

# Mission Projects, Inc.



# MPI Update

*Making a Difference for Eternity*

*November-December 2011*



*We've been kept very busy the last few days visiting all the vil-lages. Also, we went to a baptism and a wedding. -Ruth (pg4-6)*

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# Go Forward for Heaven in 2011

# He was Born in the Shadow of a Tree



Elder Richard Rentfro

*Guest Editorial Adapted from a piece written  
by Elder Richard Rentfro  
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*Because* God likens a healthy and growing tree to a Christian's daily walk with Jesus, majestic trees have been very much on my mind today. Abraham Lincoln once said, "Character is like a tree and reputation is like its shadow".

I am inspired by the many trees that I planted with my own two hands in 1979, when my lovely wife Rose and I moved into our new home. I first planted poplars; they have become formidable trees. I planted a Norwegian Spruce, a Norfolk Pine, an Ash tree, Apple trees, Maple trees, Blue and Green Spruces, a Mugo Pine, Scotch Pines and a very special tree; a White Pine. My proudest tree of all is a beautiful Sequoia which I brought up from California. It's nearing 50 feet in height and has a 2 ½ foot base in diameter.

Sometimes, I retreat to my little Garden of Eden, sitting under and surrounded by this beautiful tree, and read and commune with God. I love trees. I feel closer to God when I'm out in nature.

When trees grow side by side in a community, their roots intertwine. When the strong storm winds blow, they draw strength from each other and they survive. Stately old Redwood and Sequoia trees even survive forest fires. Their bark is scarred but they continue to grow, ever stretching Heavenward.

"I think that I shall never see  
A poem lovely as a tree  
A tree whose hungry mouth is prest  
Against the earth's sweet flowing breast  
A tree that looks at God all day  
And lifts her leafy arms to pray  
A tree that may in summer wear  
A nest of robins in her hair  
Upon whose bosom snow has lain  
Who intimately lives with rain  
Poems are made by fools like me  
But only God can make a tree"

*Joyce Kilmer (1886-1918)*

The most popular hymn in the world is "The Old Rugged Cross". It was a tree, created by the pre-incarnate Christ, from which man constructed the awful cross upon which Jesus died. Jesus still tells us today, "If I be lifted up, I will draw ALL men to me!" Praise God, that statement encompasses the whole world, it includes you and me. My prayer today is that you will daily walk and talk to your wonderful Savior, Jesus Christ your Lord.

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*Elder Richard Rentfro passed to his rest on October 21, 2011, shortly after giving us permission to use this article in the MPI Update. We look forward to seeing him in Jesus' soon-coming kingdom.*

# A Beautiful New Disciple in Zambia

*By Roy Habasimbi*

**Everyone** at the meetings wondered what was going on as the noise came close and closer. Loud voices and the sound of mourning as one that lost a beloved. Now this being the second week of our evangelistic meetings, I prayed in my heart, “Why Lord do you allow a funeral interruption of the meeting? You know that we are right at its climax”

As they drew near, they came straight to where we were sitting. Now about 15 women followed the oxcart drivers toward our camp. The camp manager went closer to find out what it was all about. What he saw was a woman lying on the ox cart tied hand and foot. They came and told us the story.

“This lady is demon possessed,” they said. She has beaten strong men and no one can control her.” Her hands were bleeding from a fight that she had. While fighting some men, she had missed them and hit a tree three times. She had overpowered four strong men, until they got some more to come and subdue her, that is when they had tied her hand and foot. She has not even been able to take care of her baby for 3 days. This is when they decided to bring her to us.

I asked them to leave her with us until 3:00 pm, for it was now 9:00 am. I called upon the elders near me, and we started praying to the Lord, pleading for forgiveness of sins, both done by us and by the victim.

In no time the girl, only 21 yrs old, breathed out loudly as though breathing out her last like she was dying. She then opened her eyes, only to see all these men around her. She wanted to know where she was and why, that is when we told her that she is in the presence of the Lord. We asked the deaconess to take care of her, feed her, and bathe her.

At 3:00 pm she attended the Bible class and went home after that. She has since become one of the best Bible students and has been baptized. She has been so helpful in all things and even her complexion has changed, God makes all things beautiful. Who is like our Lord, all those who come to the Lord Jesus will find rest. Though you are rejected by father, mother, and friends, Jesus will never fail to listen to a crying soul.

Praise be to the Lord for this girl who is among those waiting for the second coming of Jesus. ◆

## **MPI Update by Email**

*If you prefer to receive your MPI Update by email instead of by “snail mail,” just send a note to [mission.projects.inc@gmail.com](mailto:mission.projects.inc@gmail.com) to let us know. You can help us save time & money, & you will still receive your receipts by postal mail.*

# Live Reports From India

*By Ruth Mackenzie*

November 12:

Dear Family & Friends,

We made it to India after a 4+ hour train ride. The train was better than we expected. We went shopping this afternoon for a few things at the shopping market, followed by the local public market. Much of the food here is hotter than we like, but some of it is tolerable.

We start our evangelism tonight with *ten* villages rather than the eight we had signed up for. A second campaign is already in progress here with ten villages.

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*You never know what you will see on the road.*



It took over an hour to get to our meeting place. I would never want to drive here. It is even worse than some other countries we have been in.

I am very surprised that we have not seen any accidents. Sharing the road, there are big trucks, buses, cars of all kinds, tricycles, motorcycles, bicycles, burros with carts, cows with carts, tractors with carts, people on foot, plus dogs and chickens.

Part of the road last night was very rough and narrow. We hit one bump pretty hard and I was worried about our projector that was in its' case laying in the back of the SUV-type vehicle.

\*\*\*

Finally, we arrived at the outdoor area where we were to hold our meeting. They had constructed a stage with a canopy over it. We immediately started setting up, but couldn't get the projector to turn on and Ed's computer was not coming on either, even with the battery. We wondered if the hard bump we hit had damaged our equipment. Bowing our heads, we prayed and worked on it again.

Ed took the battery out and waited a few seconds then put it back in. A message kept coming up and Ed had to keep clicking it off. Then he figured out how to turn that message off and it seemed to be working at last.

We moved the projector closer to the power source and it finally came on. However, the plug was very loose, and if it got bumped it would go off again. Moving the projector meant they had to move the sheet that we used as a screen. Finally, we got everything set up and got started. We praise God for protecting our equipment.



The people were singing most of the time we were getting all this done. Then Pastor Bob told a children's story and I gave the health talk. It was 9pm when Ed got up to speak and finished at 10pm. As he started to walk off the platform, one of the boards shifted when he stepped on it, causing one of his legs to go through the floor. He didn't get hurt though, praise God. Then all the people wanted to be blessed and prayed for. It was about 10:20pm when we started for home and 11:30pm when we got to the Hotel.

Pastor Bob Robinson had a kidney transplant in February. He has had type 1 diabetes since age six and is now my age. His kidney was hurting by the time we were bumping along on our way home. He said he was better this morning. Pray for him.

\*\*\*

November 22:

They keep us very busy here. Yesterday we left at 10am and did not get back until 11pm. We normally get back anywhere from 11pm to 11:30pm. Yesterday we attended a wedding which was far, far away. Sunday was a baptism with 75 candidates. We have several small baptisms again tomorrow, so again we will leave early. Visiting each of the ten villages that we cover is a challenge. We pray with our people in their homes.

There are others in the village that also want us to pray for them.



We have visited nine of the ten villages, but will need to go back to two of them to finish up. Everyone wants us to lay our hands on them to bless them. Somehow, they need to learn that they can pray themselves for themselves. After the night meetings about half of them come up for prayer. We generally pray for them in small groups of 6-8 individuals at a time.

It takes about an hour and a half to reach the evangelism site and an hour to get back to the hotel. Driving here is like a game of chicken.

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November 25:

Last night was our last meeting and it was our biggest crowd. I don't know how many, but after the meeting they served food they had prepared food for 500 people and ran out.

I gave the health talk about the Adventist Advantage on how Adventists live longer and healthier lives than their neighbors because of the Adventist lifestyle. Ed gave the message on Heaven and the New Earth. After his talk, he gave a call and a large number, maybe 50, came forward. It is hard to estimate how many. There were 75 baptized last Sunday. The pastor baptized two more groups (56 & 24) during the week. Praise God! ♦



*After the meeting, we showed pictures of the 10+ villages and the baptism.*

*The people showed their love by presenting us with leis.*

*We each had at least 10; I lost count.*

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Ed and Ruth Mackenzie will return from their trip to India and the Philippines in mid-December.



November 16:

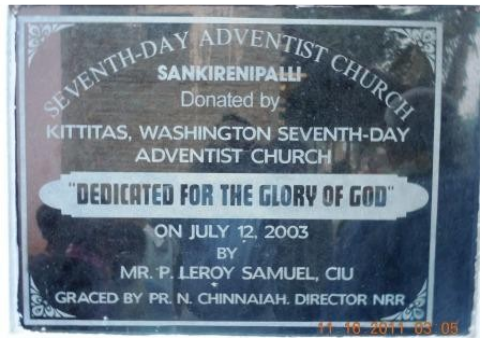
We are here in Kurnool India holding a 10 village evangelism campaign.

One of our villages that we visited yesterday was Sankire-nepalli village. The Bible worker there is P Sanjeevarao. The village gave us a royal welcome. We

walked through the village until we came to the church.

There was a large plaque on the wall that said donated by Kittitas Washington SDA Church. We were told that 25 families attend that little church. We visited all 25 families plus interests.

A few months ago during the rainy season they had a flood that flooded out all the possessions of that village. People lost everything. Many lives were lost, also.



November 15:

We visited the first of the 10 villages of our campaign. They gave us a royal welcome. After the welcome we visited several homes. They all wanted to be blessed. They got us up on this cart pulled by 2 Brahma bulls with 4 village fathers beating drums. They took us all through the village, beating their drums.

# Peru Update: God's Provision; Two Bible Worker Families Deployed!

*By Chris Borcharding*

*First* and foremost we must praise our Heavenly Father for His providence and blessing towards His work through Peru Projects. Since January there have been two Bible worker families that have been faithfully working in their respective territories on faith alone, believing that God would provide and funding would come in to again supply their stipends, materials, etc. We had offered to pay their return move to their home villages when we knew we wouldn't be able to supply their monthly support needs, but both families stated that the work needed to progress and they would make a go of it on faith.

God spoke to several hearts while Amy and I were in the US and we are excited to say that we are now able to again send support to these faithful workers. As a matter of fact, one of these families has just moved to a new territory on the Peru/Columbia border. This is an area that is difficult to access, but God has led us to see the needs there and we are excited to watch His mighty hand move in the lives of these dear people.

With so many areas in the Peruvian Amazon yet to be reached with God's end time message of hope, we ask that you join us in prayer for each of our Bible workers as they fulfill the great commission in their respective territories. If you feel called to support the work of sending more Bible workers into the field, please don't hesitate to contact us and we'll gladly show you how you can answer God's call on your heart by prayer and/or financial support.

Join us in praise to God for His providence and especially His infinite desire to reach each of our hearts with His perfect salvation!



*Bible worker Elvio with his wife (on the left) and brethren in Estrecho on the Peru/Columbia border.*



***La Loma Luz Adventist Hospital, in Belize, is again looking for two doctors: a missionary-minded Surgeon and 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](mailto: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: Is It Worth the Sacrifice?

Greetings!

I had never attended a Christian school until I decided to go to Montemorelos. Then I was offered a scholarship at a local public university where I would receive board and tuition. Doors were opened by the world, but I chose for a Christian education. I am majoring in Medicine at Montemorelos University. I study in the mornings, work at the engineering labs in the afternoons and do a 10-hour night shift at the university hospital.

I sold books during winter and summer breaks where I did fairly well at first, but then people stopped buying and enemy tried to pull me down. Every day people tried to discourage me from continuing with my dream of a Christian education, that it's not worth the sacrifice to pay such a high price since I can get everything free if I study at the public university.

I listened to those people, and in my despair I enrolled in a local university. It was a scene that scared me. People smoking inside the classrooms like nothing wrong. In my heart I pleaded God to give me a chance to return to Montemorelos.

One day my friends told all these wonderful stories of how God made way to sell many books and magazines. I went to my room and cried, trying to understand what plan God has for me. I opened my Bible and prayed for God to show me. I saw Joshua 1:9 *"I command you to be strong and courageous for I will be with you wherever you go."* These words gave me peace.

I returned to Montemorelos, where I learn to serve others as well as the Lord. In 3 years I have only attended half that time because I still owe \$5,000. Once I get my degree I want to serve as a missionary wherever the Lord leads me. Thank you for helping needy students so we can reach our goals!

Sincerely,

**Betzaida Salto**

## **MEDIA SPECIALIST VOLUNTEER NEEDED:**

Are you a gentleman with communications/media training? Do you sense God calling you to use these gifts for Him? We invite you to pray about whether the Amazon jungle of Peru might be the spot for you. You can find the official call at the Adventist Volunteers website [www.adventistvolunteers.org/vm](http://www.adventistvolunteers.org/vm). Call number is SAD.PP.2011.01. Or, contact Chris Borcharding at [info@peruprojects.com](mailto:info@peruprojects.com) directly.

# Memorial Gifts

## At Rest

**DeWitt, Dr. & Mrs. J.L.**

*By Pastor & Mrs. Lyndon DeWitt*

**Eslinger, Rosina & John**

*By Ruth Wiebold*

**Sanders, Maude**

*By Pastor & Mrs. Lyndon DeWitt*



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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**Send to: M.P.I. ♦ P.O. Box 504, College Place, WA 99324**  
*Please note prior address is no longer valid.*

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 of 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:*

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*Indicate amount donated to each fund*

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\$ _____ Bibles      \$ _____ Literature	\$ _____ Church Roofs
\$ _____ Worthy Student Fund	\$ _____ Use where most needed
\$ _____ Lay Workers	\$ _____ Other

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