



Missionary Letters

April 2011

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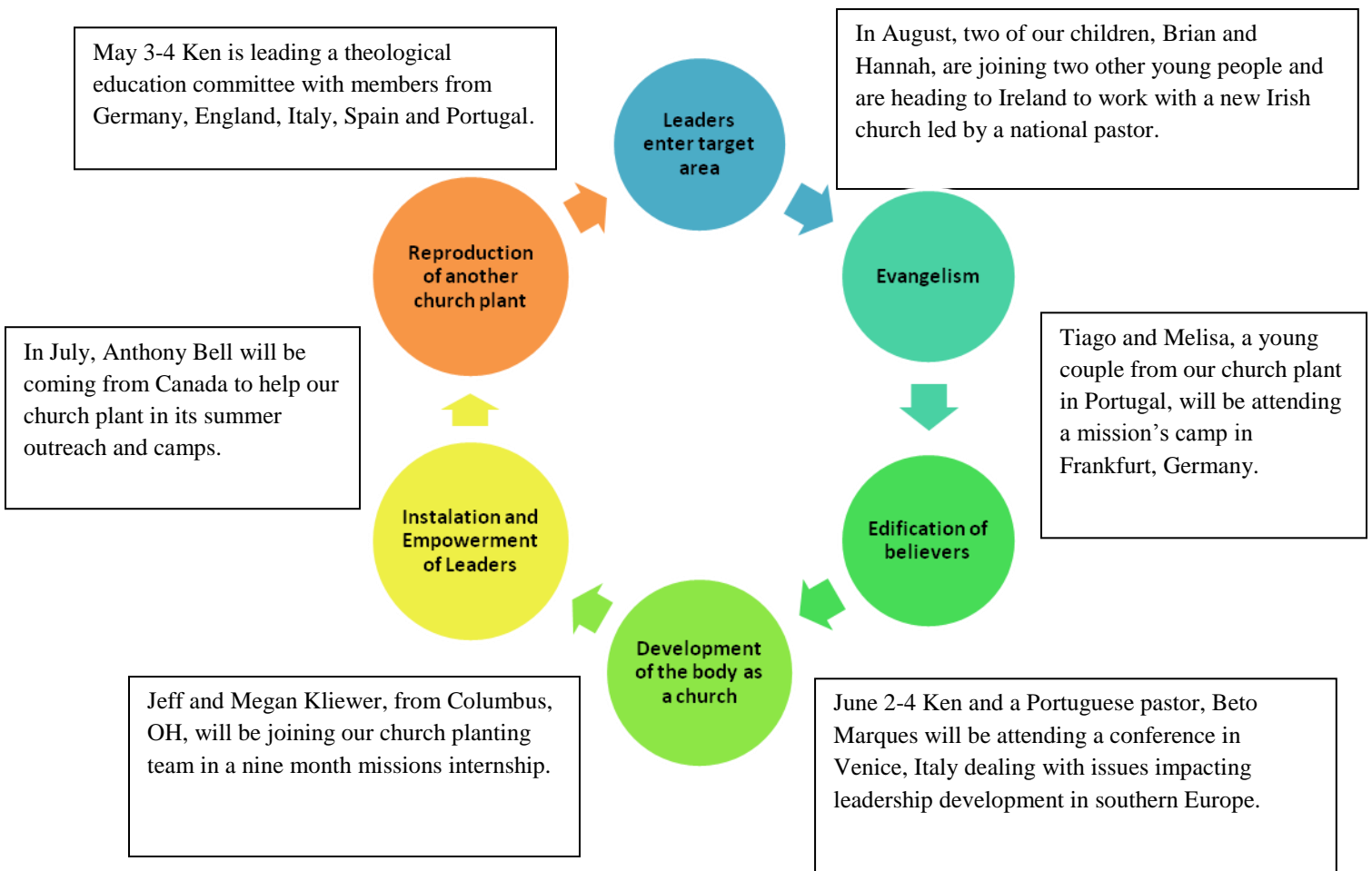
Portugal

What do the following activities have in common?

- An American MK (who grew up in Portugal) leading VBS games in Dublin, Ireland
- A German pastor visiting Lisbon, Portugal to discuss leadership development
- A Portuguese pastor attending a conference in Venice, Italy
- A Canadian young man helping out a summer outreach in Lisbon, Portugal
- A Portuguese man with his Chilean wife attending camp in Frankfurt, Germany

When you think of “missions” what images come to your mind? Can you define the term? There are many books and articles explaining the idea. One of the easiest ways to understand “missions” is to understand the Pauline Cycle of church planting. Basically “missions” is a group of activities relating to the creation and development of local churches. These new churches work together to create a church multiplication movement.

Often, churches are started by following a series of phases which complete a cycle. Paul followed a cycle in his church planting endeavors. Over the next several months, we will be involved in a number of activities that stem from one of these phases. Many of our activities this spring and summer involve one church planting movement cooperating with another church planting movement. We are seeing the globalization of missions happen before our very eyes.



Papua New Guinea

April 2011

A CHURCH IS BORN

Akolet Believers

PRAISE AND PRAYER:

1. The first fruits of Akolet
2. Aina Tom with Christ
3. Our first house in USA
4. Margie's move
5. Translation
6. Medical tests

Special points of interest:

- Our field committee has given approval to send a team into the Gulf Province to the Omati people group.
- So far all of our medical tests have shown nothing wrong.
- Tom, Melanie and boys are in Palm City, FL, helping Dustin to get settled into college.
- We are having a change in ministry when we return to PNG. We'll be working more directly with churches, leaders and teachers.

We had read some reports on the teaching on the south coast of New Britain Island and we were thrilled to hear that many there responded in faith to the message of the Gospel. I (Jim) was challenged over 45 years ago to get involved with reaching tribal people groups by the fact there were people in over 2,000 languages who had not heard the Gospel. Every time we hear about another one being reached, we say, "Another

one down!" It took the missionaries years to get to this point, but it has all been worth it. Continue to pray for these new believers and for the missionaries teaching them, preparing Bible lessons and translating Scriptures.

Aina Tom is with Jesus after her battle with cancer. She was a wonderful, vibrant woman who loved life and loved to teach God's Word to other women. She will be

greatly missed in the Elimbari Church. She left behind two adopted sons and her husband Tom.

Translation we finished up the first AWANA project and hope to finish the other one soon. We've been asked to translate a manual to help national believers to learn another language and culture, so they can reach out affectively into other people groups with the Gospel. It's a much bigger project.

Our House, But Not Our Home (yet)

Many people have asked us about our retirement, but we have no plans for it yet. We both turned 64 this year. We would like to return to PNG in December and spend two more years there and then assess if we are still able to be a blessing there and to carry a good workload or not. As you know real estate prices are low right now, so we've decided to purchase a house in Perry, MI. It's an older home, but the price was right.

Margie's moving to

Michigan, Lord willing, in June of this year. It will be a huge transition for her and the 3 children. (New town, new schools, new church, etc.). She will be closer to her sister, Lydia, who also lives in Michigan.

Moves and meetings

Since we arrived on our home assignment in December, we moved to SC, then back to MI and the first week of May we'll be moving back to SC. We've been having meetings in churches and in small groups, to share

our work in PNG.

We know it has taken a long time to get this letter out to you. Hopefully, it helps you to know what we've been doing and what we have planned for the future. We'd love to hear from you too. We have loved the spring flowers and because of our travels, we have been able to see spring in several places at different times. We continually thank God for His grace in our lives. We trust this finds you all doing well.

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 Doug and Linda Wilson 

Building Bridges on Bedrock!



April '11 Bridge Builders Bulletin

*We are passionate about God's priority for the Gospel today....**Spirit-driven, Bible-principled global church planting!***

Building is a growing spiritual and strategic process.

Bridges take people from where they are to where they need to be.

The Bedrock is the sure and certain foundation of Scripture, rather than the shifting sands of the world. Bathed in our prayers together, and enabled by your sacrificial support, this is our vision!

- Training and discipling national leaders to minister with accountability in their own indigenous cultures
- Likewise aiding and encouraging missionaries on the fields to develop their national local church leadership
- Preaching, teaching, singing, and ministering in the USA and abroad in the churches

Ephesians 4:12 gives us the command to equip and train the saints to minister and edify one another.

2 Timothy 2:2 brings us the brilliant New Testament method to use: teach others who will likewise teach it and model it to others appropriately in their resident cultures.

Greetings!

Precious friends, prayer partners, family members, colleagues, and great Bridge Builder support team - God bless each of you!

Warmest greetings from our hearts, dear friends, with overwhelming love in Christ, to our dear network of faithful intercessors. We salute you with deep thanks for your fervent prayer and support and encouragement. As you can see, Bridge Builders is coming to you with an exciting and colorful updated format this month! We hope it dazzles you! (Ha!) It is truly wonderful to move forward with this refreshing new look, hoping you'll enjoy the visual enhancements as well as the interactive elements that will provide helpful ways for us to keep connected.

By now we hope that those on our official support team have received the packet of our brand new, fresh-from-the-printer Prayer Cards, and that one of them has found a spot on your refrigerator or bulletin board to have this right there for you to look at. If you have not yet obtained a card and would like one, please just reply to us on email (pastordougwilson@gmail.com) providing your mailing address and we will post one right out to you. It is truly impossible to overestimate what God can do as we pray, and we thrill with the thought of what God will do as we join together to seek His face with unity and vibrant faith.

We join with you to offer a loud and hearty shout of Praise to God, for there is so much to thank the Lord for. We thank the Lord for safety over the many miles of travel, and for the warm reception to the Word in the churches as we have served and shared in ministry with many of you. It is a


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great joy to meet new friends as well as seeing some of you again and relishing the renewed fellowship. Our souls are fortified with your eager spirits and the splendid responses to the preaching and music and media presentations along the way.

Thanks so much for your prayers for Linda, who is gaining health and getting stronger, continuing with her medication and herbal therapies plus diet adjustments. It is encouraging to see her make progress in both learning what works and what doesn't, plus knowing more her limits as we move forward fighting this Lyme disease. She has great courage and is such an encouragement in the work we do. She'll be speaking at a regional Ladies Missionary meeting next Saturday and some of you will see her there with her husband/chauffer!

Please pray as we look forward to the trip to Costa Rica next month, excited to be engaging the dear servants of God there to meet and get acquainted, assess the needs and possibilities for sharing helps to the national church planters and pastors, church workers, and missionaries serving in that needy land. There should be about a hundred of them ready to see what God will do as we develop plans and move forward. We hope to minister in churches as well as spending time with staff and other workers in the region. Please pray for safety and for divine guidance as we build a bond for ministry together there. The location we will center our attention on is in the central valley region of the country where a multi-purpose camping facility is located. El Jardin Sagrado, located near San Rafael, is approximately five acres in size, which includes the main building "Celebration Center" that seats as many as 400 people. Supporting food service is available, along with camps for overnight accommodations to house approximately 70, with current construction plans to bring the camp to 100 beds. Training conferences and seminars can be held here! Pavilions dot the grounds along the river for additional small group sessions and private mediation in this tropical setting.

Please pray for our deputation, as we seek to raise the needed support to fully engage the ministry. Currently we are getting close to the 70% mark, and would ask you to prayerfully become a part of our monthly support team, or with a one-time gift to help on expenses for the planned trips ahead. Pray the Lord will open the doors to churches and saints who will join with us in this exciting ministry. ([To do so online, please click here](#))

Let's claim those Spirit-inspired prayer promises in the scriptures, and look to the Lord to do great and mighty things that we know not! Hoping to see some of you out there in the churches, and to enjoy the eternal benefits of our sacred bond together in service for the Lord. We pray for you to be fruitful and abound in the work of the Gospel right there every day!

With such love and deep thanks in Christ,

Doug & Linda Wilson

Contact Information

Doug and Linda Wilson
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Global Outreach Mission

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Dear Pastor and praying friends,

As you already know we evacuated from Japan due to the threat of nuclear explosion, and we have been monitoring the situation there in Japan. The authorities have been working so hard to prevent those reactors from explosion. It seems, at this writing, they have been somewhat successful, yet there is still a great chance of radiation spreading. The level has been raised to the level of Chernobyl, level 7 international scale on April 11th.

In spite of this, by faith, we made a decision to return to Japan on the 19th of April in consultation with our mission. It was an extremely difficult one, yet we felt this is the best at this writing.

There are two reasons for this. One is that there is so much to do to help them. Secondly, this is a great opportunity to share the Good News with them. We do not want to miss this chance.

Since this was an emergency evacuation, we incurred substantial expenses, which totals to \$10,000 like we mentioned in the last prayer letter. We are wondering if you could make a one time gift to meet this need. If you feel lead to do so, please send a one time gift to Baptist Mid-Missions, Yoshida emergency fund. Thank you so very much. Please continue praying for us as we return to Japan and assume the responsibilities.

David & Melody Yoshida

from Chiba New Town, Japan

April 21, 2011

Dear praying partners,

A couple of days ago, we have arrived safely here at Narita, to an airport that was eerily silent. Although the plane was 90% full, people rushing to connecting flights to other countries are the rule these days according to the immigration officers, whose own gates were down to 2 officers per section (usually 5 - 8 officers per section) with less than 3 people in line. The luggage carousel area saw only ten or so other passengers like ourselves from our one plane. Though not a ghost town, the airport was close to it. Sales clerks sat at their stations trying to wear a smile to hide their obvious fear of wondering if they would still have work the following day.

Entering Chiba New Town, the sounds of children's voices have become noticeably rare now. We observed only one mother with her baby, and were told that a good number of young folks have evacuated our area. In a town with 70,000 plus people before, it appears that the population must be significantly less now.

In calling all of our contacts, we learned that those who were still here were eager to get together with us. Mrs. Mikame was eager to talk when we called her cell phone, her house phone not answering. She evacuated to Hokkaido (the northern island of Japan) with her nine month old son. But they are both alright there. Her husband has stayed behind to work in Tokyo. Meeting with him this Saturday, his concerns about staying in the area were blatantly obvious.

Radiation concerns are still high here, but we have learned through Mr. Miki, a young chemical engineer graduate whose professors are part of the team testing water samples daily nonstop, that the worst days were March 22nd & 23rd with radiation levels in the water and air particles testing into the thousands. Mr. Miki is still more interested than ever in the teachings of the Bible and the truth of God's message to him especially as he has learned that the government's words cannot be trusted. He, and so many others, are looking for a trustworthy foundation to build their lives on.

There are, basically, two camps among the people here. One who completely trusts and believes what the government announces, and live like nothing much serious is going on here. The others who weigh all the info they gather including through foreign media, and decide their course of action. Remember that the Japanese government has a history of hiding the whole truth for years from their own people, for example about the treaties they signed with the other countries right after the last war. They knew the nuc incident was at level 7 (Chernobyl equivalent) shortly after the explosion, but they did not broadcast that until 40 days later. They did it, only because they could not hide it any longer. Of course, we understand somewhat the government's thinking, which is they are trying hard to avoid internal confusion, and a huge mess. As it is, some 200 thousand refugees, under extremely stressful circumstances, are living in tents, school auditoriums, city halls, etc. The weak are dying sooner there, without proper medical care, and food, etc.

The truth is, at this writing, they do not have those reactors under control, which means those reactors are spreading radiation slowly into the air, into the earth and into the Pacific Ocean. Furthermore, they declared that it will take at least 6 months to a year to have them under control. This is conservatively speaking. Yes, the condition in the region is very serious yet. In the meantime, the workers are continually working extremely hard on the plant, hoping only to avoid the worse scenario.

One mother in our neighbourhood recently giving birth to a child was told that her breast milk is contaminated with radiation and is unfit for her baby's consumption. She will use formula mixed with bottled water, which price has become expensive here now.

Earthquakes continue to be a daily occurrence here, especially at night. Our first night back we were welcomed with three quakes, which shook our house violently. The first of which was 6.5. Our neighbors have stated that this is a daily happening nowadays.

Please pray with us. We are praying this would be a new beginning for this area and hope to see many in Japan turn to the Lord Jesus, especially as fears and uncertainties continue to rise among the people.

Thank you to those who have helped by giving gifts toward our debt to the mission. There is still a significant portion remaining to pay off.

In His wonderful service,

David & Melody Yoshida

Prayer requests;

1. Pray for God's help in controlling the nuc reactors, so that all of us can work safely without any limitations.
2. Pray for our effectiveness as we live here and share God' love.
3. Pray for our wisdom, as we help those who are suffering.
4. Pray with us as we have begun to contact people in the community.
5. Pray that our evacuation fund will be met in full very soon.