



Holiday Greetings to you from the growing team of administrative volunteers at our new Gospel Ministries International (GMI) headquarters.

Thank you for your interest in GMI. May this newsletter and the new DVD "Having Nothing, Having it All" give you an exciting glimpse into how partnering with God through sacrifice by faith turns into immense joy and a closer relationship with Jesus Christ.

This first story is about the picture and people on the holiday greeting card and video. As an umbrella organization for more than 65 ministries around the world, some started by GMI and some associate ministries, the organizational needs have far outgrown what used to be managed on David and Becky Gates' laptop computers. As part of their immediate goal to better inform and care for all the ministries of GMI they realized the need for a home base from which to coordinate the efforts.

When they searched for an office to house **GMI HEADQUARTERS** early this year, God again showed how big He was thinking. They were just looking for an office, but God provided a 9,000 square foot media center and campus with three houses for volunteer missionaries! It's the building you see on the Christmas card. GMI now has space for the growing family of experienced and skilled volunteers who are showing up at God's prompting to fill positions David and Becky didn't even know they had. Amazing!

As we, David, Becky and the GMI family, follow God's leading in our work, the miracles at home and around the world continue to astound us. This has been a very interesting year - a combination of serious challenges and tremendous blessings.

A 2009 Gospel Ministries International News Brief

Watch for the following stories on the DVD "Having Nothing, Having it All;" on the main menu choose "High Risk Stories." You can order it for free by phone.

- Nearly a year ago, one of our airplanes had engine failure during a night flight over the ocean along the coast of **Nicaragua**. **Pilot Jeff Sutton** was forced to make an emergency landing in the trees with seven of our missionaries on board. God miraculously saved everyone, providing a great testimony as newspapers reported their story throughout Nicaragua.
- Then our Adventist Medical Aviation (AMA Venezuela) **pilot Bob Norton and his wife Neiba** disappeared in the jungles of **Venezuela** without a trace on a medical aviation flight carrying our **school** (an indigenous boarding academy serving 200 students) **director Gladys Zerpa** and some patients. After many months of intensive searching and still no airplane, we are looking into alternate explanations for their disappearance. AMA Venezuela misses them, and we all do. They and their families still need your prayers.
- Familia Feliz Orphanage director Steve Hall and his Wendy lost their two-year son to drowning in Bolivia. After serving for three years they are back in the United States now.

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- Our chief pilot for Adventist Medical Aviation, Africa (AMA Africa) **Gary Roberts and his wife Wendy** lost their four-year-old son **Caleb** to malaria in Chad, **Africa**. In spite of their heart-wrenching loss they continue to expand the gospel work throughout Africa.
- After seven years of broadcasting (with tremendous expansion during the last twelve months) GMI went off the air on two of our six satellites affecting more than 100 million homes, due to lack of funds.

We want to tell you both sides of the story because it's been a very difficult year. Many missionaries have been seriously attacked by disease and faltering interpersonal relationships. Sometimes it seems as though we are hanging on by our fingernails but when we look back we realize that God is weaving a beautiful tapestry with all of our lives and work. "Gather my saints together unto me; those that have made a covenant with me by sacrifice." Psalm 50:5 GMI is blessed to see that all remain confident that God is in control. Our GMI family is witness to their dedication and sacrifices.

So what good news has happened at GMI? You will read how God has blessed us with great growth in 2009 but most of all, we are happy that God is utilizing GMI projects around the world to be a blessing in saving souls, in growing God's kingdom and in getting people ready for Christ's soon coming.

How has Gospel Ministries International grown in 2009?

Watch for the following stories on the DVD "Having Nothing, Having it All;" on the main menu choose "Feature Film" or "Adventurers." You can order it for free by phone.

MEDIA

- In the last 14 months God exploded one television network into **12 networks broadcasting 24/7 in 10 languages!** (listed on the website)
- New **radio stations in Bolivia** and **Venezuela** are reaching into neighboring countries.
- After nine years of hard work the government in **Granada** in the **South Caribbean** granted us an **FM broadcast license**. It took **John and Sue Bartel** six years of persistence and patience to fill the air with heavenly music and messages on radio.
- Now **Steve and Samara Shedell** are operating the **FM radio station**. Neighbors report sightings of **an angelic guard** appearing at the gate from sundown until sunup. They say this miracle has happened every evening since the radio station went on the air.
- The Grenadian government also granted GMI a **television broadcast license**. This was an historical event for the Adventist church in the **Caribbean** and we are praying for God to provide television broadcast equipment. Currently both **radio and television are streaming online** at <www.globalfamilynetwork.net>.

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EDUCATION

- In **Guyana and Bolivia**, **gospel workers** expanded our **Bible schools** by adding **secondary and primary education**. They serve more than **200 students** combined.
- GMI is partnering to save **Collana Boarding Academy in the high Andes Mountains** of Bolivia. After 70 years the dying academy had less than ten students and planned to close. GMI adopted the school and converted its academic curriculum into **industrial education**, and now the school is flourishing with more than **100 students**. Other schools are standing in line to be adopted.

AVIATION

- Through generous partners in Jesus, **GMI's Adventist Medical Aviation (AMA)** acquired **two airplanes for Guyana**, purchased **three airplanes for Bolivia**, and purchased **a plane for Mongolia** that is waiting for God to provide a diesel engine.
- Prospective mission pilots are doing their mission aviation training in **GMI flight schools** to fly those planes and several are already flying on the front lines.
- Of the GMI suite of **26 airplanes**, 15 are operating on the front lines and the rest are used in flight schools or being prepared for launch.
- GMI AMA ministry aircraft logged **5,400 hours** in 2009 providing free aviation services for medical, education and evangelism.

MEDICAL

- Directors **Bradley and Lina Mills** helped a group of Brazilian medical professionals revive the historical **Luzeiro** riverboat medical program (after ten years of closure), as **Luzeiro Amazonia**. They are acquiring their **fourth medical boat** - all in one year.
- AMA services opened up new isolated regions by launching **three additional aircraft** to provide emergency medical transport and evangelism.
- After years of hoping we were finally able to launch a **full time medical evangelism** aviation service in **southern Guyana** under the leadership of pilot **James Ash**. Pilot **Gary Luis** supports the **northern half of Guyana**.
- For the first time in history our **AMA Bolivia** is offering free medical services into the **high Andes Mountains of Bolivia** with a turbo-charged **Cessna 182** that is needed to handle the 13,000-foot elevation **newly built runway near Lake Titicaca**.

Satan knows God is behind all these projects; therefore extreme difficulties should not be a surprise. Biblical prophecy teaches us that things will get even more intense, economically and spiritually, but among these we can expect explosive growth fueled by the Holy Spirit through the latter rain.

The best days of GMI (and all of God's work) are straight ahead!

We wish you could click and see where all the GMI projects are around the world, but we haven't kept the website up-to-date. As we are growing into God's **big vision** we are

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confident that God will provide the **big stuff** to do get the job done. After all, God not only has what He needs, but prepares it ahead of time. He is able to use all of His riches - aviation wonders and daring pilots, electronic media and technical wizards, food storehouses and gold reserves.

God knows what is needed before we even ask, and He keeps answering our prayers by impressing us to, "Move forward; move forward." So plans for the new **GMI HEADQUARTERS** include:

- a **multi-lingual media production center** for networks around the world,
- a **world news network** producing reports in the light of prophecy for all our networks,
- and a **major satellite uplink** for Adventist channels in the USA.

GMI was founded on trust in God and sacrifice in His name. Our testimonies of God's faithfulness have covered the planet. Thousands have responded by placing all on the altar and have launched out in ministry. Others have partnered with us through sacrificial giving. It is this and your prayers that have allowed GMI to continue and expand its ministry worldwide.

May God bless you and greatly multiply your influence into this next year, for we can all truly sing, "Joy to the world, He is coming again!"

Representing Your GMI Family Headquarters,

David Gates
President

PS. We encourage you to partner with God through sacrifice by faith. He cared for you before. He will do it again. Eph. 3:20 God daily multiplies the loaves and fishes. It is not the amount, but the sacrifice of the gift that counts. May God's special blessing and joy fill you until one day we together hear the words, "Well done thou good and faithful servant."

GMI Mission Statement:

Gospel Ministries International is a faith-based, volunteer-driven organization which seizes opportunities to carry God's love, through sacrifice, to the world.

- *Education, prison ministry, healthcare and care for the abandoned and needy are some of its priorities, while utilizing technology such as aviation and mass media to leverage the impact and influence of its mission.*
- *Seeking to maximize the number of persons involved and areas reached, it creates service opportunities for diverse skills and education.*
- *Believing that time is very short, its decision-making reflects a sense of urgency.*
- *It supports and encourages people and other organizations which share these principles.*

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