



Missions Hotline

Tuesday, May 12, 2009

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Free Methodist World Missions is committed to serve Free Methodists as together we make disciples among the peoples of the world. The Free Methodist Church has ministry in 82 world areas.

Nigeria

Phyllis Sortor has returned to the missionary residence in Ikot Ekpe in order to be present for the court case against the former, now expelled, pastor who unlawfully seized Hope Academy, the church and mission property last week. The case will be presented in court on Wed., May 13. The FM superintendents feel confident that matters will be resolved and this man will be put in prison. While threats had been made against the lives of the superintendents and Phyllis, they are all safe. Please pray that justice be served quickly, that the church and school recover soon and grow stronger, and that Phyllis and the superintendents lead boldly. Hope Academy, an International Child Care Ministries sponsored school serving hundreds of children and their families, is located in the south central region of Nigeria.

Africa

Ethiopia: The Ethiopia Amanuel Light and Life Church is the name of FM work registered in Ethiopia. It includes more than 30 local churches. Currently, this work is a mission district of the Southern California Annual Conference. Oversight of the Ethiopia work will transition to FMWM this summer. A natural part of registering with the government is to draft organizational bylaws which also need to be culturally relevant and in harmony with FM fundamentals. Area Director Mike Reynen made his first visit to Ethiopia in early April and asks prayer for the leadership and churches. Getachew has served as the national leader for the last few years.

Asia

Taiwan: The Taiwan Annual Conference recently recognized the Chun Lun FMC, where Tim and Lily Kinkead co-pastor, as a full society. The church will hold their thanksgiving service at the local elementary school on May 31 because the church building is not big enough. Continue to pray for the leadership board as they work toward getting land to build a worship center. The process is long and complicated. Pray the board members have God's wisdom as they work through all the details.

Missions Family

Health: Brenda Hendrick (Ukraine) recently turned her ankle in a hole and broke her foot, which is still swollen and a bit painful. Walking on the foot will be limited for another three to four weeks at the minimum. Pray for Brenda's recovery.

Day of Fasting and Prayer: Executive Director Dr. Art Brown encourages you to join missions organizations who are spending one day a month in prayer and fasting. The third Wednesday of each month has been suggested, making Wed., May 20, the next proposed day to fast and pray as a proactive response to the challenging financial environment. Consider encouraging your church to participate in this focused time of prayer.

Europe

Greece: Last week thieves broke into the Thessaloniki church and stole over \$5,000 worth of equipment. Even though a keyboard, computer, projector, guitar amp, and several other items were taken, Michael Long reports the church experienced a full weekend of ministry as if nothing was missing. "God's presence does not depend on man's equipment. The attack came just as spiritual increase was happening. May the Lord replace the losses double and increase the work even more," Michael writes.

Students at the Thessaloniki University department of film and media decided to do a documentary on the evangelical churches in Thessaloniki. Mike and Maria Long said that out of all the 20-some congregations, the students liked the FM church and came recently to film a service. The camera man was impressed. "There was spontaneous sharing and testimonies of God's grace that surprised him," write the Longs. "Let's believe that God will open the students' hearts beyond just objective journalism."

Portugal: Michael and Carrie Hamely report that several new children have come to Jesus through recent outreach events and have begun attending the Santa Marta do Pinhal church. Since the Hamleys will be returning to the U.S. soon, they are hoping to find someone willing to pastor the 30 or so children. If unable to find someone soon, they will have to redirect the youth to another church where they can continue to be disciplined. Pray the Lord would raise up a willing and able teacher for these children.

Latin America

Brazil: Praise the Lord that enrollment at the seminary in Cuiaba is higher than ever and the teaching staff is carrying on very well.

Mobilization

"The opposite of love is not hate, it's indifference" -C.S. Lewis. Pray God will overcome indifference for the lost and call more people to go and tell the world about Jesus. Has God put a special love in your heart for those in other nations? Send an e-mail to ExploreMissions@gmail.com to discuss how you can begin to pursue your call. Get more info at www.FMExpeditions.org.

VISA Ministries

The Arlington FMC, WA, is sending a team of three, May 12 to 29, to Haiti to help in education ministries, teach English classes and help with tutoring. Katherine Zook is the team leader.

Stephanie Harris, Wenatchee FMC, WA, travels to Malawi and Burundi May 12 through Aug. 26. She will teach English and promote literacy awareness.

Megan Burt from North Carolina travels to Greece where she will work with the FM missions team May 13 to Aug. 11.

Larry and Carol Foote, Marysville FMC, WA, travel to Colombia May 13-20. The Footes have served short- term assignments in Mexico in the past.

Harv Vander Griend, Marysville, WA, and Ron Kocher, Auburn FMC, WA, will speak at a youth conference in India, May 17 to 27.

VISA Ministries - PO Box 535002, Indianapolis, IN 46253-5002 - visa@fmcna.org - 800-342-5531

Current Newsletters

Check the FMWM Web site for recent newsletters from the following missionaries:

Julie Allman, Ukraine

Jerry & Jan Coleman, Europe

Ricardo & Beth Gomez, Latin America

Michael & Carrie Hamley, Europe

Tim & Lily Kinkead, Taiwan

Al & Diane Mellinger, Bulgaria

Mike & Vickie Reynen, Africa

Don & Kathy Williams, Thailand

This link takes you directly to the [Missionary Web Pages](#) listing.

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