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HARD WORK PAYS OFF

by Doug Lucas, Founder and President, Team Expansion

The International Conference on Missions (ICOM) is probably the biggest event of the year for Team Expansion, and International Services in particular. This year's ICOM was no exception, with a strong force of 80 Team Expansion workers in attendance, both from Emerald Hills and the world.

Our workers were strongly engaged, working long hours at the Team Expansion exhibit and the "Wall of Unreached Peoples," meeting in pre-arranged conferences with leaders from nearly two dozen PACE Partner churches, leading workshops on everything from opportunities to leadership training, staging International Thinktanks on multiple regions, a Global PrayerCast that involved close-ups on 25 particularly high-priority

unreached people groups from around the planet, and much, much more.

The theme was "Vertical," with the emphasis being on prayer as the power behind world missions. So it was fitting that, meanwhile back at Emerald Hills, our staff staged a Prayer Retreat called "Unleashed: Extraordinary Prayer for the Harvest." The next retreat is already in the planning stages and you're invited! Learn more and register at www.prayerweek-end.com.

In all these labors, one thing I've noted about our International Services team: They are tireless in their commitment to our field workers. They strongly believe that, by empowering our field teams, they can make and are making a difference among unreached peoples. One worker put it this way recently: "Naturally, I'd rather be at the front lines (i.e., serving cross-culturally overseas). That's where churches want to send their missionary dollars. But if, by working in this ministry of recruiting, sending, and shepherding workers, I can multiply myself many times over, is it not good stewardship since I'll end up exponentially increasing my impact for Christ's Kingdom?" May it be so, through God's abundant power.

FIELD HIGHLIGHT North Africa

by workers serving in North Africa

Recently, while visiting Abram*, a new believer, I opened up to the book of Acts to take a look at what types of activities the early church practiced. Rather than simply telling Abram, "Now that you are a church, you should pray and you should meet regularly," we are learning to let our brothers discover these things for themselves as we discuss Scripture pertinent to specific topics.

As Abram read and came to any actions the church did, I would draw a symbol representing that activity. As we reached the end of the passage, a large circle was drawn on the page to represent the little fellowship meeting in his village. Then, one-by-one, we talked through each symbol and how it was being manifested in their fellowship.

Not surprisingly, many of them had been being practiced since before all of the men were believers, as is a key aspect of our approach of "discipling to conversion." Other activities had only been practiced since their baptism a few months ago.

What was a surprise (and huge encouragement) was the fact that their little fellowship had been practicing every one of those activities upon which the early church was built. This even included things like praying for and seeing healings take place, and bold evangelism in spite of violent threats against them.

Praise the Lord for the continued growth of these disciples as they begin discipling others!



A CHANGED LIFE:

Turkey by workers serving in Turkey

Chris, one of our interns to Turkey this past summer, has been very intentional in reaching out to the Muslim students that attend his school. One evening Chris received an invitation to have dinner with a couple friends and another student who is a Muslim from Yemen. Chris was excited at this opportunity and after meeting this young man from Yemen began to share his story of traveling to Turkey and how he understood what it was like to be a stranger in a foreign land. This Muslim student was very excited and asked him why he went to Turkey. As God opened that door, Chris began to share his testimony - to share the story of Jesus Christ.

Chris continued on telling him that he loved him because Jesus loves him. This Muslim student had never heard this before and told Chris and the others that he was always taught that Christians would try to kill him. This was his worldview that shaped his beliefs, values and ultimately behavior. But Chris' act of compassion, this love, that Chris was showing him was counterculture to everything he had been taught. He has asked for a Bible in Arabic and to also study it together with Chris.

EVENTS

UPCOMING EVENTS AT EMERALD HILLS

JANUARY 5-16

LAUNCH Training for missionary candidates

JANUARY 19-23

Kairos mission course

JANUARY 26-27

Kairos Facilitator Training

PRAY WITH US

- Praise the Lord for 32 people who made commitments during ICOM to go into missions. Thank God for the many who stopped by our booth and completed profiles which will lead to applications for full-time, Quest, and Pathways programs. Pray for good follow-through during the application process.
- Planning has begun for an April prayer retreat entitled Unleashed: Extraordinary Prayer for the Harvest. The next planning meeting will take place on December 9, with two of the key presenters in attendance. Pray that this retreat will make an impact on God's Kingdom and on the 50 people who will attend.
- Pray that God will provide for the current facility at Emerald Hills to be completely paid off and for the next phase of development to be funded in order to provide housing, training, and missionary kid space.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

October 2014

International Services	
Balance 10-01-14	\$118,343.3
Receipts	\$48,961.18
Expenses	\$27,514.79
Balance 10-31-14	\$139,789.69
*Balance owed to First Cap Bank: \$1.16 million, \$280,035.10 in Maintenance Endowment	
RECEIPTS	International Services
Application Fee	115.00
Center Pointe Christian Church	375.00
Christian Church of Clarendon Hills	200.00
College Heights Christian Church	100.00
Crossroads Christian Church	1,350.00
Crossroads Christian Church, IN	12,500.00
Current A Christian Church	300.00
Fern Creek Christian Church	400.00
First Christian Church, Sullivan	200.00
Freetown Church of Christ	9,476.00
Indian Creek Christian Church, Indianapol	500.00
Individuals	7,287.77
Interest Income	550.89
Keystone Church	150.00
Milford Christian Church	100.00
Prayer Ops Personnel	20.00
Shively Christian Church	750.00
Southeast Christian Church	50.00
Team Expansion (Workers, 123)	14,536.52
Total	\$48,961.18
EXPENSES	International Services
EDUCATION	
200-Books/Periodicals	\$1,500.00
220-Conferences/Classes	\$800.00
230-Team Building	\$4,817.45
POSTAGE	
550-In the States	\$791.75
OFFICE	
640-Facility/Utilities	\$10,329.74
650-Supplies in the States	\$944.59
660-Mission Phone	\$733.39
661-Email	\$1,840.31
670-Secretaries/Assistants	\$2,322.38
680-Accounting/Financial Management	\$35.00
690-Payroll Taxes	\$963.60
PROMOTION/REPRESENTATION	
700-For More Support	\$130.00
710-For More Recruits	\$1,661.01
MISCELLANEOUS	
920-Banking Fees	\$645.57
TOTAL	\$27,514.79