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January, February, March 2013

Insight International Braille Outreach Worldwide

Please consider this ministry in estate planning.

Greetings in Christ our Lord and Saviour,

This newsletter will be quite different; please read on and you will understand why.

FAMILY NEWS

This section usually comes near the end of our letter. In mid December, 2012, my dad, Mr. W.R. Langston, fell in my parents' home near Houston, Texas. In spite of hold bars, a walker and other aids, he fell often. This time, brain damage resulted. After being in and out of hospital, and having a brain operation, dad died on 13th January. I won't go into more details here, but our family is still working through the trauma and sadness of his death. He began his new life with our Lord just one week short of his 89th birthday, which would also have been my parents' 65th anniversary. Of course, we know that our father is in a far better place, but the hole in our lives is tremendous. My sister and I have spent lots of time with our mother, Bettye, and naturally, she has good and bad days. She wants to live on her own, and time will tell if this is possible. Those of you who receive the email version of this letter will already have this information, but unfortunately, there was no time to send out a special printed issue. At a time like this, we depend on our heavenly Father for strength, and we thank Him for the outpouring of prayers, sympathy, cards, and donations to this ministry in dad's memory. He loved this outreach to the blind so much, and when he was able, he drove me to many places to speak, and also helped by sending out audio material. We will never get over his premature death, but we do not grieve as those who have no hope, and for a Christian, there are no permanent goodbyes.

MINISTRY NEWS

Please rejoice with us! Another soul was added to God's Kingdom in January. He was baptized into Christ during a meeting at one of the Bible camps for the blind in south India. At least six more people in that area are very near to putting on Christ. Several others are studying in Kenya as well. Please pray for faith, strength, and endurance for this new Christian, and for those considering obedience to our Lord.

In December, I spoke to an island wide fellowship of Christians on the Caribbean island nation of Dominica. Brother Ralph Briant, minister to the League City church near Houston, helped to arrange this speaking appointment for me. Ann and I could not have been more warmly received by Brother Dexter Honore and the Christians from several congregations on this small island. They received news of this ministry enthusiastically, and several large print and Braille Bibles have already been requested. They will help us reach other Caribbean nations as well.



Dominica Church of Christ



Glynn addressing island wide fellowship in Dominica

We have been sending the scriptures in several languages and in quantity, especially in Swahili, English, Tamil and Telugu. I also continue to send audio lessons to the Muslim couple in Pakistan, and we talk frequently on Skype.

The Newsletter is now available by email. Please email Glynn at insightbow@aol.com and request your name to be added to the email list.

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Several knowledgeable and helpful people are working with me to produce a five to seven minute video which informs others about this ministry. We hope to have it in circulation within the next month or so. Technology such as Dropbox is certainly helpful in exchanging information and pictures for this video.



Glynn and Erinn Snowink with Braille Bible in Holland, Michigan



Glynn and Roland Earnst working on promotional DVD in Niles, Michigan

In early March, I visited with several blind people who receive our Bibles in California and Michigan. The congregations where I spoke were both warm and receptive. Travel, not only to raise support, but especially to publicize this outreach in order to help others, is vital.

For the first time ever, Ann hopes to go on a long distance mission trip with a group who yearly go to the torn and tormented nation of Zimbabwe. They help doctors and nurses, and Ann also hopes to use her teaching experience to train women and children during this two week stay. Because of other commitments, and also due to difficult conditions for a blind person in this area, as well as the expense, Ann will go on her own with this group. The cost of the trip is around \$3800, which we are trying to raise on our own. Should anyone wish to help, please make checks to the Riverside Church of Christ, and mark Ann Langston Zimbabwe mission in the memo. You can use our address as shown on this letter. Ann also hopes to take a list of blind and visually impaired people who have received Bibles, giving it to congregations in the Harare and Bulawayo area, and she may be able to meet with some of these people if conditions permit. In the past three or four years, communication with them has been difficult or non-existent, probably because of the horrible economic, political, and social conditions in Zimbabwe. We ask for your prayers, for her, and indeed for all those going on this trip.

FINANCIAL NEWS

Thanks to end of year donations, we are only about \$2,000 short of where we were this time last year. We build these onetime contributions into the yearly budget, and they allow us to plan and send funds to India, Kenya, pay for staff and travel, as well as for Bibles and material. On the personal front, without any prior notice at all, we lost \$200 monthly from one congregation. While we are truly thankful for their long term help, it is always so much better if we know these things in advance. I am working to make up the loss. Just after I finished the draft of this letter earlier today, I received news of a substantial cut in our support, possibly in October, and I will keep everyone informed.

We thank our Lord for all your phone calls and cards at the beginning of the year! I could never answer everyone, as they are all read aloud to me. This has been an especially slow time for correspondence as I have been sending notes of thanks to all who donated in Dad's memory, getting tax letters to those who needed them, and dealing with other funeral related matters as well. We depend on God and on your help, and we thank Him often for what you do to make this ministry work. God be with you.

In Christ,

Glynn and Ann Langston