



January 2009 Executive Summary

NEWS BRIEFS, condensed version (for the complete news briefs, go to:
www.lausanneworldpulse.com/newsbrief.php/1070)

AROUND THE WORLD: Military BibleSticks Successful

Since July 2008, Faith Comes By Hearing has sent more than 7,600 Military BibleSticks to military chaplains around the world. The specially-designed devices are digital audio players pre-loaded with the Audio Drama New Testament. A durable device, they are only about the size of a pack of chewing gum. (Faith Comes By Hearing)

AROUND THE WORLD: Mercy Ships Confirms New CEO

In December 2008, Mercy Ships announced the unanimous confirmation of Sam Smith as its new CEO. Smith was already serving as interim CEO for Mercy Ships. He has nearly twenty years of experience in the area of brand and marketing development and previously worked with some of the largest manufacturing and retail organizations in North America. (Mercy Ships)

AROUND THE WORLD: Paraclete Announces New CEO

In November 2008, Paraclete announced Glen Volkhardt as the new CEO, effective 1 January 2009. Volkhardt previously served with HCJB Global for twenty-nine years, where he was vice president of human resources and strategic planning. He will replace Don Parrott, who will become CEO of The Finishers Project. (Paraclete)

AROUND THE WORLD: Locating Devices Key to Rescue at Sea

To help Bible translators travel safely over water, JAARS Maritime Services has developed survival packets for times of crisis. An important part of the packet is the Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon, which can send a signal that will relay detailed search-and-rescue information. A distress signal is picked up in the United States via satellite and relayed to a local supervisor in the appropriate area of the world, who can then initiate search and rescue. (JAARS Maritime Services)

AROUND THE WORLD: Project Hannah Brings Hope to Women around the World

In 1997, awareness advocate Marli Spieker founded Project Hannah (PH), a ministry of Trans World Radio. Today, PH broadcasts in forty-eight languages on 550 stations around the world in an effort to bring hope to women living under oppression and bondage. *Women of Hope*, a regularly broadcasted program, brings together experienced volunteers from around the world who provide topics, scripts, and interviews on a variety of health and spiritual matters. (Project Hannah)

CANADA: EFC President Named Secretary of WEA International Council

In November 2008, Bruce Clemenger, president of The Evangelical Fellowship of Canada (EFC), was named secretary of the World Evangelical Alliance (WEA) International Council. Clemenger has served the EFC since 1992. In 1996, he established EFC's Ottawa (Canada) office and was the founding director of the EFC's Centre for Faith and Public Life. (The Evangelical Fellowship of Canada)

INDIA: People Encouraged to Kill Christians for Rewards

It has been reported that extremists in Orissa are intensifying pressure on Christians by offering bounties for killing Christians. This includes a payment of \$250 USD for each pastor murdered. People in India are also being offered rewards such as liquor, food, and weapons for destroying churches and Christian properties. (Assist News)

IRAQ: Families Still in Exile amid Further Violence against Christians

In November 2008, Open Doors continued to support families in the Ninveh plain who had been forced to flee Mosul following Muslim extremist violence. Some families had begun returning to their homes in Mosul after the deployment

of more Iraqi troops in the city. However, an attack on a house on 12 November 2008 that left two Christian sisters dead by Islamic terrorists will likely slow or stop families from returning. (Assist News)

KAZAKHSTAN: Religion Law Moves on to President for Approval

Only hours after it promised to cooperate with the international community on a draft law heavily restricting religious freedom, the Kazakh lower house of parliament passed the bill. While the Kazakh government said it would allow a review of the legislation by the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), the law still moved forward to President Nursultan Nazarbayev for final approval. (Mission Network News)

NIGERIA: Muslims and Christians Clash

Hundreds were reported dead following a clash between Muslims and Christians in central Nigeria in late November 2008. The conflict erupted in the city of Jos, where people of various ethnic groups commingle and where the Muslim north and predominantly Christian south meet. There appeared to be a dispute over the result of a local election. This latest violence is the worst Nigeria has seen since 2004, when an estimated seven hundred people died during Muslim-Christian conflict. (BosNewsLife)

PAPUA NEW GUINEA: New Testament Translated into a New Written Language

After twenty-three years of teamwork among Wycliffe Bible Translators, Wycliffe members Greg and Mary Pearson, the Summer Institute of Linguistics, and the Lote people, the first New Testament in the Lote mother tongue will be available by the end of 2009. (Assist News)

PHILIPPINES: FilSIM Hopes New Logo Inspires Questions

The Philippines branch of Serving In Mission International (FilSIM) has designed a new logo that will hopefully lead to inquiries about Jesus among ethnic minorities. The new logo features only the organization's acronym, a gravestone rolling away, and light shining outward. While believers will understand the significance of the image, people unfamiliar with the gospel may be inclined to ask questions. (Serving In Mission)

RUSSIA: Some Religious Groups to Be "Liquidated"

Director of Youth With A Mission Slavic Ministries International (YWAM), Al Akimoff discovered in October 2008 that the Russian Ministry of Justice had posted on its webpage a list of fifty-six religious organizations scheduled for "liquidation." Akimoff stated that at least thirty-five of those listed were Protestant organizations. Included on the list were YWAM, World Vision, and at least six Baptist groups. (Assist News)

SINGAPORE: BGEA My Hope Outreach Involves Thousands of Matthews

More than twenty thousand homes in Singapore participated in the *My Hope* outreach 12-14 December 2008. An important ministry of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association (BGEA), the television project is spearheaded by local Christians who call themselves "Matthews," after the disciple who invited friends to his home to meet Jesus. "Matthews" invite guests to their homes to watch a culturally-appropriate DVD which features sermons from Billy and Franklin Graham. After watching the video, "Matthews" share personal stories and invite guests to accept or rededicate their lives to Christ. (Billy Graham Evangelistic Association)

SOUTH KOREA: Nazarene Church Celebrates Sixty Years of Growth

In November 2008, Korean Nazarenes gathered at Yu Kwan Soon Memorial Stadium in Cheonan City, South Korea, to celebrate the sixtieth anniversary of the Church of the Nazarene in Korea (CNK) and the one-hundredth anniversary of the denomination. About seven thousand people attended the celebration. (Nazarene Communications Network)

THAILAND: WEA General Assembly Asserts Commitment to World Evangelism

In October 2008, more than five hundred senior evangelical leaders gathered for the World Evangelical Alliance (WEA) General Assembly in Pattaya, Thailand. Delegates agreed six major resolutions, setting out an evangelical response to: religious liberty, HIV and AIDS, poverty, peacemaking, creation care, and the global financial crisis. Speaking at the conference WEA international director Dr. Geoff Tunnicliffe reaffirmed the WEA's commitment to world evangelization: "If anyone tells you that we've gone soft on world evangelization, you can tell them that we are totally committed to world evangelization because it is only Jesus Christ that changes people's lives." (World Evangelical Alliance)

UNITED STATES: Wycliffe Receives Its Largest Gift Ever

Wycliffe's Last Languages Campaign just got closer to reaching a monumental goal, as an anonymous donor gave \$50 million USD, the largest gift in the ministry's 75-year history. The campaign has the goal of raising \$1 billion USD in gifts and pledges by 2018 for its effort to start Bible translation programs in all remaining world language groups by the year 2025. (Wycliffe Bible Translators)

ZIMBABWE: World Vision Responds to Cholera Outbreak

World Vision International (WV) responded to a recent cholera epidemic in Zimbabwe by distributing hundreds of cholera kits to help protect its staff and members of the communities affected. The kits, containing medicine, water purification tablets, and other materials, each have supplies to treat fifty people. According to WV's Humanitarian and Emergency Affairs director in Zimbabwe, Daniel Muchena, the United Nations suspects thousands of cases of cholera have arisen resulting in hundreds of deaths. (Assist News)

PUBLISHER'S MEMO

God's Mission in the World Today by *Lon Allison, co-publisher of LWP*. Reflecting upon what he has heard God doing around the world recently, Allison says, "It is a breathtaking time to simply listen and watch God's movements, much less participate in them. Has there ever been a better time to serve Jesus Christ? I think not." He concludes with asking LWP readers to pray for at least one other reader while they read about God's mission in the world today.

www.lausanneworldpulse.com/leadershipmemo/1068

THEMED ARTICLES: GOD'S MISSION IN OUR WORLD TODAY

Recovering Mission: Majority World Mission—A Return to Mission for the Majority by *The Rev. Canon Mark Oxbrow, the international coordinator of the Faith2Share network*. According to Oxbrow, we need to radically revise our understanding of who a missionary is in the contemporary, globalized world. Although "mission from below" has always been a highly significant aspect of Christian mission, it becomes more significant in the twenty-first century for three reasons: (1) most Christians today are financially poor, politically marginalized, and socially restricted by their gender, age, or ethnicity; (2) the increasing prevalence of migration has radically increased the opportunities for migrant Christians to be effective in cross-cultural missions; and (3) because of technology, even Christians with very modest financial resources are potentially able to share the gospel in different parts of the world.

www.lausanneworldpulse.com/themedarticles.php/1071

United, Focused Prayer: Changes in the Way We Are Praying for the World, Part 2 by *Steve Hawthorne, a mission/prayer mobilizer with WayMakers*. Perhaps the most dramatic change in the last two decades has to do with how prayer has become not just something to do *before* setting out to do evangelism, but that it is in fact the *core* of evangelism. Examples of this include: prayer walking; power evangelism and prayer evangelism, the 3-part strategy of prayer, care, share; moving from prayers of identification to prayers of transformation; and 24-hour prayer communities. www.lausanneworldpulse.com/themedarticles.php/1072

Watching the Father: The Importance of Knowledge Stewardship by *Eric Adams, a member of the Frontiers Knowledge Stewardship team*. Through twenty-five years of living and working in the Muslim world, Frontiers members have accumulated practical knowledge enabling them to better partner with the Father and bear fruit. We should be good stewards of not only time, money, and people, but also of the knowledge the Father teaches us. To address this, Frontiers recently started a "Knowledge Stewardship" initiative to identify, capture, and distill field workers' experience and cross-pollinate this in ways that equip field teams to become more effective in their calling.

www.lausanneworldpulse.com/themedarticles.php/1073

PERSPECTIVES

A Global Overview of the Business as Mission Movement: Needs & Gaps by *Mats Tunehag, senior associate on Business as Mission for Lausanne*. In the last fifteen years the Business as Mission (BAM) concept has spread across the world and the number of BAM initiatives has grown dramatically. However, there are still major needs and gaps in the global BAM movement. Tunehag names nine: vision impartation, concept clarification, education and training,

capital, mentors, prayer, BAM and human trafficking, case studies, and evaluative tools.

www.lausanneworldpulse.com/perspectives.php/1074

Etnopedia.org: Translating Unreached People Profiles into Other Languages by David Markham, who coordinates ethnic people research in Mexico. Etnopedia, a website for bilingual Christians to translate people profiles into other languages, gives researchers the opportunity to expand the research process. Etnopedia is an editable website that displays unreached people profiles in different languages. Each people profile includes: data relevant to the missionary movement, a description of the people, a map, and a photo. Additionally, each people profile has a research page that includes: Christian progress indicators, people codes, and notes and sources used to create the profile.

www.lausanneworldpulse.com/perspectives.php/1075

Church Planting and Evangelism: An Overview of Training through the AIC Missionary College in Kenya by Ray and Jill Davis, workers with the Africa Inland Church in Kenya. The Africa Inland Church (AIC) Missionary College, dedicated to training cross-cultural church planters for Africa, was opened in 1986 at the request of the AIC (the church founded by the Africa Inland Mission), for the purpose of cross-cultural training for pastors and their wives. Over half of the 250 AIC Missionary College graduates are in cross-cultural ministries. Training includes both classroom studies and a 5-month “Term Out” experience, where students go as a family to a cross-cultural environment to either help a fledgling church or to plant a new one.

www.lausanneworldpulse.com/perspectives.php/1076

Redefining Normal: How to Develop the Future Overseas Missionary Force by Josh Mann, pastor of middle school ministries at Salem Alliance Church. A recent study conducted with middle school and high school-age students from the Pacific Northwest (USA) showed that 198 of the 1,100 students had a desire to become foreign missionaries. Four statistically significant variables—gender, level of church involvement, whether or not they serve, and self-perceived levels of leadership and outgoingness—between students who wanted to become overseas missionaries and students who did not are directly moldable. Mann asks, “How do these conclusions break down in layperson’s terms and translate into programmable principles?” and offers three options for moving forward.

www.lausanneworldpulse.com/perspectives.php/1077

WorldServe Ministries and the Increasing Influence of China and Cuba: An Interview with President/CEO Ted Yamamori by Laurie Fortunak, editorial coordinator of LWP. Author, scholar, and mission strategist Dr. Tetsunao Yamamori began his new calling as president/CEO of a revitalized WorldServe Ministries 1 November 2008. He recently spoke with Lausanne World Pulse about his short retirement, the potential he sees in China and Cuba, and the future of WorldServe. www.lausanneworldpulse.com/perspectives.php/1078

URBAN COMMUNITIES

The Global Urban Mission of God in Large Cities: Through the Practitioners’ Eyes by Glenn Smith, executive director of Christian Direction. Five urban ministry practitioners—who work in major cities such as Budapest, Hong Kong, Manila, Niamey (Niger), and Rotterdam (Netherlands)—discuss four questions related to the global urban mission of God in large cities. www.lausanneworldpulse.com/urban.php/1069

LAUSANNE REPORTS

God Has Moved! An Allegorical Look “Back” at Cape Town 2010 by Kent Humphreys, has been a business leader for over thirty years. In story-like fashion, Humphreys discusses what it would look like if, sometime during 2008 and 2009, God began moving outside of the confines of religious institutions and out into the workplace and onto the streets. Some of the ramifications of this would include: drastic renovation of church facilities and programs, an increasing number of true followers of Jesus, deep repentance, and prayer.

www.lausanneworldpulse.com/lausannereports/1079

February 2009 Theme: Christ in Culture

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