

International Ministries

Report for October 20, 2010 – Jan 17, 2011

This has been a great three month start. I have spent much of my time getting acquainted and evaluating the three ministry focuses of the work: Church Planting, the International Language School, and ministry to Seafarers. Three months on the job is just enough time to realize there are still so many areas that I need to see and learn, but what I have seen so far is encouraging and exciting.

In the area of Church Planting among Internationals, the Pilipino group, lead by pastor Lito and Arie, has started a mother daughter relationship for beginning a new Pilipino church with Cottage Hills Baptist Church. The work is progressing forward, but is still in the initial starting stage with prayer meetings scheduled to start Saturday, January 22, 2011. An exciting development about this work is that the Pilipino Association has asked to have their community wide basketball tournament at the IMC over the next three months. They have agreed to allow me the opportunity to have a chapel time each night of the tournament. This past Friday, there were over a 100 Pilipinos there and during the invitation over 20 raised their hands indicating they were receiving Christ. We have about three months to continue to share the gospel and follow up with these people and prayerfully see a new Pilipino Church begin. Please be in prayer for this new work.

In November, the second MBA Vietnamese church began with Government Street Baptist Church as their host. The New Hope Vietnamese Church began with Phee Nu as pastor and over 50 people present. This also is an exciting new work and I ask you to pray for Phee and the New Hope Vietnamese Church as they establish.

The International Language School is growing and reaching more adults. There are 4 Language School sites (Tillman's Corner BC, Spring Hill BC, Sage Avenue BC, Citronelle). Enrollment since the beginning of the school year is up to 80 plus students with nationalities including: Germans, Japanese, Mexican, Chinese, Thai, Vietnamese, Bengalese, Korean, Indian, Chilean, Ecuadorian, Peruvian, Guatemalan, and more. We have trained 4 new teachers and 2 new hostesses, but we are still in need of 2 more teachers. An encouraging note; The Spring Hill evening site has been so small and new that up till this month, Chapel times have not been included in the school schedule. Beginning with the January schedule, we started Chapel as a part of the regular teaching schedule and many are hearing the Gospel on a regular basis for the first time. Please pray for more teachers and for these adult students to respond to the Gospel.

The ministry to Seafarers is also exciting. In the past three months, there have been an estimated 500+ Seafarers from all over the world come through the Center, most of whom we have had the opportunity to share the Gospel. In December, the IMC staff gave out more than 700 tracts and Gospel portions with the Christmas in August Seafarer gifts. When sailors hear the Gospel in chapel, they are also offered a Bible in their own language and nearly 200 Bibles and NT's have been given. Since October 20, 24 Seafarers have trusted Christ!

Additional, we are having more and more participation from churches. So far, there have been around 12 different groups/churches/teams that have volunteered to bring snacks, share in the Chapel services, and to help with service projects around the International Ministries Center.

At present, our greatest International Ministry needs include:

- Prayer Partners who will receive email updates of the work
- 3 regular van drivers (one on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays)
- 2 English teachers (one for the morning school and one for the evening school)
- 7 Sponsor churches who will share in chapel, help with service projects around the IMC, and bring snacks for the seafarers (one day every two months)
- 1 International Language School volunteer hostess on Wednesday and Thursday mornings, 9:15-11:30 a.m. to help greet and register new students, plus help with break time logistics.

Contact Buddy Brents for more information, Cell 251-725-2210, or E-mail imc@mobilebaptists.org

This report is respectfully submitted January 18, 2011.

Buddy Brents

Director of International Ministries and Church Planting