



GLOBAL OUTREACH

# ShortTerm

REPORT



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**W**e live in a world filled with spiritual and physical needs. Reflect for a moment on the fact that approximately 30% of today's world population (an estimated 2 billion people) are unevangelized and still waiting to hear the Gospel for the first time. Consider also that an estimated 2.8 billion people (nearly half the world's population) currently live on less than \$2 per day.



Into this vacuum of spiritual and physical need Christ has told us to care for the poor and oppressed in practical ways (James 2:14-17; Matt 25:34-36) and to go “into all the world” and make “disciples of all nations.” (Mark 16:15; Matt 28:19-20; Acts 1:8) Globally, some people can commit to full-time cross-cultural service while others may only be available to address global needs on a short-term basis.

This 2011 “Short-Term Report” provides a brief overview from some members of our congregation who participated in short-term teams over this past year. I trust you will be encouraged as you learn where they went, how they served, and the things God taught them along the way.

As you read about their experiences I also trust you will prayerfully consider that God may desire to work through you in a similar way in the coming year. If so, we'd love to connect with you (*see page 16*)—that together we may continue reaching out as a church body to share the love of Christ to a world in need.

**Verdell Goulding**  
*Global Outreach Coordinator*

(July 31-August 7, 2011)

# First Nations: Alderville Team

By: Steffi Lee

*The Peoples Church seeks to come alongside and assist the ministry of Native people who are sharing the Gospel in culturally relevant ways within Native communities. For the past two years we have sent short-term teams to the First Nations community of Alderville to assist the ministry of local Native pastors Dave & Eileen Simpson. Following is a report from one of our 2011 team members.*

The setting wasn't a rural village in a third-world country. Our task wasn't to build a school or dig a well. The children we hoped to see weren't physically starving or malnourished. We were going to a small town in rural Ontario, less than a two-hour drive from Toronto. And yet, this group of campers was special because they—out of millions of children around the world—had been chosen by God to have His message re-affirmed to them from a missions team this summer. And that team was us.

In one short week, we grew to know and love thirty children from the Alderville First Nations reserve and surrounding small towns. We shared Bible stories, ran around playgrounds together, exploded homemade volcanoes and fired paper rockets. We laughed, we played, we listened, and gradually God broke our hearts for this



The Alderville Team

group of children. Their troubles appeared all the more poignant in a small town with few other community programs for children.

Yet we also realized that we couldn't fix all their problems. We were there to help, and we focused on doing this to the best of our ability in the short time we had with them. We wanted to give them a positive memory of our week together, to build relationships, and together look forward to next year's camp.

We hope that we have given our campers a meaningful and enjoyable experience in "Camp Ben-Oh-Gee," and pray that we have helped Pastors Dave & Eileen grow the seeds they have been planting in demonstration of God's love for His children in Alderville.

*"God broke our hearts for this group of children."*

*Break my heart for what breaks yours;  
Open up my eyes to the things unseen;  
Show me how to love like You have loved me.  
—Hillsong United, "Hosanna"*

*See page 16 for information on Alderville Team 2012*

## DID YOU Know?



- > The rate of suicide among Native youth in Canada is five to six times higher than among non-Native youth
- > The level of physical and sexual abuse is nearly 100% in 2/3 of aboriginal communities in Canada
- > In spite of over 400 years of Christian mission, only an estimated 3% of aboriginals have an active, committed relationship with Christ. This classifies them as an "Unreached People Group" right here in our midst.

(July-September, 2011)

# South-East Asia: Operation Mobilization

By: Aaron Peters

Aaron Peters has called *The Peoples Church* his home church for the last 16 years. This past summer *The Peoples Church* supported him as he served onboard the *OM Logos Hope* ship, which sailed to Sri Lanka, India and Malaysia.

**L**ogos Hope is a ship associated with the missionary organization "Operation Mobilization." Its primary function is to serve as a floating bookstore where it sells Christian and educational literature to the people of ports throughout the world. It also does outreach in the form of medical and developmental aid, church and school visitation, and community events organized both onboard the ship and offshore. There are approximately 400 staff members onboard from every part of the

world imaginable—all who have responded to God's call to serve Him, quite literally, overseas. Many stay on the ship for a period of two years, but there are also opportunities to apply for a two-month exposure program. Along with eight other believers from different corners of the globe I volunteered to work onboard the *Logos Hope* from July until



*The Sri Lankan team*



*The Logos Hope ship*

*Crowd in Sri Lanka*

September of this year. My responsibilities included working in the bookstore and galley, as well as having the privilege of performing an evangelistic drama in a school in Visakhapatnam, India.

Through all the challenges which come from serving abroad, God taught me that He always knows what He is doing. Let

me provide an example. We were scheduled to stay in a busy port called Hambantota in southern Sri Lanka for a week. Due to technical problems we had to extend our stay for another three days. In our minds it threw a wrench into our schedules. Yet in those three days God brought nearly half of the predominately Buddhist Hambantota district to visit the ship! He transformed the lives of ten Chinese workers who were helping with infrastructure development in the area, and enabled

*"I have learned that God's ways are always better than we can ever imagine."*

me to share with a struggling young Buddhist professional the promises of God. Through experiences like these I have learned that God's ways are always better than we can ever imagine. When we step out in faith and walk in obedience to His will, we can rest in the promise that He will sustain us and never let us down.

(August 2011)

# Zambia: Women for Orphans & Widows

By: Tanya Chandran

*On August 6th, a team of eleven gathered from various churches across Canada and journeyed to Kabwe, Zambia in partnership with Women for Orphans and Widows (WOW). Below is a reflection of team member Tanya Chandran on her experience.*

It is hard to grasp the harsh reality of a country that is strangled by poverty, devastated by the HIV/AIDS epidemic, and enveloped by hopelessness. Working alongside Kabwe Home-Based Care workers, we visited the sick and dying. We met young Carolyn (15 years old) who lost her baby at birth and is HIV positive; Agnes, who cares for eight orphans, can barely walk, has severe chest pains, and yet cannot afford to see a doctor; as well as many other heartbreaking stories.

Despite the shattering truths that lie within Zambia, God is at work. With the little they had, and though they were literally walking through the valley of death, they gave glory to God in everything. Whether it was children doing cartwheels down the road and trying to catch up with our bus, a mother clinging to God with faith that He can heal her daughter, or a group of widows singing praises to God as they watered their garden, it was evident that they were overflowing with joy and hope.



*Many smiles it up our hearts*



*Heather praying over Carolyn*



*Children's church choir in Chibanga*

I flew to Zambia praying that God would use me to touch a few lives there, but soon realized that He used the people of Zambia to transform mine. Through their warm welcomes, bright smiles, cheerful singing, joy in all situations, and complete trust in God, they brought light into our lives. God doesn't call the qualified, but He qualifies the called. Once you make yourself available to Him, He will use you to light the world with His love.

*See page 16 for information on WOW Team 2012*

## DID YOU Know?



The HIV/AIDS crisis is said to be the greatest health and social crisis in human history. A staggering 15 million children have been orphaned by the pandemic in Africa, leaving entire communities struggling to survive. It is in this context that organizations such as Women for Orphans and Widows (WOW) are sharing the love of Christ with those in need (James 1:27).

(July 25-August 15, 2011)

# India: Bible Faith Mission

By: Jerome Jeganathan

*The Peoples Church partners with Bible Faith Mission (BFM) in southern India, a ministry that provides high-quality education to children and youth of various castes—and with a special effort to include the “untouchable” Dalits. An essential part of this partnership is the sending of short-term teams each year to help teach English at the BFM school.*

**I**n August, 2011 five women went to Kerala, India on a short-term missions trip to teach English at Bible Faith Mission (BFM) school. Our purpose was to work alongside the Dalit people (also called “the untouchables”) and share with them the strength, hope, and peace that can be found in God alone.

This trip also allowed me to grow and mature in ways I didn’t think possible. It challenged me mentally, physically, emotionally, and most importantly, in my spiritual walk with the Lord. God stretched me during this trip by causing me to question my



*Team members (left to right): Jerome Jeganathan, Linda Mendonca, Joelle Waugh, Jennifer Ludlow (Team Leader), and Catherine Pettigrew.*

thoughts, my actions, my intentions, and ultimately, whether the life I was living was for myself or for the eternal glory of God. I experienced a renewal of my mind and of my heart.

I learned to trust the Lord and give Him absolute control over every aspect of my life. There were numerous situations where our team had to put aside our own will for God’s and trust Him to do what was best. As I look back, I can see how God’s hand was upon every detail.

It was also a tremendous blessing to meet and form a relationship with our host, Keren Promoth (the administrator of the BFM school). She is an exemplary woman of God and served as a good example for us all. Her willingness to allow God to work within her life and her sheer passion for the BFM ministry was extraordinary. During family prayers every night we also got to witness the way she sings her heart out for the Lord—it was one of the most inspiring things I have ever seen! My team members and I are forever grateful for the example, kindness, and generosity Keren and her family displayed towards us.

Mission trips are a call for people who have a willing heart and want to share the love of God with others. He used every member of our team in different and unique ways—and He can do the same with you!

*See page 16 for information on BFM Team 2012*



*Children singing in a classroom*

*Children with Jerome*

## DID YOU Know?



There are about 250 million Dalit people living in India. Historically considered polluted and unworthy, they have been banned from many public places and are not even allowed to touch members of the other castes—which is where the term “untouchables” originated.

(June 20-August 15, 2011)

# Taiwan: OMF International

By: Joshua Wong

*For 8 weeks this past summer Joshua Wong visited with career OMF missionaries in the country of Taiwan. His purpose was to gain a better understanding of the needs within that country and of career missionary service. In reflecting on his experiences he shares with us the “Top Ten Things Learned” from his trip this summer.*

## The Top Ten Things I Learned on My Trip to Taiwan this Summer:

10. You never really understand a country until you go and see it for yourself. It’s also important to go where people actually live—the tourist areas don’t reflect their day-to-day reality!
9. It’s important to look deeper into the needs if we are to better understand where and how to minister—e.g. an estimated 4% of people living in Taiwan are Christian, but less than 0.5% of the working class (which makes up 70% of the population) know Christ.
8. Different cultures require flexibility to do things differently than we do in Canada—e.g. “church” has to be done differently for people in Taiwan who work until 11 PM each night and/or are unable to read or write.
7. Your theology will be challenged on the field. The way we view things in North America is sometimes far different than what you will experience overseas.



OMF Taiwan team

*“God gave each of us specific gifts to serve the body.”*

6. It is important to be faithful and persistent—you may need to share the Gospel with people many times before they even begin to hear it or understand it.
5. Idol worship goes beyond worshipping small carved figures. It can also include material items—such as our jobs, or even other people. Anything we put before God is an idol.
4. Putting others before yourself is very hard, especially when everything seems to fall apart at the wrong times. But God gave each of us specific gifts to serve the body. When we use those to the best of our ability we will be energized and refreshed.
3. Prayer is so powerful! Many times I just felt so lost and alone, but He pulled me out of the darkness and gave me direction and hope. My faith in him has increased from this trip.
2. Miracles are so ever-present. In Taiwan, being given the chance to share the Gospel with a person when there may have been no other opportunity for them to hear was a miracle and a blessing.
1. Too often we wait for a “call” or a “calling” (i.e. a call to ministry, a call to missions) but God has already told us to go in Matthew 28:19. We just need to be obedient!

(July 17-August 7, 2011)

# Kenya & Uganda: Team Reflections

*In July, 2011 a group of 27 people between the ages of 18 and 80, from various churches throughout southern Ontario (including The Peoples Church), came alongside various projects in Kenya and Uganda.*

First there was a visit to Cheryl's Children's Home and Mully's Children's Family (MCF) in Kenya—seeing first-hand the needs of children among several hundred thousand people living in Kibera (the largest slum in Nairobi). This was followed by a visit to the Watoto ministry in Uganda where the work of the teams' hands made good on the funds they had raised as they helped build a portion of a community church. Following are some reflections from team members on their experiences.



The Watoto team

*“Team member lives were changed. They formed relationships with frontline Kenyan workers who often lack resources among such great need, and serve as such a wonderful inspiration to us all. The team members returned wanting to give more here and abroad.*

*They desire to go back and also to help the needy here in their own backyard. People who had never prayed now also want to pray. It's amazing to see how God works.” —Al Snowball (Team Leader)*

*“In the early part of our trip we had the privilege of spending time at two very special places: Cheryl's Children's Orphanage and Mully's Children's Family (MCF), both near Nairobi, Kenya. Cheryl's is a small but thriving orphanage that provides a home and primary education to over 200 children. The investment the teachers and staff have made in the lives of these children was most humbling to witness; at times they go without pay in order to meet the financial obligations of this ministry. Our time there allowed us to interact with many precious little ones. We also formed what are sure to become deep and lasting relationships with the 12 teachers and other staff...” —Sue Maize*



Enjoying time with the children

Jeff at Watoto's Bulrushes, home for abandoned babies



*“My highlight for the entire trip was in a classroom filled with Grade 11 students during our visit to Kenya. Four students stood up facing our group and their peers. All four spoke eloquently about opportunity, about drive with no fear, and about change that Jesus would deliver in their lives. I could feel goose bumps as they talked – it was truly electric! The Lord had my full attention: He was pointing to these four students and the love He has for them. It was also exciting to see the Kenyan leadership of these ministries. This was about encouragement - cheering on the Kenyan vision, the Kenyan leadership – the face of change.” —Jeff Cunningham*

See page 16 for information on Watoto Team 2012

# Upcoming Trips—2012

*The Peoples Church will be facilitating a number of short-term trip opportunities in 2012. These will include:*

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## CANADA

### First Nations (Alderville, ON)

What: In partnership with My People International and local pastors Dave & Eileen Simpson, our 2012 Alderville Team will be coordinating a VBS program in the Native community of Alderville, ON. **When:** Summer, 2012 **Cost:** Approx. \$1000 **Who:** Anyone interested in First Nations ministry!

## AFRICA

### Kenya

What: The team will visit Cheryl's Children's Home and Mully's Children's Family (MCF) near Nairobi, Kenya. The purpose will be to see and help address the needs of frontline workers and the orphans who are being served. **When:** July-Aug, 2012 **Cost:** Approx. \$3500 **Who:** Ideal for first-timers

### Zambia & Malawi

#### (Women for Orphans and Widows)

What: Two teams will be sent from The Peoples Church in 2012 to join with local Home-Based Care workers to pray for the sick and dying, help deliver food and medicine, engage in Bible teaching, and assist in the creation of memory books for children who are losing their parents due to HIV/AIDS. **When:** April, 2012 (Malawi) and August, 2012 (Zambia) **Cost:** Approx. \$4500 **Who:** Anyone willing to serve

## INDIA

### Bible Faith Mission (South India)

What: Bible Faith Mission (BFM) is an English Medium School that provides Dalit children with the quality education they need. There is opportunity for us to send several teams in 2012 to assist BFM in the English language component of their school programs. **When:** June and/or August, 2012 **Cost:** Approx. \$3000 **Who:** Anyone with good English skills

## HAITI

What: Haiti is the poorest country in the western hemisphere and a region where an estimated 75% of "Christians" are actively involved in voodoo. The Peoples Church will be sending a team in 2012 to help provide capacity to the local church in its outreach and building efforts. **When:** TBD **Cost:** Approx. \$1500 **Who:** Anyone in good physical condition who is willing to serve others

*For further information about any of these opportunities please contact Linda Mendonca, Administrative Assistant, in the Global Outreach Department at 416-222-3341 x. 171 or via e-mail at [goadmin@tpc-t.org](mailto:goadmin@tpc-t.org). Thank you!*



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