

April 2010 Executive Summary

NEWS BRIEFS, condensed version (for the complete news briefs, go to: www.lausanneworldpulse.com/newsbrief.php/1271/04-2010)

AROUND THE WORLD: GoBible Traveler Holds Entire Audio Bible

The GoBible Traveler is available in two new portable audio Bible editions: The GoBible Traveler and the Spanish GoBible Viajero. The GoBible Traveler is a lightweight, hand-held, portable device preloaded with the entire audio version of the Bible featuring over seventy hours of audio. It is offered in either the King James Version, The New International Version, or The Nueva Versión Internacional. (Assist News Service)

CHILE: Speaking Hope in the Aftermath of the Earthquake

As the nation of Chile continues suffering from the aftermath of the March earthquake, TWR was also affected as its partner office there, Radio Trans Mundial (RTM), sustained severe damage. The extent of the damage and what it may cost to repair are still being assessed. TWR's Member Care Radio, in partnership with Dr. Brent Lindquist of Link Care Center, is responding to comfort the people of Chile by distributing a series of radio programs in Spanish for caregivers and survivors of crisis and catastrophe. (TWR)

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC: Major League Baseball Player Spreads Christ's Love

While the United States is gearing up for America's favorite pastime, a Major League baseball player is helping kids learn the game while also introducing them to Christ. According to Kathy Redmond of Compassion International (CI), Albert Pujols of the St. Louis Cardinals sponsors CI's entire child survival program in Batey Aleman, a community of Haitian migrant workers who harvest sugar cane in the Dominican Republic. Sadly, Redmond explains, "The sugar cane industry is defunct. People are living in a dust bowl, where drug dealers come by. You can see men playing dominos in the streets because there's nothing for them to do." There is also nothing for the children to do. So, Redmond says, Little League baseball is being brought into Batey. (Mission Network News)

ERITREA: Cargo Container Program Highlights Human Rights Abuses

Teenagers who attended the Elim Pentecostal Church annual youth department's Serious4God event, *The Gathering*, in February 2010 were invited by Christian Solidarity Worldwide (CSW) to watch a human rights film about Eritrean prisoners while caged inside a metal shipping container. CSW's youth program, *Outcry*, is showing the film to help raise awareness of the plight of some three thousand Eritreans detained without trial in horrific conditions by their government for holding Christian beliefs. (Christian Solidarity Worldwide)

ESTONIA: Funding of Upgraded Transmitter Complete

TWR will soon be able to reach deeper into Russia with the life-changing truth of the gospel with 200,000 watts of power from Estonia. This is because a critical Estonia transmitter upgrade project has been fully funded—the result of over \$400,000USD worth of answered prayers. TWR will now be able to reach an additional fifty-two million people and a potential total audience of 159 million people. The next step involves funding the programs that will air on the upgraded Estonia transmitter. Each program is specifically targeted to meet the needs of Russian listeners. (TWR)

ETHIOPIA: Women of Global Action Reaches Out to Entoto Mountain Community

Women of Global Action (WOGA) is a network of women who want to influence their world with God's love as they address the issues of injustice affecting women and girls. WOGA's Entoto Outreach Project ministers to an Ethiopian community of approximately four thousand people living with HIV/AIDS on Entoto Mountain, located on the outskirts of Addis Ababa. The project helps individuals obtain access to health care and income generation opportunities, and eventually reintegrate back into society. The project also helps the children of these individuals through after-school activities, health screenings, tutoring, and other educational activities. (Mission Network News)

INDIA: Radicals Attack Christians in Karnataka Slum

On 17 February 2010, a group of three hundred Hindi radicals entered the homes of Christian believers in a slum located in Mysore, Karnataka state, and assaulted them for their faith. According to the Global Council of Indian Christians (GCIC), radicals belonging to Bajrang Dal, a right-wing Hindu organization which is the youth wing of the Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP), went to twenty-two Christian houses in a slum. The GCIC report said that they indiscriminately attacked and beat up men, women and children. A source said the attackers then compelled some of the victims to sign affidavits saying they were being "forcibly converted" to Christianity. (Assist News Service)

Morocco: Parents and Staff Deported from Orphanage

Christian workers at the Village of Hope (VOH) orphanage in Morocco were recently deported, the building closed, land confiscated, and the children left without parents. Local papers accused the Christians at VOH of proselytism. VOH is located in Ain Leuh, an area known for prostitution in Morocco. When young women get pregnant, they often come to this area to have their baby and then are forced by their family to leave the baby behind. In 1999, Christians asked the governor for permission to restart an orphanage that had closed a few years earlier and to begin taking in these abandoned babies. They did this overtly as Christians. After years of passing government inspections, this time authorities came in and announced only a few days later that the parents and staff had to pack and leave. (Village of Hope)

NIGER: Coup May Be a Positive Step

Niger's junta staged a coup on 18 February 2010 and put former Nigerian president Mamadou Tandja under house arrest. In spite of how it looks, the coup may be a step toward stability. Carl Moeller with Open Doors says it's the third one in eighteen months. "There is hope that this coup led by moderate elements within the opposition party would actually... restore a larger degree of democracy over the long term." Open Doors co-workers say calm has been restored in the capital city of Niamey, and the country's borders have now been re-opened. (Mission Network News)

NIGERIA: Protests Held in Jos after Fulani Muslims Massacre Hundreds of Christians

Youths in Bukuru and Barkin Ladi are holding protests following the recent massacre of more than two hundred Christians in Zot, Dogo Nahauwa, and Rastat villages by armed Fulani Muslims. Despite a heavy security presence, entire families are reported to have been murdered. Survivors say armed men arrived at around 3 a.m. on 7 March 2010, and woke the villagers simultaneously with gunfire and shouting, before setting homes on fire and attacking men, women, and children with knives. Army assistance was requested, but arrived after the massacre had taken place. The attackers are said to have traveled into the area from the neighboring Shari'a state of Bauchi during curfew hours. (Christian Solidarity Worldwide)

RUSSIA: Children Receive over Fifty Thousand Christmas Gifts

According to Anita Deyneka, president of Russian Ministries (RM), a total of 50,183 Christmas presents were given away to needy children and their families or caregivers during December 2009 and January 2010. In Ukraine, students and graduates from School Without Walls (SWW), a program run by the Association for Spiritual Renewal, participated with forty-five local churches and eleven other groups to deliver 9,915 Christmas presents to needy children, street kids, and orphans in forty towns and villages. In Russia, 206 local churches joined SWW to deliver 40,268 Christmas presents to needy children in regions, including Chechnya and South Ossetia. (Mission Network News)

SOUTH KOREA: Nazarene Mission Camp Prepares Diverse Group

Sixty enthusiastic participants from thirteen churches across the Korea District of the Nazarene Church gathered 1-2 February 2010 for Mission Camp 2010. The camp, sponsored by the Korea Nazarene Mission Center (KNMC) and held on the campus of Korea Nazarene University (KNU) in Cheonan City, was the first such camp ever held in the Korea District. Participation in the camp is a requirement for anyone wanting to be sent from the Korea District as a missionary. The ages of the participants ranged from fourteen to forty and included high school and university students, pastors, business people, Nazarene Missions International leaders, a clinical psychologist, and a medical doctor and his wife. (Nazarene Communications Network)

UNITED STATES: Only Five of Top Twenty-five U.S. Churches Report Growth

Membership has increased in the Roman Catholic Church—the largest Christian body in the U.S.—but the number two Southern Baptist Convention, along with most traditional Protestant denominations, reported continuing decline,

according to new figures released by the U.S. National Council of Churches. Both the Southern Baptists and Catholics reported membership losses in 2009's Yearbook of American and Canadian Churches; in the 2010 edition, released on 12 February 2010, however, only the Catholics reported a rebound, with a 1.5% growth rate, to more than 68 million members. Southern Baptists held on to the number two spot, at 16.3 million members, but that figure represented a 0.2% drop from 2009 and the second consecutive year of decline. The Presbyterian Church (USA) experienced the greatest loss among the top ten denominations (3.3%), down to 2.8 million members. (Ecumenical News International)

PUBLISHER'S MEMO

Engaging with Our Difficult Past through Christ Our Reconciler by Doug Birdsall, co-publisher of LWP. It was the work of Christ that illustrates the very mission and heart of God to reconcile the world to himself. God's work of reconciliation through Christ transforms believers into God's new creation—transformed now into ambassadors of his reconciliation. All believers, together as the Body of Christ, are called to be agents of hope and reconciliation in our broken and fragmented world. However, too often the Church is caught up in the very conflicts in which it is called to be an agent of reconciliation. Reconciliation is not *forgetting* the painful past; rather, it is *naming and remembering* it. www.lausanneworldpulse.com/leadershipmemo/1264/04-2010

THEMED ARTICLES: CHRIST OUR RECONCILER

The Role of the Church in Reconciliation in South Africa by Dion Forster, a minister and academic who serves as chaplain to the Global Day of Prayer and the Power Group of companies in Cape Town, South Africa. The Christian Church is one of the most pervasive and significant institutions in South African society, Forster writes. For the past 350 years Christianity and the Christian Church have made significant contributions to the best and the worst of South Africa's history. Here is an overview of South African missionary history, Apartheid, and the Church as it moves toward reconciliation and healing in a long-divided land. www.lausanneworldpulse.com/themedarticles.php/1267/04-2010

The Church Can Unite a Nation *by Heideli Loubser, a writer and editor at Crown Marketplace in South Africa, and Mario Denton, an international teacher and industrial psychologist.* The authors share how overcoming racist mindsets and denominationalism can be done through unity, integrity, and love. www.lausanneworldpulse.com/themedarticles.php/1268/04-2010

Be Black, Evangelical, and "Left" in the Struggle against Apartheid *by Moss Ntlha, general secretary of the Evangelical Alliance of South Africa*. Being black and evangelical in South Africa means being a witness in at least three respects. First, the central message of Christianity is wrongly married to the apparatus of Apartheid repression. Second, being black and evangelical means witnessing that Jesus is relevant to the deepest questions posed by the black experience. Third, liberation of South Africa from the sin of Apartheid is a Christian duty. www.lausanneworldpulse.com/themedarticles.php/1269/04-2010

Tear Down this Wall: A Note for Pastors and Laity *by Kent Humphreys, a worldwide ambassador for Fellowship of Companies for Christ International.* The author identifies restraints that are holding back progress that the Holy Spirit wants to see as pastors, business leaders, and laity come together to minister. www.lausanneworldpulse.com/themedarticles.php/1265/04-2010

PERSPECTIVES

On Partnership and Vision 2010: Toward the Last Languages by Bob Creson, president/CEO of Wycliffe Bible Translators USA. In 1999, Wycliffe and other partners adopted Vision 2025 to see all language communities having a Bible translation program in progress by 2025. In 2009, 109 translation projects were started—the largest number ever recorded. The remaining number of translation needs stands near 2,200. www.lausanneworldpulse.com/perspectives.php/1262/04-2010

Surprised by God: How God Used Us to Impact a People Group for Him *by Rick Dunn, president of Global Frontiers Project.* In 2006, the author's local church was invited to become part of *Finishing the Task* and adopt a

people group in a closed Asian country. Adoption meant that their church was making a commitment to develop and implement a strategy to bring the gospel to this group of 137,000 people who had never heard the gospel. How God used a small group of lay people to change the spiritual trajectory of an entire people group. www.lausanneworldpulse.com/perspectives.php/1254/04-2010

The Tale of Two Brothers: Innovation in Missions and Church Planting by Elizabeth Childs Drury, a Ph.D. student in intercultural education at Biola University. The traditional missionary is looking increasingly different today. Nonetheless, the author shares through a tale of two brothers how these atypical workers can greatly impact the harvest. www.lausanneworldpulse.com/perspectives.php/1263/04-2010

Where Is God? A Christian Reflection on the Haitian Earthquake by J. John, a Greek-Cypriot evangelist, speaker, and author. The people of Haiti, Chile, or elsewhere do not need an explanation of why catastrophe happens—they have more pressing problems. Similarly, when we go and visit a bereaved friend we do not try and explain what has happened; instead, we put our arms around him or her, weep with him or her, and try and help. The Christian God is not a remote, detached being who doesn't care about suffering; instead, he suffers with us. In short, the priority is response first and reflection later. With that in mind the author considers seven points.

www.lausanneworldpulse.com/perspectives.php/1266/04-2010

LEADERSHIP PROFILES

Leadership Profile: Kath Henry, Northridge Vineyard Christian Fellowship, Thornleigh, Sydney, Australia. Kath Henry is co-pastor of Vineyard Christian Fellowship in Sydney. Here, Henry discusses her passions, motivations, and hopes for a needy world. www.lausanneworldpulse.com/leadership_profiles.php/1239/03-2010

LAUSANNE REPORTS

Summary Report on Lausanne Theology Working Group *by Chris Wright, international director of Langham Partnership, and Rosalee Velloso Ewell, New Testament editor for the* Latin American Bible Commentary. Twenty-three members of the Lausanne Theology Working Group recently met in Lebanon to discuss what is meant by "the whole world." It was their third and final pre-Cape Town consultation. Previously, they discussed "the whole gospel" and "the whole Church." www.lausanneworldpulse.com/lausannereports/1272/04-2010

April 2010 Theme: Glocalized Evangelism: Ministry Where Cultures Meet

Questions or comments about Lausanne World Pulse may be sent to: editor@lausanneworldpulse.com.