



LORD'S HARVEST INTERNATIONAL

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LHI Newsletter

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Pakistan Update

The first anniversary of the murders of Rashid Emmanuel and his brother Sajid was observed on July 19. The latest report from Pakistan affirms that there has been a conviction of the assassin, but it appears that there has been an appeal and it is hard to know what will happen next. Rashid's family is still trying to get a verdict about the false blasphemy charges because life is nearly unbearable for the family of an accused "blasphemer." Some of the funds we are sending to Rashid's family are being used to help with legal costs as well as travel to Faisalabad for court appearances.

On the anniversary of the deaths, pastor Rashid's widow, Saima, held a prayer meeting with the women's group she is leading. She invited Pastor Inayat Masih to lead the prayer session. Saima is very active overseeing the women's ministry and she is also conducting Bible studies and prayer meetings regularly in the area where Rashid was previously ministering.



Pastor Masih



Saima Emmanuel

Stephen Cook from Australia, a member of our Pakistan Advisory Team, is in regular contact with Rashid's younger brother, Ahsan. Ahsan has decided to go into the ministry, despite knowing the risks of serving. According to Stephen, Ahsan comes across as a quiet young man, but very diligent and devoted.

We are in regular contact with Pastor Vaster Saajan, an older brother of Pastor Rashid and the supervisor of the work in Pakistan. He keeps us informed of the work of the ten churches that are affiliated with the General Conference. (over)

During the past two months, through your generosity, we have been able send \$200 per month to purchase Urdu translations of the Bible for distribution to those who have no Bibles. The Bibles used to cost \$4 each but now they cost \$5 each.



Bibles being distributed by Pastor Vaster. Church of God work in Pakistan is conducted under the name “United Ministries of Pakistan.”

It appears that the risks to Christians in ministry is increasing in Pakistan. Please pray for our Christian brothers and sisters who live under constant threat of persecution.

Haiti Update

At the meeting of the General Conference Board of Directors held in Omaha in July, the churches in Haiti overseen by Pastor Lesly Bertrand were admitted to the Church of God General Conference. There are 20 churches with a membership of 3,143 in this group. We are pleased to officially welcome these churches into our Conference after a relationship that has gone on for over 10 years.

Below is a letter just received from Pastor Lesly.

Dear Sister Judy:

Greetings to you from Haiti! I pray this e-mail will find you, your family and your ministry well and living in the blessings of God. Please receive my apologize for taking so long to communicate with you and inform you about the Mission work in Haiti. First of all I would like to thank you for the faithful support that I receive monthly from the office of Atlanta Bible College. This support that I receive from you is used for the whole ministry. This is how I dispatch it and use it:

1- After the earthquake, I had several families who had lost their house and I chose two of them who were really in need, so then I built two houses for them.



2- Last February Pastor Sydney and his team built three classrooms for our school program.

3- We still continue with the feeding program that we have in Baie d'Orange. Last July we had a VBS with the children in Baie D'orange and we had about 250 children participate. We had 30 of them who decided to walk along with Jesus. In this program, we had opportunity to distribute the little robe which made with pillow material.

4- Last April just after Easter, we had a Pastor Conference and we have talked over this theme "Finish Well in God". We realize in the Bible there were some leaders who didn't finish in God and they failed in their mission and their mandate as well. It was a time of prayer and exhortation in the way to encourage each another.

5- Now we are still worshipping on Sunday under the tent because we don't have means to rebuild our main church building at present. We have 4 of our churches in the mountains which were damaged during the earthquake and they need to be rebuilt including our main church. Please continue to pray for us.

I thank all of you for the compassion, the love that God put in your heart for us in Haiti. We really appreciate that and we strongly consider that. Without your help, there are many things we couldn't do because your support covers all areas of our ministry in Haiti. One more time, on behalf of the people of Haiti we greatly thank you personally, your brother, Pastor Sydney and his church, the Lord Harvest Mission and the churches of the Church of God General Conference for their support and their prayers toward us. May God bless you and keep you safe!

In His faith, Pastor Lesly Bertrand

Africa Trip

We are pleased to report that Dr. Joe and Rebekah Martin returned safely last Thursday night from their visit to Malawi and Mozambique. A report of this trip will be included in the next newsletter.

Bible School Project

The Lawrenceville Church in Springfield, OH held its annual Vacation Bible School last month. They held a contest between the boys and girls to see who could collect the most offering. The girls' money would go to a local food pantry to purchase book bags and school supplies while the boys' money would go to LHI for Haiti missions. On the third night of Bible School, the Lawrenceville Missions Department made an offer to the children. If they could collect a combined total of \$400, the Missions Dept. would add an additional \$200 to each fund. Because that goal was met, they were able to donate over \$1,000 to these two great causes. The work in Haiti received a gift of \$556.22.—reported by Leslie McDermott, Treasurer.

LHI would like to thank the children and Mission Dept. at Lawrenceville for this generous gift to help with the work in Haiti.