



# NEW LIFE NEWS

The official newsletter for New Life Presbyterian Church • October 2009

## MISSIONARIES SUPPORTED BY NEW LIFE REGULARLY

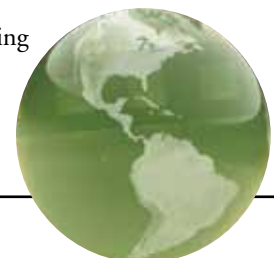
All missionary support through New Life is given through designations made on your offering envelopes (the “missions” line); there is no longer any funding supplied through the church budget. Regular support of missionaries by New Life means first and foremost that we pray for them regularly. The prayer requests are most easily found in the bulletin each Sunday, on the missions wall, by attending one the missions prayer meetings, or by talking to others at New Life who know them!

The table below lists the missionaries New Life supports financially and through regular prayer support (not including short-term missionaries).

<b>Missionary</b>	<b>Field of Service (Ministry)</b>	<b>Agency</b>	<b>Support</b>
David and Sunshine Okken	Uganda (Church Planting, Mercy Ministry)	Committee on Foreign Missions (OPC)	Quarterly †
David and Eti Zadok	Israel (Publishing and Discipleship)	Christian Witness to Israel (CWI)/HaGefen Publishing	Quarterly †
Thadd and Laura Davis	Germany (Teaching English, Evangelism, Communications support)	Greater Europe Mission	Quarterly †
Juan and Marta Arjona	San Diego (Hispanic Church Planting, Mercy Ministries)	Mission to North America	Quarterly
Hugh and Martine Wessel	France (Discipleship, Evangelism)	Mission to the World	Quarterly
Mark and Dayna Blair	Beijing, China (Pastor, Discipleship)	Pioneers	Quarterly
Morgan and Patti Roe	Tijuana (Mercy Ministry, Discipleship)	Border Evangelism and Mercy Ministry (BEAMM)	Quarterly
Unnamed ††	Middle East (Friendship Evangelism)	Frontiers	Quarterly
Dave and Darlene Eby	Uganda (Theological Education)	Mission to the World (MTW)	Quarterly
Unnamed ††	Philippines (Bible Translation)	Wycliffe Bible Translators	Annually
Sardar and Anila Din	Pakistan (Education, Theological Education, Mercy Ministries)	Indigenous, through Westminster Biblical Missions	Special Offerings
Katie Dinwiddie	Malawi (Education, Discipleship)	ABC Christian Academy	None currently
Ray and Michele Call	Mexicali (Discipleship)	Border Evangelism and Mercy Ministry (BEAMM)	None currently
Julio Navarro	Mexicali/El Cajon (Discipleship)	Border Evangelism and Mercy Ministry (BEAMM)	None currently
Victor Atallah	Middle East and North Africa (Radio, Discipleship, Evangelism)	Middle East Reformed Fellowship (MERF)	None currently

† These missionaries have a minimum quarterly support level promised, but if specific designated giving through offering envelopes exceeds this level, the additional amount is also sent to the missionary.

†† Due to the sensitive nature of this ministry, the missionaries names cannot be made public. ☹



# OUR NEWEST INTERN: SHERRENE DAVID (M.A. '11)

Submitted by Diane Henderson

Sherrene is a student in the Master of Arts in the Theological Studies program at Westminster Seminary. She is an alumna of University of California San Diego where she majored in the Study of Religion. This fall Sherrene will serve as Vice President of the Westminster Student Association. The following are her answers to interview questions taken from Westminster Seminary CA September 2009 newsletter.

## **How did your decision to attend WSC come about?**

"Initially, I was interested in women's ministry, counseling, and encouraging women to love Scripture. My pastor encouraged me to specifically pursue theological study, reasoning that solid theology and a robust understanding of God's Word should be primary in encouraging women towards godliness. Also, his wife is an alumna of WSC, and she spoke highly of the scholarly education available here. The location of WSC is right in between my church family and my physical family."

## **What have you enjoyed about your WSC education thus far? How have you benefitted from it?**

"The greatest benefit of my education is being pointed to Christ every single day. Not one class goes by where our broad understanding of church history, heavy doctrinal debates, or even Greek grammar is not somehow narrowed and focused upon the gospel. I am also seeing the unity of Scripture like never before. I read the entire Bible in thirteen weeks for English Bible Survey, and at the same time I spent days working through a single short passage in Greek for an exegetical paper. The perspicuity and unity of Scripture have really been highlighted for me here."

*It is now my dream to serve the church in India. After visiting India last year, I was exposed to the needs of the church there...*

## **What would you say has been one of your favorite WSC experiences thus far?**

"Although the academic realm of WSC is fantastic, the community is equally enjoyable. I especially love interacting with the women on campus. These ladies are very much an answer to years of prayers for godly female friends. Right now, there are five of us living in a house together. I like to call it "The Convent" because we're a bunch of unmarried seminary women who formally study the Bible and talk about theology and all its intricacies. As we study together we grow together in our pursuit of biblical womanhood and godly femininity. They are a constant reminder that the study of theology is not a masculine activity, but a Christian one. Oddly, another favorite experience of mine has been sitting in on preaching classes. I've developed a new respect for pastors as I hear my brothers preach and critiqued. The time and effort they take in preparing sermons and carefully expositing the Word of God is admirable."

## **You are currently beginning a missions internship role at the Presbyterian church where you're a member. Can you tell us a bit about what your internship will entail?**

"It truly is a privilege to be able to serve my church as an intern. I will attend missions committee meetings, help with the planning of the missions conference at our church, and work on various projects for the missions

committee to promote missions in our congregation. I am especially looking forward to corresponding with and praying for our supported missionaries, as well as generally learning the ins and outs of how our church functions with regards to missions. I also have a hefty reading list of missional books and biographies, and I hope to do some outreach projects as well. Yet another part of the internship includes a directed study at WSC over the summer with Dr. Johnson on women in missions. My time as an intern will be helpful in preparing for my own future, but I also hope to encourage our church family by promoting the worship of God and the care of His Bride as the method and means of world missions. This internship is a new position at the church, and I look forward to developing it with the missions committee and elders."

## **What do you hope to do after you graduate from WSC?**

"It is now my dream to serve the church in India. After visiting India last year, I was exposed to the needs of the church there, as well as how tremendously blessed we are here in the U.S. I contacted MTW (Mission to the World) to explore possibilities, and at this point, God-willing, it sounds like I will go to India under their auspices. As the reformed church grows in India, men are being trained to be leaders in these new congregations, and rightly so. Yet, the women are often left struggling to understand their husband's ministries. I would like to encourage them to know, understand, and cherish the gospel for themselves as they encourage their husbands in ministry and serve the growing local church. I look forward to however God would have me serve." ❧

## HOW TO RETIRE IN STYLE

By Dean Abbott

Dave and Darlene Eby had lives filled with important contributions to God's Kingdom: 35 years of marriage raising five children, a pastor for 14 years, and then planting a church, North City Presbyterian Church (NCPC) in Poway in 1985. Dave was pastor of NCPC for 20 years, with active discipleship and training through the church. As they prepared for retirement, they took a short-term missions trip to Uganda in 2005, after which the Lord showed them a possible retirement plan that differed from golf, travel and grandchildren, becoming missionaries in Uganda. So after 34 years of shepherding the flock in the United States, Dave (at 60 years old), and Darlene (I won't mention her age), launched a second career and left for Kampala in 2007.

What struck them to move from San Diego to the third world? It was Westminster Theological College in

Kampala, Uganda and the dream of beginning a seminary there. While the college had been operating since 1996 providing biblical training to pastors and lay people, there was clearly a need for more rigor that only a seminary can provide. At that time, there were only eight graduate level seminaries on the African continent of 800 million people to provide pastors for the 400 million professing Christians where 99 percent of pastors have never received any formal training. While there were three reformed seminaries in South Africa, no reformed seminaries existed outside of South Africa. Westminster Theological Seminary (WTS) began in 2007.



Dave serves as the Director of Development and Dean of Graduate Studies. Darlene serves as the Registrar, Director of Admissions, Dean of Women, and Lecturer in Christian Education and Women's Ministry. And on December 6, 2008, more than 400 people gathered to watch the first 36 graduates of WTS receive diplomas.

Dave says, "We so enjoy our work at the college and seminary and our lovely home God has given us to share with others. But visiting surrounding villages in rural Africa gives a missionary a heart for the needy. We are so grateful God has called us to this land to serve His church. Thanks to you who pray for us and support us as we do His work here." ❧

Visiting Missionaries include: Hugh & Martine Wessel, Juan & Martha Arjona, Nathaniel & Alicia Gutierrez, Morgan and Patti Roe, Julio & Arlette Navarro, Ray & Michelle Call, and Dr. Wayne True

## New Life's WORLD MISSIONS WEEK



OCTOBER 3-11, 2009



*“It is only in Jesus Christ that the light of judgment radiates as fully as the light of grace.” —Balthasar*

## WESTMINSTER BIBLICAL MISSIONS

*Submitted by Sherrene David*

Pakistan is a little less than twice the size of California. The population is 95 percent Muslim, and 5 percent other, which includes Hindu and Christian. The literacy rate is 63% for men and 36 percent for women. This is not just the place Rev. Sardar Din and his wife are serving. This is the place they were born and raised. It is the place where they long to see God draw people to Himself, long to see the church grow, and long to see Christ magnified. It is home. Yet at the same time, it is not home. In fact, it is only with the knowledge of their heavenly citizenship that they continue their work faithfully in the midst of persecution.

Sardar Ahmed Din, director of the Presbyterian Theological Seminary of Pakistan, became a Christian as an illiterate village boy through the witness of American Presbyterian missionaries. The missionary program provided his education and challenged him to dedicate his life to Christian service. He attended Forman Christian College in Lahore, then India, now Pakistan. After graduation he worked for The American Embassy and the Fullbright Foundation in Lahore, but resigned to devote full time to Christian work. Din is now an ordained minister. He has held administrative positions in the church and teaches a number of subjects in the seminary. He also translated Palmer's *Five Points of Calvinism* and A.W. Pink's *The Attributes of God* into Urdu.

Din married Nasim, the daughter of an Anglican pastor, and they had three children: Philip, John and Farida. Philip is a medical doctor doing research in a St. Louis, Missouri hospital. John had completed three and a half years of college when 15 Muslim students brutally beat him for over an hour. When he sought to return to college, these students threatened to kill him. He came to the USA where he graduated from college and law school and became

a lawyer. Farida spent three years in the USA and graduated from Delaware Country Christian School. She then earned a full scholarship to UCLA where she graduated in June, 1991. She is married with two children. In 1992 Din, primarily through the encouragement and vision of Nasim, began a Christian day school on seminary property. The school has grown from 11 students to over 1,650 with three campuses. Nasim suffered a stroke January, 1997, and God in His infinite wisdom called His servant home in March, 1997. In God's providence Sardar married Anila, who serves with him as a teacher, helper in the clinic, and overseer of a number of administrative areas. [Biographical information from [www.wbminc.org](http://www.wbminc.org).]

Pray for the Dins and the rest of our Pakistani brothers and sisters, especially in light of the recent turmoil. May we never cease to thank God for unhindered corporate worship, and may we never cease to intercede for the church abroad. ❧

## MERF *By Randy Dykstra*

Middle East Reformed Fellowship [MERF] is active in evangelism, church extension, biblical training and administering diaconal aid primarily in the Arabic speaking countries of North Africa, the Gulf States, Iraq, Lebanon, and Syria, as well as in the Sudan and Iran. MERF uses radio as an evangelistic tool, broadcasting in Arabic to a potential audience of over 340 million. One result of their ministry is the building up of indigenous churches where encouragement and strength is needed on a daily basis. MERF has more recently expanded its ministry to other Muslim areas including Pakistan, Ethiopia and Indonesia.

MERF has attracted short term ministry partners and teachers from around the world, providing biblical training and diaconal aid. Nevertheless, one couple, Victor and Lisa Atallah, have been instrumental in the growth and organization of MERF from its beginnings. They have worked tirelessly to uphold the Bible and the reformed confessions through MERF's expansion in the Muslim world. Please visit the MERF website at [www.merf.org](http://www.merf.org). ❧

## AN ENCOURAGING WORD... THE EPISTLE TO DIOGNETUS

*Submitted by Keith Fredrickson*

“I wish to bring to your attention *The Epistle to Diogentus*, a much loved second century Christian writing that I have found encouraging lately. Here are links to the text and information about it. [www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/diognetus-lightfoot.html](http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/diognetus-lightfoot.html) and [www.earlychristianwritings.com/diognetus.html](http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/diognetus.html).

Here is the part that has been especially helpful to me:

9:2....*in pity for us [God] took upon Himself our sins, and Himself parted with His own Son as a ransom for us, the holy for the lawless, the guileless for the evil, the just for the unjust...* 9:3 *For what else but His righteousness would have covered our sins?* 9:4 *In whom was it possible for us lawless and ungodly men to have been justified, save only in the Son of God?* 9:5 *O the sweet exchange, O the inscrutable creation, O the unexpected benefits; that the iniquity of many should be concealed in One Righteous Man, and the righteousness of One should justify many that are iniquitous!*

Editor's Note: Keith's submission introduces a new section in the newsletter devoted to encouraging words that have been a blessing to you that you would like to share. Thank you in advance for sending in what has been helpful to you. Please email me at [dianehenderson1@netzero.net](mailto:dianehenderson1@netzero.net) ❧

Dave Okken Correction: A "Did You Know" in the September issue identified Rosie Rochester as having been born in Nicaragua. She was born in Ventura County. Your editor regrets the error. DH