

The World of FEA MINISTRIES INC VOLUME 30 ISSUE 1

WORLDUPDATE

UNTIL ALL HAVE HEARD
RECLAIMING
PASSION

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WORLDUPDATE

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About FEA Ministries, Inc.

FEA Ministries is a nonprofit organization that exists to Serve the Church and Reach the World. We fulfill the commission of Christ by producing disciple makers around the world through diverse Christian ministries. The three main branches of FEA Ministries are Hope International Missions, Sea Breeze Community, and Sea Breeze Camp. Our ministry is about making sure people everywhere are ready to spend eternity with God.





FROM THE Editor

BENJAMIN MCDOWELL
Managing Editor

I recently came across a statement by Francis Chan that sounds humorous at first. Yet actually it is a sad indictment of the church today. “Simon says, ‘Pat your head.’ We pat our heads. Jesus says, ‘Go therefore and make disciples.’ We memorize that verse.” Why is it so easy for us to simply quote commands given to us by Christ rather than putting them into action? What will it take for you and me to help complete the Great Commission in our generation? To go into all the world and preach the gospel to every nation or ethnē?

In analyzing my life, I realize how readily the pressures and responsibilities of daily living distract me from maintaining a focus on reaching the lost. While my head knows billions of people around the world have no opportunity to even hear the gospel message, my heart can tend to forget this urgent reality. The answer? Deliberately and consistently draw close to the heart of God and let His passion for the lost radically reorient my priorities.

This edition of the “World Update” is a call to reclaim Christ’s passion for the lost world. Only then will we

labor until all have heard. Michael Mason states it well in our conversation with him.

A passion for missions originates in the very heart of God who, seeing the sinful world and knowing their deep need, sent His only Son to become the sacrifice for sins! The closer we get to God, the more we will feel His heartbeat for mankind. As the writer of the song so ably penned the words, “For if once I could see this world the way You see, I just know I’d serve you more faithfully.”¹

As you read of the passion God has placed in the hearts of our missionaries, I trust you will join me in asking God to renew that passion in our hearts! May we be moved with compassion as Jesus Himself was when He saw the lost. And may that compassion propel us into active obedience to reach the nations with the hope of the gospel. •

¹ “Looking through His Eyes,” by Mike Otto

A person is standing on the edge of a large, dark rock formation that juts out over a body of water. The sky is a warm, golden-orange color, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The person is silhouetted against the bright sky, looking out over the horizon.

PURITY POWER PASSION

By
HAROLD MARTIN
President, FEA Ministries, Inc.

If we are completely honest with ourselves, we have to admit that at times it is easy to take for granted the gospel message and the blessing of having heard it! As a third generation Christian I have never actively considered who to thank, other than my parents, for pointing me to Christ. But the sad reality is that an estimated one out of three people on earth have never heard the gospel message. They are still waiting to hear the good news that will transform their lives.

In Acts 1:8, just before His ascension back to heaven, Jesus left His somewhat bewildered disciples the most amazing promise. “But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.” Two promises are wrapped in this most famous of mission verses. First, they would receive power, and, second, they would be witnesses for Jesus both at home and abroad. Both promises however were contingent on a third promise: the filling of God’s Holy Spirit, the third person of the Trinity.

So often when we hear messages on the “fullness of the Spirit” or of living an “entirely sanctified” life, we tend to stress purity. And this is good.

When a child of God submits entirely to the will of God in his life, it will manifest itself in purity and the ability to live a godly life. But there is more.

The fullness of the Spirit in the believer’s life will also provide the believer with a power for service and a passion for people! This is the same power Jesus promised His disciples in Acts 1:8. And we see it in the lives of the early apostles. Think of Peter. During Jesus’ trial, he follows from afar. He denies he even knows Jesus...not once but on three separate occasions. But look at Pentecost. After being filled with the Spirit, Peter stands on the day of Pentecost and boldly declares the Word of God. Three thousand are added to the church that day. For Peter the filling of the Holy Ghost brought power and passion to his ministry.

Here at Hope International Missions, God has assembled a team of dedicated, Spirit-filled, Christian workers who are passionate about reaching the lost. They serve in their respective countries, boldly proclaiming the timeless truth of the gospel through the power of God’s Holy Spirit.

Thank God for the blessing of having heard. But may we never forget the great responsibility of this blessing. May we boldly proclaim Christ with passion—until all have heard! •

HIM AFRICA

We CAN Make a Difference

By GLENN GAULT, Director of HIM Africa

Hope International Missions' outreach in Africa began in 1990 when Jim and Fredde Howard moved their young family to Ghana to help start a Bible college. Though there were many ups and downs to carving out the new work, in time the Evangelical College of Theology was established. After six years in Ghana the Howards moved to Lesotho to help with a work that had been recently turned over to HIM.

In the mid-1970s the Roger Rehfeldt family had founded a clinic in the rural village of Matukeng, Lesotho. Though access was difficult and living conditions primitive, they did not let these challenges hinder their vision of spreading the gospel while providing health care in a needy place. Other missionaries joined the effort, and churches were planted and pastors trained. In the mid-1990s these churches and Matukeng Health Centre were turned over to HIM. The Howards and Pieter and Hester Marais continued evangelism and church planting. Pieter built numerous church buildings, establishing the work. With Johan and Hesse van der Merwe, the Marais also pioneered new holiness churches in South Africa.

Jim and Fredde Howard's vision for training strong leaders and entrusting the work to them set the standard for a new generation of HIM Africa missionaries. Since 2000 Glenn and Stephanie Gault have focused on training more workers to pastor, plant churches, and minister to children. Joining the team in 2016,

Itumeleng (far right in the picture) was the "first fruits" of Stephanie's children's ministry. She is doing a tremendous job in youth and orphan ministry today.

Angela Thornton works alongside nurse-midwives to make Matukeng Health Centre a holistic ministry—reaching people with the gospel while providing excellent physical care. In 2017 the Peterson family became a part of the work, expanding the church's existing orphans and vulnerable children ministry. A partnership with Bible Methodist Missions added Maricka Herrer to the team, helping churches across Africa train leaders using Shepherds Global Classroom.

Christianity is growing in Africa, but godly, well-trained leaders are needed to protect it against cults and false doctrine. HIM is committed to helping train these leaders. Building on our experience in Lesotho, missionaries and national workers are expanding the influence of HIM to other organizations and countries. We envision the teenage orphans being discipled through Reach4Life Bibles becoming godly young people contributing to their society. In weekend tent meetings in Lesotho and South Africa, we expect more Christians to experience the fullness of the Holy Spirit, empowering them to live holy lives and effectively witness in their communities. We are thrilled that some of the Anglican lay pastors we are helping train are now born-again Christians, and we are trusting God to use them to start a revival in their denomination. At the end of 2021 God opened the door for us to equip an independent church in Cameroon with the Shepherds Global Classroom program. We anticipate great things as this church begins training its own missionaries, who fearlessly take the gospel to the Muslim regions in the northern part of their country.

With God all these things are possible, but without intercessory prayer none of them will happen. Please pray fervently that God's kingdom will come in Africa! •



HIM ASIA

God Loves People Through Us

By DAVID BLACK, Director of HIM Asia

God loves people more than anything, and when you truly love Him, you will love whom He loves and offer your gifts in service to Him. It was the result of that love that led us into missionary work.

Christina and I are currently directors of HIM Asia. At the time God called us to Asia, and particularly to new parts of Asia a few years later, the need for pastoral training and Christian teachers' training was becoming crucial in that area of the world. God led us and our team to step into a unique gap to help several secret church groups and hidden Christian schools.

At the same time the need to organize more formally the HIM-affiliated churches in Taiwan was apparent. Taiwan is a free nation, and living there, it was easy to work and travel throughout Asia. With the help of national leaders and fellow missionaries we were able to facilitate the church organization process in Taiwan and see additional groups join HIM. We also planted a new church on that tiny island, while ministering in many areas on that side of the world. I believe God intentionally gifts each of us and then guides us to the places we can best use those gifts for His glory. Today we use our gifts to serve at Carolina Christian Academy (CCA), a growing Christian school in North Carolina, while we continue to help with missionary mentorship, pastoral training, teacher training, and the facilitation of Christian schools in Asia.

Due to recent political changes and new regulations, our affiliated Christian schools overseas have been forced to close their physical locations. But we are able, online, to umbrella those students and teachers in cooperation with HIM and its Department of Education. Those students can continue learning from God's Word and their textbooks, while teachers from the States guide them and pray with them. This is a huge endeavor, and we are excited about it. We will need your prayer and your support for HIM, CCA, and all who work with this cooperative ministry.

When we went to Asia, we did not know there



were Christian schools that needed help. When we returned to the States for family and health reasons, we did not know the role CCA would play in our ongoing involvement in foreign educational missions. But I have no doubt God planned it all. We offer Him our love, our love for His people, and our unique gifts. May He use what we offer Him for His glory as He continues to love His people through us. •

HIM CARIBBEAN

A Willing Heart

By FRANK VAUGHN, Haiti Field Director

When God called us to Haiti, the vision was to see people come to know Christ. In 1988 I was working in a factory as a machinist, toolmaker, and mold maker. While at church sitting in a missionary service, I felt God's calling to missions. The missionary speaking was from Haiti. I asked God what He was going to do with a toolmaker on the mission field. That is when He answered, "I am not calling you for your talents. What I want is a willing heart to go and be what I want you to be."

Praise the Lord, that is still my call today. My wife and I spent fourteen years in Haiti sharing the love of Jesus with the people. I was forty-seven years old when we went. One of the most important things God helped us see was that the people could not read the Bible for themselves and learn that God loved them. So God was asking us to love the people for Him. How important to be where God wants you to be.

Our goal is to teach the Haitian people to know Jesus. We have held pastors' seminars, teachers' seminars, and church committee meetings. After fourteen years we were able to leave the work in the hands of the Haitian people. We are still working to see that accomplished at Grand Riviere where the orphanage is located. God is at work in the country of Haiti! •

Frank Vaughn with Haitian orphans



Haitian orphans with Hobbs and Vaughn



Jim and Fredde Howard, New Directors of HIM Caribbean

NOTE FROM EDITOR:

We are excited to welcome Jim and Fredde Howard back to the Hope International Missions family as regional directors for HIM Caribbean. Jim and Fredde spent many years as missionaries in Ghana and Lesotho before returning to the States to teach at Hobe Sound Bible College. Jim and Fredde continued to serve as directors of HIM Africa until 2015.

The earliest works of HIM in the Bahamas and Turks and Caicos Islands were greatly aided by the use of general aviation aircraft with many of the early missionaries being pilots. For the past nineteen years, Jim has been training pilots through a partnership with his organization, Missionary Flight Training, and Hobe Sound Bible College. Jim will continue to be actively involved in training ministry-minded pilots, but his skills as a pilot will also be put to use in the Caribbean, connecting our churches and ministries there.

Please keep Jim and Fredde in your prayers as they help the earliest works of Hope International Missions continue to bear spiritual fruit! •

HIM EUROPE

A Passion to Impact My World

By EDWARD DURHAM, Director of HIM Europe

Missions is all about people. When I look into the eyes of an individual, I see a person with a never-dying soul. This creates a passion for missions that burns within me. The people we meet throughout the day generally need one of three things: encouragement, someone to listen to them, or a Savior. So as followers of Christ we are His representatives to everyone we meet. This is what motivates me as a missionary—a desire and passion to impact everyone I meet and bring each of them closer to God.

You might say, “Everyone has that calling—to impact their world.” So what is different about a missionary? A missionary is usually called to a specific place or people group, a different culture, and most of the time, a different language. A missionary must step out of his or her comfort zone and endure hardship to impact the lives of people in a different part of the world, generally far away from family, friends, and familiar things. They have a unique calling “custom fit” for them, and often they are touching the lives of people who have never heard the gospel.

When God led us to Budapest, He gave me a vision and passion for making disciples and disciple makers. I felt if we were able to



Ed Durham [right] with Tamas
A life God has miraculously transformed

establish discipleship groups with a focus on outreach, we would have a movement that would result in revival. I began praying for God to lead me to young men with a passion for winning the lost. I believe God has helped me to find several young men with a passion for discipleship, and today, by my closest estimate, there are over 200 discipleship groups meeting weekly across Hungary. Certainly not all of this is because of me. I simply planted a seed of discipleship, nurtured it, and God multiplied that seed one hundred-fold as disciples have become disciple makers.

I am excited because I feel many people are reclaiming the passion for outreach that will result in revival in Europe. I believe we could be on the verge of another Great Awakening! Oh, that God would “Revive Us Again” in Europe! •

Donat and family – a pastor and leader in the discipleship ministry





HIM LATIN AMERICA

A Church Plant in the Face of Opposition

By ERIC KUHN, Director of HIM Latin America

The early morning mist filtered up the sides of mount Tajumulco, as the rays of sunshine shone against the freshly-painted holiness church that sat near the base of the mountain. People were gathering with excitement in the parking lot ready to witness the grand dedication. Pastor Rene and his wife and other leaders stood at the top of the steps leading into the church, facing the crowd down below. They had worked so hard to get to this point. Years ago Pastor Rene had immigrated to Florida, where he was saved in an HIM church. When he returned to his village in Guatemala, he was met with resistance by his own father, a witchdoctor who did not want anything to do with the gospel nor want to hear talk of starting a church.

As Rene and other pastors sat talking in his small house, Rene's father appeared outside in a rage. "Leave now!" he said. "All of you need to get out of here, or I will kill you!" He started chopping at the door with his machete, yelling and screaming. He then tied the door shut with rope so the men could not escape. "I will be back to kill you," he said, before marching off to find a hatchet. Rene and the other pastors tried to escape through a small window but were unable to do so. Hours passed, and they did not know what to do. They prayed for God to help them and protect them. Finally they were able to get a blade of a knife through a crack in the door and cut the ropes holding it shut. They escaped unharmed!

1. Church Dedication service
2. Pastor Rene cutting ribbon
3. People waiting to march into the church
4. Pastor Rene's wife speaking



The threats from Rene's father and the witchcraft that abounds in the village did not deter Rene from starting a church. With sheer faith and determination he kept pressing forward and started a small congregation. After years of hard work and with the help of John Dykes and Mission Helps teams, a beautiful sanctuary was built. In March of 2022 it was dedicated. What a blessing to see the ribbon cut and a parade of people march into the church, giving praise and thanks to God that here in the midst of darkness, where witchcraft is practiced and heroine is produced, there is a beacon of light! The church serves as a reminder that we should never back down in the face of opposition. We must keep praying, preaching, evangelizing, even in the darkest of corners and in the most difficult of places, until all have heard! •

HIM US SPANISH MINISTRIES

God's Invitation to Be on Mission with Him

By SIDNEY GRANT, Director of HIM US Spanish Ministries

Someone asked me, “Why is HIM US Spanish Ministries successful?” I knew God inspired my answer: “Because God is at work among the Hispanic people in the US and has called us to join what He is doing. Growth is a God thing; we humbly participate in His mission, being His hands extended to a displaced people.” We build the kingdom of Christ through evangelism and discipleship, forming holiness Hispanic congregations. The vision God has given us is, “A Heritage of Holiness for the Hispanics.”

When Christ began His earthly mission to reconcile humanity to God, He put into motion mission initiatives to reach every people group, locally and globally. He invited people from different social spectrums. The impetus for missions is God inviting us to be on mission with Him. Thus what motivates me is participating in “making fruitful and faithful disciples for Christ in a cross-cultural and generational context.”

When I wake up, I see this.

When I am tired and things are not going well, I see this.

When I connect with God in prayer and Bible reading, I see this.

When I see Jesus dying on a cross, I see this.

When I hear of a community saturated with Hispanics, I see this.

Jesus is building His church among people groups everywhere, and I get to join Him.

In 2012 two men were apprehended by US Immigration because of inadequate documentation. This is not an endorsement of the circumstances, but an expression of

gratitude for God's work. Both were Christians, attended HIM Hispanic churches, and had attended Spanish Bible Institute (SBI). While in jail, God used them to encourage one another and to start a preaching ministry. They were encouraged and their callings confirmed. They influenced another Mexican inmate to give his heart to Jesus.

All three were released. Two resolved their immigration status and became pastors in Sun City and Boynton Beach, Florida. The other brother graduated from SBI and plans to start a new church. If he cannot resolve his INS status, he will plant a church in his hometown in Mexico.

The gospel is making a local and global impact. According to Acts 1:8, the power of the Holy Spirit is moving progressively and transformationally. Are you motivated to join Jesus on mission today? You will not regret it! •



- 1. 2022 Spanish Holiness Camp
- 2. A new generation of Spanish holiness preachers
- 3. Hispanics seeking the Lord
- 4 & 5. Cincinnati's new congregation



An aerial photograph of a forest floor covered in thick green moss. A small, clear stream flows through the center of the frame, bordered by mossy banks. The lighting is soft, creating a serene and natural atmosphere.

Reclaiming the Passion **AT HOME & OVERSEAS**

By DR. RANDALL MCELWAIN

Leaving church after a mission presentation, a listener muttered, “Why should we worry about missions in Africa when the church in America is in such bad shape?”

There are many answers to that misguided question, but one answer is seen in church history. The health of the church at home often correlates to a passion for evangelism overseas.

Jesus called his disciples to be “witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth” (Acts 1:8). The apostles had a passion both for preaching at home (Jerusalem, Judea, and Samaria) and for taking the gospel to the ends of the earth.

Sadly, the church has sometimes forgotten Christ’s call. In the medieval “Holy Roman Empire,” a vision for reaching the world with the gospel was replaced with a desire for military and economic conquest. At the

same time the church at home suffered division and apostasy. The church abandoned both its commitment to the gospel at home and its passion for mission outreach.

In the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, British and American evangelicals experienced a revival at home—and sent thousands of missionaries around the world. However, in the early twentieth century many churches at home were infected with theological liberalism. And in countries such as China and India, the social gospel often replaced evangelism. Both the church at home and the church abroad suffered.

A church with no missionary vision is often a church with little spiritual vitality. Which is cause and which is effect? I do not know—and I am not sure it

matters. But it seems clear that a healthy church at home and a vision for missions are related.

I am not suggesting that the health of the home church should be our primary motivation for missions. But in a day when the American church is marked by theological conflict and spiritual lethargy, part of true revival may be a renewed passion for missions. As we carry the gospel overseas (the ends of the earth), the church at home (Jerusalem and Judea) may become stronger. •

RECLAIMING A **Passion** TO REACH THE **World**



Michael Mason is the director of the Missions Division at Penn View Bible Institute. He and his family served as HIM missionaries in Mexico from 2007-2013 where they helped plant several churches. Michael is passionate about making disciples of Christ and training young people to do the same both at home and around the world. In this conversation Michael shares how to build and maintain a burning passion for reaching people with the gospel.

1. The title of this issue of “World Update” is “Until All Have Heard—Reclaiming Passion.” What role does passion have in missions?

Passion is defined as “a strong and barely controllable emotion,” (Oxford Dictionary). This “strong and barely controllable emotion” is needed to truly make a difference in missions. I am a firm believer that every Christian has a role to fulfill in obedience to the command to go make disciples of all nations. Yet it is easy to read the Great Commission and think, “That is a great thing for (fill in the blank),” and not make it personal. Unless we see this passionately as a command of Christ for us, we will never search for, pray for, and complete what Christ has designed for our lives.

2. As you see it, what are warning signs that indicate a waning passion?

I believe the biggest indicator of our passion is how we see the needs of people around us. When our passion is low, we will have a lackadaisical attitude to those needs. How do we feel about the drunk, the druggie, the homeless? Are we motivated with compassion, or do we just go along life’s merry way?

When I sense my passion waning, I intentionally begin to pray that God will restore the burden for the lost. Then in the midst of praying, I intentionally place myself where there are needs to which I can minister. Invariably before long I begin to feel the passion return. We cannot expect to have a passion for foreign missions if we are not motivated by the needs close at home.

3. You are involved in training future missionaries. How does God help you instill in them a passion for people and service?

To instill a passion for people and service, we must have this passion ourselves. As stated above, this is accomplished by seeing the needs around us, praying for God to give us a burden, and going out and doing something about those needs. Second, we must keep in touch with the needs around the world and present them in a passionate way. When people begin to see the needs and hear what difference they could make, their perspective of the world changes. Rather than feeling helpless, they realize God can make a positive impact through them, even if it is small. Finally, we instill passion through our example. This means taking people with us when we actively get our hands dirty and serve hurting people. Kingdom work should always be done in community, never alone. When those with you see a difference being made, this produces a passion in them to do the same.

4. From where does a passion for missions originate?

This passion originates in the very heart of God who, seeing the sinful world and knowing their deep need, sent His only Son to become the sacrifice for sins! The closer we get to God, the more we will feel His heartbeat for mankind. As the songwriter so ably penned, “For if once I could see this world the way You see, I just know I’d serve you more faithfully.”¹

A passion for missions is also at the heart of the holiness doctrine. In the work of entire sanctification God gives us enabling power and passion for service. We see this lived out in Acts 2 where the natural outflow of Pentecost was the disciples boldly proclaiming the gospel in the streets!

5. What are some practical ways to cultivate a growing passion for missions in one’s personal life?

One way is to get out into the world, see the needs, and minister to them. Go knock on doors in your town and begin giving the gospel to your neighbors. Soulwinning and a passion for missions starts at home. You will not become a great soulwinner just because you fly 5,000 miles away. Second, read good books about missions and the needs of the world. Third, begin to pray more intentionally for the world. I suggest you download prayer cards of unreached people from a place like The Joshua Project and then start reading and praying for each of these groups individually. This will help you get close God’s heart, and it will not be long before a deep passion begins to form!

Another suggestion is to keep prayer cards and newsletters and pray for as many missionaries as possible. These suggestions will help turn you from a selfish focus to a global focus and will cultivate a passion for missions.

6. How can families cultivate a passion for people and missions into the hearts of their children?

Families can do this in a number of ways. Take your family on outreach into your local communities. Let your children help you knock on doors and pass out tracts. Bring supplies to a family in need. Read good missions books to your children. I know of many people who have been called to missions as a child through a book read to them by a teacher or a parent. Take time as a family to pray for missionaries, their needs, and the needs of the world. Also set up historical missions figures and modern day missionaries as heroes to your children.

7. Can you share a favorite example from the history of missions where passion compelled the sharing of the gospel?

There are many, but I am especially inspired by William and Catherine Booth who had such passionate commitment to reach the lost. William Booth’s words ring with this passion:

“Not called!” Did you say? “Not heard the call,” I think you should say. Put your ear down to the Bible and hear Him bid you go and pull sinners out of the fire of sin. Put your ear down to the burdened, agonized heart of humanity and listen to its pitiful wail for help. Go stand by the gates of hell and hear the damned entreat you to go to their father’s house and bid their brothers and sisters and servants and masters not to come there. Then look Christ in the face—whose mercy you have professed to obey—and tell Him whether you will join heart and soul and body and circumstances in the march to publish His mercy to the world. •

¹ “Looking through His Eyes,” by Mike Otto

SUPPORTING

Ukraine

In late February 2022 when our missionaries in Eastern Europe began to see the devastating effects of the Russia/Ukraine conflict, we knew we had to act. Word was spread through social media of the need for supplies in Ukraine through social media, and many churches and individuals responded with financial support. Thank you for your generosity! Our relief efforts continue and will do so as long as the funding is available. Here is a report of our activities from HIM missionaries Tim and Sally Iovan.

After the war started between Russia and Ukraine, we were made aware of the great need for housing refugees and felt God directing us to get involved to help with this urgent crisis.

On March 1, 2022 the first group of Ukrainians arrived in Talpoş. Since then we have housed around eighty people. Some have just transited through or moved on to other countries after an extended stay. Others returned after a few months to areas in Ukraine that saw no missile attacks. One family has decided to put down roots in our village, and we are in the process of renovating a home for them to live in.

Because this war has triggered a wave of collateral hunger across Ukraine, we also wanted to help with food and essential items for those who remained in their country. Since March 2022, we have been able to take over fifty tons of food and supplies across the border to help with this great need.

The first few trips into Ukraine, we were part of larger food convoys where numerous cargo vans full of supplies crossed the border together. The loads went to a local Ukrainian church, where the things were distributed under the supervision of the local pastor. As the war continues, the initial fervor of taking supplies has worn off, and there are no longer convoys of which to be a part. However this has not deterred us. Because the needs are even greater than before, we made a connection with Pastor Anton, the



Ukrainian pastor of the refugees living here in Talpoş, and our ministry outreach expanded further into Ukraine.

Before the war Pastor Anton, his wife, and two children were pastoring a church in the Donbas region of Ukraine. Because that region has been attacked relentlessly in the war, they have been displaced and are refugeeed in the Poltava region. He continues to minister locally and returns to Donbas on a regular basis to visit those from his congregation still in the area.

The needs are great, and many people are struggling to find essential things. Pastor Anton has decided to partner with us to distribute items in the areas around where he is currently living as well as to take loads of goods to the Donbas area.

Every other transport of supplies we take into Ukraine is picked up by Pastor Anton. He travels about twelve hours one way to southwest Ukraine to meet Tim and pick up supplies. After taking the items back to the Poltava region, supplies are separated and packed to be distributed out at the local church, at the church in Donbas, and through the community to the elderly and disabled individuals.

This outreach has not been limited just to those from the church family. Many have been blessed through this ministry and have seen God's love in action. What a thrill it has been to hear that many new individuals are attending regular church services and seeking God. We are so thankful for the opportunity to be the hands and feet of Jesus in this dark time.

In addition to the relief efforts detailed above, we are also working to get Christian literature in the Ukrainian language into the hands of those distributing aid. Thirty thousand copies of books containing the gospel message were printed and are being distributed in Ukraine. Pray that God will use these books in a powerful way.

Because of the generous giving of God's children, countless numbers of hurting and needy people have been blessed during one of the darkest moments in their lives. Thank you for helping us point them to Jesus, our one and only hope in a world of chaos. •

CULTURAL CONNECTIONS

By MAUDE MOTOVILOV, Czech Republic

Though the Czech Republic is considered the most atheistic country in Europe, their people love to celebrate religious holidays, many of which point to their Christian heritage. One interesting Christmas tradition is to serve carp as part of the meal. About a week before Christmas, people line up at places throughout Prague to purchase live carp kept in tubs. The salesmen kill and clean the fish right there if requested. The old tradition, however, is to buy a live carp and bring it home, where it stays in a bathtub until the important Christmas meal!

Another tradition takes place after the Christmas Eve meal. A window is kept open near the Christmas tree and a bell is rung, letting children know presents have been delivered by Baby Jesus (Jezhishek). Unfortunately, as children grow older, they realize Baby Jesus flying through the window to bring gifts is a made-up myth. Thus the reality of Jesus's birth becomes obscured in young minds.

The Czech Republic was once a beacon of Christian faith, challenging false teachings and the dominance of the medieval Catholic Church. Many people recognize the name John Huss, a Czech native who spearheaded the protestant movement in Europe and whose teachings greatly influenced Martin Luther. As a threat to the Catholic Church's authority, Huss was burned at the stake. In John Wesley's diaries we read about the Moravian (Czech) brothers who made an enormous impact on his faith and understanding of God. Imagine, Czech people were some of the first missionaries to America! However the Catholic Church largely suppressed the true message of the gospel.

After World War II the Communist Party took power and ruled Czechoslovakia for more than forty years. People were taught there was no God, which resonated with them after having experienced the ruthlessness of Catholicism. Today public schools continue to teach God does not exist, and evolution is the "scientific" answer to the origin of mankind and our universe. Several of our students have told us that we are the first Christians they have ever met. Many have not heard the gospel message.

We pray the people of the Czech Republic will turn to God and be healed. May churches experience a revival and rekindle the passion the Moravian brothers had for God. Once again, may they be the missionaries who go out until all have heard. •

Bramborový Salát

Czech Potato Salad

- 2 lbs potatoes**
- 5 eggs, hard-boiled**
- 2 carrots, mid-size**
- 1 parsley root, mid-size**
- 6 dill pickles, mid-size**
- 1 onion, smaller**
- 5 Tbsp mayonnaise**
- 2 Tbsp pickle juice**
- 1 Tbsp yellow mustard**
- 1 1/2 tsp salt**
- 1/2 tsp black pepper**



In a large saucepan boil the potatoes in their skin and let them cool completely, ideally overnight. In a medium saucepan boil the eggs; cool and peel.

Clean the carrots and parsley root and cut into two equal-sized pieces. In a medium saucepan bring water to a boil. Add carrots, parsley root, a bit of salt and a bit of vinegar and cook for about 5 minutes; then cool them quickly with cold water. The vegetables will be soft but not mushy.

Cut the potatoes, eggs, carrots, parsley root, and pickles into cubes about 1/3-inch in size, combining all in a large bowl. Peel and finely chop the onion; add to bowl.

Add mayonnaise, pickle juice, and yellow mustard. Season with salt and pepper and mix thoroughly.

NOTES: Makes 6 portions as a side dish. Let the potato salad sit in the fridge for at least an hour before serving.

Choose potatoes of roughly the same size to cook evenly. Some Czech recipes call for adding celery root or peas to the salad. Try it and see how the taste suits you.

RECIPE AND PHOTO FROM WWW.COOKLIKECZECHS.COM.

FEA NEWS

Steve Stetler Missionary Children Education Fund

Serving as a missionary in a foreign field has seldom left anyone rich in earthly finances. Hope International Missions wants to support our missionaries in educating their children. The Steve Stetler Missionary Children Education Fund has been established to fulfill this need and to honor one who faithfully encouraged our missionaries and their families. These funds will aid missionary children as they pursue higher education.

Donations may be made directly to this fund. You may also purchase a package of eighteen beautiful Christmas cards, with proceeds going to the education fund. Zarina Motovilov has painted six scenes representing each of our mission regions. These have been designed into cards you can send to family and friends, while also helping our missionary children achieve their educational goals. Zarina is the daughter of Valera and Maude Motovilov, HIM missionaries serving in the Czech Republic.



Long-Term Missionaries Welcomed

In August 2022 Scott and Sarah Susan and their children were approved by the FEA Ministries Board as long-term missionaries with Hope International Missions. God has already been blessing their ministry with spiritual fruit. We are excited to see how God will continue using them as they work among Arab communities here in the US!

Cressmans Moving to Spain

For the past five years the Wesley and Janna Cressman family have ministered in Honduras. Toward the beginning of 2022, they felt God leading them to transition to the country of Spain. They are working through necessary paperwork and plan to arrive in Barcelona early this year. We are looking forward to watching how God uses the Cressman family to make disciples of Christ in Spain! •



LOUIE THE MONKEY

Louie the Monkey is hiding again. See if you can find him and be sure to let us know! The first five kids who call 772-546-1113 or email engagekids@feaministries.org will have their names published in the next issue of the *World Update*. Please make sure to include the page number and location when you contact us. Happy hunting!

SEA BREEZE COMMUNITY

Ministry in the Neighborhood

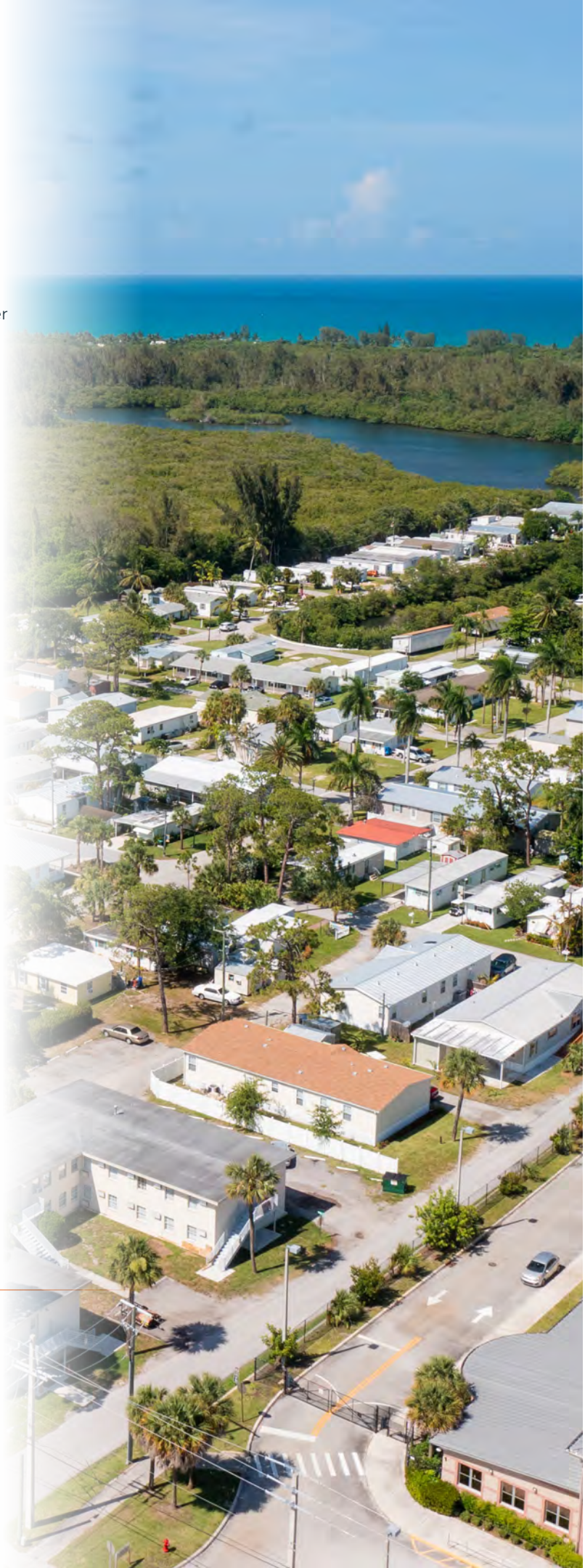
By JERRY GLICK, Sea Breeze Community Business Manager

Ministry comes in all forms. Part of my ministry is Sea Breeze Community (SBC). Much of this community is made up of retired missionaries, retired ministers and Christian workers, missionaries here for a short time, Christian workers with ministry in the area, people with children who attend school here and/or adults who attend the college, and people who work for one or more of the three ministries. It is very important that each one has a nice, safe home in which to live, and our goal is to keep SBC just such a place for them. We are thankful that our community continues to grow, and we have a waiting list of people who desire to be residents here.

Many upgrades and complete remodels have been completed on various apartments over the last several years. These improvements will continue as funds are available. In the two years since my wife Becky and I moved here, much exterior and interior painting has been completed, new tile flooring and new roofs have been installed, fresh sidewalks have been poured, a lot of water and sewer drainage issues have been worked on, and many other upgrades have been accomplished.

Since the last article from Sea Breeze Community in a "World Update," a remodel has been completed to the FEA administrative office building. This was much needed and has proved to be a huge blessing.

Sea Breeze Community has been a blessing to many people over several years. Praise God for how He has helped us to be a great "lighthouse" in this area! We want to continue to shine the light of the gospel "until all have heard!" •



INTERCEDING FOR THE NEEDS OF THE WORLD—TOGETHER

In 1957 **A. W. TOZER** wrote in his book **THE PURSUIT OF GOD**,

“Every age has its own characteristics. Right now we are in an age of religious complexity. The simplicity which is in Christ is rarely found among us. In its stead are programs, methods, organizations and a world of nervous activities which occupy time and attention but can never satisfy the longing of the heart. The shallowness of our inner experience, the hollowness of our worship, and that servile imitation of the world which marks our promotional methods all testify that we, in this day, know God only imperfectly, and the peace of God scarcely at all.

If we would find God amid all the religious externals we must first determine to find Him, and then proceed in the way of simplicity. When religion has said its last word, there is little that we need other than God Himself. The evil habit of seeking God and effectively prevents us from finding God in full revelation. In the “and” lies our great woe. If we omit the “and,” we shall soon find God, and in Him we shall find that for which we have all our lives been secretly longing.”

It is easy to look around and see a passion deficit in the church world today. The spiritual needs of our darkened world no longer seem to propel us to compassionate action. This needs to change. Yet when sensing something is off balance spiritually, we tend to find logical answers and conjure up the types of programs and nervous activities to which A. W. Tozer refers. May God help us to stop and to remember that He Himself is who we need most of all. We will then discover this beautiful truth: compassion is not something worked up in and of ourselves. Rather, our passion for the lost will increase in direct proportion to our closeness to God. The nearer we get to His heart, the more intensely passionate we become for a dying world. •

PRAY FOR A PERSONAL REVIVAL OF COMPASSION FOR THE LOST.

True passion for the lost can only come from seeking after God alone and allowing Him to instill in us and flow through us His passion for the unsaved.

PRAY FOR GOD’S WISDOM IN DETERMINING WHICH MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES HE WANTS US TO PURSUE.

The needs are abundant! Workers are needed to expand ministry teams and pioneer new works.

PRAY FOR THE HIM MISSIONARIES TO KEEP PROPER PERSPECTIVE AND PRIORITIES AS THEY BUILD GOD’S KINGDOM AROUND THE WORLD.

Amid the pressures of working cross-culturally, missionaries can find it easy to get drained spiritually, emotionally, and physically. Ask God to renew our missionaries daily as they maintain a close walk with Him.

PRAY FOR WORKERS WHO ARE CALLED TO LABOR IN THE LEAST-REACHED AREAS OF THE WORLD WHERE PEOPLE HAVE NEVER HEARD ABOUT JESUS.

Over one-third of the world’s population have virtually no chance to hear the gospel. May God help us reclaim a passion to reach these least-reached souls, to working in His vineyard. Pray for wisdom for HIM as we spread the word of ministry opportunities around the world.





FEA Ministries

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Did you know?

1. FEA founder H. Robb French had a passion for missions. In 1959 he traveled to the Bahamas with missionary C. J. Goodspeed, HSBI President Steve Herron, and teenager J. R. Hutchison to explore mission opportunities. Two years later the first HIM missionary was sent to Grand Bahama.
2. In August 1973 Robert and Marsena Pelton opened the first FEA Missions outreach beyond the West Indies. They begin teaching at Shengte Christian College in Chungli, Taiwan. Soon other HIM missionaries joined them, and today there are five churches in Taiwan.
3. Glen Reiff had grown up in South America and had a passion for its people. In the early 1990s while teaching at Hobe Sound Bible College, he noticed the growing number of Hispanic immigrants in the area and began using Mobile Chapels to evangelize them. To date twenty-three fully-organized, self-supporting Spanish churches are operating in the US.



The Peltons enjoying simple transportation in Taiwan

4. While serving as missionaries in Papua New Guinea, God opened Joe and Gay Taylor's eyes to the need for Christian literature in simplified English. They began Gospel Publishing Mission (GPM) with a passion to reach speakers of English as a second language. In 1994 GPM merged with Hope International Missions and became HIM's department of literature development and distribution. To date nearly four million GPM books have been distributed around the world.
5. Blessed with six children of their own, Wes and Misty Peterson have a passion to help needy children. In 2018 they moved their family to Lesotho to assist with and build upon the existing community-based orphan ministries there. During Sea Breeze Camp 2020 a new child-sponsorship model was launched, and today over forty orphans and vulnerable children are sponsored in Lesotho.