Tasedan as they prepare to travel through upper Canada. Pray for their safety on the snow-covered highways.
26. Pray for those close to death, that they see the Glory of the Lord before them.
27. God of Comfort and Grace, our time here is brief. May each day count as one given solely to Your purposes from this day forward.
28. Thank you, Lord, for the families of people that have taught me lessons throughout my life; good or bad, as all have had a part in developing my faith.
29. May my faith spread a beautiful aroma to all today.
30. Faithful God - unite all hearts to fear Your Name!
31. For every complaint in my mind today, may I follow it with "I will praise You, O Lord, my God, with all my heart, and I will glorify Your name forevermore."

## Kodiak Preparing for “Ferry” Flight to Indonesia

God continues to bless us as we slowly become more “Idahoan.” A few events have required some “gear shifting” on our part this year. Steve’s recent carpal tunnel surgery is healing well as he gains more use of his left hand. In September, Ann and Steve made a quick road trip out east to Ontario, Canada, for Ann’s father’s funeral, after God moved him to Heaven just before his 82nd birthday. Though through tears, the activities were joyous as we talked of and sang about our sure hope for eternity with Jesus.

Brian and Heather’s little one is slowly taking shape on the “assembly line,” with a “completion” date around March 7. We’re excited and praying that Heather will continue to stay healthy. Busily immersed in Unit 4 of language school and making good progress, they’re steadily becoming more familiar with the Indonesian culture and its people as they interact with their new friends and neighbors.

As this is written, in another month Eileen and Simeon will complete their five-month medical missions outreach in northern Thailand. We think as they return they’ll be maxed out on noodles and rice and be ready for some home-baked bread and Christmas cookies. It’s been quite an adventure for them. We anticipate they’ll be with us over Christmas, which is exciting.

MAF has a new Mail Clerk here in the Nampa office—our

daughter, Cristi! Only a few days after she arrived at the end of August from her summer job back in Indiana, she submitted her employment application and was selected for the job. We are so thankful! She is living with us for the near future while she gets on her feet financially.

“Ryancito,” our 11-year-old, is growing fast and becoming stronger and is a great help to us with lawn-mowing and other projects as he continues to slug away at 6th grade with his good-looking teacher (Mom). He keeps us well entertained with his humorous comments.

Because of God’s rich blessing and provision, MAF recently took possession of its fourth turbo-prop Kodiak, all paid for. To date, MAF has the world’s largest fleet of this rugged, newly designed “bush” plane which just this year has been coming off the assembly line at Quest Aircraft Company in northern Idaho. However, the first one we received back in May, serial number 11, is still waiting in our hangar for favorable weather to cross the Pacific Ocean. Some of the long over-water flight legs will approach its maximum range (with temporary long-range fuel tanks installed), so optimal weather is a “must” to successfully reach Papua, Indonesia. Another of our Kodiaks is already across the Atlantic in the UK, and later this month will be flown to Kalimantan, another of

Indonesia’s large islands. A third Kodiak is being prepared in our hangar for its long flight before the end of the year to Central Asia. As we praise God for His provision of these new aircraft, we are also asking for His wisdom and protection as these aircraft will navigate over thousands of miles of open Ocean on their way to their designated regions of service. Please join us in praying for safety for these higher-risk “ferry” flights.

As we pray for you, we in turn thank you so much for financially supporting and praying for us as we find joy and fulfillment in serving our Lord by contributing to MAF’s ministry here at headquarters in Sourthern Idaho. We’re committed to MAF’s aviation and other technological outreaches as God continues to use this organization to meet people’s physical and spiritual needs all over the world.

Partnering together,  
Steve and Ann Marx



Ann, Ryan and Steve Marx



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But the angel said unto them,  
“Do not be afraid.  
I bring you great news of great joy  
That will be for all people.”  
Luke 2:10

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