

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

summer 2009

REPORT

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



Our
REACH
experience
by zach & allyah miller

how do you describe half a year of your life in just a few paragraphs?


That is kind of how I feel right now as I sit down and think back on the time that my wife Allyah and I spent in East Africa. Our adventure began last September in Columbus, Ohio, where we went through three months of training along with the four other members of our REACH team. Training was a great time of growth for us all personally and also served as a great time for us to bond together as a team. The six months that followed were a time of great excitement for us all as we attempted to learn how to fit into our new surroundings! The majority of our time was spent in northern Kenya working with the very primitive Turkana tribe, as well as working in the Kakuma refugee camp. While there we had the privilege of working with a man named Benson (aka "The Desert Boy")! In the last ten years God has greatly used Benson to plant nearly 100 churches in northern Kenya and the surrounding countries, and we were lucky enough to have the opportunity to assist him in the work that he is doing.



When I look back at some of the biggest things that God taught us during our time leading our REACH team, many things stick out! For myself personally, God taught me a lot by just observing the life of Benson. At the time that I first met Benson I was fairly intimidated because here was this incredible Apostle Paul of sorts that we were expected to work alongside! After living with him for some time though, I came to see Benson as a friend that I could learn incredible things from by just observing his everyday life. I learned to approach every aspect of my life by asking God for His vision and heart for the current situation that I was in. In doing so, I began to see my Father as a holistic God that wants to bring hope and healing to every facet of His childrens' lives! I always knew that our Father wants to bring healing to hearts that do not yet know Him (and He definitely does!), but as I lived among a people that were stricken with so many physical and emotional wounds, I began to realize how much He yearns to bring healing

and restoration to those parts of our lives as well! For me that meant giving over to Him the insecurities and fears that I had about being a leader, as well as trusting Him for protection from the scorpions that were living underneath our mattress!

God also grew Allyah and I incredibly in our marriage and how we approach leadership together as a team! If you haven't realized this already, leading a REACH team doesn't lend itself particularly well to having tons of alone time with just your wife! Even though we didn't have lots of alone time, we both feel that our marriage is much stronger now than it was before we entered REACH. Yeah, there were times that we really wished that our team wouldn't always be there so we could have some privacy (sorry guys we love each of you to death), but God really blessed us with understanding for each other as well as making our alone times seem very special! (Even if it was just drinking a soda together in town.) I would say that the biggest thing that God taught us in our marriage was how important it is to be involved with each other's spiritual walks. For me that was a fairly hard thing at first because I can be a very independent person, but especially as our prayer lives became more unified, we became better leaders and our relationship together grew deeper and stronger!



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I would love to tell you that now that we are out of REACH we know exactly what we are doing and what God's exact direction is for our lives, but that is not the case! Although we have many doubts and fears about where God is taking us in our lives, we both are at the point of complete surrender to whatever He wants us to do. Sometimes I feel a little bit like the Psalmist David as I question God and ask for His leading in my life, but I am finding that He is always faithful. Even now, that same holistic Father that I grew to know in the deserts of northern Kenya is bringing comfort and healing to my own heart, and He is asking me to lie down in His green pastures and trust Him so that He can lead us in the way that He has for our lives. As fun and exciting as the last chapter of our lives was, I have a feeling that He has a whole new adventure that He wants to take us on!

eX-voto

upcoming teams
June 25 - July 11, 2010

We are currently forming eX-voto teams for Thailand and Bangladesh. If you would like more information or to apply, please contact karen@rmmoffice.org or visit www.send-me.org



MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

This list below is designed to keep you updated on short- and long-term mission opportunities through RMM. If you have any questions please email us at info@rmmoffice.org. All opportunities and locations are potential.

- **North Africa: Development Workers needed** – medical personnel, English or classroom teachers, rural development workers
- **Spain: Teachers for public schools** – late September to the end of May, see <http://www.ciee.org/teach/spain/index.html>
- **Middle East: School staff** – including school teachers, directors, IT personnel, home school teachers and more
- **India: Worker for local hospital** – person with medical background to work with a doctor
- **Thailand: Interns** – Immediate need for two-year missionary interns

RMM INTERN OPENINGS

If you are interested in a one- or two-year missionary internship or would like more information, please contact Denise at denise@rmmoffice.org. Current locations include but are not limited to: North Africa, the Middle East, Spain, and Thailand.

alumni happenings

Please inform us of any births, weddings, missionary appointments, or change of address. (karen@rmmoffice.org)

MARRIAGES

Jeremy Stoltzfus (R 98) married Janell Miller (R 06) on June 13, 2009.

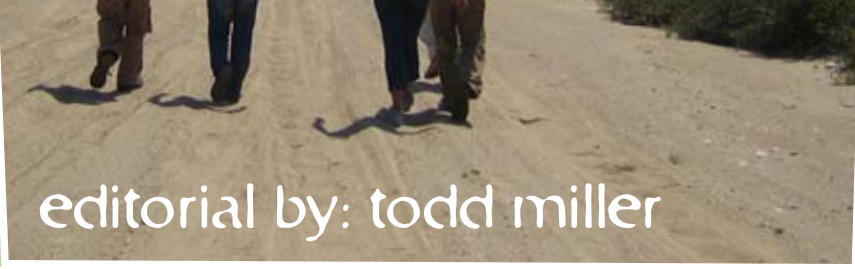
BIRTHS

Rhoda (Showalter R 93) & Keith Miller had a baby boy, David Emmanuel, on April 11, 2009.

Michelle (Hunsberger R 02) & Reuben Zook had a baby girl, Jazlynn Deserae, on May 12, 2009.

Crystal (Dornburg R 02) & Daniel DiGiacomo had a baby girl named Olivia Joy on June 30, 2009.





editorial by: todd miller

I was impressed with the Kenya REACH team. They walked five miles to church...and five miles home...three times a week! Honestly, if my car were broken, you probably wouldn't find me walking to church. Perhaps I am just lazy or my lifestyle has become too comfortable. The thought made me stop and think, "Have I become too comfortable with my Christian life? How much do I truly desire to seek God and share Him with others?"

We are ambassadors of Christ (2 Cor. 5:20). Everything we do...or don't do, represents Him. Jesus himself commissioned us to share the good news to the very ends of the earth (Mt. 28:18-20). Why are we timid or just plain lazy when it comes to stepping out and seeking opportunities to share our faith?

I am encouraged by Jesus' handling of the man set free from the legion of demons (Matt. 5:1-20). "The people saw the man who had been possessed... sitting there, dressed, and in his right mind..." He desired to follow Jesus. Jesus instructed him to go back and tell people what the Lord had done for him. He wasn't told to study for two years under the teaching of Jesus. He went immediately and the people were amazed. What were the prerequisites of being sent out by Jesus?

ONE	He had an encounter with Jesus.
TWO	He was dressed.
THREE	He was in his right mind.

Some of us have trouble with that third one... but for the rest of you, the criteria is met!

What is stopping you today from stepping out and being Christ's ambassador to the world around you? Pray that God would open a door for you to share what the Lord has done for you (Col. 4:2-6).



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

www.send-me.org