



MISSION TO  
*Unreached Peoples*

Mission to Unreached Peoples  
P.O. Box 30947  
Seattle, WA 98103-0947

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## The Unreached ADVOCATE

A Newsletter of *Mission to Unreached Peoples*

News on Global Efforts to Reach the Least Reached

### Director's VIEW

by David Hupp, U.S. Director

When traveling on the mission field, I am always challenged and encouraged to connect first-hand with what God is doing in the world. This was especially true on a recent trip to Asia. While in Nepal, I was reminded that we live in a world in need of both spiritual and physical healing and restoration. Cities are crowded and facing increasing urbanization. Many people live in deplorable conditions. Much of the world is "dirty", both in a physical sense of trash and garbage in streets, but also stained in sin and living and dying without a knowledge of Jesus Christ. Many remain in bondage to the gods of ancestry, created beings or materialism. Hundreds of millions of people are on the road to eternity without knowing or, in many cases, ever hearing the Good News of salvation through Jesus. And the question remains, does the Church really care?

Despite these circumstances many are indeed searching for truth and open to hearing the Gospel. In many places only recently touched by the Gospel, we are seeing miracles of church growth. Nepal, for example, has seen the church grow from approximately 5,000 to perhaps 500,000 members in the last 10 years—increasingly national and ex-patriate Christians are having a significant impact on that country. I salute our workers and the thousands of other faithful warriors both from North America and worldwide who faithfully proclaim truth where they are. Whether they labor in open or restricted countries, fruit for the kingdom is being born.

Yet, I also return from any field visit with the knowledge that the laborers are few. Everywhere I went I heard pleas for more workers. In Nepal there are openings in community development, education, and the medical profession, including adminis-

trators. Church planters and biblically trained personnel of all kinds are needed to partner with national workers and the local indigenous church—this is true in country after country.

What then is our challenge? The challenge remains to recruit, train and send quality missionaries representing the body of Christ. My heart's desire is to see hundreds respond and go in the next few years through *Mission to Unreached Peoples* (MUP). I'm convinced that we are making a difference in this world and in God's Kingdom. Yet we need more

workers who can multiply their ministries through discipling national believers. Can you refer us to such potential missionaries? We want thousands to 'get on board' in obedience to God's call in their lives for the unreached. God is moving in the world. He wants to use each of us and MUP in increasing measure as we obey him one step and day at a time. ♦

**"Everywhere I went I heard pleas for more workers."**

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# The Unreached ADVOCATE

NEWS ON GLOBAL EFFORTS TO REACH THE LEAST REACHED

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## A shaking in Taiwan

*God's hand is evident in the 1999 Taiwan earthquake*

by Mark Heffner

Sometimes, in God's great mercy, He allows tragedy to wake up people to face eternal issues. The 7.6 earthquake hit Nantou County, Taiwan on September 21, 1999 around 1:30 AM. Many powerful aftershocks followed. Approximately 12,000 buildings were damaged or destroyed and over 2,300 people lost their lives. Mountains were stripped of foliage, landslides devastated areas and bridges were ripped from their foundations. My wife, Laura, and I first heard the news on CNN shortly after it hit. Strangely, my first thought was "God's hand is in this!" My second thought was, "I wish I were there right now to help and reach out!"

After being in Taiwan together for seven years, it was extremely difficult for Laura and I to be here in the States on furlough while so much was going on there. Many of our Chinese friends and fellow MUP missionaries were going through trials and all we could do is pray and try to correspond.

Thankfully soon after this, I was able to return to distribute funds and relief supplies.

I arrived in November and stayed with our friend Andy Hung who did not know the Lord. We spent long hours talking about God's heart for people. Andy eagerly listened as he struggled to deal with the tragedy, the loss of life and God's ultimate

design. He told me that he had nightmares after pulling bodies out of the wreckage of buildings. He saw doctors go into shock and break down as they tried to deal with the aftermath of the earthquake. He wanted to help but didn't have the spiritual or emotional resources. He kept saying he knew we could help because we had peace and power that he didn't have. Shortly afterwards Andy gave his life to Jesus.

I traveled with Jonathan, Sandy and other Taiwanese believers from our Taiwan home church (Grace Church in the city of Taichung) through damaged cities in Nantou County. I listened to these precious brothers and sisters share many amazing stories. Sandy was miraculously delivered

through God impressing her to leave her 10<sup>th</sup> floor apartment and go to her home city the afternoon before the earthquake. Her apartment was destroyed. She probably would have been killed if she had remained.

Eleven college students, part of a worship team, were in their church in the city of Puli at 12:20

AM, for a late night meeting. One member noticed they had forgotten an overhead marker. Instead of her going alone, they all left together. Within an hour, the church was leveled and reduced to rubble. They returned to see how God had saved them. No one could have survived! This obvious deliverance set a fire in their hearts to

1  
God works good through a disaster in *Taiwan...*

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**Mission Insights:**  
Mission effectiveness through ongoing training...

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Nurse Jeanne Beckner (left), with Russian child, ministers "living water" at a hospital in *Russia...*



4  
**Director's View:**  
The challenge of recruiting, training and sending quality workers...

zealously share the Gospel.

Less than two months before the earthquake, their church had a prayer service for Puli and Nantou County on a mountain overlooking the city. Several hundred worshipped in song and claimed Puli for the Lord. As God's Spirit moved in them, they started to shout to the Lord, "God shake this place so that people will turn to you!" God literally did! Because of this earthquake, more Christians poured into this area to minister Christ's love and grace than ever before in the history of Taiwan. Chinese believers continue to minister. Grace Church has established a long-term evangelism and relief project in social work and education.

Many other stories could be told about God's amazing hand at work. Before this trip, I was unaware of the good He was working through this disaster. As I left, I was aware that God wants to do far more. Will the people of Taiwan respond in great numbers to the Gospel because of this "shaking?" I don't know, but that is our fervent prayer. ♦



Laura & Mark Heffner partner with a Taiwanese church to establish long-term ministries including a public school outreach and a vision for an audiovisual production studio

#### POLAND

- (1) **English Teachers** needed in public schools or for private tutoring.
- (2) **Youth Worker** for local churches.

#### INDIA

- (3) A health and evangelism project needs **Physical and Occupational Therapists** to equip nationals to minister to the disabled.

#### THAILAND

- (4) **Agricultural Specialists** are needed for a consulting project with tribals.

#### CAMBODIA

- (5) **Children's Ministry Trainer** needed to train Khmer churches.
- (6) **Cross-cultural Youth Worker** for urban ministry.

#### CHINA

- (7) **English Teachers** and **Teachers at International Schools**.
- (8) **Cross-cultural Church Planters** among tribals.
- (9) **Doctors, Nurses, Therapists**.
- (10) **Community Development Workers: Orphanage Workers, Agricultural Specialist, Small Business Developers**.

#### ASIA

- (11) **Certified Teachers** needed at international schools in China, India, Malaysia, Mongolia, Philippines, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey and Vietnam.
- (12) Field or North American-based **Missionary Pastors** to provide pastoral care to our missionaries.

# Mission INSIGHTS

## Equipping workers for effective service

by Michael Camp

Providing quality training of missionary candidates is increasingly an important concern here at MUP. Without adequate spiritual, cultural and strategic preparation for the field, missionaries often prove ineffective. Yet, the question remains, how much and what depth of training is necessary? One of our main objectives is to send vocationally trained lay people to minister cross-culturally to unreached peoples. We don't require them to have seminary training or Bible college because we know God uses the ordinary lay person with vocational skills just as much as anyone—yet we need to prepare them well for field ministry. The Bible school or seminary-trained person brings special expertise but still needs further cross-cultural training.

We have developed a several phase training plan which includes (1) orientation, (2) pre-field training, and (3) continuing missions education. For orientation we take a week in Seattle to orient people to missions and our organization. Once people are accepted as candidates, they go through pre-field training to prepare them for their first term overseas. This includes customized self-study at home to continue their preparation for ministry. With exceptions for those with

prior missions experience, pre-field training also includes candidates returning to Seattle for 14 days of our candidate school. Candidates with a role of teaching English also have training in TEFL (Teaching English as a Foreign Language) before field placement. Others may be encouraged to take supplemental, optional workshops not offered by us.

After some time on the field, continuing missions education is encouraged for some who have specific interests or training needs, e.g. in community development or Muslim ministry. These are not provided by MUP but by other training organizations, colleges or seminaries. One example is the training available through the organization called Equip, Inc. A workshop they offer is Community Health Evangelism (CHE), an excellent community development strategy that equips nationals to take responsibility for their own holistic development. CHE promotes evangelism, church planting and training national trainers to multiply missions efforts and health, agriculture, or economic development projects.

After five years of service doing an agriculture and discipleship ministry in northern Thailand, MUP missionary Dave Crist recently attended a CHE workshop. He reports: "As I view the needs of the tribal people, my desire has been to eventually minister to them in a more holistic way. CHE seems to be just the tool that is needed in our situation. I am impressed with the fact that CHE encourages the community to take ownership of the program right from the start and focuses on training nationals. It equips communities to use locally available resources, to help their own people physically, to introduce them to Christ, and multiply these efforts through training members of other villages."

As we continue to strive to equip missionaries for service through our own or others' programs, our focus remains making people effective in meeting spiritual and physical needs and multiplying efforts to reach the unreached with the Gospel. ♦

## "Living water" in Russia

A hospital ministry facilitates the flow of spiritual and physical water

For five years, I have been serving the Lord in Russia using my profession of nursing to ease suffering and share the Good News of the Great Physician. For the first three years I was in Russia, I thanked God many times for not opening a door for me to minister inside the Russian hospitals. As I visited many of these places, I was horrified at the conditions of the patients, and the dehumanizing ways in which they are often cared for. They use primitive means to treat illnesses and neglect and abuse of

by Jeanne Beckner

working in a small community hospital, 40 kilometers from the town where I live. The Lord used a visit I made to a sick friend in this hospital to open my heart to a ministry here. When I introduced myself to the hospital administration, I gave them my credentials as a nurse. At the same time I was open about my heart's desire to share my faith in Christ with the sick. The chief doctor said to me, "Yes, our patients need this." Within a few minutes I shared the Gospel with her, and incredibly she prayed right there to receive Christ!

Working with national believers from our local church, we have a ministry that has the potential to reach an entire region with the Gospel. Since the hospital is a regional one, people from remote villages come here for care. We have bible studies, prayer for the patients, and a weekly children's bible school for the pediatric ward. We have expanded to do a weekly children's bible school for the nearby TB hospital and a program to feed the infants of single moms in the town. First and foremost, is the mission to share the Gospel clearly with all, and to build bridges of relationships into the local evangelical church.

Over time, the hospital administration began to share a serious need they have for a clean water source. Many times I had noticed no water at all in the bathrooms. I had heard of days when emergency surgeries were cancelled due to no water. How could this be, that a hospital would operate with no water? In Russia, loss of things like water and electricity do not cancel the business of living. At this same time, the Lord began to give the administration and I a vision of drilling a well at the hospital site itself. The current water source is from a well nearly 3 kilometers from the hospital. The pipes travel through an area where the houses are old and have

patients is common. Also, the approach to wellness through spiritual care is totally absent.

Many times the things we dread the most, are the very circumstances God uses to do a new work through us. For the past two years I have been

outside toilets. In the spring, when the deep snow melts, this area is a field of sewage. The old pipes have rusted open so when the water finally arrives at the hospital, it is grossly contaminated. Continued deterioration of this piping and pumping system disrupts the daily water supply to the hospital. The new well would bypass all the swamps and rusted pipes, delivering a clean and constant source of water.

During the past year, a local committee made up of hospital staff and local church members has been formed. We have surveyed the old system and documented the problems and have designed an onsite well that would directly supply water to the hospital. Working closely with the city and hospital administration, we wrote an application to Lifewater International a Christian organization of geologists and hydrologists. They do consulting

**"As this new well has the capacity to meet the daily needs of the hospital, it is a symbol of new life in Christ, and the true source of 'living water' that never runs dry."**

and training for well projects in developing countries worldwide, integrated with evangelism and discipleship. Lifewater has accepted our application, and agrees to send an advisor to work with a local drilling company to drill the well and train a maintenance crew in August 2000. The advisor will also help us and the local church survey the community for interest in organizing a future community-wide well project or potential future projects in preventative health and micro-economic development. The estimate of total project costs is \$22,000 including the drilling, casing, new PVC pipes, a new pump and the costs of the consulting and training.

Much prayer is needed for the provision of this new well. As it has capacity to meet the daily needs of the hospital, it is a symbol of the new life in Christ, and the true source of "Living Water" that never runs dry. Local believers will be working alongside those who need to accept Jesus as Lord. Please pray that God would provide wisdom, strength, patience and funding. I am so excited to see what the Lord will do with this well as I remember the story in John chapter four—how Jesus spoke to a woman by a well and many in the town came to call Him Lord due to her testimony! ♦

## A Special Request

The Sobinka Hospital Well Project (see article next page) will cost about \$22,000 to drill the well, install the pump and system, train a maintenance team, and begin a church-based regional development effort through organizing the community. The hospital will contribute 15% towards project costs and will pay for well maintenance. A project proposal was submitted to foundations to cover 50% of the cost. MUP needs to raise about \$5000 to cover our contribution. Please prayerfully consider giving to this fund to enable physical and spiritual water to flow in Sobinka, Russia. Tax-deductible contributions to Mission to Unreached Peoples marked "Sobinka Well Project" can be sent to:

P.O. Box 30947, Seattle, WA 98103-0947 Thank you!

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Mission to Unreached Peoples  
P.O. Box 30947, Seattle, WA 98103-0947,  
Tel: (206) 781-3151, Fax: (206) 781-3182  
Email: mupinfo@mup.org  
Web Page: <http://www.mup.org>  
Canada: P.O. Box 50051, South Slope RPO,  
Burnaby, BC V5J 5G3, CANADA

Mission to Unreached Peoples (MUP) is an interdenominational agency helping people fulfill God's call in evangelism and church planting often through holistic creative strategies such as tentmaking and community development.

We would like to hear from you. If you desire more information about MUP or any articles, please contact the editor at the address above.

EDITOR/DESIGNER: Michael Camp  
CONTRIBUTING EDITORS: David Hupp,  
LeAnne Kion, Danny Martin, John Sanford,  
Bruce Sidebotham, Gary Womelsduff

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P.O. Box 30947, Seattle, WA 98103-0947.

### Our Mission

Our mission is to obey the Great Commission of Jesus Christ by investing our lives, gifts, resources, and vocational skills in God's work throughout Asia and Europe.



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