INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DEVELOPMENT: CHANGING THE WORLD . . . ONE YOUNG PERSON AT A TIME

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The Internet continues to be a global phenomenon (with about 2.5 billion users) and a quite useful tool for evangelism. Lott Carey would like to hear from you however you choose to communicate. We just want to share the joy of missions with you, and have you relate your inspirations and experiences as you travel to new places and meet new people. After you read this issue, tell us how you feel about what they wrote by using the hashtags in the Table of Contents or these links:

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Nurturing New Generations of Leaders Defines Lott Carey’s Youth Initiatives

By Dr. David Emmanuel Goatley

“Find God’s will for your life and stay in it” was the advice one of my elder colleagues in Jamaica received from her pastor in the 1950s. That is still great wisdom today for youth.

By the time I met my sister, she was more than 70 years old and directing a preschool. She loved her work—her ministry—and could not wait to get to school in the morning to learn from her three-, four-, and five-year-olds, and to help them learn something new about themselves and the world. When I commented on her energy and passion, she told me her story.

Her pastor had found a scholarship opportunity for her to go to another country for nursing school. She was intelligent and independent, and her pastor was sure that she would be a great nurse. This was also an opportunity for her to build a secure life for herself and to make important contributions to her community and country. She was grateful for the support, but she never could generate passion for the possibility. The day before she was to leave, she told her pastor that she did not want to go to school to be a nurse. She tearfully apologized and asked to be forgiven for failing to be honest sooner. Her pastor commended her for her honesty and said, “Find God’s will for your life and stay in it.”

This is the guidance that we offer to all young people who participate in the Lott Carey International Youth Development (IYD) ministries.

Helping churches nurture new generations of leaders for the world is the purpose of Lott Carey’s International Youth Development Ministries. The work of making Disciples of Jesus is the work of the church, and making Disciples among children and adolescents should be a priority. While Lott Carey could never (nor would want to) be a substitute for the disciple-making responsibilities of local churches, Lott Carey helps churches to amplify their impact. Lott Carey’s Annual Youth Seminar is our signature program for helping churches nurture new generations of Christian leaders. During a week on a college campus beginning the Saturday before the fourth Sunday in June, hundreds of youth and their advisors gather for service, learning, worship, and fellowship. We help young people expand their missional vision for their Christian walks. We offer similar opportunities during the Lott Carey Annual Session each August. And we are helping churches launch age-appropriate missions mobilization for children ages 6–13. Further, we are launching peer leadership groups for emerging leaders ages 18–25 and building a youth ministers network to strengthen capacities for them. Finally, we have been providing scholarship support for students to build their vocational capacities globally.

Lott Carey is committed to helping churches nurture new generations of leaders for the world. We hope this edition of the Lott Carey Herald will ignite your passion to invest in the future.

‘Youth and young adults truly want to change the world for the better’

By TaNikka Sheppard

It is a pleasure serving on the leadership team of the International Youth Development Department (IYD) where we engage youth and young adults in the international and domestic missional endeavors of Lott Carey. We seek to close the age gap and help young people to understand the prolific history and legacy of Lott Carey, while joining with their peers to extend the mission and outreach of our organization domestically and around the world.

We are wholeheartedly convinced that youth and young adults truly want to change the world for the better, and will do so when given the opportunity, encouragement and proper training. During the 2013 Youth Seminar at Norfolk State University in Norfolk, Va., the IYD Leadership Team coordinated a weeklong service-learning experience that included dynamic worship, impactful outreaches, spiritual education, enjoyable recreation, and memorable fellowships, all under the theme of “Sharing the Life of Christ.”

By studying issues of poverty and intentionally providing corresponding outreach opportunities we gave participants the chance to live out their faith and change lives at the same time.

Our overall goal with the 2013 trips and conferences, including the Youth Seminar, the 16th Baptist Youth World Conference in Singapore and the Annual Session in Washington, D.C., was to help each young person involved to grow spiritually and commit to live missional on a regular basis. We have also initiated four international IYD projects as powerful and collective ways for young people in Lott Carey churches to positively impact the lives of entire communities by building a well in Zimbabwe, funding a maize grinding machine for women in Mozambique, building a house in Haiti, and sponsoring education for students in Liberia.

In the International Youth Development Department we are not only seeking ways to impact the lives of young people, we have also developed an International Youth Ministry Network to support, edify and share resources with persons that are engaged and committed to the Christian discipleship of youth and young adults. Throughout 2014 there will be many advantageous opportunities for interested persons to get involved with this network.

Finally, our passion in IYD is to continuously develop young leaders that want to use their gifts, genius and talents for the glory of God and to help others. Therefore, we have developed the “Emerging Leaders” International Peer Leadership Program for persons ages 18–24. Applications for this program are

Continued on Page 4
We eagerly anticipate the first class of participants and look forward to the many ways that they will help each other to grow and change the world.

Please continue to support, pray for and participate in the many IYD programs and endeavors.

Minister TaNikka Sheppard is International Youth Development Leader for Lott Carey and Director of Life Development at New Salem Missionary Baptist Church, Columbus, Ohio.

Youth: Continued from Page 3

available online at www.lottcareyiyd.org.

Mark Your Calendars . . .

29 December 2013: Mobilize for Missions campaign. This is the last Sunday of the year and an opportunity to support missions by texting lottcarey to 20222. If 1000 people text, we raise $10,000 for missions.

2–9 March 2014: Team Hope, an all-men’s short-term missions team, will help build housing in Haiti. Registration and details at LottCarey.org.


8–11 July 2014: Winter School of Theology at Muelstroom Lodge, Pumalanga, South Africa. Dr. Yvonne Motaung, Principal, The College of the Baptist Convention of South Africa, hosts sessions on teaching, learning, and thinking about being missional leaders. Contact Rev. Dawn M. Sanders—dsanders@lottcarey.org—for details.

12–19 July 2014: Young adult short-term missions assignment to conduct Vacation Bible School in Jamaica. For details, contact Rev. Dawn M. Sanders—dsanders@lottcarey.org.

Team Elevate: Provides scholarships for students at the Lott Carey Mission School in Liberia.

Team A-Maize: Provides maize grinding machines in Mozambique.

The Home Team: Provides materials to build homes in Haiti.

Team H2O: Provides materials to dig wells in Zimbabwe.

INFO: For more information, visit LottCareyIYD.org

LOTT CAREY YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS LEARN LEADERSHIP BY DOING.

It Takes a Village . . . and a Team!

Lott Carey Herald/December 2013
There are enough pads and tablets to keep everyone just a swipe or tap away. Apparently Sony has been paying attention to the cries of their customers who complained about the need to drop their controllers in order to answer texts on their phone. In an attempt to keep the gamers happy, Sony is introducing the ability to be connected to social sites while playing your favorite game. The new Playstation 4 (PS4) will allow gamers to stay connected through voice, text, and video. Sony has come up with a way to keep a community connected.

While teaching the Youth Ministers/Youth Leaders class at the Lott Carey Annual Youth Seminar, I discovered that many youth ministers and youth workers feel disconnected. Some are disconnected from their pastors, some are disconnected from youth culture, and most feel disconnected from other youth ministers. Due to our different contexts and resources, we all are struggling to do major ministry with a miniature network. The need to tailor lessons, provide outreach, and present leadership opportunities for youth or young adults can be frustrating for a youth minister who has to create his or her own curricula.

During the Youth Seminar our week began with intense immersion experiences. We experienced homelessness, slavery, and the embarrassment of living in poverty. As we debriefed, the adult leaders expressed how the immersion made them connect with their teens and awakened them to a need to do quality outreach in their own neighborhoods. The real needs of our neighborhoods were magnified when we all had to go through each stage of living below the poverty line. Although we were stripped of our comforting gadgets for a few hours, we were quickly reminded of those who have to live this reality daily.

During the seminar all of the adult leaders had the opportunity the go on service projects as well, either with a youth family group or with an adult family group. These service projects gave greater context to our discussions on how to minister to young people that are living in impoverished conditions.

I shared with the group that according to U.S. Census Bureau 1 out of every 7 Americans and 1 out of every 5 American children are living in poverty. This fact shows us that our churches are filled with people who are living in poverty. Before you disagree with this fact, allow me to present the poverty line. The federal government puts the 2011 poverty line at $23,021 for a family of four with two "

PRAISE: Youth lead all aspects of worship at the Annual Youth Seminar.

International Youth Ministry Network Provides Connection

By Rev. Rohin Beach

This network will allow youth ministers and youth leaders from around the world to share experiences and ideas that will enhance their ministries."
children. However, researchers estimate that meeting basic needs for an average family of four would actually require about $46,000 annually. While this news is alarming, we know that many households are headed by single mothers who may receive minimum wage. If they do receive minimum wage they will only receive $15,000 annually. These stats have a grave effect on how we do ministry. The amounts of retreats, trips, and concerts have to be planned carefully. With the physical needs of the families held as priorities paying for church events become more of a burden than a blessing. In these cases we need to create a culture of family within the church where the strong families support families in need.

Poverty also raises the need to do ministry with discipline. We discussed how we would deal with a teen that stole money from a service project to feed his/her family. While there were many different opinions given, we agreed that it would be a chance to show mercy and use the issue as a teaching moment to share God’s grace and provision. We concluded that expelling the teen from the church would do more harm than good. This case study also reminded leaders that we create cultures within our ministries. We need to be careful not to create a youth ministry culture that values large events and fashion over meaningful ministry. The more we focus on cosmetic ministry we add the church to the list of places where our teens have to measure up to the expectations of secular culture.

In addition to sharing how to minister to impoverished youth, we also discussed how to operate a youth ministry when the church cannot afford a youth pastor. Many of the youth leaders said that they were given the responsibility to reach the teens without any insight on how to develop a ministry. Others have been given the job by their pastors because they were young or had children of their own. I quickly asserted that there is more to youth ministry than a room in the basement and a few Bibles. Youth ministry, like any other ministry, needs a mission and vision statement. So we spent time reviewing existing and writing new mission statements for our ministries. Learning how to receive, sell, and assess our visions led to the importance of dreaming big. God has given all of us the ability to dream. As leaders we are given the responsibility to dream God sized dreams. I believe that if we can achieve our dreams on our own they are not big enough. Our dreams for our lives and ministry should be so big that we need God to complete them.

The week was filled with life changing experiences. We were able to grow with one another in major ways. We saw our youth connect with God through service projects and nightly worship. We also were able to connect with God for ourselves through our service projects and ministry moments in class. We did not want the week to end. Everyone expressed the desire to remain connected throughout the year.

In an attempt to keep youth ministers connected, the Lott Carey International Youth Development Department has established the International Youth Ministry Network. This network will allow youth ministers and youth leaders from around the world to share experiences and ideas that will enhance their ministries. The International Youth Minister’s Network is presenting two ways for youth ministers to remain connected.

First, we will bring seminars to youth ministers in the network using the Internet. We recognize that many youth ministers have other obligations that may not allow them to attend youth minister conferences and workshops. These webinars will take place on every second Saturday of the month from January to April.

Secondly, Youth Ministry Network will provide in-person learning opportunities to network members. This will take place at the Annual Lott Carey Youth Seminar in June 2014 and also at the IYD Youth Ministers Retreat in October of 2014. Churches can also request IYD Youth Ministry Network leaders to come to their church as consultants to assist in comprising a plan with their leaders. Experienced youth ministers from the International Youth Department will lend their expertise to make sure that there are great outcomes in the network member’s church and community.

As a community of believers we want to remain relevant by using the tools of technology. We are also working to connect youth ministers and youth leaders as we all attempt to connect young people with Christ. We encourage every youth leader that is in a Lott Carey church to join the International Youth Ministry Network. Youth leaders will gain fresh ideas, encouragement and content that will tremendously enhance their ministry today and for years to come.

Rev. Rohin Beach is a Lott Carey Youth Ministry Leader based in Baltimore, Md.
The Art of Music & Worship

By Jewelyn Dunn

One of the highlights of the Lott Carey Youth Seminar and the Lott Carey Annual Session is working with youth in the area of worship. Whether they are a member of the choir, play an instrument, perform a worship art or participate on the praise and worship team, youth participation in music arts is a very important part of the Lott Carey experience.

There are many who believe that youth do not understand or want to participate in worship, but over the years we have found that this could not be further from the truth. In Matthew 21:16 Jesus says, “Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings thou hast perfected praise.” Therefore we try to set an atmosphere where young people can worship God creatively.

We realize that many young people come from contexts where they give little, to no, contribution into worship services. However, we make sure that it is their viewpoints, experiences and eclecticism that influence the music selection at the Youth Seminar. Contrary to popular belief, youth do not always listen to things that make them jump. Many understand that we have to listen to the lyrics and not just the rhythm of a song. In our gatherings we worship God through rap, hip-hop music, spoken word and some traditional gospel music, both recorded and original works that line up with scripture.

Each year we have such a variety of talented young people with a wide diversity of gifts and talents. Whether they are composers, musicians, thespians, poets, dancers or mimes, they all have one thing in common; they are there to serve God. Some voluntarily minister and others have to be encouraged and motivated. For instance, before the 2013 gathering a youth leader recommended Youth Seminar a young man as soloist. Yet we did not hear from him until the day before our closing worship experience. Initially he seemed very shy and nonchalant. However, he learned the solo overnight and during his song the Spirit of God moved through him. This became one of the most powerful moments of the service.

As members of the IYD Worship Committee we are so blessed by the opportunity to work with youth that are serious about the work and the ministry of the musical and worship arts. Therefore we begin planning for the Youth Seminar at least six months in advance. From each other we learn best practices and new
ways of incorporating spirituality, scripture and technology into our preparation and worship services. We know that we will have sessions where we learn and rehearse as well as those where we must stop and allow the Holy Spirit to move. None of this could happen without the adult volunteers that come every year to minister and teach. We are grateful that they not only have a heart for God but also a heart for young people.

The Worship Committee of the IYD Department is always looking for gifted, dedicated, godly persons to work with this team. Any persons that are interested should send an email to iyd@lottcarey.org so that we can continue to help young people worship God in spirit and in truth.

Jewelyn Dunn is a member of the IYD Worship Committee and attends Temple Memorial Baptist Church in High Point, N.C.

Confession Yields Renewed Spirit and Learning

By Jiahna Flood-Francis

I attended the Lott Carey Youth Seminar this year with my church, Morning Star Baptist Church of Clairton, PA.

At first I really did not want to attend the seminar, but I did to satisfy my grandmother. I am very happy that I did because I had the time of my life. Everything I learned made me think twice about my life and my decisions. I learned that I take a lot of things for granted.

I really enjoyed having the opportunity to help others that don’t have as much as we do. The mission work was kind of challenging because I was not use to doing all the things we did. I also really enjoyed the night worship services because I learned a lot from the minister.

I really think other students should attend the Youth Seminar because it is a really great opportunity and experience. I can’t wait to go back next year.

Jiahna Flood-Francis is a high school student and member of Morning Star Baptist Church in Clairton, Pa.
My experiences for the past three years at the Lott Carey Youth Seminar have been nothing short of amazing. This year’s focus was on Sharing the Life of Christ; something that I find to be important in making everyday decisions, in worship, in ministry, and every other aspect of the life of a believer. At this year’s seminar the messages brought forth during the worship services, family groups, and mission projects certainly served their purpose in my life. We were challenged to think like Christ in serving others, in facing temptation, and when viewing ourselves.

Since the seminar my growth has been made evident, as I have felt burdens lifted off of my shoulders granting me freedom to be who God is calling to me on the day-to-day basis. God has changed the way I view myself, casting out negative thoughts and replacing them with what His Word says about me. I am less focused on my unworthiness and more focused on how worthy God is to be at the center of my life. Because of the seminar I am better equipped to handle temptation by standing on the Word against the attacks of Satan just as Jesus did. I had a major moment on a mission outreach. While serving at a soup kitchen I had an opportunity to speak with a homeless person who was empowered by the word of God. I was there to serve him and in his speech he blessed me.

This seminar surely helped to prepare me for a phenomenal experience that I had at the 16th Baptist Youth World Conference in Singapore. I traveled to Singapore with a group of youth and young adults from Second Calvary Baptist Church of Norfolk, VA. What I enjoyed most about the BWA Reach conference was the intimate international family group setting, where I had the opportunity to lead. I learned so much by listening to and praying for people from other countries, who were experiencing circumstances that are so different from my own. This only a short description of what happened so, I would definitely recommend this program for youth and young adults everywhere. (More on Singapore, Page 21.)

Corey O’Neal is a student at Norfolk State University and attends First Baptist Church, Berkley.

RELATING: Like Corey O’Neal, youth from around the world build relationships through study, service, and worship at the Baptist Youth World Conference in Singapore.
“Sharing the Life of Christ” was the theme for the Lott Carey 59th Annual Youth Seminar at Norfolk State University. The event, held 22-27 June, took inspiration from Matthew 25:40: “The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me’—a perfect scripture that highlighted the main focus of the seminar—“Poverty Awareness.”

The IYD Team believes that the youth and young adults of today have the ability to change the world if given the chance and we were excited to try and develop ways of setting them on the right path to do so. We strived to develop a seminar that would not only educate them, but to also have a life-changing impact so that they would leave with a burning desire to continue to serve others. We decided to have the participants experience poverty for themselves. After all, it is one thing to hear about something; it is another thing to see it; but experiencing it provides a new level of understanding.

At the seminar each person is placed into an age-based “family group” for service and learning. Each family group journeyed through eight different Poverty Simulation Stations. This Deep Dive into Poverty was developed from domestic and international concerns. At each station the participants were first given statistical facts and narratives about the issue and then they had to complete a task as a family group:

• The Water Walk: Many countries in Africa and around the world do not have access to water, let alone clean sanitary water. The people have to walk miles a few times each day to gather water for their families. The participants had to find the specific source of clean water, fill their containers and journey back to the starting point called “home.”
• Cambodian Landfill: There is a forgotten community of more than 1,000 people living in a rubbish dump. The participants were taken to an area where a makeshift dump was created with trash and old clothing. They had to dig through the trash to find clothing and wear the clothes for the remainder of their simulation time.

• Homelessness: We see them in cities large and small. They are all colors and from all cultures but share the same misery—they are homeless. Globally, an estimated 100 million are homeless, with more than 600,000 in the U.S. Lott Carey participants used cardboard boxes to create a sleeping place for the night to experience the plight of those without permanent shelter.

• Child Trafficking: Exploited children are forced to work in the sex industry. Trafficking is an issue that happens around the world, including the U.S., considered one of the top destination points for child trafficking and child slavery victims. Lott Carey participants were blindfolded and led to the trafficking area where they were forced to work in a “sweat shop” while a female was taken away to portray a girl taken for sex trafficking.

• Education Disparities: Wealth, gender, ethnicity and location are some of the influences that shape opportunities for education. Many schools cannot afford supplies. Lott Carey participants were asked to read a story and write a report, but were given limited supplies and had to share.

• Prison Disparities: The growth in spending on prisons is directly related to a decline in the growth of positive social spending in such poverty- and crime-reducing areas as education, child-care, and job training. Participants were handcuffed with zip ties while hearing statistics and stories of those who were incarcerated. Someone from each group was then chosen and placed behind the jail cell bars a given time.

• Housing Disparities: Housing inequality is the difference in the quality of housing that exists within a given society. It can have negative implications for the options available to an individual or family. Groups were designated poor, middle class and rich, and assigned to build a home out of cardboard that reflected their economic status.

• Budget Buster: Groups were identified as low, middle and high on the socioeconomic scale, and then given a budget, bills and scenarios of unexpected circumstances. Members had to decide how to pay for everything with the budget they were given, even if it meant selling some possessions to get income.

Valerie Wimms is an IYD Team Member and member of Rodman Street Missionary Baptist Church in Pittsburgh, Pa.
or those attending the Lott Carey Annual Youth Seminar, changing the worshipping and learning. More than 450 young people and their adv State University in Virginia to discover and practice leadership.
A GATHERING OF YOUTH LEADERS

The world starts with serving, advisers gathered in at Norfolk
FAITHFUL: Lasting friendships are formed during service and activities.

HOLY: Youth learn leadership and about obtaining a closer walk with Jesus Christ.
ARTFUL:
Mime was just one of the performing arts used to convey stories and explore leadership and missions.

WELCOME:
Norfolk City Councilwoman Angelia Williams supports the Youth Seminar and greets participants.
Nearly 100 Hope Missionaries (HM) convened in the Nation’s Capital to convene the 116th Annual Session of Lott Carey and served. It was a memorable experience for all, especially for those making their first trip to Washington D.C. Upon arrival, the HM joined in with other attendees to participate with the Kids Against Hunger (KAH) service opportunity. KAH is a humanitarian food-aid organization that combats hunger in the United States and around the world by packaging and distributing nutritious meals to malnourished people. KAH distributes locally to the Capitol Area Food Bank and Manna Food Center. This was so enjoyable for the HM that they held another session with KAH to package additional food. Speaking of Capitol Area Food Bank, the HM visited this site and packaged more than 3000 pounds of food for needy families in D.C. Maryland and Virginia.
In August I attended the Lott Carey Annual Session for the first time. Before now, it did not seem there was much for young adults to do. I love Lott Carey but in my 20s, I am now at the awkward stage between finding a space for myself at the Youth Seminar in June and feeling irrelevant at the convention.

I was wrong.

I was pleasantly surprised to see that this year IYD initiated a Young Adult Track that tried to address this dilemma and close the age gap. For the first time I felt like my role was clear and very important.

During the youth activities I helped to chaperone, offered words of guidance to the younger participants, and served as a positive role model through my actions. At night the young adults met to discuss topics that were important to us, which allowed a healthy meeting of the minds.

We discussed many issues including religion, sexuality, politics and even trending news stories like the pastor who was fired for going to a Rick Ross concert. During these sessions we were also granted the opportunity to hear words of wisdom and have conversations with the national and international leaders that visited our sessions with Dr. Goatley.

After our sessions many of the young adults walked as a group to a local restaurant in DC, to get some food and fresh air. It was refreshing to be around other young adults that were passionate about Christ and their calling.

This experience was eye opening to those not clear about what God wants for their life. The sessions, which were led by Rev. Robert James and Rev. Rohin Beach, created a safe space to reveal our inner struggles and encourage one another.

Overall, the convention gave me a way to expand my network and create new friendships with like-minded individuals. When I returned home I felt welcomed, motivated, inspired, and fortified! I am thankful that IYD has highlighted a niche for young adults and I cannot wait until next year.

Crystall Mann is part of the Lott Carey Emerging Leader Network of young adults, attends New Morning Star Baptist Church in Washington, D.C.
By Cameron Carter

I am currently working towards my Eagle Scout project and I was blessed with the opportunity to talk about it in front of the Lott Carey body during the Youth Emphasis Service at the Annual Session in Washington, D.C.

My project is collecting school supplies for the Lott Carey School in Liberia. I was inspired to do this project while attending the 2013 Lott Carey Youth Seminar in Norfolk, Virginia at Norfolk State University. The first night is usually a night to mingle and meet the people you will be around for the next week. This year the leadership of the Lott Carey youth seminar changed as well as the schedule. Rev. Trevor Beauford ended his term and Min. TaNikka Sheppard accepted the role.

So the first night was a lot different than usual. We went through various stations that taught us about poverty in countries where Lott Carey has partnerships. The station that hit my heart was the activity and discussion with three older women that had been to the Lott Carey School in Liberia. They talked about how the students had to struggle through civil war, famine and poverty while also trying to get their education to the fullest of their ability. There are many challenges that arise from receiving multiple donations from different people, for instance they might get a box full of wooden pencils with no sharpener. These are real life struggles that administration, teachers, and students have to deal with. So after experiencing this, my idea and goal are simple – to make sure every child at the Lott Carey School in Liberia will have at least five pencils, two packs of paper, and two binders. It might sound like a stretch to some. But I know through God and my determination that it will happen.

I want to get as many people involved as possible. The project schedule is projected for school supplies to be collected throughout November and December, hopefully shipping them off early January. If you have any interest contact me by email at CarterCam86@Yahoo.com or call Friendship Missionary Baptist Church at (704)-392-0392.

Cameron Carter, an 11th grade student, attends Friendship Missionary Baptist Church in Charlotte, N.C.
Wendell C. Somerville was one of the preeminent African American missions leaders of the 20th Century. He was the Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Missions Convention (Lott Carey) 1940 – 1995 and led Lott Carey to be one of the two leading African American international missions agencies.

In recognition of the leadership legacy of Dr. Somerville, Lott Carey contributed two hundred thousand dollars ($200,000.00) to three theological schools to support theological education. Howard University School of Divinity received ninety thousand dollars ($90,000.00). Shaw University Divinity School received ninety thousand dollars ($90,000.00). Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology at Virginia Union University received twenty thousand dollars ($20,000.00).

Additionally, Lott Carey launched the Wendell C. and Alice E. Somerville Scholarship Fund to ensure continual investment in building new generations of leaders for the world through scholarships for higher education for promising students in the Two-Thirds World. We are blessed to have supported students in Kenya, Liberia, South Africa, and Zimbabwe.

Two churches have been inspired to honor the legacies of their pastors in uniquely generous ways. We received a fifty thousand dollar ($50,000.00) gift from the New Zion Baptist Church, Louisville, Kentucky to fund the A. Russell Awkard/New Zion Baptist Church International Scholars Fund in honor of Pastor A. Russell Awkard, a former Lott Carey President (1991 – 1994). We also received a one hundred thousand dollar ($100,000.00) gift from the Alfred Street Baptist Church, Alexandria, Virginia in honor of their then pastor, John O. Peterson, Sr. to fund the John O. Peterson, Sr./Alfred Street Baptist Church International Scholars Fund. These two funds have supported students in Ghana, Liberia, Mozambique, and Zimbabwe.

We are grateful that Lott Carey is able to nurture new generations of leaders through these generous gifts. They ensure that we will continue to produce prepared leaders for the world. We encourage others to invest in the Somerville Scholarship Fund through contributions or planned giving. We also encourage churches to honor the legacies of their living pastors through international scholars funds.

Lott Carey Scholar

Marusoi Kipngetich Zablon
“I am successful because somebody made sacrifices so I could pursue my dreams.”

I was born the third child and son of Kipsoi Kaptich and Ann Kaptich in the Rift Valley Province of Kenya. We lived joyfully together as a family until dad passed away in 1993.

Following this, we moved to settle in another place as a result of domestic conflicts that ensued soon after my polygamous dad passed on. The resulting social set-up meant poverty was the new order of the day for my family.

My elder brother dropped out of school but through generous church and community-organized fund raising, I was able to finish high school. I sincerely appreciate what my church and community did for me.

After I successfully passed the Kenya Secondary Education National Exams, I secured a full scholarship for my University Education to pursue a Bachelor of Science in Nursing at the University of Eastern Africa, Baraton, from 2005 to 2010. I saw my dream coming to a sudden end were it not for the Lott Carey International Ministries that came to my rescue.

Soon after my one-year internship in the Ministry of Medical Services working as a Nursing Officer intern I was highly graced to secure a job in Presbyterian University Outspan Medical College in central Kenya where I currently work as a tutor and clinical instructor. Since graduating, the marvelous grace of God has proved to be deep and far-reaching.

My on-going ambition is to alleviate the afflictions of those who are ailing—physically, emotionally, and spiritually ailing humanity. It’s been said that in order to succeed you must first believe you can. And I believe I can. It’s my continuing prayer that the homeless be sheltered, that the hungry be fed and that the sick be cured.

We all have divergent talents to fulfill God’s calling. I am successful because somebody made sacrifices so I could pursue my dreams. I am now able to support my lovely mom and help my siblings pursue their education.

I am most grateful to the Lott Carey for scholarship and the support provided as I earned my nursing degree. May God continue to bless. I love you all. ###

Continued on Page 20
Lott Carey Scholar

Muriel Druycilla Craigwell
“I will remain forever grateful. My life has taken a new turn.”

My name is Muriel Druycilla Craigwell, born on June 17, 1992. I started attending the Lott Carey Baptist Mission School when I was in the third grade class and I remained until graduation in 2009.

While in high school I developed a passion for teaching, thanks to my peer teaching. I felt happy when I helped classmates understand the lessons, and they went on to do well in school. I realized I was helping in my own little way and that I would someday be an educator.

In September 2009, exactly a week before I graduated from high school, I lost my Dad, who was my best friend and a mentor to me. I was devastated, my hopes were shattered and it was just by God’s mercy I survived. After the death of my father, my chances of going to college right away were slim due to the financial crisis my family was facing after my father’s burial.

My hopes of becoming an educator and lawyer were dashed. I would sit home and cry my eyes out, not knowing God had a special plan for me.

Then I was called by The Lott Carey Mission administration headed by Rev. Emile D. E. Sam-Peel and given the opportunity to go to college through the LCM convention scholarship. I was so happy that tears of joy ran down my face. How grateful and thankful I was for this kind gesture. It is one of my most treasured memories: a golden opportunity to acquire higher education, a privilege to adore.

In August 2012, I earned an Associate of Arts degree in Education with a 3.7 grade point average from the Bishop John Collins Teachers College of Stella Maris Polytechnic. Currently, I’m a senior and hopefully by 2014 I will earn a bachelor’s degree in education. I am determined to persevere. I look forward to earning a master’s degree in educational administration and management, and, eventually, my law degree.

All my dreams are made possible with the help of the LCM Scholarship. I will be forever grateful. My life has taken a new turn. As the third grade instructor at LCM (LottCareyMissionSchool.org), I am happy and love what I’m doing—educating and inspiring others.

Lott Carey Scholar

Dudzirai Chimeri
“Lott Carey has played a pivotal role in the foundation and being of the ZTS.”

Like silent mountains, the wise and blessed remain unmoved either by fame or blame. This saying describes my life as a husband, father of three, and Principal of the Zimbabwe Theological Seminary in Gweru.

Born on 5th May 1964 in Masvingo Province, Bikita District, to a rural peasant, my background is unique. Unlike other children, my primary education commenced at the age of 13. I was able to skip grades three and five because of my cognitive abilities. I completed studies at Mabvuku High School in Harare in 1983.

My calling to the ministry led me to pastoral training at the Baptist Theological Seminary of Zimbabwe (BTSZ), where I met Prof. H. Mugabe, my lecturer who became and good friend.

After obtaining my Diploma in Theology in 1986, I served as an assistant pastor for three years at Mabvuku and Tafara Baptist Churches. Then I served three years at Park Town Baptist Church in Harare.

From Lott Carey Scholarship funding, I earned my bachelor’s and master’s degrees from the University of Stellenbosch in South Africa. I returned home and lectured at the BTSZ from 1999 to 2002.

Thank God the Lott Carey funding continued and I was able to earn my doctorate from Stellenbosch in April 2006. Afterward, I resumed lecturing at BTSZ and was eventually appointed Academic Dean and Vice Principal.

Years later, I joined with Prof. Mugabe and several other colleagues to found a new institution, the Zimbabwe Theological Seminary (ZimSem.org).

Lott Carey has played a pivotal role in the foundation and being of the ZTS. Had it not been for the Lott Carey, our competitive edge would not have been the same. Still growing, the ZTS has an enrolment of seventy students from ten denominations and I am very optimistic that we will definitely become a symbol of excellence in theological education in Africa at large. Thank you, Lott Carey. ###
“The Singapore trip had to be one of the most influential experiences I have ever been through”

By Jasmine Brooks

I attended Lott Carey and the Baptist Youth World Conference in Singapore this summer. I really wanted to participate in the BWA Singapore experience this year because I thought it would be an amazing experience as far as a cultural learning experience as well as growing closer to God with people from all over the world. I have attended the annual Lott Carey conference for many years and I have enjoyed the experience so much, every year I look forward to fellowshiping with Min. TaNikka Sheppard and all of my Lott Carey friends that I have acquired over the years.

The Singapore trip had to be one of the most influential experiences I have ever been through. The flights were ridiculously tedious and long but it was worth it. Upon arrival to Singapore I soon noticed the obvious differences between the American and Asian culture. It was hot and rainy every day and that bothered me but I got used to it after a day or so.

The BWA conference blew my mind; I was exposed to so many cultures in one room! I remember making a friend from Hong Kong and another from Indonesia. My family group was not as diverse though; most of the people in my family group were from California. Overall I was just mind-blown by the fact that so many people, from all over the world practiced the same faith. I loved being able to worship with people from all over the world. After this experience I realized how fortunate I am to be able to choose whom I want to worship and be able to worship my God freely, as I realized in Singapore that many countries do not have that luxury. My faith in God has grown and I am very grateful that I was fortunate enough to go on this trip.

Jasmine Brooks is a high school junior and attends First Baptist Church (Moore Street), Fayetteville, N.C.
Thousands of young people from 60 countries gathered for five impactful days of service, study, fellowship, and worship at the 16th Baptist Youth World Conference was held on 17-21 July 2013 in Singapore. The theme of the conference was REACH, which encouraged youth to listen to what God may be saying to them and respond with our discipleship of REACHing out in our cities, countries, and the world for Christ. The conference was engaging and provided youth to have a time of reflection, renewal, and revival so that the Spirit of God would give guidance in reaching the world with the WORD.

Participants gathered in the Suntec Singapore International Convention & Exhibition Centre for their daily events. Each day deeper concepts of the theme “REACH” were introduced, deliberated, unpacked. Speakers from all over the world would parse these concepts to provide a more enrich understanding of God’s will in using us in our “REACH.” The concepts:

- God Reaching Out to Us (John 3:1-21)
- Reaching One Another in the Body of Christ (John 13:1-17)
- Reaching Out to Others in Ministry and Mission (John 17:6-18)

There were daily morning and evening plenary sessions, Bible study presentations, sermons and inspirational music, song, dance and drama.

“Family Groups” offered further Bible study reflections and also enable youth from a variety of national and cultural backgrounds to connect with each other in settings that are less formal and more interactive.

A number of seminars and workshops focused on issues relevant to youth—Practical Advice for Growing in Faith, The Role of Christian Youth in the Fight Against HIV/AIDS and establishing ministries through the creative arts, sports and creation care. Other sessions examined how to live out one’s faith in school, how to study the Bible, the dynamics of worship, social media, women in the sex trade, the environment, and peace and justice issues.

The BWA partnered with Stop Hunger Now to fill two 20ft containers of pre-packaged meals for distribution in Asia. It was estimated that in order to fill these containers, the BWA will require 2,000 volunteers during the youth conference, working two shifts of four hours each. The containers carried 285,120 meals.

Youth groups had other mission opportunities in Singapore, Indonesia, Cambodia, Thailand and other Asian countries leading up to, or following the conference.

Several Lott Carey churches and congregations from around the world were also in attendance including five members of the IYD Team. Lott Carey IYD Team Leader Min. TaNikka Sheppard, was able to attend the conference, and was encouraged and inspired by what she experienced and learned at the conference. She hopes to implement some of the ideas she learned from her Christian friends from around the world with the Lott Carey IYD Department.

Past Lott Carey IYD Team Leader, Amanda Haines, was elected and installed as the Baptist World Alliance Youth Department President for the next five years. She was the Vice President for the North American Region prior to Singapore working closely with the international planning committee in preparation of the 16th Baptist Youth World Conference.

The 16th Baptist Youth World Conference was an unforgettable experience for this generation empowering more young people to walk, live, and serve in God’s calling.

Amanda Haines is a former Lott Carey IYD Team Leader, member of Bethlehem Baptist Church, McKeesport, Pa., and President of the Baptist World Alliance Youth Department.
During the summer of 2013 I spent four days in the beautiful country of Singapore, thanks to my family, my church, and the Baptist World Alliance. I wanted to participate in this year’s conference, solely to better my relationship with God. Previously, I attended the Lott Carey Youth Seminar in middle school and it was a tremendous experience. My favorite part was gleaning. My group picked the most corn to fill the awaiting trucks.

When I first arrived in Singapore I automatically fell in love. The airport was so beautiful and was a great way to be welcomed. The representatives from the Singapore BWA where waiting right outside customs to receive us. My first thought when I inhaled my first breath of Singapore air was “I made it.”

God truly showed his power to get me there. I tried to put my feelings into words so I could give you a better description of my experience spiritually, but I cannot seem to find a way. Worshipping God in an arena filled with thousands people was overwhelming. The Spirit surrounded me and it moved me to another place that can only be called the presence of God.

As a 16-year-old male I have never really “felt the spirit running through me” but that changed in Singapore. I became a better man of God and I am so excited to see where he will take me.

Since leaving Singapore I am just as happy and ready to serve the Lord as I was the day I left Singapore. I cannot wait to go back, maybe just to visit with the church groups that I met there. I am now working with Rev. Robin Kay Monk to increase the participation and excitement of the youth program at my home church. I am really doing great and all of my appreciation for that goes to God.

Dorian Wright is a high school junior and attends First Baptist Church (Moore Street), Fayetteville, N.C.
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Get Connected!

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