

mmct communiqué

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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?

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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**.

Directories of guesthouses, retreats and conference centers around the world

[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**.

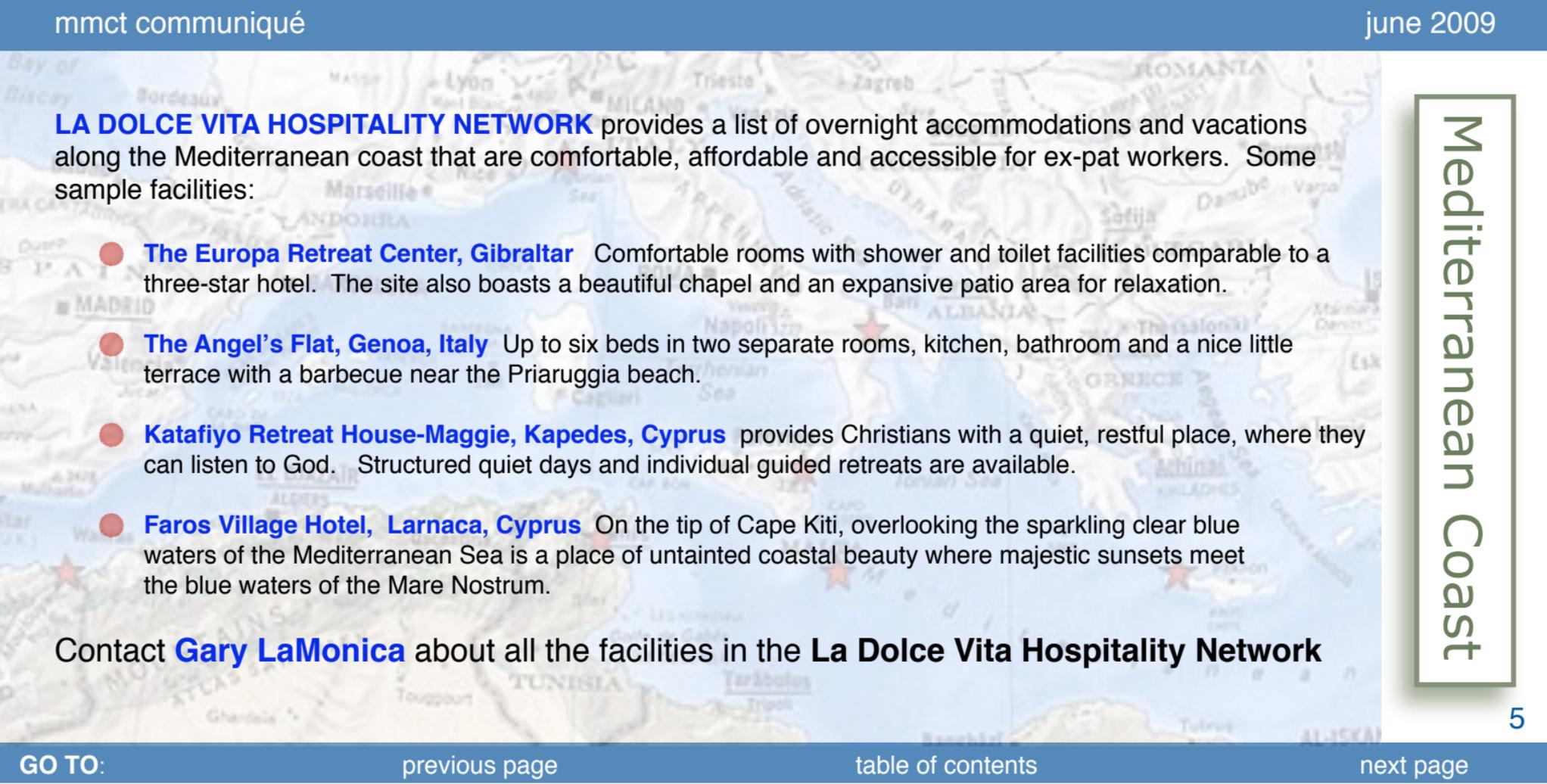
The ministries described on the [Care Givers Forum](#) range from rest and relaxation to intensive counseling throughout the **USA** and **Canada**.

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."



Schloss Mittersill, Austria



Western Europe (continued)

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.

Eastern Europe

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."

The United Kingdom

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.



Lee Abbey



Penhurst



Green Pastures

Malaysia

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 break-out and seminar rooms, making it ideal for church camps and team retreats.



The Juniper Tree



Bethany Ministries

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.”

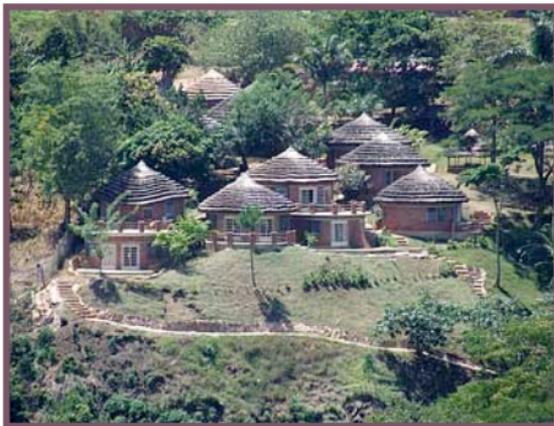
Bethany Ministries idyllic location is set on a hill in attractive grounds overlooking the sea, just five minutes to sandy beaches and peaceful walks around rocky coves, while the town with its restaurants and shops is only minutes away. “Come for as long as you need.”

Cornerstone Counseling Centre website thoughtfully includes a list of [Christian-run and reasonably priced lodging](#) in **Chiang Mai, Thailand**.

Southeast Asia

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.”



Mto Moyoni, Uganda, East Africa

South Africa

At **Beulah 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.

The United States

Private Mountain Get-Away is a fully furnished retreat cabin located on over eight acres of serene, tree-lined property between **Jamestown and Oneida, Tennessee**. Available for up to a week free of charge to Christian missionaries.

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."

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."

Fairhaven Ministries in **Tennessee** offers an affordable place away from the demands of their ministry where missionaries can rest and relax. The beautiful facilities and surroundings make it an ideal get-away for individuals, couples and families.

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.



Missionary Care Ministry



Quiet Place Ministries



Beside Still Waters



Fairhaven Ministries

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.



Canada