



August 2009 Executive Summary

NEWS BRIEFS, condensed version (for the complete news briefs, go to:
www.lausanneworldpulse.com/newsbrief.php/1187)

AROUND THE WORLD: Forum of Bible Agencies Launches “Find-a-Bible”

The **Forum of Bible Agencies International** (IFOBA) recently launched a new website that gives easy access to scripture in more than three thousand languages. Find-a-Bible is the first centralized global resource that provides access to the many scripture products available around the world. With just the name of a language, a user can now search to find existing products in that language. The Find-a-Bible project is the most comprehensive list of majority and minority language scriptures in existence. (**Forum of Bible Agencies International**)

AROUND THE WORLD: First Person outside the USA/Canada Region Elected to Church of Nazarene Board

Eugenio Duarte, regional director for Africa and a native of the island of Brava in the Cape Verde Islands, became the first citizen from outside the USA/Canada region elected to the **Church of the Nazarene's** Board of General Superintendents in the 100-year history of the denomination. Duarte was elected the 37th general superintendent on 30 June 2009 at the Church's 27th General Assembly. Duarte's election also reflects the multicultural face of the denomination. Duarte declared, “This is what being a missional church gives you.” (**Nazarene Communications Network**)

AROUND THE WORLD: Mission Organization Issues 30-Day Global Prayer Challenge

One missionary-sending agency is challenging Christians to embark on a global adventure—a 30-day prayer tour around the world. **World Gospel Mission** (WGM) invites believers to join *The Concert of Prayer: Encore* in daily prayer 14 September to 14 October 2009 for specific countries and opportunities where WGM missionaries are serving. The September/October 2009 issue of WGM's magazine, *The Call*, will lead readers on a 30-day prayer tour around the world. To be part of *The Concert of Prayer: Encore*, sign up for your free subscription to *The Call* at www.wgm.org/call. *The Concert of Prayer: Encore* can also be followed on www.wgm.org, with audio files of the daily prayers, special podcast episodes, and more. (**Christian Newswire**)

ASIA: Leading Asian Theological Educator Dies

Lilian Lim Hui Kiau, president of the **Asia Baptist Graduate Theological Seminary** (ABGTS), died 25 June 2009 in Singapore. Lim was one of the few Baptist women in Asia to be elected to lead a major theological seminary when she was named head of ABGTS, a consortium of nine theological schools in eight countries. She served on the executive board of the Singapore Baptist Convention and the Asia Pacific Baptist Federation, one of six regional fellowships of the **Baptist World Alliance**. She was also a member of the board of directors of Global Women, a mainly Baptist organization dedicated to empowering women for service and mission globally, and to creating partnerships across national borders and artificial divisions. (**Baptist World Alliance**)

GERMANY: Atheists and Christians Tour the Country

From 30 May through 18 June 2009 Christians in Germany accompanied atheists on a 20-day nationwide bus tour. The red "atheist" double-decker and a white "Christian" coach were often parked side by side or opposite one another. The Christian initiative under the auspices of **Campus Crusade for Christ** made it clear that hostile confrontation was not their intention. Both vehicles, starting in Berlin, made stops in twenty-five cities, where local Christians joined the bus crew and spread the gospel message with songs, leaflets, and personal testimonies. (**Assist News Service**)

IRAN: Growing Unrest and Clampdown May Be Pivotal Point for Believers

Facing growing anger over the June 2009 election results, the Iranian government is putting heavy restrictions on news coverage. But Christians are joining the Twitter Revolution and using Facebook to get information out of Iran. Carl Moeller with **Open Doors International** notes the parallel to the Tiananmen Square uprising twenty years ago in China: “... the momentum that that demonstration ignited brought about the greatest revival in the Church in China and also a

sense of openness." Moeller says this could be a pivotal point in the history of Iran and the future of believers who live there. " ([Mission Network News](#))

MIDDLE EAST: TURK-7 and SAT-7 to Merge

During its recent tri-annual meeting in Beirut, Lebanon, the [SAT-7](#) International Board took a major step forward by voting to fully integrate [TURK-7](#) into the ministry's network of television channels by January 2010. TURK-7 was created as an independent Turkish Christian television ministry in 2003. Based in Istanbul, the ministry utilizes locally-based Christians and other television professionals to create original programming as well as some dubbed programming. SAT-7 is a founding member of the partnership, providing expertise, funding, and four hours of daily satellite airtime for TURK-7 to broadcast its Turkish Christian programs. ([SAT-7](#))

NEPAL: Gospel for Asia Holds Radio Rally

Despite growing unrest in Nepal, [Gospel for Asia](#) (GFA) missionaries in the country are experiencing God's blessing. "For a long time, GFA radio listeners were asking for a chance to meet the radio speakers face to face," wrote a GFA correspondent. Listeners recently had this opportunity during the first GFA radio rally ever held in one area of Nepal. Several congregations and a youth group led by a GFA-supported missionary put the rally together. Hundreds gathered to hear from GFA's Nepal leader. The rally was also aired over a radio station. Soon after, a church led by a GFA-supported pastor raised money to record three new Nepali worship CDs. ([Assist News Service](#))

PAPUA: TEAM Showing Christ's Love to Displaced Javanese Muslims

The Church in Papua is thriving, and a new mission field there has opened up for [The Evangelical Alliance Mission](#) (TEAM). Thousands of Javanese Muslims have been displaced to Papua by the Indonesian government. However, the Papuans have not been very open to the Javanese. Therefore, TEAM has a two-fold goal as they minister in Papua: (1) to change the attitude of the Papuan Christians and (2) to build a community center in the town of Merauke along the southern coast of Papua. ([Mission Network News](#))

SCOTLAND: Highlands Reached through Evangelist Luis Palau's 2-Week Campaign

The Highland Festival with Luis Palau culminated in Inverness, Scotland, on 20 June 2009 after two weeks of more than sixty outreach events in more than a dozen towns throughout Scotland's Highlands. Local pastors praised the Palau outreach for the unity it created among participating churches and for saturating the Highlands with the gospel message. By the end of the culminating festival, officials estimated approximately twenty thousand people had been reached with the gospel message—representing ten percent of the population of the surrounding area and marking a significant step forward for evangelism in the region. ([Christian Newswire](#))

SWITZERLAND: World Church Body Names Korean, Norwegian Candidates for Top Post

The [World Council of Churches](#) (WCC) says it has identified two candidates—a Korean Presbyterian and a Norwegian Lutheran—for the post of general secretary, which became vacant 1 January 2009. The WCC said in a 26 June 2009 statement that the two candidates are the Rev. Seong-won Park, a professor of theology at Youngnam Theological University and Seminary in Kyeongsan, South Korea, and the Rev. Olav Fykse Tveit, general secretary of the Church of Norway Council on Ecumenical and International Relations. ([Ecumenical News International](#))

UNITED STATES: Hawaii Church Becomes First to Stream Live Video to iPhone

Less than two weeks after the release of Apple's iPhone 3GS and iPhone 3.0 update, Honolulu-based [New Hope Christian Fellowship](#) began streaming its weekend worship services live to iPhone and iPod touch users. Live streaming to the iPhone was one of the most requested features from church attendees, and is now possible with the inclusion of HTTP live streaming in Apple's iPhone 3.0 software. New Hope's addition of live streaming to the iPhone is significant in that it is the first non-profit organization to offer this type of service. ([New Hope Oahu](#))

VIETNAM: Persecution of Christians Escalates

Across Vietnam, persecution against Christians, Catholics, and Protestants is escalating. Communist authorities have recently demolished two Catholic monasteries in the south and an historic Protestant church in the Central Highlands. In the north, Catholics continue to be harassed in Hanoi, the same place where evangelical religious liberty advocate Nguyen Van Dai remains incarcerated. Indigenous Degar house church leader Puih H'Bat, a mother of four, whose husband is a refugee in the United States, was arrested in April 2008 and her fate is still unknown. This is of particular

concern because of intense Vietnamese ethnic and religious hatred of Degars. Some have been tortured to death. Continuing persecution has crumbled hopes of religious reform in Vietnam. ([Assist News Service](#))

YEMEN: Two Bible School Students Kidnapped and Murdered

Two German Bible school students studying at the evangelical Brake Bible School in Lemgo, Germany, have been kidnapped and murdered in Yemen. Both nurses were on a short-term internship at the Al Jumhuri hospital in Saada (North Yemen). It is supported by the humanitarian agency Worldwide Services in the Netherlands. In the last fifteen years at least two hundred foreigners have been kidnapped in Yemen. In most cases, they were set free after ransom payments. ([Assist News Service](#))

PUBLISHER'S MEMO

The Church in Exile by *Lon Allison, co-publisher of LWP*. Allison asks, "How do we meet the needs of immigrant believers looking to connect with the Body of Christ in a distant land?" Followers of Christ need to remember at least two points as they begin ministry with the diaspora: immigrant people naturally associate with people most like themselves and immigrant people from one country will more readily relate with immigrants from other countries than with the majority host culture. www.lausanneworldpulse.com/leadershipmemo/1188

THEMED ARTICLES: THE CHURCH IN EXILE

Unreached People Groups in Africa and Beyond by *Reuben Ezemadu, international director of the Christian Missionary Foundation, Inc.* Ezemadu highlights the current implications of the people group concept, especially from an African perspective, in the context of present global realities. He touches upon unreached people groups in Africa and Africa's unreached people groups abroad, explaining what it would take to reach these people groups for Christ. www.lausanneworldpulse.com/themedarticles.php/1182

An Update on Chinese Churches in Japan by *Huang An Shi, an elder at a Chinese church in Japan*. The presence of Chinese workers, students, and churches in Japan has continued to increase. Chinese missionary organizations are hard at work to see many non-Christian Chinese come to Christ. www.lausanneworldpulse.com/themedarticles.php/1180

Brief Introduction to the Ministries of Overseas Chinese Christian Church in South Korea by *Chuanming Liu, senior pastor of the Overseas Chinese Christian Church in Seoul, South Korea*. Liu gives a history of the Overseas Chinese Christian Church in Seoul from 1919 to the present. In that time the church has not only led many Chinese to the Lord, but has seen youth dedicated for full-time ministry, has served immigrants in their midst, and has embarked on a return mission back to China. www.lausanneworldpulse.com/themedarticles.php/1178

Stories of Lament and Hope: Burundi Gathering by *Stephanie Wheatley, global outreach coordinator for the Duke Center for Reconciliation, and Jen Stallings, a candidate for ordination in the United Methodist Church*. Nearly ninety Christian leaders from Africa's Great Lakes region and companions from the United States assembled in Burundi to discuss social realities and their Christian response. Maggy Barankitse from Burundi, Bishop Paride Taban from Sudan, and Angelina Atyam from Uganda presented stories on how the gospel has the power to interrupt violence and division. www.lausanneworldpulse.com/themedarticles.php/1185

PERSPECTIVES

The Leader's Supply: Overcoming the Resource Challenge in Harvesting the Nations by *Ferdinand Nweke, a medical doctor in Nigeria who also coordinates Eternity Ministries*. The author asks, How can leaders meet the needs of followers who ask much of them? Where can these leaders draw their strength? The tale of the three friends in Luke 11 has wonderful nuggets of truth for leaders who find themselves pulled in many directions. www.lausanneworldpulse.com/perspectives.php/1179

Are Today's Students on Your Radar? by *Ken Cochrum, vice president of global campus strategy for Campus Crusade for Christ*. What level of urgency and intentionality do we give to making disciples and building Christ-centered movements among students today? In our rapidly-changing world we must understand three new realities and adjust accordingly. www.lausanneworldpulse.com/perspectives.php/1181

Living Simply and Humbly in Ministry by *Samantha Baker Evens, a member of InnerCHANGE*. How Western missionaries live does, in fact, affect their ministry or mission. Baker Evens offers four guidelines for missionaries to help them live simply and humbly in a host culture. www.lausanneworldpulse.com/perspectives.php/1184

URBAN COMMUNITIES

The Soul of Greater New York by *Mac Pier, president of the New York City Leadership Center and Concerts of Prayer Greater New York*. Approximately 21.5 million people live within fifty miles of Times Square in New York City, representing one out of every three hundred people on the planet. Pier takes a snapshot of which countries have come to New York in large numbers and details the presence of Hispanics, Asians, Africans, Jews, and Muslims found there. www.lausanneworldpulse.com/urban.php/1172

LAUSANNE REPORTS

Make Me a Blessing! Nearly one hundred women from twenty nations attended the eighth Hope for Europe Women in Leadership conference in Slovakia. Subjects included human trafficking, how to reach Muslim neighbors, and how to pass on leadership to a younger generation of women. www.lausanneworldpulse.com/lausannereports/1191

September 2009 Theme: Advancing Scripture Translation

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