

News From Around The World

FROM EVANGELIST SETH EFFA IN GHANA

May the heavenly Father Jehovah richly bless you for your great love which you have bestowed on us here in Ghana. We are saying a big thanks to you . Here comes our victory and a crown that is waiting for us during the judgment day. Something to share with you: "Let me die the death of the righteous death and let my last end be like his." (Numbers 23:10-13) Balaam had been hired by Balak to curse the Israelites as they journeyed to Canaan, but God altered the plot and instead made Balaam to bless Israel. Balaam knew that "the righteous will never be moved and will be remembered forever." (Psalms 112:5-6) He seemed not to know how to accomplish his noble wish. He died not as righteous man, but as an enemy of God. Please let us follow what God has instructed us, Amen.

The churches are moving on in Christ name. 2 souls were won for Christ during the district revivals. We have one day fasting and praying at Police Barrier C. C. on the 26th of July 2013.

Yours ever love, Seth & Mercy.

FROM EVANGELIST SANTHOSH IN INDIA

The lord be magnified.. Greetings from your family of Santhosh, John Samuel and seeds ministry in south India Ammambakkam. Thanks for your love and prayer support for SEEDS.

1. Number of baptism this year Jan to June 2013 total baptism: 75
2. Number of attended in this year VBS Velor gypsy area 800 Ammambakkam and Thirukandlam area 700 Total: 1500 children's participated in this year VBS programme.
3. We have a wonderful Bible collage held at Ammambakkam. Already 12 students graduate our SBC in April 2013. Now 12 students waiting to join our collage. Pray for this seeds bible collage needs.
4. Pray for my new out reach team members, this month we distributed 1000 Bible tracks to the unreached villages. The lord be magnified.
5. Please pray for seeds orphanage because Government people asking 3 more certificated then only we start the children's Home. Already I got two certificates. so please pray for this urgent prayer request. Pray for my home children's all are still waiting in his Home.



With Love & Prayer
Bro.J.Santhosh.

Immersion in 2013

We praise God that during this year 2013 there have been **1,989** souls who have accepted Jesus as Savior and Lord and obeyed Him in Christian baptism. White Fields Overseas Evangelism is associated with 439 native evangelists worldwide. These evangelists are all looking to White Fields for support. At the present time we are only able to support 129 of these Native Evangelists. We need more supporters. It is a great thrill to report to you that these native evangelists have written to us that during January-July they along with our American Evangelists have baptized **1,989** souls. Thank the Lord!!!



Supported by Christian Churches and Churches of Christ

Reggie Thomas~ Founder/Director Emeritus Blythe Robinson~ World Outreach Coordinator Lori Darnell~ Director of Orphanage Ministries



August 1, 2013

A Heart-Rending Letter From Evangelist Allan Todd In Turkey

I am sending out an appeal on behalf of the Christian church in Istanbul in Turkey. A few weeks ago, Mehphat, wife to Musafa Cetin, a long serving Christian in Istanbul, was kidnapped, raped, starved, tortured and eventually jailed. These are also some typical experiences of many Turkish Christians who are now trying to flee persecution in their homeland only to suffer unimaginable horrors in their quest for freedom. Mehphat came to my attention during my recent visit to Istanbul. Mehphat and her daughters have suffered extreme physical and sexual abuse. They are being tortured in an effort to make them recant their faith. There's a need to form a multi-purpose centre that would offer practical help, such as child care and health advice, educational opportunities, and emotional and spiritual support, which will be helping the women to overcome the trauma they have experienced.

Many displaced Christian families who have been left impoverished in the current situation and are struggling to afford even one basic meal a day, leaving them vulnerable to health problems. Symptoms of malnutrition began to be evident in the lives of those I visited whilst in Istanbul.

It is a great tragedy that many people in Turkey are not receiving treatment for health problems that could be fairly easily managed if only the drugs and medicine were available. My wife and I are doing all we can to help Christians who are suffering as a result of illness and hunger. Pray for wisdom for those Christians we are asking to dispense resources as they have to make difficult decisions about which cases to prioritize. Pray that Turkish Christians will receive the help and support they need.

God bless you.
Allan Todd.

*note White Fields has established Christian Churches in the Muslim dominated nations of GABON, DUBAI, PAKISTAN, CHAD, MALAYSIA, and MUSLIM DOMINATED AREAS OF THE PHILIPPINES, AND INDIA. We encourage all Christians to redouble prayer efforts to win Muslims to Jesus by preaching the Gospel and showing them the love of Jesus.



Steve Butler



In past years you have read of Evangelist Steve Butler in White Fields newsletters. Steve joined White Fields as an Overseas Evangelist several years back and served honorably and successfully winning many souls to Christ. Steve was not full time, he was part time. His full time service was as the Minister of the Christian Church in Independence, Kansas, where he preached and was loved by that congregation for over 6 years.

One year and a half ago Steve was suddenly arrested and jailed in Independence and he has remained in jail ever since. Many of us are grieved because we believe Steve is 100% innocent of the charge that has been made against him.

We are asking all Christians to pray for Evangelist Steve Butler. He is your brother in Christ. He was baptized as a boy by Ronnie Epps at the Johnson County Christian Church in Overland Park, Kansas, where his father and mother were among the founding members of that church. Steve was also ordained to the ministry by the Elders of the Johnson County Christian Church after graduating from Ozark Bible College in Joplin, Mo.

Steve's trial will take place at the courthouse in Independence, Kansas, the first week of August. Several of us who live in Joplin and surrounding towns plan to be present for the trial and will be in constant prayer that God will lead the Defense Attorney to accurately present Steve's side of the story. Please pray for Steve, pray for his wife Cheryl, pray for the Judge and for each member of the jury. Pray that Steve may be acquitted so he can continue his effective work as an overseas evangelist.

Thinking about the Apostle Paul.

During Steve's incarceration I have often written to him and he has written many letters to me. Receiving a letter from Steve in jail is very similar to reading Paul's Prison Epistles in the New Testament. I want to share with you one of Steve's letters:

"Dear Reggie and Esther,
Thank you for the wonderful and encouraging letter I received from you. I so much appreciate the news of our White Fields evangelists' work around the world. I am keeping these in my thoughts and prayers---and hope to join you in the work again soon.

How could I possibly express how thankful I am to both of you for watching out for, comforting, and encouraging Cheryl through these terribly difficult times? May an abundance of grace be credited to your account. (Philippians 4:16-18).

Jail has exposed me to men who have engaged in the worst of all behaviors. Many brag about their addictions to drugs and sex---the most lewd descriptions I have been forced to hear. It is sickening to hear it day after day. The word to best describe it is TORTURE!

The good news is that one-by-one, they have come to me and asked questions about the Bible. There are moments of shame and despair. I pray throughout the day for all of them—for the Lord to reach their hearts.

Rick & Della Deighton's Work In The Ukraine

"I just wanted to thank you for the work you are doing in the Ukraine. The news on TV seems to indicate that Ukraine is a very unsafe place to be. Have you been the target of any persecution? Della, you are to be commended for keeping the home fires burning when Rick is absent. You are both working together hand in hand with the Lord. There is a definite need for the two locations to carry out His work...

"We both look forward eagerly to your well-written, interesting newsletters. They are in themselves an outreach, and I'm sure, very effective in encouraging support. The testimony about the 26 guards blew us away! It gave me goose bumps. That truly was the 'Lord's Armeel' (As in the song.)

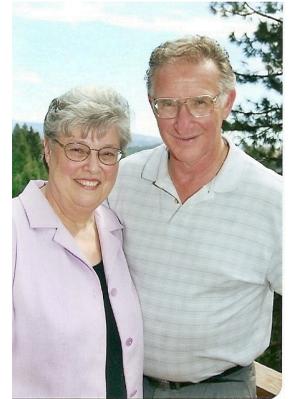
"The work you are doing in the Ukraine may some day have a real impact on the politics of that area, and eventually spread across all of Europe, influence Russians, and finally culminate in a world-wide change. God is all-powerful, but He depends on His people to do His work. This region is an extremely vital mission. The Enemy spends endless money, resources and people to spread his word; how can we do less? If we take Religious Freedom for granted and sit around nonchalantly expecting it to continue without our effort to sustain it, then we will be in for a rude awakening. The Enemy is very strong, but God is stronger. It all depends on which group's emissaries work the hardest. I fear that our own country is going down the drain.

"So keep up the good work, Rick and Della and all your compatriots. Tell them we appreciate their dedication.

Love in Christ Jesus, Walt & Wanda McGinnis"

Note: No, I do not feel any more danger in Ukraine than I do in America. Both are dealing with extreme corruption in government and society, and things can change fast in either country. There are huge problems in Ukraine, but we are so thankful for such wonderful co-workers. I have not experienced persecution in Ukraine - but perhaps that is to my shame because "all who live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution." (2 Timothy 3:12). Actually, I believe the persecution which is so prevalent to Christians in much of the world is coming to both of our nations, and we need to get ready. It's already happening in many ways, but it is getting worse and more violent (as with the Columbine shootings a few years ago.) Once in Crimea a woman who seemed quite upset was talking to Sergei Golovin in a loud voice. I asked him what she said, and he replied, "I hate you!" Apparently she hated me as an American so much that she hated Sergei for talking with me and helping me with my luggage. I didn't know this woman, and she probably hated me for decisions made by our government leaders. This is very mild compared to what we may be facing very soon. Are we prayed up? Are we willing to face persecution for His Name's sake? These are very pertinent questions.

Actually, the safest place to be on the face of the earth is in the center of God's will. The Father said to His people Israel, "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand." Isaiah 41:10. Since those of us in Christ are His adopted children who have been grafted into the tree and are part of true Israel (prince of God), shouldn't we also be able to claim this comforting promise for our own? ~ Rick



Jeff Badgero

Terminally Ill But There Is Hope

The Chaplin called me and I met with her. She was very compassionate and started the process of speaking to the right hospital staff to make this man's wishes a reality.

There were many questions along the way. Why couldn't he just have a prayer or be sprinkled? Why did he need to be immersed? I knew they had accommodated Other faiths that required a smudging ceremony that involved fire in a patient's room, something that normally is not allowed. So I said it would be like offering them a flashlight for their ceremony. God doesn't like substitutes. Nursing and pt checked their tub and said it was too small, "so sorry if it were bigger they would help." I called Carol and ask her to buy a pool and come quickly. She arrived with a 5'x10' 22" pool. We took it to physical therapy and started to blow it up. Several staff members assisted and they finally got a hand pump to finish the job. Nursing was called as they needed to inspect this idea.

The Chaplin called me and said I think you need to go with them. I got into the staff elevator with the head of nursing and she asked, "are you the preacher?" I looked at her and gave her a big smile and said I think I know you. I had worked there 15 years ago. She gave me a smile and asked several questions. God just removed every roadblock, Then the Doctor had to come visit the patient and give his approval. I had the privilege of sitting in on that was an interesting 20 min conversation. The Doctor explained that the man was terminal however they may be able to do some tests to determine where his internal bleeding was coming from and stop it or slow it down to buy him some time. The man said "doc, I could die in those tests!" "First things first, I need to get right with my maker. I want to spend the rest of my time serving Him and then spend eternity with Him, I'm not afraid to die but I am afraid to meet God if I haven't made peace with Him." The doctor said he would not get in the way of his spiritual needs and would tell the nurses that he was ok with this man being immersed.

God is sooooo Big. The staff in every department was wonderful. It took a lot of people, a lot of strategy on several ideas on lifting the man. One big God who is alive and with us, who could be against us? Around 5 pm we were all assembled in the pt area looking at a rainbow colored pool that my loving wife had filled with warm water. There were a few familiar faces I had worked with years ago and some new faces I had just met today. One very determined special man lying on a stretcher. He said, "I just can't believe it's true I can't believe my prayers and dreams are being answered." He was lowered into the watery grave by at least 6 sets of caring compassionate hands and his sins were buried in baptism. He arose born again a new creature determined to serve his risen savior. Wow!

I want to recognize I'm terminal. There is a new song out, I want to live like there is no tomorrow I want to live like I'm on borrowed time.

I know all things are possible through God who gives us strength, May God richly bless you today. Be bold but not abrasive! May they know we are Christians by our Love. We are all terminal! Are we ready to meet our maker? Live with purpose!

Jeff and Carol

Steve Butler

One man, convinced that "all men are equal," (not believing that anyone was better than him) _ he reacted violently toward me when I said, "Yes, I believe there are some who are better than others." I used examples like Noah and Job and Enoch and Elijah. He nearly hit me he was so angry; he said that I was Satanic. Then after telling him that I loved him, I left the room. Later that day, I handed him a Bible reference..."Consider others more important than yourselves..." (Philippians 3:2). It amazes me how so many do not esteem others beyond themselves. Needless to say, there is little to no respect for authority.

I have always had "heroes in the faith". These men refuse to consider anyone as being better than themselves. While I understand that "all have sinned" and "all need the Savior", there are many who are "walking in a manner worthy of their calling." We are to "Give honor to whom honor is due." These are foreign concepts; they demand respect, but often forget to give it.

The hardships are discouraging, and sometimes I lose hope---but my faith is strong. I cannot deny the Lord's word, nor can I deny His faithfulness.

Thank you again for all you are doing to help us in this difficult situation. I believe the Lord will deliver me home and restore my joy.

I love you both beyond words, Steve Butler, Psalm 103"

OUR APPEAL IS THAT A LARGE ARMY OF PRAYER WARRIORS WILL SURROUND STEVE WITH YOUR PRAYERS TO GOD FOR STEVE'S ACQUITTAL.

News From Around The World

Paul Raghu ~ India

Dear respected Man of God Loving Greetings from Crest India. Thank you so much for all your prayers. The Awareness Camp went on so well, many of the Government Officers, Lawyers presented and conducted an awareness Camp.

After noon, Shanthi, Ruth and one of my Pastor Friends and myself went to a River Bank and waited for Bro. Raja, a young man, to come. He accepted Christ as his personal Savior, read the Bible, attended Church service for more than 7months and requested me to help him obey the Lord in Water baptism. Only today God allowed me to do. We named him Jacob. Paul, this is the young fellow I wrote about in my last letter. God willing we are praying to have marriage for Susan; A young man, new born again Christian is having talk with us for past 6months. We like that fellow but waiting to know God's will. He is an Engineer and at present he works in Ford Car Showroom in Tirunelveli as a Sales Executive. He has no father and mother just one married elder Sister. Name Jacob Raja 26 years old. love, Paul



FROM EVANGELIST E.K. DURAJ IN INDIA

Happy to inform you that we got two more families (parents) through VBS and one young girl who attended the VBS obeyed the Gospel and took Baptism. Total 5 were baptized. Thank you for your prayers and support for the VBS as well the ministry. Please pray for the new souls. See the big smile from the young girl face. EK and Joys

Burdens of the Heart By Dr. W. Blythe Robinson



Mission work has its obvious difficulties. It's the ones that aren't obvious that are the "burdens of the heart." The concept of the work of White Fields that some have falls short of our reality. Our work isn't one in which we go to some strange country, stay in an air conditioned motel, with good beds and plenty of hot water, and good food at cheap prices, while we preach a revival at a local church in the evenings, only to shortly return home with victory reports. Such a fantasy is just that!



The reality is that for White Fields, Evangelism is a "burden of the heart" that is directly proportional to our emotional investment in the work. The more one cares the heavier the unseen burdens are. It's one thing to watch pictures of depressed places around the world. It's another, when you are suddenly emotionally immersed into the depressing reality of that world and begin to experience and finally to succumb to its daily sense of hopelessness and futility.

How many dirty little children, with tattered clothing, walking barefoot, on filthy, polluted, garbage strewn streets, with sad lonely faces, struggling to carry water beyond their strength, can we remember, long after we return to our children, without weeping! How many skinny, boney, wrinkled faced, slumped over, grey headed, toothless, old people can we pass in one day and keep on smiling!

What does one do when they reach out those old, wrinkled up, boney arms, while begging for food and we walk on by, knowing that if you give to one an endless crowd will quickly form, with pleas of mercy beyond our ability to meet? How does one sleep at night when they hear children around them crying for lack of food, and you have given away all that you have and joined them in their deprivation? How often can one come to pray for the sick; enter a dirt floored, smoke stench thatched roofed hut, with dogs, chickens, rats, and insects as visitors, kneeling down by a suffering lost soul wrapped in dirty rags, and pray, realizing how easily they could be healed; **if only**, and then leave!



Often missionaries themselves don't fully realize how deeply they have been affected. Upon returning from a trip, my family took me to dinner. At first I was thrilled to have a really good American meal. Then I noticed that I was getting upset and I didn't know why. I just knew that I was getting angry, really angry. I got so angry that I just wanted to scream. Suddenly I saw the source of my anger. On all the tables, in every dish, was food left uneaten. I watched in pain as I saw waiter carrying away stack after stack of good food to be discarded. Suddenly I had a flash back to the country from which I had just ministered, as I remembered all those hungry, hollow faces and thought of how desperately they would have eagerly have eaten every crumb, and been extremely thankful! **If only**.

Burdens of the Heart By Dr. W. Blythe Robinson

If only. I have entered American homes and found parents either begging their children to eat their food, or threatening them in some fashion if they didn't, **if only!** I can't help but wonder what would change if they joined foreign children searching for food through piles of garbage! **If only**. **If only** what? **If only** more people cared enough to do more to help these people who have so little, while we are so abundantly blessed. Read the words of **1 Jn.3:17** and ask yourself, what would happen, **if only we all** did a **little more**? Someone is waiting for your help with their burdens of the heart.



Jeff Badgero Terminally Ill But There Is Hope

We truly serve an amazing God!!!

One of our fellow Elders who is a doctor said all of his patients are terminal. How true, life here is but a vapor. Yesterday I got a solid reminder of that. I received a call from our church secretary at 9am and asked if I was available. There was a terminally ill patient at a local hospital that specifically asked for a Church of Christ Preacher to come visit him.



The rest of the day was totally amazing for me. I called my wife and asked if she would go with me and maybe we would have lunch later. When she dropped me off I said I would be at least an hour but would call and update her. I walked into the room and introduced myself. The man's son got up from a chair and said, "here is your answer" and left. The gentleman in the bed took my hand with a firm grip and wouldn't let go. He said, "I need to get right with my Maker before I go to meet Him. I don't want and flowery prayers, I just need the truth." (Jn 8:32 says the truth will set you free.) I intently listen to his story that was much like my own: a Sinner needing a savior.

He knew he had made a mess of a lot of things, he knew he needed forgiveness and he knew he needed to forgive others. He said he didn't want any medical treatment until he was right with God and he asked to be immersed. I told him I would do my best to help him make that happen, I left my Bible in his room and said I would be back.

I was at a very large hospital that had lots of rules and procedures I thought to myself if this happens today it will be a God thing. I called the hospital Chaplin and left a message, then took a tour of the physical therapy department in search of a tub large enough to accommodate this man. The tub was small and the staff were at first guarded after all there are lots of rules and procedures in a large hospital. I called my wife and ask for prayers and ask her to start to look for a blow up pool.