

# SIMnow

SPRING 2017  
ISSUE 148

**AGAINST  
ALL ODDS**  
GOD MADE A WAY

**The Truth  
Will Set  
You Free**

**LAMBANO**  
**Giving - LOVE**  
**Creating - HOPE**

**SIM**  
*By Prayer*

Convinced that no one should live and die without hearing God's good news, we believe that He has called us to make disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ in communities where He is least known.



**W**e believe that all we accomplish is through prayer and by the enabling power of the Holy Spirit.

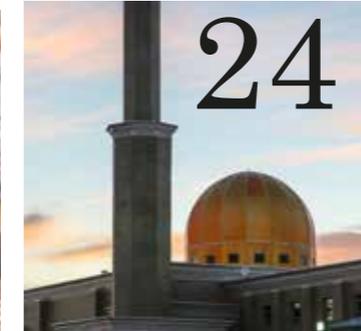
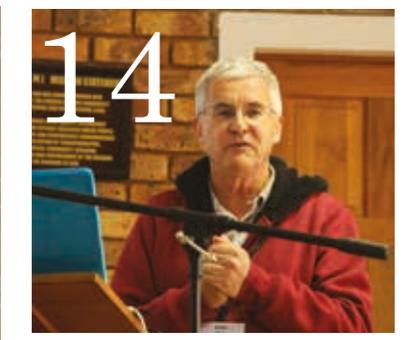
We praise God for those who partner with us through prayer and petition.

Join our prayer warriors by signing up for our monthly prayer letter, "Pray Today", or by starting or joining a local prayer group.

Email Cindy: [za.communications@sim.org](mailto:za.communications@sim.org) if you would like to receive the "Pray Today".

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*Let all you do be done  
in Love*



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# Director's Note



John Piper puts it very correctly when he says: "Disciples of Jesus should remove all hindrances that keep children from coming to Jesus." These hindrances could be because of pride, ignorance, lack of knowledge, parental absenteeism, and many more. It breaks my heart to see children being the victims of different kinds of social ills, rapes, politics, and in other parts of the world, children being used as soldiers in wars. A few years ago I was part of a team that was reevaluating one of our ministries in South Africa. The ministry is called Lulisandla Kumntwana, which is located in the northern part of KwaZulu Natal. While it was sad to see children who are heading up their families, mainly because of HIV/AIDS, it brought comfort to me to see how Rachel Fredlund and her team go out to serve these children.

A well known African proverb says 'It takes a village to raise a child' – and previously in an African community, a child was loved, cared for and protected by all. This is now all but gone and instead has been replaced by violence and abuse towards them. How much more isn't this proverb true in the Christian community? How could we rally together 'to raise a child' in a safe environment, making sure they are

getting all the love and care and protection they need?

In this issue of SIMnow, you will read about some of our ministries to children. "Today For Tomorrow" trains workers to raise children in such a way that they are equipped to make the right choices for themselves.

Let's all pray that God would raise more workers of Jesus Christ who will disciple the children into the Kingdom of God. Let us pray to the Lord of the Harvest for more workers for children's ministries. Pray too for Christian educators, and that parents will not leave these responsibilities to Christian children's workers only, but that they together will raise up a new generation of disciples who put their hope in the Lord.

Remember Jesus' words in Mark 10:14 "... Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these..." ♥



Siegfried Nubane  
Director SIM Southern Africa

## Support the Work of SIM! Online giving now available through PayGate

By Brian Heffron, SIM SA journalist

Partnering with God's work through SIM South Africa is now easier, thanks to the introduction of online giving. "Here is your opportunity to support God's work in missions from the comfort of your home or wherever you are in the world, and at your convenience," said Country Director Siegfried Nubane. "Life is busy and full of unexpected surprises, but online giving can be done anytime and anywhere without you having to wait." The new online giving function allows people to donate to SIM South Africa in general, to a project, missionary, or even in response to a particular news story. Links to online giving can be shared through social media and even in print through QR codes. All online payments are managed by PayGate, an established company trusted by over 10 million cardholders. Donors will enter their payment information in a form that communicates directly with PayGate, allowing them to process payments securely. No card information is handled or held by SIM South Africa.

SIM South Africa encountered many delays in establishing online giving, but it was important to establish it properly and securely. Now that it is available, it opens many possibilities for making donations much easier for those who wish to participate in God's work of reaching those living and dying in least-reached communities.

"With online giving available on our website, donors will have an opportunity to give spontaneously, faithfully and without a lot of hassle to a missionary, project or specific fund as they feel prompted by the Lord," said Stewardship Officer John Berry.

"Often God tells us to do something, and if we don't act promptly we tend to allow other concerns and worries to crowd our minds and we neglect to act at all." ♥

### INSIDE TRACK

#### SIMnow issue 148

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# Against All Odds

## GOD MADE A WAY



Stephan and Corné Walters are South Africans working in evangelism, discipleship, and children's ministries. They have served in Peru since 2009.

**By Stephan and Corné Walters, SIM SA Missionaries, Peru**

**I**n a mountain village only an hour away from Tomepampa, a handful of Quechua believers were eagerly awaiting our arrival for their Sunday morning services.

The small group of Christians in Lacrohuanca (LO-KRU-WAN-KA) had seen much trouble in the past four years. Two had lost their husbands, both church leaders. They had no Bible teacher to guide them through God's Word, no mature Christian to lead them. Suffering much for their faith, they were branded by their neighbours as trash and treated accordingly, just as believers are in so many other villages in the Andes.

Hoping to encourage them, we had set out at seven o'clock in the morning, accompanied by an Australian family who was here doing three months of outreach work. Lacrohuanca is 3,200 metres above sea level in the Cotahuasi Canyon. For the most part, the way there is a narrow dirt road winding through a beautiful but treacherous mountain pass. We were in the midst of a very heavy rainy season, and with it always come landslides and rock-falls. Heading out, we hoped and prayed that we would get there without any mishaps.

It wasn't very long before we encountered the first road block. Armed with a shovel and a crowbar, all of us (six adults and our two children) got out to clear the road of fallen rocks and gravel. I joked with Mike how we had brought him along just for this reason. Pretty soon, though, we realised that the closer we got to Lacrohuanca, the more rock-falls we encountered and the harder it became to clear the road. On one occasion, we were only able to clear the rocks on the side of the road where the cliff drops down very steeply. As I drove through the clearing, the left tyres were on the edge of the drop-off.

It was now getting late for our 10 a.m. meeting with the believers, and as we came around a curve, we saw what we had feared. The road was blocked by a massive boulder, and there was no way around it; we would be walking the last one and a half kilometres. An hour late might still be considered "on time" in this culture, but we were now 90 minutes late. We started to wonder whether the believers would still be waiting for us, or if they would have gone to their fields. Their day is so busy already, and

getting up at 4 a.m. for seven days a week is normal. The time they are able to set aside for these meetings on every other Sunday is done by working much harder during the week and making many sacrifices. My heart was sad thinking that we might not get to encourage our Quechua friends.

Finally in the village, we walked to Lucha's house, but no one awaited us there. Continuing to the worn church-building, I expected there, too, that everybody would be gone.

Instead, I heard voices as I approached, and I saw some people inside the dark mud-brick building. They were all on their knees, a dozen believers engaged in serious prayer. In this village where they were insulted and mocked daily and abused verbally and emotionally for their faith, these believers were talking to the God who cares for them. Hermana Flor looked up when they had finished praying, and when she saw me, her eyes were filled with tears.

"You came!" she said. "God is so good. He sent you. We thought you and your family were not coming, but we prayed to God, and He did the impossible. He is faithful."♥



# Reaching Children for Christ

By Brian Heffron, SIM SA journalist

**M**ore than 17,000 children across Southern Africa are being given a better chance of a healthy future, thanks to an SIM programme.

"We want to see the Lord at work in the lives of young people and children as they accept Christ as Lord and Saviour, and as He empowers them to live lives that will prevent them from contracting HIV, where it is in their power to do so," said Neil Parmenter, SIM South Africa's projects coordinator.

The programme, called "Today for Tomorrow" (T4T), started in 2003 in Zimbabwe by SIM South Africa missionaries. Rev. Chris and Nancy Maphosa, and Graham and Jessie Haddad realized that children were not being given a good foundation for avoiding HIV before facing more risk factors as they grew up.

"We found that children are a vulnerable group. We also saw that all HIV/AIDS programmes were dealing only with adults and youth, not children," Chris recalled. "We wanted children to be reached for Christ, for them to have a relationship with the Lord. We wanted to do HIV/AIDS prevention, so that we could contribute significantly to an HIV/AIDS-free generation."

Together, they wrote a three-year curriculum that could be implemented in churches, schools, and community centres. The curriculum emphasizes six pillars of character: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and good citizenship. They also help the children with wheelchairs or other physical needs and with their education. "Our ministry is to reach children holistically," Chris said.

SIM makes the programme available to its partner churches and

organisations, providing training for people in teaching and implementing the curriculum. Support visits allow teachers and volunteers to ask questions and share their challenges and successes.

Chris coordinates the programme for Angola, Botswana, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe, and his wife, Nancy, manages its finances. Neil oversees it for South Africa and Swaziland. It currently has 17,636 students and 832 teachers in 108 locations. Chris recently expanded the curriculum to six years, and said partners are excited about the additional material, which will later be translated.

Translations are complete of the first three years into Portuguese and Shona and of the first year into Setswana, Xhosa, and Zulu. Work is underway for the second and third years into Setswana, Xhosa, and Zulu.

"The best thing is seeing children being reached for Christ and having a relationship with the Lord, seeing churches integrating children as part of their members," Chris said. ♥

"And He took a child and put him in the midst of them, and taking him in His arms, He said to them, 'Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me, receives not me but Him who sent me.'"  
Mark 9:36-37 (ESV)



## Pray:

- For the children to be equipped with the lifeskills they need and to accept Jesus as their Saviour.
- For Chris Maphosa in all his travelling and training - that God will give him safety, strength and wisdom.
- For the missionaries and churches associated with the programme to have the prayer and financial support they need to continue and expand this work.
- For the missionaries safety, protection, and good health.
- For the missionaries' own children at school, college, and university.



## Go:

- To discuss volunteering with "Today for Tomorrow", or bringing the programme to your church or school, email [za.projects@sim.org](mailto:za.projects@sim.org).

## Give:

- If you are able to support this work financially, then gifts can be given using the following bank details:

SIM Southern Africa  
Standard Bank, Blue Route  
Branch Code: 025609  
Account Number: 072877014

- Please quote the project number ZA 97684 when donating and notify us on [za.projects@sim.org](mailto:za.projects@sim.org), online giving at [www.sim.org.za](http://www.sim.org.za)

# Building a New SIM College in Lichinga, Northern Mozambique

By Carmen Pauls Orthner, SIM Southern Africa Service Centre journalist

**K**eeping Christian workers effective sometimes requires preparing them as much to support themselves as to conduct ministry.

That is the goal of a new theological college SIM is building in Lichinga, northern Mozambique. Scheduled to open in mid-2018, the Instituto Teologico de Lichinga (INTEL) will offer budding church leaders not only Bible training, but also vocational skills such as agriculture, carpentry and motorcycle repair.

"There are very few (Mozambican) church leaders that would receive any type of income or reimbursement from their congregations, and certainly not enough to live on," said project coordinator Tim George, who has served with SIM Mozambique since 2009. "We have a billion small cc motorcycles (here), so there's a huge need for mechanical work on these things."

The college was conceived in 2014; after years of seemingly unproductive evangelism among the Yao people, many accepted Christ as their Saviour. Suddenly, there was a growing Yao church, and it needed training and leaders. "People are now responding, and the next crisis is training these people and discipling them, and finding the best way to do that," Tim said. Along with Biblical and vocational training, the college will also emphasize maintaining a healthy family life. Tim and his wife, Michele, have a passion for counselling couples.

"The husband-wife relationship is crucial in the Bible, so restoring that, creating healthy



relationships, is so vital to the church in Mozambique. It actually is probably more important than any Bible teaching, any doctrine, that we could give," he said. "To create families and spousal relationships that are healthy and God-fearing would almost be our biggest contribution."

Another aspect of training the Yao in the best way for them, is relying primarily on oral teaching methods rather than textbooks. This will serve those with lower print literacy levels and respect a cultural preference for oral learning. It will also prepare the students to use oral methods in their own teaching. Unlike a lecture-style sermon, this approach has preachers ask their listeners questions and retell

the story multiple times.

"It's a method that helps you not only study the Bible story, but also presents what you're learning... in a way that the people have the joy of discovery themselves," Tim said. Once INTEL has enough graduates, Tim's goal is to identify some who have the vision and desire to disciple others and create a mobile version of INTEL, with a new Mozambican pastor travelling – perhaps on a motorcycle he has rebuilt himself – to rural villages to teach Bible and Theology classes and disciple new believers.

Much work remains in order to make that future possible. The main classroom building is under construction; next are

toilet facilities and a combined classroom, chapel, and conference room. Short-term teams (especially from South Africa) could help with construction, installing electrical and IT systems, cabinetry, and setting up a library. The college also needs e-readers, other educational technology, Portuguese language materials, and funds for construction, set-up, and operation.

Staffing is also still incomplete. SIM missionary Verena Schafroth plans to come in January to develop the curriculum, programmes, teaching methods, and instructor training. Instructors – both missionaries and local pastors – will be hired and students approved over the coming months.

As Tim looks forward

to INTEL opening, what excites him most is the opportunity to take Mozambican Christians deeper into their faith through training and discipleship. ♥

Follow INTEL's progress at Facebook.com/InstitutoTeologicoLichinga/ or email Tim any questions at tim.george@sim.org.

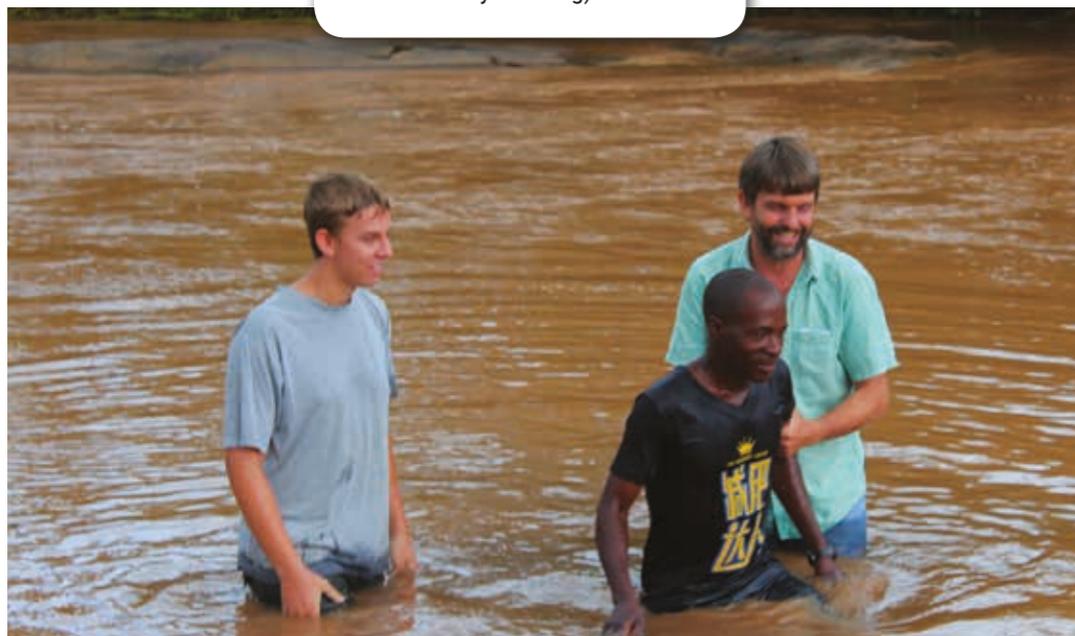


# The Truth Will Set You Free

Now my debt is paid It is paid in full  
By the precious blood That my Jesus  
spilled

Now the curse of sin Has no hold on  
me Whom the Son sets free Oh is  
free indeed

(Bridge in Man of Sorrows  
by Hillsong)



## Please pray:

For the new believers in this small Mozambican village, that God will be their strength and comfort as they face struggles, persecution, and family pressure to return to Islam. For aChristu to have the words and witness to represent Christ well and faithfully. For the Paetzold family to be renewed and strengthened.

## By Belinda Paetzold, SIM SA missionary, Mozambique

**A**s is the custom with most Mozambican babies, he received a name a few days after he was born. As he grew up, however, he became known instead for his walk and his ways.

A man of few words, a very shy person. A man who did not like to draw any attention to himself. A man who stayed out at night doing who knew what. And so this man of the night, this man of stillness who lived in darkness, became known as Noite, which means "Night."

Just as his birth name had been abandoned, though, this identity too would eventually fade away, for all this was before Jesus took hold of his heart.

Noite lives in a small rural village in northern Mozambique. He, like the rest of the village, are Yao – a people group that has not heard the Gospel in their own language, a people who follow Islam, and their ancestors.

The Lord sent us as a family to live with the Yao people in his little village. We built a house and built relationships and learned their ancient language, ChiYao. After four years, Alfred started presenting chronological Bible lessons, starting right in the beginning with who God is. The lessons continued for two years, tracing God's salvation stories throughout the Bible every week – except now and then when crops needed tending or torrential rains kept the people in their huts. Two whole years of soaking them with God's Word. It was a great privilege

and an honour to share God's salvation with them.

And as God's light grew in this village, one of the first of its people to turn to Him was the man known for darkness. And not half-heartedly! He was totally sold out for God; the Truth had set him free. His whole countenance changed, his face lit up, and God's light shined so brightly that he had yet another name change: aChristu, "the Christian." It may not be the best compliment in a Muslim village, but it definitely makes a strong testimony of how the others see him.

And shy? No longer! He happily shares his testimony and talks about God with anyone who will listen. He is absolutely untiring when it comes to telling others about Jesus, and he is working to teach the village imam (a very sharp young man, well-versed in the Quran) about the good news of Jesus Christ. Being less educated than the imam does not deter aChristu, who bought a Bible with his own money to give to him. He has made it his life's mission to tell others about Jesus, so that they might escape the final death and live with God now and forever.

Alfred and Belinda Paetzold have served in Mozambique for eight years. They are currently on Home Assignment.

(Recently Alfred was diagnosed with Motor Neuron disorder, and the family have had to move back to South Africa where Alfred will be able to receive the correct medical treatment).♥

# Church Mobilisation



By Carmen Pauls Orthner, SIM Southern Africa Service Centre journalist

**S**outhern African church leaders are being encouraged to consider their responsibility for the next phase of global missions. “Don’t look abroad – look above, and look within,” SIM Malawi mobiliser Watson Rajaratman told a group of 30 pastors, denominational leaders, Bible college directors, and missionaries attending a conference on church mobilisation.

The conference, in Johannesburg, held 17-19 May was a networking and professional development event for pastors and church leaders in the region. It was organized by SIM Southern Africa Zonal Coordinator Marcus Baeder, with support from the Southern Africa Service Centre.

Speaker Colin Bakon, focused mobilisation facilitator for SIM’s Malaysia Initiative Task Force, believes that for African churches to take their place at the forefront of global missions, congregations must take responsibility for recruiting and supporting missionaries from within their own church bodies.

“We need to see a massive mobilisation of churches,” said Bakon. “The mission agency is not the group that sends – we are just the vehicle.”

Participants were asked to consider how their churches see the Biblical mandate for global missions, and what part they are to play – as senders, supporters, and participants. They were also encouraged to think through what

role churches have in sending missionaries, as compared to the role of mission agencies, and what obstacles churches must overcome before they can fully engage in global mission efforts.

The leaders also looked at models for church engagement in missions, such as the Kairos training course, and at ways that churches can collaborate to form indigenous sending groups, such as the Malawian Mission Initiative.

Too often, Bakon explained, churches focus on salvation, and then on teaching and nurturing believers, while neglecting the commission to participate in “God’s redemptive purpose of reaching the whole world with the Gospel of Christ.”

“God’s heart is for all His people to be involved, not just an elect few,” Bakon said. ♥

From followers of a German planting a Moravian church in South Africa’s “Valley of the Baboons” to a group of Xhosa men who took the Gospel to Malawi; the history of missions in Southern Africa is packed with stories.

Carel Pienaar, assistant pastor at St. Peters Church in Fish Hoek, gave conference attendees an in-depth look at Count Nicolas Zinzendorf, who used his noble connections to start (and fund) a global missionary movement.

Believing that “every heart with Christ is a missionary; every heart without Christ is a mission field,” Zinzendorf and his followers travelled the world, winning converts and planting Moravian churches in places as far-flung as the Caribbean and South Africa.

Drawing on Zinzendorf’s story, Carel stressed that it is important to let your children see your faith and its influence on your daily life, to nurture their faith, and to expose them to missions and missionaries.

SIM South Africa Country Director Siegfried Ngubane took the attendees on a virtual road trip through his country’s missions history (covered in detail in SIMnow’s January 2017 issue). One stand-out story for the Southern African pastors was that of four Xhosa men who, after studying at a training institute founded by the Lovedale Mission Station, decided to go to Malawi to plant Presbyterian churches. The men eventually settled down in Malawi, and their descendants are still there. ♥

# LAMBANO

## Giving - LOVE

## Creating - HOPE

By Brian Heffron, SIM South Africa journalist

**E**ast of Johannesburg, Lambano Sanctuary provides homes and healing for children. The organisation consists of group homes and Gauteng's only Paediatric Medical Step-down Facility/Hospice. There are sixteen medical beds, and the four homes have 28 permanent residents, ages 9–19. Among the facility's 20 medical caretakers is Sibylle Coradi, a registered nurse and SIM worker from Switzerland.

"She has an amazing relationship with our children. She's really dedicated to everything she does," said Lyn Croote, Lambano's director. "If we could clone her, we'd be well set."

Lyn was among Lambano's founders in 2001, and she adopted her own child there. She said she sees God's work all around her every day.

"We've had such triumphs with children's health," she said. "People think we're a very sad place to come to but we're not; we have lots of good successes." The facility treats children with HIV, tuberculosis, cancer, genetic defects, brain damage, burns, and renal, cardiac, respiratory, or neonatal problems. "Yet 85% of these tiny dependants beat the odds," Lambano's web site states. Read more about Lambano Sanctuary at [www.lambano.org.za/](http://www.lambano.org.za/) and [www.facebook.com/lambano-sanctuary/](http://www.facebook.com/lambano-sanctuary/). To offer help, contact Portia Mlangeni at (011)622 6202 or [portia@lambano.org.za](mailto:portia@lambano.org.za). ♥



Nkosi, a resident at Lambano, was very happy to have his picture taken.



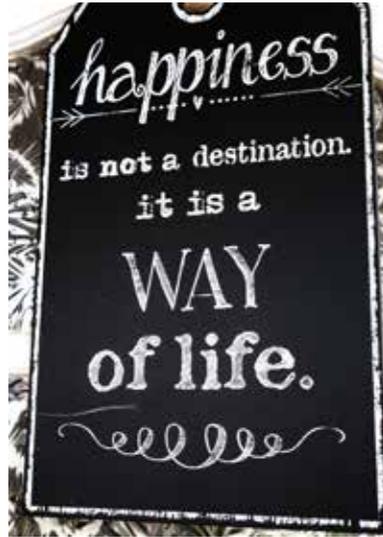
SIM South Africa worker Sibylle Coradi checks on a child at Lambano Sanctuary. Coradi, from Switzerland, started at Lambano as a house mother but was soon reassigned as a registered nurse. "If we could clone her, we'd be well set," said Lyn Croote, Lambano's director. "She is one of the most dedicated missionaries I've worked with ever, an absolute blessing. She comes in with a strong work ethic; she's just amazing."



Natalie, a volunteer tutor, helps Gift with his homework. The group homes nurture children and relationships through attention to all the needs of a family household. Children help prepare snacks and meals, explore sports and other interests, play together, and so on.



Gugu and her daughter Keamogetswe were joyful to leave the hospital together after a week of treatments for the young girl. Staff celebrated with her in the garden and said farewell at the gate. Inside, another mother was holding her five-week-old son in end-of-life care. "They take good care of him," she said, adding that she can also talk to a social worker about her own feelings and struggles. "It's a safe place where you can leave your children, and they will be well taken care of. They are good and loving people."



# The Great Commission that is not really the Great Commission

By Henry Jooste, SIM SA missionary, Europe

In this verse, Jesus calls, by invitation, Simon and Andrew to follow Him - with a promise. Matthew 4:19 And He said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men."

We are invited to participate in extending His Kingdom by becoming fishers of men (men is used here in a generic sense, referring to people in general). This is the place where our ministry, or our commissioning, starts. Not when we leave our home culture to go to faraway places to share the Gospel and do ministry. Our ministry starts when we begin to obey, by accepting this invitation to follow Jesus.

At the end of Jesus' life, before He returned to His Father, He reminded us of these words (and many other similar words) by putting it slightly differently. As those who are following Him, therefore, those who are fishers of men, as you go, continue making disciples, etc. When we start with the invitation to follow Jesus, we are invited to participate in this great task.

These final words of Jesus are simply a final reminder of the invitation for us to participate in making disciples, or being fishers of men. So Matthew 28:19 is not really The Great Commission but simply a reminder by Jesus of what we should be doing as His followers from when we first start following Him. It does not matter where we are - at home, at work or in a far away country-we need to be fishers of men. Yes, God does lead some on a path to different cultures and countries in order to continue there being fishers of men or making disciples. But most followers of Christ are invited to be fishers of men right there, at home.

The early Church did this incredibly well. With no mission conferences, no evangelistic seminars and no extensive training, with so much persecution and opposition, derision, and martyrdom, they simply became fishers of men in spite of the tremendous pressure. How is your fishing going? Are you a fisher of men? ♥

# Introducing Bryan & Carmen Pauls Orthner



By Brian Heffron, SIM SA journalist

**T**hey come for different roles and from different backgrounds, but God has forged a common desire for mission in Bryan Orthner and Carmen Pauls Orthner's marriage.

The Orthners, who serve in Johannesburg at the SIM Southern Africa Service Centre (SASC), arrived on January 01, exchanging Canada's winter for South Africa's summer.

"... A brand-new country and new living situation, new culture. New Year's Day was definitely a new experience for us in many ways," Bryan said.

With almost 20 years of experience in information technology, Bryan provides IT support for the SASC and for SIM workers and offices in the ten countries the SASC serves. Carmen serves as the SASC's journalist, gathering stories and photographs that will help show the work God is doing through SIM workers in the region. (You can read her articles in this issue).

Bryan views his work as an application of the spiritual gift of helps. Instead of struggling for hours with their computers themselves, workers can focus on their own ministries.

"I think we all understand that computers are becoming more and more an essential tool of just about every aspect of modern life, and

yet most people find them frustrating," he said. Carmen likewise sees her work modelled in the Bible, both in Luke's work interviewing witnesses to set down his orderly accounts and in Tychicus' work as a faithful courier and spokesman for Paul.

"I really do see myself as a storyteller of the work that God is doing right here, right now in this part of the world," said Carmen.

Being so distant from their areas of ministry will present some difficulties, but both have experience doing so from living in a remote part of Canada. Bryan provided IT support for 200 different schools as much as 20 hours' travel away, so he learned a great deal about helping people from afar. Carmen likewise had to build and maintain news contacts in distant areas she rarely could visit, which will help her between her trips to SIM's workers in different countries.

The Orthners and their daughter Sara, 7, come to South Africa from a small, remote community called La Ronge in the prairie province of Saskatchewan. The community is ethnically mixed but has a large First Nations population, both in the town and in surrounding areas. Bryan and his family moved there when he was in Grade 3, and Carmen moved there after university.

"I think that living in La Ronge is a good preparation in some ways; the pace of life is more

similar to Africa in some ways, and the dynamics of family relationships and so forth," Carmen said. "A lot of what we had experienced living in that community was very similar to the types of cross-cultural adjustments that you experience moving to another part of the world," Bryan agreed. Before moving to La Ronge, Bryan's parents had been teachers at a more remote community several hours north of there; he was the only white student in their school. Along with their own cross-cultural experiences, Bryan and his siblings also learned from the visiting missionaries they often hosted.

"We would talk late into the evening about their experiences in different cultures, and I just became very fascinated with that ... Going to Bible College, that was my intention: to become a missionary, and then my life took another path," he said.

Carmen also grew up in a devout family that valued learning about other cultures, but missionary work was not her plan.

"I can honestly say that as a child, I never thought about being a missionary. I just came from a different background: always very aware of the world, but missions in and of itself was not something that was ever really emphasized," she said. "... I was interested in working in a Christian journalism environment and using journalism as a means to be of help and of

service, but I didn't really think seriously about missions I think until after we were married."

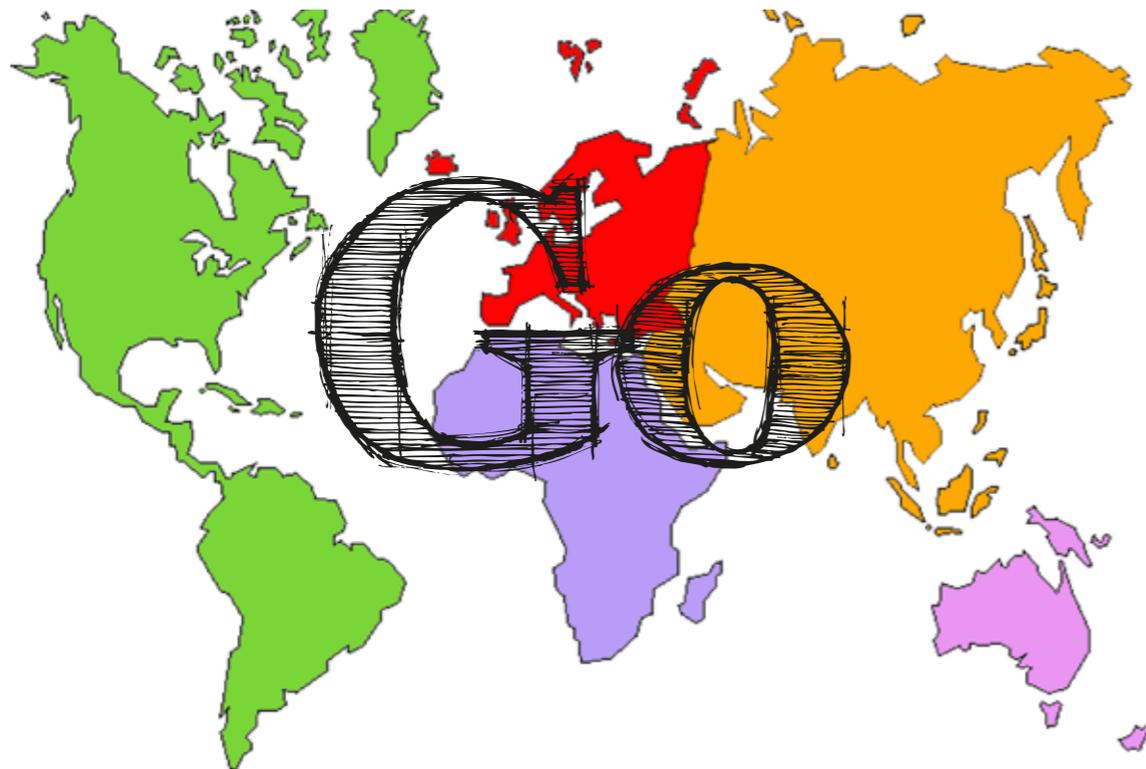
The couple's shared interests in international travel and Christian service helped draw them together into marriage and later helped them weather many delays in entering missionary work. Selling their house took years, as did raising their support. Some early partners eventually stopped giving. In 2015, the house was threatened by forest fires; evacuated with their whole community for two weeks, the Orthners didn't even know if they still had a house. Months later, it was broken into and severely vandalised.

"Some days, we said to ourselves, 'If this is God's preparation for us being in South Africa, do we really want to go, because it's going to be scary?' But we did come through it with our sanity and our faith intact," Carmen said, adding that they were greatly encouraged by partners who continued supporting them faithfully.

"I think God was working with us and for us during that time. There were experiences that we had professionally and personally that I think were good preparation," Carmen said. "There were times of wavering, but there was no sense of losing hope that moving to South Africa ultimately was going to be God's hope for us." ♥

# A World of Opportunities

We are convinced that no one should live and die without hearing God's good news; we believe that He has called us to make disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ in communities where He is least known.



**T**here are many opportunities to serve the Lord in global missions using the gifts and talents He has given you.

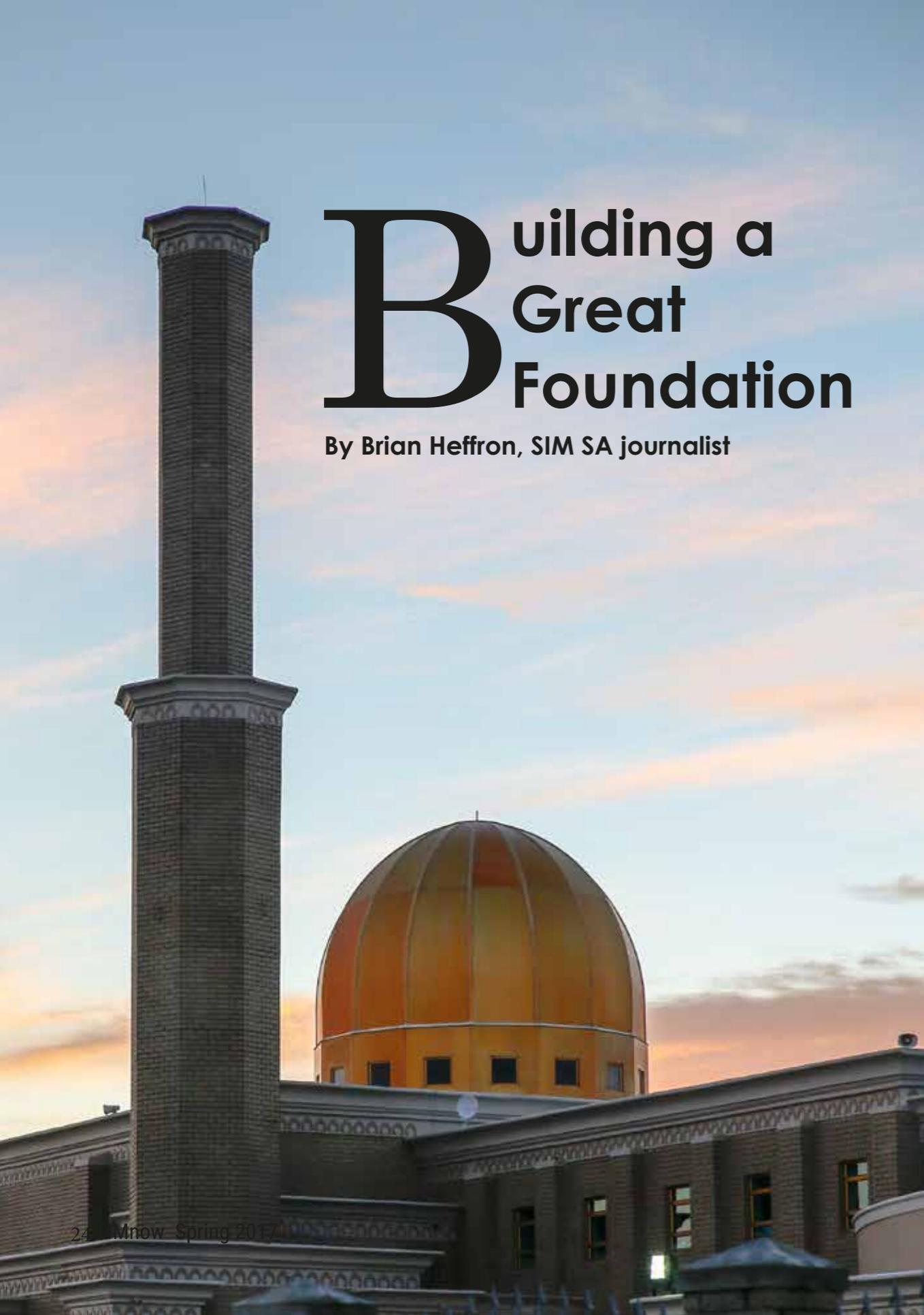
Serve short-term or long-term, or perhaps investigate whether God is calling you into missions.

We are passionate about making disciples of Jesus Christ in communities where He is least known.

Contact Lynette Sheldon if you are interested in any of these opportunities.  
email: [za.sendingenquiries@sim.org](mailto:za.sendingenquiries@sim.org)



Africa	Americas	Asia	Europe
<p><b>Benin:</b> <i>Agriculturalist at a Bible School</i> Help students provide for themselves now and for their future churches through better agricultural methods. <b>MO#: 8821</b></p>	<p><b>Canada:</b> <i>Ethnic/ People Group Leader</i> Coach urban churches to engage neighbours as Christ-centred friends; disciple and equip leaders from that population. <b>MO#: 8999</b></p>	<p><b>Thailand:</b> <i>House Parent</i> Provide a safe and caring home for children attending a boarding school. Daily opportunities to mentor and disciple them. <b>MO#: 8081</b></p>	<p><b>France:</b> <i>Digital Publishing Secretary</i> Provide computer expertise to create and publish Bible studies and other documents in French and manage web site and social media accounts. <b>MO#: 8790</b></p>
<p><b>Nigeria:</b> <i>Veterinarian</i> Help the world's largest nomadic community care for their cattle and sheep, training some as vet techs and creating opportunities for gospel workers. <b>MO#: 8529</b></p>	<p><b>Ecuador:</b> <i>Personnel Coordinator</i> Communicate with appointees and their sending offices to prepare, assimilate, and retain new cross-cultural workers. <b>MO#: 8665</b></p>	<p><b>Anthropology Researcher</b> Conduct graduate-level research of specific peoples' cultures and backgrounds so that workers can develop the most appropriate strategies for reaching them with the gospel. <b>MO#: 7439</b></p>	<p><b>Germany:</b> <i>Church planter</i> Share the love and Word of Christ with displaced populations, building community among them and with existing German believers. <b>MO#: 9226</b></p>
<p><b>South Africa:</b> <i>Children's Worker</i> Share Jesus and His saving power with many children and young people in a Cape Town suburb by running weekly children's clubs in local believers' homes. <b>MO#: 9020</b></p>	<p><b>Peru:</b> <i>Sports Friends Trainer &amp; Mentor</i> Train, equip, and mentor Peruvian sports ministry coaches and church planters to use sports ministry for evangelism, church planting, and discipleship tool. <b>MO#: 8667</b></p>	<p><b>Teaching &amp; Training in a Refugee Community Centre</b> Help establish a community centre for displaced populations, teaching skills or academics and training new teachers among them. <b>MO#: 9230</b></p>	<p><b>UK: Urban Cross-Cultural Gospel Worker</b> Help local churches share the gospel with urban Britons from ethnic minorities. <b>MO#: 9009</b></p>



# Building a Great Foundation

By Brian Heffron, SIM SA journalist



**I**n a suburb of Pretoria, SIM South Africa field associates Darryl and Agnes\* share friendship and God’s word with their Hindu and Muslim neighbours.

“Friendship evangelism without evangelism is only friendship; it isn’t evangelism at all. You’ve got to share the gospel,” he said. Darryl does both by meeting with Muslims in their businesses and homes, building authentic relationships, and discussing the gospel with them respectfully. Agnes ministers to women from Muslim and Hindu backgrounds and helps other Christian women do the same. They meet for friendship and Bible studies, and she also teaches English language classes.

“Sometimes we just go and pray for people. We ask them what their prayer needs are,” Darryl said, adding that a central aspect of their work is being sensitive to the Holy Spirit’s leading for how to approach each situation. That includes organising their Bible studies chronologically because of their audience’s needs and backgrounds.

“We need to build Biblical foundations, because people don’t know why Jesus came. Moving through the scriptures builds a foundation and gives the man understanding of why Jesus came,” he said.

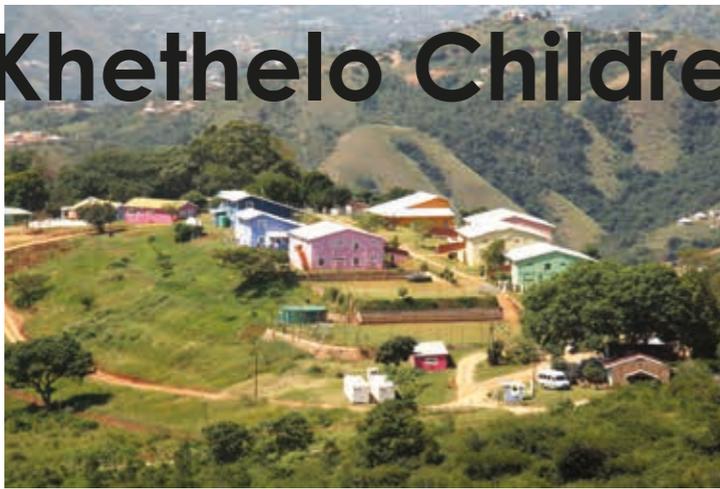
They formerly served in South Asia but returned with their children about ten years ago, when they believed God was calling them to minister in their homeland. He initially pastored a church but changed to other ministries, including leadership roles in several organisations and cooperative networks.

In all these roles and ministries, Darryl said he has always been guided by Romans 15:20: “It has always been my ambition to preach the gospel where Christ was not known, so that I would not be building on someone else’s foundation.”

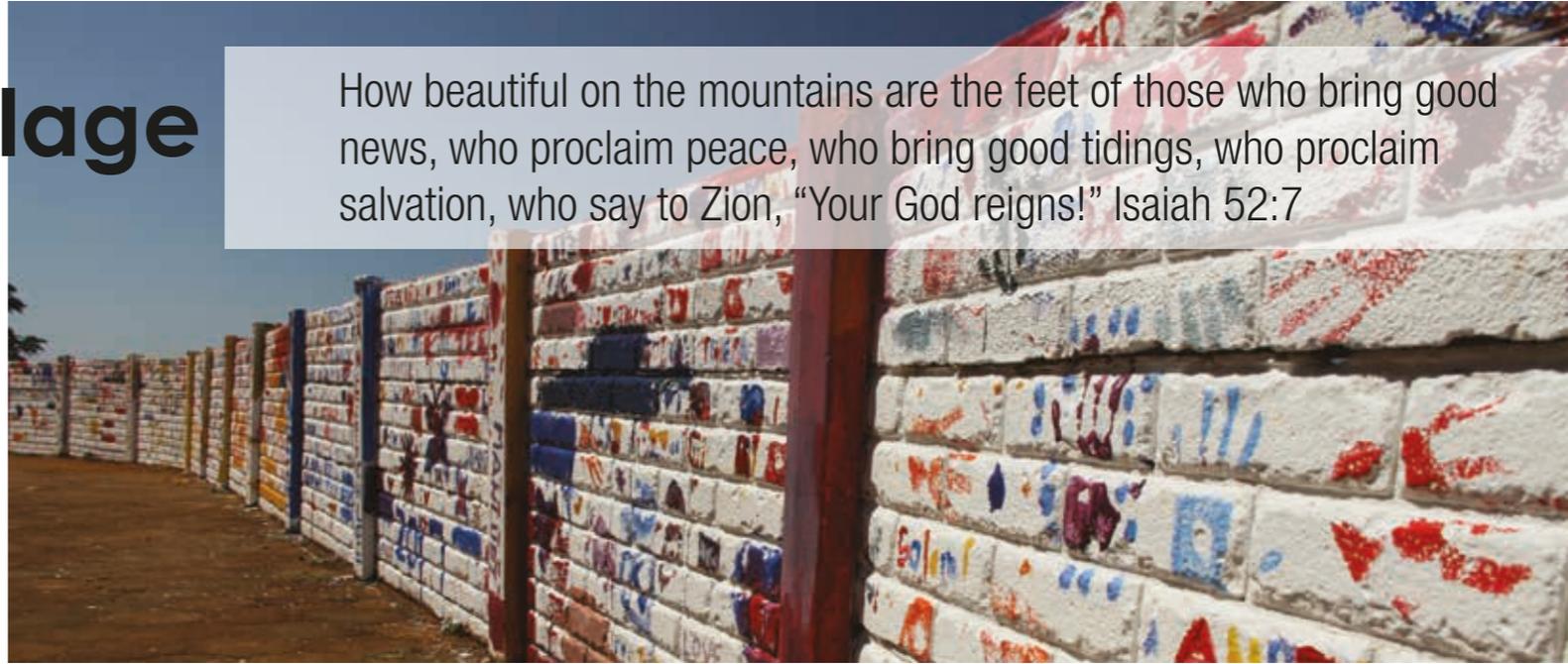
“Right from when I went into ministry, that has been my motivation.”♥

\*Names have been changed

# iKhetelo Children's Village



How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, "Your God reigns!" Isaiah 52:7



By David Hay, Australian Missionary, KZN

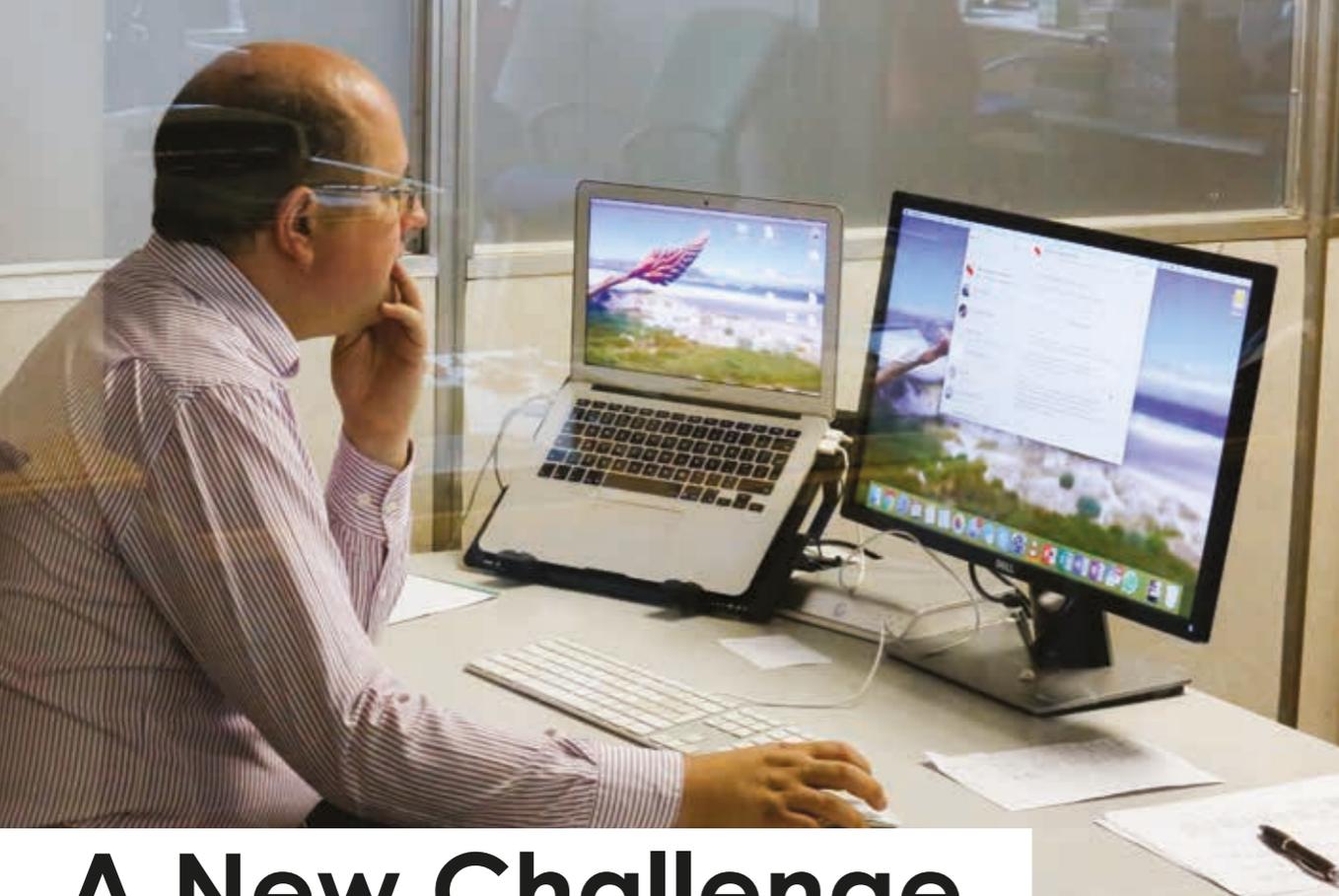
● Khetelo Children's Village is a children's home set in a beautiful area known as the Valley of a Thousand Hills in KwaZulu-Natal. We have been serving here since 2015 and currently care for 50 vulnerable children, ranging from six months to 19 years of age – all of whom have been orphaned or abandoned as a result of the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

Within the children's village we have a small primary school. The classrooms look out over surrounding hills. But before that is a paved area with a wall – a plain grey concrete brick wall. A group of grade 7 girls from a high school in Durban offered to enhance things by painting the wall.

In preparation, the wall was first painted white. Then the girls were let loose with coloured paints and brushes. Our children joined in and had a wonderful time brightening up the outlook from their classrooms.

The teachers and children love the result. ♥





# A New Challenge

By Brian Heffron, SIM SA journalist

**S**IM South Africa missionary Daniel Hopley was ready for a new challenge. Now, he has two of them.

"In order to be successful in a role, you need to be challenged enough to think differently ... If I determine that I'm getting stale in that role, then it's time for me to move on," said Daniel, the services manager for SIM's Southern Africa (SASC) and East Africa (EASC) service centres.

He is the first to manage both centres, which are located in Johannesburg and Nairobi.

"It's my role to provide

leadership to the teams, management of the services and strategising so the services provide value to the missionaries, keeping [them] efficient and sustainable and valuable to them," he said.

The SASC serves ten fields in southern Africa: Angola, Botswana, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Reunion, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The EASC serves Eritrea, Kenya, South Sudan and Tanzania.

Each SIM field has its own leadership, but there are not enough missionaries in each to

sustain certain administrative services. The centres provide financial services, medical evacuation and logistics (especially important for getting missionaries the items and supplies unavailable in their service area).

Additional services differ, as the needs of the regions they serve are different. EASC also provides government liaison services for Kenya and South Sudan; a photojournalist from the United Kingdom will join the centre later this year. SASC provides more medical services, information

technology services and media services (article about the Orthners, page 20/21).

While not glamorous, the work's value to missionaries is enormous.

"They have a team of people who are gifted in administrative ministries and can take care of all their administrative needs so that they are free to go and do what God has called them to do and not get bogged down with all the things involved in living in a foreign country," Daniel said.

Similarly, he still relies on services provided by SIM South Africa, which serves him and more than 70 other South African missionaries here in South Africa and abroad, as well as about 50 SIM members sent here by other countries. Although he has already started working full-time in his new position, he is still raising support to cover the increased costs over his former ministry. Those interested in investing in his work may do so. ♥

Support Details:  
Standard Bank, Blue Route  
Branch 025609  
Account Number: 072877014  
Ref: 037566/Your Name

Email proof of payments to:  
za.finance@sim.org



Daniel was born in Cape Town and earned a computer science degree from a private college. He worked in England for a year after college and then returned to South Africa. He worked for a decade in financial services for two banks and a consumer-driven medical scheme where he was a portfolio manager looking after 125 corporations.

God brought him into missions in 2010, using a combination of work stress and an increasing conviction that God was calling him. A few "coincidences" helped bring him onto the staff of the Third Lausanne Congress, held that year in Cape Town.

"The Lord gave me a very distinct call into service ministry," he said.

Daniel has served God through SIM South Africa since February 2011, when he joined as office manager. From mid-2013 until the end of 2016, he served as receiving personnel coordinator.

# Support raising for the Majority World



By John Berry SIM SA missionary, Stewardship Officer

For many years the traditional model of personal support raising has worked for our missionaries within SIM as they have been sent from the West to the rest. With the changing face of missions, missionaries are now going from the Majority World (Africa, Asia and South America) to the unreached people groups of the world, and the need for a new support model has emerged. For example, how do you support a missionary from the financially strapped Zimbabwe? As we wrestled with this issue, we have discovered cultural considerations also have to be taken into account when devising a support strategy for these missionaries. How do we solve this dilemma? Here are a few practical ideas

1. A SIM project fund can be started to assist these majority world missionaries with support during their initial stages of service.

2. Missionaries with business acumen can be encouraged to utilise their business on the missional field to raise additional support.

3. A support package can be structured appropriate to their specific lifestyle on the mission field.

4. The local church can be trained to understand the biblical basis for missions and the need for them to send out and support missionaries. The Kairos course is one course SIM is using to teach missions to the local church.

If you would like to partner with SIM South Africa in assisting these Majority World missionaries to reach people who are living and dying without hearing God's good news, please send your gifts marked "Majority World" to the SIM banking details on page five. ♥

# #NEWS & VIEWS

## Book Review 2 books on intercession

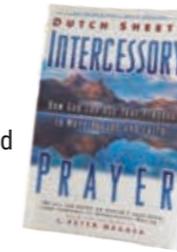
By John Berry

As missionaries we are called to pray for the mission work in which we are engaged. We pray for the Lord to thrust out workers into His harvest field. We encourage our supporters to pray for us. Our SIM theme is "By Prayer." So when I came across these two books on Intercessory Prayer and Prevailing Prayer, I read them with a desire to know more about prayer and intercession and how to make my prayer life more effective and count for God.

### Intercessory Prayer by Dutch Sheets

Dutch Sheets is a theologian who has served on the mission field and travelled extensively throughout the world teaching on prayer. He serves as senior pastor at Springs Harvest Fellowship in Colorado Springs, USA.

He explains the nuts and bolts of prayer with wisdom, gentleness and humour. I loved how he uses scripture, going into the Hebrew and Greek origins of the text to expound the meaning of the text he is using to illustrate a point on prayer. This is combined with practical illustrations from his life in ministry. A very worthwhile study on intercessory prayer.



### Mighty Prevailing Prayer by Wesley Duewel

Are you looking for power in prayer, the ability to get urgent and needed answers? Do you feel deeply tested at times by the unexplained delay in answers to your prayers? Are you longing for the secret to answered prayer? Prevailing prayer is prayer that obtains the answers sought. This is no kindergarten book on prayer but a summons to the battlefield. It challenges you to mature and militant praying. This book will wake you up for prayer and motivate you to be your best for God.



We are pleased to announce the birth of Luke, to Doug and Ellen Porter. Luke Andrew Porter was born on 24 June 2017 at 18:01. He weighed in at 3.8kg and was 51 cm long. He is brother to Nathaniel (six) and Josiah (four). We pray God's rich blessing on the family as they serve here in South Africa.

## A New Role for Randall in the Services Centre

Well, having officially moved out of the Personnel department in April 2017, it would be really nice to be able to say exactly what my new role and function is in the office. When I was appointed to this new position, Siegfried announced the role as "Head of SIM Southern Africa Services Centre" (Services Centre being the revised name for the office). Not being hung up on titles, I see myself as an assistant to the Director, helping him to be more effective in his role, taking on some duties of office management, logistics, planning and such like, allowing Siegfried to run with the "big picture" of where he needs to take SIM-SA in the next chapter. So, at this stage - to place my finger on one thing and say that this is my role and responsibility is somewhat presumptuous, as it ranges anywhere from fighting with Internet Service Providers to coordinating the planning and implementation of the Spiritual Life Conference, to buying office furniture (and anything else in between)! So, if there is anything that you need related to SIM-SA and don't know who may be able to help you, it would probably come across my desk, so why don't you give me a try! randall.sheldon@sim.org

# MAGMAIL

SIM South Africa

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TOKAI, 7966

South Africa



**T**he work of SIM is made possible by people who partner with us through their occasional or regular financial gifts.

God calls some to give so that others may go.

Your financial partnership with us enables projects, equips people and expands God's kingdom.

If you are able to support this work financially, then gifts can be given using the following bank details:  
SIM Southern Africa, Standard Bank, Blue Route, Branch Code: 025609  
Account Number: 072877014. Please quote the missionary's number or name when donating to a specific missionary, and notify us on [za.finance@sim.org](mailto:za.finance@sim.org)

Alternatively you may use the online button on the SIM website [www.sim.org.za](http://www.sim.org.za)