



Global REPORT

MBMS International

Winter 2005

From the General Director



RANDY FRIESEN

Thank you for your prayers and encouragement over the past months in this new leadership role with MBMS International!

I am glad to see that some of the spiritually darkest places on the planet are experiencing God's light through new evangelism and church planting movements. Yet, there is still so much to do and so many places that are resistant to the gospel. Statistics abound that compel us to continue to share the gospel of Jesus Christ.

My first 100 days in this role were spent working with our MBMS International board to shape a new staff structure for MBMS International to better respond to the challenges and opportunities ahead. This structure calls for a Lead Team to work with me to broaden and enhance our view of what MBMS International can do in World Missions. (Please see an introduction to the Lead Team below.)

We're changing as a mission and we invite you to life change with us!

The Lead Team at MBMS International

During the Fall Board Meeting, MBMS International moved to a new Relationship Model of Governance. This provides for the development of a Lead Team to offer vision, accountability, and leadership to this international organization. This change will help us further communicate mission vision and build ownership for the work of MBMS International among our members. Four team members have been chosen to serve with General Director Randy Friesen. Prayer is requested for the Lord to bless and guide our new Lead Team.

Team leaders are:

Selwyn Uittenbosch, Finance Team Leader. A gifted accountant and business executive, Selwyn will be implementing structures to strengthen our financial systems and reporting.

Carlin Weinbauer, Mobilization and Communications Team Leader.

He will be evaluating the impact of our church relations work and congregational partnerships and designing a strategy to more effectively mobilize this generation into God's mission.



Ray Harms-Wiebe, Training/Team Health Leader.

He will be working with new missionaries and short term participants to help discern their potential areas of service, giving care as needed during assignments.

Viktor Hamm, Program Team Leader.

For the past 12 years Viktor Hamm has been working for the Billy Graham Association as their Director for Russia and Eastern Europe. He will be leading our overall program delivery team for both Short-Term and Long Term staff.

Earthquake & Tsunami Relief Update

While the enormity of the earthquake and resulting wall of water are hard to comprehend, they remind us of the fragility of life sustained by God's grace. Our MBMS International Team 2000 is located on the other side of Thailand on the Gulf of Thailand and they were not affected by this Tsunami on the Andaman Sea. However,



MEMBERS OF THE TREK TEAM TO THAILAND: JASON REIMER, DALLAS STOBBE, AMANDA GRIFFIOEN, CORINA REIMER, KATRINA GRABNER, DANIELLE SLAUGHTER.

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Earthquake & Tsunami Relief Update (continued)

they and the TREK team currently serving in Thailand have been involved in disaster relief in Southern Thailand.



JASON REIMER STANDS IN FRONT OF RUBBLE FROM THE TSUNAMI DISASTER. PHOTO COURTESY OF YMI.

The Thailand TREK team spent several days in the Phangnga area of Southern Thailand. Corina Reimer, a member of this team, had this to say.

“It [the disaster] is so hard to capture in a few words. We spent our days sorting clothes, matching

missing person’s names with the names of those hospitalized, translating for people, filling out missing person’s forms, preparing dead bodies and putting them in coffins, searching for bodies in rubble, and participating in an ABC Network interview.

A backpack had been found in the disaster area and was brought to the base. It was waterlogged. Andy took it apart to see if he could find out something about the owner. After searching, he came across a phone number and reached a relative. The woman who owned the backpack was safe in Bangkok and Andy took the pack to the airport so that she could recover it. It was finally nice to hear of one survival story after dealing with so much death.”

“Operation Rebuilding Lives” has been implemented at the request of TEAM 2000 as a means of building relationships in Southern Thailand. Our vision is as teams of relief workers go from North America to help build ten houses for Thai families and provide medical assistance, a church will eventually be planted because of our help in the present disaster.

TRAC 2004

The Thailand Retreat and Consultation (TRAC) was a landmark for MB mission work in Asia. Hosted by MBMS International October 24 - 31, 2004, it was the first regional retreat and consultation to work toward a common vision and plan for mission in Asia. For the first time in its history MBMS International brought together all the MB groups serving in one region: eighty missionaries and their children, national church leaders from India, Japan, Indonesia, Philippines and Thailand, key staff members from North America, Board members, and guests gathered for the purpose of seeing Jesus become Lord and Savior of Asia. For many, it was the first time they had met each other in person, and when the week was over relationships had been built and community was experienced.

In the future, similar retreat and consultation meetings will cycle each year in Africa, Europe and Latin America, returning to Asia in four years. It is because of your generosity in giving to MBMS International that these vision and planning sessions can take place. We thank you so much for your gifts.



TRAC PARTICIPANTS DISCUSS MISSION STRATEGY FOR ASIA. PHOTO BY GERALD HILDEBRAND.

Financial Update

Our operating budget for the fiscal year exceeds \$6.4 million USD. We greatly appreciate your support as we seek to meet our financial commitments and use these resources wisely. Now that we are operating under the new funding model, we encourage you and your churches to consider how you can partner with MBMS International to support the global ministries of both our missionaries and our projects.



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