



**AFRICA  
INLAND MISSION**

**africa** NEWSLETTER  
April 2018  
**connection**



# LORD OF THE HARVEST

*But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd. Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest."*

MATTHEW 9:36-38

CHRIST-CENTRED CHURCHES AMONG ALL AFRICAN PEOPLES



**A WORD FROM  
THE DIRECTOR**



I am a back yard farmer, although a bit of a terrible one I must admit. Vegetable gardens have been a regular part of our family life. Having raised by parents who grew up in communities dependent upon back yard gardens for daily food, I know what it takes to produce food to see one through until the next harvest. It takes good soil, with good seed that is well tended by an attentive gardener. Without these, we can't expect a crop to grow and produce abundant fruit.

As we have learned in Cape Town this year, farming, whether commercial or back yard, is dependent upon water. We have now resorted to vegetable farming in pots that produces good tiny crops of tomatoes. That is exactly what Jesus is for any crop: he not only supplies the seeds, but also the rain. We are the stewards who need to look after the soil and the water resources. He often used nature to tell new stories of how God's Kingdom works: "behold, a sower went out to sow... and as he sowed..."

In this issue of Africa Connection, remember that what you are reading is real stories of obedient people who are sowing the seeds of the Kingdom. In some cases, the soil is stony, hard and thorny. Anything that begins in soil that lacks deep root system will quickly wither and die from the heat. It produces no fruit. We are reminded that each one of us, is a partner, a co-worker in the harvest. Each believer is called to bring what you have to be part of the new harvest on God's farm. Some of these seeds will grow long after our earthly lives have passed and bare strong harvests of fruit on the land. It is testimony of the silent partners who worked behind the scenes, but we also look forward to the future, where many more workers are needed to harvest the lands.

May we continue to pray, give and go, to see the African Church rise as the new mission force.

*"For every seed of godliness, kindness and justice sowed there will surely be a harvest of goodness, significance and greatness." – Sunday Adelaja*

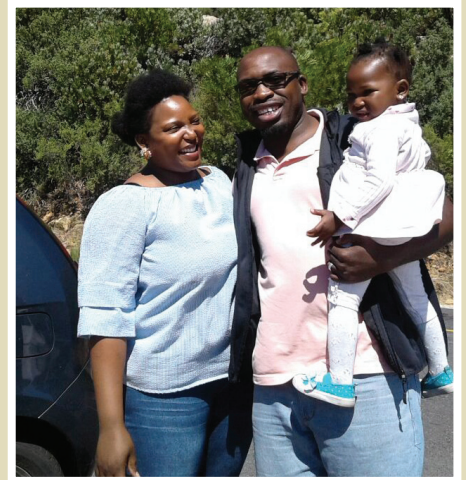
**JUST BRIEFLY**

We had the privilege to share in the celebration at the wedding ceremony of **Yvette and Lawrence November** as they exchanged marriage vows on 9 December last year. What an awesome testimony of God's faithfulness.



The office staff is involved in facilitating the **Kairos Course** at Calvyn Protestant Church, which started mid- February. For the first time AIM in partnership with the I4 Centre is presenting the **Repurposing Your Business Course** at the offices of SIM. If you are interested in hosting/running any of these courses, you can contact the AIM Office.

We had the pleasure of accepting new members to AIM South Africa, **Tshepang & Queen** and little Lethabo Basupi. Tshepang & Queen will be operating as Mobilisers in the Gauteng Region. Please pray for them as they raise financial support.



**Louise Hindley** is on Home Assignment from mid-December and will be returning to the field mid-April to fill a new assignment. She has been visiting supporters in and around Cape Town.



**Brian and Kathy de Smidt** were thankful to connect with their supporters in Lesotho and Gauteng in March. It was also a profitable time to share in a training track at SIM's global assembly (sharing about training in context of global workers through TIMO teams) and challenging others to mission in a few meetings. They remain open to invitations to speak in other parts of the country and plan to travel to the Eastern Cape in May and June. The work of mission is shared by many who give, pray and participate in so many ways.

The start to the year came with a big rush having to go through so many applications for the two new opportunities in the office. After prayerfully going through the applications, we are grateful to God that we came to a conclusion. We welcome **Natasha Simons** in Personnel and **Ruth Chombo** as the Network Administrative Assistant.



**Natasha Simons**



**Ruth Chombo**



**MOBILISING MOVEMENTS**

I was always a pastor with a heart for teaching and pastoring. Since 2010, I became a tentmaker and church planter and, surprisingly, the "flock" I was called to shepherd, changed from congregation, to marketplace, to across Africa. God challenged me to move from what I thought was possible, to the impossible. The uncomfortable space in between is called "stretch assignment". This is where my calling took shape.

AIM has provided the opportunity for me, to continue this journey and firstly support and co-create with a fantastic office team. Together we navigate the vision of AIM International from South Africa, supporting our missionaries, and serving alongside leaders across the continent. I believe the missionaries of the future will be marketplace professionals, intentionally impacting the unreached where they work. Christian, mission minded Africans will lead the way.

I learned that Calling is not something you will. It is an unfamiliar voice you listen to that with time becomes familiar. Discovering my life's purpose took time with unexpected turns and at times courage to face turmoil.

I love to see how the ordinary people of God move from the possible to the impossible. I love to see how church leaders, men and women of Christ, turn their churches around, deepen their discernment and serve with courage. I love to see how leaders in the work place, start to act on the great question: What am I here for?

You don't find calling, calling finds you. This is where God has given me the gift and tool of coaching to assist others in finding their calling. I would love to see that African men and women become purposeful leaders, transforming business, society and churches and find their part in the Kingdom to reach, engage and introduce the unreached to Jesus.

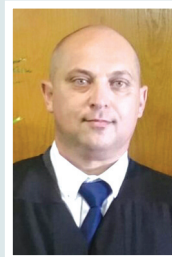
Date: 31 July – 2 August  
Place: Little Streams, Constantia  
Course Fee: R2500

The Course can be used as training credentials to start the path of becoming a coach.

I will assist leaders with an introductory foundation to Coaching which they can use in their respective positions of influence. I am an approved instructor of The Coaching Model Course. Keith Webb, founder of Creative Results Coaching, owns the model. It is aimed at all Christian leaders (Business, Corporate and Church) with a burning heart to see lives transformed and help others to discover the richness of Christ's Hope in the people God called you to lead.

**KAIROS COURSE**

A Kairos Course was hosted at the SIM offices in Tokai. Here is a testimony of one the participants.



*"My name is Ashley Lengeveldt and I am currently serving as the Pastor of Capricorn Community Church. As a Pastor I know first-hand how difficult it is to develop a missional mind-set within the prevailing church culture. For this reason I am extremely thankful that I was afforded the chance to do the Kairos course."*

*"The primary reason I enrolled in this course was to activate local church involvement in missions but I got so much more than I bargained for. Some of the activities in this course pushed me out of my normal comfort zone and challenged me in ways I could not have foreseen. Fortunately, the lessons learnt, has helped me to be more sensitive towards other believers and their personal walk with the Lord. It has also rekindled my sense of urgency to see the unreached communities being disciplined and becoming strong Christians."*

*"As someone who graduated from seminary with a specialization in missions, I found the course content challenging, engaging and enabling. I enjoyed the fact that every aspect of this course was rooted in the word of God and could be practically implemented. What surprised me the most was the dynamic interactive teaching methods that were used to engage the participants in the process of developing a biblical worldview and a missional mind-set that can challenge other believers to respond to the Great Commission."*

*"I am therefore thoroughly convinced that the Kairos course can give any pastor the solid foundation required to build a meaningful missions initiative in his (or her) local church."*

I think it's Christopher Wright who said that you only get three types of Christians: those who do Missions, those who support Missions and Disobedient Christians.

**So the question remains  
'Which one are you?'**

At the heart of any church's ministry agenda should be God's heart for a lost world.

**REPURPOSING BUSINESS (REP) AND BAM CAFÉ: COMING TOGETHER TO IMPACT THE UNREACHED**

On Tuesday 6 March, ten of us began the 20-week Repurposing Business (REP) course in Tokai. This is the result of a partnership between The Institute ([www.repurposing.biz](http://www.repurposing.biz)) and the BAM Café, an initiative of AIM-ZA. The vision of the Bam Café is to inform, train and mobilise Christian business people on how to use their businesses and business skills to reach the unreached peoples of the African continent. The unreached people prayer focus during this course is the Gujarati of Madagascar who are mostly business people and control up to 50% of the Madagascar economy.

In October 2017, most of us completed the pre-requisite Foundations course. Below are some of the comments from our participants.

*"This course is what I need and I realized it the minute I stepped into that atmosphere in Tokai. When I heard about the Wealth of Experiential and Theoretical knowledge, I knew I was at the right place. I believe that I need the REP course to propel me to a place where I can run my organization effectively and efficiently..."*  
Sheldon Allies; Disciplined to Dream

*"The value of this course is huge and I already have gained such a transformation of thought and approach to work and life itself"*  
Susan Hill; Ikhaya LeThemba Project

*"The Foundation course gave me a basic introduction into doing business God's way and the REP course I trust will give me a good all round understanding of how work and biblical principles can work together in building Gods kingdom."*

*I am continuing with the course as I believe that this is a vital opportunity for reaching the unreached with the Gospel as well as teaching them sound biblical business skills as people spend a large portion of their day in a work environment."*  
John Berry, SIM

*"I am continuing with the REP course as my new business was birthed from a vision from the Lord to run it as a Kingdom business and believe the course will be invaluable to apply those principles."*  
Jill Sangerhaus Nourish Beauty salon.

We are now 12 participants. Pray that the course will impact our personal lives, our businesses and the Gujarati of Madagascar.



# DESERT NOMADS BOW BEFORE HIM

BY NICK SWANEPOEL

There is great anticipation for the dedication of the Rendille New Testament in September. The story of the translation is one that clearly parallels the gospel. It is a tale of the triumph of God's great grace over human weakness.

During our first visit to Korr, Kenya with our 3 children, the temperature gauge in the car showed 51° C. Viewing the barren landscape, we wondered how people lived here and why they would even choose to. Later after looking at the few options of where best to live, the Lord lead us to choose Korr! We moved into an A-frame house built of corrugated iron, with double walls to help the airflow. The adventure of 34 years was about to begin.

Nomadic peoples like the Rendille present a unique challenge to missions, especially with our Western worldview. The Rendille's very existence is one of community, mobility and few possessions. Their treasures are camels, goats and sheep. How could we meaningfully touch their lives? The mountain seemed too great. We called on Him who moves mountains.

When the 1984 drought followed, our sense of helplessness increased. Eating our family meal with Rendille warriors peering in at the windows almost seemed wrong. There were hundreds of desperately hungry people. Should we flee to Nairobi? What would that communicate to them?

Eventually we were able to access a trickle of food relief. All ideas of language work were set aside as we gave out food. Gradually the Rendille realized that we really loved them. Acceptance and friendships followed.

Long distances, harsh winds and arid conditions combined with low motivation made literacy particularly difficult. We launched the first adult learning class with much prayer. The initial lesson concentrated on reading a picture. There were cries of discovery - that image on the flat page is actually a camel! The Bible lessons clashed with their view of a distant God to be appeased by sacrifice. Some turned away, but many became eager believers.

When we dedicated the Gospel of Mark, the new converts were confronted by Mark 7:9: "You have a fine way of setting aside the commands of God in order to observe your own traditions!" They decided that they were no longer going to participate in the sacrifices. This meant initial rejection by the community, but the people noticed their unusual love. "You are not from my clan, so why did you visit me and bring me a gift of milk when my husband died?"

The new believers longed that their children might have a Christian education. This resulted in Lynne (my wife) starting several Christian schools. Initially there was one nursery and a primary school. Eventually there were two

primary schools and finally she also started a secondary school in Korr. Presently, they are all private faith schools but registered with the Department of Education. The primary school has consistently produced the top marks in the government exams in the province and many children are placing their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Bible translation is teamwork. I worked in tandem with the translators, Joshua Galimogle and Laban Eysinkee. Tom Matthews, a Wycliffe Bible Translation consultant, checked our work. Steve Pillinger, a former colleague, did the final typesetting of the New Testament. When we left Kenya I was able to use Skype to communicate with them. We saw the influence of the Holy Spirit in answer to prayer as we struggled with difficult translation concepts and later came to a good conclusion.

The Korr church has planted two new churches in other towns. In several nomadic clan villages groups of believers gather every Sunday and this is still growing. We are greatly encouraged to know that the Lord Jesus is building his church, even when conditions seem harsh.

Psalm 72:9 is coming true:

*"Desert nomads will bow before him."*



Nursery school children lining up for food



Rendille believer preaching the Good News



Tirim Nomadic Primary children



Typical Rendille married man



Rendille elder or married man wearing red ochre



# JESUS WORKS IN THE LIVES OF MADAGASY PEOPLE THROUGH ME

BY MATILDA NTUKELA



## TEACHING ENGLISH

I use a Bible to teach the university students the English language. At times, the students leave the university with a new mindset regarding spiritual matters.

## DOING THE WORK OF AN EVANGELIST

I do one to one evangelism and teaching basic foundations of our faith with a goal of making disciples of Christ. God has been opening doors with confirmation of the work of His Spirit in the hearts of those I have encountered.

## MINISTRY THROUGH MENTORING

I mentor Christian young girls who are still new in their faith. These girls are from my church and I like to teach them the Godly way of living.

## TEACHING CHRISTIAN DOCTRINES

I teach Tahiry, the basic foundations of our faith to make him a true disciple of Jesus Christ. He is one of my converts from a year ago and the Holy Spirit clearly confirmed his new birth with

evidence of spiritual fruit. He is an evangelist now and already has new believers that he teaches what I taught him with the goal of making them disciples too.

## TRAINER OF THE LOCAL MISSIONARIES

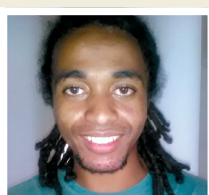
I am also involved in helping and equipping as well as sending Malagasy missionaries to reach the unreached people. I have also been asked to be a representative of AIM Madagascar in the yearly meetings of the Madagascar Mission Movement, where missions and NGO's serving here need to discuss the way forward in the development of this country.

## CHURCH INVOLVEMENT

I am leading a home cell group from my church where we each take turns to share the word of God. We also use this time to talk about the Sunday sermon from church as a form of Bible study. Continue to learn culture and language. I am not fluent in Malagasy yet and I am persevering to learn it.

## PRISCA'S TESTIMONY

*My name is Razafiarisoa Prisca and I am 22 years old. Sister Matilda has had a very positive impact on my life. When I first met her I knew a bit of English but I was not able to speak it fluently and I also didn't know Jesus Christ personally. Sister Matilda helped me to improve my English and at the same time through her preaching about God's grace and love, she led me into repentance and confession of my sins. I have accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord and personal saviour. I now understand and communicate well in English. I am thankful to God for bringing her into my life.*



## TAHIRY'S TESTIMONY

*My name is Andriamanantena Tahiry, I am 23 years old and single. When I was still an unbeliever, I lived and enjoyed a life of sin not knowing that I was lost. I attended church just as a habit but had a desire to want to change by myself outside God. When God brought sister Matilda into my life, she made an impact and told me about the way of salvation as in, faith alone in the finished work of Jesus. It was that time that I saw the need of the saviour and I repented of my sins and accepted Him as Lord and my saviour. Sister Matilda took me under her wing and walked with me through the journey of my new life in Christ. I am thankful for her mentoring me to be a true disciple of the Lord Jesus. Her Christ-like life and the love for the lost is my encouragement and inspiration to imitate her faith in God. I like her deep desire of wanting us young people to pursue purity in all our being, something that is not common here. I thank God for sending her to my country to make Christ known to us (my mother and me). My very big thank you to all who support her.*

# SHORT TERM STORIES



## TIMO QUEST SHORT TERM: NIGER

BY MARTIN BABOKA

I am from Republic of Congo Brazzaville, I participated in TIMO Quest program in Niger among the Fulani people. It was an amazing experience for me, I traveled from Cape Town to Niamey. I spent a night in Niamey and the next day I continued my trip to Maradi by bus. The TIMO leader was waiting for me at the bus station and I was warmly welcomed. From there, we went to Danja and a day later, we continued further into a village with many people that are yet to be reached with the gospel.

The Chief of the village welcomed me and I stayed with him for three days. An AIM member of the TIMO team assisted me during the three days. My tutor in this village was the son of the chief who had hosted me.

Though the living conditions were challenging, it was an exciting adventure that will stay with me for a lifetime! There was difficulty in communication because of the language barrier (humbles you) and a lot of cross cultural learning such as different types of food prepared according to their culture, drinking the same water they give to their animals, drinking cow's milk in porridge given to the visitors many times a day in every house you visit!

During my stay, my main goal was to learn to communicate and try to understand their cultural values, their concept of the world, their lifestyle, their beliefs, the role of men and women so that I could find an appropriate approach to reach them with the gospel etc. This experience was interesting and also difficult because of the communication.

I gained a lot of knowledge and practical experience on the TIMO QUEST program and learnt more about the ministerial approach of the TIMO Team. It was a wonderful time! May the name of God be glorified



**SHORT TERM MISSION OUTREACH: LESOTHO**  
BY LUCKY MOGAKANE (THEOLOGY STUDENT)

I left Cape Town on 17th Nov 2017 for Mokhotlong, Lesotho with the hope of arriving on the 18th. On arrival at Maseru, I had problems with transport but, praise be to God who providentially works everything for his glory.

I had to wait from around 10:00 am to 5:00 pm for transport from Maseru to Botha-Bothe then to Mokhotlong. The waiting however was worth it. It was worth it because during that time I met a woman named Mmha Mkhaya who showed me rare kindness. Our conversation taught me that some similar words in Sepedi have different meaning Sesotho, and I never knew that! Also, I had the opportunity to share with her what I would be doing in Lesotho and about my theological studies.

The first five days of my time was spent assisting Jonathan with work on a Bible commentary designed for TEE (Theological Education by Extension) students. After that, I spent time working with Caleb in Khatibe, reaching out to the Shepherds. The ministry to the shepherds has unique challenges and is in need of men.

After ministry in Khatibe, I left for Mokhotlong and was involved in prison and soup kitchen ministry through a local church. I also had an opportunity to preach in the church. I then travelled to Maputse'ng where I met Steve and Sue Kiracofe to experience their work in sustainable agriculture called Growing Nations. I left Lesotho on the 17th December 2017.

From my observations, Lesotho is a beautiful nation in need of theologically sound churches and more missionaries, especially faithful and courageous men. I am very grateful for all the prayers, support and the opportunity to go on short term mission.

## OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

### HARVEST TEAM

We have a new opportunity to serve alongside the Harvest Team and engage with an Unreached people group with the gospel while you live and breathe missions for 3 months.

You will be equipped to run a Discovery bible study and will also learn about Disciple making movements. You will also have the privilege to help build a Missions training school.

This opportunity starts in May 2018 and will cost R3000.

If you are feeling called to serve, or would like additional information, please email August (august.basson@aimint.org) or Tshelang (tshelang.basupi@aimint.org).

### DIASPORA MISSIONS

There is a fantastic Diaspora ministry opportunity available in Spain which involves working alongside a local church and NGO. For any further questions, please contact Natasha at [personnel.za@aimint.org](mailto:personnel.za@aimint.org)

### URGENT OPPORTUNITIES

#### North Africa Mid-Year Teaching Internship June 2018 (7 Weeks)

This internship will give you opportunity to learn culture, language, and history as you teach and interact with local students in a language school within a community. Doing a homestay with a family allows you the privilege of learning the culture from insiders, doing life together. This will give you the opportunity to share the love of Jesus in an appropriate and effective manner with those who have never heard.

As native speaking English teacher, you will teach English as a second language (ESL) to children, from primary to high school, at a language centre. The summer sessions run every two weeks. You will also be able to learn the local Arabic dialect at the language centre.

Experienced team leaders will guide you through this time. Contact [cxmobiliser.za@aimint.org](mailto:cxmobiliser.za@aimint.org)

#### North Africa TIMO Quest June 2018 (1 month)

TIMO Quest gives you a taste of one of our two-year Training in Ministry Outreach (TIMO) teams for a month. These teams live among unreached people group, living appropriately, learning culture, building relationships and sharing the gospel.

For more information on either of these opportunities, please contact our Creative Access mobiliser at [cxmobiliser.za@aimint.org](mailto:cxmobiliser.za@aimint.org)

## OPPORTUNITY TO GIVE



As an individual your support through finance and prayer is crucial in helping us achieve our mission to reach the unreached of Africa and make God known. With your help, we are able to continue equipping workers in Christ Centered Churches Among All African Peoples and expanding God's Kingdom.

Not all of us are able to serve but we can play our part by assisting those on the field. Your financial contribution assist us in Engaging Unreached People groups, see the unreached become reached, building teams to go to the African Diaspora, mobilising new African workers to engage the unreached. We need your support to help us equip 4000 African Church leaders to strengthen the Church.

Please invite your friends to partner with us in mission, but most of all, thank you, dear supporter for standing behind us.

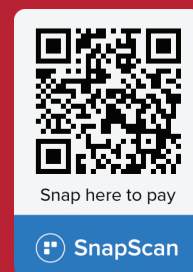
*"The harvest comes in if workers go out in the field."*  
- Sunday Adelaja

## DONATE:

By using Snapscan:

Or:

Africa Inland Mission  
Standard Bank  
Account no: 071778845  
Branch: 025309



If you are making a new contribution towards the mission or missionaries, kindly contact Louise Samuels by phone, email or fax, giving your name and address and state clearly who the amount is for. If you do not do this it will go towards General Funds as an anonymous donation. It is difficult and costs to get depositor's details directly from the bank.

# CLOSE YOUR EYES. IMPACT ETERNITY - PRAYAFRICA.ORG...

Our Prayer and Ministry focus through AIM-ZA are the Sakalava, Gujarati and Bara UPGs in Madagascar; the Mwani and Ndaui in Mozambique and the JSwahili in Tanzania.

How to pray specifically and with insight? Prayafrica.org ! Below are stories of 2 faithful prayer warriors who have accessed the information via whatsapp (smart phone) and email.

*"To be a co-labourer with God is to lift ones eyes to the harvest of souls that He sees." - Sunday Adelaja*

## PRAYAFRICA.ORG VIA A WHATSAPP GROUP

BY ANNETJIE LE ROUX

I recently joined the Pray Africa WhatsApp group. Daily, I receive two short messages on my phone, with information and prayer requests for an unreached group. The news is fresh and it broadens my vision far beyond what is familiar to me. It helps me focus on others and reminds me to pray for specific unreached people groups (UPGs). It helps me stay in tune with God, which gives me much joy.

It is God's work and He commands us to be His agents of blessing to the nations. Although I can no longer always physically "go", I still can "go" by "lifting the arms" of the missionaries who are at the forefront of the battle, ( Ex.17:11 ) through prayer. I find that an incredible blessing.

Thanks to Jenny and the team who faithfully send out the information empowering our faithful prayer warriors with fuel for our prayers.

## SWITCH ON-RECEIVE-PRAY-DELETE

JOYCE SCOTT'S JOURNEY WITH PRAY AFRICA

**Joyce Scott** one of our retirees shared her journey and excitement at subscribing to Pray Africa. Every morning she switched on her computer with the anticipation knowing that there will be a new email with current prayer requests from two UPGs. She opened the email and absorbed the new requests for prayer or praise for God to open new doors and hearts. She remained seated in front of her computer closed her eyes and impacted eternity. At the end of her prayers, she pressed the delete button and waited once again in anticipation for the next day's requests.

You can impact eternity too! Subscribe to PrayAfrica.org via your electronic device. You can impact eternity too by starting a prayer group in your area or joining an existing one! Please let us know if you are interested in starting a prayer group in your area by contacting Yvette November on 021 761 5919 or [admin.za@aimint.org](mailto:admin.za@aimint.org).



## AFRICA INLAND MISSION

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