



We love to hear from our Praise International family! Please note that we have relocated our offices to Meridian, Idaho. Here's how to write: For donations sent through the mail or to send written correspondence, address your letter to Praise International, P.O. Box 100, Meridian, ID 83680
If you would like to email us, the address is contact@praiseinternational.us
Our local phone number is: 208.884.5149 or call us toll free at 877.777.2473

CONTENT

**PG. 1
PIG FARMER FOR JESUS**

**PG. 2
PALMCROFT
CHILDREN'S HOME
UPDATE**

**PG. 3
HELPING PASTORS HELP
THEMSELVES**

REFLECTIONS

**PG. 4
PRAISE STAFF**

Pig Farmer for Jesus

By Pastor Joseph Oulai

I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do everything through him who gives me strength. Yet it was good of you to share in my troubles. Philippians 4:12-14

“Never! I don’t want my son to become a pastor, never to become like those pastors with only one pair of trousers and one shirt, and their wives with the same dress, with worn out shoes every Sunday. Those pastors are not able feed their children and dress their wives with ‘fancy’ clothes. I wish you to become a big man and to build a house for me...”



still in prayer to see his project funded. It will be a great relief for him and for his family. He expects to associate the church with the project and through shared training, help them create their own sources of steady income.

These were the words of my mother when she became aware of the call of God upon my life.

My mother’s words actually reflect the situation of many pastors in West Africa. Some of the time, the offerings and tithes from a whole month do not reach \$ 20. You can never imagine how much the help of Praise International is vital to us. Thanks to Praise, pastors have understood that they need to initiate some micro-business projects, because they are not able to depend on the “offerings” of the church to meet all the needs of their families.

One of our pastors, Pastor Lamine, has just completed training in pig farming and is



PAYPAL OPTION

To make your monthly donation or a one-time gift with your credit card, visit our website www.praiseinternational.us and click on the link “Want to help?”

Please keep the people in Orissa India in your prayers. They have suffered horribly from attacks on Christian congregations, pastors and their families



Palmcroft Children's Home

Construction of the Palmcroft Children's Home in Mindanao, Philippines is making great progress. Pastor Levi Adrales reports that the project is well underway and ahead of schedule!

Phase two was completed in November. The trusses for the first building were assembled and set into place. The blocks for the second building were also placed.

Phase three is now underway. The walls are being built, the roofing is being put down and the windows are being installed.

In the fourth and final phase, the interior will be completed and the exterior grounds will be landscaped.

The orphanage building project in Mindanao is being funded by Palmcroft Baptist Church in Phoenix, Arizona.

Please pray for the safe and successful completion of the project so that the children will be able to move into their new facilities soon.



Engaging fact: In May of 2003 President Jean-Bertrand Aristide pronounced Vodou as an official religion in Haiti. Vodou priests have to take an oath before a presiding judge, which then allows them to officiate at baptisms, marriages and funerals.

Please pray for the 53 pastors that Praise International supports as they bring the Light of the World into government supported darkness.

HELPING PASTORS HELP THEMSELVES

By Richard Shaw

And all peoples on earth will be blessed through you." Genesis 12:3b NIV

Praise International is committed to partnering people with people. We connect pastors and their families with sponsors as prayer and support partners. Thank you for being a part of our support ministry! Where possible, we are also helping pastors raise support for their families themselves. One such project has been an internet café in Moldova. Pastor Sergiu Rutcovschi tells how the project has benefited his family and ministry in the following report:



I wish you to report on how my business is progressing, which owing to your help I have begun. This small business benefits my family. Of course there are not always customers in my computer center. In our village there are many poor people and consequently it is not always possible for children and adults to have an opportunity to come to the computer center and to use my services. Clients generally come in the evening and on Sunday. There are moments when people are waiting for a turn and ask to reserve computers at some time in advance. There are hours when computers are not busy. One week in the summer we could not work because there was

no electricity. In four months we earned \$1775 dollars. I used \$736 for my family. We used most of this for food and other house needs. \$1039 we used for the salary of the other two workers, for payment of taxes, municipal services and purchases of materials which were necessary for carrying out this work. Thank God, that since we have begun this business, our family's economic situation has improved. This business is useful to our family, and for two families from our church because they work in my center and on a regular basis receive the salary. Most of all we spend the money for

food. In our country the prices for food stuffs and all services have grown, because the prices on necessary items and other services have risen. I ask you to pray, that God will continue to bless the development of my business. Now that school is in session my computer center activity has picked up because we are located on the road where children walk to school."

*Blessing to you from the God, with love in the Christ,
Brother Sergiu.*

IN ADDITION TO SERVING AS A PASTOR, SERGIU OPERATES YOUTH CAMPS AND HELPS IN A NATIONAL MINISTRY TO HANDICAPPED PEOPLE IN MOLDOVA.

Reflections By Bob Quinn, Director of Sponsorship for Praise International

Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation. Ps 68:19 (KJV)

Greetings From Meridian, Idaho!

Looking back over my first six months as Director of Sponsorship for Praise International, I'm reminded of the number of challenges that were encountered: new office space and location, new computer systems, and personnel changes, not to mention all the hours spent updating records. I'm further reminded of all the stress of everyday life: the high cost of food and gas, dwindling retirement investments and skyrocketing healthcare. As I continue to indulge myself in self-pity, the Lord quickly brings me back to reality. He generally whispers in my ear with a question, like, "Do you really know what it costs to be my servant and follow me?" Then a teaching example usually follows.

Several weeks ago, I was tasked with finding and matching new sponsors with indigenous pastors waiting for support from Orissa, India. As I began to read each pastor's story, I was quickly reminded what it really costs to follow Christ. Each story was different yet strikingly similar. Families continually harassed, beaten and personal belongings stripped and taken, homes set on fire and murdered when families chose not to run. Pastors and families who fled into the jungle must now resort to moving from village to village, fleeing back into the jungle



when danger reappears. I was extremely humbled by the response of one pastor, who said, in the middle of all his difficulty, "No such persecution can stop me from pursuing my ministry. Under no pressure will I ever get reconverted".

As I realize that these stories are all too common in missionary circles around the world, I am brought to my knees in humble thanksgiving for all I have and how the Lord has blessed my family.

I'm thankful for a wife and family that know the Lord..

I'm thankful for the religious freedom we have in this country to share our faith with others.

I'm thankful that I have the ability to purchase all the food, gas and healthcare needs that my family requires.

I'm thankful for money in the bank, cars in the garage and a warm home to come back to when the daily activities end.

Finally, I'm forever thankful for all our sponsors who have graciously committed to support these pastors and families this past year. You may never know how far so little can go in the Kingdom of God.

Please pray that new sponsors step forward in 2009. We currently have over fifty pastors waiting for support and the list is growing weekly. Without sponsors, most of these pastors must rely on other jobs to remain in the ministry.

May God richly bless you!

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