

AFRICA INLAND MISSION CANADA



# God @ work



# God at Work

Dan Baetz *Canadian Director*



*"For the Kingdom of God  
is not a matter of talk,  
but of power"*  
*1 Corinthians 4:20*



It is not every day you meet a former child soldier! He told me of his abduction at fourteen years old, years of living hidden in the bush along with his 'army', his own killing of six people, and finally his miraculous escape. As a young man, he heard the gospel message and experienced the 'life transforming' forgiveness – and now a new purpose to become a pastor!

When God demonstrates his power in the affairs of everyday life, His kingdom is advancing. Additionally, I have been encouraged to see God at work in the following ways.

- As people continue to pray for the "Lord of the harvest to send forth workers", we see new people called, processed to work with AIM and then sent out to the field. This is very praiseworthy in light of the challenges to missions in today's Canadian context.
- The Lord providing support for new and returning missionaries that, humanly speaking, looked impossible at first (and second) glance.
- Hiring of excellent new staff. Finding people with a heart for missions and the skill sets required is a "God-thing"!
- Hearing of Africans coming to know the Lord, being grounded in the Word, becoming 'oaks of righteousness' – being used to plant new churches and strengthen existing ones!
- Seeing our Africa based personnel be 'strong in the Lord' in spite of extremely challenging conditions and sometimes persecution.
- Seeing the enthusiasm and response of new Canadian campers for our CAMP RHINO and CAMP SOAR – many of whom have never been to a camp or heard the Gospel.

God is at work! Thank you for your partnership in the Gospel!

# Partners Together in the Work of God

letters from the mission field

## CENTRAL AFRICA

Laura Hickey writes.....It is good to focus on our great God who is in control of the universe and of Central Africa. He knows the situation of each of the countries that we work in and what each person is going through. He cares about the refugees and those in areas that have been devastated by fighting and unrest. Those who are ill have been going through difficult experiences. We also rejoice to hear from some teams that people are responding to the gospel message. GOD IS AT WORK!

### Democratic Republic of Congo

Rosemary Walker reports that she...continues to enjoy interacting with many friendly Congolese and witnessing to young motorcycle taxi men as they drive me out to school or home again.

She recently taught Introduction to Computers, English Conversation classes, and weekly Bible studies at a teachers' training college.

The computer class was a challenge, with only 3 computers available at the school, no electricity in the classroom most of the time, and no internet connection at the school. Happily, for the last few lessons we were able to get electricity in the class by a long cable powered by some old batteries and solar panels. PRAISE FOR GOD'S HELP IN TEACHING....

Another Canadian missionary in DRC requested prayer as she left Bunia for the Northern region in Congo where she joined other leaders in women's ministry on a three week outreach exercise. They visited four districts, hosting four three day seminars for female church leadership. In each district Abbie Desloges led seminars on community development, strategic planning and nutrition. Her prayer request was for the women to be courageous in using what they learned in their communities.

## UGANDA

Canadian missionaries, Brian and Jessica Myrholm are serving in Uganda with an African organization whose goal is to raise up, train and send African missionaries. They write,

*Some very exciting news this year is that six of our Global Link Afrika missionary interns who served over the past year have signed up for another year. This is a record for us, as we have historically not had more than one intern per year sign up for a second term... it feels like we are gaining momentum.*

Our God is at Work!



# Committed to God's Service



A Canadian pilot with a big heart...and a big dream to serve God in Africa. **Colin Gilmore** from Okotoks, Alberta is pursuing a steadfast commitment to serve God in mission aviation. He continues to pursue the mandatory training in aircraft maintenance and flight skills for flying with AIM AIR.

This dream began with an opportunity to fly an airplane while on a mission trip to Greece. By 2004, he received confirmation from God that serving in missions was part of the plan for his life. Colin is married to Shelby, and together with their daughter and son, they are pursuing the dream of ministry in Africa.

AIM AIR is the aviation arm of Africa Inland Mission operating 6 aircraft from 3 strategic bases in Kenya and Uganda, providing service within Kenya, Uganda, South Sudan, Democratic Republic of Congo and Central African Republic. AIM AIR operates in inhospitable terrain, areas which are often difficult to get to by vehicle. To serve as a missionary pilot requires a high level of competency in flying in remote and undeveloped areas that is only achieved after a high degree of training. The team at AIM AIR strive to bring hope and the good news to some areas of the world where the most forgotten people reside.

AIM AIR serves more than 50 Christian organisations and hundreds of missionaries in the following roles:

- As a lifeline for transporting people and supplies.
- Emergency evacuations
- Airlift for medical and humanitarian equipment and supplies.

Before the Gilmores can depart for Africa (Oct. 2018) Colin needs flight hours in particular aircraft and 3 months of specialized training in the U.S. The training costs to be an AIM AIR pilot are high so Colin will be the recipient of funds raised by AIM Canada's participation in the 2017 Ride for Refuge campaign. Visit [www.rideforrefuge.ca](http://www.rideforrefuge.ca) for more information. If you prefer to give directly to AIM for this project, choose one of the options listed on page 9.



# Donor Development Ministry

Keith & Christine Tennant



At ten or eleven years old I was a delivery boy for the Winnipeg Free Press newspaper. I also sold greeting cards for the Regal Greeting Card Company. I had a good little business selling to some newspaper customers and relatives. A poor widow living in a run-down home was part of my newspaper route, and, feeling generous one day, I gave her the box of sample cards and went on my way. Stopping at my grandfather's place on my way home, I told him of my 'good deed'. Grandpa reached into his pocket, took out some coins, gave them to me and said, "Go back and give Mrs. 'L' these so she can mail her cards".

Each month, many of you provide support, both prayer and financial to missionaries and workers in the AIM family. For that we are truly thankful! Because of you, our ministry is advancing; unreached people groups are hearing the Good News, and we are closer to the triumphant return of Christ.

How does the greeting card and stamp story connect here?

In every charity, there are at least two streams of funding for the work. The 'field costs', or in our case the funds for particular programs and personal support funds for the missionaries. The second is our 'shared costs', often referred to as the General Fund. These are the costs of our Canada based operation. Shared costs such as health insurance, worker's compensation, emergency evacuation reserves, training, precise accounting practices to meet the strict requirements of our Canadian government for issuing tax receipts, head office building related expenses and governance.

Your prayerful considering of a donation to the shared costs of AIM Canada would be a key step. A one-time, or regular more frequent donation designated to our General Fund; or perhaps a donation without a designation simply marked, 'use where most needed' will allow us to continue – in fact increase the field work support. In doing so, it brings us closer to the day when we will see Christ Centred Churches Among All African Peoples.

# Marilyn's\* Story

Contemplations of a young woman as the realities of leaving Canada in a few

An attempt to sum up this last week in Canada

We sat on the floor eating her traditional Libyan 'Goodbye dish' for me with our hands, scooping the almost raw-tasting dough and dipping it in date paste and ghee.

She doesn't understand why I would leave here, and leave her, to go there to teach English when I could just stay and continue to teach people like her.

It's moments like this that I'm not so sure I understand either.

She is a tough and feisty friend of mine and yet I leave her bawling on the doorstep while I drive away, the ball of raw dough sitting heavy in my stomach.

The raw reality of this next year is beginning to sit more heavily upon me, as I ponder what this might actually be.

My childhood fantasies and selfish dreams of being some hero that starts a world-known charity in Africa with press recognition, being invited to write magazine articles and countless blogs received with words of praise flooding in are long gone.

I have to delete any and every social media tool, delete my beloved blog, watch my words when talking on the phone with my Mom, have someone else forward me screened emails and even filter the language I use in my own Prayer Journal.

I have had selfish ideals of working so hard on language that I am entirely fluent, and praised for my flawless efforts, but when I practiced this tough language with a friend last week her sly comment was, "You butchered that word so bad I don't even remember how to say it! Just remember, you might think people are laughing with you... They are not. They are laughing at you. We are savage."

I always used to pride myself on NOT being a 'girly girl'; on being independent and having initiative, and now I will wear a skirt every day, wrap my head tightly with a scarf and somehow learn to keep my womanly opinion inside of my own mouth.

My friend's question to me weighs heavy in me like her bread dough in my stomach, and everything feels real.

And Raw.

Last week someone who knows me well asked if I would be able to run while I am gone, and upon my reply of "Absolutely not" he wisely noted,

"You are going to be squashed."

Yup.

Upon hearing I couldn't even walk down the road to the market without a man, he quickly reacted with, "We better pray for you!"

My days collide with the realities of being His in a “closed” location.

Yes, please pray.

I don't say this at all to complain, or whine, or ask for pity.

I say this from a point of pure honesty, where the glamour, wonder and 'hyped spirituality' of 'work in Africa' is stripped away and looking ahead I feel:

Raw.

And squashed.

The words of “Oceans” sit heavier than usual, sloshing in my stomach as feet pound green grass on one of my last runs before leaving and the song blasts in my earbuds;

*Spirit lead me where my trust is without borders  
Let me walk upon the waters  
Wherever You would call me*

Somehow, the sentimental words don't feel so goose-bumpy and I sing less willingly than I used to in the middle of a dimly lit chapel room in Bible School.

“Wherever you would call me” smashes hard when the reality of it has to be put into practice.

But it's OK. I know it's ok, because somehow I know I am being pulled there, and like my Libyan friend, I don't understand why.

Maybe somehow it's really for myself, to come to a place of a raw, uncooked, squashed mess and rely on nothing but my saviour.

After writing this I went to a prayer meeting, with a number of seventy-eighty year olds, and we sang “Great is Thy Faithfulness”. No instruments, just the pure, hearing-aids (or not) version and it was raw and real.

*Great is thy faithfulness, O God my father  
There is no shadow of turning with Thee  
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not  
As Thou hast been, Thou for ever will be  
Great is thy faithfulness  
All I hath needed thy hand hath provided  
Great is thy faithfulness,  
Lord unto me*

So, as He has been, He will forever be and will provide all I will need for great is His faithfulness unto me;

Please pray as this ... girl leaves.

# PRAY



- That the church will remain strong and the Gospel of peace will be proclaimed in the midst of instability in many African countries.
- Penetration of the gospel among Muslim people around the world, particularly in Africa.
- That our missionaries and local Christians will have courage to share the Gospel even in the face of opposition and persecution.
- Godly leaders will continue to be raised up and become equipped for ministry, and that more and more African churches would embrace the vision for reaching Africa's unreached people groups with the Good News of Jesus Christ.
- Pray that more spiritual resources become available in the languages of the native people of Africa.
- Financial support for Canadian candidates preparing to depart for Africa in 2018:
  - Brett and Candace Loewen
  - A. and M. J.\*
  - Colin and Shelby Gilmore

*The Lord of the Harvest Prayer - When he (Jesus) saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest fields". Matt. 9:36-38*

# GIVE



Raising financial support can be a daunting challenge, especially when moving a family overseas. Repeatedly we face a test of our faith as we watch the deadline approaching by which individuals need to have 100% of their financial needs in place. Africa Inland Mission is privileged to play a role in the work God is doing across the continent of Africa in changing the lives of men and women, boys and girls. Every day the story of Jesus Christ and His redemptive work on the cross is being shared, making its way into hearts and transforming lives forever. You can help our efforts by making a donation through a tax-deductible contribution to AIM Canada. Simply use the attached envelope or visit us online at [www.ca.aimint.org/give](http://www.ca.aimint.org/give).

If you are 19 years of age, retired or anywhere in between, there are opportunities for YOU!

### EXPLORE

**TIMO Quest** is a 1 month team introduction to cross-cultural ministry amongst the IK, an unreached people group in Uganda. Through one-on-one mentoring, language learning and building relationships explore what your part might be in God's mission. Join IK TIMO Quest! (March 7 – April 6, 2018).

### PASSION for YOUTH?

Impacting for eternity through sports! **KORR DESERT Team** is an outreach and discipleship ministry involving coaching, training and Bible study through sports. Looking for 6-8 people, married or single, to serve 4-6 weeks in Kenya. More details to follow.

**ESL** Teaching whether in the classroom or simply conversing in English you have the opportunity to reflect Jesus. 3 weeks or 3-12 month placements in Chad, Indian Ocean Islands, Madagascar, Mozambique, North Africa, Tanzania.

**Home-school Education** - assist missionary parents in the education of their children while experiencing cross-cultural living and ministry. Teaching degrees not always required. 6-12 month placements in South Sudan, Uganda, Kenya, North Africa, Madagascar.

*For more information visit [www.ca.aimint.org/go](http://www.ca.aimint.org/go)*



## Options to Give

# 1

Cheque Payable to Africa Inland Mission (Canada)  
1641 Victoria Park Ave., Scarborough, Ontario. M1R 1P8

Pre-authorized Monthly Payment or Credit Card Payments.

Call 416.751.6077

# 2

# 3

On-line Giving  
[www.ca.aimint.org/give](http://www.ca.aimint.org/give)

# Ministry to Africans in Canada (MAC)

John P. Brown Director of Ministries to African-Canadians



Greg Brown, an AIM missionary in Africa, was home in Canada this past summer. He served as a counsellor at one of our outreach camps in July. MAC Camps is a ministry of AIM Canada to immigrant and refugee youth from all over Africa. Some of these young people come from countries where the Gospel cannot be proclaimed.

Says Greg, "Yesoph\* was one of 13 refugee boys who came to camp after experiencing untold horrors of war, death and chaos fleeing from the Middle East to Canada. On the last full day of camp 10 year old Yesoph told me that he and his buddies had recently used an Ouija board to communicate with two spirits. One of the spirits terrified him by saying he would commit suicide when he was 21."

"After assuring Yesoph that evil spirits are deceitful and ignorant, I counselled them to listen very closely to our last campfire message. Around the campfire the gospel was explained in English by an Egyptian pastor and translated into Arabic by my 19 year old Syrian assistant counsellor.

"Later back in our cabin, with all of us holding hands, Yesoph rejected the spirits and chose to believe in Christ as his Savior. Although he lacked theological precision he told his Muslim and non-Muslim cabin mates that God would now send 'a little bit of Himself' to help him keep following his Saviour."

## Praise Reports!

We are grateful to those who gave so that our three MAC Camps in Ontario and Nova Scotia could be a reality. Momentum really started to build when we hosted our first annual Camp Gala on June 13th in Toronto.

The event featured a sumptuous meal, entertainment and testimonies. The audience was encouraged to think of the outdoors and camping atmosphere with all the appropriate décor and equipment, right down to the Off! bug repellent! Through ticket sales, donations and corporate sponsorship we were thrilled to meet our goal for the evening.



In giving praise to God for the successful event, John Brown, AIM Director for MAC wrote:

*There are so many spin-off benefits from a special event like this: vision casting, team building, and introducing companies, new churches and a whole generation to MAC and AIM. Praise the Lord with us for His goodness!*

It is not too early to consider donating to 2018 AIM's CAMP Project!

# Personnel Director's Report

Murray Schmidt



"We are so excited that things are finally coming together!" These words from an email I received represent the culmination of two unique stories, woven together by God – stories which will take them to the ends of the earth for the sake of the Kingdom.

I sat with Tina\* 2 years ago and talked about using her skills as an Occupational Therapist to serve people who had never had the chance to hear about the love of Jesus. Through caring for their physical needs, she may be invited into the hearts and homes of the 'least of these', people who are rejected and isolated in African communities because of their physical challenges.

Jake's\* story included several twists and turns. With a heart for cross-cultural minis-

try, he studied TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages). An internship in Indonesia and 2 years working as an English teacher in Korea was followed by marriage. Tragically, Jake lost his wife and his life was turned upside down. Despite a painful time of grieving, he never lost his heart for ministry.

Incredibly, God brought Jake and Tina's stories together. They were married and look forward to using their skills among people who do not know Jesus Christ. After studying French in Quebec for the next year they hope to depart for their new island home in October 2018.

God is working – calling gifted people from a variety of backgrounds to the 'ends of the earth'.



With the rising costs and the low value of our Canadian dollar, the needs continue to be significant for those serving God in Africa. During 2017 God has met the needs of the following persons in their faith journey, enabling them to serve in Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Lesotho, Chad, Democratic Republic of Congo and North Africa. Despite the challenges, God consistently provided as they stepped out in faith and trust, to do His will.

Derek and Cheryl Unrau

Amanda\*

Kristy Fraser

Ron and Jacqui Shaw

Jon and Melissa Neudorf

Kristen Dewald

Tim Stabell

Rosemary Walker

V.H.\*

Dylan Walde

Wesley Schroedter

Mark Schussler

John and Tracy LeDressay

Candice Harter

Bruce and Susan Mitchell

S.T.\*

A.S.\*

Kelby and Michelle Friesen

\*Alternate names due to their sensitive ministry location

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## Upcoming Events

### Ride for Refuge

September 30, 2017 Calgary, Winnipeg, Montreal & Halifax

Pick our AIM Canada project and ride!



### Christmas Celebration

November 25th, 2017 Toronto

*with special guest Sunder Krishnan*

Rev. Krishnan is a dynamic speaker who is in demand around the world. We are delighted he is coming to our Christmas celebration. Plan to attend and be inspired – and be thinking and praying now who you can be inviting.

