

# LIFELINE

SUNSET INTERNATIONAL BIBLE INSTITUTE • SPRING 2005

*Let's Go... Make Disciples*

## \$12 Million Capital Campaign Launched



Prentice Meador addresses the inaugural Capital Development dinner on April 7.

The Sunset International Bible Institute launched its three-year Capital Development Campaign on April 7.

Focusing on Sunset's commitment to world evangelism, the 12 million dollar project will continue for the next three years. The kick-off dinner was held at the Lubbock Country Club with almost 300 guests and supporters in attendance. Prentice Meador, a highly respected educator and minister, was the keynote speaker. Also at the dinner, Truitt Adair, Executive Director of Sunset, announced that Bob Crockett had accepted the challenge of overseeing the campaign. Bob is one of the elders of the Sunset Church of Christ and serves on the board which oversees Sunset International Bible Institute.

*Full Story Starts on Page 3*

### Campaign Chairman Named

Bob Crockett to serve as chairman of the National Leadership Committee.

As an elder in the Sunset congregation for 15 years and member of the board of directors, Bob Crockett has had a long relationship with the Sunset International Bible Institute. As a successful businessman, he brings an extensive knowledge of the need for adequate funding to continue the operation and expansion of the ministry of Sunset. Bob's leadership at the helm of the Capital Campaign as National Chairman gives it great direction and focus



Bob Crockett

Fifteen other prominent business men, church leaders and gospel preachers across the United States have been chosen to help represent the needs of Sunset in their various areas.

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## Let's Go... Make Disciples



Truitt Adair

**“It is not about the money!**  
This vision for the Sunset ministry is about making disciples... about building lives, not buildings.”

**O**ur \$12 million vision for the Sunset ministry is about making disciples, locally and globally. This is not a “brick and mortar” vision. It’s about building lives, not buildings. It’s about filling some of the hundreds of empty pulpits in our brotherhood, and filling empty lives with the nourishing word of God. It’s about training more young AIM’ers and sending out more well equipped mission teams to save the lost and plant new churches. It’s about preparing an army of gospel preachers in their own native lands through a growing number of branch schools in nations around the world and supplying them with the best Bible study materials, translated into their languages. It’s about helping hundreds of local congregations to become and remain strong, healthy, and well-balanced by supplying them with a proven curriculum for leadership training and disciple building, to be used in their own video satellite schools. It’s about reaching the unreached masses of the world with the saving message by making our Bible courses available on the world-wide web. It’s about helping to prevent the “front-end exit”

of beginning preachers by implementing a ministry internship program to provide practical training and a good first-year experience for school of preaching graduates. It’s about reaching the deaf through sign language, recycling the wisdom and experience of senior saints and equipping the wives of preachers and other godly women for significant Biblical roles in the Kingdom.

We are inviting our brotherhood, individuals, and congregations, to join us in an exciting \$12 million vision for the future. It’s not about money, but it will require money to fund an expanding vision. The bottom line is this vision is about making disciples. If you believe in the things we believe in and are committed to the things we are committed to, then join us in achieving the greatest and most faith-filled vision in the forty-three year history of Sunset International Bible Institute. Let’s Go, Make Disciples!

**Because all campaign expenses have already been covered by a special contribution of an anonymous donor, 100% of every dollar of your contribution will go toward this ministry of “making disciples.”**

**LIFELINE**

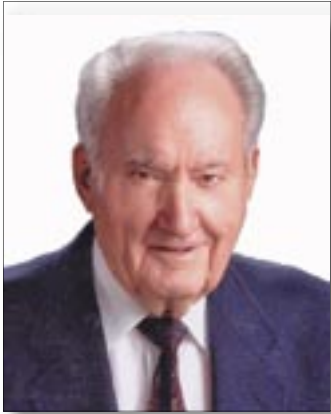
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# “Let’s Go... Make Disciples”

## Sunset’s 43 Year Vision Provides Impetus for Capital Campaign



Cline Paden

**F**rom its humble beginnings more than four decades ago, the Latin American Bible School was a fulfillment of the dream of one godly man – Cline Paden. In 1962, Cline Paden saw a need and set into motion a valiant vision to train Spanish-speaking preachers. God granted his

efforts tremendous success and also impressed upon his heart the ever growing need to fill pulpits throughout the United States, and train missionaries for foreign nations. This was the birth of Sunset School of Preaching, a partnership between Christians in West Texas and congregations all



across America.

In 1993, as the dream flourished, the baton was smoothly passed to another man of equal evangelistic passion. Cline Paden appointed Truitt Adair as Executive Director of the school. The school prospered tremendously, and in 1995 its name was changed to reflect its growing global strategy **“to go and make disciples of all nations.”** With more than three thousand (3,000) Sunset-trained spokesmen to its acclaim, Sunset International Bible Institute has led the way in churches of Christ in producing well-equipped teachers, preachers, and missionaries to share the Gospel across America and around the world. As a result, tens of thousands have become Christians and the seed has been sown within the hearts of countless others.

## Let's Go... Make Disciples

**Going Locally** Sunset has recognized that a void exists in many churches across the nation. It has been suggested that this is due to a lack of Biblical knowledge, which has weakened congregations within our brotherhood. Sunset has heard the cries of the church and is committed to meeting this need by combining an outstanding Bible faculty with the delivery system of modern technology. Satellite Schools are being established as a distance learning vehicle for congregants to receive solid Biblical teaching. Participation through our Satellite Schools has risen to more than 7,000 students across America within 335 local congregations, all using Sunset's video curriculum and study guides. **Sunset's vision: Provide cost-effective "schools without walls" for hundreds more churches, equipping tens of thousands for growth and evangelism in their own backyards.** Sunset seeks to share its expertise and resources of this ministry so that the church in America may restore its mission and passion for reaching the lost. Consequently, tools are being developed to equip churches for growth and maturity, to develop leaders, to provide a deeper knowledge of Scripture, to encourage local evangelism, and to advance the unity of the Lord's church.



**Going Nationally** Sunset is committed to attracting outstanding men for full-time ministry. Those who have passed through our doors have been equipped to fill pulpits in rural and urban churches, to minister among the youth and their families, to bring God's hope to the deaf, and to provide Bible-centered leaders for congregations nationwide. In the face of sky-rocketing educational expenses, Sunset has upheld its commitment in continuing to offer tuition-free Bible-centered training. **With the provision of adequate student scholarship funds, Sunset will have the opportunity to double the number of preachers in training in a period of merely three to five years.**

## Let's Go... Make Disciples

**Going Internationally** God's global plan is for mankind to accept the message of Jesus Christ and be baptized for the forgiveness of sins. For more than four decades, Sunset has taken the Great Commission seriously. One in four American missionaries received his/her training at Sunset. Although our graduates have gone to 113 nations, there are still far too many unreached people in our world. **Sunset's vision includes an accelerated effort to produce more American missionaries than ever before. This can be attained by increasing student scholarships for this specified purpose as well as the formation of well-equipped mission teams to be dispatched to dozens of new international locations.** Most of the future missionaries are the youth in congregations across America. Sunset has established a highly powerful and successful mission training and apprentice program called Adventures in Missions. Since its inception, this program has sent out 1,100 young people to 130 mission points over the past 32 years. **Sunset's vision includes the development of satellite AIM programs that will multiply the number of young missionaries equipped for service and sent out.** Sunset also provides opportunities for senior adults in their retirement years to use their maturity in ministry



settings to reach the lost through its Senior Adventures in Ministry program.

**Going Globally** Sunset has established International Branches and Associate Schools as regional training centers to prepare national preachers in their native lands. Currently, more than 800 national students are being trained to preach on five continents in their own language, economy, and culture. Fully staffed and certified by Sunset, these schools are producing well-equipped ministers for a fraction of the cost of the same training they would receive had they traveled to America. **The vision of this campaign is to establish schools in yet un-reached**

# Let's Go... Make Disciples

**nations and double the number of men in training.** The training of international students in foreign Branch Schools requires materials and curricula translated and printed into their native languages. Sunset's International Translation Center has already translated courses in several languages including Arabic, Chinese, Korean, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish. **The vision for the Translation Center is to meet the demand that is emerging with the addition of new Branch Schools,** equipping national preachers on all continents in their own languages.

The time has come for the dream to once again transcend to new heights. Building upon its success in the past, a timely new vision has emerged. With the launching of the **"Capital Campaign"** these dreams **will** become reality. It is an amazing Sunset!

Amount Pledged or Given  
as of May 23, 2005  
**\$5,660,000**

## Campaign Progress

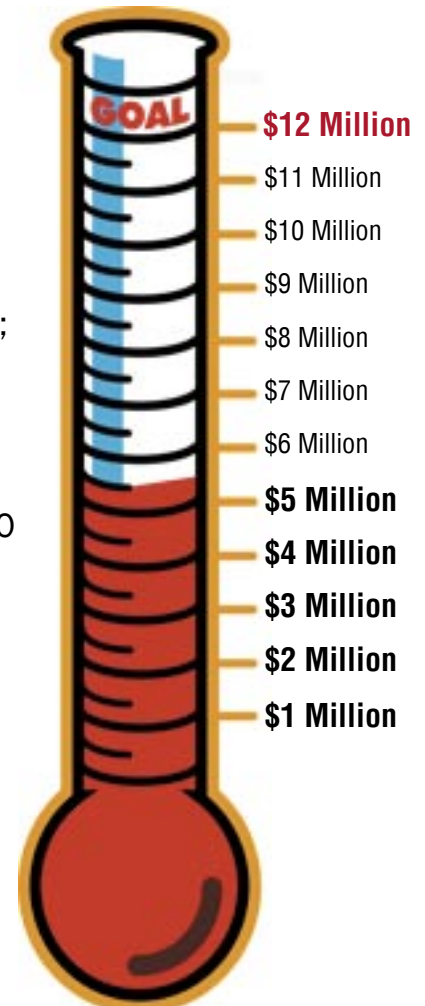


Bob Jackson

**S**unset has embarked upon a valiant three year plan to raise twelve million dollars toward fulfilling its ministry goal, "Let's Go ... Make Disciples". In going locally - making disciples in America - the funds will be used to provide 400 individuals with scholarships; 500 local congregations will benefit from biblical

nurturing, and retirees, women, and the hearing impaired will be equipped for kingdom service. In going globally - making disciples around the world - the funds will be used to train 800 national preachers through our 25 schools already established and fully-operational on five continents; long-term American missionaries will be trained to serve all seven continents; and 180 apprentice missionaries will be trained and sent out to 20 international mission points through our immensely successful AIM program. Our vision: **BOLD.** Our task: **CHALLENGING.** Our God: **ABLE!**

Each issue of Lifeline will include a "progress thermometer," displaying the amount of funds pledged and received to date.





# What Do You Think?

Faculty, alumni and friends comment on the campaign

### Kerry Williams ('94)

"I think that it is an ambitious but welcomed goal. . . The vision is great at leading the way and providing that direction. We need brethren who will show exceptional faith, to step out of the boat. Twelve million dollars sounds like a stormy sea but the Lord will not bless us until we have a greater faith. I feel good about it."



### Ralph Royse ('75)

"I was expecting it. I heard talking and expected it. I think the goal is commendable. It is going to be challenging but not beyond reach."

### Ron Bontrager ('81)

"I'm for it because I am for Sunset. I think it's a reachable goal and I believe we will exceed it."

### Bob Ekman ('77)

"Money.... It's souls. I don't care about how much money you have, if it's not about souls.... All we have to do is have faith."



### Dan Anthony ('73)

"I think it's great. I'm looking forward to it. Concerning the amount, we may be shooting too low."



### Wilma Jones ('03)

"I thought it was wonderful. I thought the amount being requested is too small."

### Sandy Jackson ('93)

"I was just thrilled. I love Sunset and what it is doing. I would love to see it expand and grow."

### Brian Spicer ('94)

"We need something so these guys don't have to worry about support so that they can devote their time to preaching and teaching. It's a very elevated goal."



## We Want to Hear From You!

Have an opinion? Want to express it? Why not drop us a note or send us an e-mail with your thoughts about the new Capital Campaign program.



**July 20-23, 2005**  
**Arlington Convention Center**  
**Dallas - Fort Worth, Texas**

## Join Sunset at This Gathering!

A comprehensive missions gathering of churches of Christ to advance domestic and global outreach for more effective evangelism. Planning is led by a steering committee of missions leaders from across the nation.

**FEATURES:** 70 Exhibitors, 33 Workshops, 11 Tracks, 90 Classes for church leaders, missionaries, missions committees, college students, all Christians!

4001 W. Airport Freeway, Suite 550 • Bedford, Texas 76021  
817.267.2727 or 888.641.2229

[www.globalmissionsconference.org](http://www.globalmissionsconference.org)



# How You Can Help

Can we count on you to go with us as we make disciples?

**C**ampaign Vision Dinners have been held in Lubbock, TX (April 7<sup>th</sup>), Tacoma, WA (April 21<sup>st</sup>), and in Dallas/Ft. Worth (April 28<sup>th</sup>). Three alumni/friends dinners have also been held appriizing alumni and friends of Sunset’s new vision - Let’s Go . . . Make Disciples. At each event, people have been extremely excited about becoming partners with us. People want to participate in the Great Commission. They want to play an integral part in the disciple making process.

You may be wondering, “How can I help?” The card below lists three areas in which you can help:

**1 I commit to be a Prayer Warrior for the Sunset International Bible Institute and its vision.**

We are asking Christians all over the country to pray for Sunset and this campaign. We need God’s blessings and his providence. Prayer needs and thanksgiving blessings will be distributed on a regular basis to people who have agreed to be “Prayer Warriors.” Would you pray for us? If so, please indicate in the appropriate space, clip the coupon below and mail it to us.

**2 I would like to be a volunteer in my congregation for the Sunset Campaign.**

An army of volunteers is needed to tell others about the campaign. A very nice brochure and a nine minute video have been prepared to help volunteers tell the story.

Would you be a volunteer to tell people you know about Sunset’s vision? If so, please indicate in the appropriate space, clip the coupon below and mail it to us.

**3 Count on me as a financial supporter of the campaign over a three year period.**

This campaign is not about money; it’s about saving souls. This campaign is not about “bricks and mortar”; it’s about people. We want to very effectively carry out the Great Commission. That’s why the theme of our vision is: “Let’s Go . . . Make Disciples”. If you would like to participate in the Lord’s business of making disciples, this campaign is for you. \$12 million is going toward “Making Disciples”. Let’s Go . . . Make Disciples. If you would like to be a financial partner in helping Make Disciples, please indicate in the appropriate space, clip the coupon below and mail it to us.

You don’t have to choose just one of these categories. You can be involved in all three areas. Fill out the coupon, and “Let’s Go . . . Make Disciples”. If you know how much you would like to give, we have included a coupon for that purpose inside the enclosed envelope. Please fill it out with the appropriate information so that we can Go and Make Disciples. Let’s Go!

*Let's Go... Make Disciples*

- I commit to be a Prayer Warrior for the Sunset International Bible Institute and its vision.
- I would like to be a volunteer in my congregation for the Sunset Campaign.
- Count on me as a financial supporter of the campaign over a three year period.

Name

Address

City  
( )

State

Zip Code

Phone

E-Mail

Congregation



# “To Carry Out the Will of God”

Sammy Flanary is driven by the conviction that God wants people to hear the gospel...so they can obey it!

**T**he launching of our **Capital Campaign** has allowed Sammy Flanary to take on added responsibilities. Armed with his philosophy to “carry out the will of God,” Sammy is driven by his conviction that people need to hear the Gospel “so that they can obey it.” He has been given the charge of serving as chairman of Sunset’s Alumni Association.

Sammy first came to us as a student in 1972. Little did he know of the amazing paths along which his decision would take him. He completed his studies in 1974, and like so many of our graduates, Sammy returned some years later in 1993 with his wife Mary to complete the Mission Tract. His goal was to “raise up a team” to do mission work in Perm, Russia. During this period of study in 1993, Gerald Paden became ill, and Sammy was invited to continue with the work being conducting by Sunset in Barnaul, Russia.

Upon the completion of his studies in the Mission Tract, Sammy went on to lead a team to Perm, Russia. The team members included: Dennis and Theresa Wilson, Mark and Lisa Foreman, Laura Hattersley, and Becky Farmer. After two years of work in Perm, Sammy returned to the States where he served as a pulpit minister for the Morningside Chapel Church of Christ, located in Decatur, Illinois. In 1996 he was invited by Truman Scott to serve as the “Mission Coordinator” to Europe. This work extended itself to the establishment of branch schools in Dontesk, Ukraine; Baranul, Russia; and Athens, Greece. Sammy also labored in Morocco, and Paris, France, conducting work that would augment the function of the school already in existence in Greece.

Sammy’s work with the Institute had been an on-going and ever-evolving process. Today, he continues to serve as the Mission Coordinator to Europe within the International Studies Division. As newly appointed chairman of Sunset’s Alumni Association, his duties will include:

- Actively pursuing and fostering stable relationships between Sunset International Bible Institute and its Alumni
- Motivating Alumni to continue to engage in enduring relationships with fellow graduates



Sammy Flanary teaching while flying to Russia

- Assisting the Development office with the Capital Campaign

Sammy has proven to be, and will continue to be, a strong advocate for the school and its future work in the Lord’s kingdom. He brings with him several years of ministry experience. He is a leader in evangelism and has demonstrated the ability to purpose and carry out plans that contribute to any worthy goal. Sammy is a teacher and preacher of the word. He is a much sought after catalyst necessary to latch on to the vision and to ignite a passion within the hearts of others who are striving to accomplish the same goals.



## Africa

**Behailu Abebe**, dean of the branch school in Ethiopia, happily announces the arrival of a new grand daughter, born to their daughter Rahel and her husband Greg. A project agreement with the collaborative efforts of UNICEF has been completed. Fifty new wells will be drilled in the Badewatcho-Kambatta areas of Ethiopia. These wells will provide clean water to more than 200,000 people. Two graduates of the preacher training school will assist with the drilling, teaching as they have opportunity. Fifteen brethren from Sudan graduated in early September from the Nekemte School of Preaching for a total of 33 graduates. The Level-Two Preacher Training School in Addis Ababa enrolled 11 men, all taking classes for credit. There was celebration in 2004 with the graduation of 97 men from Level One schools and 11 men from Level Two schools. Doyle Gilliam, Gerald Paden, and Joe Boe were visiting instructors for the graduation ceremony. The deaf schools, all of which are Christian schools, will have over 1000 students among seven locations this year. Mazoria School for the deaf held its 3<sup>rd</sup> National Preachers Seminar where 712 preachers and church leaders were registered, making this the largest attendance to date.

**John Ed Clark** reports the brethren in the Kiryandongo refugee camp were treated to an eye clinic conducted by a team of 10 American medical personnel all from congregations in Arizona. Ninety individuals were treated, and of that number, 65 were given new glasses. John also reports the Islamic government of Sudan has signed a

peace treaty with the SPLA in South Sudan

**David Essuman** ('95) directs the Center for Biblical & Ministerial Education in Agona Swedru, Ghana. Two new students have been added to the school after the Christmas holiday break. During the Christmas break, David spoke at the Central Region Annual Bible Camp lectureship at Assin Fosu on the subject "Moving to A Higher Ground Through Fasting." There were 1000 Christians in attendance from the region. David also conducted a seminar for preachers and church leaders regarding "Marriage, Divorce and Re-marriage."

**Isaya Jackson** ('97) continues to preach and teach in Sudan and Uganda. The Yumbe congregation in Northwestern Uganda witnessed 64 baptisms in the last six months. In one month, 20 people were baptized into the Lord. Two more congregations have been established at the refugee camps in Western Uganda. One is in the Rhino Camp where 150 people meet. The other is the Abiribajo Camp with an average of 60. Another graduate of Sunset, Frank Luri, recently worked with Isaya in the refugee camps in Uganda. Frank helped Isaya to conduct a Bible Training course in the Kiryandongo camp at the Panyadoli church. Isaya visited his family in Houston for a much needed rest and medical check up. While in Houston Isaya was involved in a car accident that resulted in a compression fracture. They returned to the mission field in late January after his recovery. Isaya reports that the United Nations has scheduled October 2005 as the time for Sudanese refugees to begin returning to their homeland. Peace is gradually spreading

across that nation, and the peace of the gospel as well!

**John and Wendy Lauterbach** ('00) who have been serving in the Republic of South Africa. The Lauterbach's have just returned from the mission field and are currently residing at 2102 Lincoln Drive, Abilene, TX 79601.

## Croatia

**Ivan and Ruth Tesic** ('79) report the grand opening of their new building in Zapresic was a great success. Mladen Jovanovic, minister for the Zagreb congregation spoke Friday evening with over 60 in attendance. Vlado Psenko, minister for the Downtown Zagreb congregation spoke with over 80 in attendance. On Sunday morning Ivan, and his brother, Nikola, shared speaking duties. Over 100 individuals were present. The AIM team did a wonderful job of helping them in this transition. A pediatrician from Bosnia named Irena was the first to be baptized in their new building. Sadly, they have also experienced the first break in and theft. Ivan is seeking support for the radio station programming. If you can help, please contact the church of Christ in Longmont, Colorado at 303-776-2625.

## Ecuador

**Nathan and Carina Whitmore** ('03) are on a mission team including Nathan, Carina, Daniel, Eliana and Samuel Whitmore along with Jim, Michele, Alana, Caleb, and Elaysia Sullivan. They all arrived safely in Quito and



Christians from Medan, Indonesia distributing relief supplies and teaching materials in tsunami stricken Nias



More than 60 baptisms from the work in Nias, Indonesia



June & Jay Cho - Korea

were welcomed by the friendly and familiar face of Cathrine Hildalgo, a native of Quito and a former classmate at Sunset. She was accompanied by Martita and Enrique Romero.

## El Salvador

**Alexander and Silvia Castellanos** ('74) report the National Seminar for servants of the churches of Christ was a successful celebration. The theme presented by Calvin Henry was "The Mission of the church." There were 65 workers in attendance.

## Greece

**Darrell and Robin Wallace** ('89) are working with the branch school in Athens where Darrell is an instructor, and interim Dean, overseeing the administrative needs of the school. Doug Reeves, the Assistant Dean of International Studies is helping Darrell make a smooth transition. Graduate, Philip Van Dijk, left for his home in South Africa to work in a community where there is presently no church. He plans on forming a team with a relative to plant a congregation in that area.

## Indonesia

**Andrew and Uli Banjarnahor** ('99) are in Medan and are located west across the mountains from the great devastation from the December 2004 tsunami which hit that part of the world, killing over 100,000 people just along the east coast of Indonesia. As a result the Banjarnahors and the church in Medan have been very active in relief efforts. At least four

different visits have been made into the affected region. Combining donations from American Christians with help given by Indonesian congregations, several tons of food have been distributed. Also small financial gifts were given to Christians in the affected area to help them with housing and rebuilding. A medical missions effort treated disease and dental problems. With every such effort, teaching materials and personal Bible studies were also conducted. Over 60 baptisms have resulted so far. Even in tragedy, God's love through local Christians in the devastated area has made a difference. You can request more information about this work from Andrew at [andrewbjn@yahoo.com](mailto:andrewbjn@yahoo.com).

**Winston Bolt** ('87) serves as dean of the branch school in Bantam and has been training students ranging in age from 20 to 58 years old. He is anticipating at least eight new students next school year. The congregation in Duri, Sumatra is planning to send two students to Bantam for training next year. While Winston was visiting in Solo, Central Java, eight souls were baptized into Christ. Winston reports two new souls were added to the body at Bantam. One was a former Muslim who had been studying for the past year. She is the fourth Muslim to turn her life over to Christ in the past year. Ten families make up the core of the congregation in Batu Agi where Ferdinand Manalu will coordinate the construction of a new church building.

## Ireland

**Kevin and Angelina Mullins** ('04) in Dublin have been blessed with several visitors from the States. Among them have been Kevin's parents who visited Ireland for the first time just before Christmas, and

Angelina's parents both of whom enjoyed spending Christmas in Ireland. Billy and Melissa McGuiggan were in Newry visiting Billy's family, which gave the Mullins an opportunity to drive out and see them. Kevin reports they have had visitors on Sunday mornings for 10 consecutive weeks. Bert Richie from Northern Ireland came to Dublin and spoke one weekend. Kevin started a new series from John's Epistles entitled "The Gospel of Assurance." The Monday morning ladies' Bible class that is being taught by Angelina and Leslie is going well. Angelina is also studying with a 17-year-old girl named Sinead.

## Korea

**Lanny Partain** reports that new classes in Seoul, South Korea are being taught. Total attendance for the first three-class program exceeded 50 students. The school operates in cooperation with the Bible Correspondence Center that is directed by Sang Yang and Bill Ramsay. In January 2005, Gerald Paden taught in the combined SIBI/BCC Winter school, followed by Jerry Cantrell and Royce Sartain. The school is under the direction of Jay Cho and shares facilities with BCC.

## Mexico

**Shawn and Barbara Gary** (Aim '93; SIBI '00; Missions '03) are working in Leon, Guanajuato with the Palafox and Johnson families. Shawn and Barbara have two children Madison and Mason. Omar and Tana Palafox have one daughter, Emma. Chris and Jessica Johnson have two children, Alison and Christian. This team is eager to plant new churches in Leon



Leon, Mexico Mission Team: the Garys, Johnsons, and Palofoxs



Students at the Ukraine Bible Institute in Donetsk

and spread the gospel throughout Mexico. Learn more about this work on the web at [www.leon4christ.org](http://www.leon4christ.org).

**Doug and Sandy Holcomb** ('82) are currently on a one-year furlough in Lubbock, Texas. After time for renewal, they look forward to returning to Cuernavaca to plant another congregation in or near the city.

**Sean and Jennifer McClue** ('97) are serving the new congregation in the Tlalpan delegation in Mexico City. Sean reports a young man named Alexis Olguin Herrera has impressed them with his dedication to preaching the word to his peers, cousins, and other family members at the tender age of 14. The youth group from the Sunset church of Christ in Lubbock, Texas joined them in the Tlalpan work for a week. They offered a one day Vacation Bible School where 60 local kids attended and learned about Jonah. They also visited the church in Apaxco and donated basketball backboards to that community. As a result, several families have since visited their small groups and Sunday worship services.

**Billy and Belinda Moore** ('86) are serving in Mexico City, and they report that six people gave their hearts to the Lord and put Him on in baptism. Alfonso and Adela Medina, Mauricio Abad Regalad, Alejandro, Noelia, and Reyna Martinez Gonzalez all surrendered their lives within two weeks of each other. Later five more souls were immersed into Christ. Miguel Parra, Lupita Parra, Fabian, Ivan Ponec de Leon, and Veronica Ojeda are our new brothers and sisters. Ivan and Veronica were the first baptisms in the new congregation in Benito Juarez. Billy reports 21 cell groups have been formed in six congregations.

**Chadd and Nancy Schroeder** (AIM '86; Missions '97) have recently returned to

Guadalajara after a year-long furlough in the States. They attended the Mexico Missionary Retreat in Acapulco where there were missionary representatives from Mexico City, Cuernavaca, Morelia, Lazaro Cardenas, and Guadalajara. The fellowship, sharing of ideas, and encouragement will serve to guide them in their gospel outreach.

## Philippines

**Nathan and Karen Luther** ('02) are vocational teachers and missionaries in the Philippines. The Bacolod church enjoyed the teen singers from the Highland Street church in Memphis. The group of five performed for a gathering in the Luther's home, four area schools including Shiloh, the city council, the vice mayor, and finally an impromptu number for a proprietor of a souvenir shop. Most of the listeners were hearing acappella singing for the first time. The singing group also presented special lessons to the teen classes. The teen groups produced its first fruits with the baptism of Nadine, Ryan and Jamaica. The school continues to be a wealth of spiritual nourishment for the students who attend.

**Charles and Mary Ann Smith** coordinate several preacher training schools in the Philippines. The schools participated in weekend mission work in seven Provinces. The 33 graduated preachers are working full time in planting new churches, and nurturing the new converts that were baptized. More than 300 children enrolled in the youth camps and the family Bible camps which were staffed by 83 full-time preaching students.

## Poland

**Mike and Molly Dawidow** ('76) teach English Bible Courses in Sopot, Poland. They celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary last year. Also they helped conduct 454 Bible classes last year.

## Thailand

**Patinya and Penjai Thitathan** ('82) work with the Watcharapon church of Christ in Bangkok. Patinya attended the 43rd Asian Mission Forum in Kao Yai Golden Village with more than 300 people in attendance. The morning assembly had 353 present for the dedication of the new facilities and graduation from Ram Servant Leadership Training School. Ten students received certificates of completion.

## Ukraine

**Tim and Mina Burow** ('93) report that the Left Bank congregation in Mariupol has experienced substantial spiritual growth and maturity as a self-supporting body. Also, the Vostochni congregation continues to do well. Three college age men are teaching some of the children's classes.

**Jay Don and Mary Lee Rogers** ('69) have had a number of visitors to Donetsk: David Ingram, Ed Sills, Elvis Lee, Bob Brewer and Don Green were recent visitors from the USA. David and Ed brought Greg Artz, a first time visitor from Tennessee. Greg recently served in the military in Iraq and shared interesting stories from a soldier's perspective. Tim Burow visited for three weeks and taught "John" in the branch school. The Rogers have traveled on weekends to Gorlavka, New Gregory and



Steve Austin, director of  
Texas Gulf Coast Bible Institute



Charles & Tamara Cook  
Focus Northeast coordinators

Hartsisk preaching and teaching. While in New Gregory a new sister was born into Christ.

## United States

**Chris and Brenda Swinford** ('89) have returned to the US after several years in Donetsk, Ukraine. They are now preparing to move to Lubbock, Texas, where Chris will serve as Assistant Dean of the International Division of Sunset International Bible Institute. He will be working with the Truman Scott, International Dean. Doug Reeves will be working full time with the International Translation Center.

**Dick and Maudine Ady** work with the World English Institute from Gresham, Oregon. Dick reports that a young man named Abdel Youssef had a tremendous impact for the cause of Christ all over the Middle Eastern countries. He influenced as many as 400 people to study the Bible on one occasion. Consequently, a number of them were immersed into Christ. On several occasions, Abdel was persecuted to the point of death for his beliefs but not once did he renounce Jesus. Abdel's journey began in February of 2004. He died a martyr in October of 2004. His friends now carry on the work Abdel started. Three major congregations in Libya, eight congregations in Yemen, two congregations in Bahrain, groups meeting in Southern Saudi, and more than 1,000 believers from several countries would not have had an opportunity to believe, had it not been Christ working through Abdel Youssef.

**Stephen Austin** is directing the new Branch school in Houston, Texas. August marked a historical night for the Texas Gulf Coast Bible Institute with its first night of formal classes. David Esparza delivered the first course of study "Old Testament History," covering

Genesis through Judges. Five students from five different area congregations were present the first week. The second week saw an increase to eight students. The following week Armando Alaniz taught "The Christian Family" with 12 students in attendance. The work continues to grow and flourish.

**Tim and Janet Brumfield's** ('81) daughter, Melissa, graduated from high school last year and is currently in AIM going to Brazil. Tim and several students at SIBI conducted a door-knocking campaign with the Cooper church of Christ, just south of Lubbock. Tim reports that a small church in Maceio, Brazil has grown from 5 to 14 members in the last year. Eight years ago there were only two congregations in Salvador. Now there are 11 congregations in that city. Randy Warzecha ('99) in Aracaju reports that more than 25 have been baptized and are studying for a deeper faith. The attendance at the Aracaju congregation has grown from 20 to 70 individuals. Robert and Marie Ledbetter, and their three children have just moved to Aracaju to join the mission work there.

**Scott and Susan Bucich** ('04) serve as minister at the West Street church of Christ in Hillsdale, Michigan. Scott is teaching "The Eternal Purpose of the Church" on Sunday mornings and "Christian Evidences" for the evening service. Susan is hoping to begin a Ladies Class some time in late spring or early summer as this is when the congregation's "Snowbirds" will return home.

**Todd and Sonya Cates** ('04) serve at the Troy church of Christ in Troy, Missouri. Todd reports the congregation has partnered with Kevin and Angelina Mullins ('04), former classmates and newly appointed missionaries to Dublin, Ireland. The theme for the Troy congregation in 2005

is "Extending Our Reach." The Troy family rejoices in three precious souls putting on Christ in baptism and four sheep returning to the flock.

**Charles and Tamara Cook** ('81) report that Logan Robertson of the Queensbury, NY congregation witnessed four precious souls added to their fellowship. David and Susan Peterson rejoice with the addition of another brother in Christ in North Philly. Tim Tarbet reports that good things are happening in his new ministry with the church in New Milford, CT. There are two new church plants in the Northeast -one is located in South Hartford, CT and the other in Lewiston, ME. Leo Woodman reports the Lewiston group has been meeting for about four months and has an average attendance of 12 each Sunday. The new church in South Hartford, CT has 20 to 25 individuals who meet each Sunday, and one person was recently baptized

**Rodrick and Hazel Davis** ('96) are living in Apopka, Florida and plan to plant a new congregation there. Please pray for this effort. You can contact them by phone at 407-814-1585 or via mail at 255 Lalla Lane, Apopka, Florida 32712.

**Johnathan and Jody Dobbs** ('04) serve as youth minister for the church of Christ in Exeter, California. Johnathan reports the immersion of three souls. The youth group consisted of 5-6 teens when they arrived. They now have 15-20 in attendance. Johnathan is involved with Love INC. This great ministry involves the youth in community projects from all over Tulare County. Johnathan is also planning to introduce small groups to the congregation.

**David and Vicky Finch** ('83) serve at the South Baton Rouge church of Christ in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. David welcomed home Chinese alumni for the first Chinese Ministry



Robert (Bob) Wagner



James (Jim) Shady



Russell Dupont



Leonard Levy

Homecoming. Many came from Canada, Massachusetts, Illinois, Michigan, Georgia, Missouri, Mississippi, California, Texas and Louisiana. Dr. Hongtao Yu from Jackson, Mississippi preached on "The Love of Christ Compels Us." In its seventeen years of service, more than 150 Chinese Christians have been led to Christ through the Chinese ministry in Baton Rouge.

**Clifton and Brenda Fox** ('79) live in Lexington, TN where Clifton preaches for the Bargerton church of Christ. Brenda is working as a volunteer at the Carl Perkins Center for Abused Children where Amber (their eldest daughter) works as a caseworker and counselor.

**Kirk and Margaret McAfee** dean and instructor of the Atlantic International Bible Institute in Miami, Florida reports the graduation of 29 preachers from the first level of seminar studies in Cuba. Christians in Cuba have invited the school to provide another three years of Seminar Schools. The first seminar was on "Building Stronger Marriages" with 33 evangelists and church leaders in attendance. There was representation from all of Cuba's 14 provinces. The Griffin Road church of Christ expanded its outreach to the fast-growing Hispanic population of Broward County, Florida by launching Spanish worship services and Bible classes. The new work witnessed 71 in attendance the first Sunday. In the four weeks since that time, there has been an average of 26 in worship services. The West Broward church of Christ has endeavored to serve the Hispanic community as well. It commenced its first Spanish services with only four persons and now has more than 23 in attendance.

**Britton and Sharon Pruitt** ('98) live in Fairfield, Texas. They are happy to announce the arrival of their new baby girl Brienne Mae. Their email address is britton@nts-online.net.

**John and Autumn Sproul** ('04) are in the process of raising support and finding additional team members to plant churches in Cambodia. The Sproul's have joined the Cambodia community ministry initiative of the Central church of Christ in Stockton, California. The Stockton area has the largest Cambodian population in the United States. In April the Sprouls began classes in the Khmer (Cambodian) language with a Cambodian teacher. Please consider joining them in prayer and with financial help. The Sproul's can be reached at 203 E. Harper Street, Stockton, CA 95204. Phone: (209) 943-0724; email: jtsproul@openaccess.org.

**Rad & Mary McGauhey** ('79) are moving from the suburbs of Chicago, Illinois to Surprise, Arizona to the pulpit minister position at the Kingswood Parke Church of Christ. Surprise is a northwestern suburb of Phoenix, Arizona.

## Departures

**Robert (Bob) Meredith Wagner** ('76) passed from this life on August 22, 2004 at age 55. Bob grew up in Nevada and graduated from the University of Nevada at Reno in 1972. After studying the Bible for several years, Bob decided to further his studies at Sunset International Bible Institute. He then preached in Washington, IN for several years. Bob met and married Ginny in Gainesville, Florida. They were blessed with their children Kenia, Danny, and Mike (a foster son). In 1989 the family relocated to Tallahassee, FL, where Bob worked as a legislative analyst for the Florida House of Representatives. Bob was a deacon at the Meridian Woods church of Christ in Tallahassee. Memorial contributions may be made to "His Kids Too!" PMB 180, 3491 Thomasville Road, Tallahassee, FL 32309; or to the American Diabetes Association, P.O. Box 1131, Fairfax, VA 22038. Our deepest sympathy to family and friends.

**James (Jim) Earl Shady** ('67) passed from this life on December 17, 2004 at age 67. "Jim" as he was fondly known, grew up in Ohio. He preached for churches in West Virginia, Ohio, Illinois, Missouri and Kansas during his 35 years of full-time ministry. He also conducted gospel meetings, worked as a youth camp director, and was an emergency medical technician for 20 years. Survivors include Margaret, his wife of 44 years; son, Dan Shady; daughter & son-in-law, Carmen & Mike Diven; granddaughters, Ashley & Amanda Diven; brother & sister-in-law, Maurice & Maxine Shady; sister & brother-in-law, Georgia & Ronald Barber; mother-in-law & step-father-in-law Ruth & Paul Pratt. Memorials have been established with Sunset International Bible Institute, Know Your Bible, and Hospice Care of Kansas. To family and friends, we express our deepest sympathy.

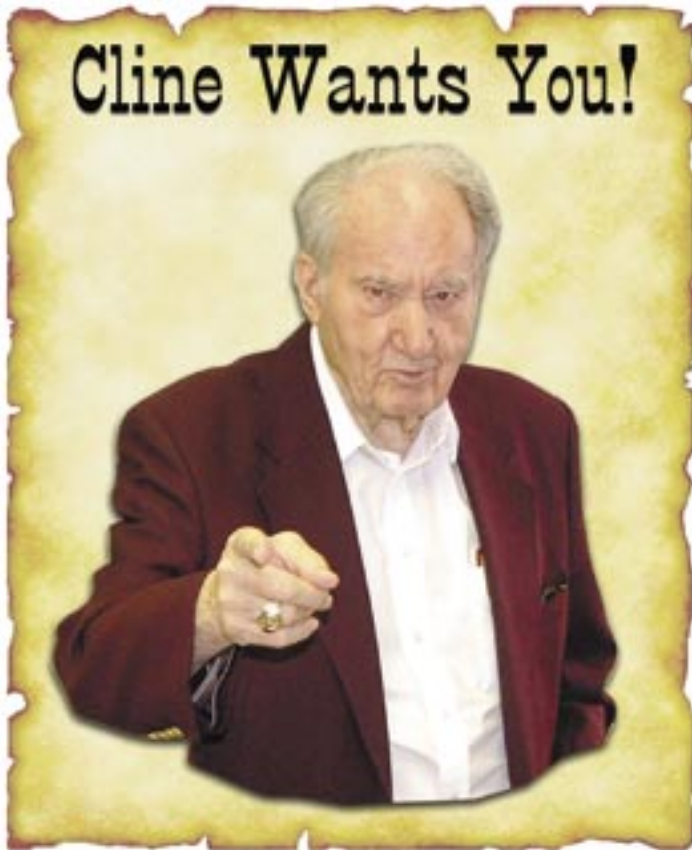
**Russell Dupont** ('69) passed from this life on July 30, 2004. He and wife Ivy worked in Louisiana from 1978-1980. He established churches in Madagascar and Mauritius, Africa in the early 1970's. Russell did World Radio work in conjunction with the White's Ferry Road church, Louisiana, as well as establish a radio broadcast on the island of Haiti. He later did ministry work on the islands of St. Croix and Guadeloupe. Russell retired from full-time ministry in 1986. Our deepest sympathy to his family and friends.

**William Leonard Levy** ('69) passed from this life on February 15, 2005 at age 93. Leonard was born in Slaton, Texas. He married Ethel in 1963 and lived in Nipomo, California for many years. Leonard served in the U.S. Army Cavalry. At the age of 55, he retired and attended Sunset. He preached for 25 years. Ethel passed away in 1995. He is survived by his three sons (Leonard, Darrell, and Arlin) and their wives; thirteen grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; two sisters, Whana Rollins, and Eva McDaniels; and brother, Keith Levy. Our deepest sympathy to the entire family and friends.





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