



2010 Safari Team with Rev. Atif Seedhum,  
Egyptian Conference Superintendent

LEFT TO RIGHT . . .

- Rev. Marven Durling, Roblin, Ontario
- Rev. Peter Moore, Indianapolis, Indiana
- Emerald Brown, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
- Rev. Atif Seedhum, Shoubra, Cairo
- Rev. Randy Garner, Williamsburg, Virginia
- Lucy Broad, Slave Lake, Alberta
- Rev. Earl Conley, Brockville, Ontario
- Rev. Don Hodgins, Belleville, Ontario

*“And they went forth, and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them,  
and confirming the word with signs following.”*

Mark 16:20

**NEXT ISSUE WILL BE SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2010**

**Wesleyan/Standard G.E.M. Missions**

P.O. Box 488 ~ Brockville, Ontario ~ K6V 5V7



# Minutes with Missions

Ghana Egypt Mexico

May | June 2010

**80th Egyptian Conference 2010 at Cairo, March 3**  
**Rev. Atif Seedhum - center front was elected**  
**Superintendent of Egyptian Conference, March 2, 2010.**



Rev. Atif will have oversight of 25 churches. Half of them are located in large cities or towns and they extend from Alexandria in the north to Naga Hamadi in the south, a distance of approximately 800 kms.

MAY 2, 2010



THE WESLEYAN CHURCH OF CANADA

## Central Canada District

*Serving Central and Western Canada*

March 24, 2010

Dear Pastors and Church Leaders,

We are writing this letter today to let you know about an urgent need in Ghana. Over the last 18 months, there has been a significant reduction in donations for the Wesleyan Standard Church work in Ghana. It is perhaps partially due to the recession. Both in Ghana and in Canada every measure has been taken to reduce costs where possible.

This is a critical time for the young church in Ghana as it is growing rapidly and is seeing many people come to Christ in Muslim areas and areas where the name of Christ is not known. In the past year the Jesus Film has been shown over 40 times in communities with over 11,500 people attending and 3,040 people responding. As a result of this, five new churches are developing.

Thirty-two young men and women are in Lay Pastoral training, three men are in Bible College, and a District Board of Administration is taking on more and more of the responsibilities of the church. This is an incredible time of growth and maturity for the Wesleyan Standard Church in Ghana.

However, due to the financial difficulties, our missionaries, Rev Joe and Jemima Ocran are not receiving their salary in a timely fashion and other critical activities are being scaled back.

This is where we need your help. We need to raise an additional \$12,000 in the next couple months to be able to pay the Ocran's salary and for other costs. We are asking that your church make these needs known to your congregation and with prayerful consideration, give towards the Ocran's salary and other critical needs in Ghana.

Donations can be made to: Canadian Wesleyan Mission Board-attention Ghana  
P.O Box 488 Brockville, ON K6V 5V7

Thank you for your encouragement and generous support in kingdom building.

Brothers in Christ

Rev Don Hodgins  
District Superintendent, Central Canada District

Sheldon Gilmer  
Canadian Field Representative for the Wesleyan Standard Church in Ghana

*Rev. Donald E. Hodgins, District Superintendent* • 17 St. Paul Street • Belleville, Ontario, K8N 1A4  
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## SLAVERY TODAY

**What is human trafficking?** Human trafficking, also known as modern-day slavery, is: an ACT or attempted act of recruiting, transporting, transferring, harbouring or receiving a person....., by MEANS of force, abduction, fraud, coercion, purchase, sale, threats, abuse of power....., for the PURPOSE of exploitation. (United Nations)

**What is exploitation?** Exploitation is using a person for the purpose of financial or other economic interest. Types of exploitation include: forced labour/slavery, domestic servitude, sexual exploitation, prostitution of others, forced combat, illicit removal of body parts. (United Nations)

In the world today there are an estimated 27 million human slaves. That is more than there were at the height of the Trans-Atlantic slave trade. (Not For Sale, by D. Batstone) According to Lydia Today Foundation, human trafficking is the second most profitable criminal activity worldwide, surpassing drug trafficking. An estimated \$33.3 billion is generated in annual revenue from all human trafficking activities. This amount is an estimate because of the secret world of the crime itself.

There are people in the world today that are victims of human trafficking with most of them (85%) being women and children. UNICEF estimates as many as 1.2 million children enter the sex trade each year.

*Excerpts from an article by Theresa DeSweemer  
from World Hope March/April 2010*

UP-COMING DATES FOR . . .

**Egypt Mission Safari**  
**February 23 - March 15, 2011**

**JUNE 27, 2010**

**BEAUTY! LOVE! CHALLENGE!**

### **EGYPT'S BEAUTY**

When in the Land of the Pharaohs I was privileged to behold beauty beyond realization:

- the craftsmanship of the furniture maker
- the fertile fields of agricultural land
- the Valley of the Kings
- the Karnak Temple
- the Cairo museum with King Tut's treasures
- the magnificent splendour of a sunset on the Nile

### **EGYPT'S LOVE**

Our brothers and sisters in Egypt flow with LOVE, as demonstrated by:

- the warm handshakes
- the Christian embrace
- the kind words
- the beautiful smiles (especially of the children)
- their generosity (the many meals served with love)
- the unity of our fellow ministers, as experienced during the seminar, etc.

We brought part of Egypt's LOVE home in our hearts. As a result, God has graciously increased our LOVE for Egypt and for Egypt's people.

### **EGYPT'S CHALLENGE**

Approximately 85 million people live on seven percent of the land.

- a nation of men, women, children - beautiful hearts  
**NEED CHRIST TO SET THEM FREE!**

Egypt's Challenge is OUR Challenge  
Will you answer?  
PRAY ... GIVE ... LOVE

**EGYPT'S NEED IS CALLING!**

*Vernon Scott, Arden, Ontario*

**MAY 9, 2010**

### **EGYPT MISSION SAFARI**

I never thought I would have the privilege of going to Egypt, but what an unforgettable thrill it was to go with Rev. Conley and a team of seven February 24, for two weeks.

Having an adventurous streak in me, it was so very interesting to ride on a camel, see the pyramids, the Valley of the Kings, the Nile River, the ancient city of Alexandria, and many other experiences.

However, this is not why I went to Egypt. I went because I have always had a burden for missions. What a thrill it was for me to preach in several of our churches through an interpreter. What a joy to fellowship with and minister to all our Egyptian pastors at their annual Conference. It is very rewarding to know we have a witness and impact in this largely non-Christian country.

My last opportunity to preach was in the beautiful city of El Minya beside the Nile River. The sanctuary was full, so there was no room for people to come forward to indicate a commitment, so I asked for those to raise their hands if they wanted to respond for salvation or some other decision. God's Spirit was very near that night and approximately twenty five persons registered a decision, about seven or eight to accept Christ as Saviour.

We have a wonderful group of pastoral families in Egypt who are working very diligently to be a witness. The churches are mostly full and they have lively services. They really need our financial and prayerful support.

*Marven Durling, Roblin, Ontario*



**Rev. Amjad Fahmy, Pastor at el Minya translating for Rev. Marven Durling**

MAY 16, 2010

## MEXICO

The following pictures are from La Pressa of land to be purchased and a VBS program. This is an exciting prospect as it is in a growing area of Ensenada, thousands in the area without a church! Northern Lights Wesleyan, our own church plant in our north is praying for and sponsoring La Pressa work in the north of the city of Ensenada.

Work continues in Vincente Guerrero and Toda Santos with expansion of buildings and ministries. Also we are purchasing a building and land in Puerto Penasco at the head of the Sea of Cortez for a new church plant there. Other possibilities are opening up as well.



Rev. David Johnston, Powassan, Ontario

JUNE 20, 2010

## WORLD HOPE CANADA IS PROVIDING WATER & OPPORTUNITIES IN THE WORLD'S POOREST NATION!

Niger is the world's poorest country, ranking 177th out of 177 in the UN Human Development Index. Nearly 70% of Niger's 11 million people live on less than \$1 a day. Only 43% have access to drinking water. Scarcely 6.5% have electricity. Slavery still exists in secret among some ethnic groups in Niger. Despite the government's efforts, female genital mutilation is still practiced. (<http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/acdi-cida/ACDI-CIDA.nsf/Eng/JUD-217122532-NFH>)

World Hope Canada is currently involved in constructing wells in Niger. Our first well is being dug in the village of Innergad situated right in the middle of the national territory through which all the shepherds of West Africa must pass. A low rough estimate will be 22,000 shepherds annually but most likely much more than that. They stay days or even months depending on the amount of water available to water their herds. Over and above the shepherds and the herds, the regular inhabitants of Innergad, approximately 2,800 people during the drought season and many more at other times, will also use the well. If water is available, a lot of the shepherds of North Africa will also come through this national territory with their herds.

Village Development Committees (VDCs) have been set up in four villages: Illawatte, Innergad, Thumberdugan, and Kijari. Our pioneer village for VDCs is Illawatte where men, women, and youth responded well. Our micro-finance project is up and running already helping the people establish small businesses and introducing sewing for women. WHC has also set up a goat bank where we loan money to the people to purchase goats. They are expected to repay the money after one year so that the funds can be passed on to others in the village to continue the chain. Depending on the severity of the drought, we may have to extend this date. We are very excited to see the impact of these initiatives on the lives of the people.

Along with the above, we have held medical clinics six days a week for the months of August, September and part of October in 2009 as well as in January and part of February of 2010, seeing 70 to 90 patients a day. Also, we continue to make assessments in other neighbouring villages, distribute grain to those who are desperately hungry, clothe the naked, care for the sick, respond to emergency situations, feed and care for those who have nowhere to stay, and proclaim the love of Christ and His gospel in word and deed to those brought to us.

*World Hope, March/April 2010*

JUNE 13, 2010

## IN MEMORY OF KATIE HADLEY . . .

*"her sun is gone down while it is yet day . . ." Jeremiah 15:9*

On January 12, 2010 a 30 year old environmental engineer, Katie Hadley, traveled to Haiti on assignment for an Ottawa engineering company to assess the soil and water at the Canadian Embassy. Upon arrival she sent an e-mail home that she had arrived safely and was registered in at the Montana Hotel. She planned to stay only 2 days and then travel on to Brazil.

One hour later the news came over the TV that an earthquake had struck Port-au-Prince and the said hotel was flattened. Her company contacted Jim Gehrels, president of Lifewater Canada, who was on the site asking him to locate Katie. Her body was found under the debris and properly identified. Not too long after, Jim Gehrels was in a village dedicating a new well. He described the death of Katie and how as a result contributions had come in from all over Canada thus providing enough money to finance the completion of this well.

As Jim drew a parallelism to Jesus' death, there was a magical moment - the chief's face lit up, his eyes sparkled as he caught the significance of what Jim was saying, "Ah, yes, at 33 years old the Lord Jesus gave His life so that all mankind might have available eternal life. Katie's death at 30 made this well possible which will provide safe water to our village thus saving the lives of many children and improve the entire communities health and welfare. As the Lord gave His life's blood to make available eternal life so Katie's presence in Haiti and her death resulted in the gift of the water of life to us. God has turned Katie's death into life for our villagers. Would you please have a picture of her we could have?" A picture was quickly given to him. "We will call this well 'Katie's Well'. Every time we drink from it we will remember her and honour our adopted daughter. Katie will live on in us!"

One-sixth of the people on earth do not have safe drinking water and two-fifths lack access to proper sanitation. A child dies every 15 seconds from poor sanitation and unsafe water. In countries like Liberia 25% of all children die before age 5, mainly due to poor sanitation and unsafe drinking water.

*" . . . the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life." John 4:14*

*Doris Conley, Brockville, Ontario*

MAY 23, 2010

## NEVER TOO OLD

This was the big year for me, the big 5-0. I have officially lived half a century.

Over the last few years my wife, Stephanie and I have begun to talk more about finishing our race well. How do we use the remaining years of our life well?

There is one little problem that sometimes gets in the way. As we age our bodies hurt more, we get tired a bit easier - a big night on the town is being out till 10 p.m.! We are tempted to slow down and take it easy. I currently have the privilege of working with an amazing "Mother Theresa" type of woman. Her name is Dr. Cecile Desweemer, a Belgian doctor working in one of the most isolated parts of the Democratic Republic of Congo. Her first assignment in breaking the clutches of oppression in her world began as a child where she ran messages for the resistance movement that her parents were part of in WWII in Europe. Since then she has worked in many hot spots around the world relieving suffering.

Dr. Cecile is in her mid-seventies, has a good pension but suffers a great deal from Parkinson's disease. She often needs assistance to climb steps, get into vehicles etc. She is the perfect candidate for retirement living. However, she has chosen to forsake all comforts and dedicate the rest of her life to serving others. She lives in a primitive mosquito infested dwelling in a remote village treating the sick. She has no running water, a generator for intermittent power only when needed and line-ups of the sick and starving from morning to night. And she works from early morning until late at night, every day of the week.

So why does she do it? She is motivated by both the love of Christ and love for her fellow man. Her passion and vision helps her to overcome the frailties of her body. She is purpose driven! Dr. Cecile challenges me to believe that as long as the Lord gives me breath He has a purpose for my life. May I use it well!

*Sheldon Gilmer, Kemptonville, Ontario*



**Dr. Cecile with an abandoned senior rescued from starvation**

MAY 30, 2010

## EGYPTIAN SUPERINTENDENT



Rev. Atif Seedhum Khalif came from our church in Nikhela. In 1984 he enrolled at the Wesley Theological College in Assiut to train for the Christian ministry. His first appointment was Assiut where he assisted Rev. Wadie. The following year he was assigned to the church at Bahgura. While there he met Samara and in 1991 they were married.

In 1998 he moved to Shoubra el Khayma (Cairo) where he launched a new church. The work was successful and soon they were looking for a way to expand the facilities. In 2006 an adjoining apartment was purchased and the sanctuary enlarged. The congregation is continuing to grow.

In June of 2009 Rev. Atif was assigned to the pastorate of Shoubra-Cairo. After the death of our Superintendent, Rev. Ibraheem Hanna, Rev. Atif was elected superintendent of the Egyptian Conference on March 2, 2010. Rev. Atif is a man of energy and vision. We expect the conference will continue to grow and develop under his leadership. Prayer is requested for his health and spiritual insight.

Rev. Atif and his wife Samara have been blessed with three sons: John, Peter and Martin.

*E.R. Conley, Brockville, Ontario*

JUNE 6, 2010

## 2010 SAFARI MINISTRY



**Luther Awad translating for Rev. Randy Garner of Williamsburg, Va.**

God gave us the privilege of leading another Egypt Missions Safari with a team of 7 persons which included Peter Moore, Don Hodgins, Marven Durling, Randy Garner, Lucy Broad, Emerald Brown and Earl Conley.

During 16 days we were able to visit 12 churches and conduct 20 services. Included in this total were three conference devotions at Qalyub Conference Centre, Cairo - two women's services and four children's services.

*E.R. Conley, Brockville, Ontario*



**Emerald Brown - women's meeting**



**Lucy Broad - children's meeting**

The 90th anniversary service was postponed because the conference and churches were mourning the loss of Rev. Ibraheem. The safari was a time of blessing and spiritual success. Souls were touched and decisions were made. We were encouraged and challenged.