



LORD'S HARVEST INTERNATIONAL

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LHI Newsletter

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Mission Month

We hope that many of you are planning to celebrate Mission Month in March. We are sorry that the CD we planned to send to you for use this year did not get done. If you would like any suggestions or have questions that we can answer for you after reading this report, please let us know. At the end of the newsletter we have listed some statistics and sites where you can find some materials for your use.

2009 Trips

- PERU—4/4-4/9
- AFRICA—5/28-7/16
- MEXICO—7/29-8/11

News from Russia

I would appreciate prayers over the next six months for my health. I have several "cysts" in a milk duct in one breast. Praise the Lord they are not cancerous. Over the next six months I will be taking a "medication" that will, Lord willing, help my body to re-absorb them. If this doesn't work then surgery will most likely be the next option so to not risk cancer in the future. I will go in for another ultra sound in three months to see if there is any change. Also, please pray for us as we have been "touched" financially by the crisis. Please pray for construction work for Stepan and for work for the trucks or for the sale of them. Thank you!

--Tracy Zhykhovich

Mexico



The trip to Mexico will take place July 29 to August 11. Many of the team members will fly to meet up with the rest of the team in Texas. They will travel down either July 31 or August 1 and fly back home on August 9. Team members joining team leader Judy Myers are Randy Barton, Rachel Carr (translator), Lara Franco, Sarah Franco, Mariann Hall, Randy Hall (driver), Jennifer Koryta, Anthony Lawhon, Kim Musch and Merry Peterson.

Two other individuals have been approved but at this point have health and job situations that may prevent them from going. If that situation were to change, we would add them prior to the trip. The main purpose for this trip is to assist Lupe Badillo in providing a Bible school for the children in the village. In addition, we will do some additional painting, repairs and electrical work in the house and church. Each team member has been asked to raise \$550 plus the cost of their travel to Texas if they are flying. Any help that you would like to give toward this project would be appreciated. We also take materials for Lupe for Sunday school for a year. Assistance in providing finances for copying these materials and providing handiwork/crafts for some of the lessons would also be appreciated.

Lupe reports that things are going well with them. She appreciates the prayers and support of her "family" in the United States.

Africa-Malawi/Mosambique



Due to the economic crisis with many people losing jobs, being cut back on hours, etc, we feel it would be imprudent to go to Africa for an extended period of time this year. As a result, the dates of the trip will be May 28-July 16. Our team will consist of 4-5 members. Projected expenses are \$4,500 - \$5,000 per person. We plan to spend a considerable amount of the time in Mozambique and in Malawi as well. On the way back, we plan to follow up a contact in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Renting a vehicle in Malawi is very costly. Money has been given to purchase a vehicle, which we plan to try to do on this trip. This should decrease the cost of the trip considerably.

Recently some of the pastors went on an extended evangelical trip north of Balaka, and made many converts. Balaka is the farthest north area in Malawi that we have churches. We plan to visit some of these people on this trip.

Please pray for God to be with us as we teach his word, for changed lives, healing in the land, our translators, a clean water supply and safety.
-Rebekah Martin

Africa—Tanzania



Recently Pastor Jerome Chembe was in touch with the MSN asking about the possibility of assistance with the construction of a church building on land that they, with help from the brethren at Anderson Chapel, have purchased. The MSN turned this request over to our LHI Board for consideration. After receiving the detailed information on the cost of the 20 x 40 building, our LHI Board approved \$5,160 from funds that have been donated for us to use wherever needed. Pastor Jerome was able to get materials donated from merchants in the amount of what was left. The brethren there will also raise money to assist with this project and will manually help as they can with the building. Money was wired to them this past week and work will begin immediately. Pastor Chembe and the congregation in Dar Es Salaam appreciate the support given to them for this construction. We hope to be able to provide photos of this project when they become available to us.

Philippine Islands

Larry Rankin is currently in the Philippine Islands. He provides regular reports to Judy Myers. We encourage your prayers for Larry's health, safety and ministry.

Haiti



A very special thanks to all who have been so generous in providing funds to assist with the hunger situation in Haiti. We are sending \$1500 per month to Pastor Lesly for the purchase of food for those in need. He has also provided some seeds to be planted so that perhaps, weather permitting, they can grow some food for this year. As long as we have the funds to do so, we will continue to send this amount each month to Pastor Lesly. The CIA World Factbook says this: "Haiti is the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere, with 80% of the population living under the poverty line and 54% in abject poverty. Two-thirds of all Haitians depend on the agricultural sector, mainly small-scale subsistence farming, and remain vulnerable to damage from frequent natural disasters, exacerbated by the country's widespread deforestation. While the economy has recovered in recent years, registering positive growth since 2005, four tropical storms in 2008 severely damaged the transportation infrastructure and agricultural sector." Please continue to pray for Pastor Lesly and this group of suffering brothers and sisters in Christ.

Korea



At our September meeting we heard plans for a trip to Korea this summer. We were impressed with the proposal and offered to help with it by making known the needs for the trip. However, with the relocation taking place this year, it was thought best not to pursue the trip this summer so that the work could be finalized in the new location and everything be in place for the next school year. They will plan to do this ministry with the students among their peers next summer.

Peru



Bill Wachtel and David and Lynne Krogh will be traveling to Lima April 4 to 9. A medical doctor and his family along with another new family have been attending the church since we were last there. They have requested baptism while the team is in Lima. They have been studying the Systematic Bible Study course on-line with David and they have had extensive correspondence by e-mail with Bill. The team will work with Pastor Gaston and Pastor Beder's widow, Maria, in developing plans for the further development of the work. Services will be held on Sunday with Bible studies scheduled for the other days.

Plans to travel on to Uruguay to meet with Mauro Gonzalez and his group have been cancelled because of Mauro's serious illness. He has been hospitalized to determine the cause of his illness which seems to be related to his heart. Plans will be made to visit Montevideo at a later time.

India



In a recent call to Bill and Mardy Lawrence, Emily Manoah reports that all is going on well and they have not personally had any of the persecution that is going on in Bangalore.

Some Statistics

- According to UNICEF, 26,500 to 30,000 children die each day due to poverty. Another figure says that almost 16,000 die each day or one child every 5 seconds. Some figure their statistics on children under 5 while others do all children.
- 6 million children under the age of 5 die each year.
- Half of the children of the world live in poverty.
- 923 million people across the world are hungry.
- Perhaps your church would like to do a drive for a local food pantry during the month of March.

Some Statistics (continued)

- Of 332,000 missionaries in the world, 328,000 work with evangelized people and only 4,000 with the unreached.
- That leaves 1 missionary to every 400,000 unreached people.
- In the United States, 60 times more money is spent on alcohol than on missions.
- 18 times more is spent on pets than on missions.

2 Corinthians 9:11 tells us that “You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.” God has blessed us so that we can be a blessing. During Mission Month, how can you bless others?

One very simple way that you can help those who are hungry is to go to: <http://www.thehungersite.com> each day, click the button and sponsors will provide 1.1 cups of food to the needy. Another fun site is: <http://www.freerice.com>. You are given vocabulary words with four choices of meanings and for each word you get right, 10 grains of rice is donated through the UN World Food Program. Neither of these sites cost you anything except your time.

Sites with some mission skits and/or stories:

- <http://www.internetevangelismday.com/drama>
- http://www.histage.com/freeview/F_1407.pdf (Skit called Box Worth Blues or Blessings)
- You have to scroll down a ways to find the list of skits.
- <http://home.snu.edu/~HCULBERT/apples.htm> - A good story on how serving is primarily going to those who are already considered reached.

One of the greatest needs that the individuals and churches we partner with in other lands has is to have visits and encouragement from their brothers and sisters in Christ. Many of these people minister without others who share their faith living near them. They feel very isolated and alone. The trips that we provide refresh them and give them the support that they need to faithfully continue to share in their little corner of the world. Your financial support to team members and to mission trips, is very valuable and truly is a blessing to those who benefit from the team's ministry. Along with the people in the fields we visit, our LHI Board expresses appreciation to individuals and churches that help make our trips possible. Each of the trips that will be taken this year can certainly use financial support. To be a prayer and financial partner of each team, donations can be sent to: LHI (designated trip), PO Box 2950, McDonough, GA 30253. Again, we ask that you mark the mission trip dates on your church calendars and be in prayer for the teams as they travel and serve. We will try to send a more detailed itinerary of the trips closer to the dates of travel so that you can be daily in prayer for the activities of each day.

Peru - April 4-9

Malawi/Mozambique - May 28-July 16

Mexico - July 29-August 11