



# MISSION MATTERS IN THE MOUNTAIN STATE

AFC - 2010

Mission Matters is a periodic update from the offices of Mission Support of the WVBC.

## INSIDE THIS PACKET:

### PARTNERS IN MISSION

- AFC Offering
- Haiti Earthquake Relief
- MSMO coming soon
- Partners in Mission
  - 2010 Trip information
  - Fulks Scholarship
  - Camp Global 2010
- Mission Support Services
- Project Good Samaritan

### Find it on the Web @

[www.wvbc.org](http://www.wvbc.org)  
[www.abc-usa.org](http://www.abc-usa.org)  
[www.abcusamissions.org](http://www.abcusamissions.org)  
[www.internationalministries.org](http://www.internationalministries.org)  
[www.nationalministries.org](http://www.nationalministries.org)  
[www.judsonpress.com](http://www.judsonpress.com)  
Or call 1.800.ABC-3USA

West Virginia Baptist  
Convention  
P.O. BOX 1019  
Parkersburg, WV 26102

1.800.879.9822



## THERE'S AN APP FOR THAT

If you believe the commercials on television there is an “app” for just about everything. The appeal of “smart phones” and the multitude of applications that can be downloaded is overwhelming. Do you want sports updates on your phone? There’s an app for that! Do you want news updates? There’s an app for that! Do you want the latest blog from a friend, map assistance, restaurants, etc... there are apps – countless apps that will give you the information you want at your fingertips.

Some of the apps are free to download. Others require a subscription. But everywhere I look, people have their smart phone and have it loaded with the apps they want.

When I stop to consider how much it costs to have a smart phone; I wonder, why would anyone give the phone company another \$30 a month to get free internet? Maybe I am old fashioned. Maybe I am cheap (not maybe). Then I think of all of the things I can do with a dollar a day that I (so far) refuse to give to the phone company.

A dollar a day will feed a child at the House of Love. A dollar a day will buy three children school lunches for a month in Thailand. A dollar a day will pay the medical cost for two HIV positive women at the House of Love. A dollar a day would go a long way to help support one of our missionaries.

It seems everywhere one looks, people are talking about cutting back – living with less – doing without. We see the impact of such thinking in the support of our mission efforts. Giving is down! Missionaries are being threatened with recall due to lack of funding. Overseas partners are suffering because of drastic budget cuts we have made in our support of their work.

Christ has called each of us out of sin and into a new life with him. He has also called us to take the Gospel into the world. We do this primarily through our financial support of missions. There is no good reason why we should be operating out of a mindset of scarcity when God always provides all that is needed to accomplish the work to which we are called.

Funding the mission to which God has called us – there’s an app for that! That is our obedience as faithful stewards of the resources that God has granted us to use for His glory.

*Our mission is to empower local churches to be Christ honoring communities of faith, and to help them fulfill their mission by enabling and them to do together what they cannot do alone.*

# West Virginia Mission Partners

## Dear Partners in Jesus' Mission:

Iris continues to be stable with no new side effects from chemotherapy; just energy issues. The results from our visit to MD Anderson early December were very encouraging as the tumors seem to be smaller thanks to this new medication. She has been invited to be the main speaker at the women's convention in Bolivia the last week of this month and she is very upbeat about this trip. She will have to OK it with the doctor today, Monday. If it's a go, she will be in Bolivia for 10 days and will be able to be at the Bolivian women's convention. We can see Iris' excitement about our ministry and this is good a thing as she feels inspired emotionally and spiritually which becomes a therapeutic boost in her treatment.

Mission Ministry continues to be fruitful in Bolivia. We give thanks to the Lord for all the people who are leading, including Carmen, who during the month of December showed so much leadership visiting churches and other ministries. As we are here we also help some churches and continue to contact key people to stay focused on our support.

Our son, Mario, is projecting his studies and ministry in California, which includes many details and we team up with him in all this. Seth Benjamin is trying hard to get into the university system by qualifying for grants and other resources to pay for his studies. He is also working some hours on the weekends to take care of his own personal expenses. We support him as parents showing up for as many activities he has at school. Perhaps the key question we ask all the time is: How can we make it work together?

This question has a focus thrust. It helps us to put together our lives as family and individuals as we serve the Lord in a unique way in the mission to Bolivia and at the same time face the threat of the devastation cancer brings in so many ways to anyone's life. At the same time, we realize that this question that comes from the willing heart is rooted in the power of love that 1st Corinthians 13 speaks about particularly as this chapter ends saying - and now remains hope, faith and love but the greatest of these is Love -

On behalf of the Morales family, thank you for your love and your constant prayers.

Shalom,

Mario Morales



Iris & Mario  
Morales - Bolivia

Mario & Iris Morales  
3751 E. Megan St.  
Apt.#2052  
Gilbert, Az. 85296  
Email:  
[sethlumehotmail.com](mailto:sethlumehotmail.com)  
MPT coordinator  
Mark McCloy at  
[mkmccloy@verizon.net](mailto:mkmccloy@verizon.net)

## Dear Friends and Family:

Glancing back at 2009 reveals some highlights that are similar to what a sports team might view when evaluating a year's performance. What 2009 looked like "on the field and off".

### Ministry Opportunities

Through a hobby, and a camp work day experience with pastors, David learned that a local man, Mr. Yonamine to whom MPT member Roger Adams had witnessed in 2008, came to believe in Christ as his personal savior. Our family joyfully celebrated Mr. Yonamine's baptism at the camp on May 17th, 2009.

This was "teamwork" at its best. The WV mission team, led by Roger Adams, came in the summer of 2008 was involved in that man's decision. Your prayers, your funding, your "coming onto the field" with us bore fruit for our Lord's Kingdom! Can't you hear the cheers in Heaven because of your faithfulness!

Through his boatbuilding hobby David also met Mrs. Irei, the lady who sold him an old Okinawa canoe (called a "sabani"). Prompted by the Spirit, David went to visit Mrs. Irei and had the opportunity to witness to her and an old drunken farmer having supper at her shop. David said that he felt, not only the Lord's presence during that visit, but also sensed your presence (like the "great cloud of witnesses" mentioned in Hebrews 12). David knew that Mrs. Irei was attentive to the message, because she would correct the old man's faulty interpretation of David's gospel presentation. Your faith and actions through prayer and giving placed David right there for that appointed time. Please continue to pray for Mrs. Irei and Mr.Kamiya

### West Virginia MPT in 2009

When we visited WV churches in June and July we were so encouraged by warm welcomes. David told about one church, that when the pastor asked who would like to become a part of the Turley's Mission Partnership Network, everyone's hands shot up in an immediate show of support! David was especially moved by the tears in their eyes and the depth of love in their prayers and hugs following that invitation. David feels the same about his second trip back in the fall to speak at the WV Baptist Convention at Lewisburg.

**Thank you for the shows of affection, and support. We are so encouraged by your "being there" for our ministry.**

David & Leslie Turley  
579-2 Owan Yomitan,  
Okinawa 904-0301  
Email: [turley@attglobal.net](mailto:turley@attglobal.net)  
MPT coordinator Mike Derry  
[derry@wvbc.org](mailto:derry@wvbc.org) or Nancy  
Adkins [ncakins@chasbt.org](mailto:ncakins@chasbt.org)



David & Leslie  
Turley - Japan



## Dear Friends and Family;

The new year brings much excitement here in South Africa because the Soccer World Cup comes to this country in June and July. We just watched the American movie "Invictus." The movie is about the Rugby World Cup held in South Africa in 1995 and how it helped to unite the country at a time of political transition. We highly recommend this film and believe that it can help outsiders understand this country, which is beloved by so many, as it struggles to survive as a democracy.



Rick & Anita Gutierrez  
South Africa

May you richly experience the hope, joy and love of Jesus in this new year, Rick and Anita Prayer Requests/Praises:

- Both Marc and Paul started their new school year today. Paul has joined Marc at his high school. Please pray that this be a good year for them.
- Our various mission partners in both urban and rural settings will see a fruition of evangelism this year, and that 2010 will be a year in which many people will acknowledge Jesus Christ to be their Lord and Savior.
- We will continue to see a growth in the support for our mission, which will enable us to serve for the long duration needed to effect real and lasting changes here in Africa.
- We give thanks that the people of the United States continue to show great generosity in Haiti, here in Africa and throughout the world. The goodness of Jesus Christ shows through this generosity of both spirit and substance.

Drs. Rick & Anita Gutierrez serve Jesus in Durban, South Africa. They are developing church based holistic lay health ministries tailored to the needs of people living in Southern Africa. AIDS, diabetes, malaria, nutritional and cardiovascular problems are some of the health challenges here. Drs. Rick and Anita use their expertise in family medicine to consult with local churches. Together, they discern unmet health needs of the people and train members in health skills that can be used in concert with evangelistic outreach. Their vision is an energized and encouraged Body of Christ taking up its God-given role to be an agent of Christ's healing and shalom.

**Equipping Churches  
Reaching People for  
Jesus  
Building Health Skills**

DRS. Rick & Anita Gutierrez  
PO Box 25295  
Gateway 4321, South Africa  
Email:  
[bethelhealthbuilders@yahoo.com](mailto:bethelhealthbuilders@yahoo.com)

## Hill to Begin Ministry in Bolivia



Melinda Hill  
Volunteer in Mission

When I was a little girl, I was determined that I'd never be a missionary. It was okay for other people, but I wasn't going to do it. My family moved to Clarksburg in 2001, and my father was the pastor at Clarksburg Baptist Church. They are very involved in missions with Haiti, and out of curiosity, I took my first mission trip in 2002 to Fort Liberte, Haiti. My love for missions was born. I returned to Fort Liberte in 2003 for another trip.

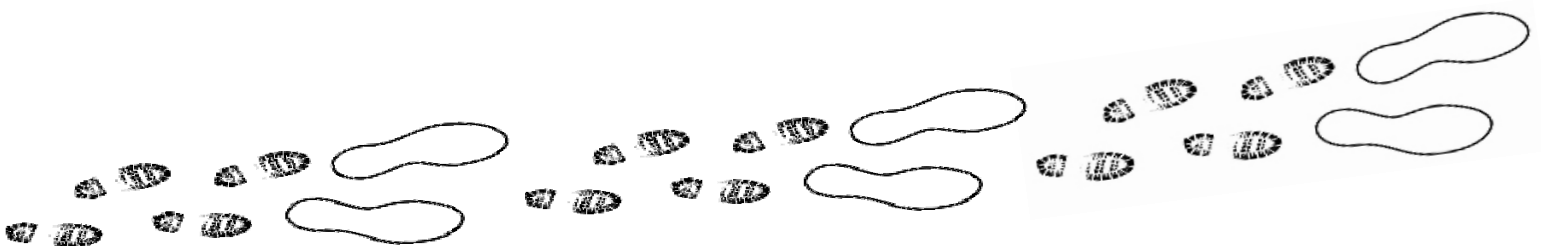
The following year, after talking with my father, I decided to accompany him with a group he was taking to Cuba for a mission trip. He's been doing mission trips to Cuba since 1991. I already spoke some Spanish, so this trip was very different for me in that I felt useful because I was able to translate, and I also built stronger relationships with the Cuban people because of my ability to communicate with them in their language. I was invited back for the summer of 2004 and spent five weeks doing Bible schools in different churches in Cuba. I've been back to Cuba for a mission trip every year since. During that time I began to experience some kind of call to missions, though nothing concrete at that time.

In the summer of 2008, I went to Camp Global and attended sessions with Stan Slade. We discussed my love for missions and the calling I felt, and he and I began to discuss the possibility of a longer term volunteer mission trip. He put me in contact with Mario and Iris Morales, ABC missionaries to Bolivia, who were also at Camp Global. We began to discuss the possibility of me serving in Cochabamba, Bolivia alongside them as a volunteer.

After much discussion and planning, I now have a trip, endorsed by both the WVBC and International Ministries, scheduled to begin **February 16, 2010**. I have been issued a formal invitation from the Bolivian Baptist Theological Seminary director, Pastor Damian Castro, to teach introduction to English for the first semester of 2010. I will be staying at the House of Hope and will be helping with some of their ministries. I have also been invited to teach English at a local church, Betania, and will assist with ABC mission groups that come in to Cochabamba when I am needed.

I am really excited to see what God will teach me and to see how God will use me! My main goals are to serve Him, to serve the people of Bolivia, and to explore the possibility that God might be calling me to full time missionary service. I would very much appreciate your prayers as I step out in faith and respond to God's call in my life. Thank you!

Melinda Hill  
House of Hope  
Cochabamba, Bolivia  
Email: [melinda165@yahoo.com](mailto:melinda165@yahoo.com)  
Join her "Facebook group"  
<http://melisadventuresinbolivia.tumblr.com/>



**2010 Mission Trip Opportunities**  
**West Virginia Baptist Convention Endorsed trips**

**Holy Land Trip March 13-22, 2010 - Full**

Discipleship and personnel growth Trip leader Rob Ely 304.372.3675. Limited number of seats available - 9 days  
Cost \$3,350

**Nicaragua April 5-13, 2010 - Full**

AMOS Ministry to Managua, Nicaragua Trip leader Larry Dale 304.699.4311 Team 10 -12 persons,  
Cost \$1,750

**Okinawa, Japan May 24 - June 4, 2010 - Full**

Fix up the Okinawa Baptist at the International Christian School - Trip leader Roger Adams 304.757.3235.  
Team of 20 people, approx. Cost \$2,000

**HOPI Indian Reservation Kykotsmovi, Arizona - Full**

June 15-25, 2010 -Trip leader Larry Dale 304.699.4311.  
Team of 12-15 people, approx. cost \$1,250

**South Africa July 11-24, 2010 - Full**

To work with Drs. Rick and Anita Gutierrez doing health screening. Trip leader Rich McClure 304.485.6327  
Team of 8 people, Cost \$3,200

**Cuba July 2010** Santiago de Cuba and Eastern Cuba to work with ABC missionary Susan Hegarty, 8-10 days approx. cost \$2,000

**Brothers' Keeper July 18-23, 2010**

Contact person Koreen Villers 304.372.3675 Mission work projects in Jackson county stay at Parchment Valley. Cost \$195 per person by May 1, 2010.

**October 2010** Havana and Eastern Cuba to do ministry with the eastern churches of FIBAC 10 days approx. cost \$2,000 Trip leader Max Hill 304.669.6535

---

**Fulks Scholarship Application** available on line

Scholarships available for participants in WVBC endorsed trips only. Application deadline April 1, 2010.

**www.wvbc.org** To apply go to Missions/Stewardship Mission Matters scroll down to Fulks Application.



For more information contact the office of Mission Support  
West Virginia Baptist Convention  
P.O. Box 1019  
Parkersburg, West Virginia 26102  
Phone: 1.800.879.9822

John E. Simmons, Associate Executive Minister  
[jsimmons@wvbc.org](mailto:jsimmons@wvbc.org)

Lisa Simmons, Associate of Mission Support  
[lsimmons@wvbc.org](mailto:lsimmons@wvbc.org) 1.866.309-2448

Joan Hall, Administrative Assistant/Bookkeeping  
[hall@wvbc.org](mailto:hall@wvbc.org)



**Upcoming Information**

Top 50 Mission Giving Churches of the WVBC will be in the center pages of the March/April WV Baptist.

**2009 Mission Support Annual Report**

will be available on line after March 1

**Certificate recognition** for your churches 2009 mission giving will be presented at Association Meetings.

**Save the date August 5-7, 2010**

CAMP GLOBAL 2010, family mission camp at Camp Cowen. This year it is immediately after Family Camp. Plan to take your family on a "staycation" at Camp Cowen, meet IM missionaries and learn to be more mission minded. Cost \$100 person \$400 max per family.

**Trip Information**

More than 900 West Virginia Baptists participated in Mission work last year. The Stewardship Commission would like to keep this information current. Contact Joan at [hall@wvbc.org](mailto:hall@wvbc.org) with your trip information.

**Mission Mailing**

If you are not the current Mission person in your church, please contact Joan at 1.800.879.9822 or email [hall@wvbc.org](mailto:hall@wvbc.org) change the mailing list.

**MISSION MATTERS is available online at [www.wvbc.org](http://www.wvbc.org) - Stewardship/Missions**

# WITH WILLING HANDS



Connect.  
Care. Celebrate.

AMERICA FOR CHRIST OFFERING 2010

2010  
State Goal  
\$145,000

## Help promote this offering during the month of March.

Remind your congregation that

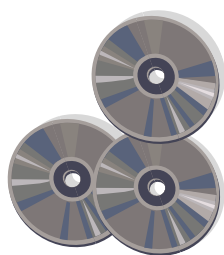
One third of this offering stays in West Virginia for regional ministries

Two thirds goes to the support of National Ministries

Supporting the Christian Center's

Hispanic Ministries

New Church Plants, evangelism, children in poverty and much more . . .



**DVD provided to share with your congregation**

**This year featuring:**

**Mission Partners in West Virginia**

- The work of Hispanic Ministries
- The children's programs at the Weirton Christian Center

**Changing lives in West Virginia by your support of the America for Christ Offering.**

**For more information go to [www.nationalministries.org](http://www.nationalministries.org)**

**GIVE TO THE  
AMERICA  
FOR CHRIST  
OFFERING  
2010**



Your Mission Dollars at Work

## Haiti Updates

Magnitude 7.0! It only lasted a few seconds – but the devastation will be known by generations to come. There were 200,000 lives forever lost in the rubble and remainder of the earthquake. The images are startling, the reality stark. But in the midst of the chaos, turmoil and death, there is hope!

American Baptists responded immediately. Through our One Great Hour of Sharing funds, \$65,000 was immediately sent to the Haitian Baptist Convention for relief work. Our missionaries were contacted; they are all safe and accounted for. Relief efforts through our partners and Church World Service began to supply food, water and shelter for thousands in need.

A day of prayer for Haiti was observed. Millions of dollars have been raised for rescue, relief and rebuilding. White Cross supplies undoubtedly will be used in the hospitals and make-shift clinics. Churches across the state collected offerings through OGHS for "Haiti Relief." Every dollar makes a difference.

Thank you for your prayers and your financial gifts for Haiti. Updates are readily available at: [www.wvbc.org](http://www.wvbc.org); [www.internationalministries.org](http://www.internationalministries.org); or [www.nationalministries.org](http://www.nationalministries.org).

