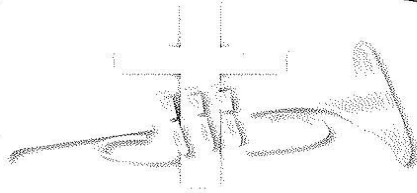


# THE TRUMPET



*"The great trumpet will be blown, they will come, who are about to perish" Isaiah 27:13 (NKJ)*

## WELCOME!

This issue of **The Trumpet** is being sent to 5 additional churches that have recently joined our Federation:

**The Bowmanville ON OCRC**  
**The Burlington ON OCRC**  
**The Immanuel OCRC, Nobleton ON**  
**The Kelewna BC OCRC**  
**The Visalia CA URC**

## DO YOU KNOW YOUR MISSIONARIES?

Later in this issue of **The Trumpet** you will find an updated list of all the URC missionaries and URC church plants. Before you check the list, here are some questions about our URC mission efforts. See how many you and your family can answer correctly. (The answers can be found elsewhere in this issue of **The Trumpet**.)

1. How many missionary families do we have living overseas?
2. Can you name them and tell where they serve?

3. How many active church plants are there?
4. In how many states or provinces do we have active church plants?
5. Primarily, what ethnic group does Rev. Zekveld 'target'? Rev. Persaud?

Soon we will celebrate Thanksgiving Day, then Christmas. Remember our missionaries with a card, and ALWAYS keep them in your prayers as some live in constant danger, and all, including the church plants, need our financial support.

## REV. LANGENDOEN, HONDURAS

Dear Friends,

What is the hope of the gospel for a country that has heard pieces of the Gospel many times, where Bibles are easily available, and yet the message has not taken root and produced fruit? My conversations vary with those with whom I talk.

When one pastor asked me, "But what do we do in the political climate in which we find ourselves, I mean, what should be our involvement in politics?", I replied that it is our duty to pray for the leaders that God has placed over us, that they may rule in accord with the principles found in Scripture. At the same time I said that for those members involved in the political process, that we should warn them of the dangers and encourage them to live just and holy lives in places where there is much corruption. "Yes", he replied, "but shouldn't the church demand social justice, as one of the important pastors in Tegucigalpa is doing?" "It is rather hard to do," I answered, "since the church has become so corrupt, and the very movement that this pastor identifies with has been involved with much false teaching. How could a movement like that demand social justice? No, first a Christian should be actively seeking to live a just and holy life in accord with Scripture and through the Holy Spirit. If that is not the goal of his personal life, he has no grounds to stand on, to demand social justice."

A lady once asked me, "But aren't there visions today? Are there no modern prophets receiving fresh messages directly from God? Can't we be receiving new messages from God? And what about hearing the voice of God with our ears?" I said, "Even if all this were true, so many of the messages today distort or even directly contradict the message of Scripture. Instead of helping people understand Scripture, many of the messages are confusing and unreliable. Furthermore, these same so-called apostles and prophets, when they use Scripture, they twist and manipulate it to say anything they want it to say."

Another lady asked me about her children. "I am saved, and our pastor says that once one member of a family becomes saved, eventually the blessing of God will insure that all of my family will be saved. So in faith I believe that my apostate son will in the end believe and be

saved. I don't even worry about him anymore, nor do I pray for him. I just claim it in faith. What do you think?" I perceived that, because of the continuing apostasy of her son, this lady's faith in what her pastor was saying was shaky, and I replied, "The Bible makes it clear that we pray for everyone, but especially those of the family of faith. How can someone counsel you not to pray, when the clear pattern of Scripture is to pray always? You must pray for your son, because he must come to faith. But there is no Scriptural guarantee that he will be saved because you believe, but rather Scripture makes it clear that many, even from Christian families, will fall away, such as Cain and Esau in the Old Testament."

I don't know what it is about working in Honduras, but so often I will run into those who say that I don't have enough faith. Just like that! "You don't have enough faith! You ought to pray more!" I have come to not react much to such words. "Sure I don't have enough faith, and yes, I could pray a more." But I have come to see that behind these words there is a comparison going on. "You don't have faith like me, you don't pray like me." I will have people tell me that they have worn out their knees praying. "My pants were shiny at the knees for praying," one said, and another, "I had calluses on my knees." And they continue, "I gave up a lot of serve the Lord. I just dedicated myself to serving him. Now I have no money, but I have thrown myself into serving people. And I do it; I don't make much money, but I do it." Having known these people for some time, my standard answer is, "Don't tell me about it, then, because you will have your reward ... here on earth."

### **We ask for your prayers**

Well, as I said, I need to pray more. And we ask for your prayers for the following matters:

**Pray** that we can effectively confront the powerful apostolic and prophetic movement that has conquered the hearts of so many in the Evangelical church. As one lady told me when I asked her what she saw in one of these modern apostles; "His message is so passionate." When I asked what it was that made his message so passionate, she replied, "I don't know, he just fills me with passion!"

**Pray** for the political situation in Honduras, and the rest of Latin America, which is very volatile at the moment.

**Pray** for the protection of our church and our family, from the physical violence around us, as well as in the daily spiritual battles.

**Pray** that the members of the churches we work with will stand firm against the spirits of the age.

**Pray** for holiness. As one man stated, "To not get angry and fight with my family members is so hard. To avoid fights, I don't talk to them, but the problem is that we live in the same house." He gets discouraged that he won't see his way through. May God give the strength for victory.

Yours in Christ, Ernie  
[ernestlangen@yahoo.com](mailto:ernestlangen@yahoo.com)

## REV. VANDER POL REPORT

For the last year I have worked part-time with Miami International Seminary (MINTS) writing and teaching theology courses in English for international students.

In early November I plan to teach my recent course on the Doctrine of Man in Uyo, Nigeria. I had to postpone this class, which I had scheduled for September, because of difficulty getting a visa. Presently more than 30 students are enrolled to take the course.

The class includes both present and future church leaders. They serve in very active churches, but few have received orthodox theological training in the Christian faith. I plan to teach them the Reformed understanding of man created in God's image and of human sin with the full impact it has had on the human race. I hope they will also learn the human need that Christ fulfilled when He atoned for our sins.

I tentatively plan to be in Africa again in February. A study center in Uganda has asked for MINTS instruction, and a center in Liberia is starting up. The Liberian study center has asked for a MINTS instructor to come and teach them. I pray that the Lord will provide the way for me to carry out these plans.

Finally, I am making plans for March to visit the study center in the Philippines, where I taught earlier this year. The students demonstrate a profound love for and understanding of the Reformed faith. I hope to teach them also my course on the doctrine of man. I am working to see if other contacts in the Philippines can be made for that trip as well.

When I am not working on administrative tasks for my work with MINTS (email, travel plans, applying for a visa, and supervising coordinators), I am writing my third course. This one will cover the doctrine of the Church.

I have seen firsthand the need, which overseas church leaders have for basic reformed instruction. I have taught pastors who had not learned the biblical doctrine of the trinity and do not possess a basic understanding of human sin. Much of their preaching consists of allegories from the Old Testament, which they use to promote a legalistic understanding of salvation. Yet, amazingly, they are contacting MINTS and urging us to come and teach them. I hope to teach them so that God's Word will have its way in their lives and churches.

I work part-time with MINTS because limited funding keeps me from working for MINTS fulltime. Most of my time, I serve Trinity Reformed Church (URCNA) as its pastor. When funds that can support a fulltime budget are promised, the congregation in Cape Coral, FL, will seek my replacement as their pastor and I will devote all my time to MINTS.

If you would like to join this venture of calling international churches to the gospel as the Reformation rediscovered it, you can send your gifts to:

Vander Pol Support Fund  
First United Reformed Church  
6159 Riverside Drive  
Chino, CA 91710

Presently I am working on finding a Canadian congregation THAT can also receive gifts for this work.

## UPDATE FROM THE PERSAUDS

Mission work is not for the fainthearted; So God continually strengthens our heart to keep on going. And we are thankful that he does, we are also thankful that the mission work in Scarborough is progressing.

We had to move from our old place of worship because the building was sold and the people who bought the building only gave us six months to stay there. It was not easy to find a building, however. Many places in Toronto will not rent to churches as a rule. Churches apparently are bad for business and a number of churches seemed to have ignored the simple duty of paying rent. Even if we did find something suitable often the parking was insufficient. In God's providence, however, we found a place that suits us well. The rent is high, but it is one of the least expensive places we could find. It is our hope to fully use this building.

Fall, 2008

The building is already being used to host the Christian Moslem Forum that is run by Zion URC in Sheffield, ON. And as Zion URC looks to find a missionary to the Moslems in Toronto, we hope that they can work out of the same building. What seemed to be difficult circumstances when we were forced to leave the old ultimately turned out for good. Our new building is in area with many Chinese (our focus) and Moslems (Zion's focus).

Well what are we doing these days? We have been busy setting up the new facilities to our liking. Since fellowship is an important part of mission work we have to get a stove, a fridge, furnish a nursery etc. One elder from Zion URC has worked hard to help us furnish our place with donations.

We continue to hold ESL Bible studies. We are distributing invitations and tracts in the neighborhood. Our goal is to get to 2-3 thousand homes before winter sets in. Mostly our members are doing this because we haven't been able to get volunteers from other churches.

While we haven't seen much growth in our numbers, we are seeing growth in most of our members. We thank God for that and look forward to seeing more of them serve the Lord as elders and deacons. Presently we only have one elder and one deacon. They have worked hard for the congregation. Pray that we can get others to share this labor.

We will be hosting a marriage seminar shortly, this is being organized by one of the couples in our congregation.

We now have a monthly meeting to have discussions with Moslems. This is a gateway to evangelism. We hope this can be the groundwork for a missionary to the Moslem.

## **URC MISSIONARIES AND CHURCH PLANTS**

### **CHURCH PLANTS**

Support: We are very thankful for your faithful gifts. We trust the Lord will greatly bless you for your efforts on our behalf. Yes, tithing is increasing from our mission work, but that has been offset by the increase in leasing costs for our new building.

Family Facts: We, but mostly my wife Shabeeda, continue to home school. Joshua (13) is in Grade 8, Joel (10) is in Grade 5, Karis (7) is in Grade 3, and Annabelle (5) is in Grade 1. They mostly seem to enjoy home schooling. Our elder son Joshua has a couple of subjects in which he struggles academically. But it is no too bad as he is a submissive young man. A good Christian school is difficult to come by and expensive where we live. We are looking at joining a Reformed Home school group in a couple of URC churches, but it is about 65KM away, so it is quite a drive. Shabeeda doesn't like to drive through that city so I drive and take my laptop with me.

All the kids take their turn practicing piano, but they also love the outdoors riding bikes and now, feeding the birds. I wish they didn't have to do some many experiments with their school work. One more baking soda and vinegar experiment and I will explode.

Conclusion: We are thankful for the support we get from our elders in our home church in London, ON. We particularly enjoy hearing from you. We want to hear more. It is a real encouragement to us. Pray that we remain faithful and the Lord will bless His church and bring much glory to Himself in this debauched city.

Mitchell Persaud & Family  
Yours and the Lord's Servants  
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Scarborough, ON, M1C4S6, Canada  
mapersaud@yahoo.com  
416-335-0958

**All Saints Reformed Church, Brea, CA**  
**United Reformed Church of Prince Edward Island, Charlottown, PE**  
**El Pacto de Gracia, Covenant of Grace Spanish Outreach, Chicago Heights, IL**  
**Kauai Reformation Church, Kauai, HI**  
**Las Vegas United Reformed Church, Las Vegas, NV**  
**Messiah's Reformed Fellowship, New York City**  
**Prinsburg, MN (In the planning stage)**  
**New Horizon URC, Scarborough, ON**  
**Sioux Center United Reformed Fellowship, Sioux Center, IA**  
**Sioux Falls URC Fellowship, Sioux Falls, SD**  
**Springfield Reformed Fellowship, Kansas City, MO**  
**The United Reformed Church of Sunnyside, Sunnyside, WA**  
**Providence URC, Tinley Park, IL**  
**The Hope Centre, Etobicoke, ON**  
**Christ Reformed Church, Washington, DC**

### **URC 'OVERSEAS' MISSIONARIES**

**Rev. Bill Green, Costa Rica**  
**Intern Nick Lamme, Costa Rica**  
**Rev. Ernest Langendoen, Honduras, C.A.**  
**Rev. Nollie Malabuyo, Philippines**  
**Rev. Steven McGee, Trinidad, West Indies**  
**Rev. Steven Poelman, India**

### **INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES**

**Dr. Neil (Neal) Hegeman, Miami International Seminary. (MINTS)**  
**Rev. Eric Pennings, Hispanic Christian Ministry, Miami International Seminary (MINTS)**  
**Rev. Allen Vander Pol MINTS (Part time)**

## OTHER MISSION OUTREACHES WITH URC CONSISTORY OVERSIGHT

Lynwood United Reformed Church, South India  
Mission, India

**NOTE:** additional information including addresses, service location and times, contact phone numbers, e-mail addresses websites, and calling churches /consistories, etc can be found on-line on the Classis Michigan Missions Committee website; [www.missionsurc.org](http://www.missionsurc.org)

### Answers to "Do you know your missionaries?" from Page 1.

1. Five.
2. Rev. Bill Green, Costa Rica  
Rev. Ernest Langendoen, Honduras  
Rev. Nollie Malabuyo, The Philippines  
Rev. Steve McGee, Trinidad  
Rev. Steven Poelman, India  
(If you include intern Nick Lamme who has been assisting Rev. Green in Costa Rica, we have 6 overseas missionaries)
3. 15 if you include Prinsburg, MN, which is in the planning stage.
4. 11 plus one in D.C., and not including Minnesota.
5. Rev. Zekveld, South Asians, Sikhs,  
Rev. Persaud, Chinese.

## POELMANS RETURN OVERSEAS

After a years furlough here in the states, the Poelmans have returned to India where he will continue with his teaching at the Presbyterian Theological Seminary (PTS).

They stayed in the States for a year to enable their children to attend a full year of schooling here. Also Rev. Poelman attended the Puritan Reformed Theological Seminary in Grand Rapids MI. PTS had requested that he obtain additional education so he could teach their advanced students.

Rev. Poelman has reported that there have been a number of changes while they were gone. Living costs have increased significantly; inflation has increased to over 12% annually. He returned to find the seminary very 'shorthanded.' Several educators who had planned on teaching had their visas denied by the government. Dr. Chacko, the Seminary president was ill with typhoid, and another professor was very ill with a virus, so Rev. Poelman had to teach a number of additional subjects to a total of 74 students.

Pray especially for their health and safety. There is serious persecution in various areas of the country right now.

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