this month's focus:

Accommodations, Retreat Centers and Opportunities for Rest

Dear Friends,

Some of us on the Mobile Member Care Team have half-seriously thought about traveling around the globe by going from one mission guesthouse to another. Guesthouse costs and hospitality being what they are, the trip would be both affordable and enjoyable.

While the accommodations described in this communiqué might not get you all the way around the world, there’s enough of them to take you pretty far. Some are back-packer style, some are breath-taking; some feature quiet and solitude and some feature activities and groups. All of them, though, cater to cross-cultural workers in some way. If you know of others, write to us about them so we can share them with our readership!

The Mobile Member Care Team

Accra, Ghana
what’s in this issue?

- Page 03: Directories of accommodations
- Page 04: Two retreats for single missionaries
- Page 05: The Mediterranean Coast
- Page 06: Western Europe
- Page 07: Eastern Europe
- Page 08: The United Kingdom
- Page 09: Malaysia
- Page 10: Southeast Asia
- Page 11: Africa, South America and New Zealand
- Page 12: The United States
- Page 14: Canada

Viewing Tip:

This issue of the communiqué has been formatted so you can see an entire page on your computer screen without scrolling.

For best viewing, set the magnification on your Adobe Reader (in the middle of the menu bar above) to 100% if your screen is 13-14 inches, 125% on 15 inch screens, and then set the page display to Single Page by going to View > Page Display > Single Page in the menu.

Choosing Full Screen Mode under View in the menu above makes the view even better!
OSCAR, the UK information service for world mission, has assembled a big list of mission guest houses around the world. Send an email to Mike, OSCAR’s founding director, or to OSCAR’S webmaster and ask for their “Missionary Guesthouse Reference.”

The OSCAR website itself provides an exceptional list of mission guesthouses and other accommodations around the world. The web page includes links to facilities in South Korea, Spain, Germany and Africa.

Christian Retreats Online is a large directory of retreats and conference centers in the USA, Canada, UK and Europe. Search for one-time and ongoing retreats by location, type or special interest.

The Mission Finder website includes links to lists of personal retreats with and without counseling.

Find high-quality, Christian-run Bed & Breakfasts, inns, lodges and hotels on the Christian Hospitality Network website. The site describes facilities in North America, South America, Europe and Africa.

The ministries described on the Care Givers Forum range from rest and relaxation to intensive counseling throughout the USA and Canada.
Mission Encouragement Trust hosts spiritual retreats for single missionaries in accessible international locations. “Come away for a week of spiritual, emotional and physical refreshment.”

Single Vision is a retreat for single missionaries who want to enhance their spiritual growth, cross-cultural integration skills, emotional health, physical exercise and personal connection with others.

Two retreats for single missionaries
**LA DOLCE VITA HOSPITALITY NETWORK** provides a list of overnight accommodations and vacations along the Mediterranean coast that are comfortable, affordable and accessible for ex-pat workers. Some sample facilities:

- **The Europa Retreat Center, Gibraltar**  Comfortable rooms with shower and toilet facilities comparable to a three-star hotel. The site also boasts a beautiful chapel and an expansive patio area for relaxation.

- **The Angel’s Flat, Genoa, Italy**  Up to six beds in two separate rooms, kitchen, bathroom and a nice little terrace with a barbecue near the Priaruggia beach.

- **Katafiyo Retreat House-Maggie, Kapedes, Cyprus**  provides Christians with a quiet, restful place, where they can listen to God. Structured quiet days and individual guided retreats are available.

- **Faros Village Hotel, Larnaca, Cyprus**  On the tip of Cape Kiti, overlooking the sparkling clear blue waters of the Mediterranean Sea is a place of untainted coastal beauty where majestic sunsets meet the blue waters of the Mare Nostrum.

Contact **Gary LaMonica** about all the facilities in the **La Dolce Vita Hospitality Network**
Western Europe

**Le Rucher** is a Christian retreat, residential member care and counseling centre near Geneva in France. They specialize in routine debriefing, critical incident (post trauma) debriefing, crisis intervention and ethnic reconciliation.

**One Another Ministries** is a retreat and counseling centre for missionaries near the beach at Montpellier, France. Among the services offered are debriefings, conflict management and pastoral care.

The **Pierres Vivantes Counselling Centre** near Sisteron, France is run by Jonathan Ward and provides services for pastors and missionaries (the website is in French but English services are provided).

**Schloss Mittersill** in Austria serves the needs of individuals and families who are looking for time and space to break from their routines so they can hear God in the pursuit of health and healing, all in the midst of glorious scenery.

**Le Reposoir** in Northern Brittany, France offers missionaries a place to reflect and be restored, to rest and enjoy God’s intimacy in the beauty of silence. “We are a tranquil place in the French countryside, provided especially for missionaries.”
Barnabas Zentrum serves as a personal and marital retreat center for pastors, missionaries and others in church and parachurch staff positions. “We provide a place of solitude and confidentiality in which issues like marital crisis, stress, burnout, team relations and interpersonal or vocational conflicts may be worked through while enjoying rest and refreshment.

The Alphof, Schwaigmuehle and Alpin guesthouses (freizeithausen) in Austria offer opportunities to experience fellowship, enjoy nature, find peace, meet with God, reenergize and find a new focus. The websites are in German but an informative English language brochure is available for download at all three websites.

Life Impact Ministries offers an R&R home in Shuman, Bulgaria and will open a hosted retreat facility in Vrboce, Slovakia in late 2009. For more information, go to the Life Impact website, click "Our Services" and then "Our Partners for R&R."
Lee Abbey in North Devon is home to a Christian Community that hosts a Conference, Retreat and Holiday Centre, set in a spacious 280 acres of farm and woodland, overlooking the dramatic North Devon coast near Lynton. “As a guest, you are free to join in as many (or as few!) programs as you like.”

Penhurst is a friendly Christian Retreat Centre offering a warm welcome to individuals or groups from the local area, the UK or worldwide. “We are situated in an area of Outstanding Natural Beauty in the Sussex High Weald.”

Green Pastures is located in Poole, Dorset amidst the outstanding beauty of England’s South coast and provides time and space to cross-cultural workers who are taking stock of life and preparing for new directions. Dr. Debbie Hawker and Rev. David Huggett will be leading a retreat at the center called “Walking with Jesus” from 6-10th July, 2009.
The Methodist Church in Malaysia operates a number of retreat centers and guesthouses, among them:

- The OMF Guesthouse in Cameron Highlands is ideal for singles and families with children.
- Methodist Retreat Centre in Fraser’s Hill boasts cool weather, provides meals and is ideal for small groups.
- Chee Foo Conference Centre, Cameron Highlands offers basic accommodations for individuals and families.

Golden Sands Baptist Assembly, Port Dickson is a popular beach retreat for church camps, individuals and families. Located just 90 minutes from KL, it is usually fully booked during the local school holiday period.

Peacehaven, Genting Highlands is popular as a conference centre. It has a large meeting hall and many breakout and seminar rooms, making it ideal for church camps and team retreats.
The Juniper Tree “aims to provide a home-away-from-home in **Hua Hin** and **Chiangmai** for Christian workers on a low budget... Individuals, couples or families can find physical and spiritual refreshment at the Juniper Tree.”

**Bethany Ministries** idyllic location is set on a hill in attractive grounds overlooking the sea, just five minutes to sandy beaches and peaceful walks around rocky coves, while the town with its restaurants and shops is only minutes away. “Come for as long as you need.”

**Cornerstone Counseling Centre** website thoughtfully includes a list of Christian-run and reasonably priced lodging in **Chiang Mai, Thailand**.
East Africa

**Mto Moyoni** is a beautiful retreat center in **Njeru, Uganda**. “Sit back, relax, enjoy the view over one of the worlds longest river. In the quietness of the beautifully laid out gardens just know that God is God.”

South Africa

At **Beaulah Retreat**, “God waits to give the individual a deep sense of His presence in a place of refreshment and renewal, new growth and new beginnings.”

South America

**Ministerio Mateo 5:16** in **Carazo, Nicaragua** provides private and dorm style rooms, a full service restaurant and conference rooms for private and group retreats.

New Zealand

If you are missionary who requires temporary accommodation during your home assignment in New Zealand or if you’re a missionary who is simply passing through, **Missions Interlink** may be able to help you find accommodation. They provide:

- Temporary accommodation for mission partners on HA
- Vacation accommodation for full time workers
- Retreat centers in Canterbury and Whangarei for short term breaks from the stresses of life.
Life Impact Ministries offers seven R&R homes dotted across the USA as well as one in Ontario, Canada. For more information, go to the website, click "Our Services" and then "Our Partners for R&R."

Allison Ranch provides space for spiritual retreats for God's servants on the Salmon River in Idaho. “Play, hike, swim, or photograph elk. All the comforts of home without the outside world.” Total cost for a family for a four day stay is $200.

Pastor's Retreat Network offers five-day retreats in Wisconsin, Texas and Ohio to Christian workers and their spouses. “Our programs balance solitude and community time with scripture reading and meditation at the heart of the experience.”

The mission of ELIM Retreat Ministries is to provide places and occasions for the spiritual debriefing, renewal, and pastoral care for the global worker. Their free retreats are 5 nights and 6 days in length. with never more than 16 participants in each retreat.
**Missionary Care Ministry** offers rest and restoration at free lodging for up to a month in a guesthouse on 11 acres of land about an hour from Atlanta, Georgia. Singles, couples, and large families are welcome.

**Quiet Place Ministries** in Michigan rents cottages and cabins in quiet, peaceful settings for missionaries to have a retreat at no cost for lodging. “We provide places where families can spend time together with the Lord.”

“We have no programs at Beside Still Waters; the time is yours to spend with God however you see fit.” The condominiums are 40 miles from Tampa in Manatee County, Florida and about one block from the beach.
Fairhaven Ministries of Canada is located on 167 acres near the city of Vernon, British Columbia and offers four self-contained cottages that can sleep a family of up to 6 members. “We are a place where Christian leaders can be encouraged, supported, and restored physically, emotionally, and spiritually.”

The MARK Centre in Abbotsford, BC “serves people who want to listen to God, receive refreshment from him, and live out their unique purpose in the world. Our eight rooms have been thoughtfully designed to provide intimate places for people to listen to God. The chalet can accommodate individuals, couples and groups up to 26 people.

King’s Fold, in southwestern Alberta, offers a place for rest, renewal and spiritual discovery in the context of Christian hospitality. “We are all about quiet, sacred spaces where you can come apart for renewal.”

Kerith Creek is a renewal and retreat centre for singles and married couples in ministry, a safe haven where one can learn, reflect and be renewed. We offer a seven-day small-group retreat based on a program established by SonScape Retreats. During your week in Priddis, Alberta, you will receive personalized care and group instruction to help rekindle your marriage or vocational commitments.