

## www.RMNI.org

Jim Sutherland, Ph.D., Director

POB 2537 Chattanooga, TN 37409-0537

Phone: 423.822.1091 Email: Jim@RMNI.org

Researching, Teaching, Mobilizing, for the Name— Serving Primarily African-Americans

### Inside this issue:

inside this issue:	
Director's 2005 Report	2-3
Missions & Me in 2006	3
Sudan & Haiti 2006	4
Prayer & Praise	4

#### InSites:

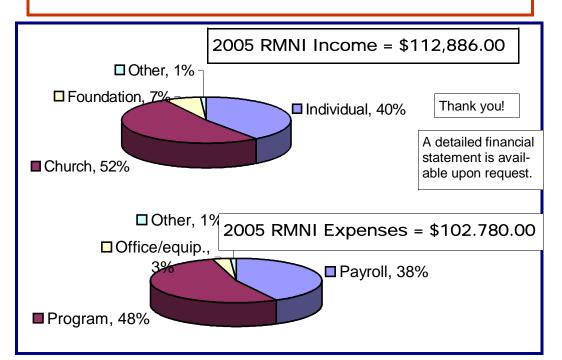
- Sisters In Service

   "Extending God's love to unreached women & children" sistersinservice.org
- "Resources for Multicultural Ministry" ethnicharvest.org
- Mission Training Int'I. promoting better intercultural ministry mti.org
- How to prepare for fulltime missions missionaryresources.com/ missionary\_prep.html
- Second career in missions? finishers.org
- Your Personal lists
   online: tadalist.com

# **RMNI** RECONCILIATION REPORT

We have much for which to be grateful to God in 2005. He has provided the largest Team to date, the first African American pastor on a Team, and has entrusted to RMNI a 38% increase in total income (Team fees, designated gifts to outside the US, and general giving). Downloads from the website average about 1,600 per month. These include a Uganda travel manual, budget forms, teaching papers, any of 12 PowerPoint teaching presentations and the Black church mission committee handbook, etc. Visits averaged 7,000 per month for Nov. and Dec. 2005. Plans are underway to host an online forum concerning African American missions and we're doing a site redesign. The RMNI Board is providing in-depth counsel. Generous end-of-December giving enables us to initiate offers of assistance to others mobilizing African American missionaries, as well as to meet ministry needs of some pastors known to us in India and East Africa.

We're further narrowing our short-term missions focus to underserved Christian populations. This means going where either the percentage of Christians in the population is small (India), and/or going where Christian ministry is difficult (such as Southern Sudan and Haiti) and therefore less available. I love working in India, but believe the Lord closed the door there for 2006. Haiti will hopefully stabilize



Page 2 Issue 39

enough to allow a trip. These trips are ministry-intensive and challenging. Our overall focus remains missions mobilization. Please pray for wisdom, open doors, many able workers and for safety and good health.

Thank you for praying, for giving or simply for your friendship and encouragement. Frankly, the breadth and depth of the Fall from Eden and it's grip even upon otherwise dedicated Christians, leave me nearly bewildered, and personally repentant. The next life looks better, while the remaining days strobe red with urgency—the urgency of the estimated 1,849,722,888 unevangelized on planet Earth (World Christian Database) —

the urgency born of an upcoming 60th birthday. Jim S.

# 2005 Director's Report



"Booker T" and Keith Michaels in Slidell, LA. A Team of workers organized by 1st Presbyterian— Chattanooga worked a day in this community with chainsaws and cleaners. We removed trees and briars on his lot and passed along a Bible.

Researching: Constructed a church member stewardship survey; Completed article on Dr. Tony Evans' views on the unreached; Updated and expanded Global Missions Trends and Biblical Finances PowerPoint (PP) presentations

Teaching: 3 New PP teaching presentations: Spiritual Growth; Time Stewardship; Cults Teaching: (1 student taught for 120 minutes = 2 student hours—this gives a better idea of the extent of teaching done, rather than simply listing the number of students taught) Jim taught a total of 2402 student hours in the US, India and Kenya on topics such as finances, cults, spiritual growth and missions.

Ladies on our teams taught a total of 3260 student hours; and youths were taught a total of 2020 student hours

Missions Mobilizing:

Mission trip reporting to 100; Took 9 to serve in Kenya for 16 days and 2 to India for 18 days; funneled funds for Kenya childcare and India gifs
<u>Uganda</u> 2 Uganda team training meetings for a church team

Medical ministry: served 1224 people at clinics in Eldoret and Kakamega, Kenya

Urban Ministry:

<u>Evangelism/discipleship</u> Ministry occasions: 51 (90+ seen, witnessed to 51+; helped 4 in job search; 3 volunteers assisted; 3 jail visits; distributed hundreds of New Testaments and Bibles; Katrina Relief trip: Dec. 8-11, 2005 to Slidell, LA (chainsaw work)

Counseling: Financial: 5 Ministry & personal: 3

Administration: <u>Financial</u> Handled all financial responsibilities, including tax reports, banking, receipting and reporting <u>Reporting</u> Produced and distributed Reports 34-38; Posted RMNI financials on web via

Guidestar.org; gave monthly ministry reports to Board; sent bi-monthly donor letters

Praise God.

Grace to you and peace from God our father and Lord Jesus Christ.

We give thanks to God always for you all ,making mention of you in our prayers for your work of faith and labour of God. I received your letter with alot of joy and we will continue praying for your great work with your entire team in India . May the lord award you a divine support.

I have had two seminars with some pastors around guided by your teachings and we have realized a great change and i am praying to hold a bigger meeting before the end of this year .

Is there any possibilities of getting the message you shared on the last day? About a child and a parent if possible please mail it.

May God Bless you and the rest . Amen. Yours in Service. Pastor W, Kakamega, Kenya 8/5/05

## Director's Report—Continued

Specialized annual reports completed for supporting churches <u>Other</u> Revised RMN brochure; Created a desktop RMNI display; upgraded photo and financial software; hosted quarterly Board meetings; upgraded to a wireless office network; prepared for two special RMN Board meetings; prepared a "prayer card"

Other: 14 Visits to African American churches; Ongoing study of missions; 2 visits to donor churches; 2 hospital visits; assisted a few doctoral/masters students

## Global Mission Trends and Me in 2006

What personal impact might global mission trends have in 2006?

1. Independent (non-denominational) Christians lead all Christians in annual growth. A large subgroup of Independents is the Charismatics/Pentecostals/Third Wave Christian camp, with a growth rate of 2.24%, compared with 2.21% for evangelicals and 1.31% for all Christians. We're in spiritual warfare. How do we personally relate to these strong spiritual warriors, if we are not in their camp? What can we learn from their focus upon the power of the Spirit and upon reaching the poorest and most neglected of people? How can we work together?

More personally, it takes 100 Evangelicals one year to see 2.21 converts. Am I insulated from non-Christians? Am I consistently sharing my faith and am I praying for people to come to salvation in Christ? 2. 1.85 billion people are unevangelized. They have never heard the plan of salvation in an intelligible way. About 80% of the 443,000 Christian missionaries globally are serving already Christian peoples. Perhaps 5-10% of this force is reaching the unevangelized. If Jesus is not returning until the gospel has been preached globally (Matt. 24:14), is global evangelism a priority? Does any of my mission giving help to reach the unevangelized? Do I pray for the "Kingdom to come" and do something about it? What am I doing to see that Muslims, Hindus, "Chinese religionists," the nonreligious and Buddhists are evangelized?

Am I taking advantage of opportunities to witness to these as I encounter them in the US and as I travel—as the Lord gives opportunity? Are the unsaved on my mind?

3. Globally Christians give 1.9% to all Christian causes. Of this giving, ten cents per one hundred dollars on average goes to global missions. How much of my giving goes to cross-cultural and global missions? Am I giving the least that God ever asked His people to give (Larry Burkett)—a tithe? Am I satisfied with giving a tithe? Am I generous, by my own definition (1 Tim. 6:18)? What would happen in the world if we gave at least 5% of our gross income for cross-cultural and global missions? Would it be possible that our children or grandchildren would simply not die, but meet Jesus in the air? How many of those meeting Christ in the air would I have helped to become airborne? Something to consider. (Documentation for the above statistics can be found at www.rmni.org/global/StatusOfChristianMissions2005\_files/frame.htm )



# Southern Sudan Mission June 2-17, 2006

- 1. Christ commanded Christians to go into **all the world** to make disciples (Matt. 28:18-20). The world has its devastated places. Southern Sudan is just beginning to recover from over 20 years of war, in which 2 million people died and 4 million were displaced. www.odci.gov/cia/publications/factbook/geos/su.html#Intro
- 2. Don't let difficulty prevent you from sharing your spiritual gifts across cultures. This is not a vision/observation trip—but an intensive ministry opportunity.
- 3. Go to rmni.org/sudan/home.asp for more information.
- 4. We have led 11 multicultural Teams to East Africa. We need Evangelical Christians with definite teaching, medical or evangelistic gifts.
- 5. Cost: \$3,500. Funds are due by May 6, 2006. If God wants you there, He will provide. If you cannot go, please pray for this mission. The trip dates for Sudan (and Haiti) are subject to revision.



1. Haiti is the poorest nation in the Western Hemisphere. 80% live in poverty. The average life expectancy is 53 years. www.odci. gov/cia/publications/factbook/geos/ha. html

2. This is a teaching/

- evangelizing/medical ministry (not a trip to observe).
- 3. We're trusting that Haiti's political situation will sufficiently stabilize, and we will do our best to provide a safe ministry experience.
- 4. The cost is to be announced, but will be less than \$3,000. See www.rmni.org/shortterm/Haiti.asp

# Prayer and Praise



 ↑ Thanks for praying in 2005! Whatever good has been accomplished, God has done it.

dent research intern.

- Please pray for these innercity friends: Moon (for salvation), and for life transformation for Rel (getting out of jail), "E," "Black" and Tanisha (who moved to Ohio) and others. Pray for the ability to disciple, and for more volunteers.
- Wisdom in the best use of re-

### sources.

- For a groundswell of African American pastors embracing global mission responsibility.
- For the right RMNi assistant director
- For teaching opportunities
- For the details of short-term trips to be settled and for 10 workers per Team.

Pray for excellent support in-country and for people to serve. Please pray also for team safety and health.

The Director's momin-law has joined the household. She is a dear lady. We had an excellent Christmas celebration, with all adult children home, with spouses.

#### Page 4 Issue 39 EGYPT LIBYA Wād Hälfä Port Sudan Sawākin Atbarah СНАП Kassalā, ERITR **KHARTOUM** Fāshir Wad Madanī Al Ubayyid Kusti Nyala **ETHIOPIA** Malakāl Wāw THE CONGO UGANE

CUBA le de la Tortue North Atlantic Ocean Port-de-Paix Golfe de le Gonâve Île de la Gonâve Saint-Marc Hispaniola Jérémie PORT-AU-PRINCE Miragoâne Les Cayes Miragoâne Les Cayes OMINICAN Caribbean Sea 0 30 60 km 0 30 60 km