



# Reaching and Serving the Persecuted Church

## IN TOUCH MONTHLY

1 December 2006

“The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory.” And Jesus said, “All power is given unto Me in Heaven and on earth.” We must listen and obey when He says “Go.”

## Christmas greetings from ITMI – celebrating 25 years!

Dear Team,

We’re celebrating 25 years of fruitful ministry. I’d been a missionary for 30 years (20 of which were behind the Iron Curtain during the Cold War) when the Lord entrusted me to establish IN TOUCH MISSION. Having founded two other missions in my lifetime, it was not something I *wanted* to do – but He insisted and I was reluctantly obedient. His plan is always best!

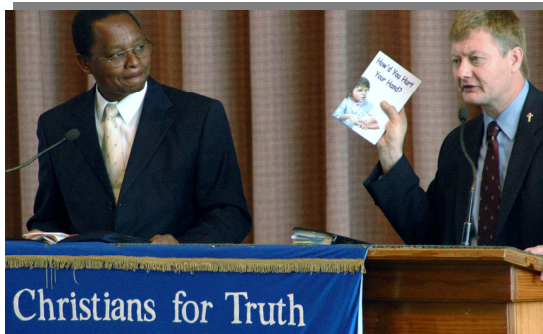
Barely 15 months after ITMI’s incorporation as a 501 (c)(3) organization, I had a massive heart attack while in Canada, speaking at a Mission conference. For the next 9 months **Harriett** nursed me back to health while she set about the task of organizing ITMI into a viable mission.

By January ’83 I was strong enough to travel overseas again and lead an 8-day winter crusade at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Baptist Church in Oradea, Romania – the largest Baptist Church in Europe, East or West. In May that year we traveled to England, where I was the keynote speaker at the Int’l Newsletter Writer’s Conference in Winchester. Later we traveled again for ministry in South Africa.

During 1984 the Revival grew in Romania with hundreds coming to Christ. After graduation from NAU in Flagstaff, **Lenora** attended Capernwray Bible School in England, and then served as a missionary to Austria with the Torchbearers.

In 1985 ITMI began a series of serious projects designed to put tools in the hands of nationals, helping them serve the Lord more effectively. The Lord provided a big 350-seater tent for evangelism in Poland and a van for Pastor **Stan**. We made our first visit to **KwaSizabantu**, epic-center of the revival among the Zulus. That changed our lives forever.

1986: Ministry in South Africa grows as ITMI is incorporated in Johannesburg. Apartheid is abolished. We made two trips to SA this year and four to Eastern Europe. In 1987 we had Crusades in India, meetings in Bangladesh and a conference in Nepal. Along the way



*How'd You Hurt Your Hand?* African debut.

Harriett picked up an illness disabling her for a year.

In 1989 Bill & Harriett were in South Africa for meetings and to attend Lenora’s wedding to Rev. **Peter Hammond**, Director of **Frontline Fellowship**. We were in Europe as communism collapsed and the Berlin Wall came down.

During 1991 ITMI helped Bethesda Medical Clinic to open in Oradea. Bill conducted crusades in

Argentina to explore launching ITMI in Latin America. We delivered Bibles to Bulgaria & arranged for an ITMI medical aid program there. 1992 saw ministry in Macedonia and Albania. 1993 our work expanded in South Africa in the lead up to national elections.

Just look what you’ve done! Together with ITMI you have frequently quadrupled a Pastor’s ministry by providing him with a car. You’ve helped train young nationals for full-time Christian service and supported pastors in Africa, India, Mexico and six countries in Eastern Europe. You’ve helped with the first-ever translation of the Bible from Hebrew and Greek into the Polish language by ITMI’s Dr. **Piotr Zaremba**.

In 2001 Harriett and I celebrated 50 years of marriage and missionary ministry. In May we had the “nod” from God and in October we moved to Cape Town. In 2002 the Lord sent **Steve Evers** to lead ITMI to greater heights as Director. In 2005 Dr. Peter Hammond received ‘death threats’ from Muslims; and so it goes.

In July 2006 ITMI published my 3<sup>rd</sup> book *How'd You Hurt Your Hand?* – introduced in Africa at the CFT Conference by Dr. Hammond. We continually thank God for your prayers and practical support.

Yours in His grip,

Bill Bathman





*La Rose*



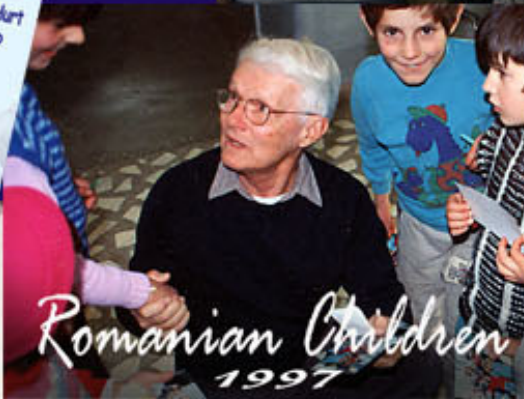
*The Ban Family*



*Mitrits*



*Bethesda Foundation*



*Romanian Children*  
1997



1954



*Casa Dorca Orphanage*



*thmans*  
58



*YOUTH for CHRIST*  
of St. Petersburg



*Moreson Children's Haven*



1949



1990



*Charl van Wyk*



*International College of Missions*



*Samaritan Children's Home*

## Dear Team . . . just look at what you've been a part of this past 25 years!

To God be the glory – "...this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes." Matthew 21:42

Jesus said, "*Without Me, ye can do nothing.*" ITMI is a faith mission. We depend entirely on Him in a vine/branch relationship. It is also true that we, as missionaries, could not do what the Lord has called us to do without you. We are in fact "*laborers together with God.*" Thanks again for your faithfulness over many months and years – for some, 25 years. We live in gratitude.

**1981** ITMI born in prayer, entrusted by God. Bibles to China, crusades in India, E. Europe and South Africa.

**1982** Mar. Mission Conference in Canada; Bill's heart-attack, Harriett organizes ITMI into a viable mission.

**1983** Revival begins in Romania. Purchased car for pastor. Outreach to Poland. Mexican Pastor's support.

**1984** Medical & mission ministry in Poland. Lenora Bathman is commissioned and sent by ITMI to Austria.

**1985** Harriett organizes ITMI medical teams for Poland & Romania. ITMI sends 350-seater tent to Poland.

**1986** Delivery of hi-tech medical equipment for Romania (presented to local hospital by Christians).

**1987** Pastor Support Program (PSP) for South Africa; car for Yugoslav pastor & ITMI expands into Asia.

**1988** PSP expands in Africa, Mexico & India, plus support for ministerial students & national missionaries.

**1989** ITMI helped provide a new Baptist Church building in Yugoslavia. Provided cars & PSP for Mexico.

**1990** Raised \$20,000 for Romanian Church building project; took medical equipment for Bethesda Clinic.

**1991** Harriett organized ITMI's first medical/surgical team to operate in Romanian hospitals.

**1992** More Bibles and medical aid to Bulgaria. PSP increased for Romania. Purchased field vehicle for FF.

**1993** Harriett organized 26-member medical team for Romania. Began orphanage project in Prilipet.

**1994** ITMI sent an 18-wheeler truck full of med-equipment for BMC in Romania + \$26,000 for Casa Dorca.

**1995 *Angola, By the Back Door*** – 1<sup>st</sup> book published by ITMI. Worked with JAF in "Wheels for Poland."

**1996** \$1,000 for Bibles & Bikes in Malawi. 2<sup>nd</sup> Baptist Church in Poznan (stolen by communists) reclaimed.

**1997** ITMI purchased an ambulance for Yecora, Mexico. Refurbishing of Poznan 2<sup>nd</sup> Baptist Church continues.

**1998** Polish Bible Translation project begins under direction of ITMI's Dr. Piotr Zaremba.

**1999 *Going Through*** 2<sup>nd</sup> book published by ITMI. 20' shipping container with medical supplies for Sudan.

**2000** Blue Nile Project in Sudan. Hospital and Churches bombed by Muslims in Western Equatoria, Sudan.

**2001** Bill makes two trips to Sudan. In October Bill & Harriett moved to Cape Town, South Africa.

**2002** 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Excellence Christian Academy in Kabwe, ITMI's first school project in Zambia.

**2003** New 3-story wing on *Casa Dorca* in Prilipet, Romania. Bibles for ex-terrorists in South Africa.

**2004** New Life Center & Bread of Life Ministries thrive under ITMI's Richard & Brooke Nungesser.

**2005** New classrooms for ECA in Zambia. International College of Missions launched in Uganda.

**2006 *How'd You Hurt Your Hand?*** 3<sup>rd</sup> book published by ITMI. Newest projects: Moreson Children's Haven; Samaritan Children's Home and Kanyama Bible College.

### For Praise . . .

1. 25 years of experiencing God's blessing and provision for IN TOUCH MISSION INTERNATIONAL.
2. God's provision for more adequate housing and office space for Dr. **Piotr Zaremba** in Poland.

### For Prayer . . .

1. **Elmane Le Roux** of Moreson Children's Haven has hepatitis A (like Lenora Hammond had last year).
2. Bill speaking at the semi-annual Youth Conference at KwaSizabantu – December 8-15



In Touch Mission

INTERNATIONAL, INC.

P.O. Box 7575 • Tempe, Arizona 85281 • (480) 968-4100 • E-Mail: [itmi@intouchmission.org](mailto:itmi@intouchmission.org)  
FAX: (480) 968-5462 • [www.intouchmission.org](http://www.intouchmission.org) • Outside Arizona: 1-888-918-4100

