



International Messengers Good News

Fall 2012

How beautiful are the feet of those who bring Good News. Romans 10:15



Darwin Anderson

Messy Stalls

Where there are no oxen, the manger is clean, but abundant crops come by the strength of the ox. Proverbs 14:4

Abundant crops require messy stalls to care for and manage. Jesus promised His disciples that they would enter the Kingdom through many tribulations. Read, mess. We seem to live out this truth almost daily as we receive reports reminding us that our staff family is in a war for souls and there is a whole bunch of mess involved. They attempt to advance God's Kingdom right in the middle of an active rebellion against Him and occasionally they fall into being a part of that rebellion, too. We all do. More mess.

There are countless factors which contribute to the mess and give us a lot to pray about: marriages under attack, little role modeling from homes of origin, Satan's constant accusations, distracted local churches, the shock of aging, loneliness, the tempting need for human affirmation, the fear of man, a teetering world economy, corruption, becoming Demus for a while, the desire for financial security, busyness without depth of walk, relational pride, self-

confidence, personal ownership of ministry/success, insecurity, haunting soul damage from the past, the internet, regrets, comparison, discouragement, wrong lessons learned from ministry experiences, and on and on. We would be more critical if we didn't see these same influences and needs for grace in our own lives. And we also realize that we aren't even living outside our home culture or in places with precious little light like so many of our staff. So we attempt to err on the side of grace.

How about you? Are there some risks you should be taking with your time, finances, talents, and passions to advance God's Kingdom? Does the fear of failure keep you out of the harvest? The stark realization of our own mess drives transparency, confession, pleading, and for sure, mercy towards others.

Would you remember your missionaries, as well as us and our staff with these messy stalls in mind? We highly value your sincere prayers. ●

Darwin & Darlis Anderson live in Clear Lake, Iowa. Darwin serves as President of IM and Darlis is the Recruiting Director.

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Brent Howland

Risk Management

A bomb explodes in a Coptic church...Nepal's work force is shut down by political protesters...two Americans are kidnapped in the Middle East...and the US State Department warns of a "credible threat" against female missionaries. Missionary kidnappings around the globe now account for almost half of all reported kidnap cases—a 100 percent increase over the last five years. One of my big jobs this year has been to enter the world of crisis management. I've been getting training, assembling an emergency response team, making communication plans, and monitoring some of the "danger zones" that our staff live in. I've been praying a lot more too.

The obvious goal is to keep our staff safe and to abide by Proverbs 27:12, which says, *"A prudent person foresees danger and takes precautions. The simpleton goes blindly on and suffers the consequences."* We want to do everything we can to see the danger before it hits and take appropriate precautions for the sake of our staff and their families and ministries.

The difficulty is that God seems to override missionary-preservation efforts at times. In 197 A.D. Tertullian wrote that, "The blood of the martyrs is the seed of the church" and that truism remains today. Even the Apostle Paul continued on to Jerusalem despite "credible threats" and countless warnings about the dangers awaiting him there. Not

even the State Department could have convinced him not to go.

So as we enter the realm of "risk management" as a mission, we need to be sure that we aren't putting our concerns about security above God's Call and His mission. We need to listen closely to His Spirit and to be careful not to assume that we hear God more clearly than those who are in dangerous situations for Christ's sake.

All of this requires wisdom that goes way beyond what we have. It seems that when we're looking for concrete answers, God uses our desperation to teach us to trust Him instead of simply giving us the information we need.

On a personal level, I want to be wise enough to see danger coming from afar and I want to trust God enough to carry me through any real or perceived danger according to His perfect wisdom instead of my own. Although God hasn't put me in places of great physical danger, the lessons still apply. I need to let Him define risk and safety for me. For me this means doing ministry way beyond what I'm comfortable with and beyond what I know I can "succeed" at. God is using my work with "risk management" to give me a fresh understanding of both faith and mission. ●

Brent and Tammy Howland live in Mason City, Iowa with their two boys. Brent is the Vice President of International Messengers.

"I've found as I've grown older and had a few hardships, I'm able to relate better to people who are suffering. It has taught me to press into God." "By speaking of my faith, I found myself studying and clarifying my thoughts and beliefs. It fills my cup to serve." PL – Romania

"Each time I go on a mission trip, God shows me something new about the people, myself, and most importantly, Himself. He always has plans for me, and although I usually don't know what those are until I get there, I am always blessed by listening to what He has for me to do and doing it." NW – Uganda

"The greatest benefit this year was to see the areas in my life that I am impoverished...to trust in the Lord for every aspect of my life and also the importance of tight community with fellow believers. These were lessons I learned from the people in Uganda. They might be poor materially but they are rich in trust and community!" KD – Uganda

Abby Jóföldi

It is God's Ministry!

This summer Bence and I had the privilege of hosting the first English Softball camp in Vác. Truth be told, we didn't originally even want to be involved in camps this year, but in January many things happened to show us that God had other plans: 1) there was a team of softball players ready to come, and a baseball field that they could use, 2) the dates the American team could come were the only ones workable here, and 3) we received backing from a local church. That local church was crucial in running the camp, as we were in the US for most of the summer. We prayed and started planning the camp.

Four weeks to camp...we were asked to cancel the camp by the local church that was sponsoring it! However, it was too late to cancel

partly due to non-refundable airline tickets. Then, we really saw that ministry belongs to the Lord. A different local church pitched in and provided housing for the Americans, found a place for English classes and found a restaurant where lunch could be ordered. People who had surplus bedding offered to let us use it so that the Americans would have beds to sleep on! Bence had tried to find a van for weeks, but most rental centers didn't have any left. God led Bence to a place that had one at a reasonable price the night before camp started! This is just a sample of how God provided when our plans failed.

Due to uncertainties, advertising didn't go as we had wished, but God brought a couple who did great last minute advertising and 25 children



came to camp. Many of the children weren't from any church and none of the local helpers knew them! We'd prayed for the maximum number of students that we could bless, and God brought the children!

It was always God's ministry and His plan. What a privilege for us that He "*prepared [good works] in advance for us to do*" (Ephesians 2:10b). Plus, we really enjoyed the camp! ●

Bence and Abby Jóföldi live and serve in Vác, Hungary.

Ben & Burgi Oehler

God's Hand In Egypt

How can we share about what God is doing in this country of permanent restlessness—one with so much political and social turmoil? It is a land of dangerous roads, absolutely crazy traffic, and garbage. It's not a place anyone would choose to live, unless you sense that God sends you there and helps you see things through His eyes. Only then does your view change as you start seeing the pearls of the Lord—people who are searching for truth and are committed to giving their lives for what their Lord and Master desires

them to do. As you view them, you can feel God's energy sweeping through your spirit, mind, and body, and you're able to do so much more with that heavenly breeze than without.

The first year and a half after the Egyptian revolution we were taken into God's school of getting to know the inner life and strife of an Arabic clan that has become the main field of our ministry. We understand more now how people think and act, because of this most intensive time of sharing our lives with people who think and feel



completely different from us. But now we see that our ministry is shifting in a different direction and God is broadening our field of ministry.

We could start a group for Southern Sudanese refugees who had to leave their country because of war, and the destruction of their

continued on page 4

homes. Some of them came years ago, some more recently. Many women came with their children, leaving their husbands back in South Sudan where they are still fighting for the security of their land. These women have many children; five, seven, and more. They receive no governmental support, which forces them to work to feed their children. We were asked by a Sudanese pastor to help his church by offering English lessons, or anything else we could do for them. After some time of prayer we understood that the Lord is moving in our lives, and that we should do this. Twice per week they get their English lesson, and there



is also time for prayer and sharing. Mostly women come to these meetings, and they love it. They have such interesting personalities. They all dress nicely when they come, and we see that for them this is like a social hub where they can meet people, learn something, and where prayer becomes a permanent part of the sessions. God has healed two of them; one from migraines, and one child from a chronic ear infection. In the latter case it was a combination of prayer, and the help that a doctor offered. All the other doctors they went to couldn't help them for over half a year.

We could also start a small group for female students; mainly from the international Friday morning fellowship we attend regularly. These young women yearn to help other women in Africa. Some are from Egypt, and one is from Uganda and wants to work in Namibia in the future. Others will follow—we are sure this is only the beginning. We are working on various topics that help them to get free from the traditional teaching of a society that has been strongly influenced by Islam, and which puts the woman into very narrow limits of what they are and aren't allowed to do. Many women live a very hopeless life, without any further perspective.

Long-term intensive one-to-one discipling seems to be the answer for most young locals. That's what we have been doing from the beginning and we're already able to see the first little fruit among young Egyptian men and women.

God opened another door for one of our former IM interns. He was able to go to Jordan to help refugees from Syria. This required much strength from God, since



those refugees are traumatized, and very hopeless. Nobody knows how long they will have to live outside their country. The refugee camp is in the desert, and life in the desert includes permanent dust, sand storms, heat, and often not enough drinking water. The young man who served there would love to go back, and start a youth work there.



One of the young ladies from the women's group went back to Jordan, where she had worked with refugees before. She was the one who introduced us to the idea of helping refugees in Jordan. Now, she will stay there to get some specific training in how to work with refugees. We praise the Lord that He gives us the chance to take care of those He has on His heart who live in permanent trouble, and who need help and guidance. ●

"It was a fantastic experience to be taken out of my comfort zone, and to be given a brilliant opportunity to witness to young students in another country. The experience sharpens ones faith, knowledge, and enables one to get a better perspective on life (not being caught up in the frenzy of materialistic life circumstances)."

SR – Ukraine

Jeanne Beckner

Chosen Vessels



What a lot can happen in just one short year! This year has brought new and different ministry opportunities to the Beckner household, and we look forward to seeing what the Lord has in store for the months to come. For several years, Ben has had the desire to develop a means of teaching missions history and theology which would be specifically adapted to believers in the French context (a bit like what the Perspectives course in the US does). This year his dream came to fruition with the successful writing and presenting of an online missions course in French. He had three "classes" of between ten and twelve adults and young people go through the course, with very positive feedback. The program will continue this fall, and in the winter Ben will be teaching part two of the online course. The goal of these courses is, of course, not only to inform, but also to incite believers to participate in missions themselves, either here in France or abroad. Many of the ones who have been part of the teams doing French language outreach camps with "French Without Borders" in Ukraine, Russia, and the Balkans, took the on-line course, and benefitted greatly from the training. In addition to the online course development and writing, over the past year Ben was also asked to teach several missiology courses at various Bible schools and at his alma mater, Vaux Seminary, near Paris. The Lord delights in delighting the hearts of His servants!

A wonderful answer to prayer just recently has been the arrival of

our Albanian friend, Hermes, who came to France to begin his medical studies. He did not receive his student visa until two days before he was to present his entrance paperwork at the university, so we did not know what would happen. But, the Lord saw fit to provide him with a visa, and also with the funds necessary to come to France and live, for at least this year, and hopefully for the coming seven to thirteen years it will take for him to become a doctor and then a pediatrician. Hermes' desire is to return and serve as a doctor in his own very needy country. Since we saw him last year during our summer trip to Albania, he has grown incredibly in his faith and assurance. He has been highly involved with a large youth group in his hometown which has worked all summer in a church planting project and with children in another area. And he has taken a series of discipleship courses to learn more about his faith and about the Bible. His family, though formerly Muslim and converted to the Orthodox church, have not followed him in his evangelical faith, but are not hostile, and are very supportive of what he plans to do.

We are reminded of what could have been had there not been an FSF outreach in Albania two summers ago—there would be no Hermes here to

carry on the faith to his homeland for another generation! "How then can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent?... Faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ." (Romans 10:14-15, 17) As Oswald Chambers says: "It is the work that God does through us that counts, not what we do for Him." It is our privilege to be His chosen vessels! ●

Ben and Jeanne Beckner live in Lyon, France and run French language camps in Europe and Asia.





Bethany Noriega

For the Sake of My Grandchildren

As my two-year old lay her head on her pillow tonight, we prayed together for an unborn baby who may not live through the rest of the week. As I watched her little hands fold and raise over her left eye (a position she has always assumed when she prays), I ached for that baby who may not live to learn to pray. My heart broke as I heard my two-year old speak back to Jesus the phrases she faithfully repeated after me. Her sweet voice and tender lips plead in unison with me for the life of an innocent baby whose natural protector and defender is the very one who is thinking of ending it, "Jesus, protect the baby of the woman who called the clinic wanting an abortion today."

I have felt burdened for nine years to volunteer at a pregnancy care center, but have only recently been given the opportunity. My husband was finally granted a visa that allowed us to come to Mountainside Ministry Training Center before heading back to Iquitos, Peru. As part of the curriculum, students are encouraged to engage in local

ministry to help shape them for a lifetime of service. When I found out about the Pregnancy Care Center (PCC), I knew I would be signing up to serve there.

My first day at the PCC started by reading an e-mail warning about a group called "The Crisis Project" who are dedicated to entering Christian pro-life centers as "undercover investigators" to "expose the lies that we are seeking to promote." Reading the e-mail I understood with little effort the implications of our position. We are in a brutal spiritual war against a kingdom whose agenda is to destroy our very existence.

The day ended by listening to a message on the answering machine of a desperate young woman who was asking whether we are an abortion clinic. As I heard her voice, the war suddenly had a story of an individual who is caught in the clutches of a darkness that lures her further into a life of misery and captivity.

As I put my precious baby girls into bed that night, the victims

suddenly had faces. Many of the people in the street that gawk at my sweet baby Briel would not have considered her a human being only six months and nine days ago.

Today, I entered the front line and realized the magnitude of the ugly battle that silently rages around us as we find ourselves preoccupied with pleasures that have no eternal value. Our fellow Americans are dying on a daily basis, and it's not only in a war overseas. They are being slaughtered by the millions on a daily basis in a war on our soil and in our backyards.

There is a powerful movie out that must sweep the nation. I am asking you to take 33 minutes to watch it and pass it on. Simply go to www.180movie.com and click the play button. Be warned: it will be difficult to go on living as before. ●

Nelton and Bethany Noriega, along with their children Kyliana and Briel, are currently attending the Training Center in Libby, Montana and will return to their home and ministry in Iquitos, Peru in January.

"I was constantly reminded that I was to be a humble servant to everyone on the team and to the campers - a vessel to be used by God for His purpose. I had to check any pride at the door and it was eye opening to me over and over again when I was called to do this on the trip. I found myself desiring to be a servant more effectively than the day before during camp even though at times it was the last thing my human, prideful self wanted to do." TG – Slovakia



Damaris Otremba

Appeal for a Verdict!

"Appeal for a Verdict!" Those words were stuck in my mind when I was coming back from Thailand. I was there for a month-long training on evangelism. During that month those were the words that struck me the most and kept me from being at ease. They may bother you, too. You may ask, "What does it mean to appeal for a verdict?" It simply means to ask a person if he has trusted Jesus Christ to be his Lord and Savior or to appeal to him or her to make a decision. It sounds so simple, but it is probably the most fearful thing for most of us to actually ask! We have so many excuses why we are not doing it. The most common one is that we still have time to ask that question. That was my excuse, too.

One true story really shook me to the core. In October 1871, D.L. Moody was preaching to a great crowd in Chicago. And that evening he said, "I hope you have taken the message to heart. Go home and think about it. Come back next Sunday night. I will give you an opportunity to make a public expression of your faith in Jesus Christ then." But that night, after Moody had released the crowd, Mrs. O'Leary's cow kicked over the lantern that started the Chicago fire, which destroyed a fourth of Chicago. Many people in Dwight L. Moody's audience perished. Moody said, "I will never again delay in making an appeal for a verdict."

Tom Otremba Three Life Passions



Over the years I have been growing in my understanding and appreciation of God's eternal purposes. I discovered that Jesus had three main passions that governed his life. As his follower, I have been embracing those passions as my own. So, what are these things that have become so precious to me?

First, the **Gospel** of grace. I used to think that the Gospel was just a ticket to heaven. Then came the demands of a moral Christian life. How wrong! The Gospel is a beautiful story of setting people free from sin; its punishment, its power and eventually its presence. The richness of the truth of my death, burial and resurrection together with Christ became the anchor for my soul. I have become part of a grand story of redemption, whose author is the Heavenly Father, hero is His Son and director is the Holy Spirit. What a thrill!

Second, the **community** incarnating the Gospel in its midst—the church. I used to think that the church was basically about organizing events. How tiring! The church is a life of a community of intentional disciples who re-organize their entire lives around the priorities of the Kingdom of God. I

believe that the best environment for that to happen is by forming small, neighborhood Gospel communities that are part of a larger regional network of support. In this kind of a setting, there is a greater potential for being the church, versus just going to church. We are called to incarnate the message as people of God.

Third, the **mission** of advancing the Gospel around us. That has been my passion from my teen years. However, I was mainly preaching it as a personal ticket to heaven followed by a set of legalistic to-dos. Now I see it both as God's rescue operation, and as God's call to enter a totally new reality of God's gracious rule of the Kingdom represented by His Community.

It is my hope and dream that we see the movement of God's Gospel communities on mission become tangible in the country of Poland and beyond! ●

Tom Otremba, his wife Damaris, and their children live in Cieszyn, Poland, where they serve as church planters. E-mail: tomasz.otremba@gmail.com

Unfortunately, I too have examples of not appealing for a verdict with two workers that were working on our house. One of them died with an aggressive cancer that killed him too quickly, and the other died in a car accident. I thought I would have more time to invite them with their wives and to slowly, eventually appeal for a verdict. How naive

I was in thinking I would have more time! We really do not know how much time God is giving us with a particular person, because we don't know when it is his time to die. We should not wait for a better time because it may never come. Listen to the Holy Spirit and seize the moment, and with God's boldness, "Appeal for a Verdict!" ●



Nicole Beger

A World of Parenting

This summer at our family camp we had an array of classes offered as break out sessions, one of which was marriage and parenting. To be honest we were not sure how this would work out, if anyone would sign up and if they did, would there be a sharing of hearts or pure silence? I can say we were all pleasantly surprised that not only were there students, but it turned out to be a wonderful time of heartfelt searching of the Word for truth and guidance on how to manage marriage and parenthood in this chaotic time in our world.

Recently, I spoke at a MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) meeting and discovered then as I discovered this summer in Poland, that moms around the world struggle just as I do! Sure, we may be teaching our children in a different language and with some different cultural bends, but each of us fear for our children, their health, and future. In every culture there is a sense of loneliness and despair, wondering if we are doing all we can do or should do for our kids. Each of us struggles with guilt over failing our husbands, kids or friends. "Oh I forgot to get back to that project my husband needed done." Or, "Oh I never read Johnnie that book I promised I would." Hey moms, we are not alone! We



Bevan & Laura Stein

Father's Heart Ministries

"It's knowing people like this that gives me hope that life is worth living," remarked Rudo, an 18-year-old from one children's home who has been to nine Father's Heart camps over the years. He was talking about Christi Price, one of our short-term team members at our first camp this summer who has been to Slovakia seven times to help with camps or other ministry. Obviously, Christi has a great heart, like all our short-termers and volunteer staff, to share her faith and hope in Christ with others like Rudo. He is from one children's home that is very special to us because of the tight bonds we have developed there. Two of our adopted children come from this home also.

Rudo is one of many thousands of children who live in one of several hundred children's homes around Slovakia. Their personal stories are very heartbreaking and sad, and it gives us great joy when we know we have touched their lives in a meaningful way. He was one

of three that I chose to spend three weeks with later in the summer at a work camp. We slept in a shipping container without running water, shower, or toilet, and yet we worked like bees until we dropped from exhaustion. They not only never complained, but were also glad to do it because they feel so good spending time with us in prayer and conversation. What Rudo said reminds me of something A.W. Tozer once said, "Hope is different than wishing for something. We wish upon a fallen star, but hope is certain and based in reality"

"Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us." Romans 5:5 ●

Bevan and Laura Stein have lived in Slovakia for 16 years and are the founders and leaders of the Father's Heart which includes children's clubs, equine assisted ministry, and motorcycle evangelism.

serve a God who never fails us, our husbands, or our children!

Worldwide there is a common bond of motherhood that needs to be tapped into. In the States we have things like MOPS or small group Bible studies. I am praying about how to bring that same type of safe community to share fears, ideas, and Christ with other moms to Poland. Have any of you tried something and it worked?

Or maybe you can share what didn't work? Pray with me as I balance being a wife, mother, and this new endeavor to reach other moms. ●

Nicole Beger, her husband David and their children live in Borne Sulinowo, Poland. Their desire is to equip believers for leadership and to have a healthy balance between family and ministry.

Gene Fox



Seeing God at Work: An Exciting Place to Be

Nothing excites me more than seeing God work in people's lives. And so, for the fifth consecutive year, my wife and I led a team to minister at an Evangelistic Family Camp in Poland. This summer we watched in awe as God worked His wonders in Bogdan and Danuta.

This was Danuta's third camp. She first attended in 2010 simply because she wanted to see the tourist town where the camp was held, "I figured I could endure the Bible reading time if it meant seeing Karpacz."

Danuta's thoughts about the Bible reading time changed within the first couple of days. As she read the Word, she realized that she could understand it. She loved discovering truths about God—truths she'd never been taught in her church.

"I soon wished those classes were six hours long," she said. When camp ended, she began attending the Bible-teaching church where IM staff minister.

Danuta attended the camp again in 2011, bringing her teenage son with her. This year she returned with her son, her young adult daughter, and her husband Bogdan.

Bogdan shared his "story" on camp's first day during conversation time. He had been an abusive alcoholic for 30 years—most of their married life. He stopped drinking six years ago, with the help of AA and his "higher-power." The only thing he knew about this "higher power" was that it helped him overcome his addiction, and he was grateful.

The fifth day of camp was Bogdan's birthday. He and his family planned to skip the regular program

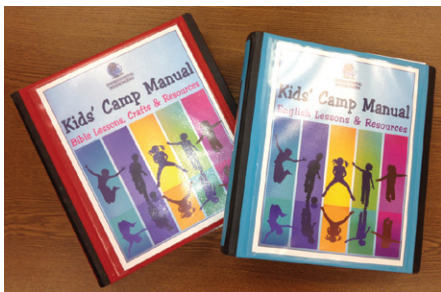
and go sightseeing instead. But, when the Bible reading time came, he showed up.

"Bogdan, what are you doing here?" we asked. "We thought you were planning to be away."

"I changed my mind," said Bogdan. "I belong here."

On the last day, he said, "Now I know who this higher power is. His name is Jesus." The joy of the Lord was already growing in his life. And Danuta's smile, as she sat next to him, was growing too. ●

Gene and Grace Fox have been the Directors of IM Canada since 2007. They live in Abbotsford, British Columbia.



In 2012 we introduced new Bible lessons, activities, and crafts for children. We also developed a new English Manual for teaching English to children. Besides the usual topics of colors, numbers, and shapes, there are also lessons on baseball, transportation, birthdays, using verbs, and adjectives to express ideas, and more.

Our goal was to provide our staff and short-term team members with children's materials that were fun, visually attractive to children, and easily taught.

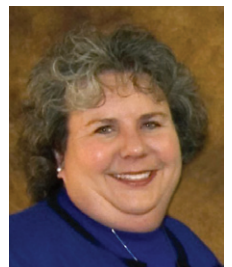
We have plans for developing additional materials for 2013 also, so be on the lookout for new products and ideas!

We were also able to upgrade and revise the adult beginner packet found in the team suitcase. We have started to make it more user and visually friendly. ●

Kim Soper is a Regional Representative for IM and lives with her husband Loren in Ogallala, NE.

Kim Soper

Introducing New Children's Materials





Jill Clark

The Most Unforgettable Haircut Of My Life

"Do you read the Bible?" I did not expect this question at a hair salon. Our son Raymond had asked if we could go to a new hair salon for our haircuts. Andreea, the manager, pulled up a chair and was shocked when I answered "Yes, I read the Bible." This was to be the most unforgettable haircut of my life. That is how our friendship began in 2006. I was the first person Andreea ever met who read the Bible.

She had recently begun reading the Bible, but her Egyptian Muslim boyfriend (then in prison) was not interested in the Bible. Eventually, their relationship ended after Andreea read the book "Sexuality

According To The Bible" by Kay Arthur. For the first time Andreea came face to face with what the Bible had to say about sex. We began praying that God would give her a Christian husband.

Refreshing with her "unchurched" background, Andreea was full of great questions that challenged me. Eventually, Andreea found another job and we didn't see one another often.

Several years ago as we watched Focus On The Family's "Truth Project" together, Andreea was powerfully impacted. With fresh interest Andreea and I again met to talk and pray.

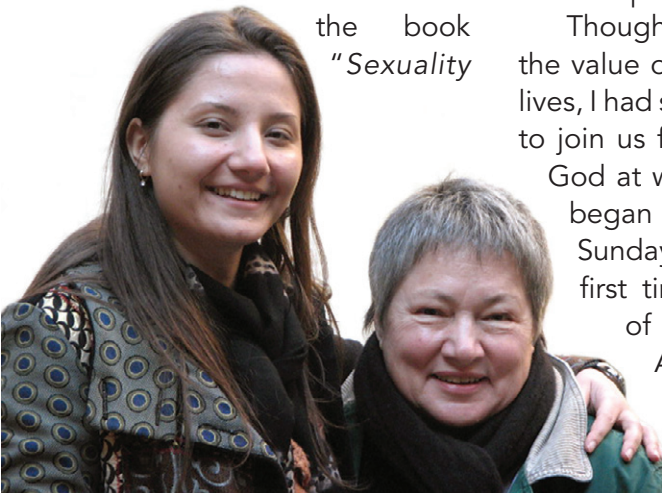
Though we had often discussed the value of Christian friends in our lives, I had stopped inviting Andreea to join us for church. I knew it was God at work in her life when she began showing up for church Sunday after Sunday. For the first time Andreea was a part of a church and enjoyed it. Andreea now had other Christian friends in her life. When she was

baptized and joined the church it was something that God alone did. When she met an American Christian man two years ago online (through the TRUTH project), it was her first relationship with a Christian man.

An unforgettable haircut, an unforgettable encounter, an unforgettable goodbye. August 29, 2012, Andreea left for America where she will live and marry her Christian fiancé—an answer to our seven years of prayers for a Christian husband for Andreea. I am excited about the unforgettable encounters God has for Andreea's life in America.

I will never forget my haircut that day and being asked "Do you read the Bible?" I thank God for the joy of meeting Andreea, and am looking for God's next unforgettable encounter. ●

Jill and Tom Clark live in Bucharest, Romania where they use a variety of outreach methods including Bible studies, conferences, and "The Truth Project" to connect with and teach both believers and unbelievers.



"My faith is stronger. I have again tasted and seen that God is good and trustworthy. My commitment to being a light here where I live is stronger."

SA – Romania

"I had more opportunities to minister to others at this camp than any of the previous five camps I've been a part of. The more open I am about my struggles and challenges in life and how God meets me in them, the more He seems to allow me to serve others in their struggles."

BH – Romania

Moses Odongo

Mobilizing Uganda for Missions: African Coalition for Purity



The mission statement for Mobilizing Uganda for Missions (MUM) is: *To renew, train, and mobilize the Ugandan church to reach the world for Christ.*

Renewing is an excellent word to describe the African Coalition for Purity (ACFP). For the past year and half, we have been challenging and disciplining men to be sexually pure in the sight of Christ.

God has opened a number of ministry opportunities throughout Uganda.

In addition to the Kampala and Jinja areas, we are also conducting purity discipleship groups in Lira and Gulu. Gulu and Lira were the main areas for war with the rebels for the past twelve years. Both groups have over twenty men in small groups.

One of the most surprising doors that has opened for us is with the Episcopal denomination. One of the bishops met fellow missionary, John Pipes, at a wedding. After a brief discussion about the ministry of MUM and ACFP he invited John to meet with his leaders. After discussion

and prayer, they asked whether we would consider taking their pastors through the purity training. The first group of pastors are from an area in the eastern part of Uganda. After we have taken them through the material, we will start with the next twenty-five pastors. By this time next



year our prayer is that we will have taken all one hundred pastors from this area through the material. From there, we will continue on to the next district.

With all the groups, we start hearing of changes in the lives of these men. We encourage them to turn away from the behavior that has caused so much pain for them,

their families, and God. And we help prepare the single men as they start a life with a wife. I could already write a book from the testimonies that we have heard. But none are better than those from the wives of the men going through the purity discipleship. We hear stories of how husbands are returning to their wives, learning to love them as Christ loves the church, and how they have stopped making sexual remarks about certain women. The list continues.

I would like to thank you all for your continual prayers that the Lord will give us the wisdom and strength we need when preparing for the African Coalition for Purity. Reaching men and equipping them for a life of sexual purity requires the loving guiding hand of the Almighty to touch hearts and bring forth lasting change. ●

Moses and Betty Odongo and their children live in Kampala, Uganda and desire to call pastors and lay leaders back to Biblical standards for following Jesus in their marriages and ministries.

"In sharing the Gospel daily with my reading group, I received it anew each time. In using my gifts and skills as needed each day, I contributed to the whole work Christ was doing through us at the camp. By asking God constantly for help to do what I was called to do, I learned to distinguish the voice of the Holy Spirit more clearly and to see Him at work more vividly." DS – Poland

"I benefitted the most from being involved in camp again especially a family camp. Having contact not just with young teens but the whole family was a great privilege and joy. I really felt the Lord's blessing during the week." DH – Poland



Julie Hybel

Life's Not Fair

Every once in awhile I hear my six-year-old daughter say, "That's not fair." I usually respond with the question, "Who told you that life would be fair?" I didn't. The fact is that nobody had to tell her that things should be fair; her Creator built this sense of justice into her. One day everything WILL be fair, but since that has been temporarily postponed, we need to accept the things we cannot change. Namely, that in this world we will have trouble (John 16:33). And this shouldn't cause us fear or worry; rather it should challenge us to prepare our attitudes in advance, before trouble hits.

The thing that makes believers different is not that we don't face the same circumstances as everyone else, it's that in those same circumstances we live and respond differently. Most of us have heard the saying "God never wastes a hurt." I don't actually know who first came up with this saying, but it has definitely proven true in my life. Recently, I've been wronged and treated unfairly by a Christian business partner. At a time when everything in me cried out "It's not fair!" I was reminded of my own words, and God gave me the

strength to forgive and move on. In doing so, my peace and joy have been restored. Had I chosen the route of bitterness, who knows what state of mind I'd be in right now, but for sure I'd be useless in ministry.

God commanded us to forgive

God commanded us to forgive for many reasons, one of which is because it's good for us. ”

for many reasons, one of which is because it's good for us. We need to be people who are difficult to offend and who are willing to forgive, all this knowing that a day is coming when everything will be fair (there's a light at the end of the tunnel!). Until then, we have the opportunity to live against human logic, to live victoriously in

the same circumstances that would normally defeat people, and in doing so to bring glory to our Magnificent God. The world is watching us. Let's cause those watching to flock to our Giver of Abundant Life! ●

Julie, her husband Przemek, and daughter Roksana live in Krakow, Poland. Julie works with women through cooking classes, one-on-one meetings, and a praying wives group. They also host a summer English camp and use Bible studies throughout the year to reach students with the Gospel.



Kim Huffman

Mopping as Discipleship?

I was forty-seven before an "older" woman invited me to spend time with her regularly, to talk and pray. Why did it take so long? Maybe so that it would push me to BE that older woman!

At Living Hope Church we are committed to discipleship. Here in Odessa, discipleship takes many forms: stirring up bath salts at a girls' craft, baking brownies, sunning at the sea, listening to struggles with parents, stringing beads on a wire, playing Pictionary at English Club, discussing a Bible lesson. These events are reasons to get together, but intentional conversation is always the real purpose!

One of the best conversations I've had with a younger woman was during our monthly cleaning at church. While mopping the floor, we discussed how to handle fear of the future. Significant changes were about to happen in her life and as we mopped and talked she verbalized her deepest fear, "Can I trust God with my future? Will He really do what is good for me?" Scripture itself answers those questions with a big YES! I simply pointed her to the right place in God's Word.

continued on page 13

Simona Nelson

Having Hope in Jesus Christ



"This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil." Hebrews 6:19

This Scripture has been an anchor to me this summer. I've seen God steadfastly working in my life and in the mothers and children here at River of Life (ROL), as well. We have been going through so many things emotionally to the point where we knew that only God could resolve our problems. So often I have felt the Spirit of God in me whenever I felt afraid. I've seen that His **hope** encouraged me to steadfastly work in His name.

Each day I am with the children and there are many times when I get tired. But it's at those times of exhaustion that I feel God's strength empowering me to continue teaching or playing with them. I have seen God working in many of us here at ROL through the

good and bad times. The month of August was the hardest time for us, but His **hope** has kept shining in our hearts, and has blossomed in every one of us, and has given us a tremendous love that none of us have experienced before. We go through many trials on this earth but if we keep His enduring **hope** in our hearts we know that it will help us survive. Over all, His **hope** has kept us alive in Him.

"And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure." 1 John 3:3 ●

Simona Nelson graduated from IM's MMT training center and served her internship at the River of Life Care Home in Cornesti, Romania. After some time back in the US, she returned to Romania in the Spring of 2012 to continue serving the moms and children at ROL.

Mopping ...continued from page 12

Looking back, it was a big turning point in her faith! What if I hadn't been intentional with our conversation? What if I hadn't been that older woman willing to speak truth to her and to help her move closer to maturity in Christ?

What if you won't be that woman to those around you?

"Teach the older women to

be reverent in the way they live... then they can train the younger women to love their husbands and children..." Titus 2:3-4 ●

Kim and Mark Huffman and their son Nate, live in Odessa, Ukraine. Their desire is to prepare the next generation of leaders for the church in Eastern Europe and beyond.



WEDDINGS

AULO WING



SARAH HOOBYAR
married on 1-9-12

MITCHELL ANDRINGA



KRISTEN MOSS*
married on 5-4-12

MATTHEW SCHWARCK



BRITTNEY DEFEVER
(daughter of Dan & Chris Defever)
married on 5-12-12

ANDREW THIESSEN
(son of Brad & Karla Thiessen)



ALZBETA LUPTAKKOVA
married on 6-30-12

MARK NAGEL



LISA SMITS*
married on 7-28-12

JOHN PIPES



CHRISTINE ACHAN
married on 9-20-12

*former IM staff



Pastor Tomasz Krazek

Vision for Poland

teaching of the Word of God, and people are not being trained to read, study, and teach the Bible. The Gospel message of Jesus Christ is often watered down. As a result, the Church is weak; people don't know what God has to say about basic areas of life. More and more often carnal means are used to draw people to churches. The result is that carnal tools create carnal followers. Pragmatism, humanism, and emotional mysticism flood the church from every corner.

We, as a church believe that Poland needs godly leaders who will care about truth, take a stand for the Word of God, be trained for ministry, and train others.

In reaction to the above, we are beginning to launch a church-based initiative—*Faithful 2 the Word*. It is designed to serve three main purposes. One is to train leaders for ministry in local churches. Second is to translate and publish theologically sound resources in Polish. The third purpose is to organize annual conferences where believers can

hear life-transforming teaching and participate in Christ-exalting worship and fellowship.

By God's grace we were able to organize our first conference, start translating some resources and start training some young leaders.

Please pray that God would raise many more leaders. Pray that we would be faithful servants of the Lord. Pray for churches to be planted. Pray that God would provide all needed resources for our training, translations, and conferences. Please be praying for the transformation of Poland.

If you have a desire to partner in this initiative by praying, giving, or serving, or if you would like to know more about what we are doing, please contact us at: tkrazek@gmail.com ●

Tomek and Iwona Krazek live in Borne Sulinowo, Poland. Their ministry focus is on Pastoring, preaching, teaching, and training future leaders for church planting ministry.

When Paul wrote his last letter, he reminded his spiritual son, Timothy, that he must continue in the Word and that he must preach the Word (2 Timothy 3:14-4:5). He was to continue in the Word because it was God-breathed, and it was useful for gaining wisdom and equipping him for every good work. Then, he was to preach the Word because the times were coming when "People will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths." Thus, the only remedy for people not being willing to listen and follow God was to teach and preach the Word of God.

I think that we here in Poland live in such times as were mentioned in Paul's writings. There is an enormous spiritual confusion in Poland nowadays, even among believers. People in the Church are willing to believe any doctrine and swallow any philosophy that comes their way. There is a lack of

"I feel like a battery, before the trip my battery was dead; but the mission trip and serving the LORD recharged me for my everyday life. I have a greater understanding of Poland and the Christians overseas."

LP – Poland

"I came away just as convinced that we need to be reaching people around us at home and sharing Christ with those in the "uttermost parts." I was struck again by the intensity of the battle for souls. Indeed, we are truly dependent upon the Lord's work in people's hearts."

SS – Hungary

Jan McKinnon

Discipling Women



Discipleship has been the key challenge in my life this last year. I have been pondering questions about discipleship like: What is the most effective process? Is there a process? Is there a plan that works better for different people or are there key ingredients that should work for everyone? How does one start the process? Is it mutual or is there a leader and a follower? Does coaching fit into the process?

We are all called to discipleship (Matthew 28:19-20)! My heart is to disciple women and encourage them on their faith journey.

It has always been difficult to know where to start in the discipleship process with the different ladies. I believe prayer is the first thing one does to start the process. Who would God want you to invest your time and life into? Think about the natural relationships you have, ask God to make it clear to you, and then be intentional.

Next in the discipleship process is how one determines where this lady is in her relationship with Christ. Typically there are three types of ladies in my life:

1. Ladies that I am not even sure are believers or have never talked about their faith.
2. Ladies that attend Bible study and church but have not talked personally about their relationship with Jesus.
3. Ladies that have shared their testimony of faith and want to grow more in love with and be obedient to Jesus.

Below is a spiritual journey diagnostic tool that my husband uses in his evangelism seminar. I have tweaked it and believe it will help ladies to say which level they are presently on, and hopefully challenge them to go to the next level.

I have been challenged this Fall to talk with the ladies in my life and to be bolder in asking them where they are in their spiritual journey, and if they would like to go to the next level. I will be seeking God's wisdom in how to encourage growth on their level.

I'm still working through the best material but I believe we are so blessed in today's world to have so many resources to accomplish the different levels. But please remember whatever the material or format you choose, one has to be God dependent, pointing her to Jesus for all of life issues. Also, discipleship is spending time living life together and loving each other.

I hope the levels help you and please contact me at kamckinnon@yahoo.com with your stories, suggestions, or questions. The discipleship journey is fluid and fun! ●

Jan and her husband Kent live in Poznan, Poland. Jan's area of ministry focus includes teaching Bible studies, speaking at women's' events, discipling women, and loving their neighbors.

Spiritual Journey Diagnostic

Making an impact Deep intimacy with God, mentoring others, actively sharing your faith with others, ministering according to spiritual gifts and service needs

Growing in relationship with God Struggle with changing value system, participating in a small group, serving in local church, discover not all believers are growing

Actively following Christ Learning God's Word, entered into a mentoring relationship with another Christian, beginning to understand spiritual blessings in Christ, share Christ naturally with others

Trusts in Christ Has made a decision to turn their life and will over to Jesus, believes Jesus is God and trusts Him as payment for sin

Aware of the Gospel Has come to realize that he/she is powerless to achieve God's favor and forgiveness, understands the reality of hell because of sin, turns from trusting self for life's answers

Looks positively at the Bible Taking positive steps to find answers, intellectually believes in God, understands the difference between a religion and a relationship with God

Aware Christians are different than culture Open to spirituality, realizes there is more to life than what they have experienced, questioning their own spiritual belief system

Going own way Negative view of Christianity and religion, believe all religions are the same

Avoids the truth - Bible Aware of Bible but not interested, OK for you but not for me

2013 SHORT-TERM MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

EVANGELISTIC ENGLISH LANGUAGE CAMPS (EELC)	LOCATION	HOST	TRIP DATES	
	Czchow, Poland*	Hybel	Late June/Early July**	
	Antonovka, Ukraine*	Litvak/Winkler	July 12 – 23	
	Antonovka, Ukraine*	Litvak/Winkler	July 21 – August 2	
	Odessa, Ukraine*	Naydenov/Huffman	July 18 – 31	
	Near Poznan, Poland	Shaded	July or August**	
FAMILY EVANGELISTIC ENGLISH LANGUAGE CAMPS	LOCATION	HOST	TRIP DATES	
	Katy Rybackie, Poland	Jachym	July 3 – 15	
	Near Bucharest, Romania	Clark	July 4 – 16	
	Odessa, Ukraine	Naydenov/Huffman	July 4 – 17	
	Mazury Lakes, Poland	Shaded	July 10 – 22	
	Cluj, Romania	Luncan/Vitelar	July 11 – 24	
	Karpacz, Poland	Dabrowski	July 17 – 30	
	Kiczyce, Poland	Pscoala	July 18 – 29	
	Poznan, Poland	Genesis Church	End of July**	
	Slovakia	Thiessen/Berger	July or August**	
KIDS CAMPS OR SPECIALTY MINISTRIES	TYPE	LOCATION	HOST	TRIP DATES
	Women’s Conference	Bucharest/ Bircii, Romania	Clark	April 16 – 26
	Evangelistic Soccer	Odessa	Torres	End of June/Early July**
	Youth Camp(s)*	Cornesti, Romania (River of Life)	Moore	End of June/End of July**
	Kids English Day Camp	Kaposvar, Hungary	Gorman	July**
	Father’s Heart Ranch Kids’ Camp	Near Turciansky Michal, Slovakia	Stein	July or August**
	Kids Overnight English Camp	Erdokertes, Hungary	Jóféldi	July or August**
	EELC/Softball Day Camp*	Zirc & Ujfeherto, Hungary	Petrik	July or August**
	Construction/Labor VBS Ministry	Bircii, Romania	Nicolae/ Roberts	August 2 – 18 or August 9 – 20 (approx.)**
	Manual Labor/ Work Projects	Near Turciansky Michal, Slovakia	Stein	Dates are flexible
	Construction (three teams)	Cornesti, Romania (River of Life)	Moore	Summer, flexible dates
	General help at River of Life	Cornesti, Romania	Moore	Ongoing, anytime

*Youth Camp

**Specific dates yet to be determined

For the most up-to-date camp schedule visit our website: www.im-usa.org/index.php/camps-schedule

Colors of Life

Then the Lord said to him, "What is that in your hand?" "A staff," he replied. Exodus 4:2 (NIV)

It was around seven years ago that Moner and I had our first chance to share the Gospel during an opening of my art exhibit. My art became a tool for us to share the Good News, and we have continued this practice ever since.

Recently, God gave me a new tool for sharing His Gospel. In April, through the grace of God, I was able to publish my book titled "Colors of Life." One of the first people to purchase the book was a high school teacher. She asked

whether I could come and share the Gospel with her students and with teachers. I was invited to be a guest speaker, as a part of a theme, "People with Passion." It gave



Stenia Shaded

continued on page 17

Paula Roberts

I Am Wasting My Life



*"I am wasting my life."
"I will never learn the language."
"I need to take more initiative."
"I am a rotten missionary."*

In my mind, the "war" games begin again. By now, you'd think I would recognize the signs and be on my knees before the first shot, but no. Instead, I throw on the scarf I need for church and walk out our door. Yesterday, I had mentioned to God that I could use some encouragement but was I anticipating it? No, not me.

The sound of kids interrupts my internal battle. Ron's belly chuckle starts as they call out my name.

"P-a-ooo-l-a." The Romanian pronunciation of every letter makes me smile, as two of my favorite village girls come running to their gate. I met them at our recent week of Kid's Club, and their blue eyes and

blonde hair made them stand out from the dark-eyed beauties of Bircii.

"P-a-ooo-l-a., what are you doing?" More kids bunch up behind them and I figure, why not?

"I go to Heather's for Sunday School. You come too." My broken Romanian stinks, but God has slipped me a brief gift of tongues. They scamper to ask their Mom and soon five kids are traipsing behind us, ready to give Sunday School a try. God's Spirit is working, and He hands me the gift of being P-a-ooo-l-a the Pied Piper.

Thank you God. Even in the midst of my "no," you say "yes" to my prayers. Bang, bang, bang, war games, be gone.

"...in our eternity amnesia, we feel as if somehow, someway, life is passing us by. Those unfilled longings, which none of us escape, do not so much announce to us

that this world has failed us, but rather they alert us to the fact that we were designed for another world. Peace in this world is found only when we live with the coming world in view." Paul David Tripp (Romans 8:18-27) ●

Paula and Ron Roberts live and work in Bircii, a small village in Romania. Working mostly with youth, they offer help with English, a computer lab, and youth group.



Colors ...continued from page 16

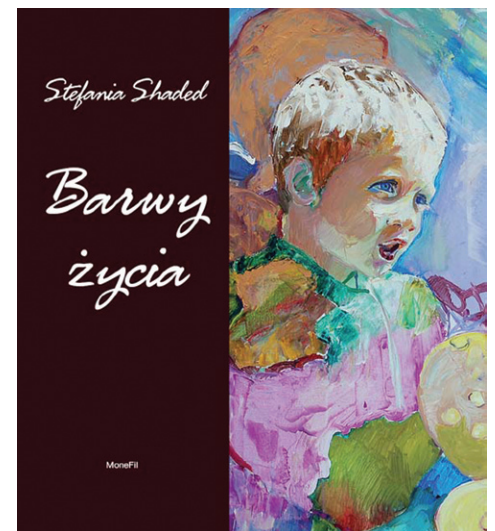
me a chance to tell my testimony and share the Gospel by using my paintings. The venue was a beautiful amber palace where 200 high school students, ages 17 through 18 attended. It even became a major event, with television, radio, and other media present.

What made this event even more special for me personally, was that my daughter-in-law Monika was there with me. We were both able to impact the lives of young people who came.

This is another example of how the Lord can use what is in my hand to spread His Word, just like with Moses and his staff. My desire is that through this book, God would allow

me to share the Gospel in places that would otherwise be hard for me to reach.

Someone once shared with me a paraphrase from Mother Teresa: "You are a paint brush in God's hand." This great comparison is easy for me to identify with. A brush by itself cannot paint anything; however, if the Creator has it in His hand, it could be used to make beautiful things. My prayer is that I would focus not only on what is in my hand, but also on being in the hand of the Lord. Our Savior is not limited in ways to use us for His service. If we are willing to bring glory to Christ, we are ready to be a brush in His hand. ●



Stenia and Moner Shaded live in Warsaw, Poland. They are involved in church planting, evangelism and discipleship. Stenia uses her art as a way to share the Gospel.



Cristi Zah

Counting Blessings

It's time again to write the article for the IM newsletter. Usually when I do this, I realize it is time to count my blessings and to share those blessings that I find with others so we could all be strengthened in our faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

Looking back at my life's blessings, I think the biggest blessing out of many is the ability to serve others and invest in their lives so they can see God's love through our humble service. As you know, in the beginning, when it started, the River of Life ministry was all about helping moms and their little children. But, now these children are growing, so they need the opportunity of a good, solid, Christian education. We cannot just be content with their physical development because that would be missing the point of our ministry—these children need above everything else, to start to grow in Christ. Of course, we cannot do the work of the Holy Spirit. The work of the Spirit in our lives starts when we begin to have faith in God and His Word, but this faith comes through hearing of the Word, and this is precisely what we are doing.

We are exposing the children of our ministry to hearing the Word by attending a Christian school rather than a public school, and we leave

the rest in God's Almighty hands. Let us remember this advice from Proverbs 22:6, *"Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old he will not depart from it."*

Another blessing and miracle for me in my position as administrative director this year at the River of Life has been the ability to retire an outstanding debt of \$65,000—money that was donated over and above our regular expenses. I would like to take the chance in this article to thank all the people that were involved in partnering with God either by prayer or by donating to make this miracle possible.

Our family had the wonderful blessing to have another baby; a boy named Nathanael Abiel born on July 4th. This increases our family to five. We thank the Lord for His provision and help with the risky pregnancy! Also, we would like to thank all of you for praying for us and for being inquisitive of what is happening at River of Life in Romania. May God bless you all! ●

Cristi, Delia, and their family live in Cornesti, Romania. Cristi is the administrator and a Christian counselor at the River of Life Care Home. He also Pastors at a small church.



BIRTHS

LUKE GORDON

born on 11-5-11
to Seth & Meribeth Anderson
(Grandson of Darwin & Darlis Anderson)

BRIEL NELL

born on 3-10-12
to Nelton & Bethany Noriega

LANCE ANDREW & JONATHAN JEFFREY

born on 3-24-12
to Drew & Amy Sharp
(Grandsons of Steve & Deborah Sharp)

JAMES

born on 4-21-12
to James & Mary Olwenyi

NATHANAEL ABIEL

born on 7-4-12
to Cristi & Delia Zah

LEVI HOWARD

born on 8-15-12
to Jeff & Sara Penning

ADAM

born on 8-15-12
to Peter & Judit Petrik

KARLA

born on 9-3-12
to Arkadiy & Anneke Naydenov

MATTHEW

born on 9-20-12
to Zhenya & Lidiya Bozhatarnik



Mark Huffman Going Where No American Can Go!

God is raising up His church to go to places that North Americans cannot go. One of our seven students at IM's Seaside Missionary Training Center is a good example.

Dima is from Russia. North American missionaries have not been allowed in Russia for many years. Russia has worked hard for over 100 years to limit God's Truth, and it has taken its toll on the Russian people and the Russian Church.

For example, Dima plans to return to Russia after his training here in Odessa, to pastor a small church in the rural Moscow region. Why is that significant? The rural Moscow region has incredibly few believers. Iran and Iraq have more believers per capita than this place where Dima plans to work! We know of very few if ANY full-time pastors in the rural Moscow region. Will Dima be one of the few? We hope and pray that we can send him there to bring the freedom of the Gospel to many that are being held captive by a Godless country. Will you pray for Dima? Will you help support Dima? If you would like more information about Dima or Russia, please contact the co-director of IM's Seaside Missionary Training Center, Mark Huffman at mhuffman.usa@gmail.com

David Price-Williams Invasion of the Coneheads



The classic brain drain of a skit and movie was pretty silly in most people's mind. The story of the cone-head shaped aliens coming to earth trying to fit in also brings back memories of the TV show "Third Rock From the Sun." We all laughed as we watched the weird aliens try to blend in with society. Sometimes I feel like a conehead.

Sometimes I feel like no matter how hard I try I will never be one of the "in" crowd. Have you ever felt this way?

After deciding that we were going to the mission field and sharing that news with others, we were first greeted as heroes. Slaps on the back and "Atta boys" came flying in. But, then we began to feel the drawback immediately. We were no longer in the long-range plan of others as it felt as though people were saying, "So what's the use of creating a relationship with them, since they are leaving soon." The decision to go made us aliens among our own people.

As we began freeing ourselves from the baggage of the American life and dream, we would see fathers practically cover up their children's ears. It's as if they were saying, "Don't talk to my kids. You will try to tell them to risk everything for the cross. Don't tempt my babies." Your lifelong friends no longer invite you to the BBQ. They now feel that they have to change their behavior now

that there is a missionary around—like you're some kind of God police. We are now the Coneheads. We are the aliens just trying to fit in.

As a conehead, I now live in the land of the normal hoping to connect with someone. So is it good for us to try to fit in? Yes, it is. However, it is not good to compromise who we are.

Dine with the sinners and lost—Jesus did. Don't be afraid when you lose the home folk—Jesus' town tried to stone him. Your friends might just stop calling or act too busy.

We became a third-culture family the day we said we

were going into missions. It is not because of countries or customs. It is because of the perception of both sides. In the country where we are going, we will always be Americans, and in the country where we are from, we will be the missionaries. We are in-between others, but so happy to be in the will of God wherever that may be. It will be because of God's will and plan, not ours. We all laughed at the Coneheads as we saw a little of them in our own lives. But maybe, just maybe, others will identify us as followers of Christ. ●

David and Teniece have three children and completed their training at MMT in January 2012. They hope to have enough support raised to leave for Odessa, Ukraine in January 2013.

**We are the
aliens just
trying to
fit in. ”**



Ed Kleiman

Bring the Books!

2012 was a record year in distributing Christian literature and other materials to individuals, churches, pastors, and missionaries.

Once, on the drive from International Messengers Training Center in Libby, MT to the airport in Spokane, WA, I suddenly felt severe chest pains. The woman driving with me was concerned about my chest pain; but she was *more concerned about getting good Christian resources*, “Just make sure you make it home,” she said, “and send me those materials you talked about as soon as you get there.”

I share her concern. Why is distributing solid Christian material such a vital part of my ministry?

When C.S. Lewis was asked whether he would possess any of his beloved books in Heaven, he replied, “Only those I gave away on earth”—but there is still a deeper reason. Namely, the great need of good, solid, Bible-based, Gospel-centered materials. Wherever I go, whether in the United States or overseas, I find a famine of such resources.

Let me relate one testimonial recently passed on to me from a friend at International Messengers:

I was in Bucharest Romania, traveling with you for the first time in April 2005. I remember that you were really into books and giving them away free. I figured we had nothing in common because my philosophy was, “Why read a book if there’s a movie to watch?” But you gave me that book by John Piper, “Don’t Waste Your Life,” and so I thought, “be polite, try reading a few pages,” and before I knew it, I couldn’t put it down. I can count on both hands the number of books I’ve read in my life. But God used this book to speak directly to me. He told me it was time to go to the Ukraine, something he’d put on my heart a few years before. This book provided the final confirmation! Soon thereafter I was on a plane to the Ukraine, with some more books you gave me. Even today in my morning quiet time I am going through one of your gifts to me titled, “Magnificent Prayer.” Thanks Ed.

Still, my best example and motivation for distributing good materials comes from the Bible.

In 2 Timothy 4:13, the Apostle Paul says, “When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, **also the books**, and above all the parchments.”

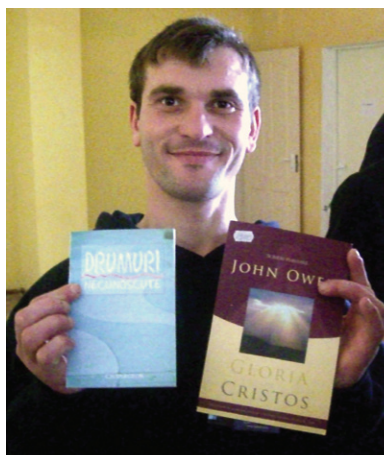
Charles Spurgeon explains the significance of these words:

We do not know what the books were about, and we can only form some guess as to what the parchments were. Paul had a few books which were left, perhaps wrapped up in the cloak, and Timothy was to be careful to bring them. Even an apostle must read. He is inspired, and yet he wants books! He has been preaching at least for thirty years, and yet he wants books! He had seen the Lord, and yet he wants books! He had had a wider experience than most men, and yet he wants books! He had been caught up into the third heaven, and had heard things which it was unlawful for a man to utter, yet he wants books! He had written the major part of the New Testament, and yet he wants books! The apostle says to Timothy and so he says to every preacher, “Give yourself unto reading.” He who will not use the thoughts of other men’s brains, proves that he has no brains of his own. Brethren, what is true of ministers is true of all our people. You need to read. Renounce as much as you will all light literature, but study as much as possible sound theological works, especially the Puritans, and expositions of the Bible. We are quite persuaded that the very best way for you to be spending your leisure, is to be either reading or praying. You may get much

instruction from books which afterwards you may use as a true weapon in your Lord and Master’s service. Paul cries, “Bring the books” — join in the cry!

Finally, if anyone would like materials, please send a note to edkleiman@att.net. Include 1) your area of need or interest, and 2) your address. Be assured—I will **bring** (send) **the books** (and other kinds of material)! www.praybold.org ●

Ed Kleiman lives in St. Louis, Missouri. He speaks and serves throughout the US and overseas.



Books being taken at a Romanian Men’s Conference

Anna Hunsucker

Serving the Servants: Taking Missionaries Off the Pedestal



*"Here I come to save the day,
Super-Christian on the way!!"*

Growing up, I pictured missionaries as "Super Christians," off saving the heathens in faraway lands. As I grew up, joined IM and moved overseas, I realized that a huge percentage of the American church also viewed missionaries this way. Since I knew that I certainly wasn't a "Super-Christian" I began to wonder where the idea had come from. I think the disconnect lies in the fact that most people are not willing to even entertain the thought of leaving home, family, friends, and comforts to move to a foreign country and culture, where they speak a foreign language. It sounds so difficult—and such wonderful things are being done for the Kingdom—that somewhere along the way the people willing to go were elevated to the status of "Super-Christians."

The problem with elevating people from a place of "normality"

to "Super-Christiandom" is that we don't allow them human weaknesses, such as loneliness, homesickness, marital problems, depression, personality conflicts, exhaustion, etc. And when they do fall, we judge them, and judge them harshly.

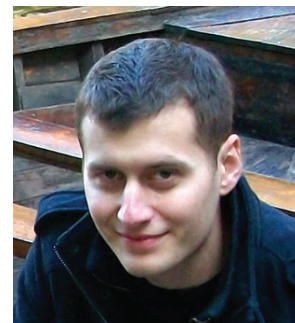
Another problem that comes along with Christian Superstardom is that we forget to serve the servants. We forget that missionaries need to be served while they are serving others. They need to be encouraged through spoken and written prayers, accountability, consistent communication via snail mail/Skype/chat, visiting them in their ministry location, remembering them on birthdays, anniversaries, and holidays, meeting financial and emotional needs, remembering the needs they have during home visits, asking them good questions about what their needs are, sending them care packages, and allowing them to be open and transparent with you.

Whether we come from North America, Africa, Europe, or any other continent, we come to the mission field dragging the baggage of our lives in tow. We are there because we believe in God's command to go into the world and make disciples of all nations. But just as the "normal" Christian needs grace, mercy, forgiveness, love, and encouragement, so too does the missionary. Let's take missionaries off the pedestal and allow them to be broken children of God, striving to grow in their walk with Him. Let's help meet their needs, where they are, at any given moment. Let's remember to serve the servants. ●

Anna Hunsucker is serving in a staff care role and is based out of North Carolina. She plans on making several trips overseas to spend time serving alongside of IM staff and being in a support role here in the United States.



Filemon Shaded Soccer Tournament Euro 2012!



For the first time in history, the EuroCup was hosted by Poland and Ukraine. Fifty-one countries participated and only twelve qualified, including both host nations. Countless amounts of money were spent on preparation and advertising. So, how could we take advantage of all this hard work and use it to build God's kingdom? It was a great opportunity to have an outreach!

We organized viewing parties for eight of the games, adding a grill to make it complete. Our primary focus was on making new friendships. We invited fans to a family English camp and witnessed to them in many small ways. Our prayer is that God's glory will shine among Poles more than the lights of stadiums.

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Barb Gorman

The Call to Faithfulness

This month I finished the first quarter of my tenth year in Kaposvar, Hungary. As I was contemplating how faithful the Lord has been over the years, I heard a song that came on iTunes called "Faithful One." The lyrics say our faithful One will be faithful to the end. As I listened I wondered will I strive to remain faithful until the end to the One who suffered, died, and rose again for me?

Last year at this time I was feeling discouraged about ministry and thought perhaps God was closing the door for me to serve here. I was struggling with not seeing more results in ministry, difficulties in the jail ministry, the language, the loss of supporters, and the loss of friends and helpers who moved away. There had been no teams here to help serve for over three years, and I just could not imagine how I could continue alone.

I prayed much and searched the Bible, hoping that the Lord would make it clear to me that it was time to move on. But, the verses were always about waiting, trusting,

and knowing that He is able to do more than we can ask or even think (Ephesians 3:20). The Lord revealed to me that I needed to take my eyes off the circumstances and place them on Him. As I refocused I received His peace. Once I made the decision to trust the Lord completely, He took care of those things that I was fretting about.

My financial situation improved first—what a blessing for God to touch the hearts of people to share financially in this ministry! Then, I received word that a team of five were coming for a week to help serve in the various ministries. After that I got word that International Messengers had a team of eight that would be coming in July to serve at our English/Bible day camp! They did a fantastic job with the children, and the fellowship together was wonderful.

The jail situation has really improved also, with doubled attendance and more men wanting Bibles. Many of them even wanted Bibles for others. This week I even got to visit and pray with a

grandmother of a young man that attends class. I have always wanted to pray with those who visit the prisoners and hospital patients, and at last I know enough Hungarian so I can do this now!

God continues to open doors for new people, and I continue to meet English speakers as well. I still have many Hungarian friends, and I know when I need more help, God will meet those needs as well.

I have a faithful God who has the best plan for me. I am so humbled that He should bless me so much. Even when I want to quit and go home, He deals with me in patience and in love. I had one of the best years ever! I Thessalonians 5:24 says, "Faithful is He that calls you, who will also do it." ●

Barb Gorman serves in Kaposvar, Hungary. Her greatest hope in ministry is for those students who have heard the truth of God's Word for years to place their trust in Jesus Christ as their Savior and to then be disciplined.

Euro 2012 ...continued from page 21

I praise God for the new contacts we made, especially among our neighbors. In some cases, this was the first time we were able to get to know them better. It was so great to see prayers "kick in," while the goals were being scored on the field. Even though the Polish soccer team was losing, we felt that we were winning new friendships. It was great and exciting to have our neighbors come back and visit for coffee. Now, we see a new Bible study group being started with our neighbors.

"Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it." 1 Corinthians 9:24

I realize that in ministry, running the race is not always simple, especially when it comes to choosing a way of reaching unbelievers. It is very calming when I remind myself that as long as I race towards Jesus I never lose. He fills in the blank spots and touches the hearts that are lost. ●

Filemon Shaded lives in Warsaw, Poland and works with youth, discipling them one-on-one and leading small groups.

Virginia Edwards

Like Homing Pigeons



Since 2007 Stan and I have been coming to Romania to the River of Life Care Home (ROL) for a part of each year. We're like a couple of homing pigeons that have to return occasionally. There is just something about this place that calls us back.

With few exceptions, the women come to the Care Home because they have nowhere to live, they and their children have been abused, and they have no alternative. They are desperate for a way to survive. They are pregnant, needing medical and dental care, and help in finding a new life. Aside from the basic food, clothing, and shelter, they receive instruction in caring for their children, counseling with emotional problems, schooling for both the moms and children, and medical intervention. It is a joy to see the change in these moms and kids from year to year as they learn about Jesus and His promise of eternal life through Him.

One such woman, we can call her Maria, came to ROL after being rejected by her parents when she became pregnant. Her baby was born at ROL, where she also accepted the Lord, and learned a marketable skill. One day a nice young man came to the door and said he had seen Maria in the village and wanted to marry her. After a suitable time, they married, established a Christian home, had two additional children and continue the building of their home as finances allow. Maria continues to have close contact with ROL, and her children frequently come here to play with the kids who are like sisters and brothers. There are many such success stories.

As the years pass, Stan and I don't know how many more times we will be able to make this annual visit, but when we aren't here we miss it. There is deep joy and satisfaction in being able to serve these moms and their children.

The Care Home needs couples to serve here for several months at a time or even longer. The women who come to serve spend time playing games with the children, overseeing the playground, perhaps helping with snack times, sewing, and visiting with the moms. The men help with chores on the grounds and building—stacking firewood, fixing things in need of repair and giving the little boys some manly attention. Visits from the States and Canada are a tremendous encouragement to the staff.

If you can't physically spend time at ROL, perhaps the Lord would lead you to support it through prayer or by donation, or maybe you could act as a liaison person with your church, keeping your home church up-to-date on the needs and events here. Please pray about how or if God would have you answer His call to serve the "least of these" here at the River of Life Care Home. ●

Stan and Virginia Edwards live in Mesa, Arizona and look forward to the opportunities they have to go to ROL to serve the moms, kids, and staff there.

Ministry opportunity with River of Life



Needed: A married couple, willing to commit one to two years as house parents in Cornesti, Romania (the same village as the River of Life Care Home) and to partner with the ROL ministry team. As house parents, the responsibility would be to disciple one mom and her children in the process of transitioning into life beyond the Care Home.

This is a great ministry opportunity for a couple who love discipling, parenting, who love gardening and also doing light maintenance work at the Care Home.

If interested, please contact us at dougandroberta@gmail.com



Jeff O'Connell **You're Taking MY Grandkids WHERE!?**

We were sitting in the international airport with carry-ons, coloring books and baggies of Craisins, waiting to board a flight. We knew deep-down that Grandpa and Grandma understood, but feared they might say in their hearts, "Why MY grandkids?!"

It's hard for loved ones when a family moves overseas. It's also difficult for the parents of the kids who make the decision to go, knowing all the cultural change and transition will affect their children as well. This is how Andrea and I felt when we said goodbye, for the first of many times, in the Atlanta Airport in August 2005. We knew it would not only be tough for us, but also for our two sons. What "trumped" those feelings was the gut-level peace that God had given us as a family. Yes, as a family. Though we sometimes asked ourselves "What are we doing, dragging our kids into this?!" But over and over again, during our four years in Slovakia, we were reminded that our heavenly Father wants the best for our "guys" even more than we do!

We experienced deep joy and peace when we entrusted our sons' lives to God. It was something a veteran missionary once told us, referring to his own kids that stuck with us. He said, "I would never exchange the comforts of America for the opportunities my kids had living alongside people—natives and missionaries—who loved Jesus sacrificially."

For us, it was worth it to see our boys, even at a young age, having a real depth of compassion for others and a more developed understanding

of the needs in this world. Maybe it was from playing with kids who live in orphanages or daily watching people dig through the dumpster in front of our apartment building. Or perhaps from the realization that though cultures may be different, people are basically the same—all in need of a Savior.

Now, three years after returning from Slovakia, we are honored to serve as assistant directors at International Messengers' Mountainside Ministry Training Center (MMT) in Libby, Montana. We believe this will be our home for a long time, but again we "uprooted" our guys to come here. God understands, and He continues faithfully loving our boys. One of the ways was by giving us a home in the same neighborhood as our eldest son's friend from school. Then, we realized our youngest needed a friend, so we began praying. Guess who started staying with his grandma after school in our neighborhood? You're right, our youngest son's best buddy! It is so sweet how our heavenly Father delights in giving good gifts to His children.

At the end of the day, serving in Slovakia and moving to Montana has had a lasting impact on our boys—an overwhelmingly positive impact! It's hard for us to imagine a better life! And as far as "taking the grandkids" is concerned, the grandparents can now see God's signature all over it. ●

Jeff and Andrea O'Connell live in Libby, Montana and serve as the assistant directors of MMT. They have two boys, Will and Jonathan.



John Pipes **Mobilizing Uganda for Missions**

This past June, Riverside Missionary Internship Ministry (RMIM) graduated its first class of interns. And since then they all have been serving in a number of ministries. For three months, Jackson and Amon walked the streets of Jinja talking with students about Christ. Through their efforts, three weekly Bible studies started and a number of students have given their lives to Christ. Jackson also spent a month in Sudan. He plans on returning to Sudan in November for an extended stay. Amon also went to Tanzania for a month. He will be staying in Jinja to lead a youth group under the leadership of MUM.

Betty spent the summer furthering her ministry abilities by learning to lead "Firm Foundation" classes.



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Sarah Wing

A Verse to Conquer



Little Kiamer's bright brown eyes stared intently at me as she struggled to recall the last section of her memory verse. As she chewed on her lip and gazed at the floor in a desperate attempt to rack her brain, one or two correct words slipped out uncertainly, and I nodded vigorously in encouragement. The last part of the verse was just out of her memory's reach, so I enlisted an older girl, Elisa, to help her, and quietly reassured Kiamer that I was positive she could recite the verse after a tad more work.

Slipping back to me shyly after Elisa's dedicated assistance, a small smile appeared as she whizzed through the first part of the verse. Arriving again at the stoplight in her memory, her face fell, and only one or two new words were produced. After a minute or so of wriggling and fidgeting, I sent her back to Elisa once more. This process repeated itself yet



another time, but I was determined this little one had the stamina to finish. The third time, out of the corner of my eye, I saw her face crumpling, and Elisa hugging her, so I called out, "Kiamer! You are so close! I just KNOW you can do it! Come here and let's finish your verse." Tears streaming down her beautiful face, she obediently tiptoed over to me. Words were whispered, and I told her she could skip the first



part, since she had mastered it and hop straight to the end.

Through sniffles and hiccups, out came each and every correct word. My heart was soaring... I have never been so proud of this girl! I exuberantly hugged her and shouted, "You did it!!" Her tear-stained eyes lit up, and her grin reappeared.

In a way this reflects the struggles I've tackled since moving to Peru. The difficulty of forming deep relationships and maneuvering in a new culture can lead me to crumple into tears of frustration, as Kiamer did. But, her example reminds me that crossing the finish line requires lifting up my face towards Christ, swallowing tears, and pressing on. ●

Sarah and Aulo Wing live and serve in Iquitos, Peru, where Sarah works with children and they are involved with church planting.

Mobilizing Uganda ...continued from page 24

Besides starting women's studies she is conducting conferences with the wives of the men that are coming to the men's purity discipleship meetings.

We labored the entire summer trying to obtain a visa for Fred to go to Egypt, but every avenue we turned to the road was closed. As always God knows the right place for His servants. After some months serving with Pastor Moses in the local church in Kampala Fred is now in his home village area of east Uganda ministering to the people there.

Our current class started in October with five interns. The classroom studies will finish before Christmas. We will be ending with a short-term mission trip into Southern Sudan. We are praying for a team from the US to join us

to help conduct an Evangelistic English Camp. If you are interested please contact me at john@im-usa.org, or the home office at office@im-usa.org.

I am so thankful for all the prayers and financial support that enable our work here in Uganda. It is certainly a team effort. Knowing and trusting that our Team Leader Jesus Christ has everything under control no matter what we may face gives us the confidence to never give up. ●

John and Christine Pipes live in Jinja, Uganda, where they serve with the local church to renew, train, and mobilize believers for active involvement in reaching the world for Christ.



Karla Thiessen

How to REALLY Help – Wisdom Needed

A boy approaches—he's probably about 13. For this story I'll call him "Shawni." I know he's a proficient pickpocket, a schemer, and regularly lies to anyone that will listen to him. I see him around town often... on Main street, in back alleys, and even weekly in front of our church building, both before and after the service. But he doesn't want to come in. He's rarely interested in hearing anything anyone has to say to him, but brutally rude to the point of yelling at times to those who don't give him money. I admit I have a hard time loving him.

After I met him again this past week I was thinking about what Jesus said: "The poor will always be with us." He also said, "If someone asks for your tunic, you should give them your cloak too." But one time Jesus mentioned "not throwing our pearls after swine..."

We know the Bible says we need to take care of our own families first, before anyone else. His word also tells us that those that don't work, shouldn't eat, which makes me think that God doesn't want us to raise beggars, but wants each of us to do our part in working, if possible, to provide for ourselves and our families. So then, knowing all this, how are we to respond to beggars that daily come at us with an attitude that says, "what is mine is mine, and what is yours is also mine?" Always I have that verse in

my mind that says, "give to those that ask" but I see them becoming even more self-righteous in what they see as their "right" to other peoples' money or stuff or time... This is hard.

In my frustration I'm finally coming to realize that God wants me to show love to those around me, and do what I can to help them. This is often harder than just giving them money or things. It means taking the time, and praying for opportunities. And I'm to follow this calling while lifting up Christ and His love, leaving the rest to Him. I see no other hope for mankind and those around me each day in such devastating poverty, although at times it still feels overwhelming.

Please pray for us and others around the globe who deal with those in poverty, and please especially pray for the growing population of the poor Romani (gypsies of Eastern Slovakia). Pray that God will grant us extraordinary wisdom and an outflowing of Christ's love as we deal with each person and situation. Thank you. ●

Brad and Karla Thiessen have four sons and have lived in Kosice, Slovakia, since 1991. Their work includes Word Art (language school), Life Art (a ministry to teach life skills to the Roma), discipleship and mentoring, summer family camp, and other outreach opportunities.



Megan Price-Williams

Life as a Missionary Kid

"We're going to be missionaries." With those five words, my life was changed forever. I was 10½ Then, and I was completely thrilled, and yet devastated. On one hand, I was going to be able to get an experience most kids never had the chance to have. On the other hand, I was going to have to leave everything I held so dear. So began a whirlwind of activity. My life turned inside-out and upside-down. I was just beginning to understand what it meant to follow Christ completely and was excited for the chance to share it with others.

For nearly two years, we waited for the opportunity to launch into the mission field. I proudly told all my friends that I was going to be a missionary kid, but felt sadness as I thought about the day I would depart from them to go who knows where. I was extremely crushed when the day came for us to leave for Libby, Montana. I said goodbye to all my friends, exchanging hard hugs and backwards glances. The days flew by as we spent those five months at Mountainside Ministry Training Center (MMT). I made some really close friends and was sad to leave there, as well. Ever since those five words were announced, my feelings have been in constant turmoil. All I knew was that we were pursuing God and He would always come through. When we made the decision that we

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Daniel & Andreea Luncan

Sent to the Wrong Place



The parents were worried and frustrated, the children were getting into trouble with all the things they were not supposed to touch, strewn all over the hotel and playground; the facility staff was in defensive mode with “no” as their default answer to our every question. It was clear that we had come to the wrong place, the wrong people, and that possibly we’d had the wrong vision all along. Despite prayers and planning, first and second impressions of the place, the Resita facility was absolutely the wrong one and our envisioned joyful days of ministering to couples and families were rapidly turning into long, stressful hours of putting out fires, all of which left us exhausted and discouraged. Our dream of having a heaven-like atmosphere at our first family camp was quickly blowing up in smoke that hot summer in 2007. Most probably this would be not just our first but also our last family camp. Our only comfort was that somehow, with the encouragement of a great team and by God’s truly amazing grace, we could develop good relationships with both the hotel owners and the campers.

We weren’t sure of this in the heat of the moment, but proof came over the following months, when we

started a Bible study with some camp participants who also became good friends. Then, later in the Spring as we were planning our next family camp (at a different facility) the first to sign up was the owner of the Resita hotel and two other families she had invited. Over the next five years, about 35 people from that area have been part of different outreach events with DeClar—family camps, Marriage Quests, conversation clubs and Bible



Family Camp 2012 - greetings from a place of grace

studies. To get to Timisoara, where we are, these people need to drive for two hours on not-so-good roads and then make the trip back, usually late at night, but apparently they think it worth the effort. They are the ones we never

planned for, the ones we wouldn’t have reached on our own. They are the right people from the “wrong” place, God’s beloved who He decided to reach by sending us. Every one of “our Resita people” has discovered the story of Jesus’ love and grace and has come closer to embracing Him. Some have already found salvation. Marcel and Olimpia came to the Marriage Quest two years ago, and later said that it saved their troubled marriage. During the family camp last summer Teo and Gabi—a Resita couple—accepted Christ. They are the first couple sent by God to a dark and difficult place for all the right reasons, for all the right people. ●

Dani and Andreea live in Timisoara, Romania with their two children. Their main ministry focus is with families and professionals through camps, English clubs, and Bible studies.



Teo, Gabi, and their family

“The Lord taught me to not be so shy and to start loving people from the time I meet them. I will be comfortable with them in the end so why not just start that way even though I don’t feel that way. I grew to love everyone I got to know. If we lived near each other I think we would be good friends. God helped me grow spiritually during Family English Camp. I could see the open sore from a long ago sin heal and disappear. Wow, that was a freeing experience!” KD – Slovakia

Loring Morris

Fighting the Battle

"It is better to be deceived a thousand times than to live a life of suspicion." – Spurgeon



Almost four years ago we packed everything that would fit in eleven suitcases and moved to a slum in the heart of Kampala, Uganda. Our house was a disappointment at first, and due to a low compound wall and a sleepy night guard, we were robbed twice. A few years later some men clipped the lock on our gate and tried to break in, but ran away after realizing we were home.

Recently, my husband's motorcycle was stolen from in front of the church we planted two years ago. He was inside for just minutes, and thieves broke the lock and took off. Last week one of our young men was on his way home and was robbed by four guys. The same week three of our young men were walking back from community group and were chased by a group of men seeking to steal their clothing.

Living overseas brings a host of insecurities, and being robbed is one of them. It's a personal attack on security and can result in anger and helplessness. We've had a hard time trusting motives and actions of many people since we moved here.

A couple years ago a pastor friend of ours came to visit us. After watching us interact in our neighborhood and listening to Dan preach, he pulled Dan aside one night. He told us that we were becoming bitter and jaded, and offered these words of wisdom: "It's not their ability to take advantage of you; it's more about your availability." These simple words really opened our eyes.

It's a weary process. When we put up walls to protect ourselves and walk around with bitter suspicion, we aren't spreading the Gospel. Our message is hindered by the negative attitude which insecurity brings. We're called to be available even in hard situations, and need to look to Jesus to fight the battle against suspicion and bitterness.

Who knows whether the mom saying she lost the equivalent of \$100 and has been chased away by her husband with a machete is telling the truth? Who can tell whether the iPod that disappeared from Dan's office was taken by someone who worships with us? Who knows whether the young men watching us lock our gate are planning to rob us? We're called to be here, to serve and love like Jesus- even when we are taken advantage of, robbed, and slandered.

In the end, we answer to Jesus. Will we say, "I was going to tell people about the Gospel, but they stole from me and lied to me; so I decided they weren't worthy of the message?" For now we live in one of the worst districts in Kampala that is known for its thieves, thugs, and prostitutes. But with a lot of grace and the beauty of God's salvation, maybe one day it will be known for its love of Jesus. And we get to be a part of that with open vulnerable hearts that belong to God. That is all the security we need. ●

Dan, Loring, and their children moved from Kalispell, Montana to live and work in Kampala, Uganda. They serve in a church plant called "Sojourn Church" in Wabigalo, Kampala, Uganda.

Life as a Missionary Kid ...continued from page 26

would serve the Lord in Odessa, Ukraine, I was probably about twelve. Two years had passed since our family committed to being missionaries. Being a missionary kid has some awesome attributes, though! If I weren't a missionary kid, I would never have gone to Libby and met some of my (now) closest friends. I wouldn't have been able to admire God's creation in the mountains at Glacier National Park. I wouldn't have been able to see Mt. Rushmore. I wouldn't have been able to see the St. Louis Gateway Arch. The list goes on and on. I constantly thank God that I have had so many adventures and discoveries along this journey. And this is only the beginning! God has even more planned! I have grown in my relationship with God over the past 2½ years. God made every one of us with a purpose: to make an impact and change the world. So all I can say to the world is, "Come at me, bro!" ●

Megan is the oldest daughter of David and Teniece Price-Williams and will be going with her family to serve in Odessa, Ukraine.



Dan Defever

The Most Important Change

Next March marks our tenth anniversary in Europe. During these years, we've noticed tremendous change, especially in Poland. When most people think about Eastern Europe, they picture a majority who live below the poverty line, especially when compared to American income. Many now notice an obvious change in Poland, as people have more money to spend. Standards of living appear higher for most, as compared to ten years ago.

Living in Poland allows us to notice these changes. There was a time when we would send a message to people, offering a ride to the next large town. Often, people went with us, even if when we were leaving wasn't convenient for them. Now, time has become more important, and spending money on the bus ticket is easier than it used to be. The car population continues to grow, malls are sprouting up everywhere, and it comes as no surprise to hear that there's a Starbucks in one of the larger cities.

Most of us would argue that this is a change for the better. I admit that I enjoy visiting Starbucks occasionally. Unfortunately, the real change that needs to be taking place is the spreading of the Gospel, and planting churches with healthy leadership. People need Jesus Christ at the center of their lives, or they simply are living "better" lives on their journey to hell. This picture again was very clear a year ago as my wife and I traveled throughout Poland, assessing our next ministry location.

We felt God's call to Kwidzyn, Poland. Kwidzyn has 40,000 people, and we knew of five families wanting to grow in their walk with the Lord who had no church to go to. Chris and I just arrived in Kwidzyn and are getting to know these families. Recently, I went to a telephone store to add money to our phones. The conversation quickly turned to English, as the clerk previously studied in London. As we were talking, he mentioned several times that he wasn't happy with his life there. I began to pray that God would give me words that would point to Him. The clerk asked why we chose to live there, so I shared that we chose to move here to assist in starting a church. I told him that we plan to get together to read the Bible, and that we work alongside

the Baptist Church in Poland. After he helped me with my phone, he said, "I'm interested in meeting with the church." He gave me his phone number, as I tried to keep my jaw off the floor.

The greatest need of anyone is to have a relationship with God through His Son, Jesus Christ. People who don't have Jesus in their lives will be empty, no matter what they have. It has been my prayer that as Poland becomes wealthier, people would realize their emptiness and seek after Jesus. Will you make that your prayer, also? ●

Dan and Chris Defever recently moved from Borne Sulinowo, Poland to Kwidzyn, Poland. They will be working with some Polish families to start a church.

Seaside Missionary Training Center Class of 2012



Back Row, Left to Right:

Victor – Rural Ukrainian pastor and church planter

Vasiliy – Russian evangelist desiring to serve among the many forgotten men and women in Russian nursing homes

Dima – Russian pastor and church planter

Misha – Works with Ukrainian alcoholics and drug addicts

Zhenya – Works with Ukrainian alcoholics and drug addicts

Front Row Center, Left to Right:

Yulia – Has a heart to be a missionary in Central America

Anastasia (Nastya) – Has her heart and eyes on serving as a missionary in Japan



Bob Hageman A Year of Contrasts

Joy & Sadness: During this past year, five of our street friends died. This saddens us and we wonder if, in their final moments, they asked Jesus to be their Savior and Lord. It has been a great joy watching several people asking and learning about who Jesus is, with a few making the ultimate decision to accept His saving grace.

Sickness & Health: We both struggled for several months during the winter and early spring with a flu-like bug that seemed to hang on forever! Bob struggles with depression, and the lack of sunshine affects him greatly. He only had two or three bouts that were difficult to get through. Vera constantly struggles with an immune system disease that affects body temperatures, lung functioning, and causes extreme fatigue at times. We have seen God's grace and mercy in both of our health struggles, which ultimately allows us to continue living in Poland.

Answered Prayers for Healing: One Sunday night at the Street Ministry, Ania came up to us, showing her left arm that had two very deep cuts. We insisted she must go to the hospital, which she absolutely refused. As we began

Carol Schlorff When Fear Grips You



The fear had become my constant companion. I felt as if it was crouching at my door, ready to devour me at any moment. Oh, I prayed about it. And it helped... some. But, the fear always came back, and I was starting to wonder whether it would ever go away. How had I gotten into such a state? It started when some stressful situations caused breathing difficulties. I would have to take deep breaths, but much of the time I couldn't breathe-in fully. I had experienced this before, so I figured it was only stress-related. Eventually, the original stressors went away, but my breathing problem remained. I started worrying about that, and matters only got worse. This culminated in a frightful event where I felt as though I couldn't breathe.

Where was God in all of this? Is this what our victory in Christ is supposed to look like? I wondered.

One evening when the fear was especially strong, I prayed something like "Lord, please remove this fear from me." My roommate looked at me and said, "Carol, you're praying wrong. You should tell the fear to go in Jesus' Name." I went back to my room thinking about her words, and picked up a book I was reading at the time, "Sit, Walk, Stand" by Watchman Nee. It's a commentary on Ephesians, and I happened to be in the sixth chapter, the one about spiritual warfare. And here are some of the words that I read:

"In the person of Jesus Christ, God has already conquered. He has given us his victory to hold... For our part we need not struggle to occupy ground that is already ours (in Christ we are 'more than conquerors'—Rom 8:37)... Thus today we do not fight 'for' victory, but 'from' victory..."

So I decided to take a different approach and I prayed for the fear to go away in Jesus' Name, claiming the victory In Christ. After all, Jesus said that He has given us His peace—it's an accomplished fact. After praying I went to sleep. When I woke up the fear was gone! For the first time in months, I was free. Each time the fear tried to return I claimed the victory God has already given, and the fear would scatter!

It has now been over nine months, and I have been free from fear ever since. My attitude has changed. Not only about fear, but about all the blessings and victories that we know we have in Christ. God has already given them to us; therefore, why ask for them? Instead, we must claim them and stand in them. Isn't this what faith is all about? ●

Carol Schlorff became a full-time missionary with IM in 1990. She lives in Krakow, Poland and works alongside the Second Baptist Church using English, Bible studies, cooking classes, and other outreach opportunities to build relationships and share the Gospel.

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Terry Mayberry God's Intervention

"Have you been privileged to witness God's intervention in your life or the life of a loved one?" That was the question at the end of one of my devotion readings.

Heather* is a beautiful, healthy baby girl. But she almost wasn't born. Her mother Cory* already had an appointment to get an abortion when she came to the Pregnancy Care Center (PCC). She was confused about her options. She said she would think about her decision and come in again in a week. After a week we began to think the worst, but we had prayed, so we waited to see what God would do. The following week a volunteer called Cory to see how she was doing, and she had changed her mind about getting an abortion!

A relationship grew between Cory and the volunteer, and she is now the mother of a beautiful baby girl. To paraphrase Ed Kleiman, "You can't save a soul unless you save a life." That is what the Pregnancy Care Center is all about, saving lives of the unborn and being used by God to change the lives of the clients who visit us.

For a while we were waiting for God to show us what He had

planned for us hoping it would mean returning to Romania, but we have come to understand that He has put us here for His purposes. That is why we can say yes; we have witnessed God's intervention in our lives and others. We know that we are in God's will being here just as we were in His will when we were in Romania. God shows His love for us by placing us where we are most needed.

Have you been privileged to witness God's intervention in your life or the life of a loved one? Jesus said in John 10:27: "My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me." If you follow Him, you will be able to say "I have been privileged to witness God's intervention in my life."

*Names have been changed to protect the confidentiality of our clients. ●

Terry and Sue Mayberry live at the Training Center in Libby, Montana. In addition to the work they do at the PCC, they also help at MMT and serve in their church.

Contrasts ...continued from page 31

bandaging, we started praying for a miracle. In less than two weeks, we could see God had completely healed her arm! We are praying that this incident and miracle would lead to Ania accepting Jesus' saving grace.

Faith and Doubt: Approximately a year ago we found a building that could be used for a halfway house—the "Friendship House." We felt that God was asking us to step out in faith to buy this building. Throughout this process, we had many doubts and discouragements. As each deadline approached and the money was still not raised we considered stopping the process. But, we felt the Holy Spirit urging us to go forward. We knew that God could make it possible.

God put this project on the hearts of several people who worked tirelessly to get the funds together. He also laid the giving of the funds on the hearts of a great many people, many of whom gave sacrificially.

Looking back on this process we can see how God orchestrated the events and put everything in place, touching people's hearts at just the right time.

We feel honored and humbled to be involved in this part of His plan for Radom.

We have learned a lot through this process and know that God is still teaching us valuable lessons. Truthfully, we do not always want to learn these things, but we know that God's way is best and we pray that we will continue to be open to His leading in our life and be obedient to do His ministry. ●

Bob and Vera live and serve in Radom, Poland, reaching out to the homeless and addicted showing Christ's love and sharing the Gospel.

Doug Moore

What is the worth of one human soul?



Roberta and I came to know the Lord two years before we met. As we each believed in Him, He made it clear to us that we were to give up all and follow Him. We knew God had put us together to be part of His work, and understood that this work is saving souls!

He led us to Romania, where we started River of Life Ministries. God gave us a great Romanian staff and many willing, helpful people from all over the world to pray for, fund, and help in the many ways that we reach the hurting and the lost.

This morning in Romans 12:1&2, we read, *"Therefore I exhort you, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a sacrifice—alive, holy, and pleasing to God—which is your reasonable service. Do not be conformed to this present world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may test and approve what is the will of God—what is good and well-pleasing and perfect."*

God tells us to present ourselves fully and completely to God. We haven't made a big sacrifice to be here, because this work completes His plan for our lives, and we're blessed every day that we serve Him. Nothing can compare with seeing many souls turn from the darkness of Satan to the wonderful light of Jesus Christ!

We cannot comprehend with our earthly eyes what eternal life in Christ really means. God's Word tells us that eternal life will be

magnificent. Imagine a life face to face with Jesus; a life without sin or sickness, anger, pain, or even tears!

The soul that is lost will lose everything forever! For those of you who personally know Christ, ask Him to bring people to you that need to hear about Jesus and then ask that He gives you the right words. Use every opportunity to share your faith with others.

For those reading this who don't understand what I am talking about, ask God to reveal Himself to you

through His Son, Jesus Christ. He loves you and died for your sins and wants you to receive Him and be born into the family of God!

What is a human soul worth?
THE VERY BLOOD OF JESUS! ●

Doug and his wife, Roberta, have been missionaries with International Messengers in Romania since 1998. They are the founders and overseers of the River of Life Care Home for destitute women and children in Cornesti, Romania.

SOFTBALL CAMP!



Peter Petrik

This year we organized the sixth Evangelistic English Softball Camp in Zirc, Hungary. This is the biggest outreach in our area, and the number of campers has grown year by year. We expected to have about sixty campers this year, but actually ended up with more than eighty!

It is a tremendous joy for us that besides the campers we could reach some of the parents and also the staff of the dormitory where the camp took place. In the last couple

of years we realized how essential is to build and maintain relationships with parents; they can send or even bring their children to the church with themselves (we have a whole visiting family of five like that!) or they can say a distinct no, when their kids would want to come...

It was great to serve our many new and veteran campers alongside our experienced staff. These

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Tom Clark

Back to Basics: English Camp 101

Since coming on staff with IM in the Fall of 2003 Jill and I have organized over a dozen Mens, Womens, and Marriage Conferences in Romania, but we have never hosted an English camp. That is about to change, Lord willing.

In the summer of 2011 Jill and I were invited to help teach English at a camp run by another missionary organization in Romania. Through that experience—and the difficulties associated with it—God taught me two very important lessons. The first lesson was that God is not finished using English camps to expose people to His Gospel. The camp we attended encouraged us not to use our Bibles or to speak Christian terms. They were afraid this would be offensive to those attending. I left with a sense of loss because we had been kept from sharing the most important news we could with those who attended.

The second lesson was that there is no need to reinvent how to do English camps, because the basic plan that IM started using in 1985 will still work today. For the camp mentioned above we had to come up with our own lessons. This quickly turned into one person standing at the front of the room explaining English grammar and then writing examples of it on a white board. That's what the students expected so that's what we gave them. I came away frustrated because I knew that there was so much more that we could accomplish if we had done things differently.

I believed that God was showing me through these situations that He wanted Jill and I to co-sponsor an English Family Camp with the Romanian church we attend in Bucharest. The only problem was that I had never attended an English family camp. God had the answer for that as well, as this past summer (2012) we attended the camp that our colleagues from Timisoara, Romania, organized.

As I sit here and write this I'm getting excited to see how God will use this English Family Camp to change the lives of people who attend the Romanian Church and how He will change the people they will be inviting to come to camp.

By God's grace and for His Glory, we will be hosting a Camp in July of 2013! ●

Tom and Jill Clark live in Bucharest, Romania where they use a variety of outreach methods including Bible studies, conferences, and "The Truth Project" to connect with and teach both believers and unbelievers.



Softball ...continued from page 33

wonderful teachers stay in touch with the campers between the two camps, as well. Thank you so much, guys!

We are eager to see huge changes in the lives of the campers, but we still have to wait and do our part in this. We must appreciate every single step forward we can see in their lives.

We have some help in these efforts: some of the translators regularly come to Zirc and spend some time with the campers. We organize English Camp meetings together every month.

Please pray for

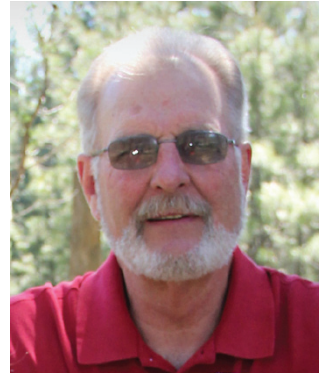
- the increase and harvest from the camp-ministry
- the workers in this field
- the campers who have already accepted Christ—for their spiritual growth
- the seeds that were sown in the hearts of the people during the camp. ●

Peter and Judit Petrik have six children and live in Zirc, Hungary where they are deeply involved in the life of their church. They utilize the Softball English Camp as an outreach and then try to follow up with campers through a monthly English Club.

"I always thought of missionaries as going solely to evangelize; all they did was share the Gospel. They absolutely do that! But it's in the context of relationships and living life with the people you're trying to reach." BT – Poland

Steve Sharp

Local Impact – A Heart to Help



Can being in a community for just a few months really have an impact?

Students at IM's Mountainside Ministry Training Center (MMT) in Libby, Montana, have done everything from fill pulpits to participate in what we so lovingly call our "Highway Beautification Program" (roadside trash pickup). One local pastor says that just the excitement the students brought was a great benefit to his church. The students demonstrated a willingness to get involved with ongoing programs, and even suggested ideas for new ones. One student had a burden to reach out to truck drivers and to show them Christ's love as they were passing through Libby. He helped organize a lunch served in the church parking lot, which worked great since the church is on Libby's main thoroughfare. Everyone driving by could stop in for a free barbeque lunch and thought provoking conversation. The impact of this went beyond just the event, as folks in the church were galvanized to think beyond what they have always done and reach out in new ways.

If you've ever been involved in children's ministry in a small church you know how hard it can be to staff the various programs. One local church reports that almost every MMT class has provided volunteers for their AWANA ministry. They have relieved the permanent workers so they can spend more quality time with the kids. This allows them

to focus on building the kind of relationships that allow them to speak into the kids' lives. One year the church was short on leadership, and the students stepped in to fill the gap.

Worship is another area that can be difficult to staff in a small church. "The MMT students brought abilities and experience that not only helped on Sunday mornings, but in the team meetings as well. Their passion and enthusiasm really challenged us to excellence. Before their arrival we had recognized a need to drive toward a higher expectation, but they brought ideas and enthusiasm that helped us focus in that direction. They demonstrated such a willingness and contagious positive attitude. Our experience is that they are eager to either serve in their area of gifting or step in to help wherever needed."

One youth pastor says his denomination has a program that challenges the youth to raise money for equipment for their missionaries. But, the money just goes into a general fund; they don't meet the missionaries or really get to see where their contribution went. The youth pastor

used the MMT students to share their heart about serving full-time and what some of this equipment would mean to them. It helped the kids internalize what it meant to receive support for their work.

Although the time here is short, one MMT student really made the most of her time and had a significant impact on the lives of several young women. They knew she cared about them for who they were—that she loved them because of Christ.

So, can you make an impact in a short time? According to local pastors, YES! ●

Steve and Deborah joined IM full-time in 2004. They live in Libby, Montana and are the directors of MMT where they are responsible for program development, facility management, recruiting and mentoring.





David Beger

Strengthen a Church... with a Family Camp

Make disciples! As many of you know that is the actual command of the Great Commission of Matthew 28:16-20, although it is not so clear in the English translation. But, how does one make disciples according to that text? By going, baptizing, and teaching. Short-term ministries, such as an International Messengers English camp, basketball camp, ski camp, conference, or any of the other events we have hosted, actually help the full-time missionaries in the disciple making process. How can teaching English or music be disciple making?

In July 2012, the Borne church hosted a family camp in which we implemented English workshops, marriage/parenting workshops, music workshops, and even some self-defense workshops. Two women called asking whether they would be allowed to come to the camp for the English classes, because they were not part of our church. This family camp was the door through which one of the women walked in, met Jesus and gave her life to Him. This is only one such story.

International Messengers short-term ministries come alongside the long-term missionaries and local

churches. This ensures that the camps are fulfilling the needs of the long-term ministry teams. We, the long-termers, cannot host events of such magnitude without the help of IM and people like you.

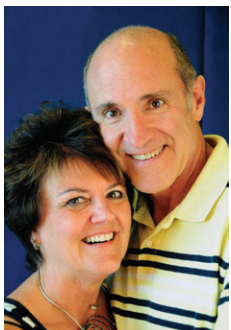
Short-term ministries, such as family camps, sports camps, and day camps, have proven to be very useful tools. There are many benefits to becoming a part of an IM short-term team, but let me mention only four that you might not have thought about.

- 1) The events create an “excuse” for the nonbelievers to be at the same event as believers. Nonbelievers do not always have a good reason to spend time with us. Help us give them a good reason.
- 2) They create an “ice breaker” between nonbelievers and believers. Nonbelievers do not trust the believers. Help them get to know us.
- 3) The Americans and Nationals have the opportunity to work together.
- 4) There is a strengthening of the N. American church as they have the opportunity to work in another country. Consider using short-term trips to help train and mature your church leadership.

There are, of course, many other reasons for you to become part of an International Messengers short-term ministry. Why not join a team so that you can add to the list of good reasons to serve abroad? ●

David, Nicole, and their children live in Borne Sulinowo, Poland. David preaches and teaches in Borne as well as other Polish Churches. His desire is to make sound theological training available to leaders and others interested in academic seminary education.





Kent McKinnon

Dark Night of the Soul

Pain, fear, anxiety, and physical health are all potential things that come into our lives that cause us to pause, cry out to God, and sometimes even doubt where God is and why he isn't helping us. My friend is going through a difficult time in his life. I wanted to encourage him to go to God with his fears and pain and go to his friends and be transparent to share about his doubts and struggles with God and his fears about the future.

I hope that if any of you are in a place referred to as the "dark night of the soul," this letter will be an encouragement to you.

Hi Special Friend,

We have been regularly praying for you and your health.

I am a little worried for you because there are times of spiritual discouragement that often hit when we are physically sick.

I know that my body reacted to an antibiotic shot with a mental/emotional anxiety attack. It was a living hell! The antibiotic had really messed up my mind and caused great doubts about God's goodness and care for me. I cried out to God for help but it felt like God stayed back in the shadows. God was close enough that I knew He was there but not up close and experientially personal. The early church called this "The Dark Night of the Soul." It is a terrible place and a terrible experience. The attacks were the worst. In the middle of the night when I couldn't sleep. I would go sit in my rocking chair and read my Bible and talk with God. It turned out to be a really rich warm experience with God. I hope that you will never feel as desperate with your illness as I did.

Don't let Satan lie to you and say that God doesn't care and won't help you. But when you do have doubts please don't move away from God but PLEASE GO TO GOD. He waits for you with outstretched arms to hold you close and comfort you and support you.

If you would like to talk about the "Dark Night" of your soul I would be honored to talk with you. If you would like to share any doubts about God due to this situation in your life there will be no judgment on my part (I had many doubts during those times of my life).

I love you and am praying for you.

Kent

Kent and Jan live in Poznan, Poland. Kent teaches in the UK four times a year with International Youth Workers, preaches at PIC (Poznan International Church), and is very active in sharing Christ with others.

Donation Information

If you would like the opportunity to give to our ministry, or if you have been blessed by the ministries of International Messengers and would like to participate in helping us to minister to others, you can use any of these options: Donation by check or Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) to IM is the most beneficial as 100% of your donation is received by us and there are no extra processing fees taken from your donation. Checks can be made payable to International Messengers and mailed to us at PO Box 618, Clear Lake, IA 50428. Using EFT your donation is automatically deducted from your bank account each month at no charge to you. To set up EFT, contact our office.

If you would like to make donations online using a credit card, you can donate through JustGive or Network For Good. Both of these organizations are non-profit and all receipting is processed through them. Please note that these organizations keep a portion of the donation to cover the fees associated with processing credit cards, therefore IM does not receive 100% of your donation. To donate online go to www.im-usa.org and click on the **Donate** button. ●



HOMEGOING

Ianus (Nony) Olaru

1/26/1960 – 4/9/2012

Nony worked at the River of Life Care Home in Romania, doing construction and maintenance, from 1999–2012.

After a two-and-a-half year battle with cancer, Nony went home to be with the Lord on April 9, 2012. His family wishes to express their gratitude and deep appreciation for the outpouring of love, support, and prayers during this time.



If you participated in a short-term trip in 2012 with IM and haven't had an opportunity to complete your camp evaluation form, please take a moment and fill out the online form now available at:
www.im-usa.org/index.php/resources/eval



God accomplished much through the willingness and heart of our staff and short-termers in 2012. We sent a total of 316 short-term workers and conducted 42 outreaches, as follows at right.

2012 Short-Term Ministries Report

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 2 Discipleship Camps | 1 Men's Ministries |
| 3 Encouragement Trips | 1 Soccer Camp |
| 3 English Day Camps | 1 Softball English Day Camp |
| 4 English Language Camps | 1 Teachers' Workshop |
| 10 Family English Camps | 1 VBS Ministry |
| 1 Horse Camp for Disabled Children | 1 Village & Care Home Ministries |
| 1 IM Staff Conference | 1 Women's Conference |
| 1 Kids Camp | 1 Women's Sewing Ministry |
| 5 Internships | 2 Youth with HIV/AIDS Camps |
| 2 Marriage Conferences | |

The average age of our short-termers in 2012 was 41 years old, and 49% of our short-termers were alumni. Our oldest short-termers was 83 and our youngest was 5-years old.

We give God all the glory for another blessed year!



Please cut along the dotted lines and mail to IM at the address below.

- ☐ I/we would like more information about IM's ministries planned in 2013.
- ☐ Please send an application for short-term / long-term (circle one) involvement.
- ☐ I am an alumnus and would like to return to the following camp in 2013:

- ☐ Please send more information about IM's automatic donation program.
- ☐ I would like to financially support _____ \$_____ per month / quarter / year
- ☐ I am interested in receiving my receipts by e-mail.
- ☐ Please contact us about a vehicle we might have ready to donate to the mission.
- ☐ Please do not send this annual International Messengers newsletter (continue to send individual missionary prayer letters).
- ☐ Please remove me from all newsletter and prayer letter lists.



PO Box 618
Clear Lake, IA 50428-0618
In Canada
151-32500 South Fraser Way
Suite #512
Abbotsford, BC V2T 4W1
CANADA

Comments: _____

Name: _____ Member # _____ Phone: (____) _____
(appears to the right of your name in address block)

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip: _____

E-mail: _____

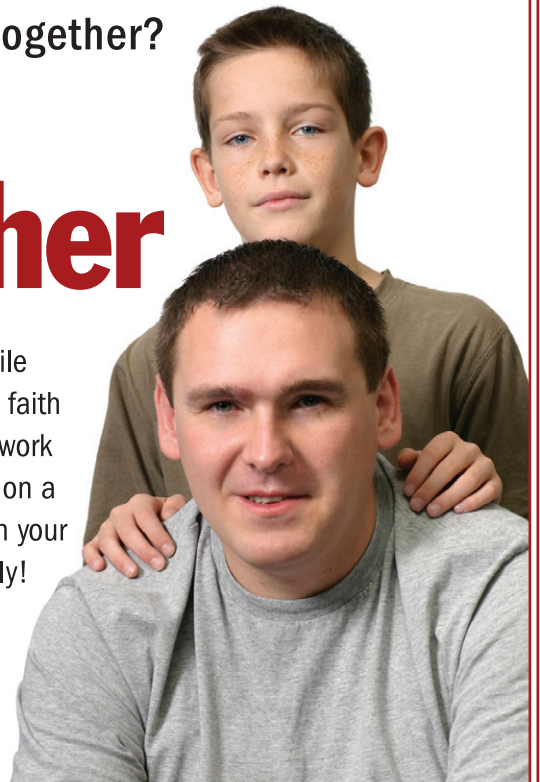
"My faith has grown. I have a better understanding of God's mission and where I fit into that. Im excited about being a part of God's mission! I feel compelled to tell people about Jesus not because it's a "have-to-do," but because that is the hope we all search for. It's become a lot easier and comfortable in talking about and directing people to speaking about Jesus in everyday conversations. It has shifted my world and I'm so grateful for that."

FP – Ukraine

How do you grow together?

**Go
Together**

Strengthen relationships while serving together, experience faith in action, and allow God to work through you to change lives on a short-term missions trip with your son, daughter or entire family!



PO Box 618, Clear Lake, IA 50428 • Phone 800-243-6763
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HOW MAY WE SERVE YOU?

International Messengers is looking for opportunities to serve you! If any of the opportunities below is something your church would be interested in, please call the IM office at 800-243-6763 or e-mail office@im-usa.org.

**Darwin Anderson,
President:**

Missions Conferences
Missions Concerts
Elder Retreats
Men's Retreats
Evangelistic Marriage Quests
Pulpit Fill
Mission Committee Vision
and Encouragement

**Brent Howland,
Vice President:**

Pulpit Fill
Missions Conferences
Men's Meetings
Mission Committee Vision
and Encouragement

Darlis Anderson:

Women's Ministry/Banquet Speaker

**Ed Kleiman,
Messengers of Hope:**

Prayer Conferences
Men's Conferences
God's Work – God's Way Conference:
deals with prayer, Gods' Word,
and reaching the lost
Teaching on the Importance
of the Church
Missions Conferences

Other:

Connecting Missionaries with your
Church when they are home
on furlough.