

ACTION Newsletter

Action International Ministries

June 2011

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From the Desk of the USA Director

This month I am presenting as a challenge to all of us two items about youngsters from Oregon involved in missions.

The first is a poem by Susanna Scofield of Bandon, Oregon. She wrote this when she was 13.

There are 100,000,000 street kids in the world so there is a colossal amount of need. ACTION is known as a mission which specializes in working with children at risk, and it is our constant prayer that we will be able to recruit more Christian workers, train more congregations in the countries where we work, and raise more funds to evangelize and care for children at risk.

Street Children

*When there is food you don't like to eat,
Think of the children who live on the street.
Food they do lack because they are poor.
Guess what they do; they hang around the store!*

*At just the right moment they dash to the spot,
Hoping that they might gain a whole lot.
Then off with the money that they did steal,
And off to the store to buy their next meal.*

*Some have no father or mother; no one seems to care.
Some are kicked out of home, because there's no food to spare.*

Hungry, tired, cold, and neglected, these children are in need.

Scared, beaten, killed — no rules; it breaks my heart indeed!

*Do you have time to pray for them, or do you care?
Have you the money to help them, or do you not dare?
Do you not dare to give up a dollar or two
So that they can have food like you?*

— Susanna Scofield

Please consider what you can do to help with this great need.

As an encouragement, read this article from the newsletter of Rick and Janet Norquist who operate Rancho de los Niños near Mazatlán, México:

Former "Ranchera" Returns for a Visit

April brought a short-term missions team from Cornerstone Church in Gresham, Oregon, to spend a week at the ranch. One of the participants in that group was Berenice! Berenice lived at the ranch for five years before she and her sister, Cinthia, were adopted by a loving couple from Dallas, Oregon, a year ago. Berenice came with her dad for her first visit back to the ranch since she was adopted. What a treat for us and her!

Berenice reports that she enjoyed her visit, renewing acquaintances that for the past year she had maintained on Facebook. Everyone was amazed at how she had grown into a beautiful young lady who had learned to speak English. In spite of the differences, it was obvious that Berenice hadn't changed in the important things that define who she really is. Her week at the ranch went fast as she helped out with projects and odd jobs, served as an assistant teacher in Bible school to neighborhood kids and even visited her biological family! We are so proud of Berenice and Cinthia and praise the Lord for giving them an adoptive family.

There we have a truly wonderful report of successful rescue of a child, placement and adoption, and spiritual training by the adoptive parents resulting in a young lady who knows and serves the Lord. These are the kinds of stories that motivate all of us to continue the work and to trust God for many more such reports!

May the Lord's call be loud and clear into a greater measure of service in His kingdom.

Yours in Christ,



Rex Lee Carlaw
USA Director



Worldwide News Briefs

by Andrea Johnson

Africa

Uganda

Home of Love Orphanage for Vulnerable Children provides a caring family environment for children in crisis in Gulu. Angie Lauer, a missionary involved in this ministry, shared in a recent update how she and others at Home of Love are teaching gardening skills to children in their care.

“We maintain gardens that provide fresh vegetables for the children. Most Acholi people in this region cultivate a garden plot to provide food for their families. As the children at Home of Love help in the garden, they learn life skills that they will need to support themselves in the future.

“The young people love to play in the dirt as they learn about the various crops. The children recently helped harvest our crop of sweet potatoes. They were especially excited about this project because sweet potatoes are one of their favorite vegetables. They think the best part about planting seeds and learning how to take care of the plants is getting to eat the results!”



A budding gardener

Zambia

Missionaries Tracy Singleton and Steve Allen teach pastors and Christian leaders at ACTION Pastors’ College in Lusaka. Tracy and Steve wrote about a 20-foot container to be shipped to Zambia by July 1, 2011, that will change the lives of local pastors:

“We at ACTION Zambia have been called to serve the Zambian church. Our goal is sustainable church and ministry multiplication. We do not want the local church to forever be dependent on donations

and missionaries from the West. Independence will come as local pastors are empowered to know and obey Christ’s Word and teach and show their people how to live godly and productive lives. One important aspect of empowering Zambian pastors is supplying them with books and tools they need to become good workmen who accurately handle the Word of Truth.

“James Chiwuswa is a typical Zambian pastor. He shepherds a small congregation of poor believers in Chiwama. We recently provided him with a study Bible—something far too expensive for him to have acquired on his own—which is now his primary resource for studying Scripture. It is a big help, but we want to do much more.

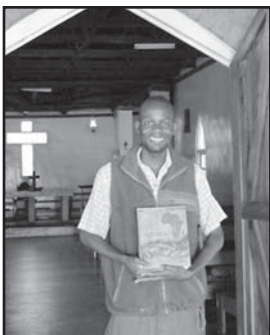
“Tens of thousands of dollars worth of Bible study aids have been donated to help the Zambian church. This container shipment will contain Bible commentaries, dictionaries, concordances, tracts, Christian biographies, and other theological books. They will be placed at four resource centers in Lusaka and made available to Zambian pastors and seminary students throughout the area.”

ACTION Zambia is praying that the container will be shipped by July 1. Please join them in prayer that God will supply the funds needed to ship this container and that the shipment will safely arrive in Zambia to bless local pastors and students.

Asia

Philippines

ACTION Philippines currently provides meals for 2448 people through various feeding programs. In addition to providing sustenance



Pastor James Chiwuswa

for needy people, ACTION also runs a literacy program and has recently conducted medical clinics at the feeding sites.

Jeff Anderson, veteran missionary in the Philippines, writes, "We primarily use food from Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) at our 27 feeding sites. Children in crisis and their families compose the majority of those who are served, but we also provide food to 60 senior inmates at the national penitentiary. Fifteen additional churches are now applying to use FMSC food for their feeding programs.

"Last month we held a medical clinic at one of our new feeding sites in cooperation with the Armed Forces of the Philippines. We praise God that more than 550 people were treated. We have 25 churches interested in holding similar medical clinics. The cost per clinic is approximately \$400. We have a network of medical personnel who volunteer their time, so these funds are solely used for medicine, transportation, food and small gifts. Please pray that the Lord will provide the needed finances."

Latin America

Cuba

ACTION Cuba Director Brian Stewart just returned from three weeks of ministry on the island. Here are some quotes from his trip report:

"The five-day discipleship camp at Canaán was our sixth since 2000 and this one was undoubtedly one of the best. The Lord moved through the teaching of Thomas Galphin Smoak III and Benjamin Sanderson and there were several times where many came forward to confess sin and to rededicate themselves to the Lord. Although Thomas and Ben had not coordinated their topics, as they each spoke twice daily, the Lord knit their messages together as though it had all been planned out. (And I guess it was!) We were privileged to

have over 540 in attendance.

"Our experience at the camp in Bayamo was more of a challenge. Two weeks prior to our arrival Pastor Alcibiades was notified that our reservation for the campsite had fallen through and he began days of great effort to salvage the event. We were able to be at a campsite for only one of the three days. Our time listening to the teaching as we sat on the grass in the shade was very edifying, especially Benjamin's message about glorifying God with our bodies.

"The final event of the trip was an interdenominational conference with the national fellowship of ministers and pastors (CIMPEC). This was held in Camagüey with Dr. Gerald McDermott teaching from his book 'Seeing God.' It went very well. Camagüey is a province that has experienced strife and division as some pastors have declared themselves apostles and broken away from their denominations, keeping the church property for their new congregations. Our conference brought over 150 leaders together from many denominations and the sense of unity in Christ was very special."

México

Rick and Janet Norquist direct Rancho de los Niños, an orphanage for children, including those with special needs, near Mazatlán. The Norquists seek to provide children with a loving, Christian home where they feel welcome, wanted, worthy and loved, and to share the love of Christ and His gift of salvation with them. There are currently 20 children living at Rancho de los Niños, but the Norquists have recently been asked to take in more.

Rick writes, "The director of a government temporary care facility recently called us and asked if we would allow a 6-year-old boy named Pepe to live at Rancho de los Niños. Pepe and his sister had been living at the temporary shelter for two weeks. We were asked to help because Pepe has special needs; he is developmentally

continued on page 4



Philippine medical clinics

delayed and extremely hyperactive. He and his sister have been severely neglected. As I spent some time with Pepe, I realized that he needs special care that we can offer him at Rancho de los Niños.

“We were also willing to provide a home for his 18-month-old sister, Angélica, but the authorities do not want to release her to us. We pray that God will provide a way for Pepe and Angélica to stay together.

“Over the past few weeks Rancho de los Niños has been asked to provide a home for 9 additional special needs children. These children range in age from 4 months to 15 years. We are working closely with the families, schools, and physicians to determine if these 9 children will benefit from living at the orphanage without jeopardizing the 20 children already in our care. Please pray that God will give us wisdom and guidance as we work through this process.”



Children at Rancho de los Niños (Rick Norquist standing at the rear)

In-Honor-of Gift

<u>In Honor of</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>Designation</u>
Carolyn Gray	Linda C. Mitchell	Erin Johnson

Prayer Corner

Please pray:

- For the children at Home of Love Orphanage in Gulu, Uganda, that they will know the love the Lord has for them and follow Him.
- That the study materials will bless many Zambian pastors and their congregations.
- For needy people in the Philippines that they will come to know the Lord by seeing the love demonstrated through feeding programs, literacy efforts, and medical clinics.
- That the Lord will supply the funds needed for the medical clinics to be held by 25 churches in the Philippines.
- That the Cuban pastors and leaders will remember what they learned during the camps and conferences and implement this teaching in their daily lives and ministry.
- That each child at Rancho de los Niños will be drawn into a loving relationship with Jesus.
- For wisdom for the Norquists as they determine whether they can provide a home for the nine special needs children they have been asked to care for and love.

— *Andrea Johnson*

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