



Daniel D. Ketchum, Director • Ann Baldwin & Gina Pottenger, Editors

April/May/June 2007

Number 69

### NAZARENE SCENE

#### **Burning Fire to Use Media**

Argentina—Communication leaders from throughout South America gathered February 21-24 to establish a virtual team of communication strategists in the ever-changing world of technology. “Each of us has a burning fire within to use media to share the message of salvation and holiness. This is what drives us,” said Brian Utter, South America regional communications coordinator.

World Mission Broadcast,  
South America

#### **JESUS Film Team Beaten**

India—Three members of a *JESUS* film team were severely beaten and their equipment damaged by unknown vandals during a screening in February. An hour into the screening, 10-15 young men unplugged the projector, threw it to the ground, and attacked the team. Testimony from this film team speaks of forgiveness, claims Christ’s suffering as an example, and requests prayer for courage and faith

*Where Worlds Meet*

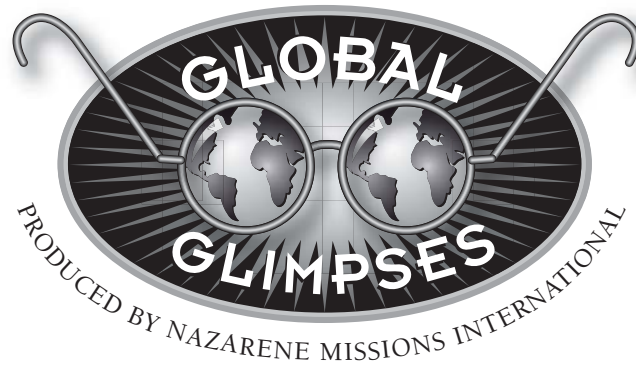
#### **NCM Child Sponsorship Helps Thousands of Children**

This year, there are 9,348 children being sponsored through NCM Child

Sponsorship, a 46-percent increase over 2005. Much of this growth is due to the Just One Challenge, a collaborative effort with Nazarene Missions International. Just One sought to find just one individual/group in a church that would begin a new child sponsorship. NCM now ministers to children in 79 countries. Programs include 47 Child Development Centers and 74 Pastors’ Children Education programs.

#### **Volunteering Life-Changing Moments**

- In its 33 years, Work & Witness’s 174,615 participants have given 11,732,703 labor hours, equaling 5,837 years of labor.
- 1,119 teams participated in 2006, with 20,581 participants serving in 68 world areas.
- 534 volunteers participated in 66 world areas via Mission Corps in 2006—254 short-term (1-90 days) volunteers, 258 long-term (more than 91 days) volunteers, and 22 tentmakers (volunteers whose secular vocation leads them to a different culture).
- Youth in Mission sent out 181 participants in 2006 to 28 world areas. Of this group, 31 students were from 5 regions outside U.S.A./Canada.
- 116 Youthserve Work & Witness teams comprised of 2,320 students served in 12 world areas in 2006.



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## **JESUS Film Harvest Partners Stats**

- 258 *JESUS* film teams currently serve, spreading the Gospel in 190 languages and in 99 world areas.
- Cumulative totals (since 1998) are 41,744,111 evangelistic contacts, 7,266,833 decisions for Christ, and 2,266,538 initial discipleship follow-ups, and 10,349 new missions started.

## **WORLD SCENE**

### **Romania—Abstinence or Abortion?**

In Romania—which has the highest abortion rate in Europe—the average woman has three or four abortions in her lifetime, reports the *British Medical Journal*. In response, a Campus Crusade for Christ ministry held a symposium to promote abstinence education and to talk about Jesus. Local TV and radio stations highlighted the program. Sixteen teachers accepted Christ, and 12 recommitted their lives to Christ. Some of the attendees are promoting the abstinence lessons to their students.

*Worldwide Challenge Magazine*

### **Gaza—Police Seize Church**

In February, Palestinian Authority police of the Fatah party seized the Gaza Baptist Church, from which they shot at members of Hamas. The congregation is unable to gather for worship, and a member was hit in the crossfire. The church building offers the area's only Christian library, a guest hostel, and a mammogram clinic.

*Open Doors*

### **Iraq—Christian Church Grows**

During Saddam Hussein's rule, an underground church of 5 families met for Bible studies and prayer meetings. Today, the congregation of 350 worships in a 2-story building with a lighted cross on top. A recent pastoral ordination service drew a crowd of 1,000, and police helped set up extra chairs in the street.

*The Church Around the World*

### **China—New Faith Challenges**

Many Chinese travel overseas as tourists or students. Those accepting Christ while abroad may have difficulty implementing

their new faith when they return home. Challenges include 12-hour workdays allowing little time for worship and Bible study; employers who may require immoral or illegal actions at work; and joining a house church, an illegal activity that could expose believers to the possibility of persecution.

*Antioch Missions/Chinese Church Support Ministries*

### **Saudi Arabia—No Churches Allowed**

Defense Minister Prince Sultan recently declared that the Saudi Arabian government will never allow a Christian church to be built within its borders. Calling church attendees "fanatics," he added, "We are not against religions at all...but there are no churches—not in the past, present or future."

*The Church Around the World*

### **Afghanistan—Girls Go to School**

In Qala-i-Naw, thousands of girls attend Naswan Girls School, where World Vision assists students through the Food for Education program, supported by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Since the program's inception, attendance at the school has skyrocketed from about 500 to 2,700. With so many hungry people, the food serves as an incentive to get children to school, especially girls who were denied education under the Taliban.

*World Vision News*

### **Ethiopia—Goat Milk Production Triples**

Last year when drought struck the Afar region, the Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) provided goat feed to nomadic families who rely on herding livestock. The feed—just 2.8 ounces or 80 grams per animal per day—helped the goats survive as the grass shriveled and died. It also helped them produce more milk, a critical source of protein for the area. MCC workers report that milk production nearly tripled after the feed was introduced.

*A Common Place*

*Global Glimpses* is a publication of Nazarene Missions International and can also be found at <[www.nazarenemissions.org/globalglimpses](http://www.nazarenemissions.org/globalglimpses)>.

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