

August 2010 Executive Summary

[NEWS BRIEFS](http://www.lausanneworldpulse.com/newsbrief.php/1311/08-2010), condensed version (for the complete news briefs, go to:
www.lausanneworldpulse.com/newsbrief.php/1311/08-2010)

AROUND THE WORLD: Living Water International Celebrates Twenty Years

In 1990, a group of believers went on a mission trip to Kenya. When they came back, they began [Living Water International](#) (LWI), an organization now celebrating twenty years of bringing clean water and the gospel to thousands of people around the globe. "God just broke their hearts," says LWI's Paul Darilek. LWI now works in twenty-six countries. ([Living Water International](#))

BOLIVIA: Radio Broadcasts Reach Thousands of Mennonites

Nearly thirty-one thousand Low German-speaking Mennonites live in Bolivia. [TWR](#) is able to reach them with the gospel. In May 2010, *Thru the Bible* (TTB), broadcast via TWR partner ministry RTM-Bolivia, was fully translated into Low German. TTB is a radio program consisting of Bible teaching. The programs will also be available on CD. RTM-Bolivia also broadcasts original Low German worship songs. Radio ministry in Bolivia has spawned many new churches in the country's indigenous listening area. Beyond radio, on-the-ground missionaries in Bolivia recently completed Casa Mariposa, a women and children's shelter. ([TWR](#))

CARIBBEAN: Saenz to Serve as Interim Caribbean Regional Director

Luis Carlos Saenz has been elected by the Board of General Superintendents to serve as the interim director of the Caribbean Region for the Church of the Nazarene until a successor is elected and qualified. In early June 2010, former Caribbean regional director John Smee announced his retirement. Saenz continues to serve as the Mexico and Central America (MAC) regional director. ([Nazarene Communications Network](#))

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC/PUERTO RICO: "My Hope" Sees Nearly Seventy Thousand Come to Christ

Christians across the Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico recently opened their homes for meetings and witnessed more than sixty-nine thousand people make commitments to Jesus Christ through the Billy Graham "My Hope" TV outreach. In the Dominican Republic, 55,391 people made commitments to Christ, with 13,797 doing so in Puerto Rico. Altogether, more than 5,500 churches from across the evangelical spectrum were involved in the projects. ([Assist News Service](#))

EGYPT: Muslims Attempt to Behead "Apostate"

The latest in a string of failed attempts by Muslim fanatics on the life of Egyptian Muslim-born Maher el-Gowhary, who publicly converted to Christianity in 2008, took place on 5 July 2010. As 57-year-old el-Gowhary left his secret lodging, two unknown men on a motorbike attacked him with daggers. Shortly after his conversion to Christianity became public, he and his 15-year-old daughter Dina, who also converted to Christianity, were forced into hiding. They have been living on the run, changing lodging as frequent as once or twice a month for fear of their identity being discovered. ([Assist News Service](#))

GHANA: Freed Sex Slaves Begin Slow Rehabilitation Process

Fifty-five sex slaves from the "Thunder god" shrine of the tribal religions of Ghana were liberated 25 March 2010. The liberation of these women was partially due to their head priest turning to Christ and leaving his profession. Workers with [Every Child Ministries](#) (ECM) just finished a three-week rehabilitation program where they worked with seven of the freed women. ECM created a personalized plan for each woman's future, held Bible studies twice a day, and taught them how to sew. ECM hopes to offer the next step of rehabilitation to any of the freed women who are interested. This will include more information about starting a business and learning more skill sets. ([Mission Network News](#))

NIGERIA: Eight Christians Killed in Nigerian Muslim Attacks

According to a report by [International Christian Concern](#) (ICC), on the night of 3 July 2010, several Muslims attacked

Kizachi village in Kaduna State and killed five Christians, including a primary school teacher and a mother of six children. The Muslims also burned down five Christian homes. In the second attack, on the night of 4 July, Muslims armed with guns and machetes invaded Ganawuri community, near Jos. Three Christians are feared dead. This latest violence came on the heels of a 7 March 2010 jihad attack against Christians in Jos, in which over five hundred mainly women and children were murdered. It is estimated that many more thousands of Christians have been killed in northern Nigeria since the introduction of *sharia* law in 2001. ([Assist News Service](#))

UNITED STATES: Study Discusses Teenagers' Openness to Evangelizing

A recent Barna Group study shows that Christian teens from the U.S. are less and less enthusiastic about sharing their faith. Information on the study released last week provided evidence that "among born again Christian teenagers, the proportion who said they had explained their beliefs to someone else with different faith views in the last year had declined from nearly two-thirds of teenagers in 1997 (63%) to less than half of Christian teens in the December 2009 study (45%)." Yet the results are not exclusively accurate; at least, not if you ask those from [InterVarsity Christian Fellowship](#). "Over the last five years, we have actually seen a record number in our history of conversions," explains Terry Erickson, InterVarsity national director of evangelism. ([Mission Network News](#))

PUBLISHER'S MEMO

Persecution: "Do Not Go Gentle into that Good Night" by *Lon Allison, co-publisher of LWP*. Quoting Welsh poet Dylan Thomas, Allison reminds readers that persecution is a given in this darkened world. He encourages the Church, wherever it dwells, to not go gentle into the night of persecution. We should expect it, prepare for it, resist it, and find comfort in the companionship of it. www.lausanneworldpulse.com/leadershipmemo/1309/08-2010

THEMED ARTICLES: TECHNOLOGY: LIVING ACTS 9:16 IN TODAY'S WORLD

Prayer that "Fights" by *John Godson, international director of Pilgrim Mission International*. The day we decided to become disciples of Christ, we declared war against the kingdom of the devil. Godson reminds us that we shouldn't deceive ourselves into thinking that we can win souls and get people into God's kingdom without direct confrontation with demonic forces. This is why prayer is key. Through prayer, we harness the forces of God's kingdom (his angels) to fight on our behalf. www.lausanneworldpulse.com/themedarticles.php/1306/08-2010

To Speak of Jesus Is to Speak of Martyrdom by *Thomas Schirmacher, professor of ethics and sociology of religion in Germany and Turkey*. Paul consistently presents Jesus as the archetype of the martyr and as an example for all Christians. The Passion takes up the longest part of the Gospels and relates Judas' betrayal; the false accusations; the illegal trial, torture, and the excruciating execution at the hands of Israel's leaders; and the Roman government in great detail. Jesus is the actual object of all persecution. The suffering of the Christian is distinctive because it continues Christ's sufferings. Paul did not regard his own suffering as redemptive, but still described it as "fellowship with the suffering of Christ." Jesus' martyrdom makes him our role model when we suffer persecution.

www.lausanneworldpulse.com/themedarticles.php/1307/08-2010

The Persecuted Church: An Exploration of International Laws in Support of Religious Freedom by *Bjørn A. Wegge, general secretary of Norwegian Mission to the East*. A discussion of the issues related to international legal protection of the freedom of religion and belief. Historically, religious freedom was one of the first recognized human rights; today, there is international legal protection of freedom of religion and belief. This point of view is primarily based on the general acceptance of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) and on the many countries who have ratified the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1966).

www.lausanneworldpulse.com/themedarticles.php/1308/08-2010

PERSPECTIVES

A Tale of Two Pigeons: How the Church Can Step into the Solution to Sex Trafficking by *Roger Seth, a worker in India among those who are trafficked*. After a community came together to rescue a pigeon, the author wondered, might it be that the way we had responded to the two pigeons in our colony was symbolic of how people can respond to the girls in our city who are enslaved in brothels? www.lausanneworldpulse.com/perspectives.php/1305/08-2010

Sex Trafficking, Powerlessness, and Redemption by *Jasmine May*, who is working in Asia to establish an aftercare home for girls rescued from sex trafficking. Human trafficking is one of those realities in which the more you scratch the surface, the more you learn things that make you feel overwhelmed. However, Jesus Christ's redemptive work can still be carried out, even in the dark world of human and sex trafficking. The author asks, "Is it possible that somehow, even in the center of the most inhuman abuses and violent acts by the world's powers, that God's bigger plan of redemption is being carried out?" www.lausanneworldpulse.com/perspectives.php/1304/08-2010

LEADERSHIP PROFILES

Leadership Profile: Anne Grizzle. Anne Grizzle, a family therapist and social activist in the USA, is on the board of Leighton Ford Ministries and InterVarsity Christian Fellowship. She is also connected to Amistad Mission and co-founded Women of Vision. Here she discusses her passions, motivations, and hopes for evangelism and missions around the world. www.lausanneworldpulse.com/leadership_profiles.php/1303/08-2010

LAUSANNE REPORTS

Unlocking the Church's Potential: Resource Mobilization by *Ram Gidoomal*, deputy chairman of the board for *Lausanne*. The mission of the newly-established Lausanne Resource Mobilization Working Group (RMWG) is to enable the global Church to discover, develop, and deploy God's resources for world evangelization. One of the aims of the RMWG is to identify barriers to generous giving and effective stewardship to help unlock the resources of both the rich, young ruler and the widow and her mite. www.lausanneworldpulse.com/lausannereports/1302/08-2010

September 2010 Theme: Christians in the Public Arena

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