New Beginnings for the Inuit

Adventist Frontier Missions lay workers Bill and Lisa Neish are using the New Beginnings DVD materials to reach the Inuit in northern Canada:

"When we first moved to Canada’s arctic in the territory of Nunavut back in 2009, we tried many different options and materials. As we gained experience, we realized that the Inuit have an average reading level of between grades 3 and 5. When we initially studied the Bible with them, we would ask them to read, and it was a real struggle. They were not familiar with many of the words in the New King James Version. We tried using more contemporary English Bibles but did not like the paraphrase work in those Bibles, especially for studying doctrine.

"We also were reaching out to the communities around us, and many of the Inuit in the remote and small communities had difficulty reading English at all. Many elderly Inuit are..."
unilingual and speak only Inuktitut and read syllabics. It was no good handing them English literature.

"One thing we discovered, however, is that all the Inuit seem to have a TV and DVD player. Read more...

Maranatha Volunteers International reports that its "top" destination is now Nicaragua in Central America. With all of the churches completely full in that country, church leaders have requested 80 new churches, although the need is actually greater. "The real need is for about 200 temples throughout our country," says Pastor Juan Angel Guevara, director of the Central Mission of the Adventist Church in Nicaragua. "But we don't have land. Here under this tree...a church meets. Another meets at our radio station office. Churches are meeting in pastors’ homes, in members’ homes, because they don't have land. So for now we will work on the ones for which we do have land.... Our dream is to have a church in every neighborhood. A church in each community, in each city, in each housing development." Consider joining Maranatha as a volunteer in Nicaragua in 2012.

Advent Home Learning Center, a ministry of Outpost Centers International, has hundreds of new "teachers" this year. Tomatoes, broccoli, and lettuce plants are giving students practical, meaningful lessons in patience caregiving, and paying attention to detail. Advent Home is developing its gardens and greenhouses into a viable industry to support the ministry and to assist students in their personal and spiritual growth.

Online Registration: Visit the ASI website to register online for the 2012 ASI International Convention, Aug. 8–11, in Cincinnati Ohio. Pre-registration discounts available, as well as discounts for transportation and local points of interest, such as the family-friendly Creation Museum.

Pre-Convention Fundraising Seminar: A pre-convention fundraising seminar will be offered Aug. 5–8, 2012, as a joint effort by ASI, Philanthropic Service for Institutions (a department of the NAD), and The Fund Raising School at Indiana University. The seminar will meet just prior to the 2012 ASI International Convention in Cincinnati, Ohio. For info about the seminar, visit The Fundraising School website. To register, e-mail Lorena Hernandez.

Show Us Your Ministry

Please e-mail a high-quality photo and caption (where, when, and who) that best represents what your ASI member ministry is all about or has accomplished in the past year to ASI Connections. Put "ASI Ministry Photo" in the subject line of the email.

2013 Funding Application

The 2012 special offering projects have already been selected, and the 2013 Funding Application has been posted on the ASI website. Apply early this year!
Roger Stone, a lay worker in India for Eden Valley Institute, shares this story: "It was a very warm morning, 115 degrees and climbing. We were thankful that it was not really hot weather yet! Where were we going? We were on our way to “Dara Palli,” the “Dirty Village.” Since we had last been there, the pastor and his wife had been working very hard to change the “image” of that Village. The pastor's wife had gone to that village on numerous occasions and taught the women how to give their babies a bath. The babies smelled so much better that soon they decided to give the young children a bath, and they smelled better too! I was told that the young children then said to their mothers, 'Why don’t you take a bath, and you would smell better?' Now, a few months later, everyone in the village is taking a bath! Remember how your mother always told you that cleanliness was next to Godliness? Well, now the whole village is more open to Christianity."

ASI Southern Union is partnering with Network 7 Media Center, Inc. on a new media project. "For several years now, through its partnership with Network 7 Media Center, ASI-SU has archived 'Members in Action' video interviews from our spring and fall conferences," says Cal Thrash, ASI Southern Union president. "This month we will begin to produce three episodes of ASI Spotlight, a 30-minute TV program that will feature these interviews moderated by a couple of hosts. Our goal is to raise awareness of ASI everywhere, increase awareness of our ministries in the Southern Union, and testify of our opportunity to share Christ in our marketplace. With the help of ASI members we are funding the first of

---

**Keep Us Informed**

Add us to your email or mailing list so we can highlight your ministry and outreach activities!

ASI

12501 Old Columbia Pike
Silver Spring, MD 20904
asi@nad.adventist.org
301-680-6450 (office)
301-622-5017 (fax)

---

**Omegas ante' Mauritius**

Omegasante' Mauritius has used the first half of its 2011 ASI project grant to do health evangelism and church member training on the island of Mauritius. The ministry submitted a proposal to the government to start a lifestyle center in Mauritius but has not received a reply. Ministry leader Rafael Font Piquer says the government leaders, who are primarily Hindu, afraid the work of Christian missionaries will cause loss of Hindu power and influence. The ministry continues working in nearby Madagascar, recently baptizing 15 people, 7 of them students from the ministry's college. Font Piquer says, "We feel that the end is near with the global economic crisis, and we are praying that the Lord may open a way for us. If next year the doors will close for us here in
these three programs, and we are extremely thankful for those of you who are giving to this pioneer ministry of ASI Southern Union."

Brad and Lina Mills, associate ASI members and leaders of former ASI project Amazon Lifesavers Ministry in Brazil, report that their operations are literally "under water," due to the worst flood in the history of the Amazon. The project's laundry room and veranda are both flooded, and the kitchen, pharmacy, and fruit trees are threatened by the rising waters. But all is not lost. "My family and I just returned from the Adventist University in São Paulo (UNASP-EC) where I began a summer's only theology course (under the sponsorship of the University)," says Brad. "Kind friends housed and fed us and others even helped pay for our plane tickets. While there, I was presented with many speaking opportunities at different churches. Many families have pledged to serve in our project during their vacation time. The theology department is also making arrangements to send their students to our project during school break. I praise God for the wonderful contacts we made and pray that His work will continue to grow."

Mauritius, we will go back to Madagascar."

Where Credit Is Due

I realized then that I had fallen into a common trap—the tendency to look for natural explanations, to give credit to the things or people that the Lord may use to bless us, rather than the Lord and His mercy alone... "Every good gift and every perfect is from above" (James 1:17).

"Helen"
Forever a Family
Restoration International

Noble Purpose

Success in any line demands a definite aim. He who would achieve true success in life must keep steadily in view the aim worthy of his endeavor. Such an aim is set before the youth of today. The heaven-appointed purpose of giving the gospel to the world in this generation is the noblest that can appeal to any human being. It opens a field of effort to everyone whose heart Christ has touched.

Ellen White
Education p. 262
Adventist Frontier Missions lay workers Bill and Lisa Neish share how they are using the New Beginnings DVD materials to reach the Inuit in northern Canada:

"When we first moved to Canada’s arctic in the territory of Nunavut back in 2009, we tried many different options and materials. As we gained experience, we realized that the Inuit have an average reading level of between grades 3 and 5. When we initially studied the Bible with them, we would ask them to read, and it was a real struggle. They were not familiar with many of the words in the New King James Version. We tried using more contemporary English Bibles but did not like the paraphrase work in those Bibles, especially for studying doctrine.

"We also were reaching out to the communities around us, and many of the Inuit in the remote and small communities had difficulty reading English at all. Many elderly Inuit are unilingual and speak only Inuktitut and read syllabics. It was no good handing them English literature.

One thing we discovered, however, is that all the Inuit seem to have a TV and DVD player. We began purchasing Doug Batchelor’s Final Events DVDs and handing them out. People enjoyed them, but we were looking for something that would specifically fit our situation. Then we found a box of New Beginnings personal Bible study DVDs that It Is Written International had sent us. IIW had sent us a variety of materials, but we were not familiar with New Beginnings, so those materials had just sat on the shelf. Our Bible worker, Jose Quezada, pulled one out and started using it for our prison ministry. It was the first time we had seen one of the DVDs, and instantly we knew this is what we had been looking for.

"We now use the New Beginnings DVDs to study the Bible at the men’s and woman’s correctional facilities, and have sent them to families of the inmates. We also leave them with people in other communities that we have started Bible studies with. We have handed them out at the medical travel boarding home where people stay when they come to the hospital from remote communities. We have even put one in each of the rooms, along with the Gideon Bibles that are already there. We have not been able to
keep the rooms stocked, as our supplies are limited.

"Since the Inuit do not tend to read much but are avid TV watchers, the New Beginnings DVDs are a way of reaching many people who would otherwise never read or do online Bible studies. There is very little internet access in our remote communities. I wish we could get the DVDs in Inuktitut, but maybe someday God will open that door.

"We typically arrange to study at least one lesson with anyone we give the DVDs to. We also hand out Steps to Jesus and Glow tracts to anyone who will take them and are on our third batch of 1,000 copies of Steps to Christ in the last two years. We keep very busy, and our Bible worker, Jose, is a hard and diligent worker.

"Overall, we have given out approximately 700 DVD sets in the last 2 years and presently have 200 more at home. IIW gives us a generous discount price for the sets. We believe these are seeds in the Arctic that will continue to minister for many years to come and to bless families and individuals who are searching for a deeper relationship with Jesus."

Visit the Adventist Frontier Missions website.