Building a Better World Through Christian Missions

110th Annual Session
13 – 17 August 2007
New Orleans, Louisiana

Risen for New Life
Romans 6:4
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“Risen for New Life”

Since the devastations of hurricane Katrina in 2005 and the subsequent disasters of Rita and Wilma, Lott Carey has partnered with sisters and brothers in the Gulf Coast region of the United States in an effort of “helping people rise again.” The natural disasters were exacerbated by human missteps that resulted in unprecedented anguish for millions of people. Lott Carey’s approach has not been to curse the darkness. We have chosen to light candles. We thank God for the privilege that we have had to share in ministry and support with an ever expanding network of commitment Christian people working to make a positive difference.

We are grateful for the unique hosting collaboration that we enjoy while convening in New Orleans, Louisiana during 2007. The Louisiana Home and Foreign Baptist State Convention, President Samuel C. Tolbert, Jr., and the Louisiana Baptist State Convention, President Harry Blake, are sharing in hosting us. These two state conventions are affiliated with the National Baptist Convention of America and the National Baptist Convention, USA. This collaboration is a sign of new opportunities for working together to the glory of God, in the service of Christ, and by the power of the Holy Spirit.

This edition of the Lott Carey Herald offers glimpses of exciting missional engagements around the world. Pastor Larry W. Jordan, Maple Springs Baptist Church, Capitol Heights, Maryland, has been leading an innovative partnership with our colleagues in northeastern Kenya. This model of negotiating a new scope of engagement in consultation with Lott Carey has been a refreshing and rewarding experience. The Maple Springs Baptist Church has taken the lead to meet a new set of needs in Kenya, and we rejoice in the impact being made.
We made commitments several years ago to respond to the voices of Christian young adults in our network to structure missional opportunities for them. One article announces a unique opportunity for young adults with experience in conflict mediation to serve in Italy later this year prior to a Martin Luther King, Jr. Conference we are co-hosting with our Italian colleagues. Additionally, you will find a brief synopsis of a French-Canadian short-term assignment in Montreal, Canada by a number of talented young adult Christians.

Finally, Rev. Brian Jenkins, Executive Director, Chosen 300 Ministries, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, was moved to extend his ministry among homeless people in Philadelphia to Guyana following his participation in an immersion there as part of our Pastoral Excellence Program (PEP). This was Rev. Jenkins’ first international missions immersion, and it has impacted him in deep and lasting ways. His initiative for helping establish a new feeding ministry with his host church in the South American country is an example of continuing engagement that several of our PEP pastors continue long after their immersion experience is over.

Lott Carey helps churches extend their Christian witness to the ends of the earth. We continue to rejoice at the new partnerships and opportunities that are calling us to serve. We hope that your review of the following examples of missional impact will further inform and inspire you to invest in Christian missions around the world.

On mission with Christ,

David Emmanuel Goatley
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

Touching Lives with Transforming Love
Kericho Kenya Project

A New Missional Project

By Dr. James B. Thompson

Dr. Larry Wayne Jordan, Pastor of the Maple Springs Baptist Church (MSBC) and President of the Maple Springs Baptist Bible College and Seminary (MSBBCS), Capitol Heights, Maryland, has led a missionary team to the Kericho District of Kenya, East Africa for the past two years. Accompanying him were Dr. James B. Thompson, Chairman of the Deacons Ministry, MSBC and Director of Student Services at MSBBCS; and Minister Lynda Brown-Hall of Central Baptist Church of Camp Springs, Maryland where Reverend John H. Parker is pastor.

The mission trips were in response to the call of God to coordinate a number of mission projects in the Kericho District in western Kenya, East Africa. In previous visits, Pastor Jordan held meetings and discussions with a number of church leaders. Consequently, he heeded this call and offered his assistance to Reverend Herizon Kimeli Cheruiyot, Superintendent of Lott Carey Baptist Ministries of Kenya and Sudan.

Dr. Jordan and Reverend Cheruiyot, identified medical supplies as the most pressing need to protect the people. Malaria and Typhoid Fever are the leading causes of death in the Kericho District. From these discussions a new partnership was formed to benefit some of the most poverty stricken areas of Kericho. This new partnership is called the Kericho Kenya Project.

Medicines began to arrive in the areas most affected by Malaria and Typhoid in the Kericho District within months of the formation of the new partnership. The medicines continue to arrive at intervals as needed in the affected areas. “We envision that the Kericho, Kenya Project will produce a community in which individuals and families have the hope and capacity to cultivate conditions that promote wellness and wholeness,” Jordan said.

When Dr. Jordan and his delegation returned to the Kericho District, Reverend Cheruiyot gave them the opportunity to visit with seven different dispensaries that had little or no medicines for their patients. On this trip, Pastor Jordan and his delegation were privileged to deliver medicines to these seven dispensaries and hold talks with health care professionals assigned to the dispensaries and watch while the professionals dispensed the medication they brought for distribution.
“This was a very humbling experience for the entire team as we witnessed the varying needs of the people. During the two visits to the Kericho District of Kenya, the team provided enough medication to treat an estimated 8,000 people and purchased 400 pairs of shoes for the school children,” said Dr. Thompson. The Kericho Kenya Project provides medicines year round to all seven dispensaries.

The Kericho Kenya Project specifically promotes the improvement of health and wellness, Information Technology job skills, and entrepreneurship by partnering in the:

- Provision of essential medicines for Typhoid Fever, Malaria and over the counter medicines for distribution to seven dispensaries
- Provision of a Kipsitet Baptist Church Clinic, necessary equipment and medicines
- Promotion of Community Health Development
- Provision of a Computer Lab with necessary equipment and leased building to house the Computer Lab
- Establishment and improvement of marketable IT Office Management Job Skills
- Production and Transport of goat milk and other products to market
- Provisions for several Women’s Projects such as sugarcane crops and others yet to be determined

Pastor Jordan and his team are dedicated to a ministry of healthy living for the capacity of individuals, families and communities to work together to transform the conditions that promote, in a sustainable way, their physical, emotional, social, economic, environmental and spiritual well being.

“We are committed to listening to the voices and concerns of Reverend Cheruiyot and others who express needs of the people and strive to respond in timely and appropriate ways. We are committed to encouraging and honoring local initiative, promoting the use of local resources and protecting the dignity of the less fortunate,” Jordan said. Eventually, they want to emphasize actions that address long-term development needs, while recognizing a responsibility to meet the immediate health needs of individuals, families and communities who face health risks.

Pastor Jordan believes in the value of collaboration, of working together to achieve common goals. He realizes the value of promoting unity, equality, voice, participation, cooperation, resource-sharing, interdependence, and growth among all people served. He knows that his primary partner is those with whom he seeks to serve.
However, he is encouraging other supporters and churches who share a common commitment to promoting wholeness of individuals, families and communities to join in this effort. Dr. Jordan, along with his team, so far have recruited Central Baptist Church of Camp Springs, Maryland, Reverend John H. Parker, pastor; Zion Hill Baptist Church, Washington, DC, Elder Deborah James, pastor; Open Door Baptist Church, Washington, DC, Reverend Bernard Taylor, pastor.

In 2006, Dr. Jordan and the Maple Springs Family planted another international seed in Kericho, where a medical clinic for residents is being built and will be dedicated in 2008. Dr. Jordan, who has served in missions on all continents since 1986, truly strives to answer his calling to spread the Gospel to all the nations of the world.

Lott Carey Young Adult Short-Term Missions Opportunity
26 October – 3 November 2007
Italia

The Unione Cristiana Evangelica Battista d’Italia (Evangelical Baptist Christian Union of Italy) and the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Society (Lott Carey) are sponsoring a conference in Rome, Italy to promote the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. as resources for helping contemporary Italians advance peacemaking, live harmoniously in a growing multicultural society, and work to alleviate poverty globally. The Conference will be held 31 October – 2 November 2007.

The Conference will include worship, preaching, and policy speakers from Italy, South Africa, Zimbabwe, and the United States. Key speakers from the U.S. include, Rev. J. Michael Sanders, Pastor, Fountain Baptist Church, Summit, New Jersey and immediate past President of Lott Carey; Roslyn M. Brock, Vice Chairwoman of the National Board of Directors of the NAACP; and Dr. Lewis V. Baldwin, Professor of Religious Studies, Vanderbilt University and one of the foremost experts on the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
A book will be published in advance of the Conference featuring chapters from Italian leaders and the American scholars: Dr. Jimmy Hill, Associate Professor of Theology, Louisville Presbyterian Seminary; Dr. Dwight Hopkins, Professor of Theology, University of Chicago Divinity School; and Dr. Paul Dekar, Niswonger Professor of Mission and Evangelism, Memphis Theological Seminary.

Prior to the conference, a mission opportunity is available. Lott Carey is in search of 15 young adults who have training in mediation and conflict resolution to assist with training Italian adolescents to live harmoniously in a multicultural society and prevent potential violence. Persons interested in applying for this short-term missions assignment should contact Ashley P. McNeil, Lott Carey Project Coordinator at amcneil@lottcarey.org or call 202.543.3200.

2007 French Canadian Young Adult Short-Term Missions Assignment Reflections

Edited by Ashley P. McNeil

In late April, 10 young adults had the opportunity to experience a French Urban Immersion in Montreal, Quebec, Canada. The purpose of these short term mission assignments is to expose young adults to missions work that not only will enrich their lives, but also to bless the lives of others. Below is a brief glimpse into each team members’ personal experiences:

“It was obvious that each one of us were obedient to God’s orders spoken in Matthew 28:18-20. We left our homes, our places of comfort, and went into an unknown territory expecting God to meet us there. He said that he would provide us with all the tools we needed and promised to fill in the gaps when we did not have answers and he did just that. Instantly we became a family. Acting out Romans 12:3-8, we each bought our own gifts and freely gave what we had. Yes, we served the community of Montreal but we also served each other. The attached picture is of the place that we stayed. I like to think of it as Holy ground. It was where we started our day with worship and ended our day with reflection. It was our foundation, our base, our home away from home.”
—Ayeshia Ellington, New Salem Baptist
“I was impacted by George Pierre’s statement (our Canadian Baptist leader), ‘Being a missionary is not just about what you do when you are there. It’s about what happens after you leave.’ A relationship has been built, and I pray that we continue to foster that relationship. I pray that the trend of the Quiet Revolution of the 1960s revolution will be reversed to a Gleeful Revolution of the 2000s and 2010s in which the province returns to God in larger numbers than ever before. There is a lot of work to be done in Montreal and the province of Quebec. It was brought to our attention during our orientation by our host, George Pierre, that Quebec is less than 1% evangelical Christian. He stated, ‘As Christians, we know that this (poverty, suicide, crime, abortion, divorce, etc. in Quebec) is due to the absence of Christ.’ He also noted that Quebec is possibly the least evangelized place in all of North America. I have been and will stay in continual pray for this city beyond Sunday, April 29th, 2007. Montreal is basically a hop, skip, and a jump across the U.S.-Canadian border from the State of New York. It is located on the St. Lawrence River, yet this was the first time I had ever heard statistics like this about Canada.” –Tariq Seifullah

“We were blessed to attend the STM in Montreal. Though our labor was quite mundane and required no formal education to perform, we learned more lessons during that short trip than we learned in many of the classes that we’ve taken. We learned that hope for tomorrow strongly dictates how we live today. We also learned how a simple smile can provide hope for someone in need. And finally, we learned that there is much work to be done to restore hope to individuals not only in Montreal, but in our respective hometowns as well. We also were immensely blessed to fellowship with other young adults from across the country and forge friendships and support groups that will most likely last a lifetime. It was amazing to see how well all of us interacted. Though we might have exhibited differences in personal taste, knowledge of theology, and experience on mission projects, we were all there because we love the Lord and have a desire to see His purpose exhibited in our lives. From that tenet, we developed a level of respect, adoration, and admiration for each other that is enduring. All of us are striving to apply the lessons learned from this trip to help improve the lives of those in need in our communities. We were definitely changed by this experience, and our spirits were definitely renewed by this trip. We each received a revelation and inspiration about God’s purpose for us. It was a wonderful experience.”
–Kendra McCoy

“The thing that affected me the most was that only 1% of people in Montreal are Christian. I take for granted being able to easily find people of like mind and beliefs being here in the states. Additionally, I did not know that there is a mission field right outside our borders we need to attend to. I was encouraged by the fire and enthusiasm of the Christians in Montreal to spread the word of God and show his love. It made me excited to evangelize in my own community so that the same doesn’t happen here in the US.”
–Ron Pompey
“Few people would acknowledge the potential of a pretty boy, a “stuttering Stanley” or a cupbearer, but David, Moses and Nehemiah are responsible for leading pivotal events in our world history. Likewise, the Short Term Mission team for spring 2007 to Montreal, Quebec, Canada found that great things come from the unexpected. Each person who exposed their vulnerabilities was immediately assured that they were in the right place, at the right time, with the right people.

Just as readily as each person came to lend a helping hand to the Montreal community, each one came to receive a message from God that we felt we couldn’t hear amidst the hustle and bustle of our busy lives in the U. S.

For this reason, God spoke words into the ears pressed to his mouth. Revelation came to us in many forms during our STM, and what left a lasting impression is how the spirit of God rested and operated within our group. The unity of the Spirit was present, probably the same way it was in Acts 2. At the crossroads of our lives, God brought us together to bring us clarity through fellowship and service. And although we will come to many more crossroads, it was at this particular intersection where the series of events to follow will greatly impact the communities around us. This crossroads will remain embedded as a reminder of who God created me to be.”

—Charis Nadine Walker

“During the Montreal STM trip, I was awestruck by the uniqueness of our missionary group. We all spoke of this. We all have different personalities, come from different places, and have different interests/occupations; yet, we worked as one to complete God’s will and work for the glorification of his kingdom. We all immediately fellowshipped, helped, and encouraged, each other. What touched and affected me the most? Realizing that God can, and will, work through any one at any time in any place. “For as we have members in one body, and all members have not the same office: So we being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another. Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us . . . .” Romans 12: 4-6

—Cherry Crawford

“It was my pleasure to serve with the team of young adults during the Montreal Mission outreach sponsored by Lott Carey. The highlight of the trip for me was not only serving those in need, but watching the group work together and gel as a team from the very beginning. It often takes teams a much longer time to come together but the willingness of each team member to serve those we served as well as to serve one another was a true representation of God’s love. I believe that this team was truly an example of Jesus’ hands and feet serving in the earth. I know that God is thankful for the sacrifice given by each team member and may your reward in heaven be great!”

—Rev. Angelle Jones
Lott Carey Pastoral Excellence Program
Changes the Life of Pastor

- By Brian C. Jenkins, Chosen 300 Ministries, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

My Introduction to Lott Carey & PEP
I first became involved with Lott Carey in 2004 when its Annual Session met in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Dr. Alyn Waller, Pastor of the Enon Tabernacle Baptist Church and the Host Pastor that year, asked me to coordinate bringing 300 homeless people to the convention’s community feast on Monday night. I am frequently known as “The Homeless Pastor” as 90% of my congregation is homeless. I was happy to commit to the task, but it also sparked my interest. Lott Carey later granted our Mission a $25,000 gift indicating they not only wanted to come to the city to hold their convention, but they wanted to impact the lives of the poor of Philadelphia. I also had the opportunity to share at the about the impact Lott Carey had on the homeless of Philadelphia and our mission work during the Lott Carey Annual Session that convened in Charlotte, North Carolina the following year.

One benefit of my being part of the Lott Carey network is participating in the Pastoral Excellence Program (PEP). The 3 year program includes classes, group sessions and 3 mission immersions in Guyana, Jamaica, and Zimbabwe. One small problem, I did not fly; as a matter of fact, the first flight I had ever been on was to Charlotte, NC to the Lott Carey Convention. However, overcoming this fear has proven to open me to a life changing experience.

The Disorientation
I was convinced I had the upper hand on understanding poverty since the majority of my work involved helping the homeless and the poor of Philadelphia. I was wrong! Departing the plane in Guyana, South America was a rude awakening. If I had a dog named Toto, I would have told him, “We are not in Kansas anymore.” Children covered in dirt approached us as we headed to our ground transportation. I gave a few quarters to one and then another was to follow. I handed out cookies from my bag, but the poverty was all around. As we exited the parking lot of the airport there were children along the road hoping that their cries would be heard. We arrived at the hotel, and there were homeless persons running to the van hoping to be the first to obtain help from their new visitors.

The leadership team warned us that the hotel that we were staying would not be the kind of hotel we were used to staying in during travels in the United States. They said it might be a step down. They were wrong. It was not a step down. It was a whole flight. The rooms did not smell fresh. The beds were small. Some food did not agree with us.
I was not a happy person for the first few hours. Then I adjusted myself. This is what they called disorientation. Through my journey I realized that the little discomfort I had at that hotel was 20 times better than the living conditions of the average person in Guyana. There were about 50 Pastors that were a part of the team that went on the October 2006 emersion. Each of us was assigned to a local congregation. I was assigned to the Elim Timehri Christian Fellowship—a small Pentecostal Church near the airport where the children were that we first encountered. I was humbled by their worship. Here in the US we often praise God for what we have or what we expect. I call this “praising Him on credit”; and “naming it and claiming it.” The people of Guyana taught me a new meaning of worship. They worship God because God is God. There are no strings attached.

The Outpouring of God’s Spirit

I had the opportunity to preach a 7-day crusade while at the Timehri Church and teach one night at a Bible school in Georgetown. During that week 56 people gave their lives to Jesus for the first time, and there was an outpouring of God’s anointing. I even had the chance to baptize new converts in the creek. Now, I know that as we grow, God continues to fill us and use us on new levels, but I remember three times in my life where there was a supernatural outpouring of God’s Spirit where I reached a new plateau in God. The third time was on Friday night of the Crusade in Guyana. It is hard to explain it, but the presence of God came in the room like a cloud, and it fell on all of us as if it was the day of Pentecost. I was going back to Philadelphia differently than the way I came. I had a new appreciation for the calling that was on my life and a new anointing. My host Pastor was Pastor Sammy of the Elim Timerhi Church. I witnessed how he carried the burden of his congregation and to see about their needs and the needs of the community. As we drove along the Timerhi Road, his daughter Marina sat in the back passing dry milk out the window to families that were in need. It was not a lot, but it was what they could afford to help the people get by. This moved me. I saw the struggle of the people. I saw the desire of the Pastor and his family to help. I also saw the lack of resources. Through this small act of kindness, and abundant need of the country, I came back home committed that this would not just be a two and half week journey. I felt like I had to do something. I knew I would not be able to change a country overnight, but it would be a good start if I could just help one church make a difference in one community.

The Reorientation

I struggled upon my return home. I was like a space shuttle struggling to re-enter the earth’s atmosphere returning from its mission. I was eager to get something started right away. No one understood my tears, nor the aches of my heart for a people I have come to love in a short time. For three weeks I was a mad man. I was mad at the church for not praising God when they have so much more than others. I thought that they should be praising him more not less. My wife did not understand me. My board of directors did not
understand me. This is part of what the PEP called re-orientation. At the time I did not think I was a mad man, but looking back I had a lot of energy to help. However, I was unable to communicate my new goals effectively or channel my energy in the right direction.

**Answering the Cry for Help**

I soon got my head on straight. I began working with Pastor Michael Sammy in developing a food distribution program. Each month the congregation receives a wire from Chosen 300 Ministries for $400 in which 80% of the funds must be used solely for food. The other 20% is used for cost of the program and transporting the goods. On the 3rd Sunday of each month approximately 80 families are distributed 30 pounds of dry goods including rice, peas, flour and dry milk. Reports, including receipts & sign-in sheets by the families receiving the food are forwarded back to Chosen 300 Ministries. Each month I have the opportunity to see the handwriting of the people whose lives we made a little better.

Since October 2006, Chosen 300 Ministries has enabled the distribution of about 25,000 pounds of food to the church and community in Timehri. The food distribution has also created an evangelistic avenue for the congregation to reach the community for Jesus. Since October the congregation has tripled in attendance. In June 2007, I revisited Guyana along with my wife Shandai on a surprise visit to see the program at its purest state. I was more than pleased that everything was in order. The food was delivered as expected, and we saw people’s eyes light up with smiles as they received their monthly goods. We visited several homes during our second journey. We visited the home of the church worship leader by the name of Nathalie. She is 18 years old and has 6 siblings. Her mother died a year ago. We heard about their plight from the Pastor. My wife and I filled their one room house with groceries that would last at least a month. The morning before, I spoke on “Faith” and believing God for your miracle. I explained that my miracle might be different than your miracle, but both of our miracles are beyond our reach without God’s help. Nathalie’s miracle was just to have food for her family. She had faith and God supplied.

As we continued along the poverty-stricken strip of Timehri Rd, my wife asked Pastor Sammy, “Does It Ever End?” as tears continued to flow. She was referring to the poverty and the suffering of the people. It was just not one section of a town, but an entire nation captured by poverty, in need of hope. The answer is no, it never ends. There is always an opportunity for us to do more, there is always a chance to help make someone’s life a little better.

**Your Chance to Help**

I hope to create a network of US Pastors/Churches that will help advance feeding ministries in Guyana. I also hope to visit Guyana again in January 2008 with other Pastors who have not had this kind of opportunity. Meanwhile, I am looking forward to my second missionary immersion in Jamaica this fall. I want to extend a special thanks to Lott Carey, the Lilly Endowment Inc. that generously funded Lott Carey’s
Pastoral Excellence Program, and the Zion Baptist Church of Ambler for enabling me to be a part of the Pastoral Excellence Program and helping me to extend my Christian witness around the world. I encourage all to continue to support the work of Lott Carey. Together, we are making a difference in the lives of the poor around the world and changing the lives of Pastors here in the US.

Wendell and Alice Somerville Scholarship Fund

A Lott Carey Investment in a New Generation of Leaders

By Ashley P. McNeil

In 1997, Lott Carey made a commitment to launch the Wendell C. and Alice E. Somerville Scholarship Fund to ensure continual investment in building a new generation of leaders for the world through scholarships for higher education for promising students in the Two-Thirds World. Eight students are presently being supported (five at the Ghana Baptist Theological Seminary; two at the Baptist Theological Seminary of Zimbabwe; and one at the Eastern Kenya University). Lott Carey has raised some seven hundred thousand dollars ($700,000.00) for this scholarship fund. It hopes to raise one and one-half million dollars ($1,500,000.00) to ensure a core scholarship availability of seventy-five thousand dollars ($75,000.00) per year to invest in scholarships around the world annually. Today, we spotlight three students, who are doing exceptionally well.

Marusoi Kipnegetich Zablon is a second year student pursuing his Bachelor’s degree in Nursing at the University of Eastern Africa, Baraton. His anticipated graduation date is June 2009. “I wholeheartedly thank God for the overwhelming couple of blessings for the award of the LCBI scholarship. To me, it really sounds a mystery of God’s revelation. For without which, my unemployed single parent (mum) couldn’t have managed to keep me in school as well as my siblings. Gratefulness goes to all those who thought it wise to make this a success to envision the youths toward transforming the world in preparation of Christ’s Second Advent. My dream is to see my fellow youths triumph to making the evil-torn world a better place through evangelical inspirations, dedication and challenges in readiness to His coming. It’s my great hope and belief that the world will never remain the same if we seek a life of “complete self” (i.e spiritual, mental, social and physical fitness.)

—Marusoi Kipnegetich Zablon
Mozambian couple Acacio and Maria Tiorino went against the odds and left their native tongue to embark on a journey for higher education. Not speaking any English, the couple enrolled in the Baptist Seminary of Zimbabwe. Acacio will receive his Bachelor’s of Theology degree, and his wife will receive a Certificate of Theology program. “…we could not be at any better place than being at Seminary where we reap the double benefit of being theologically trained and receiving extra tutorials in the English language. Thanks to the Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention for affording us this opportunity through their generous financial contributions.” –Acacio and Maria Tiorino

Please, give the gift of education so more students like Marusoí, Acacio and Maria can receive the gift of a higher education.