

# HORIZONS

I MUST  
WORK WHILE  
IT IS DAY

AT HOME AND ABROAD

THE NIGHT  
COMETH WHEN NO  
MAN CAN WORK

## Bruce Edison Cumming

1921 - 2014

### Missionary to Venezuela



Upon hearing that Bruce Cumming was to leave Venezuela after sixty years of service there, a Christian in Caracas who had known the assemblies of God's people since the 1940s, said, "Well, of all the foreigners who have come to this country to serve the Lord, Bruce Cumming

was the one who identified most with the Venezuelan people."

Bruce, with his wife Rhoda, gave spirit, soul and body to evangelize the state of Falcon, on the north-western coast of that country, and to build assemblies according to the pattern laid down in the New Testament. It took pressing circumstances, or strong persuasion by his fellow workers, to convince him to interrupt his labours where his heart was.

He visited the humblest of homes, far from populated areas; preached publicly the Word of God in his down-to-earth, earnest way; sponsored literature distribution in every hamlet; constructed many gospel halls; and counselled a people who respected him for what he was as well as what he did. Bruce Cumming was born in Squamish, near Vancouver, Canada, on July 11, 1921, into a family of six boys and three

girls, and grew up in Vancouver during the Great Depression. His father was killed in a train accident when Bruce was eleven-years-old.

At age nineteen he had a desire to be right with God. Alone, he knelt down by a cattle trough and prayed, "O God, I am no good at all." There came to mind what he had learned in the Woodland Drive Gospel Hall: "The blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanses from all sin." He believed that great declaration from Holy Scripture. His soul was saved and his cigarettes were destroyed as a sign of new life.

Friends persuaded him to join the Canadian army as a noncombatant, and he was engaged as a code breaker for four years. In England, before being sent across the Channel, he longed to hear the Scriptures preached and to know God's people. Bruce found an assembly of believers and was baptized among them. Visiting David Livingstone's birthplace, he was challenged by Isaiah 6:8: "Who will go?" There he dedicated himself to the spread of the gospel.

As World War II was ending, he was severely burned in Germany while rescuing a group of people from a burning building. Treatment required months of hospitalization in London.

The promise that the Lord gave Jacob before he left Bethel, "I am with thee and will keep thee in all places," was the assurance that he received when returning to Canada in 1946. He was received into the fellowship of Christians in the Fairview assembly, where his mother and sister, Anna Jean, were members. The following year, Bruce was joined in matrimony with Miss Rhoda Alves.

Commended to full-time service in the Lord's work, they arrived in Venezuela late in 1947 and soon were engaged, along with others, in the arduous project of constructing the rudiments of

a house and a gospel hall in Cumarebo, Those buildings are icons to the present day. Bruce and Rhoda later relocated to a more adequate residence in nearby Tocopero.

While it is true, many centres in Falcon are prosperous, large areas of that part of Venezuela are scorching hot, dry and cruel to man and beast, and to God's people. But many in Falcon responded to the Gospel, and some leaders in New Testament churches in other parts of the country trace their spiritual heritage to what they learned in an inauspicious childhood when "Don Bruce" arrived in the jeep.

Bruce's health failed when the couple was in Vancouver in 2007. He suffered frequent falls and was admitted to a care facility where he remained quietly with his Bible, books and prayer, until his decease. Or was he there? Rather, he was reliving unstinting service for the Lord Jesus Christ in a certain corner of the vast field, which is the world that is crying for the gospel.

Donald R. Alves

## HORIZONS

At Home and Abroad

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## Special Prayer Request

**David R. Alves**

**Puerto Vallarta, Mexico**

James & Nelly Dyck, and their six children (Levi, Simon, Andrew, Natalia, Maquela, and Josiah), have been a source of much joy to us for several years in the work of the Lord in Mexico. They are presently in Canada, as Nelly needs rest and some medical tests done.

Their youngest child, Josiah, two-years-and-eight-months, has just been diagnosed with leukaemia. Further tests are underway. Doctors have told James & Nelly that he will require a few weeks of hospitalization, and some years of treatment. James & Nelly would cherish your prayers.

## James & Nelly Dyck & Family

We came back to Ontario on December 20th, due to Nelly's health. She is needing blood-work done and so will advise when we know more.

In December, Josiah slipped on a couple of steps and has been complaining about sore bones ever since. I took him into emergency at the Woodstock hospital and they did some X-rays of his legs and hips to try and determine Josiah's problem. After not finding anything overly outstanding, the doctor decided to take some blood tests to see if there was anything out of the





ordinary. Upon seeing the test, he immediately sent us to London Children's hospital for Josiah to see a specialist. After some more blood tests, the doctor came back and gave us the unwanted news that Josiah has leukaemia. At this time they still do not know what kind that he has, but have told us that he will need to be hospitalized for a few weeks to begin treatment and then continue with ongoing treatment over the next two to three years. NOTE: There are still many variables that could change the treatment plan. Also, the doctor told us that Josiah has under half the blood in his body that he should have, so they are currently giving him more blood. This is all we know for now. We cherish your **prayers**.

## Burleigh Heads, AUSTRALIA

### John & Olive McDowell

One is amazed at God's matchless grace and kindness toward us. It is seventy years since the medical profession gave me up at seven years of age, with no hope of recovery. How blest we have been these many years. On 18th December, 1949, I was saved by God's grace and, ever since, so wonderfully preserved, in fellowship with the Lord's redeemed people. Forty-five years ago God gave me a good wife and we have been spared to enjoy each others company until

the present and privileged to spread the Gospel to millions of souls.”

We have managed, with the Lord's help, to continue to display Gospel verses on over sixty sites in the main cities: Perth, Adelaide, Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast, for millions of people to read and there have been some interesting responses.

Although we are very restricted presently with shortness of breath and needing oxygen most of the time, we cannot do what once we did, so do **thank** God for young men raised up to continue to preach the Gospel and here, at Burleigh Heads, to take responsibility in the assembly. We look to the Lord to preserve them. The brethren have just had the permit renewed for twelve months, for permission to hold two open-air Gospel meetings each week in the park opposite the shops. For this we praise God.

Our brother Clive Barber has kept busy in the Gospel and recently he and Bryan Stewart, from Northern Ireland, (who settled in South Australia), had Gospel meetings in Adelaide, with good interest and blessing in salvation. Clive has gone over to New Zealand this month, to have meetings and follow up on previous contacts there.

Measureless distance the Saviour came,  
To rescue men from sin and shame.  
From dateless ages He lived above,  
Yet came to earth to show His love.

Highly honoured in scenes on high,  
Despised, rejected below the sky,  
His perfect, fragrant, sinless life,  
Brought peace and joy to those in strife.

His Father's will He must perform,  
Though He must suffer pain and scorn,  
He had to bear the cross alone,  
That He might for our sin atone.

Redemption's price is now complete,  
And saved souls worship at His feet,  
God raised His Son to reign on high,  
Crowned and worshipped above the sky.

Complete dominion will be His,  
The Sovereign of the Universe,  
Pre-eminent God's Son will be,  
For He shall reign eternally.

John McDowell

## Lutsk, Ukraine

### Timothy & Rhoda Sloan

In twenty-one years we have never doubted that what we are doing is the Will of God. We are thrilled and enthused that God is working here in Lutsk, Ukraine. God has blessed in salvation and we have had the joy of another baptism. We cannot achieve anything by our own strength; we need the Lord's help and your **prayerful** support.

From January to June 2013 we achieved so much and felt that we would be finished by early 2014. However, God had other plans and we had to pay off our builders in June. We recommenced in December, (2nd -19th), and have three major sections to finish: three toilets, kitchen & dining area. When finished, we will use the building to its full potential - Breaking of Bread meetings, Sunday Schools, Gospel & Ministry meetings, Children's meetings, Bible Study & Prayer meetings. The dining area will be used to feed the one-hundred children daily. We will commence English classes, using the Bible as our main textbook and would like to do a work among the elderly in our area. We look forward to having the Gospel Hall completed in 2014.

In November, our dear sister Lydia was suddenly called Home to be with her Saviour. She was truly like Lydia from Thyatira, who **H**eard, whose **H**ear was opened, who **H**earkened, who **H**onoured the Lord in baptism and who showed

much **H**ospitality. She will be greatly missed. We often preached the Gospel in her little home and were greatly encouraged, just after Lydia's funeral, when another family asked us to come and preach the Gospel in their home.

### THE ASSEMBLY

Nadia was baptized on 9th July in the lake at Ozeraw. In September 2007 I walked into a language school looking for someone to teach me Ukrainian — my teacher was Nadia. God saved her and we had the joy of seeing her baptized and in assembly fellowship. She never misses a meeting, enjoys her Sunday School Class and is a great help in our translation work and proofreading of assembly literature in Ukrainian. Nadia has a great testimony in her home, at work, and in the assembly.

During 2013 we had a series of Gospel meetings in Luba's house (two rooms in an attic). There was not a night when we had less than fourteen unsaved in. Luba is very poor and, as a result of your kindness, we were able to buy her a fridge/freezer, which was needed during the hot weather, as well as support her in buying materials, so that she could renovate an attic room. **Pray** that Luba will see her family saved.

Anatoly and I work together five days a week, from 07.30 a.m. to late evening. He has been in the assembly for over ten years and is one of those dedicated believers who is fully committed to the assembly. He uses his time in interpretation, translation, proofreading, as well as running our new website. [www.nta.lutsk.ua](http://www.nta.lutsk.ua)

### TENTH CONFERENCE

We had approximately 110 believers/unbelievers from the U.S.A., Slovakia, Moldova and Ukraine gathered to hear the Word of God faithfully ministered by our brother Stephen Baker. Stephen was excellent as he spoke on Future Events and their relevance to us today. Brother

James Colledge took the daily Children's meetings and he excelled in preaching the Gospel. Each night he took up Life's Greatest Question and explained it by telling a Bible story to the large number of children who attended.

Three-hundred-and-sixty-thousand Gospel tracts were printed over eleven years. We translated and printed 10,000 Gospel tracts based on the testimony of dear Flo Kancir, 5,000 Safety, Certainty & Enjoyment tracts and 10,000 Gospel Text Cards, for Sunday School and the streets.

We have taken delivery of 17,000 calendars for 2014. Four-thousand were given to Lviv and 2,000 to Ivano Frankivsk. It is a joy to give out 11,000 calendars in Lutsk and surrounding areas.

One big project for 2014 is the printing of 'Choices,' by brother John Dennison, translated by Nadia - an excellent book for young believers and we trust God will use it to help Ukrainian believers make better decisions in their Christian lives. Please **pray** for the development of this large but very important literature work in Lutsk. We would love to open a Christian bookshop/store in the basement of the Gospel Hall and provide two believers with a job.

### UKRAINE CHILD CARE

For eleven years we have been preaching the Gospel to over one-hundred children every day, before they receive a hot meal. This work will move to the Gospel Hall as soon as we have the kitchen/dining areas finished. God has never failed us and we really appreciate your support. Bobby has conscientiously been involved in this rewarding work for years. If you would like to help, please contact him: Mr Bobby Carson, 90 Duneoin Road, Glarryford, Ballymena, Co. Antrim. BT44 9HH. Northern Ireland.

Life is really difficult for these children and, with your help, we can give them little treats as well as preach the Gospel. Salvation would change their destiny in eternity and a little practical help now makes a difference in their

sad, pitiful lives. We would do it for our own children/grandchildren — why not for others? Please **pray** for this very important and encouraging work. The Lord has been working and we have, over the years, seen some of these dear children saved. Some are now in the assembly in Lutsk. What a worthwhile work!

### SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN

There are fifty special needs children —the child did not choose to be born in this condition. We can choose to do nothing or to do something!

1. Tetiana (29) lives with her mother and grandmother (both invalids) in a two-room apartment, in appalling conditions. Her father and younger brother have died. Tetiana has been paralyzed since nine-months-old and she cannot walk or speak. There has been no mental development and she suffers from frequent attacks of epilepsy. She needs regular medical support.
2. Victoria (16) lives with her grandmother, as her father left her, and her mother died of cancer. She is paralyzed and cannot walk or talk.
3. Andrew (24) is looked after by his mother, as his father is also disabled. Andrew is paralyzed, and cannot walk or talk and he has lung problems. He often needs medical help.

They never chose to be born disabled or abandoned. It is the responsibility of Lutsk assembly to show Christlike love in a practical way.

### Moshi, TANZANIA Ron & Maria Cunningham

We are **thankful** to the Lord for the privilege to continue a little longer in His service. Over the past few months we have been able to visit several district assemblies and enjoyed this very much. In only a few places it was not advisable for Maria to come as they were semi-desert districts and too hot for her. A Tanzanian brother and I went.

We have been involved in the secondary schools ministry as we enjoy sharing the word of God with the many students and their interest to learn more of His Word. Remember in **prayer** the students at 'O' and 'A' levels final years. We have been able to supply more and more students with substantially discounted Bibles. Still, more requests come from students for more Bibles. It is encouraging to see so many students at the lessons, with their Bibles open and taking notes. At one school I was invited to address their general assembly with over five-hundred students and staff members. The students were respectful for such a gathering and the sharing of the word of God and worship.

We had joy and sadness of teaching two classes of O-Level students in two different secondary schools. It would be my last visit with them. After exams are over, they leave the school and do not return. On stressing the importance of reading the Word of God, the students gave me great joy when six of them declared openly before their fellow students that they had read all four Gospels during the last term. It is a good note for them to leave on and a great personal joy for Maria and I to observe their sincerity. **Prayer** is valued for these students that they will grow and be a blessing to all whom they may meet and with whom they may share God's Word.

In the Manyara Region, there is a dam for holding rain water from nearby mountains. It was destroyed but we were able to repair it. There are seven villages around the dam site. The local assembly there has an active outreach to these villages. At Wareta village there are now over twenty baptized believers and a soon-to-be established assembly.

We had the thrill of witnessing the baptism of two young people from one family - a brother and sister. This was after a few weeks of Bible teaching of what the Word of God teaches about

this great event in the life of the Church. Thankfully, Maria was able to come for the occasion. The believers were baptized in a part of the Karanga River which comes flowing down from the ice cap on top of Mount Kilimanjaro - some 19,000 feet high.

I was able to visit a small fruit market where a number of ladies were set up for a few hours to sell. On this occasion they asked me for some gospel literature to take with them to a much larger fruit market. Some, on their way back, would ask me for gospel tracts to take with them higher up into the mountains to share with their village people. I always enjoy this contact and to share the Gospel.

Maria continues, despite her years, to be very active in spreading the Word of God to sisters in the Bethel assembly and other villages. She helps poor children who are not able to have an education and endeavours to see they have an opportunity for school through a special fund she operates. She also takes a special interest in albino children and caring for those who are members of the local assembly at Katesh. Please do **pray** for this specialized work and Maria to have the health to continue in the work amongst children. We value your continual **prayer** fellowship for the Lord's work in Tanzania and we, His servants.

## ANGOLA LITERATURE WORK

**Samuel & Elizabeth Simonyi-Gindele**

### PRACTICAL ISSUES

The pressure of space in Luanda remains a concern for the furtherance of the work in the capital. **Prayer** is requested for the day-to-day challenges faced by missionaries - in storage, transportation and movement of literature around the country. The continued high demand for study Bibles represents a particular financial burden on the Fund.





## NEW MISSIONARIES FOR ANGOLA

Joel and Kaleigh Grin, from Canada, are currently studying Portuguese in Lisbon, with a view to going to Angola to serve the Lord. Sam & Elizabeth Simonyi-Gindele, having learnt Portuguese, are currently in Zambia waiting for the issue of visas, to cross into Angola to take up service for the Lord wherever He may lead them.

Simonyi Gindele family

## PRAYER POINTERS\*

Praise the Lord for His bountiful provision, allowing the Fund to meet the varied literature and printing needs in Angola.

\* Continue to **pray** for guidance concerning the MegaVoice project.

\* **Pray** that, as customs regulations in Luanda become stricter, the Fund will be able to continue to send supplies for the work, via containers.

\* **Thank** the Lord for the fellowship of Medical Missionary News which provides invaluable and unstinting assistance in the work.

\* **Pray** that the Bibles and other literature supplied by the Fund may be blessed of the Lord and further His work in Angola.



Ndonji in his wheelchair with Arthur Wema after enjoying lunch together.

## CONTINUING WORK WITHIN ANGOLA

Paper, ink and printing consumables continue to be sent by container from Medical Missionary News for the two printing facilities in Luanda and Saurimo. Both of these serve the requirements of the missionaries, the Angolan assemblies and the Primary Schools supervised by Ruth Hadley. During 2012, seven-hundred Portuguese Study Bibles have been bought and distributed throughout Angola, where interest is shown, particularly by the younger generation who have an increased level of education. In



addition, various study courses, Bible dictionaries and encyclopaedias have been supplied, to the same end. Books made available have included the William MacDonald works entitled, 'Be Holy,' 'Observe the Difference' and 'The Grace of God.' All literature continues to be sold (often at highly subsidized prices) at conferences and in remote places when visits are made into different regions. Ten-thousand Chokwe and Portuguese hymnbooks have been reprinted and are currently en route to Angola.

The believers have appreciated the supply of 20,000 Scripture wall calendars which have been widely distributed. The Myrtlefield Trust has kindly donated 10,000 copies of Key Bible Concepts for all Angola but distribution of these awaits their arrival. The Fund continues to receive many requests from Saurimo and Luanda for literature supplies. As reported last year, the John Ritchie 'Focus On' booklets and the 'Family Series' have been translated into Portuguese; these have both arrived in Angola and are greatly appreciated, especially by young people.

### TRANSLATION WORK

The Trustees continue to be grateful for the skilful translation work of Terry Blackman, who is currently translating 'The Glories of our Lord' by H.C. Hewlett. The future distribution of this classic book is intended to stimulate appreciation by our Angolan brethren, of the attributes of our Lord Jesus Christ and thereby enrich the worship of individuals and assemblies.

### CURRENT PROJECTS

Three new Wm. MacDonald titles have been ordered - 'Let Me Introduce You To The Bible' for young people wanting an outline of books of the Bible; 'There's a Way Back to God,' for evangelism; and 'My Heart, My Life, My All,' which we trust will encourage a new generation to give their lives in service for Christ.

The painstaking work of retyping printed books has been maintained and the Trust is pleased to hear from those who are willing to help in this. One project is the on-going Songo hymnbook.

## The Word Of God Among All Nations

### Alhambra, LOS ANGELES

Thomas & Nelly Baker

Much of our time is spent in visitation, as there is a great need. The Norco assembly is multicultural so I make a copy of my ministry notes in English, Spanish and Korean. It is very time-consuming but proven to be a blessing to those whose first language is not English.

Several who stopped coming years ago, have started to return to the meetings and over seventy are attending. We have watched in wonderment and would appreciate your **prayers**, as many of them have been saved out of the gangs. Throughout the years we have kept in contact through **prayers** and personal visits. There are other families that we continue to visit and **pray** for, trusting they will return.

One man has been faithfully coming. Through the use of drugs he had a frightening encounter with the evils of the occult world and was brought to the very door of death. It has been such a joy to see the transformation God has done. We visit him often and he pours out his heart in love and appreciation to the Lord for opening his eyes to reality. We have been working with him in his personal needs as he had nothing, so had him do much needed work around our house and the Hall. Some of the neighbours have hired him and his main desire is to build up a good relationship with the hope they will come to the meetings. He has a real

zeal to win people to the Lord and we have been **praying** much for them.

His business card says, "I can do all things through Christ, which strengtheneth me." Both of us were crawling around the attic at the Hall. It was very hot and what we were doing was not easy. He turned to me and said, "Tom, quote Phil. 4:13, I need to hear it right now." He was a leader in the gangs. Now he is a leader in the things of the Lord. A couple of young men who recently started coming to the meetings, constantly speaks to them about the Lord. When I am there, he stops work to have a Bible Study. We appreciate your **prayers** for him.

Another young man started coming to the meetings. He too has been a real joy. He was tested for cancer in one leg but it is clear. He has other problems and, because of his infirmity, is not able to work. He spends most of his time studying the Bible, going to malls and coffee shops, passing our tracts and spreading the Gospel. He has an outgoing personality and it is amazing how many people listen to him. His grandmother passed away so he is taking the opportunity to bring the gospel to family members. **Pray** the Lord will bless his efforts.

Last year we received a young man into the assembly. He came faithfully before asking for reception, having attended a mega church but feels this is the place the Lord would have him gather. A Navy reserve, he is now in Afghanistan. His assignment is confidential so **prayers** for his safety is much appreciated.

We have been doing some work on the Norco Hall and, along with other things, we have fixed up the nursery. A lady who has started coming, had a baby last week, so we are trying to make everything nice for them. We also are building a baptistry. This has taken a while as the ground on the property is very hard and we will be

having a baptism soon, as four have expressed a desire to obey the Lord in baptism. One is a nurse whose schedule was recently changed to where she has to work six Lord's days before she gets one off. She asked for **prayer**, as she wants to find a job that will leave Sundays free.

A couple of months ago we submitted plans to the City to build a patio on the back of the Hall. The first set of plans was sent back for revision but now approved. Every Lord's Day, we serve a lunch. It is quite crowded, moving the benches, etc. Our plan is to use the patio for the lunches and Sunday School classes. For years Nelly made all the lunches but now the other sisters have been bringing lunches, which has worked out well. Not only does it take a load off Nelly but it helps to promote more fellowship. The other benefit is a great assortment of meals - Korean, Mexican, American, etc.

## Grande Prairie, ALBERTA

### Gordon & Doreen Williams

We are **thankful** for all your prayers and are both steadily recovering from the recent health issues and **thankful** for the Lord's mercies. Neither of us had been treated for heart problems before. It was not until last April that Doreen started having chest pains, though she had been poorly all last winter. In August she had to go to emergency at Grande Prairie and was sent to Edmonton for an angiogram. We did not find out until last week that she actually had twelve blockages and a triple by-pass. It was a very bad time and she was in ICU for a week after. She still has some serious problems, including a blockage to her left arm but doing well. In October, I also had a heart attack and had to go to Edmonton. It speaks well of our system that, within an hour of my getting to Grande Prairie hospital, they had me on the plane. An angiogram showed five blockages. Two were done with stents and one with the balloon - the

others left for treatment. Compared to what Doreen went through, mine was a picnic, yet we know that many believers have far worse situations. I am not sure what this means for the future, especially for Doreen. Ironically the cardiologist said there was no reason for my having a heart attack except genetics.

Each December we visit around the area with scripture calendars and try to contact individuals that have come to meetings in the tent or the hall. As well, we cover many farms and each of the Hutterite colonies in this area. That alone takes several days as they are so spread out. I will need more time this year as I do not want to drive in the back country if the roads are bad or it is bitterly cold. Many of the families look forward to these calendars, which leads to good visits. It is one way of sowing the seed of the Word.

We have been encouraged with a few visitors that regularly attend the meetings here at the hall and by a weekly Bible study that I have with a group of men in town. We started a weekly meeting on the tabernacle. It is a great subject with lovely teaching, especially on the person of Christ and the assembly. We value your **prayers**.

## South Africa, Newsletter

### David & Helen McKillen

As we review – only from our standpoint – the year that has passed, we reflect on much that we neither planned nor predicted, yet we acknowledge, all lay within His divine purpose and plan. We can only bow to His sovereign will and direction.

January 2013 began with a long anticipated and much prayed-for trip into Namibia. A wonderful and welcoming land, lying to the north and west of South Africa and adjacent to Botswana, yet, for reasons unknown, unevangelized from an

assembly perspective. With Dan & Stella Nguluka, we desired shared outreach into that land and, by God's grace, it was granted: 12,000k in four weeks, by Land Rover, over 11,000 Gospel Calendars and more than 20,000 Gospel tracts distributed in many languages, thousands in dozens of villages and towns touched by the gospel of the grace of God. The results are known in heaven. We have planted the seed, others are already watering, but only God can give the increase.

**PRAYER REQUEST:** Pray for brother Dan as he has obtained permission to pitch a gospel tent in Windhoek, the capital of Namibia and purposes to distribute gospel calendars and preach the gospel for a number of nights within the next few weeks - early February, potentially. On returning from our outreach safari, I was once again drawn to answer the demand for teaching among the assemblies of the Cape where – though not in all cases – a younger emerging generation has an appetite for the Word of God. We helped to recommence a conversational Bible Reading in the small assembly of North Pine, where we were in fellowship, and are pleased the saints are still progressing through the book of Acts.

From February until August 2013, I was occupied in over twenty weeks ministry and conferences. The area covered the Southern Peninsula, Mitchell's Plain and the Overberg region east of Cape Town. There are many little lampstands which we reflect on as being preserved by the One who walks among the lampstands still. The subjects covered in ministry included, "The Foundation of the Church," the "Principles of Assembly Gathering" and, increasingly, responded to a demand for Bible study and discussion groups in follow-up, as a result of Helen's faithful work in the bookstalls, where we provided sound



literature and requests on the use of concordances and lexicons for new students.

Helen left for the UK and I followed for a seven-week visit to Ireland and the wedding of our oldest daughter, Anna. The day after our family wedding – 4<sup>th</sup> October 2013 – in response to routine blood tests, Helen was diagnosed with Acute Myeloid Leukaemia [AML] and commenced treatment as an inpatient in the specialist hospital. As I now write, [21<sup>st</sup> Jan 2014], the chemotherapy continues. She is strong in the Lord and I am humbled at her forbearance and fortitude in such a physical and mental trial.

In all of this unexpectedness and sudden rearrangement of human plans, we are blessed and humbled in equal measure to see the hand of our God at work, “What? Shall we receive good from the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil?” (Job 2:10). We are especially blessed that the diagnosis was early, we were together as a family, the medical facilities in Belfast are excellent, we have been provided with a little home and good transport and, above all that, the Lord’s people have continued in consistent and effectual fervent **prayer** for my dear wife and help-meet in the Lord’s work. The **prayer** support and communications we have received have been a source of joy, tears, strength and wonderment, as the many places we have touched, and some we have not physically visited, have been drawn together in love with upholding arms for Helen’s recovery.

Helen’s progress, reduction of side effects, and testimony of faith, have been a quiet witness to many who otherwise would acknowledge little of the power of God.

### **PRAYER REQUESTS:**

**Pray** for the growth of the many small assemblies which we are not now able to be

amongst, but our **prayers** are for their continued progress and preservation.

\* **Pray** for Namibia and the great potential of a lampstand of testimony being established.

\* **Pray** for Helen’s full and complete recovery, which will be a slow return to full strength and **pray** earnestly for an effectual door of utterance to be opened, wherever we find ourselves positioned in His service just now.

\* **Pray** for Sylvia, a dear widowed sister who has been our fellow-companion in the work in Cape Town. She was diagnosed with severe cancer with no treatment scheduled. Our dear sister and family need much **prayer**.

\* **Pray** for Africa as darkness is increasing and many in authority seem to desire the old ways of spiritual darkness and sacrifices to the ancestral spirits. The hearts of many fail for fear, and the thoughts and questions on many lips in that land today are regarding the signs of His coming.

\* Most humbly we ask, **pray** for us. We cannot express our appreciation in words for all the blessing received in recent months through the prayers and kind words of so many. We **thank** you most inadequately in the Lord’s name.

## **Santa Maria, BRAZIL**

### **John & Christine McCann**

Presently we are having Gospel meetings in the home of a young couple in Santa Maria. They have recently moved here from Santarem in the state of Para, in the extreme north of Brazil. We were encouraged, during the first week of these meetings, to hear of an elderly man who has attended meetings for some years, having professed faith in Christ. God had been speaking loudly to him, through the death of a sister and, on the same day that his sister died, his son was almost killed in an industrial accident. In the mercy of God, his son has survived although he had to have his right arm amputated and will need a lot of skin-grafting, due to severe burns to

most of his body. When visiting his father a few days afterwards, he told me that he felt God was warning him that he needed to prepare for eternity. At 3:00 a.m. one morning, the words of John 3:14-15 came to mind and he understood that Christ had died in his place upon the cross. He is from a dark Roman Catholic background and we trust this will be the start of blessing in his large family circle. Sadly, the door-to-door visitation work, as is so often the case, has been difficult with the people indifferent to the message. Santa Maria has so many false cults moving around the people, that it has become very difficult to find anyone that really has interest.

This coming Lord's day, we will be receiving three young men to the fellowship of the assembly. One will be the young man in whose home we are preaching. The other two are grandsons of our dear brother Ronnie Watterson, who labours for the Lord in the state of Sao Paulo. They have come here to work in the local Brazilian Air Force base, as Air Traffic Controllers. We are **thankful** to the Lord for their exercise in the things of the Lord and we hope they all will be a blessing to the work here.

Last weekend I spent two days giving out calendars in two different towns around one-hundred-and-fifty kms. to the south of where we live. Years ago we used to have regular Gospel meetings in both Cacapava and Lavras do Sul. Moving around the different contacts, I was so saddened to learn that so many who once attended meetings, are already in eternity, and none that I know of left any hope of having trusted Christ as their Saviour. Truly we are "to one the savour of death unto death and to another the savour of life unto life and who is sufficient for these things!" 2nd Cor. 2:16. Many asked when we would be returning to have meetings in these towns. The door is wide open if we had more workers to take advantage of the opportunities on every hand. "Pray ye therefore

the Lord of the Harvest that He will send forth labourers into His harvest." Matthew 9:38.

## HORIZONS

At Home and Abroad

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### Langstaff Missionary Conference, May 9-11, 2014

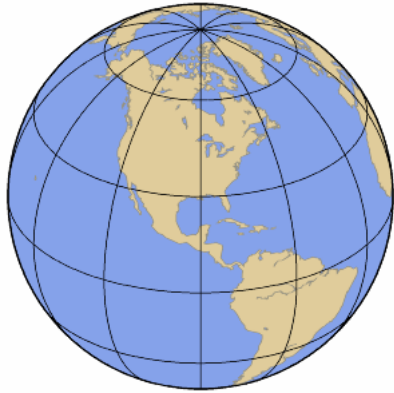
At the Langstaff Gospel Hall,  
1350 Langstaff Rd., Thornhill, ON.

The second weekend in May is the biggest weekend of the year for the Langstaff Gospel Hall. It is that weekend that we host the annual Langstaff Missionary Conference. Each year we invite God's servants from around the globe to come and tell us how God is working around the world, and to challenge and encourage us as we see God work here in Canada. This year the conference will begin on Friday, May 9th, 2014 and will continue throughout the weekend. We invite you to come! For accommodation, contact Irving & Sheryl Payne at (905)773-3822 or [sheryl.p@sympatico.ca](mailto:sheryl.p@sympatico.ca).

The speakers for this year will be:

Dr. Clark Logan - Botswana; Stephen Harper - Malawi; David Weir - Romania; Stephen Redpath - Venezuela; John Nesbitt - Mexico

# LATE HORIZONS



## NEWS:

### Important Notice

Visit Horizons website:

[www.horizons.homeip.net](http://www.horizons.homeip.net)

*Our brother John Short, 75, has been arrested in North Korea.*

He was arrested by the public security bureau of North Korea on Sunday and faces fifteen years in jail under the harsh regime of Kim Jong-un, for allegedly distributing religious material.

He has since been questioned in Pyongyang, the North Korean capital and its largest city, about religious pamphlets printed in the Korean language and believed to be in his possession.

He and his wife Karen and their three children, live in Hong Kong. His wife, Karen has told of the family's shock at his situation and their hopes for his safe return. They have been in Asia for forty years serving the Lord.

The man with whom John was travelling was flown back to China, but John was detained. "We are asking the Lord's people to please **pray**



for both John and Karen at this desperate time. **Pray** too for the Australian Government as they deal with this issue, that they will do the right thing and be a help in getting John freed.

Also **pray** for other countries in the region which may be able to help.

**Visits to - Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Borneo, India and Fiji.**

**Stephen & Sharon Grant**

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Last year was the usual mix of service in different locations and amongst different age groups. I was happy to be able to continue a work in our local primary school which Sharon and I have been doing for some years among the P5 children. We have the opportunity of a



children's meeting each Friday lunchtime within the school, which is a great opportunity of spreading the Gospel among the children. I was able to speak at camps in the summer and take weeks of school assemblies.

Gospel work among adults, writing and pastoral work, kept me busy in my immediate locality. I have had to restrict the work with assemblies in Northern Ireland and England, due to responsibilities in my assembly.

At home, my Bible Class was a source of much joy. I was able to complete the studies in Romans, which took over two years, a series which I thoroughly enjoyed. I am starting 1st Corinthians and anticipate being in that book for some time. The numbers have remained good every second Friday and interest is very encouraging. We continued with our annual Bible Class weekend at Auchenfoyle Farm. This is the third year and we are at full capacity again, with plenty of people coming for the Bible teaching and fellowship. We will have it again in June and hope for warmer weather as poor weather has been a regular feature.

My travels abroad took me to Indonesia and Fiji. I have had a longstanding connection with the work in Indonesia, with numerous visits to the saints. It has been a joy to be able to channel funds into the areas of Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Borneo, India and Fiji.

I was able to direct funds for the purchase of a mini-bus which continues to be of great value in the Citra Raya assembly in Indonesia. We have also paid off the mortgage on their building, put literature in their language and funded a few trips into Borneo as they have travelled back and forth witnessing to their extended families and home communities in the middle of "Kalamantan," which is Indonesian Borneo. Motorbikes, power point projector, laptop and computer, renovation and an extension to their

building for kids work, the list goes on of financial support.

I had the joy of travelling into Borneo and Java, meeting other Christians and helping in a very limited way with their outreach. Perhaps the biggest blessing is simply to have fellowship and let them know that there are Christians on the other side of the world who have never met but support and care for them and their work. It has been a privilege to be a link between saints in the U.K. and places like Sri Lanka, Nepal and Indonesia, where we have done things as diverse as building toilets in schools, supplying vehicles, putting funds into farms, fishing boats, medical supplies, school resources, building shelters for abused women, provided a tuk tuk for a family to use as a business, paying for kid's schooling, providing nursery equipment, uniforms, school bags, supporting poor evangelists; literature translation. We look to the Lord this incoming year. Only He knows what lies ahead and we can only commit it to Him with confidence that His will be done.