

October/November 2009 Executive Summary

[NEWS BRIEFS](http://www.lausanneworldpulse.com/newsbrief.php/1213/10-2009), condensed version (for the complete news briefs, go to:  
[www.lausanneworldpulse.com/newsbrief.php/1213/10-2009](http://www.lausanneworldpulse.com/newsbrief.php/1213/10-2009))

**AFRICA: New Africa Regional Director Elected**

Filimao M. Chambo has been elected the new Africa regional director of the Church of the Nazarene. Chambo, a native of Mozambique and resident of South Africa, replaces Eugénio Duarte, who was recently elected general superintendent. Since 2007 he has been serving the Africa region as coordinator of Nazarene Education and Discipleship (NED) services. ([Nazarene Communications Network](#))

**AROUND THE WORLD: World Evangelical Alliance Welcomes Kosovo and Azerbaijan**

Kosovo and Azerbaijan recently became the latest alliance members of the [World Evangelical Alliance](#) (WEA) through their affiliation with the [European Evangelical Alliance](#). WEA international director Dr. Geoff Tunnicliffe welcomed the two alliances with the following statement: "...While both these alliances represent minority movements in their countries, we are encouraged to see the recent growth of the Church and their growing unity." ([World Evangelical Alliance](#))

**AROUND THE WORLD: WEA Rallies against Human Trafficking**

The [World Evangelical Alliance](#) (WEA) has recently created a taskforce on human trafficking in an effort to raise awareness across the WEA community that represents 420 million evangelical Christians worldwide. The taskforce, headed by the WEA spokesperson on human trafficking, Commissioner Christine MacMillan, aims to prevent and combat trafficking by developing strategic and effective actions and tools that will help equip local churches and their leaders to become responsive to the victims of human trafficking. ([World Evangelical Alliance](#))

**CONGO: A "Great Harvest Field"**

Churches in the Democratic Republic of the Congo run 145 grade schools serving an estimated forty thousand students. Only about ten to twenty percent of the students come from Christian homes, and the government actually requires that schools provide religious instruction. [Grace Ministries International](#) (GMI) is sending out teams trained by [OneHope](#) to help evangelize students and communities. Teams do outreach in the schools, distribute tracts with the help of local Christians, and show *The GodMan* film in the evenings. So far, estimates report about seven hundred students have made professions of faith, over eight hundred people have professed faith in response to the tract distribution, and more than a 1,500 people have professed faith in response to *The GodMan*. ([Mission Network News](#))

**INDONESIA: Consultation Addresses World Concerns**

Despite the Jakarta bombings and the H1N1 flu scare, ninety-one participants from twenty countries took part in the [Asia Theological Association's](#) (ATA) consultation on *Christian Leadership Formation in an Age of Crisis: Our Response to Globalization and Religious Pluralism* 21-24 July 2009 in Malang, East Java, Indonesia. Heads of seminaries, church pastors, and leaders in the public sector responded with commitment and positive enthusiasm to the issues of economic and social globalization and religions seeking to re-establish their control over society. ([Asia Theological Association](#))

**IRAQ: Christians Persevere amid Increased Danger**

In August 2009, it was reported that after a period of relative peace, the situation in Iraq has gotten worse again. There have been explosions, and many people, including both Christians and Muslims, have been killed in the attacks. Carl Moeller, with [Open Doors](#), says while many Christians have left Iraq, many remain. While violence mounts, Moeller says, "The Church is growing. And one of the great testimonies to the power of the Holy Spirit and the witness of Jesus Christ is that he is actually appearing to many 'seeking Muslims' in dreams and visions." ([Mission Network News](#))

### **KYRGYZSTAN: New Council to Crack Down on “Religious Extremism”**

In order to crack down on religious minorities, Kyrgyzstan has established a state Coordinating Council set to fight against what the country views as religious extremism. On 5 August 2009, the Prime Minister signed the decree establishing the council. [Forum 18](#) shared some of the text of the decree, which reads in part that it was created "for the purpose of ensuring concerted action and coordination of activity of state agencies and local governments of Kyrgyzstan in prevention of the spread of and resistance to religious extremism, fundamentalism, and conflicts on religious grounds." Faith-based groups, as well as civic agencies, are alarmed by the scope of power bestowed upon the council. ([Mission Network News](#))

### **PERU: North American Youth Outreach Strategy Taken to South American Youth**

After wrapping up [Summer of Hope 2009](#) in the United States, the [Ron Hutchcraft Ministries On Eagles' Wings](#) (OEW) team traveled to Peru, where pastors selected two indigenous Christians from six key regions of Peru to participate in training and evangelism. In a two-day training camp, Ron Hutchcraft and his team trained the Peruvians to do outreach and cast vision for revival to be led by youth reaching their peers. "Peruvian young people are, like their peers around the world, shaped by the American youth culture," Hutchcraft explained. "The Church doesn't understand them, and they are often overlooked." ([Ron Hutchcraft Ministries](#))

### **SINGAPORE: Convention Aimed at Inspiring South Asian Youth**

In July 2009, nearly 350 delegates and invited guests between the ages of 16 and 45, varying from students to young urban professionals and ministry leaders, and representing more than fifteen different denominations, attended the third [South Asian Global Convention](#) (SAGC) in Singapore. This third international and trans-denominational gathering of South Asian Christian youth, young adults, and ministry leaders centered on the theme “Beyond Boundaries,” based on Isaiah 54:2. According to Pastor Pritam Singh Sandhu, founder of [South Asian Connection](#), God laid a vision in the hearts of various leaders of the South Asian Diaspora for a new and relevant work aimed at the present and next generation of young South Asians. ([Assist News Service](#))

### **UNITED STATES: SIM Names New U.S. Director**

SIM ([Serving In Mission](#)) has named Bruce Johnson as its new United States director. Johnson, a 35-year veteran in ministry leadership, started 1 July 2009 on the SIM USA Leadership Team. Beginning 1 October 2009 he replaces Dr. Steve Strauss, who is leaving to become professor of world missions and intercultural studies at Dallas Theological Seminary. Johnson came to SIM from Asian Access, where he served seven years as vice president of ministry and also as interim president. ([Serving In Mission](#))

### **UNITED STATES: Joni and Friends Celebrates Thirtieth Anniversary**

As Joni Eareckson Tada observes her sixtieth birthday in October, this year also marks the thirtieth anniversary of the ministry she founded to provide support and outreach to individuals with disabilities and their families. [Joni and Friends Ministries Inc.](#) includes Tada's internationally-syndicated radio program "Joni and Friends"; the Wheels for the World program, which provides wheelchairs for individuals with disabilities all over the world; and family retreats, during which individuals with disabilities and their entire families are encouraged and given a real respite during a week-long "summer camp" atmosphere. ([Christian Newswire](#))

## **PUBLISHER'S MEMO**

**Story-telling and the Gospel throughout Our World** by *Lon Allison, co-publisher of LWP*. Through storytelling primarily utilizing the narratives of scripture, ministers of the gospel are seeing marvelous responses from people in cities and villages around the world. Story is the best container for the gospel for all listeners, everywhere in the world. Story proclamation is an art form in itself and requires a blending of the cognitive, which is the organ for reason, and the imagination, which is the organ for meaning. Further, it requires that gospel speakers learn to present their biblically-centered messages in increasingly compelling ways utilizing the best in dramatic art that is available. [www.lausanneworldpulse.com/leadershipmemo/1209/10-2009](http://www.lausanneworldpulse.com/leadershipmemo/1209/10-2009)

## **THEMED ARTICLES: THE GOSPEL IN ORAL TRADITION**

**The Impact of Technology on Bible Translation** by *Reinier de Blois*, who works as a translation consultant for the United Bible Societies. A brief history of Bible translation includes a more detailed look at Paratext, a computer tool created by United Bible Societies (UBS) in 1997, which allowed the computer to display the Bible's source texts in Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek side-by-side on the computer screen. Furthermore, it offered dictionaries of the biblical languages. Released in 2009, Paratext 7.0 is a piece of software that facilitates a translation project from its early stages right up to the moment the text is published, making the entire translation process more timely, cost-effective, and higher quality. [www.lausanneworldpulse.com/themedarticles.php/1214/10-2009](http://www.lausanneworldpulse.com/themedarticles.php/1214/10-2009)

**Online Mission** by *Peter Fischer-Nielsen*, PhD fellow at the Faculty of Theology, Aarhus University, doing research on church communication on the Internet. The popular breakthrough of the Internet forces the Church, and many other institutions, to think in new ways about its communication. One of the obvious advantages of the Internet is its large reach. This goes well with a church that is eager to follow the words of the Great Commission to "go and make disciples of all nations." In countries where traditional mission approaches are difficult because of the religious or political climate, the Internet can be an easy, safe, and cheap way into the culture. [www.lausanneworldpulse.com/themedarticles.php/1215/10-2009](http://www.lausanneworldpulse.com/themedarticles.php/1215/10-2009)

**The Gospel in Oral Tradition** by *Morgan Jackson*, international director of *Faith Comes By Hearing*. Most of the world's people live in oral cultures. They learn about their history and transmit their values through song, chant, story, and drama. But when they listen to the Bible, oral people don't separate themselves from the stories. As they listen, they are drawn in and find themselves walking alongside Jesus. Jackson gives examples of how people in Togo and Bolivia have been transformed by the stories of scripture. [www.lausanneworldpulse.com/themedarticles.php/1216/10-2009](http://www.lausanneworldpulse.com/themedarticles.php/1216/10-2009)

**The Storytellers of Dulumpur** by *Carla Bowman*, co-founder of *Scriptures in Use*. After a breathtaking descriptive of the use of story, song, and chant in East India, Bowman goes into detail on how the BRIDGES curriculum, developed by *Scriptures in Use*, is being used to link story and the gospel message in Southeast Asia and beyond. [www.lausanneworldpulse.com/themedarticles.php/1210/10-2009](http://www.lausanneworldpulse.com/themedarticles.php/1210/10-2009)

**Oral Communication and the Global Recordings Network** by *Allan Starling*, who has served with *Global Recordings Network* for forty-seven years. Starling asks, "How do we communicate to both the speaking and thinking of primary oral communicators?" He discusses how *Global Recordings Network* has focused on the use of repetition, making culturally-relevant messages, and using redemptive analogies, among other things, to reach oral peoples for Jesus Christ. [www.lausanneworldpulse.com/themedarticles.php/1217/10-2009](http://www.lausanneworldpulse.com/themedarticles.php/1217/10-2009)

## PERSPECTIVES

**The Persecuted Church Taught Me to Pray** by *Al Janssen*, communications director at *Open Doors International*. In response to being asked to intercede through prayer for a group of Christian men living in a Muslim extremist area, Janssen asked God to teach him to pray for the persecuted Church. Janssen learned five lessons: wait upon the Lord, use the Psalms as your prayer book, pray as you watch the news, pray constantly, and give thanks for the persecuted Church. [www.lausanneworldpulse.com/perspectives.php/1205/10-2009](http://www.lausanneworldpulse.com/perspectives.php/1205/10-2009)

**Surprising Witness: The Story of Christians for Social Justice in Cambodia** by *Samantha Baker Evens*, who has been a member of the *InnerCHANGE* community for the last eleven years. Christians for Social Justice was initially focused on raising awareness of social justice issues in Cambodia with concerned Christians and being a place where it was safe to talk about the intersection of faith and justice. It quickly, however, moved toward offering Christians a chance to respond personally to issues of social justice through partnership with a local human rights organization. Baker Evens shares how partnerships between unlikely groups have been changing lives in Cambodia. [www.lausanneworldpulse.com/perspectives.php/1206/10-2009](http://www.lausanneworldpulse.com/perspectives.php/1206/10-2009)

**I Am Second** by *Victoria Childress*, writer/editor for *I am Second* and *e3 Partners Ministry*. *I am Second* is a simple website with crisp, high-quality videos of people sharing their pasts of pain and redemption. Pastors, soldiers, rock stars, movie stars, pro ball players, politicians, college students, pageant queens, and housewives all tell their stories. Although they come from very different backgrounds, they all have one thing in common: Jesus and his grace,

restoration, and love. *I am Second* videos can be used in churches, small groups, or Bible studies.  
[www.lausanneworldpulse.com/perspectives.php/1211/10-2009](http://www.lausanneworldpulse.com/perspectives.php/1211/10-2009)

### **URBAN COMMUNITIES**

**Niamey—What Is Its Context for Christian Service? Part One** by *Martine Audeoud, who has served for over twenty-five years in Africa and Haiti.* Audeoud discusses the historical context of Niamey and Niger as a whole—namely, the origin of the dichotomy of the presence of Muslims and Christians. After a brief discussion of the history of the Church and Christians, she looks at Christianity in Niger today.  
[www.lausanneworldpulse.com/urban.php/1207/10-2009](http://www.lausanneworldpulse.com/urban.php/1207/10-2009)

**Niamey—What Is Its Context for Christian Service? Part Two** by *Martine Audeoud, who has served for over twenty-five years in Africa and Haiti.* A superimposition of various worldviews is prevalent in Niger, due to both past and present influences. These worldviews greatly affect the context in which church leaders operate. These worldviews include the traditional African context, the Islamic context, the Christian context, the colonial context, and the urban context. [www.lausanneworldpulse.com/urban.php/1208/10-2009](http://www.lausanneworldpulse.com/urban.php/1208/10-2009)

### **LAUSANNE REPORTS**

**And the Walls Came Tumbling...** by *Elke Werner, Lausanne senior associate for women in evangelism.* In church and mission it often seems as if men and women are working in two separate worlds. Many men do not realize how much women contribute to world evangelism; how women hold minister in the most difficult areas of the world; and how women reach and teach children, other women, and if allowed, men. In church history we see again and again that women were leaders during revivals in the Church. For Cape Town 2010 the leadership of Lausanne has decided to embrace what women are doing for the kingdom. [www.lausanneworldpulse.com/lausannereports/1204/10-2009](http://www.lausanneworldpulse.com/lausannereports/1204/10-2009)

**Engaging in the Digital Age: Harnessing Its Power for Good** by *Sandra S. K. Lee, who serves as a research associate with the Center for the Study of Global Christianity.* We must learn from our brothers and sisters around the world, particularly those from Pentecostal and Charismatic backgrounds, who are effectively harnessing the power of new technologies, as well as from mission organizations who have already been creatively integrating the Internet in their evangelism and ministry. From counseling services, advocacy, interactive engagement, sharing, and witnessing, as well as resources for preaching and missions, to networking, discussion boards for new ideas, and low-cost audio and video broadcasting, the possibilities are endless. [www.lausanneworldpulse.com/lausannereports/1212/10-2009](http://www.lausanneworldpulse.com/lausannereports/1212/10-2009)

### **December 2009 Theme: Celebrating the Creative Gifts of the Spirit**

Questions or comments about Lausanne World Pulse may be sent to: [editor@lausanneworldpulse.com](mailto:editor@lausanneworldpulse.com).