



# MPI UPDATE

Mission Projects, Inc

January—February, 2009



President Ed MacKenzie (L)



Luis' Baptism at Libertad



Libertad, Guatemala Church is still under construction.

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Keeping You Informed in 2009



*Ed MacKenzie*  
MPI President

## The President's Corner

Dear MPI Supporters,

As most of you know La Loma Luz stand for "The Light on the Hilltop." This theme is often used in connection with the Hospital.

Jesus is the true light. Jesus tells us that we are the light of the world and that a city that sits on a hilltop cannot be hidden. Matthew 5:14. How true this is.

Mountain View College in the Philippines is known as "The school of the Light." It got this name because it has its own Hydro-Electric power plant. Mountain View College is located in a mountainous area on the Island of Mindanao. At night the surrounding area is pitch dark, while the school shines forth with its lights.

As we entered 2009 we saw many people who enthusiastically welcomed our new President Obama. They are expecting great things. I hardly need to remind you today, that we live in a very troubled world. Uncertainty, employment issues, financial stress, violence, moral decay and corruption are happening everywhere. As the world grows darker the light of truth shines ever brighter and brighter.

We are thankful for our Lay Workers and our Hospital Workers who disseminate the light. We are thankful for our prayer and financial support partners and for our directors who give verbal and financial support to those that carry the light. Soon the work will be over. Our challenge for 2009 is to disseminate the light in an even greater measure. Will you commit with me to do this as we go forward? God Bless each of you.

In His Service

*Ed MacKenzie*

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***The MacKenzie's travel internationally, conducting Lay Evangelism Campaign.  
Ed oversees the accounting system at La Loma Luz Adventist Hospital.  
Ruth helps in the office and sews for the Belmopan Adventist Orphanage, in her spare time.  
Being avid birdwatchers, the MacKenzie's especially enjoy Belize.***

# Luis' Story

**This** is a heartwarming story about a young Guatemalan boy by the name of Luis. Luis had been badly burned on much of his chest and arm. He lived in a rather remote village, so only got some basic care.

Victor August, Chaplin of La Loma Luz Adventist Hospital heard about Luis' accident. Early in 2006 Victor, Ed & Ruth MacKenzie and Grant McPherson went to Guatemala to find Luis to see if it would be possible to have him come to LLL and be treated by a mission team. They were unable to find Luis so they left a message with a friend to bring Luis to the hospital.



We will let the mission team spokesman, Stephen King, senior vice president for mission and ministry for Colorado's Adventist hospitals pick up the story from here.

“Like any small boy would have been, Luis was oblivious to the danger. While picking up a kerosene lamp, he accidentally tipped it over, spilling hot fuel over a large portion of his chest and arm. The burns were horrible, and the Guatemalan youngster initially received only the most basic of care.

“A year later, when a group of healthcare volunteers sponsored by Denver's four Adventist hospitals met him during a mission trip to Belize, his arm hung uselessly by his side, fused to his body in a web of scar tissue.

“Luis and his parents had heard about the medical team's visit, and traveled from their village to La Loma Luz Adventist Hospital, hoping for help.

“I felt awful for the poor boy,’ says Jane Preston, an intensive care nurse from Avista Adventist Hospital. ‘He couldn't lead a normal life.’

“Soon Luis was in surgery, and the expert hands of Dr. William Saber, a plastic surgeon, worked to free the boy's arm and apply skin grafts. It was a painstaking task, and only time would tell if it had been successful. With the rest of her colleagues, Preston watched and waited, praying for a miracle.

“A few days after Luis' surgery, Preston stood once again in Luis' hospital room, surrounded by his family and other mission team members. The boy sat stoically as Dr. Saber slowly peeled back the bandages.

“On the surgeon's instruction, Luis lifted his arm, raising it above his head for the first time since the accident. Though in obvious pain, a massive grin spread across his face, and the room erupted in applause. ‘It was the best feeling of the whole trip,’ recalls Preston.

“A month later, Luis was back in his village, exploring a new world of possibility that had seemed far beyond his reach. Not long ago, word filtered back to America that he had been baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist Church.”

*Continued on page 5*

# Pioneer Report from Zambia

*Here is a beautiful conversion story from one of our new Pioneers.  
Thank you for your support!*

**After** being trained at Riverside Farm as an Evangelist, Luckson Mseteka had a burden for souls. His father did not want him to study as an evangelist; he was prepared to pay for Luckson's studies at a secular college but not as an evangelist. So Luckson came to Riverside without money. He worked in the banana plantations for his studies.

When the course had finished, Riverside decided to employ him as a Bible Pioneer. But first he came to my office for a request. He had not seen his parents for two years. I granted his request and gave him some money for travel. He travelled to the eastern part of Zambia to spend a month with them.

Luckson was the only Seventh-day Adventist in his family. His parents were Pentecostal believers. His burden was to share his faith with them during the month's visit. Arriving at his parents' home village, he found them having prayers every night in the Pentecostal way of worshiping and speaking in tongues. He told them he would like to change the worship style to Bible study. They agreed and he studied many topics with them faithfully every night.

After a while he decided to also introduce the Sabbath message to them. Luckson saw that it caused confusion in the family. He changed the subject to "Why we suffer when God keeps on telling us he loves us." Suddenly, before closing this study, his dad felt a pain in his stomach. It became worse. He could not eat. He started crying of pain and thought he is going to die. He had never felt like this in his life before.

Luckson was wondering why this was happening. The family wanted to take him to a traditional healer and a nearby hospital. He advised them not to do it, but pointed them to God as the only true Healer.

"I am going to pray for Dad", he suggested. His family was very sceptical and told him that they have never seen a Seventh-day Adventist perform a miracle healing. It only happens in their church. "God is going to heal Dad", he insisted in faith.

Luckson knelt down and prayed for his father with his Bible on his stomach. While praying, his Dad felt the pain move like a stone in his stomach and slowly subsided. He was healed from that moment onward. His family was stunned and praised God!

Luckson continued with the Bible studies and now felt confident to share the Sabbath truth. This time they listened carefully. They acknowledged that they were sinning by not keeping all Gods' commandments. Luckson assured

them that God forgives them. The rest of his extended family in the nearby villages also accepted the truth and starting to visit the nearby Seventh-day Adventist church. Now all his family members go to church and desire to know more.

The story does not end here. During his secondary school training one of his uncles became a strong Seventh-day Adventist. After finishing grade 12, Luckson decided to study as an evangelist at Riverside Farm, but his uncle did not know about it. He thought Luckson went for secular training. Luckson decided also to visit his uncle.

On his arrival at his uncle's village, he found his uncle smoking. Ignorant of Luckson's training as an evangelist, he asked Luckson to go and buy him beer; he had backslidden. He was surprised to see Luckson with a Bible. Then Luckson invited him for Bible studies. The Holy Spirit was working on his uncle's heart. He started confessing his sins to Luckson, but he directed his uncle to a God that forgives our sins.

The next evening a calamity struck. His uncle's house burnt down! Fortunately the family escaped to safety. His uncle was humbled. God spoke to him.

"God sent you to me to bring me back to him", was his reply. Not only the family of his uncle but also other members who have backslidden heard about the incident and turned from their wicked ways. The local church has revived and is getting full. Now what the church needs is someone to nurture it.



Sunset at Riverside Farms

God is faithful and can change hearts! ◆

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Luis' Story, continued from page 3

Pictures on front cover

*In May of 2008 Ruth MacKenzie hardly recognized the once shy little burn victim. He came with his parents and sister, bringing some love gifts from their farm as a gift in appreciation for what Mission Projects and La Loma Luz Adventist Hospital and the Denver medical team had done for Luis. Luis had not only grown about 5 inches but he showed a much more outgoing, confident spirit.*

*In June of 2008 Ed & Ruth MacKenzie held an evangelistic campaign in Libertad, Guatemala. They were surprised when Luis and his mother and sister came to see Victor August one afternoon. Victor was there at the time helping with some of the visitation. It was good to see Luis and his family again. They had come to let Victor know that young Luis wanted to be baptized. On June 21, the MacKenzie's celebrated their 44th wedding anniversary. But more importantly they celebrated with the angels in heaven as Luis was baptized!*

**Praise God!**

◆

## Worthy Student Aid



Dear Friends,

I am from the country of Paraguay, and my lifelong dream has been to heal the sick and hurting. I come from a broken home—my parents separated when I was 12. I began studying Medicine at Montemorelos University in Mexico at age 19. I worked half time and studied half time. On weekends and during the summer I sold books. But I soon realized there was no way I could afford the high tuition of Medical school.

So I switched to Nursing, which I really enjoy. I have been away from my home country and family for 8 years now. I hope to get my Nursing degree this year. But I owe the school \$4,000 dollars, and in spite of my hardest efforts, book sales are down.

My heart's desire is to return to my home country and serve as a missionary nurse, sharing with others the love and healing compassion of Jesus. I look forward in faith to my day of graduation, confident that God will provide so I can serve Him as a missionary nurse.

May God richly bless you, Noelia González



## Living Water at La Loma Luz

**Well,** (no pun intended!) we hopefully will have a well in the near future! Gary Bartholomew should be arriving any day now with his drilling rig to start drilling a well for La Loma Luz Adventist Hospital!

Grant spent some time with an aerial photographer who took pictures of the property. They were then sent to a Geologist in the United States who specializes in locating drilling sites so that a favorable site can be chosen in which to drill. Please keep this project in your prayers. The city water we currently use, does not meet Ministry of Health standards quality.

We have dug two previous wells, the first well was SO contaminated, even at 280 feet, that it was unusable, and the second one caved in while drilling, and was not able to be finished. So, we need your prayers and support for this third well we are undertaking. God knows our needs more than we do. His people are ALWAYS in His best interest, so it is, that we drill this well, to take better care of the people that come here for healing!

May the Lord richly bless each home that this newsletter reaches, and may we all prepare for that day when Jesus will come and take us home, out of this old sinful world! May we do our part in preparing for that day, by sharing the "Living Water" of the Good News of His Second Coming, with all whom we come in contact.





# Memorial Gifts



Given by...

In memory of...

Glenn Lewis .....

LeeRoy Emmerson

Allan & Roxy Games....

J.F. & Arlene Games

Allan & Roxy Games....

Tom & Milda Schlatte



Since there are many students needing assistance, your Student Aid contributions are placed in a General Fund and distributed uniformly among those with the greatest need and potential. Thank you!

MEMORIAL & SPECIAL OCCASION GIVING **Amount:**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Given by \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

In behalf of: \_\_\_\_\_

Anniversary  Baptism  Birthday  At Rest  \_\_\_\_\_

Please send card to person below:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Send to: M.P.I. ♦ P.O. Box 1950 ♦ Bozeman, MT 59711**

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**TO:**

## Go Ye Into All The World!

**Mission Projects, Incorporated (MPI)** is a supporting organization of the Seventh-day Adventist church, dedicated to spreading the Gospel by way of medical, educational, and evangelistic endeavors. MPI works in complete harmony with local Conferences and Missions, does not accept tithe, and is a member of Adventist Laymen's Services and Industries (ASI).

### **YES—Count me in!**

**Please return this card with your tax-deductible donation to:**

**M.P.I. ● P.O. Box 1950 ● Bozeman, MT 59771**

*Indicate amount donated to each fund*

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ La Loma Luz Hospital (Belize)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Church Building Projects

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Bibles/Literature

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Church Roofs

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Worthy Student Fund

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Use where most needed

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Lay Workers

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

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