

But my servant Caleb,

because he has a different spirit and has followed me wholeheartedly, I will bring him into the land into which he went, and his descendants will inherit it. Numbers 14:24 (NRSV)

# Caleb

Winter 2009

## REPORT

The **Caleb Report** is the quarterly newsletter of the SEND Ministries  
Department of Rosedale Mennonite Missions.



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# ex-voto

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by todd miller

After my time of discipleship training and outreach, I returned to "normal life." I had great expectations of going back, never allowing that flame for missions to flicker out, not getting too tied down to respond to God's call whenever and wherever that would be, and to possibly even become an overseas missionary. As time passed, I found it more difficult to keep that flame alive. I have accumulated more stuff than I am comfortable talking about. I found it extremely difficult to pack everything up and move my family when God said go. God confronted me with the realization that I was holding on way too tightly to what was comfortable and secure. Letting it go was freeing but surprisingly painful.

I believe God has called us to hold loosely to what He has entrusted us. Over time, we have a tendency to begin feeling a right to the comforts, stuff, and security we have. If God said to you today, "Go," how hard would it be for you to follow? To give up everything (home, business, friends, finances, stable life, etc.) and move to the ends of the earth. In 1 Peter 2:11 (CEV) God reminds us, "This world is not your home, so don't make yourselves cozy in it. Don't indulge your ego at the expense of your soul." I don't believe God has called everyone into overseas missions, but He has called us all to be a light to the world.

As the short-term missions director for Rosedale Mennonite Missions, I am privileged with opportunities to see what God is doing around the world. I could tell you some amazing stories! Every time I travel I come home with a renewed sense of passion and calling, my flame rekindled.

We would like to give you the same rekindling type of experience through Ex-Voto. Ex-Voto literally means, "A sacrifice offered to God either to fulfill a vow or as an expression of desire or gratitude." It is a time of refreshing, refocusing, and renewing. Ex-Voto teams are made up of four to eight individuals. The prerequisite is that applicants must have successfully completed a DTS (REACH, YES, YWAM, etc.) to be considered for an Ex-Voto team. In the situation of a married couple, only one of the two persons needs to have completed a DTS. It is an opportunity to keep your feet wet in missions, experience overseas missions with your spouse, reunite your old REACH team, or go just because you want to experience what God is doing around the world.

Ex-Voto is an opportunity to strategically serve on the front lines of missions. Consider joining an Ex-Voto team as a means of gratefully fulfilling your pledge of continued involvement in inviting the nations to worship Jesus. Freely we have received, freely let us give. Call or e-mail us for applications.



**ex-voto**  
bangladesh

June 26 - July 12, 2009

Bangladesh, one of the poorest Asian countries, suffers from overpopulation and is facing enormous spiritual, social, and economic needs. RMM has worked with and continues to support a growing church among low-caste Hindu and Muslim populations. Local believers are reaching out to their own people and are seeing youth and young families come to the Lord. Two REACH teams and one long-term RMM worker have served in Bangladesh since 1990.

This Ex-Voto team will be involved in English Bible camps doing things like manuscript Bible studies, worshiping, prayer walking, fun language learning activities, and more. The outreach will focus on ministering to both believers and seekers.

**Cost: \$2900 - Registration deadline: May 1, 2009**

**ex-voto**  
thailand

June 26 - July 12, 2009



Bangkok, the capital city of Thailand, is described as ancient, exotic, and progressive. RMM has been working among immigrants, factory workers, prostitutes, children, and university students since 2006. Workers are seeing fruit from their efforts and continue to minister to both new local believers and seekers.

This Ex-Voto team will focus primarily on intercessory prayer for communities where RMM is currently working, for local believers and seekers, and for long-term RMM workers. The team may also explore new outreach possibilities among university students and may join the REACH team in teaching conversational English at a local Buddhist school.

**Cost: \$2300 - Registration deadline: May 1, 2009**



## RMM Needs 300 Intercessors!

Most of you are aware that RMM has purchased a former nursing home in Columbus, Ohio which will be converted into a new training center. This facility will allow us to expand the current REACH and City Challenge programs and to branch out into some new territory of training and sending. It has been a step of faith, born out of prayer and a desire to see God's kingdom rapidly extending to all nations.

The task of the renovations is huge and costly. A committee has been formed to get the word out and to invite you to give in whatever way you can. One of the ways to be involved is to undergird the work in prayer. We firmly believe that prayer saturation of this work will result in abundant fruitfulness in which the funds will be raised and the work accomplished with less effort and time than seems logical (especially given our falling economy). If you are interested in being one of these 300 intercessors, contact Mim at [mim@rmmoffice.org](mailto:mim@rmmoffice.org).



If you would like to receive the Caleb Report electronically instead of a printed copy, please contact [karen@rmmoffice.org](mailto:karen@rmmoffice.org)

## alumni happenings

### BIRTHS

Anthony Steffen was born to Bill and Sarah (Graber) Steffen (R 96) on November 18, 2008. He had died before he was born. However, we would like to announce his birth and celebrate his life. His older sisters are Jasmine and Anabelle.

Lenny Miller (R 00, 06; S 02) & Christina (Swartzentruber, R 98, 06) had a baby boy, Benjamin Edward on December 23, 2008.

### MARRIAGES

Joelle Kurtz (R 07) married Hans Hochstedler on January 31, 2009.

Ian Miller (R 05, 06) married Jubilee Tuinstra (R 06) on January 2, 2009.

### MISSIONARY APPOINTMENTS

Colleen Maust (R 96, 07) has been appointed by RMM to a three-year missionary appointment in Thailand beginning February 2009.

Please inform us of any births, weddings, missionary appointments, or changes of address. ([karen@rmmoffice.org](mailto:karen@rmmoffice.org))

# farewell from the Kauffmans



Time flies when you're having fun, right? The past three years have not necessarily been constant fun, but we have definitely enjoyed our time with SEND as it flew by! The interactions we have had with REACHers, City Challenge participants, and various other people have challenged us and stretched us in ways that are invaluable. We have seen God at work in the SEND Department during our time here, and we have been so very blessed to be privileged enough to be a part of it. It is interesting to look back to the very beginning of our three years and remember feeling so inadequate for the job. Now, from this perspective, we are glad for those feelings, because it has been a season of life for us to watch God's strong hand at work even through our inadequacies. Sometimes it felt like we were just standing by and watching things happen around us, and sometimes it felt more like we were getting in the way. In either case, we have been amazed at how He works through us no matter who we are. In addition, we are so grateful to every person we have come to know through our time with SEND. If you are one of those people, consider yourself appreciated!

Our lives have been enriched and blessed in so many ways, and we pray that you would be blessed as well. For the future, we do not know what exactly God has in store for the two of us, but we trust His ways.

Please remember us in your prayers.

**Kirk and Karla Kauffman**



The SEND Ministries Department exists to equip and motivate youth to be Christ-centered, world Christians who make disciples.

[www.send-me.org](http://www.send-me.org)