



Missionary Letters

May 2010

4808 Tallmadge Road
Rootstown, OH 44272
330-325-7174
www.GraceChurchRootstown.com

May 18, 2010

Dear Pastor & Church family,

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, today is a great spring day which makes you glad your alive...it also means you have to get jobs done around the house as a result of the long winter. We are trying to get our house ready to rent while we are on the field. Years ago we where able to buy a small ranch home for about nine thousand dollars. It wasn't something you could live in until we did a make over. It was a one bedroom NO bath house...now, it is a 4 bedroom two full bath house...we sub-contracted and did all that work while on deputation the first time. When we finished it we moved to Australia....so the renters enjoy our finished work. Because we rent it out when we go back to the field, it means extra maintenance when we return. So we are in that process right now....but I'm sure you know what that all in tales Painting, shingles, gutters so on and so on making sure you (meaning me) get as much done as possible to eliminate extra expenses by hiring someone to do the job while your away.

Well...we are at 68% and have a pretty good schedule a head of us. I sure hope the churches that have promised support can come through before the end of the year. We also have to raise enough to equip us to do the work in Australia once we get there...like 3 months rent in advance, a car, travel expenses, shipping and so forth. So....if that wasn't a hint I don't know what to call it.

Just recently we have had the privilege of sharing our ministry in two Church in Kentucky and both has taken us on. Now, we are going back to two more this week....it would be great to continue that pattern. I know I don't have to remind you of the situation our country is in, and yet God's people our stepping out by faith and trusting Him to provide by partnering with us missionaries around the world. Thank you for showing your faith in our all sufficient God.

Serving together in Christ

Ron & Vicki Letts
Missionaries in Australia

As the summer heat intensifies and antsy children count the days 'til school ends, I find myself wondering what God will do among the Rom (Gypsy) people of Romania this summer. In many ways, summertime is the peak time of ministry here. The extended hours of daylight and hot sunny weather means that adults and children alike are outside ready to talk providing the perfect opportunity to share the Gospel. The Baptist Mid Missions Romania team is busy with open air meetings, special children's classes and even church building construction projects serving the Lord wherever He opens the door. The team has grown and strategic plans are underway to take the Gospel to new unreached villages. Your prayers and support are needed now more than ever before.

Your enthusiastic support of me (Kim Marks) in the Rom ministry these last 5 years, compels me to recommend your continued involvement by partnering with BMM workers, Tim & Sandy Fink and Travis & Becky Gravley. **Tim & Sandy Fink** are 8 year veteran missionaries of the BMM team who have overcome many difficulties to establish 3 Rom churches. They are currently in need of additional support as they are trying to provide a church building for their church in Martihaz and to facilitate church leadership training seminars later this year. They have a wonderful video called "A Meeting Place for Martihaz" available in 2 parts on www.youtube.com explaining the history and needs of the Martihaz church. Please check it out! **Travis & Becky Gravley**, on the other hand, are the newest members to the BMM team and are currently finishing their deputation with the hope of moving to Romania this September. They have raised 81% of their needed support and pray that the Lord will quickly provide the rest so they can start the school year in Romanian language school. You can check out their website www.travisandbecky.com for more details of their plans for ministry.

I trust the Lord will lead you and guide you as you consider partnering with these two families to take the Gospel to some of the most despised people in the world, the Rom (Gypsy) people. May every tongue and every nation praise the name of our Great God.

All for His glory,
Kim (Marks) Petrutiu

Contact info:
Tim Fink - timfink6@yahoo.com
Travis Gravley - travis.gravley@gmail.com

Dear Grace Church,

Our time with the White children came to a close, when their dad, Ken, returned on May 4th. The kids were a delight to look after, and we've really missed them since we returned home. Kim and the new baby, Selah Grace White, should return on the 12th, if Kim receives Selah's passport in time. Their eldest son, Benj, will be graduating with Tom and Mel's son, Dustin, and hopes to enlist in the army soon after that.

While we were still with the White children, Kathy fell down some stairs and got a nasty sprained and bruised ankle. It was pretty painful, so we took her to have it x-rayed. Much to our relief, it wasn't broken. It is doing much better now and she is able to continue with most of her daily routine.

This month we are trying to catch up on several things that got put aside when we were busy with the kids. Kathy looks after the orders and sales of our Pidgin English Bible lessons and she is now up to date on filling orders and doing the billings for those. It's great to see people who desire to study God's Word. The field committee allocated enough money to print 100 copies of each of the lessons. That will make a good start, but pray that God will provide funds to keep printing more copies in the future.

Our home assignment plans are just about completed. Because I have to get my MI drivers license renewed before my Birthday, we will fly to Chicago, get picked up by a friend, who will drive us to MI, and the next day I'll get my license renewed, Lord willing. We received good news that our entry permits have been renewed. I don't know why ours got done so soon when there are many needing them before they leave the country this summer.

Our translation helpers from Elimbari, Tom and Aina, have about 47 more lessons to translate to complete all the New Testament Bible lessons. They are making good progress and we hope they can complete them by early November. I taught another Elimbari, Robbie, to cut and paste the lessons, so I am able to get on with some other things.

We wrote a proposal to our field leadership that they would set us free from leadership responsibilities to work with the national churches in this country. They will give us their decision in September. Pray for God's direction in our future. After home assignment, we'll be nearly 65, so we're not sure how many more years we will be able to serve the Lord.

Thank you for your gift of \$375 sent in April.

In Christ's love,
Jim & Kathy



Ken and Kim White Family



Selah Grace White



Kathy's bruised ankle

The Crowded House Tasmania ~ May 2010

The month of May is quickly drawing to an end, and as we approach the middle of year it is a good time to look back and reflect on where we have come so far in 2010, and also consider where God will take us in the future:

PROGRESS



We have changed our name from 'Christian Connexions' to 'The Crowded House Tasmania' (TCHT) in order to reflect the growing partnership between our work here in Tasmania, Australia, and that of 'The Crowded House' in the UK. Their work continues to excite us as a working model of church and church networks, and provides a relaxed and inviting approach to offering the Gospel to the post-Christian world that is Australia in the 21st Century.

Along with the name change, we have also expanded into 3 distinct Gospel Communities who meet as separate house churches on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month, and then we all meet together as a 'Gathering' on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month. When there are 5 Sundays in a month, we intend using that Sunday to offer a 'Stepping Up' preaching service aimed to be some powerful authoritative preaching which will call non-believers, new believers and mature believers to 'Step Up' to the next level of commitment to Christ and His Gospel ministry.

Our new format (as detailed above) has seen several of our member families place their homes on the market (or intend to later this year) with the intention of moving geographically closer to each other in our 3 Gospel Communities, and thus be able to interact with each other and our Gospel contacts more freely and naturally.

PLANS



We are currently in the process of printing (or have just completed printing) all the 'First Principles' study series, BILD's 'Leadership 1' (Acts, Pauline's, Essentials, Leaders in the early Church, Habits of the heart & Shepherding), the Antioch School portfolio, 'Seek the Welfare of the City' as well as an evangelistic course entitled 'Exploring The World We All Want', which is based on Steve Timmis and Tim Chester's (TCH UK) 'The World We All Want' with some material from 'Christianity Explained'. While some funds have been gratefully received to help with this work, we continue to pray for a growth in our benefactor base to allow our work to grow more freely.

Brian Wilson and Des Reeve are planning to visit the US in October/November of this year, including visiting Canton and attending the BILD Summit.

PARTNERSHIP



Brian, along with Kelvin Smith, Mark Austin and John Tickell, have just returned from Manado in Indonesia, where we are partnering with Ferry Paoki (Baptist Theological College) to help assist him launch an Antioch Ministry in Indonesia, the most populous Muslim nation on Earth. We are excited by what potential this work holds, but again our small numbers and limited benefactor base have tempered our support thus far.

PRAISE

We are thankful to our Heavenly Father for the unity and commitment within our small but vibrant network that is 'The Crowded House Tasmania'. We look forward to what He has in store for us in the weeks and months ahead, especially as we see our Gospel Communities connect with their local communities and expand.

We are also thankful for the prayerful and practical support of like-minded Christians like yourselves with whom we share a passion to see the Gospel shared with a lost world.



Jeremiah 29:11

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."