



May 2013

www.christianworldmissions.org

My Beloved WOMEN'S RETREAT

As the bridegroom rejoices over his bride, so will your God rejoice over you. ~ Isaiah 62:5b



As little girls, many of us dreamed of a perfect wedding. Whether that dream has been fulfilled, unrealized or maybe even

shattered, there is One whose love will never fail. Yet, we are often so consumed by our dreams or the demands of our daily lives that we forget what we were created for...an intimate relationship with the One who calls us His beloved.

During this retreat, you will be reminded or maybe even introduced to the One who will not just rejoice over you for a day, but love you intimately and perfectly for all eternity. We will unfold the Truth of God's Word and explore the beautiful relationship between Christ and His Bride.

We will enter His presence with Spirit-led praise and worship which will lead into our interactive workshops. The atmosphere and the lessons will be presented in terms of an ancient Jewish wedding...from the choosing of the bride to the marriage celebration. The workshop sessions include: 1. The Bride is Chosen 2. The Covenant is Confirmed 3. The Bride Prepares 4. The Groom Returns

It will be a wonderful time of worship, edification, encouragement and fellowship. You will certainly enjoy the camaraderie of your sisters in Christ, but you will also be reminded of His great love for you, His beloved.

We hope you'll join us for one of the events already scheduled or call us about scheduling *My Beloved* at your church.

June 13 & 14 (Evenings)

Christian World Missions Outreach Center, Starkville, MS

June 21 & 22

Grace United Methodist Church, Lee's Summit, MO

Call us at 662-324-0390 or visit our website for more information at www.christianworldmissions.org

LOCAL MINISTRY

After a year of building relationships through monthly programs at our Outreach Center, we are within just months of opening several weekly ministries. In August, we will launch an afternoon children's outreach and parent program in addition to a senior-adult ministry. We will continue to offer Bible studies, and we are praying about the possibility of offering a recovery program.

God has put it on our hearts to reach across the street to those who need Him in Starkville, as we build churches and meet needs around the world. Already, God has brought Christian people into our lives who have the skills and networks to make plans come to fruition. Please continue to pray as His plan unfolds. See inside for the position announcement related to our local ministry.

INDIA 2013

We have preliminary plans to spend about a month in India this fall visiting each state and the churches that have been planted there. One aspect of the mission will be to do training for pastors and laity in those areas. More to come in the next newsletter. Please include this in your prayers.



CWM Outreach Center

Previously, we asked you to pray for the further development of our CWM Outreach Center. We have outlined four phases that will allow us to expand its use and to be better servants to what God has called us.

We have almost completed Phase I of our Outreach Center plan. This phase included immediate upgrades and the initial architectural plans. Our architects have presented a preliminary plan for the building, and we are excited about the possibilities. Phase II deals with the installation of a heating and air-conditioning system and initial parking plans. We are continuing to make progress and ask for your prayers, skills, and financial support.



UPDATE ON AFRICA 2013 MISSION



CHURCH VISITS

Each year, CWM staff arrives a week prior to the team's arrival in order to visit previously planted churches. Lee Ann and Susan had the great pleasure of visiting with bishops and others in leadership to continue to build on the long standing relationship between CWM and the Methodist Church Ghana and the Methodist Church Nigeria. However, the exciting aspects of the visits were the opportunities to see how the churches have grown, hear about the challenges they have faced, celebrate the miracles they have experienced and more.

It is wonderful to see how the pastors have grown in their faith and in their leadership abilities and to see once again those beautiful people that came to know the Lord through a CWM crusade in years past.

In Ghana, we visited 8 churches that were planted eight years ago in the Effiduasi area. All were doing well and several were expanding their buildings in order to meet the needs of their growing church families.

In Nigeria, we visited 10 churches that were planted in 2012. After that crucial first year, the churches were already averaging over 30 members each and in addition to worship services and Sunday school, they also have mid-week services, mornings of fasting and prayer, Bible Studies, hymn practice and evangelism visits throughout their villages. God is doing great things!

For instance, the Akpet Church in Nigeria had experienced many challenges including a small congregation and a church meeting place that is not ideal. Their membership dwindled to only three or four people. One young man suffered with a severe mental disorder. They described him as being "mad." Through the prayers of those few members and the faithfulness of God, this young man was healed and now his entire family are members, and the church is beginning to grow. Please pray for this and all of the churches that have been planted in years past. By the grace and power of God, over 95% of the churches CWM has planted are still active and making a difference in their villages.



CHURCH PLANTING

As we do each year, CWM planted 10 churches in Ghana and 10 churches in Nigeria. The villages where the churches are planted are selected by our CWM-Africa staff in coordination with the Prelate/Presiding Bishop and other clergy and laity. Our desire is to plant churches where there is little to no Christian presence. Quite often, the areas may have signs of Christianity, but it is often mixed with witchcraft and other pagan practices. This year, we worked in villages in the Jamasi area of Ghana and the Ngbo area of Nigeria.



In Ghana, we did children's ministry in schools as well as in villages where churches were being planted. The two children of our ministry staff, Ramzy Smith (11) and Christian Williamson (10), were joined on this mission by two other young men, David (11) and Mark (10) Coblenz. To prepare the boys, we developed a 6-week program called Knights of the Lord's Table, and they all memorized Scripture and prepared brief testimonies to share. They also learned two puppet shows which told the story of the Gospel. In Ghana, these boys were joined by our Ghanaian evangelist's son, Daniel Otsin (12).

Also, in each village, CWM provided free medical clinics. It is a rare occasion that the people in these areas receive professional medical treatment. Indigenous doctors and nurses saw hundreds of men, women, and children every day.



In Nigeria, we started a new agricultural program to teach people how to improve their crop production and overall health using plants and materials that are easily accessible. However, the highlight and primary purpose of the mission is the evangelistic services each night where the Gospel is proclaimed through song and Word. Thousands came to know the Lord during these services.

One woman in the Kokotiesua village turned from her ways as a fetish priestess (witch doctor) and gave her life to Christ. New Christians, like this woman, along with others who know the Lord but have no place to worship, make up the new church. We also prayed for healing and deliverance during the services. Lives were transformed, and we are so grateful that God has provided a church for continued evangelism, discipleship and fellowship.

A great example of God bringing light to the darkness was near the tiny village of Obodo Ajim, Nigeria. There was a forest which served as a center for black magic. People came from all over the country to have the fetish priest put curses on their enemies or seek wisdom from the god. *(The photo in the upper left shows a stump from the forest with nails that represented curses on almost 300 individuals.)* The women wouldn't go near the area to gather the wood they so desperately needed for cooking. Others said they had, "lost children to the forest." Just before we arrived, the people of the village asked the church to cleanse the forest, and they did. Through prayer, fire, and worship the forest was cleansed of the evil spirits and our worship services were set up at that very place. They were well-attended, many came to Christ and a new church was born on that once dark place!

Many of the villages are very remote, with electricity for sound and lights coming from a generator rented for these events. Robbie and Bonnie Coblentz experienced first-hand just how remote those places are. In one of the villages where Bonnie preached, she stood on one side of the only road through town while the crowd listened from behind and the other side. When traffic passed, they simply put a pause on activity, but even with the distractions, a new church was born and God was glorified.



MISSION TEAMS



Ghana team: Front: Ramzy Smith, Daniel Otsin, Mark Coblentz, Christian Williamson, David Coblentz 2nd Row: Bonnie Coblentz, Stella Otsin, Lori Smith, Anna Keeney, Joseph Otsin, Anita Johnson, Timothy Otsin 3rd Row: Lee Ann Williamson, Francis Obour, Robbie Coblentz, Susan Seal, Parker Wayland

Our U. S. and African teams are so important to the mission. And what wonderful teams we had...men, women and even children who are strong in their faith with a great passion for the lost. God began to knit our hearts together very quickly for His purposes, Americans and Africans coming together to see lost souls saved, the sick healed, and the hurting cared for. Our teams consisted of both those who are in the workforce and those retired, veterans in the mission field and first-timers, preachers, teachers, prayer warriors and more. We are grateful for their obedience to God's call. We hope you'll pray about joining in the future.



Nigeria team: Front: J.K. Udeze, Lori Smith, Ramzy Smith, Christian Williamson, Delicia Henderson, Monica Okorie, 2nd Row: Parker Wayland, William Sansing, Bishop John Okorie, Lee Ann Williamson, Susan Seal, Alyssa Barrett, Akin Akinbode

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAY-JULY 2013

Starkville Community Event

May 5

Christian World Missions Outreach Center

The Rest of God Sabbath Retreat

May 17 and 18

The Dwelling Place, Brooksville, MS

CWM Advisory Council Meeting

May 31 & June 1

Christian World Missions Headquarters

Exhibit at UMC Annual Conference

June 6-8

Jackson, MS

Starkville Women's Retreat - My Beloved

June 13 and 14 (evenings)

Christian World Missions Outreach Center
Starkville, MS

Vacation Bible School

Africa Mission Experience

June 17-19

FUMC, Starkville, MS

FaithLift Women's Retreat - My Beloved

June 21 and 22

Grace United Methodist Church
Lee's Summit, MO

Aldersgate Renewal Ministries Conference

Keynote Address and Equipping Sessions

July 10-14

Lexington, KY

We would love to come to your church for a renewal event, women's retreat, concert or to share about the work of missions. Please contact us to begin the process of scheduling.

*Call us at 662-324-0390 or
email us at
info@ChristianWorldMissions.org*

LOCAL POSITIONS AVAILABLE

We will be opening two new positions in our local office. The first is considered a volunteer position but does include a stipend and insurance made possible by a grant from VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America). This person will have oversight and coordination responsibilities for our local outreach and would need to have a love for people of all ages, good communication and organization skills, and the freedom to work some nights and weekends.

The second position is a part-time administrative assistant. We are looking for a mature, self-starter who has skills in book-keeping, general office work, and organization. Hours for this position are negotiable. This is a 20-hour per week position.

If you are interested in either position, please call our office at 662-324-0390 for more information. Please have your resume and references available.

Vacation Bible School Supports Africa Mission

We are thrilled to be working with the Starkville FUMC's Vacation Bible School. Since their focus is on missions this year, CWM is going to provide a trip through the African bush and let the children experience what we do on our African mission. They'll get to meet the chief of a community and participate in the protocol necessary to plant churches in his village. They will then venture through the bush to participate in a medical clinic, an agricultural program and worship at a church planting crusade. Who knows, God might just use this experience to call a young boy or girl to go into the world and share His Good News.

In addition to this experience, the children will be saving their money to support our African medical clinics. CWM provides a 2-3 day clinic in each village where we plant a church. This means hiring an indigenous doctor and providing the medical supplies and medicine needed. Each clinic sees hundreds of patients a day. So thanks in advance to the children and their families of FUMC Starkville for sharing the love of Christ in this manner.



Medical Clinic in Ndiagu Eze Eziulo, Nigeria

Would you like to join the children and help support the work of Christ around the world? Here are a few small ways you can help:

- Provide a medical clinic in one village in Africa: \$300
- Provide training for the pastors of the churches we plant: \$200
- Support an orphan at the Living Hope Campus, India: \$30/mo
- Sponsor children to attend VBS in India: \$5/child

Contact us for many other options.
May God bless you as you bless others.

NEW AGRICULTURAL PROGRAM

As our 2012 mission team visited with Dr. Sunday Makinde, Prelate in the Methodist Church Nigeria, he said, "Methodists came here with a hoe in one hand and a Bible in the other." With that in mind, and the fact that Jesus cared for people's physical needs in addition to their spiritual needs, we instituted an agricultural program in Nigeria this year. This program was led by Dr. Mike Oye, a CWM

Dr. Mike Oye and William Sansing look at a Neem tree surrounded by yam mounds.



–Nigeria staff member, who has a PhD in Agricultural Education and Rural Sociology, and Dr. Susan Seal, CWM Director of Outreach who also holds a PhD in Agricultural Education.

The program focused on both crop production and human health through natural resources. Dr. Oye prepared the educational content and shared it with Dr. Seal as well as two other team members, William Sansing, and Mississippi State University agricultural student, Alyssa Barrett, who served as ag teachers during the mission.

Our mission involves planting churches in 10 villages in Nigeria. Each evening prior to the services, we held our agricultural extension-type program. The program was about an hour long. The sessions focused on increasing production by teaching how to use indigenous plants as fertilizer, pesticides and insecticides, and improving human health by using some of these same plants for nutrition and medicine. Moringa seeds, which have nutritional and other health benefits and leucaena seeds, which can be used as a nitrogen supplement to soil and food for small animals, were given out to those in attendance.



Susan Seal teaching about the Moringa tree.

CWM has plans to expand the program next year to include a train-the-trainer model for pastors. We are also in the process of working with a university to increase student participation and effectiveness of the program.

SCHEDULE AN EVENT

We know that many of you lead and serve on committees within your church. If you are thinking ahead to programs this summer or even the fall, now would be a great time to schedule our CWM ministry team. Here are some programs that your church, Sunday school class or organization may be interested in:

- Women's Conference or Retreat
- Evangelist and worship team for Revivals or other events
- Mission presentation or event
- Leadership Training
- Christmas or other concert

Don't wait too late, Contact us now to schedule our ministry team. (Team or individuals available.)

Don't forget to visit our website and share it with friends.

www.christianworldmissions.org



Aldersgate Renewal Ministries 2013 Conference

Join us at the 2013 Aldersgate Conference in Lexington, KY July 10-14. We are excited that Lee Ann Williamson, CWM Executive Director, will be one of the keynote speakers this year. Also, Lee Ann and our other U.S. staff members Lori Smith and Susan Seal will be leading two of the equipping sessions. One session is on preparing your personal testimony, and another is on ministering the baptism of the Holy



Spirit. There are powerful worship celebrations, workshops, and events for adults, children and youth as well as CEU opportunities for clergy and laity.



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“You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last.” John 15:16

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FOLLOW ME



The night I gave my life to Christ at a Youth for Christ rally changed my life forever. John McCay, a Methodist pastor, preached that night. I took a car load of students from Millsaps College to the rally and two of them made commitments as well. From that day on I have wanted to bring others to Christ. I was asked by Aubry Walley, a Mississippi Methodist Conference Evangelist, to help him survey the Alta Woods community in 1953. I got a bunch of students to help with the survey, and we found the prospects were good for another congregation there. I was asked to join him in starting a new church and served what was called a “district superintendent’s appointment.”

We had about 40 charter members who lived in the area and wanted their own church. From that group we recruited six men to go out one night each week using a program called “The Two-by-Two Turn-Over Chart.” By the end of the year we had 160 persons who had accepted Christ and joined the Church. The church continued to grow under the leadership of Bro. Walley. I went away to Candler School of Theology at Emory University.

Upon graduation my heart was in evangelism. For 19 years, I pastored while holding five or six revivals a year. I helped establish two more congregations in the conference and was called by God into itinerant evangelism in 1971. In 1976 God called me to take teams to do mission evangelism. In 1989 God led us to begin planting mission churches.

*One generation shall praise
Your works to another,
And shall declare Your
mighty acts. ~ Psalm 145:4*

I am pleased that the Gospel I received from John McCay and Aubry Walley is the same yesterday, today, and forever and that the work we did is being carried on by a new generation. God’s Word will stand forever. We have the privilege of passing the baton to those who will follow.



Rev. Cecil Williamson has been in ministry over 60 years serving as a pastor for churches in Georgia and Mississippi prior to being appointed as a full-time general evangelist in the United Methodist Church. He founded Christian World Missions in 1971. Through his leadership and partnership with others, hundreds of churches across Ghana, India, Nigeria, and the Philippines have been established. Although still active in ministry, Cecil retired from CWM in 2011 passing the mantle of leadership to his daughter.