

Director Comments

The face of international missions is in the midst of a significant change. Christians all over the globe, from Asia to Africa, from Europe to South America, are ready, eager, and qualified to minister in their own countries.

Praise International exists to nurture the transformation of communities in those countries through effective, vibrant, growing churches led by mature national pastors and church leaders. We are privileged to be able to come alongside these men and women of God as a partner in ministry. Through Praise International, North American Christians and churches are able to participate in grass-roots ministry in other countries.

In this newsletter we are also placing a special focus on Haiti in the aftermath of the devastating earthquake. Thanks to all of you who have been praying for the 42 Haitian pastors/national workers sponsored through Praise International.

Thanks also for the generous donations to our Haiti Raven Fund (for earthquake relief and recovery). We are continuing to receive donations for that special need. If you desire to give to help the people of Haiti, please note on the memo of your check that it is for the Haiti Raven Fund.



Executive Director
Dave Bochman

Praise International *Defining Principles*

1. We believe that powerful ideas and successful approaches to reaching people with the gospel come from local Christian pastors, missionaries and ministry leaders.
2. Our calling is to find those mature and prepared local pastors, missionaries and leaders; empower them, encourage them and expand their reach.
3. We believe that God has positioned us to create unique bonds between American donors and native ministries who share a passion for spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ.
4. We are committed to helping local pastors and churches learn how to sustain themselves (via micro-enterprise development).

Haiti Update



The nation of Haiti was struck by an earthquake of devastating proportions in January, 2010. As the Western hemisphere's poorest nation, Haiti's poverty was reflected in its building construction. Due to rampant inflation, materials were purchased when available which left concrete exposed to weather conditions, weakening its integrity. This, coupled with the lack of standards, resulted in structurally unsound buildings that crumbled when the earthquake struck. The already corrupt political and governmental infrastructure left no functioning relief effort in place. The devastation was complete on every level.





Haiti Update Cont... The devastating destruction and losses were mainly in the Port-au-Prince area leaving the Praise ministries centered in Les Cayes on the southern coast relatively unscathed. The day after the quake, a partnering ministry reported 70 pastors and 450 Christians were killed; the final count will reflect greater losses. One pastor said it took 20 years to build this ministry and 10 seconds to destroy it.

Our partner has been taking what relief supplies are available to the Port-au-Prince area, a Herculean effort realizing the ministry was poverty stricken before the earthquake. A great response to our call for financial support is assisting in the immediate relief and future recovery effort.

There can be a tendency to become discouraged when we see this catastrophe and its impact on the general population and the Christian community in particular. Scripture tells us that nothing happens without God's knowledge; it is in the darkest of times when the light of Christ shines the brightest. We rest assured that in the spiritually dark climate of Haiti, God's glory will shine forth through the devastation. God's plans are not understood by man nor are His methods of carrying them out, but we can trust His plans are perfect.

Please continue in faith and prayer, always remembering our Source of help and hope, as we minister to those who give their all to a broken nation.



Pastor Ignace and Franchette Augustin

Key Facts About Haiti

Poorest country in the western hemisphere

<p>Population: 8,924,553</p> <p>Literacy Rate</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Male: 55%</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Female: 51%</p> <p>Life Expectancy</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Male: 56</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Female: 59</p> <p>GDP per capita: \$1,400</p>	<p>Fewer than 20% of children attend secondary school</p> <p>The infant (under 5) and maternal mortality rates are the highest in the western hemisphere</p> <p>Over 50% lack access to basic health care services</p> <p>Malnutrition contributes to 60% of all deaths among children</p>
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Who are we?

We are a Christ-centered outreach ministry, founded in Idaho in 1979.

We work through indigenous ministry partnerships to develop healthy, God-honoring communities in underdeveloped countries.

What do we do?

We connect YOU with a national missionary or pastor in another country, enabling you both to be effective partners in reaching the lost.

Where do we serve?

We support national missionaries and pastors all around the world -- in some of the poorest nations and under some of the most difficult circumstances.

Praise International supports national missionaries and pastors in places like Haiti, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, Costa Rica, Mexico, Ivory Coast, Mali, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Guinea, Congo, Uganda, Kenya, Rwanda, Russia, Moldova, Romania, India, and the Philippines.

The need is great.

Why do we take a "local" approach?

We believe that ministry is best conducted by people closest to those they serve.

Praise International has been a pioneer in developing partnerships with local missionaries and pastors in underdeveloped countries -- to build healthy, God-honoring communities.

By supporting indigenous missionaries and pastors who are already there -- who live among the people they touch, subsist under the same economic conditions, speak the same heart language (mother tongue) and understand the same culture -- we accomplish this personal and cost-effective approach.

How does it work?

We employ two very simple concepts in developing ministries in these difficult, hard to reach areas of the world.

First, we seek out and identify local Christians who have a visionary passion to share God's love with their own people and with nearby un-reached people groups. Once identified, we support their efforts, their programs and their families in many ways.

Second, we believe firmly that the eventual long-term success of any ministry is its ability to be self-sustaining. Virtually all indigenous missionaries and pastors we serve are poor, requiring them to be bi-vocational. Praise International employs a strategy called "micro-enterprise development" helping pastors and their local churches to develop ways to provide for themselves, save a portion of their income for unexpected needs, and to contribute to their overall economic growth.

How can I get involved?

Prayer, above all is most welcomed by both our indigenous ministry partners and the Praise International family as a whole.

General Donation: You can provide a monetary gift of any amount to be used as most needed throughout the Praise International ministry.

Monthly Sponsorship: A monthly donation of just \$35 helps to support an indigenous missionary or pastor in one of our regions. This commitment is extremely valuable in allowing them to minister to the lost, while sustaining their families and livelihood. It brings the giver and receiver together in partnership for Christ.

Raven Fund: Emergency needs can arise from natural disasters or life-threatening illnesses. The Raven Fund is for the most urgent needs beyond those that Praise International regularly supports.

Micro-Enterprise Development Funds: The "micro-enterprise development" strategy involves making small loans to national pastors and others in their local churches. Income-generating business activities are developed contributing to their overall economic growth and becoming self-sustaining. Donations are needed to provide the initial loan capital. As the loan capital is repaid, it goes into revolving funds that are then loaned to other national pastors, etc.

We now have over 300 names on our "waiting to be sponsored" list. These are men and women of God who have already been approved by our national leaders. They are active in ministry working in the harvest -- but they are praying that someone like you will commit to sponsor them for \$35/month. Your sponsorship will allow them to engage themselves more fully into ministry.

Are you the answer to their prayers?

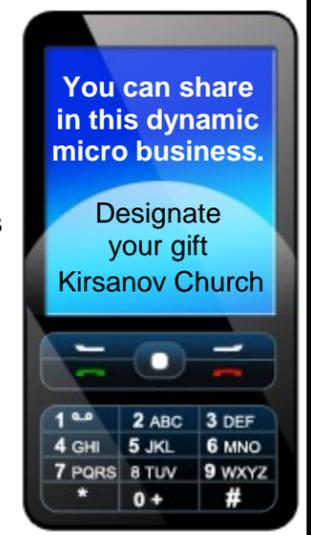
Update: Russia (God is blessing in Kirsanov, Russia, under the leadership of Pastor Anatoly Alipichev!)

Each week we hold youth and adult Bible Studies (including one in the village of Vyachcka -- 12 miles away from Kirsanov), prayer and fellowship gatherings, as well as outreaches to non-believers. Believers gladly come to these groups and diligently pray for their unbelieving relatives, friends, and acquaintances.

Sunday mornings include a preaching service, followed by visiting those who are sick and cannot come to church. Quarterly outreach events are held and Christian holidays are used as opportunities to spread the Good News more effectively. Our ministries focus on the goal of spreading the Gospel all over Russia.

We also hope to open a cell phone repair business to provide employment for some of our people and extra income for our ministries. We have raised \$1500 for this project and are trusting the Lord for an additional \$2500.

Pastor Anatoly Alipichev



International Updates

Update: Uganda — Stephen Carlyle

Moses Muwanguzi, Praise International's national leader in Uganda, expressed his gratitude when he received a laptop computer from Praise International.

Stephen Carlyle from Grace in God's Hands Ministries spoke at the graduation of Warriors with Grace Bible College (where Muwanguzi is the Director). During the graduation ceremony, a Muslim community leader publically became a Christian. The 74 students included several pastors receiving support through Praise. The college has students from Uganda, Kenya, Rwanda, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Update: Mexico — Terry Lingel

The work in Sonora continues to grow and remain strong in the Lord. All of the pastors that we assist are faithfully serving and presenting the Gospel despite being tested greatly.

The economy in Mexico continues to worsen and the drug war is heating up again. Many people are going without food so that puts extra pressure on all of us to step in to cover daily needs.

Staff-Volunteer Update

Those of you who have called our office over the past couple of years have no doubt heard the cheerful voice

of **Brenda Ball**. Brenda is our Office Manager. She not only keeps everything in Praise International running efficiently, but she also creates a warm and nurturing atmosphere for the many volunteers who carry out a variety of administrative roles in Praise. Brenda is a blessing to all of us!

Brenda and her husband Tony moved to Idaho in 1997. They have four children (and a grandchild on the way!). Brenda also serves as the Children's Ministry Coordinator for the Riverside Community Church, in Meridian, Idaho.

Brenda has a heart for the ministry of Praise International. She has especially enjoyed getting to know our national leaders who oversee the pastors and missionaries sponsored through Praise International.



Office Manager
Brenda Ball

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Greg Burkhart Michael Bull
Michael Keefer David Bochman

For more information, visit our website at
www.praiseinternational.us and our blog at
<http://praiseinternational.wordpress.com/>

Upcoming Events

*Join us for an enjoyable
evening at our first
annual Praise International
Fundraiser!*

We've lined up music from East Africa and one of our national leaders from West Africa will be speaking! Please contact our office for more details about costs related to hosting a table or attending with friends.



SAVE THE DATE...Tuesday, May 4, 2010

1st Annual

Praise International Fundraiser

Stueckle Sky Center / Bronco Stadium – Double R Ranch Room

The Place to Be... See you there

Supporting pastors and their families around the world. www.praiseinternational.us