

MICHEALS' MEMOIRS

December 2009 Update

Dear Friends and Family,

What started off as a quiet month turned into a very busy November for our Recruitment Ministries' department. As a result of new work being planned, Chuck ended up flying twice to Waxhaw, NC to the [JAARS Center](#) (Wycliffe's affiliated technical and logistic support center) to hold meeting to discuss ways to significantly increase our recruitment effort.

While the number of new Wycliffe missionaries continues to increase (1,085 in the past five years), the pace of recruitment is not meeting the expanding Bible translation growth. Ten years ago, Wycliffe was starting 25 new translation projects per year. Last year the number had grown to 109 starts in one year, but to meet our goal of starting a Bible translation project for the remaining languages we will need to start 150+ per year.

Global Service Program

The activity that made our department so busy is that Chuck was asked by Wycliffe to head up a new short term service program to assist people who want to serve from six months to three years with Wycliffe. The name chosen was "Global Service Program" or GSP.

This has required a major restructuring of his Recruitment Ministries team to accommodate this program. It has been over 12 years since Wycliffe has had a short term program and much has changed these past twelve years.

Systems put in place 12 years ago to handle short term workers are no longer suitable for

our work today. So much of what worked years ago has now changed as have people and churches. The challenge now is to make sure that the systems we develop for the GSP will meet these needs. One of the things we want to develop in the program is a seamless move to full membership with Wycliffe after they finish their short term of service.

The plans for this new program have been anticipated for a while, but Chuck's team thought it would only involve the recruitment of teachers and their spouses. However, senior leadership in Wycliffe expanded the program to include all jobs in Wycliffe that need filling.

Currently there are over 1800 vacant missionary positions that Wycliffe is looking to fill and these jobs range from pilots to linguists. In fact there are over 65 different types of job categories that are in need of workers. This means GSP must process applicants from many different vocations and place them into positions in over 80 countries around the world.



Chuck currently is heading up the GSP project, but in late November he developed a leadership team to move the GSP program forward starting early January. From that point onward, Chuck will provide general oversight of the program.

While plans are important and structure does need to be put into place, we are looking to the Lord for His guidance. We also realize that a program does not move people into mission involvement. God does that. Our role is to be faithful in prayer and diligent as managers of the resources He puts in our path.

Therefore, please pray for people to serve with Wycliffe in this GSP program. Please pray too for the GSP leadership team as they work out all the details of operating and launching the program and Chuck's overall oversight of the program.

Family News

PRAISES and PRAYER

- Praise: Our son Isaac announced his engagement to Suzanne Morton. Suzanne is a fellow missionary music teacher at [Black Forest Academy](#) in Kandern, Germany. Suzanne is a missionary with the mission agency '[Teach Beyond](#)'.

They plan to be married in the summer of 2010, likely in Wichita, Kansas where Suzanne attended college. They will return to teach at Black Forest after their honeymoon.

Pray for the two of them as they plan their wedding and life together. Please pray that the extra expenses needed for their wedding, such as their travel costs and travel costs for Josh & Maria Mishler and family will be met.

- Please pray for our needed finances. With the higher costs of living here in Orlando, Wycliffe has let us know we are short around \$ 500 per month of our needed full support. We need to be at 100% support to continue our work with Wycliffe.

We also have some one-time expenses that need to be met to cover recent car and home repair bills. Please pray for finances to meet those needs.

Merry Christmas

We want to take this opportunity to thank each of you who have again stood with us in prayer and finances this past year. Although we serve stateside, our work in recruitment impacts foreign missions and Bible translation. On behalf of the dozens of languages who received Scripture this past year, thank you!!!



We value each prayer, letter of encouragement and financial gift that allow us to continue to supply new missionaries to the Bible translation task!

Your Wycliffe Missionaries,

Chuck & Barb Micheals

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