



Reaching and Serving the Persecuted Church

IN TOUCH MONTHLY

1 August 2006

A thankful heart is the secret of true contentment and happiness. These twin treasures can never belong to those complainers and faultfinders who cannot appreciate them. God gives true riches of life to those who have a thankful heart. Rich is the person who, with gratitude to God for all that He has done for us through Jesus Christ, can under all conditions maintain a praising heart and a thankful mind.

Answered prayer: Mission dollars multiplied

South Africa

Gerhard and Elmane Le Roux are moving ahead at full speed expanding the ministry of **Moreson Children's Haven** (MCH). Frankly we are astonished at the progress already made. The entire KwaSizabantu (KSB) staff has rallied around the Le Rouxs to help with the various expansion projects made possible by the large financial gift from ITMI. There has been non-stop building and improvement for the last two months.



Moreson Farm, a place of peace.

Since **Steve Evers'** visit in May they have converted an old cow shed and milking barn into a very practical multi-purpose meeting room. The children can use it on weekdays for school and on Sunday it doubles as a sanctuary.

Last month Dr. **Peter Hammond** took the students from his Great Commission Course in Cape Town out to

MCH on two successive week-ends to help with painting and some construction. He also



Church meeting place before renovations.

participated in the dedication of the new Sanctuary, with 200 attending.

The Le Rouxs continue to petition the Lord to expand their ministry of adoption to reach more abused and abandoned children. Now with the extra space they will be able to include some of the battered and hurting women needing shelter. Jesus has allowed people like you to be used in His plan to answer their prayers. ITMI's gift in April, designed primarily to help the children at MCH, has a spin-off benefit to other ministries involved with the KSB Moreson Mission Farm.

Moreson Children's Haven is the adoption ministry of Gerhard and Elmane Le Roux. In addition to the MCH ministry, the Farm is a refuge for women who are seeking a life apart from abuse; special pro-life abortion counseling; a ministry to substance abuse victims, and a

local church. Your investment dollars are doing more than double duty. Until ITMI joined them all five of these ministries operated out of the Le Rouxs' small 4-bedroom home.

The Le Roux family of 10 currently lives out of two tiny bedrooms, one of which doubles as an office for MCH. There is another family of four in one room, and the women who'd sought refuge there occupy the front room of the house which had been converted to a dormitory full of beds. All 19 of them have shared one bathroom and one kitchen.

When ITMI approached Gerhard and requested a proposal for how ITMI could make

his ministry more effective, Gerhard selflessly suggested that we could benefit MCH the most by helping the other ministries renovate some of the existing Farm buildings so that all the ministries would have more room. **Bill Bathman**, ITMI's founder



MCH children entertain themselves .

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POLAND



Jim LaRose with Polish foster children.

ITMI missionary, **Jim LaRose** has been busy impacting the lives of Polish foster children through his English summer camps and daily visitation. He ministers to neglected and abused Polish foster children who live in an understaffed, ex-communist government operated foster facility. Imagine, there are no moms and dads, only caretakers; no brothers and sisters, only acquaintances to compete with and be feared; no hope in Jesus, only atheism or a lifeless religion.

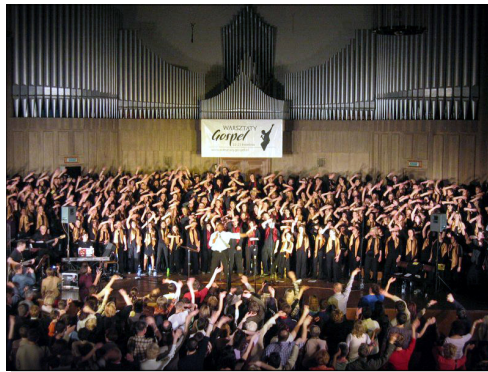


Jim earns the trust of foster children.

Jim knows the benefits of a Christian, Bible-based foster home. God has given him a Polish couple, Lukasz and Asia, as his ministry partners. By faith they have leased a family-style duplex with the intent of filling it with foster children. They are praying for people willing to partner with them in bringing hope into the hopeless lives of Polish foster children by helping them furnish this home so that it can pass

government inspection. Maybe you'd like to be part of the Team.

“**Megi**” **Latanowicz** and the staff at **Gospel Joy Choirs (GJC)** are busy preparing for workshop seminars in the cities of Szczecin, Bydgoszcz and Torun this fall. GJC is the wonderfully creative way that Jesus is using to bring the people of Poland to Himself through the wildly popular “Black Gospel Music” workshops. Unsaved Poles are clamoring to learn to sing this music and in so doing they are being drawn to Jesus, and learning, as Megi puts it, “the beauty of living with Christ every day.”



Workshop final concerts are wildly popular with participants' friends and family.

Recently, ITMI began collecting funds so Megi could become a full-time missionary with Gospel Joy. She stepped out in faith and began ministering full-time with Gospel Joy a few months ago, even though the funds had not yet been collected. Megi says, “Since I decided to work full time for the Lord, I can see His blessings.”

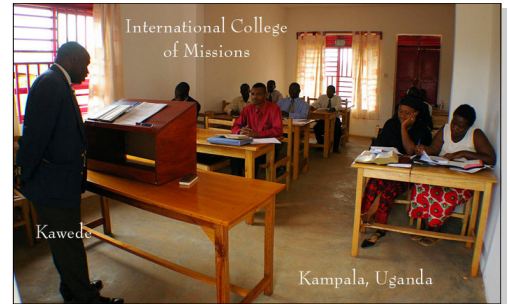
Indeed, it is a blessing to work in full-time service of the King!



Megi sparkles with true “Gospel Joy”.

UGANDA

ITMI project **International College of Missions (ICM)** founded one year ago in Kampala, Uganda by ITMI missionary **Bill Johnson** and his Congolese partner, **Muhindo Kawede**, reports encouraging growth. Kawede recently spoke at a Pastor's Fellowship meeting where 18 of the 33 pastors in attendance requested applications to the college.



Muhindo Kawede equips quality students for effective ministry.

This illustrates the great need for their ministry. Many pastors in Kampala, with little or no education and few resources, are bearing the incredible responsibility before God to “*correctly handle the Word of Truth*” 2 Timothy 3:17. God is doing great things in the community through the quality students and staff of ICM.

Muhindo Kawede will be in the USA from August 31 to October 16, 2006. If your church would like to hear from Kawede and discover how God is working in Uganda, or if you could host him for a home meeting some evening, please phone the ITMI office to schedule a time.

Written and compiled by Summer Kelley



Muhindo Kawede.

Dear Team,

Several years ago the Lord blessed my heart through studying the life of Jesus as recorded in the Gospel of Mathew. I remember thinking at the time; ‘many Bible scholars have taken a look at Matthew – what if he took a look at us!’ Would the converted tax-collector turned disciple recognize Christianity today? With that in mind I began to write a series of devotionals focused on contemporary Christianity. It has slowly evolved into 101 studies that now comprise my third book, **“How’d You Hurt Your Hand?”** Last month I took the 205-page manuscript to the printer.

Occasionally we’re asked, “Where does ITMI stand theologically?” ITMI is dogmatic in its core belief in the basic fundamentals of the Christian faith, to wit: the Divine inspiration of the Scriptures, both Old and New Testaments; the creation of man by the direct act of God; the fall of man because of disobedience bringing with it the universality of sin – “*for all have sinned and come short of the glory of God.*” We firmly believe in the Virgin birth and sinless life of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ; His sacrificial death by shedding His precious Blood on the cross for our sins, His resurrection, ascension and eventual return. We believe that salvation is by the grace of God through faith and that **Jesus Christ is the only way.**

As an interdenominational Christian mission we stop short of emphasizing doctrines that have traditionally divided the Body of Christ, *i.e.*, baptism, questions concerning eschatology and the *gifts* of the Spirit. We prefer instead to emphasize the *fruit* of the Spirit, and to work hard until He comes or calls.

The principal focus for ITMI mission work for the past 25 years is on restricted-access countries where Christians frequently suffer persecution for their faith. My second book, ***Going Through... Even if the Door is Closed***, recorded the ministry we had behind the Iron Curtain during the Cold War years.

ITMI’s Rev. **Piotr Zaremba** has finished and submitted his doctoral dissertation for evaluation. If the critiques are positive he should defend his thesis by the end of this month. Hopefully by the end of next month the process will be finished. Stay tuned.

Remember Detective Inspector **Kotze**, in charge of the “Muslim death-threat case” against **Peter Hammond**? The documents have been sent to the Senior State Prosecutor and she is now waiting for another court date. She said to tell you: “After your prayers she is now ‘clear of all cancer!’”

Other good news on the medical front, a follow-up liver profile test reported “Excellent” for **Lenora Hammond**. Your prayers had a vital part in her healing.

Remaining funds in the **Eshcol** account have been transferred to **Moreson Children’s Haven**. There’s a wide open door at MCH for Graham and Jene to work there!

The entire ITMI team, domestic and foreign, is grateful for your partnership with us in spreading the Gospel of our risen Savior, Jesus Christ.

Yours in His grip,



Bill Bathman

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who brought MCH to our attention, was elated. "ITMI will realize several dollars worth of work for every dollar we invest in this important ministry" he said. "Your dollars are easily multiplied by four."

Previously unusable rooms have already received a new cement floor in place of the old brick-on-sand arrangement. They are now in the process of renovating the interior walls of a previously unused room. When complete this will be the new MCH office, currently in Gerhard and Elmane's bedroom.



Gerhard shows the future home.

One of the ministry families, had began to improve on the shell of a run-

down structure on the property, which was to be their new home, but renovations were 'on hold' for lack of funds. This project has restarted.

The accommodations for women seeking refuge from abuse are also being upgraded: a small bathroom, utility kitchen and a "private" entrance is being added. All these improvements dramatically relieve the pressure on the Le Rouxs' limited living space. Elmane is grateful that she'll now have space in the kitchen where she can teach her children to cook.

ITMI has also helped the Le Rouxs purchase a curriculum for their children's home schooling. For the first time ever, Elmane was able to give each child their own workbook to work from.

Gerhard shares, "We would like to thank ITMI for partnering with us in fulfilling the work that the Lord has laid upon our hearts."

And this is only the beginning. The Le Rouxs are willing to minister any way the Lord leads them. Thus far, a lack of funds for expansion has limited their ministry. Now, God is

using each of you and ITMI to provide for the enlargement of their ministry. They wouldn't dream of capping-off the Lord's work. As He provides and leads, they are open and willing to adopt hundreds of children! And the Farm property could easily accommodate all of them.

Compiled and written by Summer Kelley



Steve with all 8 Le Roux children.

Visit ITMI's website to read about how the Lord worked on behalf of Samaritan Children's Home, through ITMI's partnership with a local church.

How'd You Hurt Your Hand? by Bill Bathman

101 Bible studies in Matthew's Gospel. This 205 page book by Bill celebrates ITMI's 25th Anniversary and the Board of Directors would like to send it **free**, to every donor during the month of August...just to say "Thank You!"





For Praise . . .

1. Sunday services held for the first time in new MCH sanctuary (the old cowshed).
2. Good news: Lenora Hammond's liver profile report was "excellent."
3. Detective Inspector Kotze, medical test show she is "cancer free."
4. Bill's new book "How'd You Hurt Your Hand?" now back from the printers.

For Prayer . . .

1. Rev. Piotr Zaremba has finished his doctoral dissertation. Results due end of August.
2. Ongoing struggle for the Banicki family in Poland: 2 children with Niemann Pick disease.
3. Urgent transportation need for ITMI's Charl van Wyk.
4. Congolese pastors as they return home from GCC camp in Cape Town.

Authorized to Accept  

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