

Nicholas News

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Opportunities for Ministry

We are so thankful for the many open doors that the Lord has provided for us. In January, a door opened for us to attend a missions conference at the church where I came to know the Lord, Calvary Baptist Church in St. Thomas, VI. This was our first time to be invited for such an occasion. Calvary has been supporting me in missions since the Lord first opened doors for me back in 1988. The last time that we visited Calvary was during our honeymoon nearly three and a half years ago. It was good to re-connect with family and friends while we were there. The time in the Virgin Islands was just too short.

Another door that continues to open for ministry is with the Christian Methodist Episcopal (C.M.E.) denomination. In September 2004 we shared with the C.M.E. College of Bishops about our ministry with Wycliffe Bible Translators. It is clear that each of the bishops we spoke with would like to see more missions involvement among C.M.E. clergy and laity. One outcome has led to another. In December

2004 we met with the C.M.E. General Secretary of Evangelism and Missions who gave us an opportunity to share with some 225 C.M.E. pastors and church leaders in Dallas, Texas. We gave a two-hour seminar on world missions with a challenge for involvement. Many people signed up to pray for Bibleless people groups. One person was very interested in joining Wycliffe. This is the first of many such seminars we hope to give to interested churches.

We are excited about the completion of our latest missions video project in Burkina Faso, West Africa. Last April Gertrude went with a group of six teenagers for a Get Global youth missions trip. Video footage was used to produce a 5-part reality type video series entitled "Go Global With Jesus." It is part of the Urban Ministries, Inc. (UMI) Vacation Bible School (VBS) curriculum. UMI plans to distribute this VBS program to over 5500 churches this summer and we look forward to hearing from hundreds of churches as a result. *Lord hear our prayers.* If you are interested in getting this video series contact UMI at www.urbanministries.com.

—Kevin

Praise the Lord!

- Greta Woods is completing French language study in Switzerland and Katherine Cooper has adjusted well to life and service in Cameroon.
- Increased number of African Americans interested in Wycliffe Bible Translators.
- Video production of youth experiences in Burkina Faso with Urban Ministries, Incorporated is complete.
- Pastors' meetings in Dallas last Fall resulted in three missions presentations at individual churches.
- Gertrude's sister Flora—stable health while she waits for a liver transplant.
- Ministry with the C.M.E. church is picking up momentum.

Ethnic Mobilization

My role in Ethnic Mobilization has been to coordinate Hispanic, Korean, Chinese, and African American mobilization. My job was to help each one be successful in their individual projects and programs. (A woman headed each of these when we began. Does that give you any idea of the magnitude of my job? ☺)



Sunny Hong & Yahaira Morales

The new Hispanic husband/wife team are currently serving in Peru for one year leaving an administrative assistant to manage the Hispanic desk. Chinese Mobilization is run from a California office, since there are so many Chinese churches on the West Coast. At one point, when Sunny Hong, a single female, decided to go overseas, I became interim Director of Korean Mobilization. It helped that I could say a few words like, "hello",

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Ethnic Mobilization (cont'd)

“thank you”, and “good-bye” but it was a great help when Joseph Hong, a new member, (no relation to Sunny Hong) assumed leadership. Recently, Korean Mobilization hosted The Glocal Conference. “Glocal” is a combination of “global” and “local”—the local church getting involved in global ministry.



Joseph Hong

This conference was attended by 43 Korean pastors and church leaders from Canada and the USA. It is a wonderful example of what we would like to see in all four ethnic groups. It has been great to develop a working relationship with individuals from four different cultures for the glory of God.

Gertrude and I spend a lot of our time traveling to share with African American churches and church leaders. God has opened a door with one denomination where we expect to see much fruit.

Wycliffe USA's goal is to double its membership by 2014. So ethnic mobilizers are working with Wycliffe leadership to position ourselves for new growth. We will let you know how these changes affect our ministry in a future newsletter.

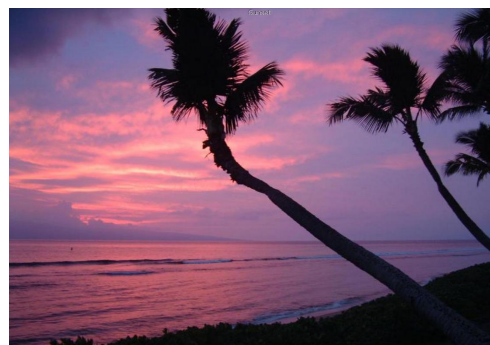
—Kevin

Plans to go to Papua New Guinea

After 18 years of faithful partnership in ministry, members of my first supporting church are going over to Papua New Guinea for two weeks. I can't tell you how badly I want to take them back to Tekedan, that first Sursurunga village that was my home for two and one half years. Economic conditions have deteriorated in the area and roads are not passable. So instead, we are planning to visit Rabaul and Kokopo, the towns where I spent one year working with the Tolai people in East New Britain Province.

The roads there are better kept and travel will be easier. From Kokopo we plan to take a commercial flight to Kavieng, New Ireland Province, where I spent about six years. We plan to visit churches and literacy programs in selected villages. *Pray with us that Kevin and I will have the financial support we need to make this trip. And pray for the group that this trip will inspire them to adopt one of the Bibleless people groups we visit.*

—Gertrude



Please respond to us by email, if possible, so that we may send our letters to you by email.

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Prayer Points

Prosperity and blessing on our partners in Bible Translation. That's you!

Don and Sharon Hutchisson as they complete translation of the Sursurunga New Testament in Papua New Guinea. Pray for their co-translator, Sian, who continues to be in poor health.

Fruitfulness in ministry resulting in an increase in African Americans going to the mission field. We are praying for 24 career members this year.

Continued support and prayers of our financial partners as we seek to involve others in Bible translation.

Salvation of unsaved family members; health and strength of our parents and siblings.

Our spiritual and physical stamina as we face challenges in ministry as a married couple.

Health of Gertrude's family: brother Clarence—eyesight; and his wife Linda—recovery from stroke; both have diabetes; sister Linda recovering from cancer.

Two full-time assistants in African American Mobilization at the Wycliffe headquarters in Orlando.

Safety in travel—in the USA and on to Papua New Guinea.

Success of the Urban Ministries 2005 Vacation Bible School package—that it will be used effectively by 5500+ churches.

Thank you for partnering with us ...
...in His service,

Kevin and Gertrude

Visit our new website, still under construction: www.KevinNicholas.net