

Ministry Newsletter

Fall 2006



Faith is Alive!

While all our former ministerial alliance partners, MEDICS International Care, Inc., Holistic International Ministries, Leadership for Life, and Dream for Africa, have either withdrawn from the ministry or greatly reduced their ministerial impact, Bridges International Development, Inc. ("Bridges") has continued to grow and is now an entirely separate and independent ministry which continues to reach out to the people of Africa. Praise God for leading us through these challenging times and to you for your continual encouragement and prayerful support.

Congo "Fireline" schools

In the past year, Bridges has continued to be involved in various African economic development projects and has also established a support partnership with The Redeemer Covenant Church for the four former MEDICS "Fireline" Peasant Pastor Training Schools in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Central African Republic. These pastor training schools serve about 300 pastors currently in several different stages of active spiritual training. Wouldn't it be a tragedy for these 300 peasant pastors to be sent home without the opportunity to complete their pastoral training just because there were no more funds available for the support of their schools or to pay for their training manuals? It costs \$30,000 per year to provide "Bridge's" half of the support for these schools. This is about \$82.19 per day to operate all four of the schools, or only about 27 cents per student per day! Perhaps you could help. Pray about it.

New Women's Ministry

My wife, Ann, has recently joined me at Bridges, coming from another ministry. She has established a new Women's Ministry in East Africa, open to all women, not just pastor's wives. This new ministry has training classes in spiritual issues, personal care, health, and sewing. The Ministry also conducts a Rite of Purity Passage certification ceremony for young girls facing female circumcision (a.k.a. female genital mutilation). The training manuals, "Winners for God", which Ann helped write, have already been translated into Lingala, printed, and shipped to Central Africa for the start of three more Women's Ministry training classes in that poverty and disease stricken land of The Congo. Your personal commitment is needed in order to move ahead with these classes for these desperate women in the darkest corner of Africa.

Rite of Purity Passage

Ann and I are currently planning an early December trip to East Africa to meet the students attending the new Women's training school in Kenya and check out the facilities. As Executive Director of the Women's Ministry, she is planning to meet with Sarah, the East African Women's Director, to further develop the curriculum and strategize about new projects and programs. Sarah has scheduled a "Rite of Purity Passage" training event in December for young girls and their mother's and gogo's (grandmothers). Ann is planning to attend and to help teach at that event. The girls are out of school in December and that is a time when many of them are taken by force and mutilated with dirty unsterilized instruments such as pieces of glass, sharp metal, rusty knives, etc. You can help make a difference in the lives of these young girls with your financial contributions of this ministry.

Future Plans

I am planning a separate trip in January with another missionary to the Congo to visit the four peasant pastor training schools there. No one from our former ministerial alliance has been to the Congo in several years. My friends and ministry partners there have related to me that the schools are a blessing to these pastors in this disparate land. One of our leaders told me that when the rebels came he and his family had to hide out in the jungle and lived there for many months before it was safe enough to return to their home. Hopefully the new constitution and recent democratic elections in the DRC will prove to be a positive step for this war torn nation. The Congo has recently been reported to be the second worst place in the world. All of Africa has lots of needs. Help us make a difference for our Lord in this place.

Website update

Check out the new and revised website for Bridges International Development, Inc. on your own computer at www.bridgesid.org. Look at the pictures and the articles about this dynamic ministry and contact us either by phone or by E-mail. There is lots of information there on the website. Remember to check it often as it is under construction. Perhaps you will discover how you could become a part of this wonderful ministry. Maybe you would like to join us on a trip to Africa and see some awesome big game animals, some beautiful scenery, and meet some wonderful African people. Who knows, perhaps you too will fall in love with Africa.

Join with us

Start now with whatever God is leading you to do. You may be led to; share with someone else about the ministry and its opportunities; or to get more information; to become a prayer partner; to make a financial commitment; to plan a trip; to contact Ann or me about the ministry; or who knows what. Maybe you are one of those who at one time said to God let me get his done or that done and then I will do something for you, Lord, or has God been preparing you for a ministry opportunity like this. Now is a great time to take action and do something. Remember, you eat an elephant one bite at a time. Start now!

Do it now!

Take action right now and ask God about the level of participation you should commit to for the support of this good work of God. Thank you for your consideration.

In His service,

Dr. Bob & Ann Rosser

bob@bridgesid.org

annr@bridgesid.org

Website; www.bridgesid.org

Mailing address; Bridges International Development
P.O. Box 3795
Broken Arrow, OK 74013-3795

Phone; 918-355-4321

