

Celebrations

real people real stories real faith



A Publication of
Hanfield United Methodist Church

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real people real stories real faith

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Welcome to Celebrations!

From the Editor

What do you think of when you hear the term *Missions*?

If you're like most people, you think of a trip to some primitive tribe in Africa or some other underdeveloped region, living in a tent, eating whatever you can catch, drinking out of a stream, and struggling to communicate with the native people in their language.

And some mission trips are like that. But the bulk are not. Missions happens everywhere, from Africa to Haiti to your own neighborhood. And missions isn't just for professional missionaries.

This issue of *Celebrations* focuses on some of the many mission trips taken by Hanfieldites this year. They went to Kenya. To Haiti. To Arizona. To Rwanda. Some helped build houses. Some taught people how to be entrepreneurs. Some even ministered to prostitutes!

If you have never been on a mission trip, I encourage you to take the first step. Find a trip, either at Hanfield or somewhere else, and go! Those who have know that it will change your life forever.

Tim Lehrian
Communications Director
Celebrations Magazine General Editor

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Service Times Sunday @ 9:00 & 10:30am

From the Pastor

Stories of Christians who step out of their comfort zones to engage in missions always inspire us. These stories especially prove meaningful when they come from our friends and fellow Hanfieldites!

This issue of *Celebrations* will bless you greatly. *Real people* like you and me have "lifted their eyes to the harvest fields" and sought to make a difference in the world.

These are *real stories* describing real events that have recently taken place.

They are testimonies of a *real faith*, and what God can do through simple obedience.

Enjoy!

Tim Helm
Senior Pastor
Hanfield UMC



LES OFRESCO A CHRISTO

"Offer Them Christ"

Missions Conference Weekend

Friday, Sept 23 @ 7pm
Friday Night at the Movies
featuring *Soul Surfer*

Saturday, Sept 24 @ 6pm
Authentic Mexican Meal

SEPT 23 - 25 2011
HANFIELD UMC

I know you have all seen this commercial:

the screen opens with a short testimonial and then come emaciated children, one after the other—all with sad, tired, and hungry eyes. Then, the plea, "Please help."

How can you resist?

It's sort of easy, really. We use excuses such as the video world is not real, and it's all about money. It jades many of us. That was me—jaded and living with no "worldview" of missions. In 2004, my view of missions changed dramatically through the intervention of the person closest to me—my wife, Deb.

Deb had been on a mission trip, and I saw the difference it made in her spiritual walk, but I resisted. She finally talked me into a family mission trip to Honduras, working with Project Manuelito, a ministry to street children. So in July of 2004, off we went. That's when it happened: my new worldview changed my focus. You see, I work in corrections. We work to change the way people think, helping them become law-abiding citizens. We call it "a self-motivating statement," a reason that speaks to you

and alters your thinking forever.

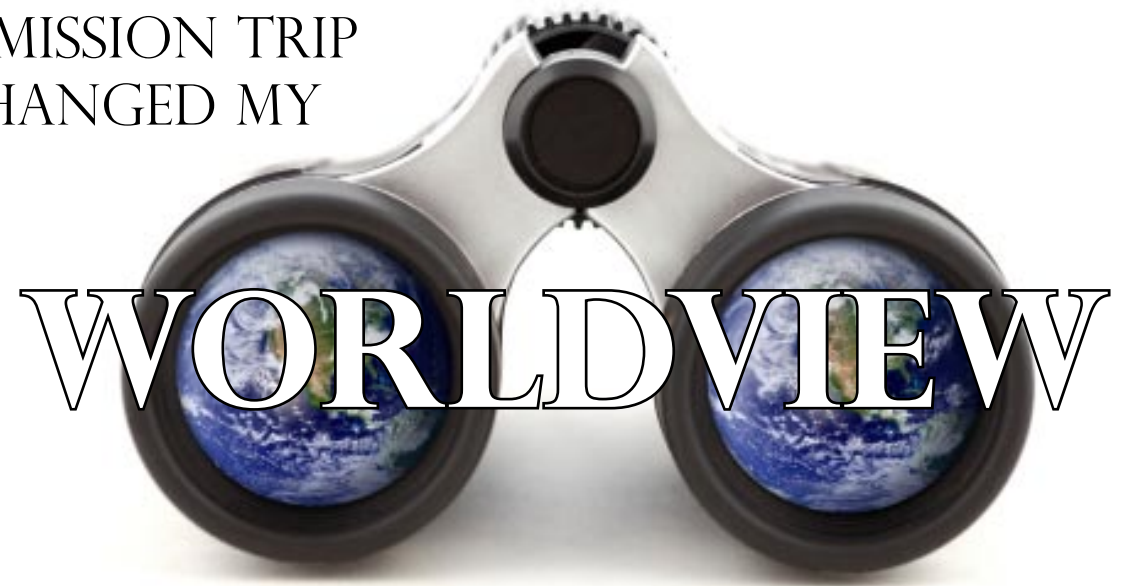
I met the children of Manuelito. This article cannot do justice to the sights, smells, and a thousand struggles of these young people. An estimated 1.4 million people live in the capital city of Tegucigalpa, and 6,000 to 8,000 children live on the streets.

Yet God is there.

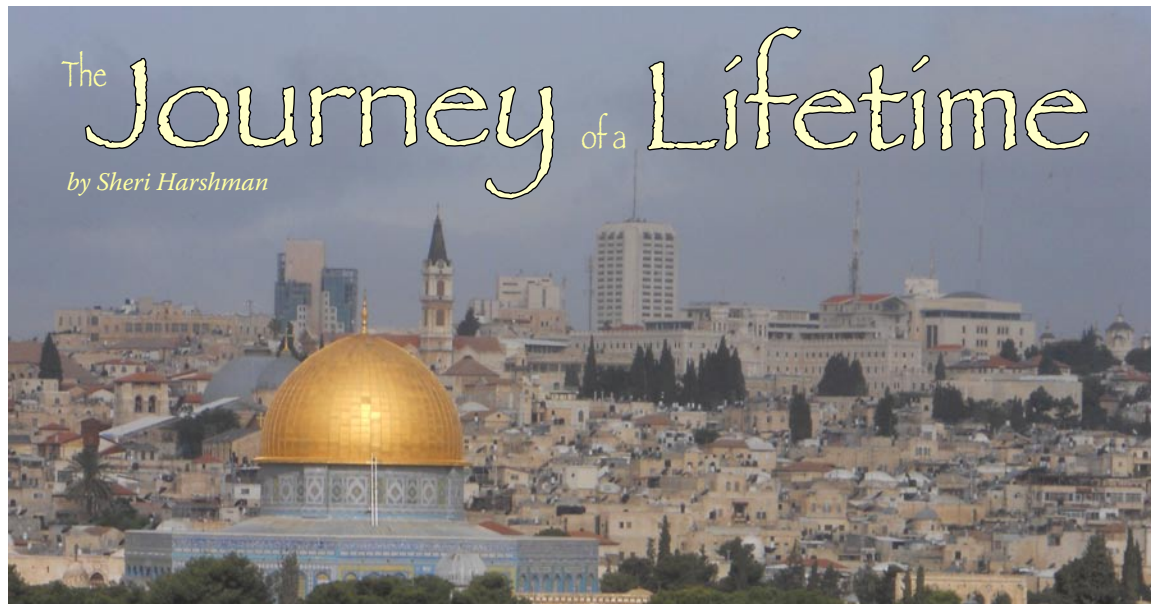
Pastor Jorge Pinto; his wife, Marta; and their church provide a safe haven for several street children. They took us on a trip to the streets where we gave simple food and water to the street children of Tegucigalpa. We found children who were poor beyond belief and yet rich in treasure through Jesus' love. They had simple peace that only God can provide, and I found myself yearning for that peace.

My "self-motivating statement" is James 2:17 (NIV), "In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead." I had faith, but without works. A mission trip changed my worldview, and it continues to bring passion to my life. If you don't believe me and you, too, are feeling a little jaded, I invite you to go, see, and taste the riches that God provides.

A MISSION TRIP CHANGED MY



by Chris Cunningham



The Journey of a Lifetime

by Sheri Harshman

Have you ever dreamed of actually walking the paths where Jesus walked and seeing the Jordan River where Jesus was baptized? Diane Tedder made that dream a reality when she traveled with a group led by Indiana Wesleyan professor, Dr. Wilbur Williams, this May. The group of 28, including Diane's daughter Marcie, marked the 149th trip that Dr. Williams has made to the Holy Land. Hanfieldite Jackie Dawson later joined Dr. Williams in June when he took another group on his 150th journey.

After a 12-hour flight from Atlanta, the groups landed in Tel Aviv, Israel, to begin their 10-day journeys through the country. Also, Diane and Marcie added a three-day tour of Jordan at the end of their travels through Israel.

One of the highlights of Diane's journey occurred on the first day of the tour when they visited the city of Arad. The group was introduced to Israeli/Canadian sculptor, Rick Wienecke. Previously an unbeliever, Wienecke became a born-again Christian during a gospel presentation



One of Rick Wienecke's Fountain of Tears sculptures

at the Garden Tomb while in Israel. Mr. Wienecke is one of a small number of foreigners who was granted Israeli citizenship even though he is not Jewish.

His 60-foot-wide, 12-foot-high sculpture *Fountain of Tears* parallels the sufferings of Christ with the Holocaust. The seven stone relief panels depict the seven last words of Jesus from the crucifixion while seven life-sized bronze figures represent the survivors of the Holocaust. The artist has shown how, through the course of suffering and His own execution, Christ is able to identify and empathize with his Jewish brothers and sisters who suffered during the Holocaust.

Being able to travel with Dr. Williams as their tour guide, added such an insightful dimension to the trip. His vast knowledge of the Old Testament, the Jewish culture and the archeology of the area contributed greatly to the experience. Diane says, "I'm able to apply what I learned from Dr. Williams as I reread the Bible and relive standing at the actual sites where many of the events took place."

The group traveled to various locations in Israel including a boat ride on the Sea of Galilee and visited the Mount of Beatitudes. Jackie was especially touched by the experience of sitting on the Mount of the Beatitudes as Dr. Williams read the words of Jesus spoken in Matthew 5-7.

The boat ride on the Sea of Galilee was another highlight for Jackie. "Many places we visited were where they *thought* Jesus was born, where he prayed, was crucified, etc., but knowing that this was the actual place where he walked on the water and calmed the storms made this an awesome experience," Jackie stated. The groups also visited the place where Jesus multiplied the fish and loaves to feed the crowds, the town of Nazareth and the synagogue where Jesus worshiped until He began His ministry. Later, they stopped at the Jordan River where a few members of each party were baptized.

If Diane took another trip back to Israel, she said she would like to spend more time in the city of Jerusalem. Her group was able to enter through the gates of the Old City and spend time at the Western Wall, also known as the Wailing Wall, where many locals and visitors from across the world come to pray and tuck their prayers into the crevices in the wall.

Diane noted that many of the sites where significant events in Jesus' life took place are now sites of ancient churches. It is often pointed out that the spot is where "they think" the event happened but no one knows for sure. Even if it isn't the exact place, it gives the visitor an idea of what the site looked like when Jesus was there. Diane felt an unexplainable affinity for the people of Jerusalem, even though many there are not Christians. She has a love for the city, knowing its significance in Biblical history and the importance of Jerusalem in the days yet to come.

A visit to the Mount of Olives and to Gethsemane allowed them to see where Jesus spent the last hours

with His disciples before His betrayal. The group also visited the Church of the Holy Sepulchre where the tomb of Jesus is reputed to be. Diane said they were also taken to another area in the city to see a tomb which would have been much like the one in which Jesus was laid and were shown how the rock that covered the opening might have been in a "track" which made it easier to roll back and forth.

Diane and Marcie's trip concluded with a three-day visit to the country of Jordan which borders Israel on the east. Viewing the Promised Land from Mount Nebo gave an idea of what Moses saw as he led the Israelites from Egypt. Also, they toured the



The ancient city of Petra

ancient city of Petra which was built in the 3rd century B.C. Petra is a large city which was carved into the beautiful and colorful rocks which make up the countryside. The skill of the ancient craftsmen, working without power tools and heavy equipment, yet making awe-inspiring tombs, temples and facades was amazing to Diane. She was also impressed with the aqueducts, a marvel of Roman engineering built hundreds of years before Christ, which brought water for drinking and irrigation to the barren countryside of Israel and Jordan.

The trip to Jordan concluded with a visit to Amman which is a unique blend of old and new. Their tour guide was a native of Jordan and is a Christian. He

asked the group for prayer for his country and his family. A small percentage of tribes in Jordan have a Christian heritage and are considered Christians now, but about 95% of the inhabitants are Muslim.

Although the trip was physically somewhat difficult because of all the travel and walking required, both ladies agreed that it truly was the journey of a lifetime.

GOD LAUGHS

by Mike Jessup

God laughs. God has a sense of humor, and the Bible is filled with irony and even a little sarcasm. Want some good irony? Read about Sarah or Haman. Want a little sarcasm? Just read some of those parables.

God even uses my own weaknesses to further His kingdom. I grew up on the side of a mountain in Idaho, where every road is a road less traveled, and I could count the number of radio stations on one hand—sometimes even on one finger. Now looking back, sometimes Idaho seemed like a third-world country, without the malaria and need for major doses of Imodium and extra toilet paper. Many years later, here I am leading a team of students and faculty to Rwanda and Uganda. That's what I call ironic!

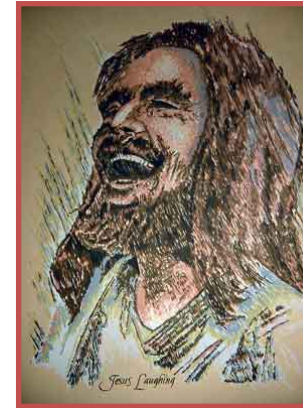
Kampala, Uganda is a bustling city of four million people, complete with four stoplights and thousands of *bodda boddas* (motorcycle taxis). Negotiating the streets of Kampala is a perpetual game of chicken, and bigger is indeed better. One of our mission projects was going into Nebutiti—the “slums” of Kampala. A local pastor and several of his church members were our guides as we walked along dirt paths past stray cows, chickens, and goats, past tin shanties, with children joining our convoy whispering “mzungus” (white person). We stopped at the church for a word of prayer and a strategy, although the church was more a place to gather rather than a building. We broke up into smaller teams, and blanketed the neighborhood. It was time for some street evangelism.



Here's more irony—I do not like street evangelism. Let's just say street evangelism is way out of my comfort zone. I will always take lecture halls over lean-tos. We eventually met three women who were enjoying the morning sun. I took a deep breath, said a quick prayer, and shared my testimony.

Honestly, my testimony is boring—no prodigal son story, no recovery from addictions, crime, or abuse. I was convinced my efforts at evangelism were futile at best. Nevertheless, something happened, despite my uninspiring testimony. They politely listened to a funny looking mzungu from Indiana share about Christ. And to my utter amazement, they began to ask questions—hard-core questions. Questions that

did not show up in my *Four Spiritual Laws* tract I memorized in college.



I can just hear God laughing at my inept attempt to answer her sincere and genuine question.

One woman showed me her tattoos, and then asked if she could become a Christian with tattoos. I assured her that God sees and cleans the inside, and her tattoos would not keep her out of heaven. Okay, that wasn't so bad.

Another woman told me she was married to a Muslim, and would she have to divorce her husband to become a Christian? I squirmed, and tried to think of some brilliant theological insight to answer her question. I told her not to divorce her husband, and that maybe she could be a light to her family.

The questions kept coming, and I kept praying I would have the right words to share. Actually, I was praying these women would not just get up and run away! Finally, Rose, the obvious leader of this group, asked, “We are all prostitutes and sell alcohol. This is how we

feed our babies. Will we have to give up prostitution and selling alcohol to become a Christian?”

Help! I have been a Christian for thirty-five years, and I wanted to run.

I can just hear God laughing at my inept attempt to answer her sincere and genuine question. Eventually I did tell her that she needs to provide for her family, but in the future, God would meet her financial needs without her selling alcohol and engaging in prostitution. I know, it sounded trite, lame, shallow, not to mention paternalistic. I thought, “Four years of college debate—wasted!”

I finished my dialogue with these women, and wanted to find a quick exit. The pastor then asked if they would be interested in accepting Christ as their personal Savior. I thought for sure they would politely laugh and just say, “No thank you.” But they didn't. They said yes to Jesus—all three of them!

Despite my total lack of confidence; inability to convey deep spiritual insights; doubts, fears, and lack of local language skills; heaven is rejoicing.

God laughs!



ARIZONA MISSION TRIP

by Jerry Harshman

This summer it may have been unseasonably hot here in central Indiana, but a team led by John Schamber endured the hot, arid climate of the southwest desert when it embarked on its mission trip to the Navajo Reservation, July 2-8. The worksite was located in Pinon, AZ, about a 5-hour drive from Phoenix.

The team responded to a need from our missionaries, Mark and Nancy Smith and worked under the direction of Jerry Wright. Joining Schamber on this summer's team were: Robyn Schamber, Junior McGinnis, Regina McGinnis, Mike Kerlin, Eric Meyer, Tom Richards, Greg Ford, Judy Ford, Frank Davidson and Carmen Sinclair from Hanfield, while Rich and Susan Street from Mt. Olive United Methodist Church rounded out the 13-member team. For seven members it was their first mission experience.

"I think the key to the entire trip was prayer and being connected to our team before we left," Robyn Schamber recalled. "The team members were honest about their feelings, doubts and fears. Also, I think it is important to be in fellowship with your team before going on the trip," she said. "We did a study each time we came together."

Junior McGinnis expressed his gratitude for Hanfieldites who turned out July 2 to see the team

off and to all who had provided prayer support and financial contributions which made the trip possible. Prayers by Randy and Janice McMillan the night before and by Gary and Rosie Miller helped the team feel lifted up as it rolled out at 8:00 a.m. and headed to Indianapolis International Airport.

The team arrived in Phoenix about 1:00 p.m. where they were met by Mark and Nancy Smith along with Rich and Susan Street who had traveled out on their own earlier. After enjoying lunch and rounding up a rental van the team embarked on its long hot trip to its desert destination.

At the worksite the team stayed in campers and tents. "We were fortunate to have running water. Barbra's property has a well, whereas most homes do not. Many families had to travel to get water at a community water supply," Robyn said.

"What a joy and privilege it was for us to join your church on the

Arizona Missions Trip," Rich and Susan Street shared. "We saw a real spiritual battle fought and won by all those lifting our group up in prayer prior to and during our trip."

"Many of us had some type of physical ailment, exhaustion and outside forces trying to prevent us from going prior to leaving for this trip. But through the constant prayers of the faithful we all were able to make this trip and learn and grow through the experience both here at home and in Pinon, Arizona," they said.

"We also observed the unity of the Navajo family and how strong that bond is. This was just another reminder to us of how God shines through to teach us we are all family and how all 13 of us, over the course of two years, have become a family and how that bond is still strong and we yearn to continue our relationship with each other."

The two main projects the team worked on were remodeling a modular home and preparing for VBS which was to be led by another team the following week.

Barbra and her son lived at the worksite, which also had a horse corral and a small dining hall which had been built on the property for Barbra and the missionaries to host VBS for the surrounding communities. "Barbra's old home which she had wanted repaired was so unsafe the missionaries did not feel she should stay there. So, the missionaries moved in a modular and began remodeling it." Robyn explained.

"The Smiths had brought teams in to build the dining hall and help with the modular. In fact, the French doors, toilets, windows and other doors that were taken on Hanfield's last trip to Arizona were used in the modular and community building. It was exciting to see that and to know we had a part in these buildings," she added.

During its stay the team laid flooring, primed and painted walls, installed cabinets, repaired toilets and cleaned the dining hall, bathrooms and any other duties assigned.

"I think we painted some of those walls three times," Tom Richards smiled.

"I definitely gained a new appreciation for our missionaries, though," he explained. "They have teams coming in each week and there's a lot of work for Mark and Nancy to prepare for each team. The day we were ready to leave, Mark was out cutting boards to prepare for the next team which would come in later in the day after we left," he said.

It was the second trip to the Navajo Reservation for Junior McGinnis. "One day when I was working by myself I felt a strange presence. It was as if the Holy Spirit was standing by my side," he said. "The hair on my arms stood up. I hope I can go back and feel that same type of experience again."



2011 AZ Team, L-R: Eric Meyer, Mike Kerlin, Tom Richards, Judy Ford, Greg Ford, Junior McGinnis, Regina McGinnis, Carmen Sinclair (kneeling), Robyn Schamber (in back), Susan Street, Frank Davidson, Rich Street, John Schamber

Global Entrepreneurship Training in East Africa

by Mick Bates

“God is good – all the time!”

This was the refrain of many Kenyans we worked with as part of the Global Entrepreneurship Training (GET) program conducted in Limuru, Kenya. Audrey Franks, Lauren Sheard (TU student) and I were the American contingent of Handong Global University’s GET 2011 in East Africa that teams students cross-culturally to bring entrepreneurship education to the developing world. Handong is a Christ-centered university located in Pohang, Korea with a very similar ethos to Taylor University. Undergraduate students and faculty from Korea, the United States, and the developing country partner university collaborate to deliver an intensive training for regional participants.

GET has been presented in Cambodia (2010 and planned for 2012), Mongolia (2009), South Korea (2008/2011), and East Africa (Kenya – 3

We hopefully inspired Africans with the mindset to change the world

times along with a refresher course for previous GET graduates). The objectives of the program are to inspire the entrepreneurial mindset, deliver the basic skill sets to become an entrepreneur, exercise these skills through the business ideation and planning process, and create an environment for networking that may result in national and multi-national business opportunities. The hope is for the developing country to experience an entrepreneurial explosion similar to what occurred in South Korea over the last 50 years.

This summer, 100 participants from 10 countries were trained during the formal program, a refresher course for 40 previous graduates of GET was conducted in Nairobi, and a two-day outreach to a local church resulted in another 50 persons trained in entrepreneurship. Hopefully, the participants and everyone involved saw how good God was throughout the two weeks.

Even though the courses were taught in English, language differences could be challenging—Korean English, Kenyan English, and American English



are all very different. However, with good listening skills and patience, everyone was able to move past this barrier and make a difference in the lives of the participants. A highlight was working in such a diverse cross-cultural setting. It is unbelievable how much was accomplished and the unity achieved. We give God all of the glory for all of the lives that were touched through this program.

God is good...all the time!

A particularly poignant moment occurred during the two-day outreach at the Muchatha Anglican Church after the formal GET program. The student volunteer team arrived expecting to lead entrepreneurship training for high school and college students. To our surprise considering some of the challenges of bringing the entrepreneurial mindset to the African culture, the training room was filled with 50 adults from the local community eagerly wanting to learn more about entrepreneurship!

With a moment to catch our breath and a few tweaks (major changes) to the plan, Lauren, the team leader and Audrey along with the other volunteers, came up with a program focused on business ethics, personal finance, creativity, and one-page business planning that seemed to really energize the students. Even as Mick taught on the need for personal financial management and resource/wealth accumulation, when African culture is all about sharing resources regardless of the circumstances, the participants were absorbing the concepts and making real-time application in their own lives. It was gratifying for all to see the best of the Western and African cultures blended to come up with make-sense strategies for initiating entrepreneurial endeavors.

God is good...all the time!

So yes, we from the Western and Asian cultures delivered knowledge and skills that hopefully inspired Africans with the entrepreneurial mindset of creating something from nothing with a perspective to change the world. More importantly though, the team learned that God loves all people and He is as Pastor Tim often says, “Large and in charge.”

The Muchatha situation allowed the most process-oriented of us (me) to rest and trust in him for the results. One of my favorite verses is from Proverbs 21:31, “The horse is made ready for the day of battle, but the victory belongs to the LORD” (ESV). So, we use the gifts and talents God has given us to the very best of our ability understanding that the results are totally up to Him.

God is good...all the time!

Be Strong and Courageous

by Troy Simpson

Working for World Gospel Mission definitely has its advantages. Taking three very different teams to three very different places in one summer is one of those advantages. The great thing about the teams I lead is that I usually get to take at least one family member with me when I go. When I went to Honduras I took my wife Missy and my son Trevor. When I went to Kenya, Trevor again came along (what an awesome experience for a new high school graduate). But when I went to Haiti, none of my immediate family came along.

From the time I agreed to lead the Haiti team I had an odd feeling. This trip did not feel the same as the others. I did not know much of the team and the stories I had heard about the destruction in Haiti was not helping ease my feelings. The team was going to help build a house for a woman who had lost everything in the earthquake that had left the country of Haiti in disrepair.

I wasn't concerned about the work project; many of the team members were engineers. I wasn't worried about the team. The team was small and all the men were long-time Christians with missions experience. My uneasiness, as I look back now, came from what I was afraid I would find once I got there.

The stories are true. Haiti is in shambles. No words can describe the devastation that the Haitians live amongst on a daily basis. Food and water is scarce. Filth is everywhere. Shelter is temporary at best.

Fear is constant. But God is great and I knew I was protected.

God has a funny way of letting us know this sometimes. For me it came in the form of an internet password. The internet was the only way to contact my family at home. The place we were staying had WiFi but it was password protected. When I asked for the password I was told it was "Joshua 1:9." Now if you are like me this verse may not be committed to memory. So here it is:

Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

Wow, what a powerful reminder this was. I tucked this verse away in my mind and as we traveled each day I would remember what God had commanded of me and that I was not to be afraid, nervous or uneasy, for he was with me wherever I went.

Missions is not always easy. Missions may not always seem safe. But we are commanded to tell the good news. Even someone who visits lots of countries, sees lots of ministries and feels like they have done it all sometimes needs a little reminder. Sometimes it is just funny where those reminders come from.



BUILDING STUDY SURVEY

by Jerry Harshman

As Pastor Tim Helm, his leadership team and the Administrative Council look toward a new season at Hanfield, a Building Study Committee was formed. The committee consists of Kyle Bixler, Dave Brown, Jamie Penrod, Shirley Saddler, Tim Tittle and Tim Helm and has tried to determine what renovation or new construction might be needed to help Hanfieldites minister to the lost more effectively.

After meeting for several months and visiting various church facilities, a prayer vigil was held May 13 followed by a prayer walk around the grounds and facilities on May 14. A "Listening Session" was held in the Harvest Room on May 15 when Hanfieldites shared their dreams. A follow-up prayer vigil was held July 9.

Starting July 10 Hanfieldites were given several opportunities in their ABFs and individually to complete a survey to help determine the future direction for building construction or renovation. Categories listed on the survey were generated from the May 15 "Listening Session."

Respondents were asked to prioritize needs in the following categories: Worship Area/Auditorium, Youth/College Facility, Family Life Center/Sports Facility, Gathering/Fellowship and Outdoor Fellowship Area.

The 113 people surveyed listed their top priorities as: Worship Area/Auditorium (40.0%), Youth/College Facility (25.7%), Gathering/Fellowship (18.1%) Family Life Center/Sports Facility (15.2%), and Outdoor Fellowship Area (1.0%).

However, if we look at which choices respondents

selected as either highest or second highest priority, those results reveal: Worship Area/Auditorium (62.2%), Gathering/Fellowship (54.2%), Youth/College Facility (41.4%), Family Life Center/Sports Facility (33.7%) and Outdoor Fellowship Area (8.5%).

Next, the 113 respondents were asked to mark various needs they felt need to be addressed. Each need could only be listed once on a survey. Their responses were as follows:

- 64 Additional classroom space (56.6%)
- 61 Replacement of Annex for Youth (54.0%)
- 51 Casual Gathering Area to congregate and fellowship with other adults (45.1%)
- 45 Large Sanctuary (39.8%)
- 38 Larger Foyer (33.6%)
- 37 Youth Outreach Facility/Program (32.7%)
- 36 Large Room to Host Community Events, Wedding Receptions (31.9%)
- 32 Day Care/Pre School ministry to attract new families (28.3%)
- 30 Outdoor storage facility for mowers, maintenance stuff (26.5%)
- 26 Casual gathering area for college age ministry (23.0%)
- 24 Additional bathroom facilities upstairs in Children's Area (21.2%)
- 24 Bus Ministry (21.2%)
- 21 Full Size Gym (18.6%)
- 20 Classrooms with Media Capabilities such as projection and online (17.7%)
- 20 Auditorium for Concerts, speakers, men's and women's events (17.7%)
- 18 Space for 5th-6th grade activities (15.9%)
- 16 Facility where groups could stay (with showers, etc.) (14.2%)
- 16 Sports complex/ministry (little league, soccer, softball) (14.2%)
- 13 Designated prayer chapel (11.5%)
- 12 Storage facility for Children's Ministry (10.6%)
- 9 Basement for storage and safety (8.0%)
- 8 Area for group exercise activities (7.1%)
- 7 Sports camps/day camps (6.2%)

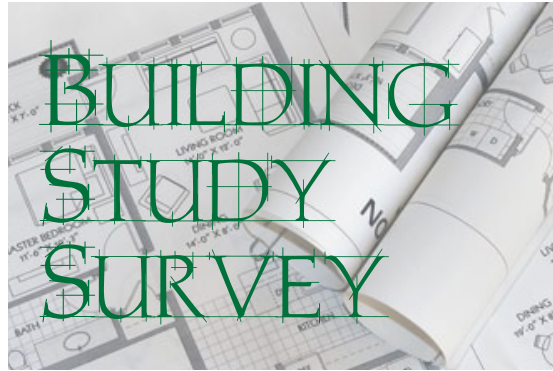
Many of those responding to the survey felt that a

continued on page 14

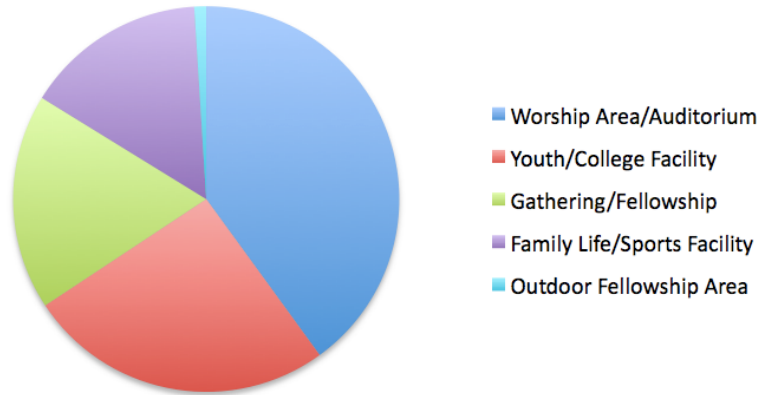
number of the needs could be met by building a new facility and renovating existing space. There seems to be support and consensus for building a Worship/Auditorium, but replacing the Youth Annex and adding additional classroom space was a very high priority among those responding to the survey.

Aside from that, the message is clear there is definitely a need for some new space! As the saying goes, "Form follows function."

For now, Pastor Tim and his staff have decided to concentrate on ministry objectives, review the needs assessment and determine exactly what the "function" needs to be before launching into a full-scale building program. Thanks to everyone who took the time to provide thoughtful input!



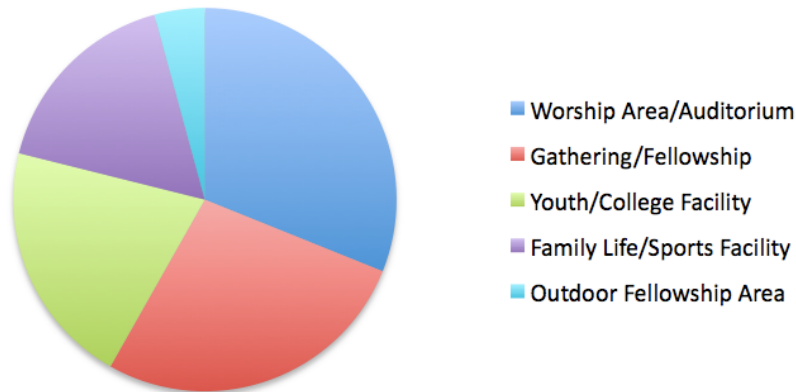
FIRST PRIORITY



Respondents were asked to prioritize needs in the following categories:

- Worship Area/Auditorium
- Youth/College Facility
- Family Life Center/Sports Facility
- Gathering/Fellowship
- Outdoor Fellowship Area

FIRST OR SECOND PRIORITY



A Holy Moment

by Don Moon

Thomas Leland Cantrell recently passed away at the age of 93. He was the father of Glenda Cantrell Moon. Within two weeks of the following experience, Leland was at home in heaven.

Thomas Leland Cantrell was a quiet man. He learned wisdom from walking with God and as a result he understood how to live life well. His perseverance, wit and solid character made him a man that stood out among others and caused him to be a person that people respected. He wasn't pretentious, and didn't push his way on anyone. He was patient in his ways and kind in his conversations. Those close to him knew him as 'Buddy man.' And he was a good buddy. Good times were simple and happened often. A game of checkers, horse shoes or dominos was all it took to turn a regular day into a good day.

Early one morning in June, when Leland's body was failing and pain



was a constant companion, the Holy Spirit came near to him. His restlessness turned to joy as he sensed the Lord's presence. With his daughters Linda and Glenda near, he began to have a time of personal revival. His son-in-law Don Moon soon joined them at his bedside.

They all quickly realized that this was a special moment. Leland, who had been bedfast for several days, began to regain his strength. He joined in singing hymns that he remembered by heart, shouting praises and glorifying the Lord. At one point he insisted on standing up. As Don helped him to his

feet he began to dance by shuffling his feet and trying to jump for joy! Those with him were amazed to see such energy and excitement. It was spontaneous and very sincere.

They were not able to know all that Leland sensed and saw that day. He was unable to speak to tell them about it. But they knew that God had come near and that it was a special experience in the life journey that Leland had with God. As the moment subsided and Leland lay back on his bed, they all quietly basked in the presence of the Lord. It was truly a holy moment.

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