They just knew

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The LIGHT teachers soon arrived and spent the weekend at the Espejillos campus before separating to their assigned sites. On Sabbath, it was raining, and the group discussed whether or not to attend church in Santa Cruz. The 17-kilometer dirt road could be very slippery, and there was a river to cross before reaching the main road. Deciding to brave the elements, the group piled into a yellow 1978 Toyota Land Cruiser and a more comfortable Toyota 4Runner.

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SCROLL DOWN to read this issue’s announcements and inspiring news stories.

Local chapters

Local ASI Chapters remain active throughout the year, holding regional rallies and
Post convention announcements

Convention Media: Many of the media links for the convention General Sessions have been posted and can be accessed via the Convention Media page on the ASI website. Seminar audio links have been posted, with Seminar video links to follow by the end of the month. If you have questions about convention media or problems with any of the links, please e-mail conna.bond@nad.adventist.org.

Convention Survey: Please help us plan for next year by taking the online Convention Survey. Your feedback makes a difference!

Elder Wilson Sermon Transcript: A transcript of Elder Wilson's Sabbath sermon has been posted on the General Conference website.

Next Year: The 2012 ASI International Convention will be held Aug. 8–11 in Dallas, Texas.

ASI membership & information

Visit the ASI website for:

- For Membership Information or to download a Membership Application
- To watch Convention Media and other Media programming
- To visit the Bulletin Board for member needs, events and announcements
- To read recent issues of the ASI Update e-newsletter and Inside ASI magazine
- For ASI News & Events or to read about Projects
- To register for the 2011 ASI International Convention in Sacramento, California

Contact the ASI office at 301-680-6450 to order copies of ASI's brochure and promotional DVD to share with friends and potential members. Each promotional DVD includes The ASI Convention Experience video and several episodes of ASI Video Magazine.

OCI elects new president

During its May 2011 board meeting, Outpost Centers International elected Steven Grabiner as its new president. Read more

Sines retires from ASIMI board

Jane Sines has retired from the ASIMI board after 15 years of service. Larry Romrell of the Denver, Colo. area, will take her place. Read more

Victoria Falls Adventist School welcomes students

The Victoria Falls Adventist School in Zimbabwe welcomed students for the first time June 9. The 34-building complex was built early this year. Read more

Project Report: Generations Center

Generations Center in the Czech Republic established a community center with ASI funds that is used for many outreach and mission programs. Read more

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On the way out, it seemed the vehicles spent more time going sideways than straight ahead. Soon they came to a slippery bridge with no siderails. The Land Cruiser crossed first with some difficulty. Next came the 4Runner carrying the entire LIGHT team. Anita Kim, who had crossed in the Land Cruiser, watched helplessly through the back window as the 4Runner slid, then tipped in slow motion and disappeared upside down over the edge of the bridge.

*God, how can you let this happen?* she thought. *Especially with the whole team from LIGHT in that car!*

"I was afraid to go look, but realized they would need help and that I had to go," she says. So she jumped out of the Land Cruiser and ran back with the others to survey the damage.

To everyone's surprise, the 4Runner was sitting right-side-up at the bottom of the *arroyo* (stream bed). It had rolled over once and fallen about 15 feet to the bottom. All the passengers had already gotten out and were climbing up the banks to the road. There was no blood, no broken bones, not even broken glass. The 4Runner had bumped into a log on the way down that softened the impact of the fall and caused it to land on all four tires. The group began immediately to praise God for His protection.

The LIGHT programs went on as planned, generating huge interest in the health and advent message among the local Adventists, as well as some non-Adventists who participated. More than 60 graduated from the two Santa Cruz programs, and 21 graduated from Espejillos. The program was the first of its kind in Bolivia. It was also the first time a self-supporting ministry worked in that capacity with the local organized church.

"This was the culmination of two years of praying," says Anita. "No matter what we had to go through to get this program here to Bolivia, in the end it was all worth it. God is good indeed.

Dosung and Anita Kim are new ASI members and serve with their sons, Ben, Ryan and Justin, near Santa Cruz, Bolivia. Download the Summer 2011 issue of Inside ASI magazine to read "He Must Increase," another inspiring story from their ministry site.
OCI elects new president

Posted on Aug 19, 2011

Steven Grabiner was voted president of Outpost Centers International during that organization's May 2011 board meeting. Grabiner assumed his new role as of August 7.

Grabiner has served as OCI vice president for the last five years and has been involved in self-supporting ministry since 1976. He is also an ordained pastor who enjoys teaching and mentoring. After working as a pastor for 11 years, Grabiner and his family spent 10 years at Riverside Farm Institute in Zambia, where he served as director.

Grabiner is excited about the challenges and possibilities that await OCI in the future. Some of his goals include establishing a mentoring program within OCI and continuing to enhance the perception of OCI among both its member ministries and the Seventh-day Adventist Church. A vice president has not yet been selected.

Markus Jaudas, who has served as OCI president for the past six years, will continue as an advisor to the president on the OCI team until next year. Jaudas and his wife, Huguette, plan to remain active in ministry work and in their connection with OCI.

Visit the Outpost Centers International website.

Reported by Hannah Kuntz

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The Victoria Falls Adventist School in Mkhosana, Zimbabwe, welcomed students for the first time on June 9. The brand new complex of One-Day School structures was built in January 2011 by Maranatha volunteers. When Maranatha employee Karen Godfrey visited the campus a month after the school opened, she was impressed by the immaculate campus, orderly students, and staff camaraderie.

During her visit, Godfrey watched as approximately 600 students in preschool, primary and secondary classes marched single-file and sang enthusiastically. "The campus is full of life," she said. "I was pleasantly surprised at how gorgeous it was. Dirt comes right off of the siding."

The 34 One-Day buildings are used as classrooms, bathrooms, multipurpose rooms, recreation rooms, and offices. The sprawling campus has separate areas designated for pre-school, elementary and high school students.

When construction originally began, volunteers arrived to find an expansive flat space filled with dozens of cement slabs. Progress happened quickly. Each day, new buildings popped up. "You put up one church and there's a demand for a thousand," said Maranatha volunteer Fred Nudd.

After two weeks of construction, the campus was completely finished, including classroom decorations. Maranatha volunteer Marilyn Dennison helped construct blackboards for each room using special paint. "We hung banners that said 'Jesus Loves You' at the front of the classroom with the Zimbabwe flag," she said.

"Your donation is a 'writing on the wall' that Jesus is coming again," said Governor Mathuthu of the Matebeleland North Province in Malawi. Government officials in the country responded positively, excited about the project. "May the good Lord bless you abundantly in your ministry," she continued. "You make fellowshipping feel like the right thing to do."

The community around Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, seemed thrilled with the new school. To celebrate, evangelist Mark Finley presented a series of meetings on the campus during the final week of construction. Community members poured in, leaving standing room only after the 3,000 available chairs were filled.

"I sat there watching the teenagers and the kids," said Maranatha volunteer Renita Turner. "They were so engrossed in the message. I couldn't get over that, how they were just glued to all the presentations, just soaking it all in."

The team of 120 volunteers also built five buildings on the Baobab school campus and eight One-Day Churches in surrounding rural areas. In all, they constructed 46 One-Day buildings and two block churches in 12 workdays, as well as undertaking other outreach activities.

ASI and Maranatha Volunteers International collaborate to fund and facilitate the One-Day Church and One-Day School projects. Since the project launched in August 2009, more than 2,100 One-Day Churches have been built around the world.

Visit the Maranatha Volunteers International and One-Day Church websites.
Jane Sines retires from ASIMI board

Posted on Aug 19, 2011

Jane Sines has retired from the ASI Missions Inc. board after 15 years of service.

"Jane has always been a voice of reason and faith that others look to with respect," says Harold Lance, ASIMI president. "Her life exemplifies Christ and gives a face to what ASI is all about."

Jane and her husband, Al, served for more than ten years as Adventist missionaries in Tanzania. They returned to the United States where Al set up a dental practice and Jane worked as a nurse and office manager. They have five children.

Jane joined the ASIMI board in the mid-1990s, about the same time that Al served as an ASI vice president from 1995–97. The couple established a ministry near their home in Collegedale, Tenn., that included a lifestyle center, vegetarian restaurant, and radio station. They also helped to build a new Adventist church where Al served as a lay pastor.

Larry Romrell, a broadcast media businessman from the Denver, Colo. area, will take Jane's place on the ASIMI board. He is an active member of his local church, as well as a board member for Amazing Facts. He also served on the board for 3ABN and works closely with the One-Day School projects in Africa.

ASIMI was established by ASI in 1982 as a separate 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation. It was developed so that ASI could more effectively give financial assistance to projects associated with the Adventist Church. According to the ASIMI by-laws, "The overriding purpose for the existence of this organization is to promote a cooperative assistance between Seventh-day Adventist laypersons with that of the Seventh-day Adventist Church organization to spread the gospel to all the world. This objective is to be accomplished by ASI Missions Inc. efforts to promote, fund, encourage, and implement projects and activities that hold promise of a high degree of success in the spread of the gospel."

The first significant project undertaken by ASIMI was the Happiness Digest project, which began with an initial print run of 1 million copies of Steps to Christ. Eventually, 10 million copies were printed and distributed in English, with an additional 1 million copies in Russian. Eight additional titles have since been printed and distributed in the 24 years since the Happiness Digest project began.

The most significant and ongoing purpose of ASIMI is the evaluation and recommendation of ASI's annual special offering projects. Typically, more than 100 ministries and church entities apply each year for ASI funding. Typically, 30 to 40 projects are chosen. The ASIMI board meets for two days each February for the complex selection process.

Two ASI related organizations, the One-Day Church Project and LIFE (Lay Institute For Evangelism), are administered by the ASIMI board. Those organizations present activity, financial and future planning reports at the annual ASIMI board meeting.

ASIMI also receives and administers trust proceeds and bequests made to ASI.
Centrum Generace (Generations Center) in Liberec, Czech Republic, submitted its final project report earlier this year. It has been serving as a community social center since it opened to the public five years ago. From small beginnings, this project has grown into an outreach and mission center with significant impact on unchurched people.

"Throughout 2010, we witnessed God's great blessing," said Petr Činčala, PhD. "With financial help from ASI, for the first time the facilities of our center were fully equipped and suited for various programs and ministries."

Last year, more than 400 families were reached through Generations programs and activities with the help of about 70 volunteers. In addition, Generace Gospel Choir conducted 18 concerts attended by 1,860 people, and 100 lectures were presented to approximately 2,600 students. The center’s health club presented twenty lectures, two health expos, and a one-week family camp. The church plant team continued its ministry, giving approximately 150 Bible studies. Regular Sabbath worship attendance grew by 46 percent, two people were baptized, two weddings were conducted, and 200 mission books were given away. All this was accomplished with just one-third of the ASI project funds.

The remaining two-thirds were used to renovate a multipurpose hall, to equip the hall and other facilities, to pay overhead expenses for 2010, and to pay workers.

"We hope to continue our ministry of reaching secular people for Christ through various means," said Činčala. "Our goal for 2011 is to plant another new mission group in a different part of our region."

Adapted from a project report by Petr Činčala, PhD.

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