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Ellen Abramson, President
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Upcoming Mission Trips

- May 12-June 4 Ghana West Africa
- July India Theological School Inauguration
(Dates are still under consideration for this trip)
- July 30-August 8 Dominican Republic Summer Camp
- December 2-8 Dominican Republic Christmas Party Team
- December 26-January 3 Dominican Republic Light Construction Team



Divine Appointments

Kim, a college student asked if she could join a short-term team to work with children and women in Ghana. After Ellen said, “yes,” she shared her plans with seven of her sorority sisters. They were excited and all decided to join her! The team left May 12 and will minister for one week each in three locations. Team members have prayed, fasted and planned sessions for women and children. They are filled with enthusiasm, powerful, teachable spirits and faithful to God’s call to share the Gospel with those who do not know Him.



After a commissioning ceremony at Faith Fellowship Church in Melbourne, FL the Ghana team went to lunch where a woman asked where Ellen got her outfit. She was fascinated that Ellen had traveled to Ghana and purchased the dress there; so close to her own home town! She joined the ladies and answered questions about Africa and shared her thoughts about these adventurers who have chosen to travel to the edge of the African desert. This was certainly a divine appointment. It is certain to be the first in many to come as they minister in Ghana.

Blessed and Transformed in Ghana (received from Ellen May 19, 2008)

The most powerful force in this world is not the enemy of our soul, it is not Islam, it is not greed, it is not the fallen human soul, rather it is the transforming power of the Holy Spirit of God. He has gained the victory.

In Kumasi, Ghana West Africa with ants crawling out of the keyboard of my laptop, I am composing this article. Our team of eight university women from Jacksonville, FL has finished meeting for six hours with 15 to 18 year olds talking with them about their hope for the future which God has planned for them. One of the 15 year olds in class today is an aspiring cyber

journalist who is helping to lead 100 Ghanains ages 2-18 year olds in a weekly neighborhood Bible club. Her vision is to train up future leaders for Christ. She spent 8 years in such a Bible club which was run by an ex-patriot American missionary. She became a leader at 15 and is now raising up others in her peer group to lead them first to Christ and to disciple them. The dedication of this young Ghanaian is an inspiration to our team. This young leader’s name is Grace. Another leader in the class is 18 years old and his Christian name is Abraham. He converted from Islam just three years ago. For a time his family disowned him and he slept on the ground. Eventually, his family did take him back in even though he was a Christian. Abraham wants to become a pastor. When the team mentioned phrases of scripture, Abraham would tell them where to find each verse and quote it for them. He has studied very hard and enthusiastically in the three years he has walked with Christ.

We shared with the Ghanaians in class today that we needed them to pray for the U.S. We told them that there are many people on our streets who do not know Jesus and who are not interested in hearing about Him. They were amazed. One of the students said, “Then, I need to come to your country as a missionary.” Twice today, my team heard for the first time in their lives, the Muslim call to prayer from a local minaret. It is a haunting audible reminder of the need of the message they are carrying. Tomorrow morning, we will travel 10 hours by van over dusty, bumpy roads to the far northwest corner of Ghana to a community called Lawra where we will spend 8 days carrying Christ to several tribal villages and where we will work in an orphanage, nutrition center and HIV hospice. We came to be a blessing, but we are being blessed and transformed. Pray for us – pray for Ghana!

Ellen Abramson, President

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Articles

<i>Upcoming Mission Trips</i>	1
<i>Divine Appointments</i>	1
<i>Blessed and Transformed</i>	2
<i>Good News From India</i>	2
<i>Yumi’s Craft House</i>	2
<i>Hope and a Future</i>	2
<i>Prayer Requests</i>	2

Good News From India

Ellen recently received an e-mail from Vinod in India that must be shared. As you know, millions in India are in need of hearing the Gospel message. Those who risk sharing the Word find obstacles of every kind at every turn. This testimony below is from Andrew, one of the missionaries under the supervision of Vinod. Rejoice with me as you read how the Lord uses His servants, and blesses them with miracles in their ministries as they serve to evangelize India one person at a time!

“We started worshipping at our rented house but soon our Hindu house owner objected and because he had been given the house only for the purpose of living. We hunted for an appropriate place of worship for about 25 people, which was not an easy task because Hindus normally will not rent to Christians. Ultimately, we were led to a well-off Sikh businessman by the name of Bobby. He is a well-known person in the city who runs a business of advertising for many local businesses. He had a storage area where he had also constructed a few small apartments for his workers. Two of our believer families worked for him and they lived at this place so, we started a small weekly meeting there. The number of people grew and we asked Bobby if we could use his shed for services and he agreed. We have been here a couple of months and Bobby is a very happy man. He told us on Easter that when we began the prayer services at his property his business was down. A large amount of payment was held up with some companies and he was not getting any new contracts. However, from the time we began to pray here he has witnessed changes in his business. He began to get new contracts - all big projects and a payment of 4000000 Rupees (USD \$100,000) was pending with one and the man started paying him back. He not only said that he has been blessed since we started praying at his place but also said he would thank us by providing Easter dinner for us all! After Easter worship we came back in the evening to enjoy a wonderful meal with him. We had so much fun, praise & worship and music by the youth of our small fellowship of about 25...Andrew.”

Please pray for Bobby that he may come to experience the blessing of eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ and for Andrew as he serves this growing group of believers.

Yumi's Craft House

In addition to working in her position at a clinic which serves the poor, Yumi Mendez Casilla also serves the poorest of the poor in one area of her Dominican Republic community. For months now, she has met with young girls each week to share the Gospel and to help them create craft projects. This outreach ministry has been dubbed - Yumi's Craft House. The building she uses for her meetings is nothing more than a shack with a tin roof and is constructed in a dry river bed. The house has no lighting, so Yumi works with the girls outside. She must carry all of the supplies to each meeting because the rate of crime is so high in the community, she cannot leave anything in the house. Each week the girls show up with their own chairs and Yumi shows up with the craft supplies.

The 'crafters' see the face of Jesus in Yumi, they learn about His love for each of them and they are beginning to realize they have value and are precious to our Savior.



Yumi and her family make many sacrifices to help others and it would be a blessing to them if we could help with the expense of this ministry. Yumi needs 5 folding tables (60 US dollars each), storage bins and craft supplies. If you are financially able to contribute, all donations made to ASON and clearly marked 'YUMI' will be used to purchase tables and supplies for this ministry. If you live in the Melbourne area and would like to drop off

supplies for Yumi at our ASON office, contact Mary Odom at 321.255.6442 or by e-mail at asonchildren@ason.org and she will provide a list of items needed for the ministry. The supplies dropped off at the office will be taken to Yumi by team members who will travel on mission trips to the Dominican Republic later this year.

Hope and a Future

I have just returned from my first Child Sponsorship trip to the Dominican Republic where ASON hosted our annual Birthday Party for sponsored children. It was heartbreaking to see the living conditions of the children and their families, to see the severe lack of textbooks, library books and computers in the schools and to feel the sense of hopelessness for many. However, my heart was warmed by the love and hospitality I received from everyone I met, by the smiles and behavior of the children as they celebrated at the party, and as I witnessed firsthand just how sponsorship dollars are being used to improve the lives and future of our sponsored children.

We have many children on our waiting list to be sponsored in the DR. A gift of \$25 a month ensures a child will receive a firm foundation in Jesus Christ as they attend a Christian school, a quality academic education that will offer each of them an opportunity to work his/her way out of poverty and will provide a child with hope for the future. If you or someone you know would like to sponsor one of these children or would like more information about our Child Sponsorship Program, contact me at asonchildren@ason.org or 321.255.6442. Mary Odom / Dir., Child Sponsorship

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Jeremiah 29:11

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Pray for . . .

- . . . \$40,000 for renovations and mortgage reduction at our home base in Melbourne
- . . . \$18,000 for the purchase of Vinod's building in India to house a new church and theological school
- . . . Our Ghana Team as they reach out to share the Gospel in West Africa