



MPI Update

Making a Difference for Eternity

January-February 2011



With God's blessing, Joel and his enthusiastic church members have planted eight new groups of believers in unreached areas of Oaxaca , Mexico *See story page 10*

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Go Forward for Heaven in 2011

The Gospel to all the World



Ed MacKenzie
MPI President

"And this Gospel of the Kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all nations, and then the end will come."

Matthew 24:14

Dear MPI Supporters,

Every moment of every day and every month and year the end draws closer. I believe that Jesus' return is much closer than many would believe. Christ's Second Advent is the blessed hope of the Christian. The gospel of the kingdom is going to the ends of the world as never before. *You* are a part of this great movement. Today, on every side we see the withdrawing of God's spirit as men and women cling to the things of this world. We see God's judgments falling upon the nations. We see political unrest, war and strife, famine and destruction by land and by sea, every day in the news, just as Matthew 24 told us it would be, at the end of time. But, the text says that the end will not come until the gospel is preached in the entire world; to all nations.

We pray daily for our Lay Workers and for each of you. The battle is great on the front lines, but we are told that we can be more than conquerors. Romans 8:37. Ruth and I have been truly amazed with how much Mission Projects mission outreach has expanded since we first joined in 2003. Mission Projects has expanded into a number of new countries. Updated reports will be presented at our next Board Meeting, which is scheduled for the weekend of March 11-13, 2011 at Day Star Academy in Utah. You are cordially invited to join us. Please see the announcement elsewhere in this newsletter. We would love to have new members join our group, especially young people who are full of enthusiasm and burden to hasten the Lord's return. May God continue to Bless each one!

In His Service

Ed MacKenzie

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

Buena Vista Church in Belize

By Lay Bible Worker, Federico Landero

Greetings in Jesus' Name

Buena Vista is village in the Cayo District, and most of the people that live there are from Guatemala and El Salvador, with only about five families who are from Belize.

There we have a Seventh Day Adventist Church that had closed down for about one year. We organized a visitation plan with the Women's Ministry department of the Bullet Tree Church, the church that I attend, and we visited many families of the village sharing clothes, food, giving Bible studies and praying in each home we visit. We encouraged them to keep their faith in Christ alive and to come back to Church. They told us they did not have a leader, so we had a week of prayer and 16 members came back to church, to God be the glory.

It is about 12 to 14 miles from Bullet Tree to Buena Vista and we did not have transportation, but a brother lent us his pickup truck so we could go at least twice per week to give Bible studies. We continued giving Bible studies and nine people gave their lives to the Lord in Baptism.

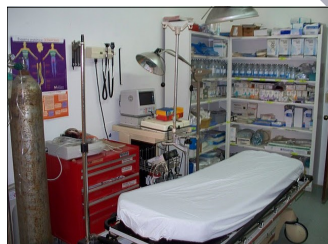
The church in Buena Vista now has 25 adult members and 15 children, and is open once again for worship service, with each department now having a leader. Now the members are working with their neighbors giving Bible studies, and we praise the Lord for what He has and is doing today in Buena Vista. ♦



Here is a photo of a well-equipped ER Room at La Loma Luz hospital. LLLH is doing a needed work in their community. We invite you to contribute to the fence that will surround and protect this hospital & grounds.

Total raised so far: \$45,100.

Needed: \$90,000



Bicycles and Bible Studies

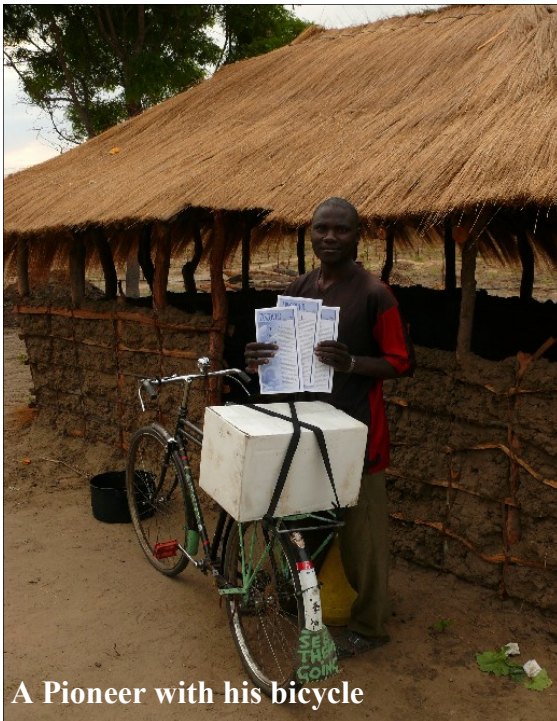
By Peter Chihungu

One day as I was on my way to go and do some Bible Studies and door to door visitations in my working area of Ekelenge, I ran into some problems. I was riding my bicycle and suddenly it started giving me a lot of trouble. The problem was that I had no tools to work on the bicycle and so was forced to change my plans for the day. I made a detour to the nearest village, and there I found a man whose daughter was lying sick on a mat.

As I approached, I introduced myself and asked the man if he had any tools for me to use to fix my bicycle. He welcomed me and gave everything that I needed.

While I was working on my bicycle, I started asking about the child that was lying on the mat. When he had finished speaking, I asked if I may pray for her, and he eagerly agreed.

As we prayed, I asked for God's power to touch the child and heal the little one. After we had finished the prayer, the little child looked at the father and asked for food for the first time in two days!



A Pioneer with his bicycle

I continued to encourage the father, telling him that God is always near us to help and guide us, and all He wants is for us to believe in Him. We continued discussing the Bible for about another hour.

The following day I went back to see how the little child was doing and found her playing with the other children. From that day I continued visiting and giving Bible studies for another month. They then surrendered their lives to God, and accepted Jesus as their personal Savior. ♦

Preaching to "no one" in Zambia

By Victor Pfumo

The Zambezi valley is a region far north of Zimbabwe. The natives of this valley do not believe in God nor the Bible. They have deep roots in traditionalism. In fact, their only religion is in reverencing the dead.

I was invited to preach in a village where no evangelistic meeting has been conducted before. When the leader of the village learned that we were going to preach about the state of the dead, they were afraid that the people might renounce their beliefs.

They then went and hired political activists to come and label us as traitors and sellouts, because, they said, we are following the white man's book, the Bible.

They warned that if any one would dare to come to our services his property would be burned by the party youths.

Now we continued with our programs, despite the fact that no one was coming to listen. We preached but no one was listening, or so we thought.

Then it happened; on the last day a certain man and his family came to surrender their lives to Christ. We later asked him how he could stand for Jesus while they had not had the opportunity to hear the message? He calmly replied; "of course we heard the messages, we were listening outside our houses. We have come because we have learned everything."

To this day, though faced with threats and intimidations, the family is continuing in the Grace of God. ♦

We continued with our programs, despite the fact that no one was coming to listen.

Mission Projects Spring 2011 Board Meeting Notice

The next MPI Board Meeting is scheduled to be held at Day Star Adventist Academy over the weekend of March 12, 2011. The meeting itself will take place on Sunday morning, March 13, 2011, starting at 9 AM and will finish up Monday morning, if need be. Anyone who would like to attend is welcome.

Mary Grace Concert

7:00 pm Saturday, March 12, Star Hall, Moab UT

On the Frontline

By Warren Milandu

In March, the Kafue Flats are flooded in Itezhi-tezhi, Zambia. The whole plain gets flooded to chest level. During the flooding, there are other rivers that flow into it like the Nazhila, which bring the crocodiles. Hence, crossing from home to my work area becomes a challenge.

One day when crossing, I was attacked by a water snake. I had to drop a box of Bible lessons I was carrying on my head through the water, to get away from the snake! It was really a tough journey all the way around and I was happy to reach home, only to find out that all was not well there either.

At home, I found that my wife was very sick and so weak she could not even stand. She had been crying from pain for the last four days while I was gone. I found a vehicle and we took her to the hospital. They kept her there for four days but still there was no change. They did all kinds of tests and x-rays but could not find anything, so they discharged her, with no improvement.

I cried and did not know what to do. I stayed at home with her for two weeks, but there was no change in her condition. I was supposed to have an evangelistic meeting in a week's time. I did not know what else to do so I called out to God. "Father is she to die, then let it be so, but she is not ready yet, if she is to live then let her be well."

Immediately she started recovering. She got well and I could go and do the evangelistic meetings. At the end of the meetings 200 people were baptized.

Satan knew the souls that needed to hear the message and tried to detain me in every possible way. Praise the Lord even though we are in a battle, our Commander is right there with us. ♦



One of our Pioneers taking literature across the flooded plain during rainy season .

Belize Health Seminar 2010

by Ardis McPherson

Student and Missions Communication Coordinator

Our Health Seminar / Cooking Class starting December 1, 2010, began with a great turnout of about 35 people. Other than the cafeteria being way too small for the attendance we had, the people *really* enjoyed the experience of learning some healthful information about their bodies and how a healthy lifestyle can improve their life, and extend their life expectancy.

The presenters for the seminar were Tabitha Abel and Gary Gibson from Oregon. Tabitha is an RN, and has a PhD in Public Health, as an Education Specialist. Tabitha is also a representative for the CHIP program in the states. Gary is a former restaurant owner and chef, with expertise in vegetarian and vegan cooking.



When the attendees were asked if any of them would be interested in participating in an exercise class at La Loma Luz, there was a good showing of hands, so when we return from the states in March, Ardis will be putting together this exercise program. It is hoped that this health seminar and the up-coming exercise class, will help as La Loma Luz plans more health seminars in the future. Please visit La Loma Luz Adventist Hospital on Facebook, where you can see pictures of the new stairs that have been built up to the new Administrative offices, and the lecture hall where the exercise class will be conducted.

In order for us to hold future seminars, we need a different place than the cafeteria to meet! For one, it is not large enough, and second, it does not allow us to hold cooking schools *if* we have another group in at the same time, because the cafeteria would then not be available. Sometimes we have groups ask what they can do when they come, and we would like to have the opportunity to hold a cooking school while they are here. A new facility would provide us with larger space, a demonstration table and mirror, a stove, refrigerator, sink, and counter space with cupboards. But of course this all takes money! We have approximately \$170 left over from the class, and it has now been placed in a restricted fund just for a demonstration kitchen!

If you are at all interested in making a donation to this project, please email me at lalomaluz.ardis@yahoo.com and I will let you know how you can do this!

Remembering a Dear Friend

Gladys Johnson

entered her rest November 24, 2010, at Granite Creek Hot Springs, west of Lolo, Montana, at the age of 79.

Gladys was born in Charlo, MT, December 23, 1931, and at age five moved with her family to Missoula. She graduated from Upper Columbia Academy in Spangle, WA, and then attended Walla Walla University for two years where she met her future husband, Melvin Johnson. They subsequently married, and Gladys became an accomplished and respected research associate in child development and human relations. After completion of Melvin's undergraduate work at Walla Walla and dental school at Loma Linda, they moved to Hamilton, MT in 1961, and set up a dental practice. Gladys provided support in the office, ran the household, and helped in church school activities.



When Melvin retired in the early '90s, they were invited to join Mission Projects, Inc. Soon thereafter, they joined a caravan for an adventurous drive to Belize to set up a donated dental office and ready it for operation. Mission work was a good experience and when asked to become board members of MPI, they readily accepted. Gladys was near and dear to the hearts of those on the Board of Mission Projects. She was always willing and able to help with preparations for our board meetings, be it lodging, food preparation, or adding her sense of humor—as she often did when things were perplexing or challenging.

Gladys had a great love and curiosity for the outdoors. Her close friends and church family enjoyed her special *Topsy Turvy Nature Hikes*, carefully planned disguises of common food and household items that looked so much like elements in nature they were often impossible to see.

Many friends and family came together for the celebration of Gladys' life and shared their memories and love for her and her family. She was a special lady and is missed by her family, church, community and MPI. We give our thanks to this couple for their many years of support, and we look forward to Jesus' soon return when we can be reunited with those we love. —Submitted by Gwen Emmerson

La Loma Luz Adventist Hospital, in Belize, is looking for a missionary-minded Physician; an Internist.

If you or someone you know would be interested, please contact the Hospital's Administrator, Mr. Grant McPherson at: mcperson_grant@hotmail.com

But this I say, he which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; but he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man accordingly as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. 2 Cor 9:6,7

A Future Gift is a Planned Gift

Does your **present** financial situation seem to prevent you from supporting Mission Projects, Inc. this year? We have some good news; you can still support your favorite project through a **future** gift. Helping you make plans for a future gift is the essence of our Planned Giving Department. Let us show you how easily this can be done through one or more of the following methods:

- Name Mission Projects, Inc. as a beneficiary of your IRA or 401 (k) retirement plan
- Designate us as a dollar amount or percentage beneficiary of your will or revocable living trust
- Name Mission Projects, Inc. as a beneficiary of your investment/brokerage account or life insurance policies
- Transfer valuables such as stamp, coin or antique collections to us through a simple change to your documents

Perhaps you need more income now or for your anticipated retirement. We even offer **future** gift options that will pay you a generous, fixed income **now** for as long as you live, provide immediate income tax relief, and ultimately provide funds for Mission Projects, Inc.

To learn more, contact our Planned Giving department today at 866-356-5595.

Worthy Student Aid

Son of MPI Lay Worker Now a Successful Pastor; Almost!

By Fred Adams

Joel Gomez, son of one of our first lay workers Gilberto Gomez, has completed his third year of Theology at Linda Vista University in Chiapas, south Mexico.

Unable to afford his final year of studies, he got a job as an Associate Pastor in a remote mountain area of Oaxaca state. He and his wife receive a small stipend to cover living expenses. Joel is responsible for eight churches. One of the adobe church buildings recently collapsed during heavy rains and flooding. They hope to build a new one using cement blocks when funds become available.



Joel went to work as a pastor energetically, holding evangelistic meetings, training members in outreach and getting the young people involved in Pathfinders.

Joel, his wife and a few brave believers hiked for hours through rain and mud to visit mountain villages, give Bible studies and hold meetings.

Eventually they established a new group of believers. This first effort led

41 people to surrender their lives to Jesus.

The work continues—more visits to remote villages steeped in paganism, drugs and fear of evil spirits. With God's blessing, Joel and his enthusiastic church members have planted eight new groups of believers in unreached areas.

As dozens more commit their lives to God, Joel longs to complete his degree and serve as a full-time pastor. He hopes to begin his fourth year of Theology starting in August if the funds become available.

Your contributions supported his dad starting in 1990 when Joel was only a toddler (in photo at right). Now Joel enthusiastically follows in his father's footsteps—and beyond! ♦



Memorial Gifts

At Rest

Cooksley, Dr. Fred

By Stan Christensen

Eckert, Dan

By Albert & Gloria Oakes

Emmerson, Lee Roy

By anonymous

Games, Arlene & J.F.

By Allan & Roxy Games

Gray, Joyce

By Mr. & Mrs. Murray

Coupland

Hillock, Mabel

By Mr. & Mrs. Murray

Coupland

Johnson, Gladys

By Fred & Velma Beavon

Pat & Gordon Gruel

Jim Kyle

Ed and Ruth MacKenzie

Bill & Maribeth McFarlane

Judson, Velda

By Glenn Lewis

Schlatter, Tom & Milda

By Allan & Roxy Games

Schwarz, Pastor Gary

By Mr. & Mrs. Murray

Coupland

Summerton, Rose

By Gwen Emmerson

Ed and Ruth MacKenzie

Wiebold, Larry & Lonnie

By Ruth Wiebold



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NEWSLETTER

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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

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In behalf of: _____

Anniversary Baptism Birthday At Rest _____

Please send card to person below:

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Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Send to: M.P.I. ♦ P.O. Box 504, College Place, WA 99324

Please send me additional memorial forms (Number) _____

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Go Forward for Heaven in 2011

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 tithes, and is a member AAof Adventist-laymen's Services and Industries (ASI) and Outpost Centers International (OCI).

YES—COUNT ME IN!

Please return this card with your tax-deductible donation to:
M.P.I., P.O. Box 504, College Place, WA 99324

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 _____

I'd like to make my gift by charge card: Visa Mastercard

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Name _____ Signature _____

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Home Phone # _____ Change address to billing address