



Reaching and Serving the Persecuted Church

IN TOUCH MONTHLY

1 May 2008

We believe that our Lord Jesus Christ died on the Cross for our sins; that He arose from the grave on the third day, and that He is the **only** way to Heaven. Is that intolerant? No, it is a **fact**. In the current climate of “political correctness” we need to be very careful lest ‘tolerance’ puts us on the slippery slope to compromise. Have you noticed that *tolerance* is usually demanded the most by those who offer the least of it?

UNICEF Stealing Children: Unmasking the UN

Zambia

The news from ITMI’s Reverend **John Jere**, Director of Samaritan



Reverend John Jere with his wife Joyce

Children’s Home in Lusaka is disturbing. He and his wife **Joyce** had 81 children at SCH. They were loved, well-cared for, safe, happy and well-fed in a clean, friendly Christian environment. Ages ranged from babies to upper teenage. Most had one thing in common: they were double-AIDS orphans (having lost both mother and father to the dread killer).

Then UNICEF comes to Zambia. They don’t believe in orphanages or children’s homes. In a high-handed tone the officials demanded that in order for Zambia to receive funding, the government must insist that all children who’ve reached puberty must leave SCH (and similar facilities) and be returned to their “extended family.” This could be an aunt or grandparent or

some distant cousin. In most cases to people they didn’t even know.

In the African culture, children are sent out to sell vegetables, or beg or even steal, to earn their “keep” and bring in some extra income for the “family.” The SCH children were snatched from the home and family they’d known for most of their life and forced to live in unfamiliar, unclean, unfriendly, unchristian (pagan) surroundings because of the UN. The UN. It is “un” – unhelpful, unconcerned, unjust, unfair, uncouth, unregenerate, unaccountable, undesirable, and unsafe at any speed.

The UNICEF program is cruel and UNusual punishment. SCH is down to 20 small children now, infants and toddlers still remain. Pastor Jere and his wife still look after the older ones as best they can. Joyce takes food and other vitals to them, but comes home in tears having seen where, how, and the conditions under which they must live now.

SCH expenses have dramatically increased as this involves using the van to visit the now widely scattered “SCH family.” Petrol is over \$10 a gallon in Zambia.

As with most government aid to 3rd World countries the UNICEF

“goodies” wind up in the hands of corrupt government officials, while the intended beneficiaries look on with hollow eyes, empty stomachs and out-stretched hands.

ITMI’s **Eugene Kalunga**, notes that for the Public Schools, UNICEF offers to pay for printing of the text books, which means they control what goes into the text books. His school, Excellence Christian Academy refuses this offer because they don’t want the humanistic, evolutionary, situation-ethics curriculum offered by UNICEF.



Eugene Kalunga with his family

ITMI’s Director, **Steve Evers** and new co-worker **Mark Gumm** were in Lusaka last month to take aid and other comfort and to get a firsthand account.

Jeff Black has been in touch with the leadership at SCH throughout this traumatic time since the

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“China - carrying a torch for the next superpower”

When it was awarded the 2008 Summer Olympic Games, China assured the international community that it would address concerns raised by its dismal record on human rights. There is no evidence beyond Marxist propaganda that the situation has improved. Indeed, the opposite is true. An International Christian Concern representative routinely sees evidence “that human rights violations in China are getting worse as the Olympics approach.”

Christians especially are subject to arrest, imprisonment, harassment and face very serious persecution for their faith. ICC notes, “We’ve seen a huge increase in the number of house churches being raided. Leaders of the house churches have been taken into custody; 70 leaders were taken at one time in early March.”

Beijing believes *naively* they can clean up their international image by simply arresting and repressing any who might disagree. The Reds want to keep things under the rug until the Olympics are over – making sure nothing embarrasses them during the Games. They don’t want to *lose face* on such a world stage when everyone is looking at China.

State-sanctioned Protestant and Catholic churches number up to 35 million followers, [according to the 3-Self Patriotic Movement] making Christianity the third-most practiced religion in China after Buddhism and Taoism. Islam ranks a distant fourth. Many of the converts are prominent figures from the 1989 Tiananmen Square pro-democracy demonstrations.

More significantly there is a steadily growing network of unregistered “home churches” said to have over 100 million members. Compare that with 70 million members of the Communist Party, many of whom have lost faith in the obsolete Marxist ideology since it increasingly adopts free market principles.

Earlier this year the U.S. State Department removed China from its list of the world’s top human rights violators. It was an unwarranted concession to Beijing ahead of the Olympic Games this summer. Others still on the list include Iran, North Korea, Cuba, Burma, Syria and Sudan.

But summer is coming and everyone loves the Olympic Games. China’s trouble with Tibet however threatens to overshadow the show. Dissidents were burning Lhasa, the capital, in mid-March, putting a damper on the festivities and damaging a peaceful run-up to the games. Just as Hitler engineered the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin before launching WWII, Beijing may have an ulterior motive this time around. The government’s heavy-handed tactics betray an underlying insecurity. Communist leaders should have learned long ago not to dilly-dally with the Dalai Lama, but in China’s rule book, confrontation trumps negotiations.

For years China has been concealing its military buildup which includes a blue-water navy complete with aircraft carrier groups to guard its oil route across the Indian Ocean

from Sudan. In the “Days of Empire,” Britain and other European nations extended their influence by sea-power – “Britannia rules the waves!” remember? Success was measured by the number of ships at sea. Today, success is measured by the number of satellites in space.

In January 2007 the Chinese successfully tested a missile against one of their aging weather satellites. This was in flagrant violation of international agreements banning development and deployment of weapons in space. The implications of this violation are serious. If China has the technology to take out one of its own satellites (a non-aggressive act), it sends a signal to the US that it certainly has the means now to take out one of ours, thus blinding our satellite-guided military worldwide.

China’s test was a wake-up call for folks who incorrectly believe that space is a sanctuary. Defending satellites is expensive, difficult and often controversial. Apart from costs and technological difficulties, there is the debris problem. China’s weather satellite shattered into tens of thousands of pieces now in orbit and posing a danger to

“If China has the technology to take out one of its own satellites... it sends a signal to the US that it has the means now to take out one of ours.”

all existing satellites whether military or commercial. Blowing up more satellites could make it almost impossible to operate in space.

China’s military buildup is closing the gap with U.S. forces. The trend shows “a window of vulnerability” for the United States between 2008 and 2015 before newer U.S. weapons are fielded.

Since 2002 China has built and deployed nuclear-powered submarines to waters near Guam, Taiwan and Japan. These are designed to interdict aircraft carrier and expeditionary strike groups that might deploy to the western Pacific. Chinese captains of the 40 to 50 new subs entering their navy will want to test their mettle against the 7th Fleet.

China has had a significant presence in Africa going back to the 1960s and its construction of the Tan/Zam railway, which reaches like a greedy arm all the way from Dar es Salaam into the rich mining fields of Zambia’s copper-belt. Most of China’s investment has been in mining and oil projects. In 2006 Angola replaced Saudi Arabia as the largest exporter of oil to China. U.S. businesses are trailing China in the massive aviation and infrastructure sectors in South Africa, which is hosting the World Cup Soccer games in 2010. Low-cost Chinese imports are making it difficult for African entrepreneurs to compete. One private-sector official recently labeled Chinese involvement in African nations as “colonialism in a different package.”

Hopefully the Olympic torch will illuminate the hidden persecution of Christians in Red China.

Dear Team,

Congratulations to **Tim** and **Ashley Keller** on the safe arrival of beautiful Miss **Monica Amanda**! Her eagerly awaited debut was in Tucson on April 4th.



Dr. **Piotr Zaremba**, ITMI's Polish director writes: "Our translation of the New Testament is going to be used in a publication entitled, 'The Gospel according to Luke, for Career Military Men and Women' (this is a working title). The study material for the whole Gospel was prepared by former British navy officers and chaplains. It will be bi-lingual, Polish-English, which means that all of you who are English-speaking could reap some fruit in your co-laboring with us."

Steve Evers and **Mark Gumm** paid a 6-day visit to Cape Town on their trip to Africa last month. They brought sorely-needed supplies for ITMI's missionaries in South Africa, Zambia and Uganda. While in the Mother City, Steve spent some quality time at **Moreson Children's Haven** with **Gerhard** and **Elmane LeRoux**. He also met and had dinner with Captain **Johan Meintjes**



(pronounced 'my keys') who outlined his program for the **Congo River Project**. This is a dramatic and ambitious attempt to reach one of the darkest and neediest areas of Central Africa. ITMI has been invited to partner with CRP. Stay tuned.

Harriett and I had ministry last month in East London, a coastal city on the Indian Ocean. We participated in a Biblical Worldview Seminar. We are involved in a Christian school for Xhosa children there, having helped counsel the leadership; I'm on the Board of Directors.

Crisis in Zimbabwe.

Elections last month were overwhelmingly in favor of ousting Zimbabwe's tyrant dictator, Robert Mugabe and his ZANU-PF ruling party. In spite of blatant vote rigging, intimidation by ZANU thugs, and printing 9 million ballots for the 4.5 million voters, the opposition MDC party won by a landslide. Mugabe refuses to admit defeat. There will very likely be a bloodbath in Zim, far greater than in Kenya earlier this year. Please pray for our neighbor to the north. Trouble there will spill over and destabilize the entire area.

While Steve and Mark were in Durban, a Chinese ship dropped anchor a mile off the coast, loaded with arms and ammunition for Zimbabwe. For a week the controversial vessel waited for clearance to land. The Zimbabwe Trade Union, in serious opposition to Mugabe, requested help from their "brothers" in the South African Trade Union. SATU in sympathy with ZTU, refused to unload the cargo destined to slaughter Zimbabweans. This was in spite of the communist ANC government's approving off-loads and transport across South Africa. With no resolution to the stand-off, the ship weighed anchor and sailed. At this writing its destination port is unknown.

We are deeply grateful for your faithful and ongoing support of ITMI. Please continue to pray for us as we joyfully keep on keeping on.

Yours in His grip,

Bill Bathman

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older children have been taken away. He has compiled and translated the following montage of Pastor Jere's communication:

"The rich rule over the poor..."

Proverbs 22:7

"How painful it is to be separated from our children! What the government is doing in conjunction with the United Nations is one of the worst things to happen in the history of Zambia - and indeed for all of Africa. New government mandates, in the hands of the Minister of Community and Development, have forced our older orphans back into their overburdened relatives' homes in the name of Humanitarian Aid. The Zambian government is now embracing a 'Christianized' humanism in its ugly western form which is clearly and completely *unchristian*.

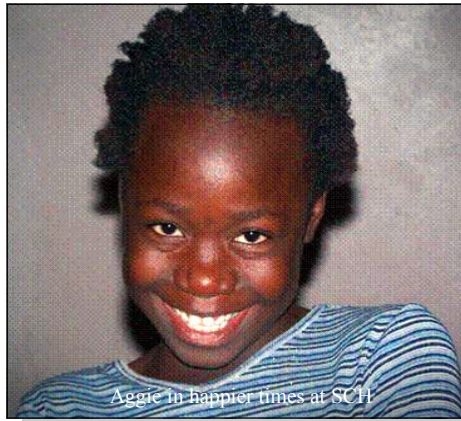
"As a result, there are many bishops, pastors and leaders in the National Constitutional Conference (NCC) who have become involved in the process of re-writing our national constitution.

"About forty-five religious leaders, including myself, are on the Bill of Rights Committee so that we can publicly proclaim the principles of God's word to protect these children from greedy, unconcerned politicians who sign international documents without our consent. We are aggressively lobbying against these leaders and their

initiatives in the constitution-making body of our government.

"After taking the older children back to their relatives' homes because of the reforms, some have been forced to work in dangerous marketplaces and streets in order to be recognized in the family as 'earning their keep' in their new environment.

"A month ago one of our orphans, **Aggie Chibuye**, was abused and



raped at gunpoint by her aunt's landlord near the local marketplace where she was sent to sell vegetables. The police are still searching for the defiler while this 14-year old girl is forced to remain with her aunt in the same area where she was sexually abused. She is obviously devastated and going through much pain physically, emotionally and psychologically because of this traumatic event. We need great wisdom in ministering to her and to

the community in which she lives.

"We are in close contact with all our children and have deliberately 'threatened' their relatives that if we hear they are not giving them food or what we provide for them we shall take them to the police for theft. So far, so good - we have not received a single negative report yet.

"Among others, my wife Joyce and Angel Mulyata are absolutely devoted to the task of taking food to our children in their new surroundings and with visiting each orphan individually as the children express sorrow, discouragement, and even shame, in the face of suffering.

"At Samaritan Children's Home, our children were protected, loved and cared for every day. In the slums, they must daily face their fears of rejection, violence and death.

"We ask for your prayers for our government leaders who are now telling us that these children are under State control. Pray also that Africa will not fall prey to the humanistic propaganda that these leaders espouse in terms of Women's Rights, Minority Rights, Children's Rights and Human Rights.

"Brethren, pray for us!"

Reverend John Jere -
Samaritan Children's Home

For Praise . . .

1. **Monica Amanda Keller** was born on April 4, 2008 in Tucson, AZ. Congrats Tim & Ashley!
2. Safe arrival back to the States of **Steve Evers** and **Mark Gumm** from their African trip!
3. **Piotr Zaremba** reports that the Polish translation of LUKE will be used in a military publication!

For Prayer . . .

1. The dramatic and deadly situation in Zimbabwe. Mugabe must go! Pray him out.
2. That Zambia will wake up and realize what UNICEF is doing and the harm this brings.
3. 14-year old Aggie and others horribly abused by UNICEF's unreasonable demands.

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