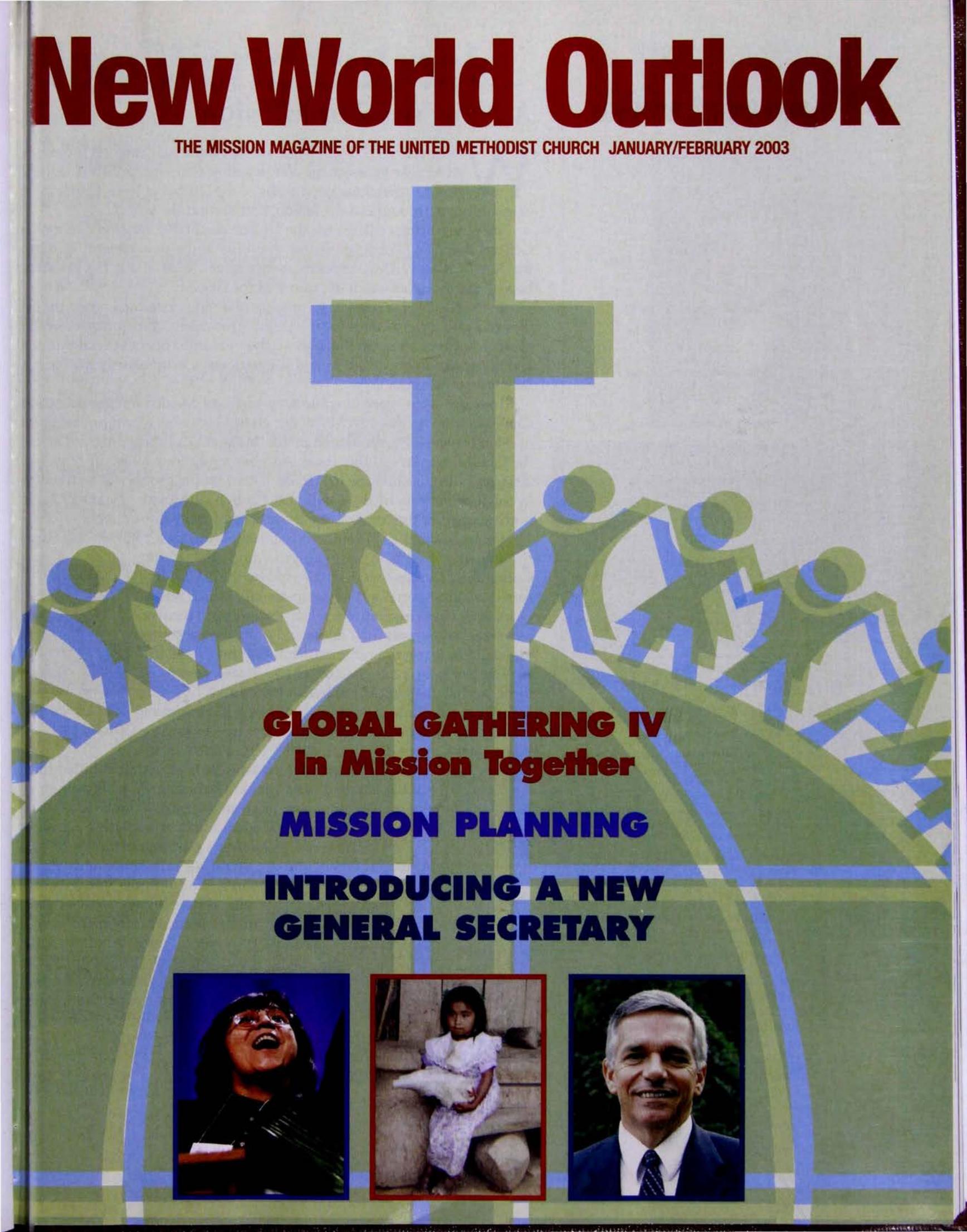


New World Outlook

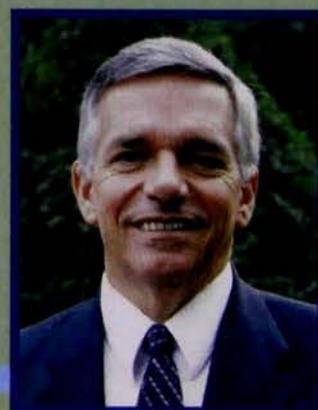
THE MISSION MAGAZINE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2003



GLOBAL GATHERING IV
In Mission Together

MISSION PLANNING

INTRODUCING A NEW
GENERAL SECRETARY



NEW WORLD OUTLOOK

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Cover: Global Gathering IV logo by Edward Moultrie. **Photos:** Simei Monteiro of Brazil; a young Mexican child; and the Rev. R. Randy Day. **Photographers:** Mark McDonald, Paula Copeland; and Lane Winn.

A New Year For Mission

Welcome to 2003, a good year to start some new mission projects. A good year to assess the congregation's mission priorities. A good year to spread the good news of the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the neighborhood, throughout the nation, and around the world.

This year brings change for the United Methodist mission agency, the General Board of Global Ministries. A profile of the new general secretary, the Rev. R. Randy Day, appears in this issue. Read about his priorities, hopes, and thoughts about the future of the GBGM.

In the center of this issue is a mission planning calendar. Loosen the staples and pull it right out of the magazine. This calendar includes reminders about what is coming up throughout the year in terms of special Sundays and national mission activities and suggests ways to involve the whole congregation in mission.

Looking for a more tangible way to study Mexico for the Schools of Christian Mission this year? Why not go to Mexico? A report on last year's mission travel study, sponsored by the Mission Education program area of the GBGM, appears in this issue. Another study tour takes off May 1-16, 2003, and there is still time to sign on. This year the group will be traveling to mission projects of the Methodist Church of Mexico (IMMAR) in the northern part of the country. See the article for more information.

Our mission sites in southern Louisiana—the UMCOR Depot at Sager-Brown, the Sager-Brown campus, and the Dulac Community Center—were all affected by the 2002 hurricane season, especially by Hurricane Lili, which struck October 3. These institutions, while struggling to recover, have reached beyond their doors and properties and provided aid to those around them who were hit even harder. The work of recovery continues. Please remember these, and all the United Methodist institutions that seek to build community, in your prayers. Many have been hit hard by the tempests in the economic climate—feeling the foundation dollars dry up as stocks plummeted in the market. They depend, now as in the past, on the church that founded them.

In April, the GBGM will host Global Gathering IV in Birmingham, Alabama. This event is open to any interested groups or individuals who wish to attend. United Methodists and Methodist partners from across the globe will participate in the event, providing a good opportunity for communication and understanding among people of different countries, cul-

tures, and ethnic backgrounds, with different perspectives about our world. What a great way to celebrate Palm Sunday, when Jesus entered Jerusalem to the sound of praises and loud hosannas! Those praises extend today in hundreds of different languages all around the world.



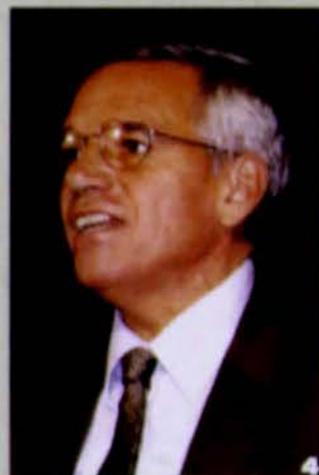
Global Gathering III, Kansas City, MO



John Silver,
Dulac, LA

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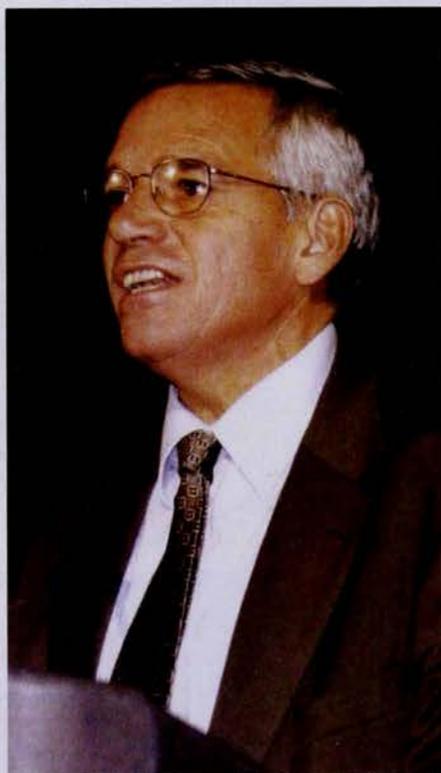


Strengthening

An Introduction to the Rev. R. Randy Day, General Secretary General Board of Global Ministries

an interview by Christie R. House

The Rev. R. Randy Day begins his tenure as General Secretary after serving two years as a deputy general secretary of the General Board of Global Ministries. He was previously assigned to oversee the Evangelization and Church Growth and Community and Institutional Ministries program areas.



How will you approach your work as General Secretary of the General Board of Global Ministries?

Rev. Day: I will start out with keen listening. It would be inappropriate to come to this mission agency with a vision that has already been worked out. A prophetic vision for mission has to grow out of a collaborative effort. The first several months of my

tenure will be a listening process: listening to the GBGM Board of Directors and staff, conference leaders, church constituencies of all kinds, our partner churches, and the missionaries, retired and active. Together we will discern what it is to be in mission. If we listen to the dreams and visions of one another across the church, we will remain connected with a strong purpose. Not everyone shares the same dream or has the same vision, but together, we can build a vision that encompasses all concerns. The church is about pulling people together.

We need to expand the theology of partnership and get conferences and districts directly involved with the mission. People have a real passion for mission. You see this particularly in the Schools of Christian Mission.

We need to connect the mission with young adults in their 20s and people who are in their 30s and 40s. They say: "We're ready to go, ready to help, ready to be in mission. We want to do more than just the weekend project, but we don't know how to get involved." GBGM has to provide the connection for this significant community. That's what we do so well. Our people are interested in mission.

the Connection



The Rev. R. Randy Day (standing, ninth from right) attends the Laotian and Vietnamese Christian Leaders' School in Cambodia.

We need to expand the theology of partnership and get conferences and districts directly involved with the mission.

They are not necessarily interested in church lingo or bureaucracy. We need to move fast and just tell and retell the church's story.

How will GBGM connect with the different constituencies in the church?

Rev. Day: We need to be pragmatic about listening and do a good job of communicating what GBGM has to offer.

I like the cafeteria approach. In a cafeteria, you have a wide range of choices. You can go down the line and pick and choose what you want to eat. You don't take everything.

Our board should offer many

different choices and ways for people to get involved in United Methodist ministry. At the same time, I think that churches or conferences that choose to be involved in a sister or partner church should stick with it. You can't choose one this year and another one the next year. You hardly get to know the people involved in only a year's time. When you form a partnership, you have to hang in there for the long term and focus on strengthening that relationship.

Young adults, once they leave high school, are often lost to us. In high school they are connected through United Methodist Youth Fellowship (UMYF) groups at church and on the district and conference level. Once they leave for college, they may or may not find a connection back to the United Methodist Church. Somehow we have to connect this age group with the mission opportunities that abound for them. Their

The Rev. R. Randy Day

Birthplace: Roodhouse, Illinois.

Home Church: Roodhouse United Methodist Church.

Family Background: Farmers and merchants.

Ordained: Elder in the Central Illinois Conference, transferred membership to New York Annual Conference in 1973.

Family: married to Emily Day, with three children—Gregory, married; Jessica, 8; and James, 4 (adopted from Haiti).

Education: Illinois Wesleyan, Bloomington, Illinois, religion major. Silliman University, Dumaguete, Philippines, BA in sociology and a Certificate of Competency in Southeast Asian Studies. Yale Divinity School, M. Div.

Appointments: Associate Pastor, First UMC in Chillicothe, Illinois, and Golden Hill UMC in Bridgeport, Connecticut; Pastor, First and St. Paul's United Methodist churches in Astoria, New York, and First United Methodist Church in Jamaica, NY; Senior Pastor, Jesse Lee Memorial United Methodist Church in Ridgefield, Connecticut, and Nichols United Methodist Church in Trumbull, Connecticut; District Superintendent, New York Annual Conference, Metropolitan District, New York City; Deputy General Secretary, General Board of Global Ministries.

involvement is vital, not only for their own lives, but for the life of the church.

I want to connect to the missionary community and the retired missionary community.

From the General Secretary

On living in Southeast Asia...

Living my faith in the cultures of Southeast Asia for two years was a profound transforming experience. I learned that the Gospel of Jesus Christ comes alive in the context of each nation and culture. Justo Gonzalez, a theologian from Cuba, is correct in saying that the power and fullness of the Gospel is made manifest only as it is expressed and shared by all of God's people in all of God's cultures around the world.

On the theology of mission...

While the secular society of most nations pressures us to conform to it, the Gospel calls us to transform the society. Biblical love actively seeks justice, peace, and liberation. We cannot be passive if we are biblical Christians. I embrace the theology of *The Discipline*, which is a living, unfolding, involved theology open to God's movement.

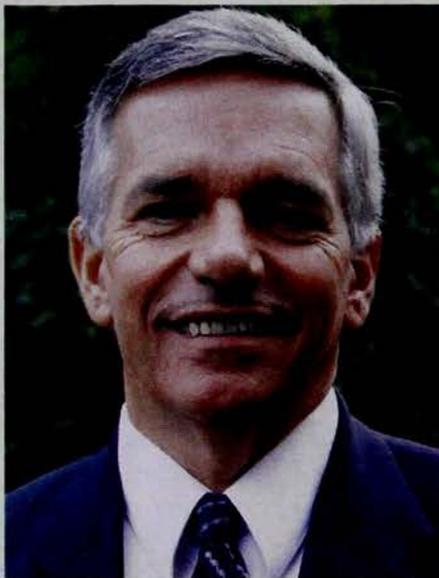
I believe in the God of grace who is active and interactive in humanity. It is very liberating to worship a God who has unlimited love for me and every other human being. It is in response to and with deep gratitude for this tremendous gift that we respond and engage in a faith-based ministry of mission, social witness, and evangelization.

God is active in human life and our response is to be in partnership with God. Mission belongs to God. We are called by God to be engaged in mission today just as God called biblical figures to enjoy the creation, accept the offered grace, and work for love, peace, and justice.

Mutuality in mission is central to my theology of mission. Working to make it reality is the challenge for GBGM.

On faith and good works...

With each of my churches over the years, I illustrated that faith and good works combined to produce a theology of grace. I would hold up a pair of chopsticks, separate them, and say: "If you try to eat rice with a single chopstick, you will starve to death! If you try to live by faith alone, ignoring good works, or by good works alone, ignoring faith, you will starve to death spiritually." I would then reunite the chopsticks and pick up a small object, saying: "Faith and good works are essential for our well being, as John Wesley



Having recently come from the local church to a general agency, I am convinced that the agency that ignores or dismisses the local church is doomed to ineffectiveness.

emphasized time and again throughout his ministry." There was no religion but social religion and no holiness but social holiness for Wesley. Our shared Wesleyan heritage allows us, from a broad spectrum of theological perspectives, to work together.

On the United Methodist connection...

I believe our United Methodist connection is spiritual and holy in addition to being legal and structural. The members of United Methodist churches and missions around the world are connected by their faith in Jesus Christ, their commitment to do Christ's mission, and their embrace of the Bible and *The Discipline* with its constitutional polity.

Having recently come directly from the local church to a general agency, I am convinced that the agency that ignores or dismisses the local church is doomed to ineffectiveness and irrelevance. General agencies certainly relate to one another, but I maintain that their primary concern should be the local churches spread around the world. The General Board of Global Ministries, along with other agencies, exists to serve these churches and be their partner in mission. Agency arrogance has to give way to an inclusive, missional, sharing spirit.

On leadership style...

My leadership style is collegial, cooperative, and clear. I do not hesitate to be decisive, but neither am I dictatorial. I consult colleagues. I am comfortable with consensus, using it for years in my churches, at the Commission on the Status and Role of Women (COSROW), in cabinet settings and unit meetings. My leadership style as an individual executive and in teams is basically pastoral. Institutions and the people working for them and with them require pastoral care. In my opinion, the General Board of Global Ministries is no exception. I am convinced that a more pastoral approach by the cabinet of the GBGM would greatly benefit the

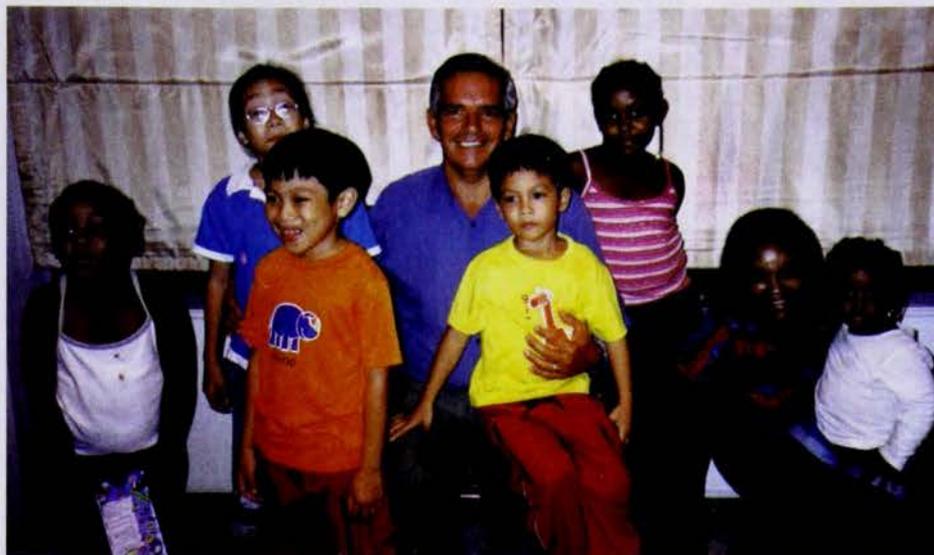
entire organization in the short run and in the long run.

On a vision for the future...

Dawn had just broken in the remote western region of Negros Island in the central part of the Philippines. After three days of hiking through the mountains, where we visited burned-out villages caught in "low-intensity" conflict, our ecumenical human rights team was taken to a refugee camp for villagers who had fled the fighting. At a makeshift clinic, a young doctor asked us to follow him to a small shed. No one said a word as we entered and saw three babies wrapped in white cloth. An elderly woman sat nearby and gently waved a palm branch over them, presumably to keep the flies away. Why were there candles next to each child? Suddenly, I realized that the babies were all dead. "Measles," said the doctor.

Seeing these children, who had died "just before dawn" from a preventable disease, has had a profound impact on me professionally, personally, and spiritually. Having looked into the faces of starving and severely malnourished children in refugee camps in Africa, in Asian cities, and in Haitian villages, I have a vision of the General Board of Global Ministries alleviating physical and spiritual poverty.

Throughout my 30 years of pastoral ministry, I have been deeply touched and spiritually led by children. I, in turn, am a faithful child advocate and a caring disciple of Jesus Christ. It is my vision that the General Board of Global Ministries will find new and multiple ways to halt the marginalization of peoples on every continent. While nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) have significant roles in this, the churches are key.



The Rev. R. Randy Day takes a moment out with the children attending the Laotian and Vietnamese Christian Leaders' School.

There is a wealth of cultural knowledge, faith, and partner-relationship understanding in these two communities. Their experience can only contribute positive elements to GBGM's understanding.

In general, I think GBGM should reach out to the retirees in our society. People are taking retirement at an earlier age and are in better health than ever before. They are still active and have a lot to give to their church. They retire with a wealth of executive, managerial, and practical skills and knowledge that we should tap into for the benefit of mission ministries. God can use them because they feel called by God and are looking for mission opportunities.

In the Ridgefield church that I pastored, a core of retirees had excellent experience with computers. We tapped into the New York Annual Conference's partnership with the United Methodist Church in Mozambique and sent two laypersons to Maputo to establish a computer training center under the supervision of Mr. Zacarias Uqueio, a GBGM director from Mozambique at the time. Our congregation raised the funds and sent 15 computers for the purpose of

training young adults for the job market. The program is now in its fifth year.

What are your concerns for the GBGM?

Rev. Day: I think we ought to increase connection on a South-to-South basis, that is, among people in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. For many years the educational opportunities for these areas have been offered through churches in Europe and in the United States. Now these areas don't have to relate to each other through churches in the North or West because they can relate directly to each other. In some cases, a common language forms a connection, as between the Portuguese-speaking countries in Africa and Brazil. But even without common language, there are often shared problems and possibly shared solutions, as among the indigenous peoples living in South America and those living in much of Asia. Prosthesis technologies developed for those with amputations because of leprosy or other diseases in India are applicable to those who suffer from amputations because of landmines



Clockwise from top left: Randy Day and Bishop John Innis of Liberia visit mission churches in Lithuania; Rev. Day at a GBGM board meeting with Deputy General Secretary Edith Gleaves and with members of the youth choir at Pushkin UMC, St. Petersburg, Russia.

in Angola or Mozambique. Western technologies developed in highly mechanized societies are not appropriate for either context.

We must place a high priority on communications at GBGM, communicating in a timely manner not only with our church constituencies but with the secular world as well. We need to communicate with other United Methodist boards and agencies to help facilitate their work. GBGM brings a unique global perspective to the table that should be shared with the whole church. It is important to look at a situation without wearing "national glasses" but with a perspective that stands outside the national interests, looking in.

I think we also ought to be sensitive and alert to relations among the major world religions at this time. I recommend a book from Yale University Press titled *Ethnic Conflict and Civic Life: Hindus and Muslims in India* by Ashutosh

Varshney. This nine-year study looks at six communities in three Indian cities. All of the communities have significant populations of both Muslims and Hindus, but some communities have violent clashes and others do not. This book seeks to understand why.

In the communities where ethnic tension does not break out into violence, grassroots networks from both the major religions work together. When an incident occurs, the various parties can communicate directly with members of the other group because there is trust, and the groundwork for the relationships has been laid. Our churches, along with civic associations, form such grassroots networks in their communities. Research shows these kinds of relationships pay off. Lives are saved because of these diligently nurtured connections.

I think everyone should have a world map on the wall or a globe on

the desk. When anyone from the congregation travels, or when mission speakers come to visit the church, we ought to cultivate an awareness about where people are going to or coming from. We have to tell our children: "This place exists on the map. The people you heard about today live in this part of the world. Their customs are different from ours, they live in a different climate, and they may wear different clothes. But we are still the same church. We are connected."

We should advocate for global education in the schools, starting at the elementary level to teach about the countries, peoples, languages, and religions of today's world. If our children do not get this education in the schools, we should ensure they get it in the church. There is a whole world out there. Let's share it with the children.

Christie R. House is the editor of New World Outlook.

COME TO THE TABLE

by David Markay

Jadwyga* had come to the United Methodist Church in Lithuania through the basement door. She and her sister had heard that the Methodists in her community were the church that “feeds people.” She was skeptical at first. Gossip around town said that these Methodists were some kind of harmful religious sect. Nevertheless, she and her sister went to be fed.

What they found didn’t look much like a church at all. It was a narrow two-story house whose living room had been converted into a sanctuary with about 15 wooden benches and a stocky wooden table for an altar. The basement had a long table running down the center. On Sundays, children sat around the table with a teacher. On weekdays, 25 adults sat around it to get a hot meal.

Someone prayed before the potatoes were served, but Jadwyga didn’t pay much attention. This was the only meal she would get for the day. She was hungry.

One Sunday, Jadwyga’s sister announced that she was going to go to worship. “You can’t!” protested Jadwyga. “The downstairs table is for us. The upstairs table is for the church folk.” Nevertheless, her sister went—without her.

Several weeks went by before her sister convinced Jadwyga that it was all right to go to the worship service. During her first Sunday, she sat at the far end of the room. When it came time for Communion, she stayed seated and looked down. She began to attend regularly but steadfastly refused to go to the altar for Communion.



A Lithuanian tapestry woven by Brune, who also weaves stoles.

A GBGM missionary got to know Jadwyga. Over time, they became friendly. “I’ve noticed, Jadwyga,” the woman said, “that when it comes time for Communion, you don’t go. Why is that?” Jadwyga was silent for awhile and then responded: “I’m too angry. You don’t know all I’ve seen in my life. All this talk of love—it’s not as strong as the hurt I feel. I can’t forgive and I can’t be forgiven.”

The woman did not give up on Jadwyga. Each Sunday as Communion began, she would glance over her shoulder at the back bench. All she saw were glares from Jadwyga, the kind that said, “Stop bothering me.”

Several months later during worship, when it came time to go to the altar for Communion, the missionary felt someone touch her shoulder. It was not a tap; it was more like a push, a shove—some kind of wordless announcement. She looked up to see Jadwyga, tears

on her cheeks, head down, walking to the table with her hands outstretched.

There are still two tables at that church. You’ll see Jadwyga at both of them. She receives Communion at one and helps cook and serve meals at the other.

Come to the table. It’s long enough for people around the world to gather there. It’s a place where “[we] press on to make [the resurrection] [our] own, because Christ Jesus has made [us] his own.” (Philippians 3:12)

**Not her real name.*

The Rev. David Markay has served as a missionary in Lithuania since 1997 with his wife Kristin Markay.

Birmingham, Alabama, April 10-13, 2003

Global Gathering IV In Mission Together

A Celebration of Christian Mission

by Robert Harman

65

The United Methodist Church has just completed what many consider to be the most active decade in its mission history. The General Board of Global Ministries, through its philosophy of facilitating mission, has enabled the church to respond to a host of new opportunities for mission service. The witness of The United Methodist Church has been extended to new populations worldwide as the units of our connexional ministry act together in Christian mission.

Global Gathering IV, taking place April 10-13, 2003, in Birmingham, Alabama, will present an opportunity for the mission constituency of the church to experience firsthand the difference this ministry makes in people's lives. It will bring together United Methodists and ecumenical partners from around the world for a time of sharing that will be rich in fellowship, learning, and inspiration.

Birmingham Welcomes GG IV

More than Southern hospitality awaits members of the global United Methodist family when they arrive in Birmingham.

An active Local Arrangements Committee, staffed by the Rev. Rick Owen of the North Alabama Conference Office of Connexional Ministries, is engaged in recruiting hundreds of volunteers to support the event. Among their many tasks are serving as greeters at the airport, staffers at registration booths,

guides for visitors to the Global Village, language interpreters, and hosts to international participants.

The Rev. Gary Ward, a director of the General Board of Global Ministries and chairperson of the local committee, says: "I know this will be a great opportunity for Methodists in north Alabama as we learn more about our church and celebrate our ministries. I believe people who attend Global Gathering IV will not only experience Southern hospitality but will also see Birmingham and the South in a new light."

Bishop Robert Fanin of the Birmingham Area will host a reception on Thursday evening, April 10. All the United Methodist bishops in attendance will be in the receiving line. Participants will be entertained by local musical talent and will sample some of Birmingham's culinary delights.

United Methodist Volunteers plan to leave their mark in Birmingham. Paulette West, North Alabama Conference Volunteer-In-Mission Coordinator, is making preparations to receive hundreds of volunteers from across the nation to assist with local construction projects. A Habitat for Humanity house will be built in stages in the Global Village exhibit hall and then transported to the local building site.

Children in the day-care program, as well as participants in the post-event mission tours, will have scheduled opportunities to visit the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute. Other participants will use free time to explore this moving exhibit that chronicles the

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struggle for civil rights in the United States that centered upon this city in the 1960s.

Delegations from Birmingham Area United Methodist churches are invited to participate in the closing Palm Sunday service of worship at the convention center. They will lead a great processional into the plenary arena, accented by percussionists from Latin America. United Methodist worshipers from five continents will receive them with joyous shouts of hosanna. This service will be adapted for local church use and distributed in advance, via the GBGM website, for all United Methodist churches to use.

The planning committee anticipates 5000 or more participants taking part in the Global Gathering events. Many of the participants will return to their conferences motivated and encouraged to plan follow-up events so that local congregations will join "in mission together."

The Rev. Robert J. Harman is a planning consultant for Global Gathering IV and a former deputy general secretary of the General Board of Global Ministries.

Clockwise from top: Birmingham skyline above the Jefferson Convention Complex; the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute; Visionland theme park; the Mercedes-Benz US International Visitors Center; West African drummers at Global Gathering III; the Cahaba River in Alabama; the Birmingham Museum of Art; shopping district; the Riverchase Galleria; and the City States Music Festival.



Youth Go Global Events

by Tamara Walker

Mission: It's not just a trip. It's about how we live faithfully, every day and in every way—365 days a year.

Youth Go Global, for youth aged 12 to 30, is a time for young people to share, learn, and explore global mission and ministry. Global Gathering IV will provide two special events for young people.

Global Young Leaders Mission Consultation

On April 7-9, a global young leaders consultation will take place in which specific elected leaders from Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Caribbean, Europe, and North America will gather to discuss their priorities for mission in their own communities and churches. The young leaders will also discuss their challenges, opportunities, strategies, and models for effective mission. The consultation will include time for the regional delegations to strengthen their connections, develop joint plans for mission, and provide mentoring and leadership development opportunities for new leaders.

Youth Go Global Mission Celebration

Young people who register for Youth Go Global are invited to celebrate the power of global mission and ministry through the stories, witness, songs, and leadership of the young leaders around the world. Participants will also have the following opportunities.

April 9, 7:30 P.M. Worship Around the World

The Youth Go Global Mission Celebration will kick off with a worship led by young people from around the world. It will be a time to celebrate in song and prayer, the prophetic witness of young people!

April 9, 9-11 P.M. Youth Speak Out! Circles

These late night Speak Outs will have young people speaking out about "What's Up!" in terms of global mission and young people. Young leaders will lead Speak Out! Circles on critical mission issues for young people. Topics will include Africa, HIV/AIDS, Charity and Justice, Globalization, War and Terror, Fund-Raising for Mission, Poverty and Hunger, and more.

April 10-13 Youth in the Global Village

The Youth Area in the Global Village will be a hang out for young people, a place to meet people from all over the world, a space for conversation and dialogue about youth in mission! There will also be a performance area where youth groups can present their mission skits, songs, raps, or step. Upon registration, all participants will receive a Youth Go Global packet complete with a Youth and Mission Tool to help them prepare to come celebrate and share their stories of mission and ministry.

April 11-12 Youth Workshops

Registering for Global Gathering will enable youth to participate in key workshop offerings.



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In Mission Together National Telethon



On Saturday, April 12, 2003, as part of Global Gathering IV, the General Board of Global Ministries will sponsor a nationwide telethon called In Mission Together at the Boutwell Auditorium in Birmingham, Alabama. The telethon will raise funds for new mission initiatives: Cambodia, Cameroon, Honduras, Laos, Latvia, Lithuania, Mongolia, Nepal, Russia, Senegal, and Vietnam.

The telethon, directed by Dr. S T Kimbrough, Jr., Associate General Secretary for Mission Evangelism at the General Board of Global Ministries, will broadcast on The Inspiration Network (INSP), which is carried on cable systems across the United States and currently reaches over 16.5 million homes. Support is needed to help the churches of these countries grow physically and spiritually and to assist them in reaching out to provide social services where the needs are great.

"In Mission Together" will be broadcast at the following times on April 12, 2003: 3 P.M. - 6 P.M. EST, 2 P.M. - 5 P.M. CST, 1 P.M. - 4 P.M. MT, 12 P.M. - 3 P.M. PT.

The telethon will feature international music and film footage of mission work from the highlighted countries.

Global Gathering IV Tours

Sunday, April 13, 2003

Trip One: Estimated Cost \$45. Birmingham Civil Rights Institute **Trip Two:** Estimated Cost \$65. Birmingham Civil Rights Institute and a Mission Project in Birmingham

**GREAT FOR
YOUTH GROUPS**



Monday April 14

Trip Three: Estimated Cost \$120. Birmingham Civil Rights Institute and 16th Street Baptist Church, or Northern Alabama Mission Sites; Upper Sand Mountain Cooperative Parish



For more information, contact Mission Education, 212-870-3792.

Global Village

The Global Village, a whole world of exhibits and presentations representing mission work around the world, offers Global Gathering IV participants displays, demonstrations, and live worship experiences. Each registrant for the Global Gathering will receive a passport to the Global Village. As attendees visit the various booths throughout the village, their passports will be stamped.

Radio Africa will be onsite conducting live interviews to be broadcast over the Radio Africa network. Live entertainment will be offered on the village stage. The In Mission Together Sphere, at the center of the exhibit area, will present the mission goals of the General Board of Global Ministries in sound and image. A prayer chapel with stained-glass windows and a 30-foot-long altar will grace the village as well.

Participants can turn in their stamped passports to receive a memento of the Global Gathering IV in Birmingham.



In Mission Together Plenary Schedule

Wednesday, April 9

Youth Go Global Event.

Thursday, April 10

Opening Worship, a service of word and table celebrating partnership with the churches of the South Pacific.

In Mission Together is a radical "being with each other" at the table, gathering the Body of Christ together, bringing all of who we are and being fully present to one another.

*Preacher: Dr. James Forbes.
Tongan Choir.*

Friday, April 11

Morning Worship, celebrating partnership with churches in Asia.

In Mission Together is mutual trust and equal relationship. We promote justice as we honor each other, honor the Body of Christ, and join our hands together symbolizing our connectedness.

Bishop Nellie Ritchie of Argentina.

In Mission Together Witnesses—
Panel on New Mission Initiatives.

Service of Baptismal Remembrance celebrating partnership with churches of Africa.

In Mission Together is empowering, claiming agency, being parts of the Body of Christ, knowing the fullness of the larger community, sharing the Gospel vision, and recognizing what we share.

*Preacher: The Rev. R. Randy Day,
General Secretary of the GBGM.
West African drummers.*

Saturday, April 12

Bible Study: In Mission Together.

Witnesses: Alex Awad (Palestine), Parvina Nadjibulla (Tajikistan), Bishop Ntambo Nkulu Ntanda (Congo), Dr. Mariella Michailova (Bulgaria).

Prayers for Wholeness, celebrating partnership with churches in North America and Europe. In

Mission Together is being gathered around Christ, around the cross, mourning as God mourns, healing as God heals, loving as God loves.

Multiethnic, multigenerational dance choir from Baton Rouge.

Special Program: Montana Logging and Ballet Co.

Sunday, April 13

Witness: Bishop Juan Vera Mendez - Puerto Rico.

Palm Sunday Celebration, celebrating partnerships with churches in Latin America and the Caribbean.

In Mission Together is joining our voices, celebrating the work of the people, hearing each other, proclaiming and embodying a right relationship, and living in the reign of God.

*Preacher: Dr. Randolph Nugent.
Procession led by Birmingham churches.*

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Global Gathering Workshops

Workshops offered at the Global Gathering are subject to change depending on how they are chosen through the registration process. Participants attending the workshops at the convention center will receive lunch as part of the program.

1. Poverty, Welfare Policy, and Faith Community
2. Korean Reunification and Reconciliation
3. Youth Models of Restorative Justice Ministries in the Global Context
4. Photojournalism for Print and Electronic Publications
5. Images of Women in Media & Communication for Human Dignity
6. How to Use GBGM Resources (Print, Audio, and Visual)
7. Multicultural Congregations and Ministry
8. Empowering Ministry with Marginalized People—Learning from the Deaf Community
9. Strength in Numbers: Cooperative Parish Ministries
10. Revitalizing the Rural Worship Experience
11. Clergy/Laity Partnerships: Basic Needs to Begin Ministry
12. Advance for Christ and His Church
13. Economic Development in Rural Communities
14. Helpful Hints for Your Church Construction
15. Global Education for Local Church Youth and Adults
16. Education of the Girl Child
17. Vieques: The Church's Response to Human/Environmental Injustice
18. Military/Environmental Degradation and Clean-Up
19. Understanding Health Needs of Native Americans
20. Global Apartheid of HIV/AIDS
21. Global Aging—International Strategies
22. Uprooted Peoples: The Hidden Casualties of Conflict
23. Christianity and Islam: A Global Issue
24. Justice for Our Neighbors: A United Methodist Response to Immigrants
25. Risk Management
26. The Caring Connection: National Mission Institutions
27. Emerging Mission
28. Interpreting Mission in the Local Church
29. Women in Mission: The Organization of United Methodist Women
30. Missions: District & Local Church Opportunities
31. How To Be an Effective Mission Interpreter
32. National Plans for Ministry: Racial/Ethnic Churches
33. Church-Based Community Organizing—Community Developers Program
34. Skills Development for Conference Committee on Mission Personnel
35. Domestic Violence
36. Community Reconciliation/Healing the Hate
37. Peace is the Fruit of Justice
38. Steps in Developing an Effective Strategy for Church Revitalization
39. Moving Out of the Church and Into the Streets
40. Sing the Songs of Global Praise 2 (Songbook)
41. Enriching Worship with Global Song
42. The Joys of Indigenous Song
43. Singing God's Mission
44. Mission Together—Creating Mission Partnerships
45. Mutuality in Mission
46. UMVIM—From the Passive Pew to Life-Changing Parish Involvement

QUICK LIST

Youth Go Global Opening:
April 9, 7:30 P.M. Worship service.

Global Gathering Opening:
April 10, 4:00 P.M.
Registration will take place from 11:30 A.M. on April 10 and the Global Village will be open.

Global Gathering Closing:
April 13, 12:00 P.M. Mission Tours begin.

Local Transportation

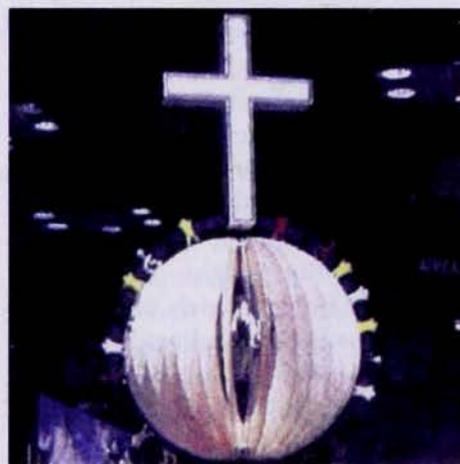
A contract for bus transport between the hotels and the convention center has been secured. A schedule for the daily routes of service will be developed.

Child Care Available

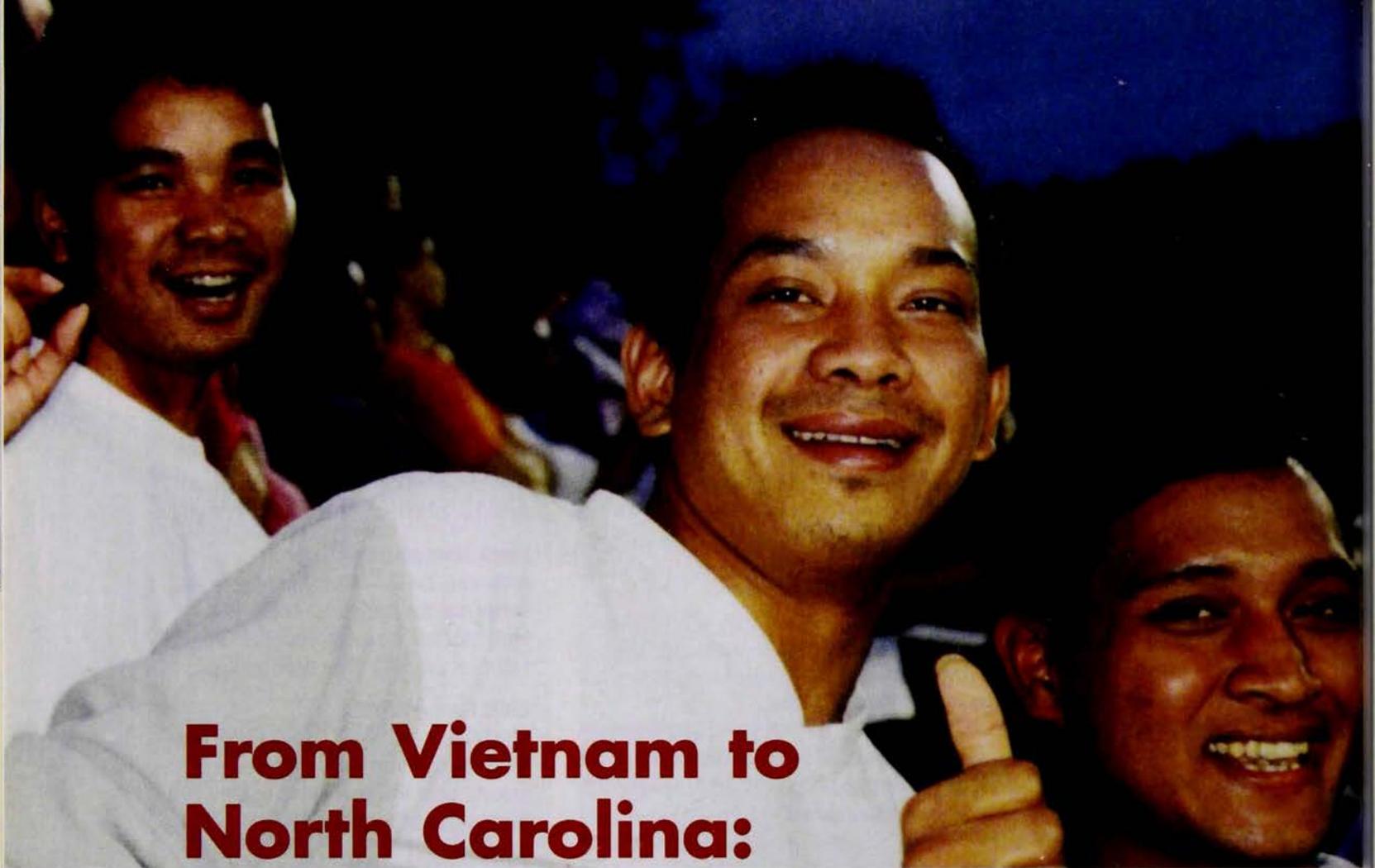
Child care for children 12 and under can be arranged through the registration process prior to the event. Child care will be provided by a community center in the area.

Design and Music

Worship Coordinator: Marcia McFee.



To register for the Global Gathering IV and Youth Go Global events, visit the website at <http://gbgm-umc.org/goglobal/home.cfm>. Registration forms are available in WordPerfect or MS Word formats. Download the registration form (2 pages), fill it out, and mail it to: Global Gathering IV, GBGM-UMC, 475 Riverside Dr., Room 350, New York, NY 10115. For information on how to access the forms, call 1-800-UMC-GBGM (1-800-862-4246).



From Vietnam to North Carolina: A Montagnard Family Journey

by Tom Lamb and Wendy Jones

The Israelites set out on a lifetime journey through the desert to the promised land. The Montagnards have set out on a similar journey through the jungle. Their name comes from a French term meaning "mountain dwellers." They are descendants of aboriginal hill tribes of the Annam Cordillera range in Vietnam. The following is the story of the Enouls, a family of Montagnard refugees that St. Mark's United Methodist Church in Raleigh, North Carolina, is sponsoring. Y'Yut is the father and husband of the family. He and his wife, H'Glen, are both 34 years old and have three children, H'Navy (13), H'Bra (10), and H'Bel (4).

About one-third of the estimated 1.5 million Montagnards were

killed during the Vietnam conflict in the late 1960s and early 1970s. The war destroyed 85 percent of their villages. After the US retreat from Vietnam, the north and south have continued to engage each other in conflict. The Montagnards lived in the Vietnamese Central Highlands mountain region between these warring factions. Imagine forming an alliance with a neighbor's enemy, after which the neighbor proves victorious. Such is the fate of the Montagnards: they were allies of the United States during the conflict. Now Montagnard children and grandchildren still pay the price for that alliance.

In order to escape their Vietnamese oppressors, refugees must walk six days through the jungles of Vietnam to Cambodia. If

they are caught leaving, they are imprisoned or killed. Over a year ago, the Enouls successfully made it to Cambodia to a United Nations' refugee camp. They had to leave behind not only extended family members but their youngest daughter, H'Bel, because the journey was too dangerous for a three-year-old. The Enouls lived in a refugee camp for one year and two months under a thatched roof with no walls and without H'Bel. They did not know whether they would be allowed to emigrate to the United States or be forced to return to Vietnam.

A Homeland Lost

The Montagnards are unwanted in Vietnam and Cambodia. They would prefer to be left alone and remain in their homeland.

Resettlement to the United States is currently an option because many Special Forces Veterans who fought in Vietnam have lobbied for the Montagnards' right to immigrate. The veterans believe the United States abandoned them and gave them into the hands of their enemies after the Vietnam War.

Last year, the United States granted immigration rights to the Montagnards. Before departing for the United States, Y'Yut journeyed back into Vietnam to retrieve H'Bel, who was staying with her grandparents. He carried H'Bel and also brought H'Glen's sister and her family with him to the United Nation's refugee camp (a six-day hike through the jungle each way). Another sister, also in the refugee camp, made the journey to the United States with them. Seven layovers in various airports ended with three days in a medical observation unit in Wake Forest, NC.

Another family member, H'Glen's brother, Y'Pier, had immigrated 15 years ago. He had been the sole family member in the United States until the Enouls' arrival. It was joyful to witness the reunion of these family members separated by war and political oppression for so many years.

Now they are sojourners in a foreign land. Getting to the United States was only half the battle. Their next challenges include learning English, adjusting to a new culture, and learning a trade that can bring in enough income to support the family (all within six months).

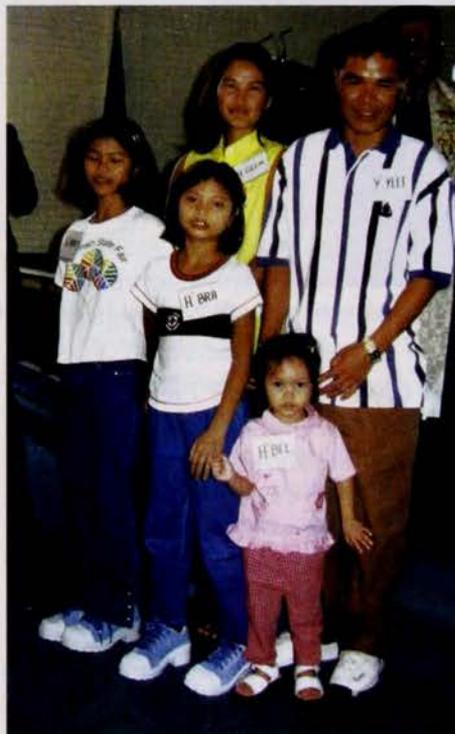
St Mark's Becomes a Sponsor

In June, when more than 250 Montagnard refugees (many of them single men) arrived in North Carolina, more than 80 local churches responded to the call for sponsors. Twenty-six of these churches were United Methodist. The refugees that the churches

In order to escape their Vietnamese oppressors, refugees must walk six days through the jungles of Vietnam to Cambodia. If they are caught leaving, they are imprisoned or killed.

sponsored were resettled through Church World Service (CWS) and the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). CWS contracted with Lutheran Family Services (LFS) in the Carolinas to provide services for the refugees from their offices in Greensboro and Raleigh. UMCOR worked with LFS to contact the churches and encourage sponsorship. As in all resettlements, UMCOR is ready to provide emergency support when needed.

It took the determination and



P. 16: Montagnard refugees settled in the United States watch a local soccer game. Above: The Enoul-Buoyna family at St. Mark's United Methodist Church.

drive of only one or two individuals to ignite a church's response. Wendy Jones of St. Mark's UMC in Raleigh responded to the affiliate's invitation to attend an informational meeting on sponsorship needs and plans. At the meeting, Wendy's response was immediate: "I felt called to do it . . . and that with faith anything could be done." She volunteered to coordinate the sponsorship, developed a core team of eight people, and used her enthusiasm and energy to set up committees and get more people involved. In addition, a few Methodist Men of St. Mark's United Methodist Church wanted to be a part of that project and asked for interested members of the church to volunteer. A few more expressed an interest, and after they attended an LFS meeting about the Montagnards, their history, and their needs, the seed was planted, fertilized, and ready to grow.

Lutheran Family Services was notified that St. Mark's was ready to resettle a refugee family. On Wednesday, June 26, 2002, LFS notified the church that a family consisting of a mother, father, and three girls had just arrived and asked if the church would be interested in this family of five instead of the expected family of four men. It took about 20 minutes to say "yes." An apartment had to be secured, furnished, and prepared for the family's occupancy in just three days. St. Mark's did it—with food in the fridge and balloons on the door.

On Sunday, June 30, 2002, members of St. Mark's UMC met the new family at the Wake Forest facility. Y'Yut, H'Glen, and their girls greeted everyone by extending a hand and saying, "Hello, my name is....How are you?" Everyone shook hands and hugged, thus beginning a life experience together.

Montagnard children take on



Montagnard refugees and church hosts watch a women's soccer game in North Carolina.

the last name of their mother, and the father keeps his own last name. Enoul is H'Glen's last name and Y'Yut's last name is Buoyna. Because they are blessed with other family members in the area, the excitement level was high. Still, H'Glen was very sad to leave her mother and father in Vietnam because it is likely they will never see one another again.

Settling In

St. Mark's celebrated the arrival of the Enouls and introduced them to the congregation. In addition,

H'Glen's brother, Y'Pierre, and two sisters (newly arrived in America) visited St. Mark's. Though the family did not understand the English sermon, they did understand the communion that took place that Sunday as all shared the Holy Eucharist. What a blessing it is to know that this family was Christian in Vietnam and wants to live a Christian life in America.

On Monday, July 29, 2002, the LFS announced that all the Montagnard families would register for school at the same time. One of St. Mark's core volunteers, a

kind and gentle man with no children of his own, said that he would be available to take the family. He registered H'Navy and H'Bra for school, took the whole family to each enrollment location, and completed all the paperwork for school and school lunches. He obtained the bus routes and times, went to the family's home on H'Navy's first day of school, and met the bus with them at 6:15 A.M. Then he drove to the school, met H'Navy when she arrived, and personally took her to her class, where she and the family met the teachers and

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Montagnard refugees Nhan Ksor and "Tiny" with Jean Elkins of Rehobeth UMC, a church in Greensboro, NC, that has helped resettle refugees.

would not be left out. A church member had said that he would do anything to help the family. He had been a fighter bomber in Vietnam and regarded the Montagnards with great respect. When called to see if he would be a cosponsor in this effort, he sent a check for \$120 the very next day. There are definitely angels in the congregation.

August was the beginning of medical and dental checkups. The Enouls had never seen a dentist and may have never seen a toothbrush before arriving in the United States. Whenever the family goes to a doctor or dentist, an interpreter goes along too. Lutheran Family Services provides this critical assistance from its staff and from Montagnards who contract with LFS. Many seasoned Montagnard immigrants have volunteered to help with this effort.

August was also the month when Y'Yut began his first job. The LFS job coordinator found work for him with a cleaning company that cleans the tallest building in downtown Raleigh. The pay is \$50 a day for five days a week, but there are no health benefits. Y'Yut goes to work with other Montagnards in the neighborhood who catch the bus to work and come home in a van driven by the company's owner. Work hours are 6:00 P.M. to 1:00 A.M. Y'Yut learns English as quickly as possible so that he can improve his job skills and advance to better jobs.

The whole family attends 1½

hours of English as a Second Language (ESL) classes daily, and the teacher says they are all doing very well. The parents are also getting a lesson in the "cost of things" in America. Currently, the church sponsor pays the rent while the family pays the phone bill and utilities.

In addition to Y'Yut's earnings and the church-sponsor support, LFS provided an initial sum of money to the family, and Work First provides a monthly sum. These funds, along with food stamps and Medicaid, allow the family to survive. As work improves and salaries increase, they will soon be able to support themselves. St. Mark's has also set up a savings account for them and is trying to build it up.

In August, St. Mark's held a yard sale at the church to raise funds to support the Enoul family. It was a great success. So many people contributed that they raised \$2300. Even strangers participated.

As St. Mark's continues on God's path in mission, the members look forward to securing the Enoul family's future by assisting in their resettlement in North Carolina. It continues to be a joy for the members to know and love this family and watch it grow.

Wendy Jones is the chairperson for St. Mark's UMC refugee resettlement committee. Tom Lamb is the president of United Methodist Men at St. Mark's.

MATERIAL RESOURCES

NEEDS INCREASE, SUPPLIES ARE LOW



by Christie R. House

"Since September 11, 2001, our giving has been way down, both in funds and material goods," was the sad news from Harrietta Reynolds, the interim director of Sager-Brown in Baldwin, Louisiana. Glenn Druilhet, director of the UMCOR Depot, confirmed it. "This is really different this year, all this empty space. Normally our staging area would be packed with kits and supplies, but it's empty."

An empty depot? Well, not quite. There are still boxes and boxes of kits in long rows on the 30-foot shelves, but one shipment can take 15,000 health kits or a number of school kits at a time, and a hurricane like Lili can use up most of the inventory of flood buckets. Then the shelves are empty.

On top of that, the UMCOR Depot and the Sager-Brown campus sustained \$45,000 worth of damage from Hurricane Lili. Despite the damage, Sager-Brown was used as a staging area by the Red Cross during and shortly after the hurricane, and several areas on the campus served to shelter families who had lost their homes to high water.

The Statistics on Kits

"Our number-one kit is the health kit," Glenn Druilhet noted. "We can send those out by the thousands, all over the world. When those requests come in, they can empty out the shelves." Health kits provide basic personal-care items such



Top: Supplies awaiting shipment at the UMCOR Depot. Above: A volunteer assembles a health kit.

as soap, a toothbrush, toothpaste, and a hand towel. Glenn estimates that over all, since September 2001, she has seen 30-40 fewer boxes coming in daily. "The ongoing ministries need support. I expect that people did give to the 9/11 offerings, and that was important, but now, a lot of people are going without these basic necessities."

The second most-requested kit is the school kit. School kits, complete with their own school bag, give a student needed supplies

such as paper, pencils, erasers, pencil sharpeners, scissors, and a ruler. "We get requests for those kits here in the United States as well as overseas," said Glenn.

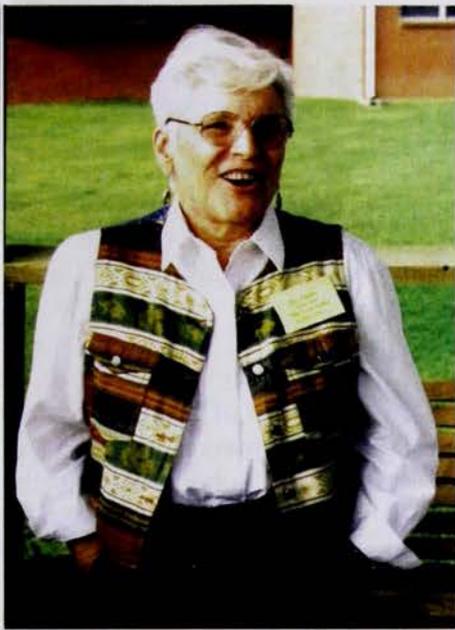
The layette kits and the sewing kits are the next kits on the short list of "most-requested." Layettes provide newborn babies with a complete set of clothes and diapers for their arrival in the world. Sewing kits, as their name suggests, contain the basic necessities for sewing: scissors, needles, thread, cotton material, and buttons.

In addition, the UMCOR Depot stocks other kits that are basic to recovery efforts during domestic disasters, such as bedding packs, flood buckets, and kitchen packs. Requests for flood buckets are steadily increasing each year. In 2000, the depot sent out only 200 buckets. Last year, the depot filled requests for 7900. This year, so far, 5000 have been sent, but the supplies are dwindling.

Who Supplies the UMCOR Depot?

The short answer? You do.

The depot receives material and money donations from individuals, churches, and annual conferences. Some conferences will fill a container by asking congregations to make kits and bring them to mission events, annual conference, or other conference-wide events. In this way, they pay the shipping all at once by trucking the



Joy Tindley, volunteer from Texas.

container straight to Baldwin, LA. Other congregations and UMW groups will ship boxes with kits through the US mail.

Below are the contents of the kits that are constantly running low at the Depot. Asking groups within the church, individuals, classes, or families to gather the materials for the kits and assemble them as a group can make a great mission project.

Flood Bucket

Check out the UMCOR webpage on material resources to get the full list of items for the flood bucket.

UMCOR Webpage:
<http://gbgm-umc.org/umcor>
800-814-8765 or 337-923-2027

UMCOR Depot
P.O. Box 850
131 Sager-Brown Road
Baldwin, LA 70514-0850

KITS TO MAKE AND SEND

Health Kit

All items should be new

- 1 hand towel (15" x 25", or 17" x 27")
- 1 washcloth
- 1 comb (large and sturdy, not pocket-sized)
- 1 nail file or pair of fingernail clippers (no emery boards)
- 1 bath-sized (5 oz. or larger) bar of soap in the original wrapper
- 1 toothbrush in original wrapper (single toothbrushes only)
- 1 tube of toothpaste (4.5 oz. or larger)
- 6 adhesive bandages (such as Band-Aids)

Wrap the items in the towel and place in a sealed, one-gallon plastic bag with a zipper closure.

In 2000, the depot sent out only 200 flood buckets. Last year, the depot filled requests for 7900.

School Kit

- 1 blunt scissors
- 2 pads of 8 1/2" x 11" ruled paper
- 1 30-centimeter ruler
- 1 pencil sharpener (manual)
- 6 unsharpened pencils with erasers
- 1 eraser (2 1/2 inch)
- 12 sheets of construction paper
- 1 box of 8 (only 8) crayons

Prepare a 12" x 14" (finished size) cloth bag with handles and a closure and place the items in the bag. (Patterns are available from the UMCOR Depot and online.)



Mission Memo

GBGM General Secretary Elected

At the General Council on Ministries (GCOM) annual meeting in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on October 25, 2002, the Rev. R. Randy Day, Deputy General Secretary for the Evangelization and Church Growth and Community and Institutional Ministries program areas, was elected General Secretary of the General Board of Global Ministries. He assumes his duties and responsibilities on January 1, 2003. The GCOM also approved a one-year extension for the term of the Rev. Bruce Robbins, General Secretary of the Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns.

UMCOR

UMCOR continues to address the needs of those affected by the September 11 terrorist attacks. At the October 2002 annual meeting of the General Board of Global Ministries in Stamford, Connecticut, a grant for \$973,192 was approved for the Virginia Annual Conference. The grant will be distributed over three years and will target secondary victims of the attack on the Pentagon, including immigrants, the marginally employed, and tourist workers in the Alexandria and Arlington districts of the Northern Virginia Board of Missions. Direct aid, counseling, job training, legal services, and children's ministries will be offered.

Other UMCOR grants approved in response to the events of September 11 include: \$500,000 to the New York Conference for local church responses; \$145,000 for one year for staff support in the disaster response office in the New York Conference; \$127,000 toward food purchases and salaries for counselors at the West Side Campaign Against Hunger at the Church of St. Paul and St. Andrew, a United Methodist Church in New York City; \$102,700 for emergency funds for the Coney Island Avenue Project in New York City; \$40,000 to meet the increased demand at the Riverside Church food bank in Manhattan; and \$200,000 for the International Assistance Mission in Afghanistan.

Worldwide Mission Lecture Series

Dr. Randolph Nugent, retiring General Secretary of the General Board of Global Ministries (GBGM) will use his experience and expertise in the field of mission to encourage greater participation in worldwide church mission. The GBGM board of directors approved a two-year mission lecture series in 30 seminaries, colleges, graduate schools, and other institutions throughout the world. Compensation costs, travel expenses, and an administrative assistant salary totaling up to \$200,000 per year will be allocated from permanent funds for mission and a \$25,000

contribution from the Women's Division.

The lecture series begins a concentrated effort to create the Foundation for Mission. A steering committee is forming to raise funds for an endowment that will establish chairs of global Christian mission in United Methodist seminaries.

UMAC Awards

The United Methodist Association of Communicators held its annual meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana, in November 2002. A number of publications of the General Board of Global Ministries were honored for work that was published from September 2001 to September 2002. Paul Jeffrey, a missionary with the GBGM assigned to Honduras, received the best writing award for "Cuidad Juarez: Death Not Development," published in *Response* magazine. He also received the best photography award for the May-June 2002 cover of *New World Outlook*, the special issue on Mexico. In addition, both *New World Outlook* and *Response* received awards of merit in the magazine category. In the category of Special Publications, Frank DeGregorie received four awards of merit: with Gilbert Fletcher for *Prayers from Ground Zero* and *Mission: A Commitment to Action*; with Marcy Kass for the UMCOR Annual Report; and with Hal Sadler and Melanie Reim for *Reflections on Singing a New Song*. The *Caring Connection Calendar 2002* by John Coleman and Hal Sadler also received an award of merit: in the special publications category. Awards of merit for writing were received by Paul Jeffrey and James R. McGraw. Melanie Reim received an award of excellence in the art category for her work in the September-October 2001 issue of *New World Outlook*.

DEATHS

Ed M. Bowden, retired home missionary with 25 years of service in Georgia, Nebraska, and Pennsylvania, died June 29, 2002...**C. John Ritter**, retired missionary with 4 years of service in Liberia, died July 4, 2002...**Richard Moore**, retired missionary with nearly 4 years of service in India, died August 14, 2002...**Greta B. Reinart**, retired missionary with 17 years of service in North Africa, died September 5, 2002...**David T. Lowry**, retired missionary with nearly 40 years of service in Chile, died September 15, 2002...**Helene M. Kraut**, retired deaconess with 41+ years of service in Montana and Washington, died September 20, 2002...**Donald K. Small**, retired missionary with 9-1/2 years of service in Malaysia, died September 23, 2002...**Martha Wagner**, retired deaconess with 35+ years of service in Nebraska, Iowa, and Tennessee, died October 13, 2002.

Building a Year-Round Mission Program

Suggestions for the Local Church

by Una Jones

There are a number of different ways for the pastor and the mission committees of local United Methodist churches to stay connected and informed about mission opportunities through the General Board of Global Ministries. Below are just a few actions that are easy to accomplish.

- **Increase** the number of *New World Outlook* subscriptions within the church. All members on mission and outreach committees should receive their own copy.
- Call 1-800-305-9857 to receive a free copy of the *Service Center Catalog 2003-2004*.
- **Join "My GBGM,"** a new online internet service of the General Board of Global Ministries that e-mails you the kinds of stories and information that you ask for directly. Go online at <http://gbgm-umc.org> and click the first box on the list—"My GBGM"—and register at no cost.

Here are five mission goals that every church can strive to achieve.

1. **Form a Covenant Relationship** with a GBGM missionary. (See January entry on page 24.)
2. **Sponsor an annual mission event** for the church that celebrates all aspects of mission in the church, including volunteer work, food pantry and shelter contributions, UMW work, mission committee work, and funds that undergird mission.
3. **Promote the Advance**, the second-mile giving in which 100 percent of the donation goes to the projects and causes designated by the giver.
4. **Support mission education** by encouraging broad participation in the Schools of Christian Mission and the United Methodist Volunteers-in-Mission program.
5. **Promote the United Methodist Special Sundays** and educate the congregation about their purpose and goals.

5-Star Achievement: Contact Mission Education at 212-870-3792;
or e-mail: ujones@gbgm-umc.org

2003 Planning Calendar for

General Board of Global Ministries

JANUARY

- Renew or begin a **covenant relationship** with a GBGM missionary. For additional information, contact the Conference Committee on Mission Personnel of your annual conference. A free book on the covenant relationship is available from the Service Center, Stock #5520.
- Promote ***Human Relations Sunday, Jan 19**. Invite community developers, United Methodist service agency staff, or police community-relations representatives to address the congregation.
- Make preparations to attend **Global Gathering IV** in April, the mission celebration of the General Board of Global Ministries. For additional information, go to: <http://gbgm-umc.org> and click on the "Global Gathering" button.
- Remind the church school superintendent to order the **Children's Fund for Christian Mission** materials from the General Board of Discipleship.

FEBRUARY

- **Black History Month**
- Begin now to promote 2003 Schools of Mission studies. Refer to <http://gbgm-umc.org/womens-division/index2.html#studies> or the **Service Center Catalog**, pages 2-5, for detailed information. Resources are available for adults, children, and youth.
- **Brother/Sisterhood Week**, Feb. 16-22, has the theme: "Do something special for someone."
- Phone the conference secretary of global missions to find out the conference priorities for mission this year. Ask how local congregations can pitch in to help.



MARCH

- Promote ***One Great Hour of Sharing Mar. 30**. Distribute materials and invite speakers who work with the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) to speak about hunger, refugees, and disaster relief.
- Time for the first quarterly contact with missionaries; send Easter cards. Use the **Prayer Calendar** (*Service Center Catalog* Stock #3179; \$7.50 + S/H) to find names and addresses of additional missionaries and staff.
- Phone the district mission coordinator. Does the district host mission events? Has the mission chair ever met with other United Methodist mission leaders in the district? Maybe it is time to start a cluster meeting.



JULY

- Encourage church members to attend a School of Christian Mission or some other mission education event in the conference. Studies for 2003 include *The Spiritual Growth Study*, **Exodus: An African American Methodist Journey**; the Geographic Study, **Mexico**; and the General Study, **Creating Interfaith Community**. For resources, call the Service Center or go to <http://gbgm-umc.org/missionstudies/>
- Visit the GBGM homepage at <http://gbgm-umc.org> to sign up for My GBGM. Receive regular mission updates.

AUGUST

- Arrange local visits to mission projects that the church supports. Request updates on the needs and recommendations of the projects in order to plan for next year.
- Evaluate mission programs and the budget. Plan for the new year.
- Order new resources.
- Write a mission article for the local church newsletter and forward a copy to the editor of the annual conference newsletter.

SEPTEMBER

- Plan a mission activity for the children in Sunday school. Go to the **Kids Corner website**: http://gbgm-umc.org/mission_programs/me/5.03/index.cfm
- **Youth Programs**: order *Mission Maps* for mission ideas and programs for youth from Cokesbury.
- **Hispanic Heritage Month**, Sept. 10 Oct. 15

ORDER NUMBERS

* **Special Sundays** resources are available from the UMCOM Planning Guide. Call 1-888-862-324. Service Center order, call: 1-800-305-9857, or 1-513-761-2100. Cokesbury: Call 1-800-672-1789. General Board of Discipleship: Call 1-877-899-2780, ext. 7143 for Children's Fund for Christian Mission materials.

United Methodist Missions

The United Methodist Church

APRIL

- Attend **Global Gathering IV** in Birmingham, Alabama, April 10-13.
- Holy Week—Easter, April 14-20. Incorporate music from **Global Praise 1** (*Service Center Catalog* Stock #2575, \$6.95 + S/H) and **Global Praise 2** (Stock #2918, \$8.95 + S/H) in your worship services. The songs affirm the global Christian faith of God's people. Specific songs are appropriate for Easter.
- Plan a summer **Volunteer-In-Mission project** for youth, adults, and individuals. Contact your annual conference or jurisdictional UMVIM coordinator for project listings. Reference websites: http://gbgm-umc.org/vim/jurisd_sites.htm and <http://www.gbgm-umc.org/umconferences/vimpages.html>



MAY

- **Mission Month:** Celebrate your local, national, and international mission involvement. Hold a Mission Rally Sunday, gather for a mission dinner, or invite a mission speaker.
- Promote ***Native American Awareness Sunday, May 4**. It serves to remind the church of the gifts and contributions made by Native Americans to our society.
- Promote ***Golden Cross Sunday**. The Golden Cross represents Christ's healing presence in a hurting world. Funds from the special offering are directly distributed to a local and conference health and welfare ministries.
- **National Family Week, May 5-11:** "How is your family engaged in mission?"
- Promote ***Peace with Justice Sunday, May 15**. Gifts from this special offering support peacemaking ministries, alternatives to violence, and new resources that encourage global justice.

JUNE

- In preparation for **Vacation Bible School**, visit a local mission project and design a field trip for the VBS.
- Encourage members to visit a mission project during their summer travels. Go to the Community and Institutional Ministries website, <http://gbgm-umc.org/cim/>
- Complete the **Mission Volunteer trip** organized and planned in April.
- Show the seven-minute video **Press On Toward the Goals**, which outlines the goals of the GBGM, the agency responsible for facilitating United Methodist mission throughout the world. (Order video from your conference resource center.)
- Plan a GBGM mission seminar and visit GBGM offices at 475 Riverside Drive in New York City. For further details, e-mail ujones@gbgm-umc.org or call 1-800-UMC-GBGM.

OCTOBER

- Promote ***World Communion Sunday, Oct. 5**. Invite people of many nationalities to participate in worship, dress the altar in a way that represents different cultures of the world, serve Communion with bread from different parts of the world, and incorporate more than one language into the litany. This offering supports scholarships for students preparing for Christian leadership in our world.
- Thanksgiving: Use this opportunity to care for others in the church's local neighborhood.
- Celebrate with Hispanic members or develop a partnership with a Hispanic congregation.

NOVEMBER

- Launch an Advance for Christ and His Church fundraiser. Educate the congregation about why and how the Advance operates. Find additional information at <http://gbgm-umc.org/advance/>
- Support our United Methodist and other partners around the world through projects in the **Catalog of General Advance Specials 2003**.
- Promote ***United Methodist Student Day, November 30**. Offerings for this Special Sunday provide scholarships for students seeking higher education in United Methodist institutions. Each year, \$50,000 of this offering is returned to each conference for scholarship allocations.

DECEMBER

- Incorporate the special mission music of **Global Praise 1 and 2** for the Christmas season.
- Order the special Christmas resource: *Whose Birthday Is It Anyway?* This resource has ideas for a Christ-centered Christmas. (*Service Center Catalog*, Stock #5254; up to 20 copies, free for the cost of S/H, more than 20, 80¢ each). Also available from UMCOR at <http://gbgm-umc.org/umcor/whose.stm>
- Christmas cards are available from UMCOR. Call 1-800-554-8583, \$10.00 a box.

Resources for the Mission-Minded Congregation

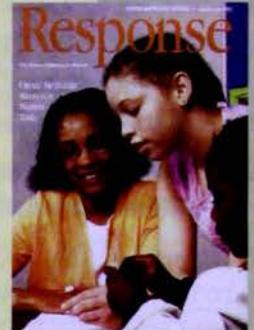


New World Outlook

The mission magazine of The United Methodist Church for mission committees, pastors, mission leaders, and all those interested in the programs, projects, and missionaries of the General Board of Global Ministries. (Subscription, \$15, published 6 times a year)

Response

The voice of women in mission, Response is the magazine for United Methodist Women. (Subscription, \$12, published 11 times a year)

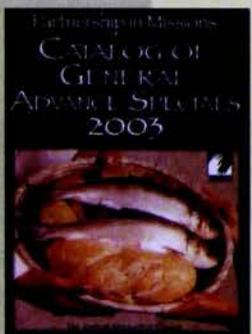
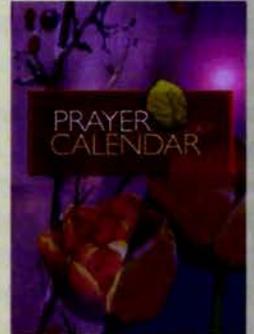


The Service Center Catalog 2003-2004

A list of all the resources offered through the United Methodist Service Center. (Free for the cost of shipping and handling, Stock #5605)

Prayer Calendar 2003

A daily devotional guide with missionary meditations, Bible readings, birthdays and assignments of GBGM missionaries and staff members, and addresses of retired and active mission workers. (\$7.50 plus shipping and handling, Stock #3179)



Partnership in Missions Catalog of General Advance Specials 2003

Contains current Advance Special numbers, names, and geographic locations. (Free for postage and handling, Stock #1745)

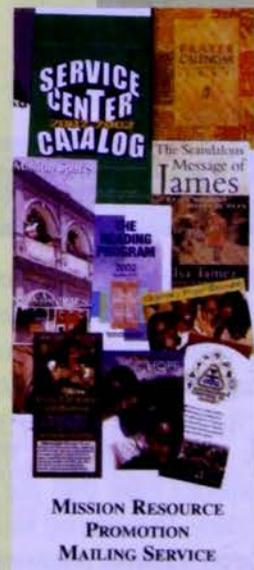
Also from the Advance, Alternative-Giving Cards to let friends or family members know you have sent a gift in their honor. (Free for the cost of postage and handling, Stock #5595)

Mission Resource Promotion Mailing Service

For an annual subscription of \$35, subscribers receive copies of all the new resources produced for general distribution and offered free by the General Board of Global Ministries. The *Prayer Calendar* is included in the annual mailing.

Resources available from:

Service Center: 1-800-305-9857, or 513-761-2100 for more information or to order the above resources.



Reader Response

May-June 2002

Your May/June issue on Mexico was truly marvelous. The mix of articles, from those on successful mission projects, such as "Give Ye Them To Eat," by Terry and Muriel Henderson, to the darker side of Mexico in such articles as "Mexico Closes Southern Border to Immigrants," by Paul Jeffrey, was very enlightening. I am unable to attend the School of Christian Missions this year, but I feel I've gotten a head start in learning about the geographic study—Mexico!

Marilyn Ham Schaefer
UMW Secretary of Human
Resources
First United Methodist Church
Sun City, Arizona

July-August 2002

Rejoinder: New Mission in Cameroon

The article "New Mission in Cameroon," [July-August 2002, p. 8] in talking about Cameroon, has distorted much of our history and has damaged the image of President Paul Biya. Your article has left talking about the church and has gone into criticizing my president, our foreign policy, and our economic and political systems. This is uncalled for and unfair.

The presidential elections of 1997 were free and fair. You say the results of the election were disputed and international observers confirmed election fraud! Let these observers look into their backyard too. Even the Bible tells us not to judge others.

I strongly condemn your use of abusive language on the President of the Republic of Cameroon. I strongly condemn your abusive and hurtful language on President Paul Biya in person. I strongly condemn your arrogance in using abusive language on the society in

Cameroon. I strongly condemn your actions, which intend to intoxicate the world opinion about the president of the Republic of Cameroon and the beautiful image of our country for such language is by design intended to destabilize the institutions of our country.

Victor Ayuk Enow
Founder, United Methodist
Church in Cameroon

New World Outlook apologizes to the United Methodist Church in Cameroon for any harm or insult that occurred as a result of this article. The thumbnail introduction to the history, government, and economic status of the country was not intended to affect world opinion, insult its people, or tarnish the image of this beautiful country. Sources used to research the background material were The World Guide 2001/2002, New Internationalist Publications, Ltd: Oxford, United Kingdom, and Lonely Planet 2002 Publications, published in London, England; Melbourne, Australia; Oakland, California; and Paris, France.

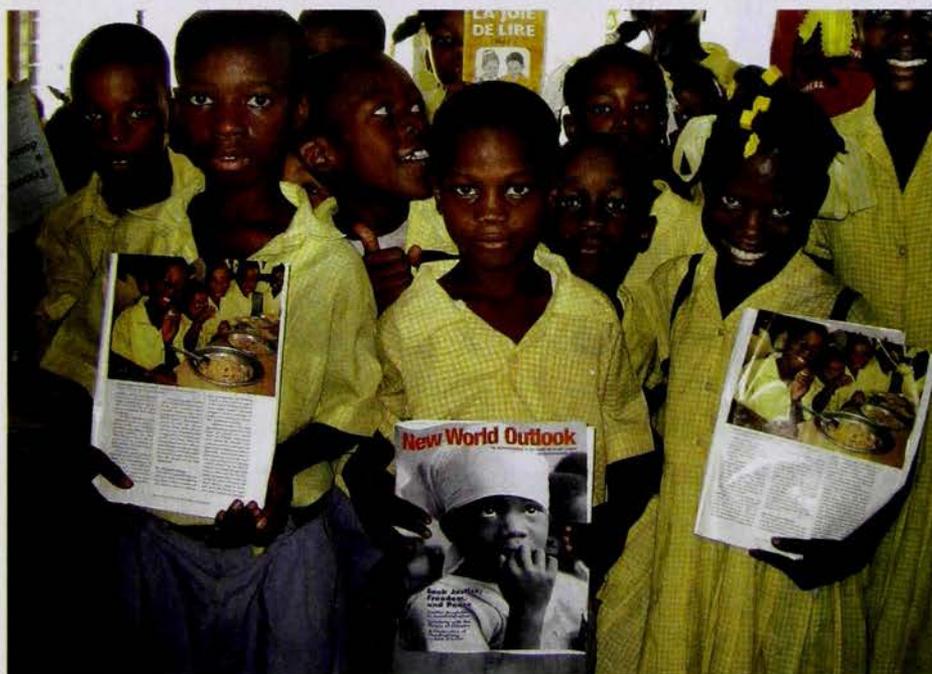
September-October 2002

Keith Mumma, the photographer who took the beautiful cover photo for the last issue, went back to La Saline School in Haiti and took copies of *New World Outlook* with him so the children could see their article.

"The kids at LaSaline School in Haiti said to say THANKS for sending the magazines down to them. Here is a photo."

Keith Mumma
Keith Mumma Photography

Keith Mumma is also the US board president of International Child Care (ICC), which partners with UMCOR in Haiti for children's health projects through Grace Children's Hospital and outreach services. ICC has produced a curriculum called "Child to Child II: In My Father's House," which teaches children in the United States about children in Haiti. Use for Vacation Bible School, Sunday School, and after-school programs. To receive a free Child to Child packet, call 1-800-72-CHILD.



Children in LaSaline School in Haiti hold the September/October issue of *New World Outlook* in which they appear.



Left: Templo Bethel, a Methodist Church in Mexico City.

Mission Travel Study to Mexico

by Una Jones

Sometimes, God gives us glimpses of heaven and today was one of those times. It is an awesome experience to feel the presence of God among strangers as he reaches out to you through them. The warm welcoming banner above the church and the people who gave us hugs as if they'd always known us were a blessing! They had even been praying for us before we arrived.

Later, we visited an 82-year-old man and his daughters. As we walked with him to his home, his grandchildren followed us eagerly. He did not speak English, but his grandchildren did and we were able to learn about the history and people of the community. At one point, we resorted to drawing on his dirt floor in order to communicate. I learned more from them in one hour than from reading a book or being in a class.

I think this is what heaven will be like. Instantly, we will recognize strangers as brothers and sisters in our Father's kingdom. Only then we will not have to part and go home; we will be there for eternity together. Today was a good day, but that coming day will be the best day of all.

Jillene Adams, Mission
Travel Seminar participant

The Mission Travel team participating in the 2002 Mexico Study Tour consisted of 15 members representing 12 annual conferences. There were "mission ambassadors" sponsored by their annual conferences, several Schools of Christian Mission teachers who would be teaching the study on Mexico at the conference schools in the summer, one conference secretary of global ministries, and two General Board of Global Ministries (GBGM) core interpreters.

Itinerary of the 2002 Trip

The Mission Travel Seminar commenced with an orientation in Mexico City, Mexico. All participants had traveled from their home airports directly to Mexico. The Dr. Gonzalo Báez Camargo Seminary in Mexico City became the base from which we traveled around Mexico. The connection with GBGM missionaries and the seminary students was extremely beneficial. Author José Luis Velasco, who wrote the Mexico study guide for the Schools of Christian Mission, addressed the team. His personal perspective was very informative because he is Mexican and his family has lived in Mexico for more than 26 years. José is a Presbyterian minister, but he served as a pastor with the GBGM in Mexico until his recent retirement. He is married to Cherie White, who continues as a GBGM missionary serving as the dean of the seminary.

The Central Conference, one of the six regional conferences of the Methodist Church of Mexico (IMMAR is the Spanish acronym), designed and hosted our trip. Alfonso D'Avila was our leader and guide. Bishops and staff members from the Southeast and the Septentrional conferences assisted us as we visited sites within their regions.

The itinerary included several Methodist churches in both urban and rural settings. The major cities we visited were Mexico City, Puebla, Querétaro, Cuernavaca, Tlaxcala, and Pachuca. Most churches have instituted social programs because few government programs are in place. The churches are planters and starters of schools, clinics, feeding programs, and more, accomplishing much with very limited resources. Their faith and trust in God are exemplary, a testimony for the study group from the United States.

Spiritual Depth in Programming

A spiritual component is an important part of everything that the Mexican Methodists do. The church leaders are intentional about teaching Wesleyan tradition and doctrine to pastors and laity alike. One of the highlights of the trip was visiting "Give Ye Them to Eat" (GYTTE), managed by GBGM missionaries Terry and Muriel Henderson. They have empowered the Mexican people who now take full ownership of the programs.

A Land of Contrasts

Mexico is a land of contrasts. It has 18 of the world's wealthiest families, but in Mexico City a box of cereal costs more than the daily minimum wage. Mexico City is the largest modern city in the world, but many people in the rural areas live in thatched-roof huts. Mexico's population is approximately 90 percent Roman Catholic and 7 percent Protestant. Its rich history is evident in the ancient buildings and structures. Every city or town has a distinctive entrance symbol or statue. The infiltration of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and the effects of globalization are clearly influencing

the younger generation as well as the business community. Capitalism is gaining adherents.

A Taste of Mexican Life

We faced several challenges as a Mission Study group, but one member wrote in the Group Journal that she appreciated those challenges because they gave us all a small taste of what the Mexicans face on a daily basis. On more than one occasion our van broke down. In one town the hacienda did not have enough room for the whole group, and some had to sleep on the floor. Telephones were not always available when and where they were needed. One of our team members repeatedly said, "God is Good all the time."

Una Jones is the Executive Secretary for Mission Leaders in the Mission Education program area of the General Board of Global Ministries.

MISSION TRAVEL STUDY 2003

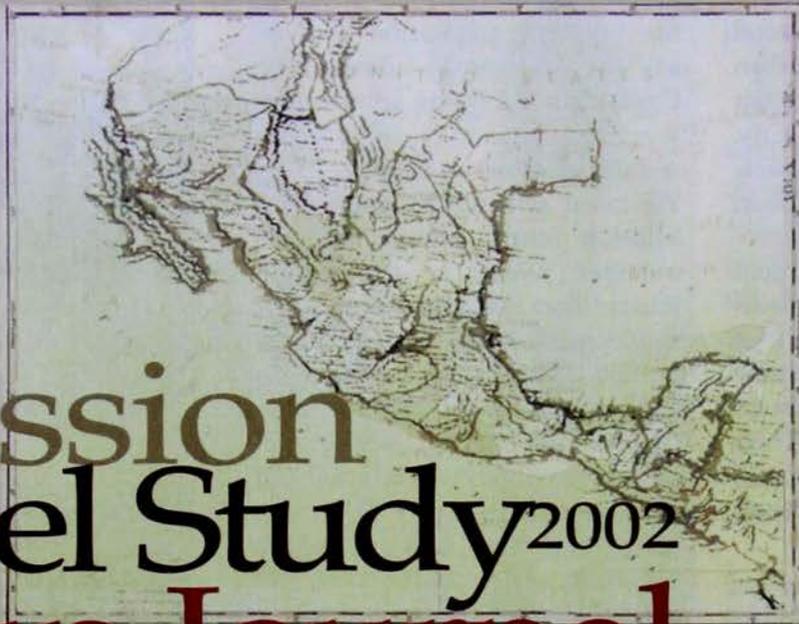
The 2003 Mission Travel Study is scheduled for May 1-16, 2003.

It will not repeat the same itinerary as the 2002 tour but will originate in Monterrey, Mexico, and include visits to the three annual conferences in the northwestern part of the country. The itinerary, designed by the Methodist Church of Mexico, will include visits to key mission projects and new mission initiatives of the Methodist Church of Mexico.

The approximate cost is \$2000, which includes round-trip airfare from the participant's city of origin to Monterrey, Mexico. For more information, contact Una Jones at 212-870-3792 or e-mail her at ujones@gbgm-umc.org



Top: An unfinished chapel in Hidalgo; center: Muriel Henderson and a Mexican veterinarian explain the GYTTE livestock project in Pueblo; above: Marlene Cummins (right) with a staff member of El Divino Salvador in Pachuca.



Mission Travel Study²⁰⁰² Group Journal

May 9 Mexico City

Arriving at the airport in Mexico City from Minneapolis-St. Paul, I was filled with emotions, excited but also cautious. Spanish was the dominant language, and it was wonderful to be met by an English-speaking representative from the seminary. I thought about new immigrants arriving in the United States who cannot speak English.

On our first day we visited Bethel Church. The kindergarten there had me reliving my experience in my home country of Burma in 1945. I was struck by the innocence of the young children dancing for their mothers and celebrating Mother's Day in the schools.

The van trip across Mexico City opened my eyes to the horrific traffic in this city. The journey back and forth enabled us to observe stores, people, billboards, and the movement of life in this metropolitan area. It was a "teaching

moment" for me, and I will use it when I teach in the Schools of Christian Mission this summer.

Dr. Irene Khin Khin Jensen
St. Paul, Minnesota

May 12 Cuernavaca and Tlancualpican, Puebla

We awaken to the birds singing happily, greeting the Lord's day. This is the day of worship in John Wesley Mission. We will travel to GYTTE, where the Hendersons live, and we will stay for two nights.

The bathrooms at GYTTE are amazing. They are dry ecological toilets built above the ground with a cement base 10-15 meters thick and no pipe in the ground. There is no dampness and no odor. This system uses no water. In Mexico, utilities are costly. The more you consume, the more it costs. GYTTE is sharing this technology with the community so that others can build them. Fifty

percent of the people in Puebla have no sanitary facilities.

Ann Iiams
Grand Junction, Colorado

May 13 Tlancualpican, Puebla

During our early morning walk at GTTYE, three volunteers took part in milking goats. The veterinarian described the Livestock Development Program as having three purposes:

1. Practice animal breeding.
2. Produce female breeding stock for use in the village.
3. Teach agriculture and animal husbandry to the villagers.

The program works with milk goats, swine, dairy cows, and sheep.

During 2000-2001, animals were given to 134 families. These families made a commitment to give the firstborn female animal

to GYTTE, which gives it to another family to raise. Thereby the program continues.

We also learned about traditional medicines, different cultures, and the history of the regional plants. A concern is that younger people are losing knowledge about the local plants and their medicinal uses. This teaching program is available so that people in the community can learn that though medicinal plants may not always cure disease, they can be used as preventative medicines. GYTTE calls it "reclaiming the past for the future."

Billie Nowabbi,
Okmulgee, Oklahoma

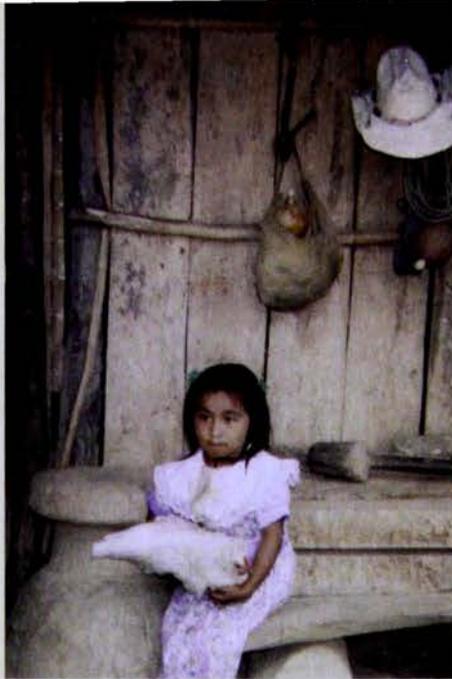
May 15 Zacapoaxtla, Puebla

The picture I will carry with me from this day is the Good Samaritan Clinic in Tataxcas, Puebla, started in the 1970s in a remote mountainous region. There was a real need for medical care.

Today the Clinic stands across the street from the Methodist church on land donated by the village. Three times a year, the clinic hums with activity as volunteer medical teams from the United States work with the clinic staff and other Mexican medical personnel. During this time, surgery is performed. Word spreads across the mountains and people who need surgery begin to arrive.

Government hospitals and clinics are available only to people who work. Many of the people in this mountain region have no jobs. The only medical option for them is the Good Samaritan Clinic.

Marlene Cummins,
Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania



Girl with chicken.

May 18 Apan, Teotihuacán pyramids

The day began as 24 team members and church members from the Church of the Living Water enjoyed breakfast. Khin Khin led the morning worship. We went to Apan's main plaza and learned that only two people would be able to visit the prison. The group designated Joe and Edgar who went with the local church team and the bishop while the rest of us explored the cathedral, its beautiful garden, and the local market. Joe and Edgar, shared their experience with us before we went to dinner. Thus two laypeople of the Methodist Church began the prison ministry. Afterwards, Carmen Moran D'avila, the codistrict superintendent, led a service of worship.

Joanne Perez
Adrian, Michigan

May 19 Pachuca City

It was a beautiful Sunday morning. As we set out on our way to worship in Pachuca, we stopped for breakfast at Getesemani

Methodist Mission Church. They gave us the most gracious welcome expected anywhere. We had a delicious meal followed by devotion and a brief summary of the history of the church. The greatest surprise of all was the 15-year-old girl who served as the chair of evangelism!

Jack C. Washington
Columbia, South Carolina

May 20 Tlalnepantla

The drive to Tlalnepantla was breathtaking. The mountain scenery and the narrow roads with the sheer drops of hundreds, if not thousands, of feet, added to the excitement. Fortunately, the weather was excellent, and we met only one driver coming the opposite way.

In Tlalnepantla, we visited three homes that the church members had built, of which they were very proud. Two had straw roofs, and one was wooden. Each house was a large room with a wall separating the kitchen. In one house, the kitchen was a separate building.

We received mangoes in one and prayed for the families in all three. They were hospitable. It seemed like an idyllic setting, but the pastor reminded us that they are very poor. Their diet consists solely of tortillas, chili and beans, and maybe chicken every two weeks or so, with other kinds of meat only a few times a year. The men walk long distances to work. When the boys finish school, they often leave home to find work somewhere else in Mexico, or "en el otro lado" [in another country].

Mona Morgan
Carmel, Indiana

Dulac Community Center



The sun shone down on Betty Billiot's home, bathing it in the soft pink light of the setting sun. What the sun's rays caught in her yard revealed the effects of nature's fury just a few weeks ago, when Hurricane Lili bore down on Dulac—where the southern coast of Louisiana frays into the bayous that meet the Gulf of Mexico. The shrimp boats were back up and running, and the worst cakes of mud were cleaned out of the house now, but only the sun considered the hurricane a distant memory. For the residents of Dulac, it was all too recent. Piles of ruined rugs, flooring, and furniture, and baskets of belongings pulled from the mud were stacked on the porch. The yard struggled to push green shoots of grass up through the mud.

Just at the beginning of

They had just celebrated the 10-year anniversary of their recovery from Hurricane Andrew.

Now Hurricane Lili has wiped them out again.

October, they had celebrated the 10-year anniversary of their recovery from Hurricane Andrew. "It's taken that long for people to feel they had come out of that OK," said John Silver, the director of the Dulac Community Center. "It's just a shame. They felt good, they felt they had been able to rebuild and recover, and now the next one comes and wipes them out again."

Community Center Recovers

That's the way it is in Terrebonne Parish, in southern Louisiana. "About every 10 years or so, you can expect a bad one. Lili hit us pretty hard," said Silver.

The Dulac Community Center was founded in 1935 and built in 1959 and has withstood a number of hurricanes. The administrative building, built more recently than the gym, stands high above the ground and has several versatile rooms for classes and other activities. The gym, however, is built at ground level.

"Why they ever did it that way, I don't know," explained Coy Howe. She and her husband, John Howe, are retired Church and Community Workers who live in the Brooks Howell Home in Asheville, North Carolina. They have been called out of retirement to assist the community center for

Hub for the Houma

Stories and photos by Christie R. House



Opposite page: Betty Billiot's home in Dulac, Louisiana, was hit by Hurricane Andrew in 1992 and Hurricane Lili in 2002. Inset: Betty Billiot. Left: A shrimp boat on the Teche canal. The shrimp industry provides a livelihood for many residents in southern Louisiana.

a few months. The Howes had served in Dulac nearly three decades before.

"It's too late now to try to lift it up off the ground. That would just be too expensive, so we've cleaned it out...again." The mud line in the gym was evident three feet above the floor. Every room of the center was hit, even the library, which lost the first three shelves of all the books. But the center staff and volunteers from the community made a heroic effort to clean out the center in time for an installation ceremony for the United Houma (Hōma) Nation. Recent revisions to the Houma Nation's constitution made the principal chief an elected position rather than a position appointed by the Tribal Council. Brenda Dardar Robichaux was elected. The Tribal Council wanted to use the United Methodist community center for the installation ceremony.

"We had just a few days, and we made it," said Silver, with amazement and pride in his voice.

Center for the Houma Nation

The Houma Nation is native to

Louisiana, originally from the Baton Rouge area. As European immigrants moved in, the Houma moved farther and farther South, until there was no place left for them to go. Today, there are about 16,000 Houma in the United States, most of them living in Louisiana, with 6000 living in the service area of the Dulac Community Center. Three thousand of those live out on "the point," in close vicinity to the center.

The community center was founded by Wilhelmina Hooper, one of three sisters whose family left a lasting mission legacy among Methodists in Louisiana.

A second sister, Ella K., founded the McDonnell Children's Home in Houma, Louisiana, and a third sister, Ora, became a Methodist deaconess. In the early 1960s, Louisiana's schools were segregated, Black and White, but there were no public schools for the Native Americans. They were not allowed to attend either set of the schools. Carl and Mildred Brunson, who served the Dulac Community Center in the 1950s and 1960s, start-

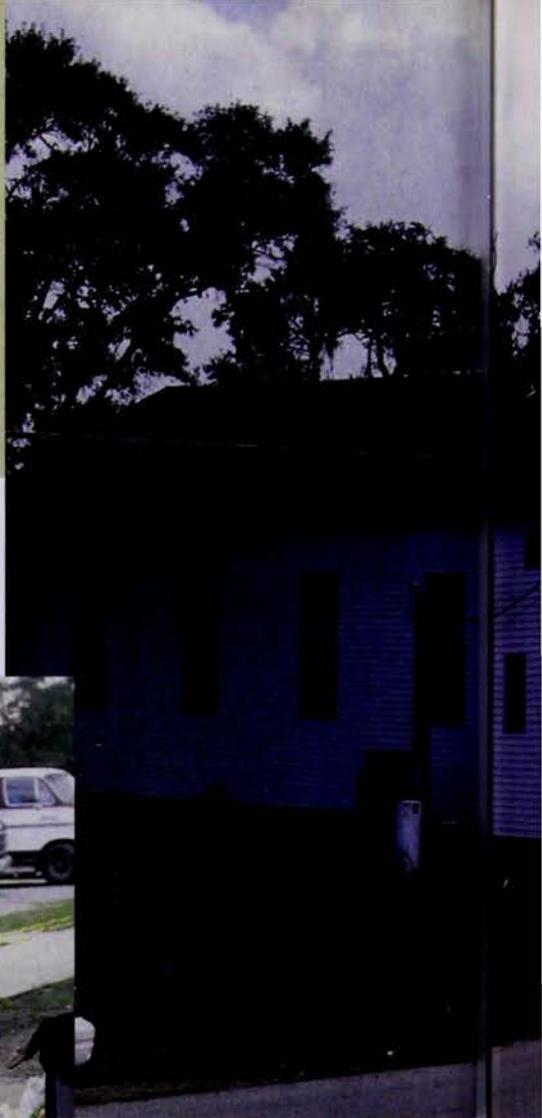
Dulac Community Center

The Dulac Community Center can be supported by United Methodists in a number of different ways. United Methodist Women support this and all the community centers through the pledge to mission and supplemental giving. In addition, an Advance Special supports the center.

Community Centers, Advance #982149-3. Gifts may be designated to Dulac Community Center and the funds will go directly there.

ed a school for Houma children in Dulac at the community center. Not until 1963 were the Native American children permitted to enroll in the public schools.

Today, the Dulac Community Center is a hub for the Houma people and the center of all kinds of activities. The center hosts a weekly food distribution in partnership with the Salvation Army and a local food distribution center.



Approximately 150 families come to the center each week to receive surplus foods of all kinds, depending on what arrives that week.

At the back of the community center stand three large trailers that provide living quarters for mission volunteer groups that come to work on the substandard housing that prevails in much of the bayou country of Dulac. The center coordinates the program, matching needs with the skills of the teams that come.

An active youth program has suffered a bit since the hurricane, but plans for starting up again are in the works. A health-care program from the Teche Action Clinic in Franklin, Louisiana, was also put on hold because it was scheduled to use the gym. John Silver is shifting the schedule to fit the program into the buildings that fared better during Lili.

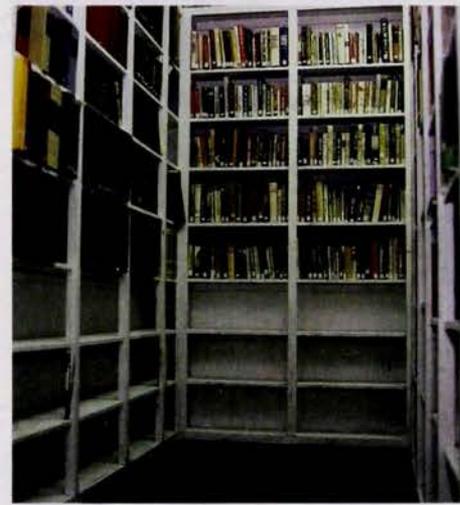
"There is no doctor here in Dulac," explained Silver. "The nearest doctor is 25 miles away in Houma. Our people have many health needs. They have diabetes and heart problems especially, but they don't receive regular treatment. It's just too far for them, and they may not have transportation. That's why we want to bring this program here, so two or three times a week we hope to have the Teche medical people here to see the people in our community."

This Is My Home

Most of the Houma people are fluent in English, but they also speak a French dialect all their own. John Silver, a 22-year-old Houma himself, is fluent in the Houma Creole and firmly grounded in the Dulac community where he grew up. He was hired as the program director for the youth program initially and then asked to serve as the interim director in a time of need. He attends college three times a week trying to finish up his degree.

"It's so important to have the trust of the people in this work," said Carlene Triplett, a GBGM executive who relates to the Dulac Community Center through the Community and Institutional Ministries program area. "John has that. They love him and they'll help him, even as he's helping them. The Community is like a

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small membership church in many ways. It is very tight, like family. The Houma are very resilient, salt-of-the-earth folk."

John Silver walks through the neighborhood of the center to survey the damage and check in on the progress people are making with the clean-up. The grass in the center's lawn is just starting to push up through the mud. It is a hopeful sign. He visits the Billiot's house just behind the center.

Betty Billiot laments the state of her floor. She's been waiting for news from FEMA as to when she might receive the funds to rebuild. "I just can't hardly stand it anymore," she says. The tiles and rugs have been ripped out and all that remains are the grungy boards. A neighbor has loaned her an area rug. "I think I would move out of here if I could, but my family has been in this house for 70 years now. Where

else am I going to go?"

She has raised six of her own children in this home, a few more foster children. Now she and her husband are raising a grandson and two developmentally disabled young adults who are distantly related to the family. "I didn't like the way they were treated in the institution," she remarked, so she brought them to her home. "I expect the Lord will have a good place waiting for me in heaven," she remarked.

Silver has helped a number of the residents fill out applications and other kinds of paperwork for FEMA. "Three out of five in this community can't read," he said, "and among the elderly, that's four out of five. It's not surprising, since they had no school growing up. I wish there was a way we could do more for them—not just fill out the papers but help them

P. 34: Residents and volunteers of Dulac meet at the Dulac Community Center to sort food items for distribution to residents in the community. Lower left: John Silver, interim director of the Dulac Community Center, stands outside the center with a young participant. Above: The Dulac United Methodist Church is just across the street from the Dulac Community Center. Above: Two photos show the water/ mud line in the gym and in the center's library.

read and understand for themselves."

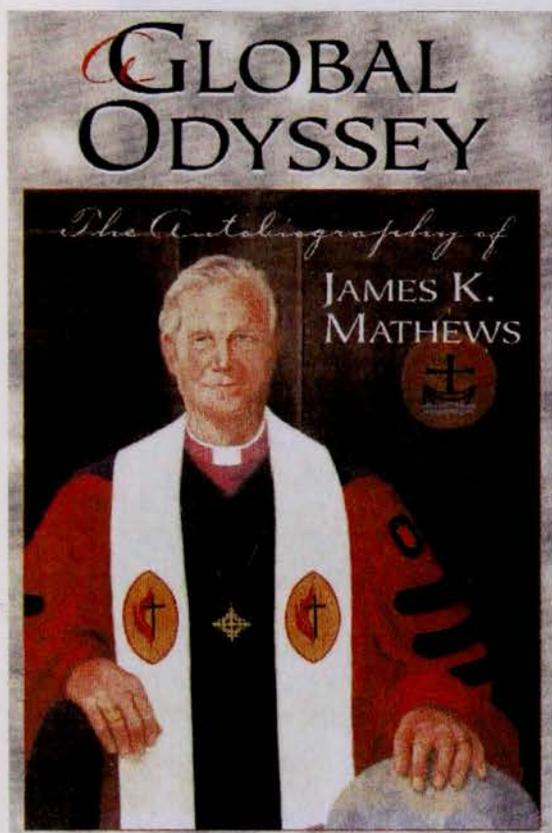
Perhaps like the tender shoots in the mud, the seed of an idea has sprouted for the next project at Dulac Community Center. Anything is possible with God's help.

Christie R. House is the editor of New World Outlook.

A Global Odyssey

The Autobiography of James K. Mathews

Book Review by R. Randy Day



Abingdon Press, 2000

Hardcover: \$35.00

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A Global Odyssey is a fascinating and intellectually rewarding journey, moving swiftly around the world through most of the twentieth century. Countries and regions come alive through personal encounters with members and leading figures of The United Methodist Church, the ecumenical church, world religions, nations, and movements.

James K. Mathews, twice elected bishop, has written a powerful autobiography about his life as a missionary, teacher, social activist, economist, and scholar. *A Global Odyssey* is a thought-provoking account of Christian mission from an individual called out of retirement four times.

"To become a missionary to India has proved to be the single most important fact about my life," he writes. This youthful call at a church on Copley Square in Boston on October 31, 1937, not only launched his global ministry but propelled it through the decades. "My satisfaction has often derived not from what one has to do in vocational fulfillment, but in what one gets to do, a fine distinction. Then I have discovered something about Christian maturity; it is the stage by which we are no longer burdened by carrying our faith; rather, our faith carries us."

Faith carried Bishop Mathews to India for dozens of return trips using every mode of transportation. He went to all corners of the great subcontinent, including Mumbai (then Bombay), where about 12 principal religions of the world were practiced daily. He also moved through stages of romance, exasperation, and serious study of this Asian giant, becoming conversational in Marathi and Hindustani.

During his years as Associate General Secretary of the (then) Methodist Church, he earned a Ph.D. in the history of religion from Columbia University. His doctoral work on Mahatma Gandhi enabled him to read everything the Indian leader ever wrote, including his journals from his years in South Africa and India. (The dissertation was published in India a year later in 1989.)

Another significant figure in the life of Bishop Mathews was Dr. E. Stanley Jones, the famous missionary evangelist who had close ties with Gandhi and other Indian national leaders. Dr. Jones is known to Christians throughout the world as the author of *The Christ of the Indian Road*. Dr. and Mrs. Jones had a daughter named Eunice. James and Eunice met, courted Indian-style, were married on June 1, 1940, and went to Kashmir in the Himalayas on a wedding trip, lodging in a modest houseboat on Dal Lake. Eunice has been a full partner in mission during their long marriage. They have three children and six grandchildren. The photos included in this book cover the wedding day as well as encounters with popes and presidents.

James K. Mathews was elected bishop in India but after serving a mere 24 hours, he stepped down. At the age of one hundred, he said,

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How Long, O Lord

Stories of Twentieth Century Korea by George E. Ogle

Book Review by Jungrea Chung

How Long, O Lord serves as a chronicle of the last hundred years in Korean history. Its focus on people engages the reader at a personal level while giving accurate glimpses of major historical events. The author succeeds in illustrating how innocent, ordinary people have been manipulated and abused at the hands of domestic and international bodies. The issues and roles of political, ideological, economic, and military powers are examined in the context of how they shaped the Korea of today.

Recent Korean history has continued to be a sensitive issue, given the tension that currently exists between the North and the South. In eight moving stories, the author shows how people persevered in their religion, traditions, dignity, and search for justice amid oppression and suffering.

The first story, "Father and Son," depicts the difficulties faced by three generations of a peasant family fighting against Japanese colonization and oppression during the first half of the twentieth century.

The next three stories, "Strange Things Happen," "We Won't Go Back," and "Unfinished Conflict," reveal that, behind the rapid economic development in the South between the late 1960s and 1980s, the plight of industrial-labor workers deteriorated under the military dictatorship, industrial conglomerates, and exploitative international businesses. The author offers his perspective on Christian involvement that empowers workers through the Urban Industrial Mission (UIM) program.

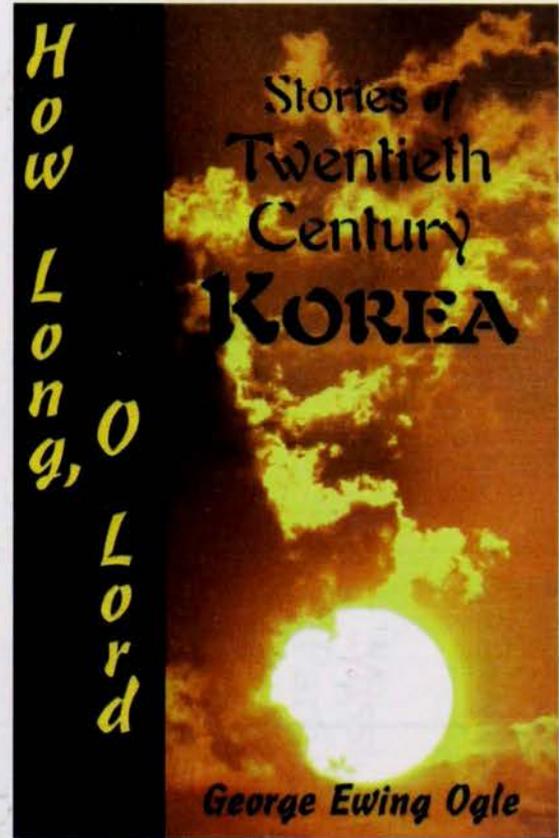
The stories, "Prayer for the Innocent," "My Body," and "Tearoom," deal with a government-fabricated conspiracy, which resulted in the execution of eight men alleged to be leaders of Communist organizations and the imprisonment of more than a thousand peaceful democratic dissidents. Ogle tells of receiving his own deportation order from the Korean government for being connected with the condemned men and their families.

The last story, "Escape Into Bondage," tells of two North Korean refugees and life without legal status in China and Russia. We see the impact of the 1990s collapse of Communist allies on the lives of North Koreans and the impediments to reunification for both Koreas. At the same time, the examples of hospitality throughout the refugees' journey rekindle a sense of hope.

As I read each story, memories of my past began to surface. I grew up in Inchon, Korea. I knew personally several of the people mentioned in the book, witnessed the ministry of UIM, and saw the Rev. Ogle's deportation in 1974. I joined my husband (now deceased) in the human rights movement in Korea and in the United States when we emigrated in 1975.

Some readers in the United States and Korea may take issue with the book because the history is still too recent to reveal and the ideological

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Bishop Mathews expounds on the link between mission and unity. He affirms the leadership of The United Methodist Church in this global process and discusses the birth of the World Council of Churches.

I am convinced that these stories should be read by those who seek reconciliation and a peaceful reunification of Korea.

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A Global Odyssey

Indian Methodism was mature enough to elect its own bishops. Church history will recognize his tireless leadership in ecumenism. He was elected a second time and subsequently served as resident bishop of the Boston Area, the Washington Area, Zimbabwe, and the New York Area. The chapter entitled "The Ecumenical Dimension" contributes a solid background to today's challenges in ecumenical ministry.

Claiming that missionary endeavor is transformed into ecumenical endeavor, Bishop Mathews expounds on the link between mission and unity. He affirms the leadership of The United Methodist Church in this global process and discusses the birth of the World Council of Churches. Opening the door to the Russian Orthodox Church, a highly controversial action in a time of anti-Communist paranoia, gave oppressed Christians in Russia "some opportunity to breathe a fresher air from time to time."

Having served on the governing body of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States for half of its life, the author suggests that dialogue should not be seen as a debate in which one party must entirely prevail. He gently reminds us that there are tasks in our world—peace, justice, and hunger—in which there can be inter-religious common action. James Mathews writes that the ecumenical movement is not merely horizontal, but vertical in that it is the work of God.

The United Methodist Church's heritage, says the author, is to recover a vital religion by turning toward the poor, the neglected, and the dispossessed. This heritage has freed us for mission, and when we are true to it, we unite with others in mission. *Global Odyssey* rewards the reader with an example of one church leader who has lived this message.

The Rev. R. Randy Day is the General Secretary of the General Board of Global Ministries.

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How Long O Lord

issues too volatile to discuss. Surely the wounds resulting from the Korean War have not yet healed. The South and North are still in a state of conflict, with mistrust and military might escalating. Korea is the only country in the world divided for over five decades. Do 10 million family members have to wait another 50 years to be reunited? "How long, O Lord?"

I am convinced, however, that these stories should be read by those who seek reconciliation and a peaceful reunification of Korea. This book has helped me draw closer to my identity and destiny. As a Korean-born American citizen, I hope that Korea may become one people and one nation.

Ogle has continually strived to put his faith into action for God's people. With courage as a missionary and a minister of God, he answered the call to walk among the downtrodden in a strange land. The stories in *How Long, O Lord* can help guide us in prayer toward the reunification of Korea.

The Rev. Jungrea Chung is the editor of Korean Language Resources at the General Board of Global Ministries.

You may use the next two pages as bulletin inserts about mission. Remove this page; duplicate it freely, printing front and back; fold it in the middle, along the black line; and slip the copies into your Sunday bulletins.

Venezuela Update: An El Renuevo Ministry Story

by Franklin Guerrero, Executive Secretary, Latin America and Caribbean Church Relationships, Mission Contexts and Relationships, the General Board of Global Ministries

The indigenous peoples who live along the waterways that feed into the 1600-mile Orinoco River in Venezuela are the focus of El Renuevo Ministry, Inc.

This ministry was conceived by Zabdiel Arenas who, at age 15, was inspired by an event during a trip with his father up the Orinoco River. They were called to help a man who had been bitten by a venomous snake. The man's death had a strong effect on Arenas, who dreamed of becoming a doctor and going in a boat to villagers along the river who needed health care and the Gospel. This dream came true when he founded El Renuevo Ministry and partnered with the General Board of Global Ministries.

Arenas has expanded El Renuevo to include simple medical and dental training for the villagers. The ministry has also installed solar energy generators for water purification and cooking and a radio system that supports three stations which notify several villages of medical boat trips.

With support from El Renuevo, Arenas has trained villagers as missionaries. In some of the villages, almost 100 percent of the indigenous people have converted to Christianity.

El Renuevo's board, chaired by Grady Harmon, a United Methodist layperson and engineer from Alabama, is composed of 19 members, all of whom have frequently visited Venezuela and are familiar with Venezuelan culture.



A volunteer with El Renuevo examines a child by the river.

The United Methodist Church in Mission

Missionary Encourages Participation in Schools of Mission on Mexico

by Cherie White, Academic Dean, Dr. Gonzalo Báez Seminary, Mexico City

Mexico is a topic of the 2002-2003 Christian Schools of Mission.

It is a beautiful, fascinating country of contrasts. There are deserts in the north, jungles in the south, and more than 50 indigenous groups and languages. In a country where some of the world's richest live, more than 50 percent of the population of 88 million is unemployed or earning less than minimum wage (\$3.90 for an eight-hour work day). One-quarter of Mexico's inhabitants live in Mexico City, where museums, theaters, and modern architecture contrast with colonial architecture and Aztec pyramids. The major industry is tourism. There are reasonably priced accommodations in Mexico City's Methodist Seminary, as well as affordable hotels and hostels.



Cherie White

Learning opportunities are abundant throughout Mexico. Each of its six annual conferences received Mission Volunteer groups to help construct church buildings, clinics, and child-care centers. The Give Ye Them to Eat (GYTTE) program in Tlancualpican, Puebla, offers to the farming communities dry latrines, composting, terracing, soil recuperation, straw-bale houses, health and first-aid courses, animal husbandry instruction, and Christian educational materials.

I invite you to participate in the Mexico study, whose book was written by my husband, José Luis Velasco. Organize a group from your church or join a conference mission team. Come explore Mexico, a focus of the 2002-2003 Schools of Christian Mission.

Rebuilding Afghanistan

From "UMCOR: Love in the Midst of Tragedy" on the General Board of Global Ministries' website, with a portion based on an October 2002 report by Henry Hamilton, Head of Mission, UMCOR/Afghanistan.

Two million refugees have returned to Afghanistan this year. One year after September 11, 2001, schools have been reconstructed for girls and boys; men and women attend classes together in universities; women are competently returning to their professional positions in city offices; and wheat production was only four percent less than usual.

However, many challenges remain. Some teachers in the reconstructed schools are untrained volunteers, and others are professional teachers who are rarely paid; city populations have increased because the Afghan people have been moving into the cities rather than returning to their home villages; and half of the provinces are off-limits to aid agencies. The inner resolve of the people, their strong work ethic, and basics of sustainability supplied by donor nations are enabling the people of Afghanistan to meet these challenges and recover.

In a reconstruction and rehabilitation effort, UMCOR has partnered with the Norwegian Project Office/Rural Rehabilitation Association of Afghanistan (NPO/RRAA) and formed Integrated Community Rehabilitation Projects in the Bagram District. The district was a major battleground of opposing Taliban and Northern Alliance armies. Consequently, homes, irrigation systems, vineyards, and orchards were destroyed. Reconstruction efforts center on the district's village of Rabat in Parwan Province. Through NPO/RRAA, villagers are constructing 200 houses and 35 wells. Each well will be shared by six to seven families. Completion was expected, according to Rabat's shura (traditional council), by December 2002.



Global Justice Volunteers 2002

by Brenda Wilkinson, Staff Writer, the General Board of Global Ministries

In August, the summer 2002 Global Justice Volunteers (GJV) returned from assignments in GBGM partner churches and organizations throughout the world. GJV is a program initiated by the Women's Division's International Committee on Ministries with Women, Children, and Youth.

Among the returning volunteers were Amanda Horton of Asheville, North Carolina; Diana Gaughan of Versailles, Missouri; and Susan Zolezzi of Millbrae, California. They worked with UMCOR projects in the Republic of Georgia at the Tbilisi Youth-House serving youth affected by the country's civil war and ethnic conflict.

Youth houses provide venues for healing, including counseling and promoting understanding and dialogue among young people, who are some of the Republic of Georgia's internally displaced persons.

Since youth houses opened in Georgia in 1998, they have served 9000 young people. Amanda, Diana, and Susan participated in Youth House Live. This a program includes a skill-development and empowerment program whose operative tools are journalism, publishing, and video projects.

At Tbilisi, these GJVs began to develop a youth-to-youth mentoring program, linking young leaders from the youth house with young people who live in state-run orphanages. Leaders will share their talents and skills, and use their empowering relationships to develop a support system for the displaced youth in Tbilisi.

Amanda envisions a program comparable to Big Brothers/Big Sisters in the United States. Diana added that the children and teenagers at the youth house want to encourage other children, emphasizing hope for the future.



Left to right: Susan Zolezzi, Jake Waybright, Diana Gaughan, and Amanda Horton.

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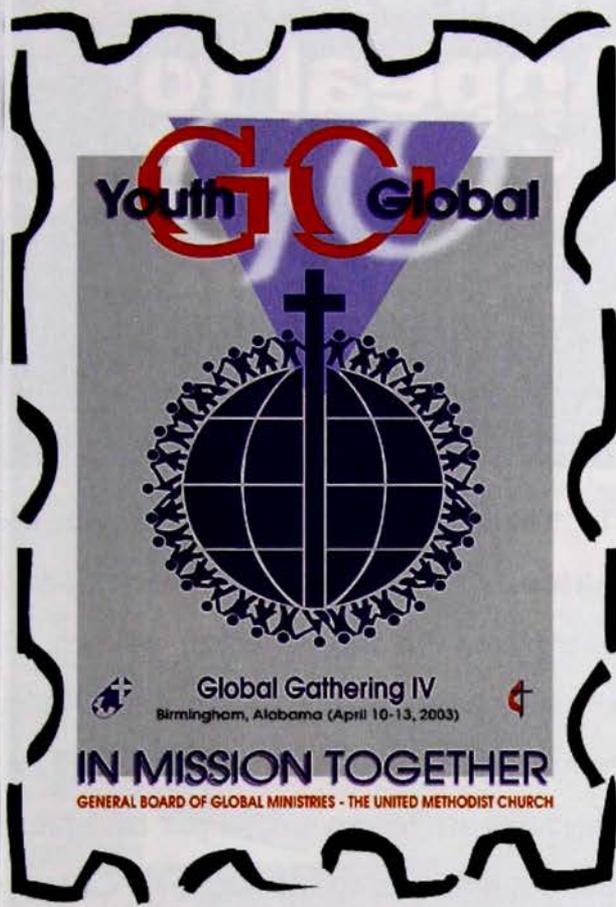
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A Place Where Young Leaders Strategize

The Global Young Leaders Consultation takes place before the official openings of the Global Gathering, April 7-9. Participants for this event are invited by the GBGM based on their leadership roles in existing Methodist-related young people's organizations.

For more information contact: Tamara Walker at the General Board of Global Ministries, 212-870-3690



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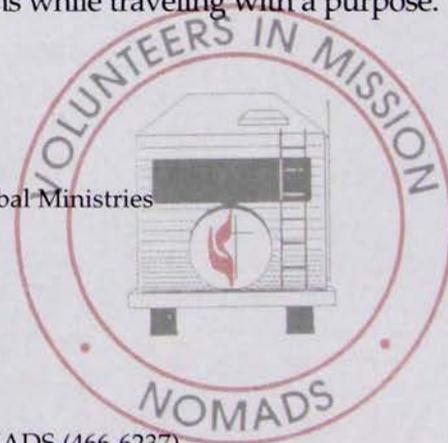
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Churchwide Appeal for Southern Africa Famine

UMCOR Advance No. 101250-4

Famine is threatening millions of people in southern Africa. The most vulnerable — children, older adults, pregnant women and those who are ill — already are dying. Chronic malnutrition and the millions infected by HIV or orphaned by AIDS compound the effects of the food shortage. Several factors have caused the crisis: severe drought alternating with flooding over the past two years, political turmoil, economic instability, land-rights struggles in Zimbabwe and government mismanagement of grain supplies in Malawi.

The United Methodist Council of Bishops has called for a **Churchwide Appeal for Southern Africa Famine**. Your gifts are critically needed to provide assistance including emergency food relief, education and agricultural development. Please give generously to **UMCOR Advance No. 101250-4**.

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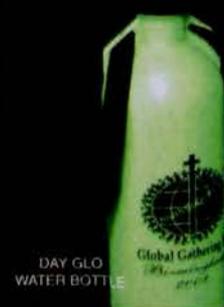
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