



# Impact Ministries NEWS

April 2010

“Here I am.  
Send me.”

## Kenya Team Chosen

This July VCB is sending a short term team to the Usonga Location in Western Kenya to run Vacation Bible School and to train teachers to get the Word of God into the hearts of hundreds of children in the area. They will

also work with Jirani Mwema, a group that ministers to orphaned children and widows. The trip will be financed partly by VCB’s Ev Rogers Fund and also by private donors. The Ev Rogers Fund is a designated fund used to help finance short

term mission trips of VCB members. You can give directly to the fund through proceeds from MANNA or by indicating the fund on your offering envelope. Please pray for the team during this time of preparation.

### FROM A FEW TEAM MEMBERS...

*“My purpose for serving in this ministry is to serve God with the gifts He has given me. Ever since my junior year of high school I have desired to go to Africa and work with kids...I hope that through this experience I will get more of a direction with what to do after college. I also hope to grow closer to God through this... and that God can use me to bring people into His family.” -KRISTI DIMONTE*

*“All I can think about is going to see those women and children – to hug them, to show them love and compassion – that is how I show Christ – and you bet I will talk about Jesus and what He has done in my life! I imagine that I will get much more back than I could ever possibly give.” -LYDIA PAVLAKIS*

### The KENYA Team: July 2-20

- Ashley Cushman
- Breanne Judson (Kim’s niece)
- Kristi Dimonte
- Larry & Margo Barnett
- Lydia Pavlakis
- Maddie Johnson
- Melody Velleuer
- OT & Kim Ochieng
- Bruce Renich



The Usonga Location in Western Kenya

## Love INC Executive Director Hired

Thank you for your prayers—God has provided us with an Executive Director for our local Love INC affiliate, Joe Besenjak, who started in March.



Joe Besenjak, our Love INC Southwest Executive Director

Love In the Name of Christ (INC) is a

non-profit, Christian organization whose mission is to “mobilize the Church to transform lives and communities in the name of Christ.” The national headquarters are located in Minnesota, but there are more than 140 local affiliates throughout the country. VCB works with 13 other churches to meet the physical and spiritual needs of southwest Lake County, which includes Wauconda,

Island Lake, Hawthorn Woods, Lake Zurich, Long Grove, Barrington, and parts of Arlington Heights. In addition, our affiliate plans to serve Round Lake, Volo, Mundelein, Vernon Hills and Grayslake.

One church alone cannot address all the complex issues surrounding poverty. However, when the Church works together these multifaceted needs are met. By establishing relationships with existing agencies and ministries, Love INC is a “gap ministry” providing for the needs currently going unmet.

There are three levels of ministry. The first is a Clearinghouse which exists as a call-in center

and referral service. Records are kept so that requests for assistance can be verified. Steps are taken to identify all the needs of the individual, not just the temporal ones. Phone volunteers offer to pray with the person and talk openly about Christ. After the request is processed, the person is referred to the appropriate agency, matched up with an existing church ministry, and/or supported by a network of volunteers who can help with the specific needs. Then follow-up occurs. The second level is known as Relational Ministry, although every aspect of Love INC is relational at its core. Churches come alongside the individual or family to provide a network of support. Budget

counseling, parenting classes, and Bible studies are a few examples of the Relational Model. The third level is Community Transformation, in which Love INC addresses the deeper issues that contribute to poverty, such as lack of affordable housing, and acts as a catalyst for change in individual lives and in the community.

The Board of Directors have been meeting regularly and will be attending a final training in May. Our goal is to open the Clearinghouse in September. The biggest needs at this time are prayer and funds. Keep up-to-date with our progress online at: [www.loveincsouthwest.org](http://www.loveincsouthwest.org)



## For the Guilty and the Frustrated

"Prayer has mighty power to move mountains because the Holy Spirit is ready both to encourage our praying and to remove the mountains hindering us."



Last March we were privileged to have 92 year-old Dr. Wesley Duewel, president emeritus of OMS International, speak to us on prayer, the source of all power for ministry. He has said, "We can reach our world, if we will. The greatest lack today is not people or funds. The greatest need is prayer." The majority of Christians would agree that prayer is essential, and that

God moves powerfully when we pray, but many of us struggle with how to engage in this practice. It is for this very reason that Bob Allums, father of VCB member Lydia Leggett, will present a two-day Prayer-Life Seminar May 14-15 at VCB. He will address practical questions such as, "How do you pray for longer than five minutes?" and "How do you ask when

you've tried it before and it doesn't work?" The seminar is free and childcare will be provided. It consists of two hours on Friday night, followed by a continental breakfast Saturday morning and a three and a half hour seminar, ending at 12:30pm. Look for information in your bulletin and on the website to sign up in the upcoming weeks.

## Haiti: Twelve Weeks Later



Mark Lewis

Just days after the earthquake struck in Haiti, VCB missionary Mark Lewis traveled there with a team from EFCA TouchGlobal Crisis Response, a branch of the Evangelical Free Church mission, to assess the situation and direct our response as a denomination. VCB sent a check to TouchGlobal with money you gave through our Disaster Response Fund. We also formed two teams: a strategy team, led by Kathy Houde, and an action team, led by Kevin Kallas, to formulate and carry out our response as a church. A few weeks ago we collected supplies for health kits, such as toothpaste and soap, in conjunction with the Barrington United Methodist Church. Our donations filled the back of a pick-up truck to overflowing! They were packaged at a warehouse and shipped to Haiti. We also purchased some

Global, which will be used to prevent flat tires on the littered roads. The Hispanic church, Iglesia Roca Eterna in Arlington Heights, hosted a benefit concert in our gym last night, April 10<sup>th</sup>, to raise funds for a church in LaCoste. The church cares for orphans and their desire has been to build an orphanage, long before the earthquake struck. Roca Eterna sent two short term teams there last year. Our strategy team continues to explore ways to partner with other organizations. It will take many years to rebuild Haiti. We'll keep you posted with more ways that you can get involved, from the home front (and also by going there yourself if the opportunity presents itself.)



Tire Slime

World Relief is encouraging people to block out One Minute for Haiti, at 4:53pm every Tuesday, the time the earthquake struck. Why not consider setting a recurring alarm on Tuesdays for whatever window of time into the future God may lead you to continue interceding for the people of Haiti?

## We've Sent You—Do We Know You?

Did you know that in the Democratic Republic of Congo there are 740,000 orphans and 47% of the population is under the age of 15? VCB missionaries, Ken and Ginny McMillan, served in this country (formally known as Zaire) until they were forced to evacuate in '96 due to civil war. Ken still travels there once a year for medical project trips. He is a doctor for homeless Native Americans in Minnesota.



Each of our missionaries have a unique story and ministry. Knowing facts about the areas where they serve helps us to understand their ministry better and pray more effectively. For this reason, from now on we will present a missionary or ministry we support on the third Sunday of every month. Sometimes there will be live reports; other times we will have a video. We hope you will be encouraged through hearing their testimonies..

Ken, Ginny, Jane, Tommy  
← McMillan

## Helping Others See Jesus

The Kenya team is developing a plan to show the JESUS film in the Luo language this summer. The film is based on the gospel of Luke and is available in 1089 languages. It has been a powerful tool in bringing people to Christ around the world, especially those from oral cultures, like Kenya. VCB missionary, Irv Klaschus, works for Campus Crusade with the JESUS film and helps develop other evangelistic films for specific audiences as well. He recently sent us this note:

"Thank you to the Global Impact team and the people of the Village Church of Barrington. We do not take lightly the vital and sacrificial way you all continue to strongly support us and the work of the JESUS film. We know these are tough times for so many people, and yet we thank the Lord of the Harvest that His word continues to go out! "

In Him,  
Irv & Nan Klaschus

