

AUGUST 2012

Horizons



**Prayer Circle at Haus Edelweiss
near Heiligenkreuz, Austria**



**Reggie
Hundley**

Editor,
HORIZONS

and

Executive Director,
Mission Services
Association

We welcome your letters to the editor. Letters no longer than one typewritten page are more likely to be published. Include your name and address on all correspondence. Only signed letters can be printed. Letters may be edited for the sake of length and clarity.

E-mail: editorial@missionservices.org

editorial

It Is a Matter of Balance

Many of our readers know I had a motorcycle accident a few months ago. Balance is critical while maneuvering a motorcycle at slow speeds. Another, who had ridden motorcycles for many years, had an accident ending his riding career because he was improperly balanced making a slow speed U-turn. Still another friend required hip replacement surgery, because he was not properly balanced on his bicycle in a downhill turn. Riders must maintain a balance of being fully committed to and involved in all of their riding activity while also being fully focused upon all the circumstances around them.

Balance is also critical to our lives as followers of Jesus Christ. Just prior to the celebration of Independence Day, I read many posts on Christian blogs and Internet message boards about the following “controversial” issues. How should congregations approach the concept of freedom in messages? Should the flag of the USA be allowed into the church building? Is it proper for a Christian to repeat the Pledge of Allegiance? Should Christians consider themselves a citizen of any nation since our citizenship is in God’s Kingdom? Each of these discussions, wherever and however they took place, involved many different individuals of equal passion. I choose to believe that those participating were passionate about their position, because all want to be faithful disciples of Jesus. Certainly there is the possibility that some number were simply involved in the hope of elevating the discourse to argument, but not the majority.

It is the opinion of this Editor that Jesus spoke to these types of controversies in Matthew 22. When asked whether or not it was lawful to pay tax to Caesar and the earthly kingdom of Rome, Jesus said “Render to Caesar the things

that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." (Matt. 22:21) In other words, Jesus teaches us that our lives need to be in balance or we run the risk of losing control. Jesus saw no conflict in paying taxes to Rome, even though this Roman government would ultimately be responsible for his crucifixion. The truest form of citizenship for the Christian is in heaven, but that does not mean that we are absolved from the responsibility of being a good citizen. It is not at all improper for Christians to feel patriotic about their homeland, but neither should Christians fail to see wrong (or ignore it if seen) within that nation. Paul wrote to the church at Rome that the government "is God's servant for your good." (Romans 13:4) This was the same Roman government that crucified Jesus and imprisoned disciples. Maintaining our balance is vital as we live for Christ in the world surrounding us.

Being passionate about our discipleship is a good thing. I see no reason it should be curbed or throttled. This passion helps us maintain focus on that which is important in life. What we need not do is allow our adversary to trick us into diverting our passion onto needless controversies. We need healthy exchanges of opinion, because iron sharpens iron. What we do not need is to lose our balance. Think about that!



Horizons

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Jesus ascended to Heaven only after telling his disciples to go and make more disciples. He expects His followers to do as He did . . .

. . . to have a heart for the lost people of the world.

For 55 years TCM has shared Christ with the world. Jesus, as always, has remained faithful to His promise. He has indeed been with us each step of the way. Times change, tools and methods of ministry evolve, but we are still called to seek and to reach a world that is lost.

Therefore, following His lead to serve as well as meet the growth opportunities more effectively, TCM has launched the GREAT COMMISSION INITIATIVE (GCI). . . It will be our primary emphasis for the near future. The GCI means developing men and women to reach their own countries, cultures, and churches for Christ.

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2012

NOVEMBER 9-11

Eastern Christian Conference

Hershey Convention Center, Hershey, Pennsylvania

Theme: "Your Kingdom Come . . ."

President: Brent Storms

Contact information: Eastern Christian Convention

410-836-6102 / info@easterncc.com / www.easterncc.com

NOVEMBER 15-18

International Conference on Missions

Indianapolis, Indiana

Theme: "Radical . . . again!"

President: John Caldwell

Contact information: David Empson

317-539-4231 / david@nmc-windows.org

2013

May 20-21

Eubanks Institute for Missions (EIM) Conference

Johnson University, Knoxville, Tennessee

Focus: Bible Translation

Contact information: Gerald Mattingly

865-251-2349 / gmattingly@johnsonu.edu

JULY 9-12

North American Christian Convention

Louisville, Kentucky

President: Matt Proctor

Contact information: North American Christian Convention

513-772-9970 / www.gotonacc.org

NOVEMBER 14-17

International Conference on Missions

Kansas City

Contact information: North American Christian Convention

513-772-9970 / www.gotonacc.org

NOVEMBER 15-17

Eastern Christian Conference

Hershey Convention Center, Hershey, Pennsylvania

President: Don Hamilton

Contact information: Eastern Christian Conference

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TCM INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE

TRAINING CHRISTIANS FOR MINISTRY IN EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA



by
**Tony
 Twist**
 President

~
 Taking
 Christ to the
 Millions
 International
 Institute

The first century world was a mess – wars, invasions, persecutions, turmoil, natural disasters, divisions, and great suffering. And how did God respond? He took the initiative. He gave us His Great Commission!

Seems strange at first. Disciple making as a response to global chaos. But in God’s wisdom and economy, bringing back and raising up His children on their way home is His answer to our prayer. “Your Kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.”

As you know, the twenty-first century world is also a mess. How do we respond? We should continue to follow His lead! Making disciples of all nations to counter the evil influences creating chaos throughout our world.

Therefore, following His lead to serve as well as meet the growth opportunities more effectively, TCM has launched the **GREAT COMMISSION INITIATIVE (GCI)**. This will be the biggest step forward in TCM’s 55-year history. The purpose of the GCI is to develop thousands more TCM students into disciple makers who, in turn, will develop thousands of others to become disciple makers as well. The GCI chart (*see page 9*) lists some specific goals of the GCI to serve this purpose. It will be our primary emphasis for the near future.

The Great Commission Initiative means developing men and women to reach their own countries, cultures, and churches for Christ. With heads, hearts, hands, and feet all moving as God directs. Highly committed, motivated, capable leaders. But what does this specifically mean?

(continued on page 8)

and the



The Great Commission Initiative



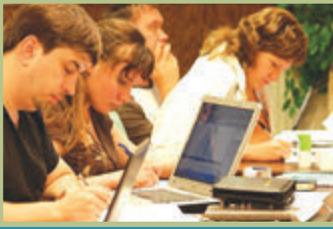
Jesus ascended to Heaven only after telling his disciples to go and make more disciples. He expects His followers to do as He did . . .

. . . to have a heart for the lost people of the world.

WHY THE GREAT COMMISSION INITIATIVE (GCI)?

For 55 years TCM has shared Christ with the world. Jesus, as always, has remained faithful to His promise. He has indeed been with us each step of the way. Times change, tools and methods of ministry evolve, but we are still called to seek and to reach a world that is lost.

(continued from page 6)



- GCI is developing and credentialing a key leader from the Middle East who wants to build a Bible college when his country becomes more open.
- GCI is developing and credentialing another key leader from Central Asia with a vision for Bible colleges in all the parts of his country.
- GCI is responding to a large group of believers in Russia asking TCM to develop 50 more of their leaders for strategic ministry.
- GCI is responding to the Messianic Jews from Europe desiring USA accredited training accessible to them in their own language.

They really do need our help. Many travel long distances to attend classes because there is no in-country location near them. Some wait long periods to take a class because enough faculty and adjunct faculty are not available to meet increasing course needs. Others need more mentoring and support in their own languages for services they require. And we can help these national missionaries serve better and more.

When we asked our students last year how they were doing, the recurring word in their responses was “struggling.” Many lead heroic works despite pressures like \$500 monthly income, political uncertainties, caring for parents and children in cramped housing, serving hurting and hassled churches, extreme time constraints, and in some cases, persecution. These challenges, coupled with TCM’s inability to expand programs and services rapidly, have resulted in many not keeping up.

However, in spite of such obstacles, they greatly desire to speed up their ministry training

(continued on page 10)



THE GREAT COMMISSION INITIATIVE

The purpose of the Great Commission Initiative is to develop thousands more TCM students who, in turn, develop thousands of others to reach their churches, countries, and cultures for our Lord Jesus Christ. This chart lists some specific goals of the GCI to serve this purpose. Will you please consider enlisting in the Great Commission Initiative in 2012 to help reach these goals as quickly as possible?

FROM	TO
One Campus in Austria	Eight additional Branch Locations in Eight Countries ¹
10 Course Locations in 10 Countries	22 Course Locations in 17 Countries ¹
60 Faculty and Adjunct Faculty	Over 150 Faculty and Adjunct Faculty ²
Limited Research Capacity	Advanced Research and Publication Capacity
M.A. and M.Div. Degrees	Additional Online and Doctoral Program ³
Eastern Europe and Central Asia	Europe, Russia, Central Asia, and Middle East
15 International Student Service Staff	Over 60 International Student Services Staff
106 Courses	Over 270 Courses ⁴
Traditional Course Delivery	Hybrid, Flexible Course Delivery
Less than 400 Student Capacity (165 FTE) ⁵	More than 1,600 Student Capacity (800 FTE) ⁵
One Institute	Three Institutes and the European Evangelistic Society
\$3,200,000 Annual Budget Requirement ⁶	\$12,800,000 Annual Budget Requirement ⁶

¹ Facilitate growth through the use of an expandable model of Branch Campuses and Course Locations to serve students from a geographic area which is three to four times the size of the USA.

² We estimate another 50-70 adjunct faculty beyond the 150 who are teaching more traditional courses will be needed eventually for research, online degrees, support, and contracted services.

³ Greatly expanded student services and faculty number makes feasible at least seven concentrations in addition to two additional degree programs.

⁴ Courses will be delivered by faculty, adjunct faculty, research faculty, online instructors, and by those contracted to improve and enhance the TCM educational process.

⁵ Because of increased capacity the Full Time Equivalency (FTE) number more than quadruples even though the number of students (under served at present) does not quadruple. The students will be able to finish sooner by having more locations closer to home as well as better

online services, courses, and resources available.

⁶ The 2011 Delta Cost Project/IPEDS database lists of Private Master's Sector schools shows an average cost of \$18,297 per FTE student in 2009. This includes costs for instruction, research, student services, public service, academic support, and operations/maintenance. TCM's cost per FTE student is \$16,000 and, in addition to the Private Master's Sector Schools costs listed above, includes approximately 25% for capital, reserve, benevolence, and special project costs. TCM scholarship costs are currently discounted 50%.

⁷ TCM is now operating significantly over student capacity, severely restricting the students' ability to finish in a timely manner. Students currently average half the number of courses that should be taken annually.

⁸ The current budget is less than the required standard, limiting our ability to provide services that will allow the students to progress through the program in a timely manner with necessary student services and course options readily available.



(continued from page 8)

with TCM. They find TCM “maturing,” “encouraging,” “helpful,” and a “bit of heaven.” And in 2012 many are asking how, even with all the obstacles, they can move forward more quickly.



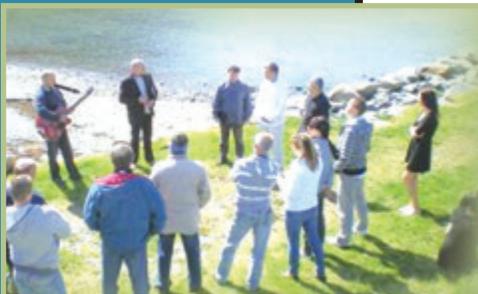
At the same time more international leaders are asking TCM to accept more from their networks. These include the Messianic Jews in Europe, church unions in Russia, Ukraine, and Central Asia, as well as groups from the Middle East. They long for more training to serve our Father better.



This goal is BIG. To actively equip 1,600 National Missionaries to serve a lifetime in a geographical area four times the size of the United States requires TCM to increase the ability to serve four-fold by 2016. Others like the students we already know and love need advanced ministry training. And only He can make these “God-sized” goals reality! It is a huge mountain and will take time. But we serve a God whose divine economy makes impossible movements possible.



I refer you to the timeline of TCM history which shows key dates in our history. All of this work through the decades paves the way for an amazing foundation for the future! A future propelled forward by the Great Commission Initiative.



The bottom line is simply this. The Great Commission Initiative is a reminder and a resource. A daily call to our daily calling. A daily reminder of our calling to keep Growing up, Praying for, and Sending out International Disciple Makers (IDMs) into His harvest fields.

2012 GREAT COMMISSION INITIATIVE LAUNCHED.

2010
Official merger of TCMII and EES.

2008
TCMII became the only HLC accredited institution working totally outside the United States.

TCMII achieved candidacy status with the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges Schools (HLC) in the United States with degree-granting privileges.

2006

2004
Longstanding relationship between the ISCO and Tübingen University was formalized.



1995
First TCM graduating class.

1991
Following vast political changes in Eastern Europe, TCM created the Institute for Biblical Studies (later changed to TCM International Institute).

1990
Tony Twist became the second President of TCM.



1982
TCM launched "Summer Seminary" to assist, disciple, encourage, and equip Eastern European church leaders.

1975
TCM moved North American Headquarters from Toronto to Indianapolis.

1971
TCM purchased Haus Edelweiss near Heiligenkreuz, Austria.

1970
TCM's ministry expanded to Soviet Union and satellite countries.



1963
The Institute for the Study of Christian Origin (ISCO) became the first theological institute in Germany founded and maintained from America.

1962
Facility purchased in Tübingen to house the Christliche Gemeinde (Christian Church) and the Institute for the Study of Christian Origins (ISCO).

1961
TCM began providing Bibles, literature, training, and other assistance to Christians in communist-controlled Eastern Europe.

1957
TCM was founded as a church-planting organization by Gene Dullin in Toronto, Canada.

1949
Earl and Ottie Mearl Stuckenbruck moved to Tübingen to work with EES in Europe.

1946
EES was founded to study, disseminate, and demonstrate the gospel in Europe.



Disciple Makers Making Disciples

The goal of the Great Commission Initiative is to develop Disciple Makers who will in turn develop more Disciples Makers throughout Europe, Central Asia, and beyond. One example of such a Disciple Maker is Mihai, a graduate of TCMII.

Mihai, fluent in multiple languages, has been instrumental in TCM's success in taking Christ to the countries of Central Asia. In addition to serving as Dean and Professor at the College of Theology and Education (CTE) in Chisinau, Moldova and as lead pastor of a growing church plant there, Mihai also serves as the TCM National Director in Moldova and for Central Asia. Not only is Mihai a Disciple Maker in his own country of Moldova (which currently has 160 students at TCM), but he is able to travel and teach in Central Asian countries as well. In conjunction with the CTE, Mihai has helped start educational programs in four closed countries. Since then Mihai and other leaders have been traveling four or five times per year in all of those countries to teach the students, to visit underground churches, and to mentor national leaders in the territory. TCM now has over 90 students from Central Asia.

After a recent trip to Central Asia, Mihai and his coworkers were close to the area where a fight was going on between local officials and the mujahidin (a military force of Muslim guerilla warriors engaged in a jihad; which some call international warriors but others just call them terrorists). One of the officials shared with Mihai the difficult situ-



Mihai



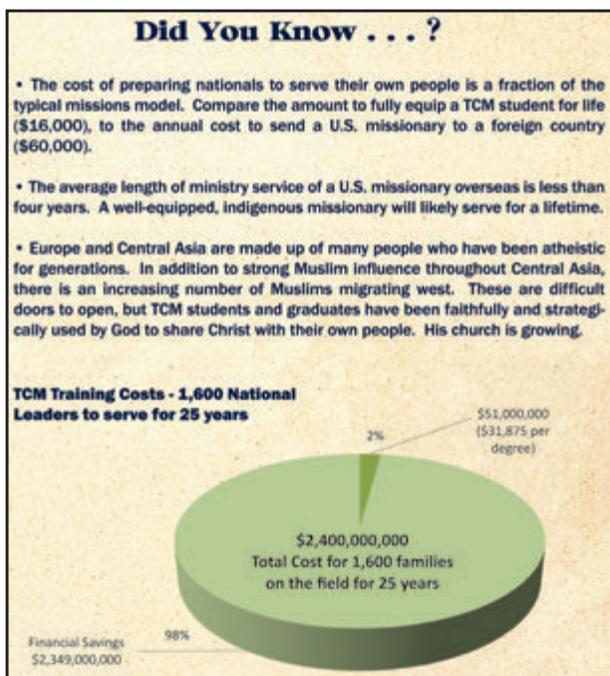
ation they are in. The mujahidin fighters killed over 300 people in several weeks. The official said that the mujahidin will never stop working on making the country an Islamic Fundamentalist country.

But in spite of the poverty and difficult social and political situation, Mihai reports, "We were blessed to see that the ministry of reconciliation between God and people of this area is growing in numbers and the churches are multiplying; people who were living in darkness are getting freedom from their sins." More disciples are now following Jesus.

In Central Asia, the Disciple Makers mentored by Mihai are active in many areas of ministry. One is Sergei who has a special involvement in several prisons and also has developed a Retreat Center for drug-addicted people. Mihai shared the following: "One case that touched my heart deeply was about a young man who has spent some years in a colony (a prison for teenagers). Sergei started to teach him how to read and write by copying the New Testament. Coming from a Muslim family, consuming drugs from the age of 8, Mamur's life was broken in pieces at the age of 18. But coming to know Jesus through a miracle, Mamur was delivered from his addiction after a sincere prayer. Now he is studying the Word of God and getting ready to share it with others. He discovered a new meaning in his life and he gives thanks to Jesus who gave him a new opportunity. We are so glad to be a small part of this project."

Sergei is one example of dozens of disciples that desire to make more disciples just as Jesus commanded. Sergei's earthly example has been Mihai who continues to teach, to baptize, and make disciples (and disciple makers) of people from all the nations to which God is calling him.

By the way, TCM has helped the College of Theology and Education since it started twenty years ago. Almost the entire faculty and staff are TCMII graduates.





Milhai traveling in Central Asia (left) and with Central Asia leaders (right)



focus on

Prayer Needs & Praises

TCM

- Pray for TCM as they continue to reach out to the lost of Europe, Central Asia, and beyond, sharing the Gospel through students, graduates, faculty, staff, and volunteers. *(see feature article beginning on page 6)*

Mexico

- Give praise as Casa de Ninos celebrates 40 years of ministering to the needs of Mexico's children.
- Pray for Freeman Bump, scheduled for knee replacement surgery the first week in August.

Pakistan

- Please pray as the people of Pakistan are suffering because of high inflation, shortages of electricity and gas, and joblessness.
- Please pray for God's hand of protection over Saleem Massey and others speaking out on behalf of Christians and minorities in their country.
- Pray as Pakistan Christian Evangelical Services has a vision to build a hospital in the Kasur area.

Jordan

- Harvey & Nancy Bacus request prayer as they begin the search for possible recruits to work with them in the BOOKS & MORE Library.

Nepal

- Tom Schneller (Disciple Makers, Inc.) asks us to pray for 20 young dedicated evangelists to complete training for ministry in that country.
- May God continue to work in the hearts of the Nepalese and draw them to Himself.
- Pray that the Nepal constitution will be drawn up in a manner to bless the people and provide a just government.

Poland

- Polish Christian Ministries announces that David A. Hatfield of Brighton, MI has accepted the call to become the next PCM Executive Director.

Zimbabwe

- Nick & Lyndale Adams request prayer for one of their Zimbabwe Christian College graduates, Nicholas Charukwa, as he hopes to attend Cincinnati Christian University for a theology degree to return to Zimbabwe and teach at ZCC.

Thailand

- James & Shai Paw give praise that immigrant visas have been granted, allowing the Hlas to be able to visit the US this summer.

Haiti

- Please pray for Haiti, as it is reported 85% of college graduates in Haiti permanently leave the country.

Cuba

- Reggie & Esther Thomas ask us to join them in praising God that they were able to travel to Cuba to celebrate the 15th anniversary of the establishment of the Christian church in that nation.

Team Expansion

- Join Dave & Donna Linn in praying for 120 churches to be established in and around Venezuela by 2020.
- Pray for healing for Diana Lugo's heart arrhythmia and for the new plant, Impacto, in Venezuela.
- Pray for restored vitality for Luke Hightshue (Venezuela) as he has had several health problems recently.
- Join John & Zandra Dye in praying for the leadership of the El Bosque church in Venezuela as they launch new works.
- Pray with Jorge & Sara Navarrette in Venezuela concerning leaders they are trying, a new meeting place, and for co-workers in church planting.
- Pray that God would use Diana Molina's year of training with SIL in Peru among the Warao people in Venezuela.
- Pray for M & S as they continue to prepare for departure to a sensitive field. Pray for peace in that country as it is currently in a state of instability.

India

- Ajai & Indu Lall, Central India Christian Mission, give praise that the Bible seminary recently graduated 48 students from 3 countries and 5 states. All were ordained for full-time church-planting ministry.
- They also report 16 church planters were ordained to be sent out to un-reached areas.

THANK YOU!
THANK YOU!
Thank You!

MSA greatly appreciates these who have given to our "Missions Network" appeal. Your gifts will help us keep this valuable resource "on-line" for the continued promotion of mission work both in the U.S. and overseas. The following have given since our last published list in the June-July issue of HORIZONS.

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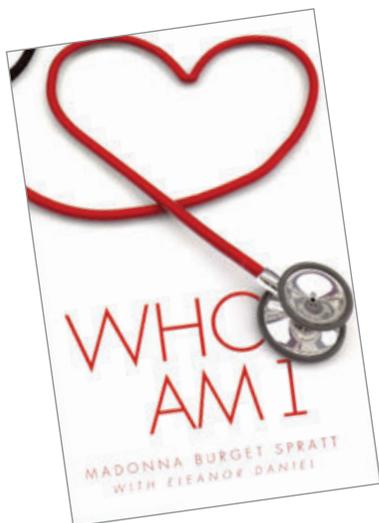
Gift

in Memory of:

Rae Dean McNeil

Given by:

Frank & Alice Baker, Knoxville, TN



Madonna Burget Spratt

A single woman setting out for Africa and a medical mission? Fascinating enough. But add to that the single woman building a hospital in India, going back to Africa to reopen a hospital after the revolution in Zimbabwe, and establishment of clinics in Honduras -- and you have a picture of a courageous woman. God did eventually provide a partner who has served with her for many years in Honduras. You will enjoy the humor, the adventure, and the deep devotion to God shown in this work.

Cost: \$24.98

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**Please make checks payable to Madonna Spratt and send payment to: Marilyn Nash
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at the heart of its mission.**

For much of our history, printing has been a staple of the communication process. Over the recent past, communication via electronic media has increased dramatically. Its efficiencies make it a dominant communication choice. In response to current communication trends, we would like to introduce **the missions network**, an innovative, Internet based communication network.



**the missions network
serves the communication needs of**

- **missionaries,**
- **ministries.**
- **individuals, and**
- **congregations**

committed to world evangelism

What is undeniable is the potential **the missions network** has serving the needs of missionaries, ministries, individuals, and congregations. We invite missionaries and ministry leaders to discover how **the missions network** might build upon your existing communication strategy. We invite congregational leaders, ministry team leaders, and all who are committed to world evangelism to use **the missions network** to deepen your understanding of and passion for global ministry. Our vision is for thousands to connect with the information available each month. Only God knows how He wants it to be used.



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