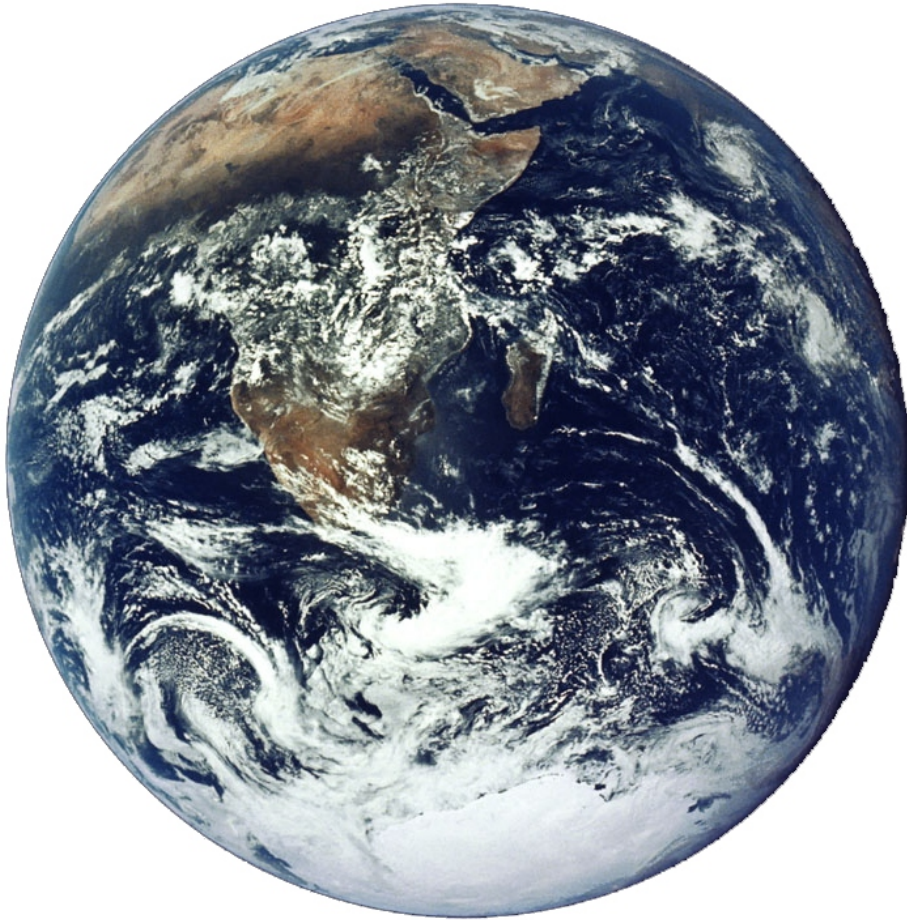


# Inside Wyoming

*The Newsletter of the Wyoming Ave. Baptist Church*

*Vol. 18, No. 7, November 2, 2003*

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GO INTO ALL THE WORLD  
AND PREACH THE GOSPEL TO EVERY CREATURE.  
MARK 16:16

# The World at Our Doorstep

By *Walter Rice, Jr.*

Eleanor Marzullo, a missionary in South Philadelphia, mentioned how when she was younger, she was thinking about going to Africa to serve. She was resistant to serve in South Philadelphia, but found that she didn't need to go to the far places of the world. God had brought people from all over the world to her, in South Philadelphia. Grace Settlement House serves a very diverse population, with internationals from all over the world.

Eleanor isn't alone in being surrounded by people from many nations, peoples, and languages. For we too are in the midst of an

amazingly diverse neighborhood. Did you know that over 20% of the people in Feltonville were born outside of the United States? There are people here from every continent except Australia!

Does this scare us? Well, it does a little bit in that many of our neighbors are very different from us. Many of them have difficulty speaking English, another barrier which comes between us. But we should not be afraid, rather we should praise God for the opportunities that He has given us to witness to the world.

Where else can you minister to Africans, Chinese, Latin Americans, Europeans, Arabs, and Americans of all backgrounds? In terms of thinking about missions, we don't have to travel to evangelize to the world, for the world has come to us. Many people from countries where the gospel is not freely proclaimed will have their first opportunity to hear it in the United States. As they return home and interact with their countrymen, those who receive the gospel here will take it with them to places we could never go.

Let us make every opportunity to bring the good news of Jesus Christ to those around us. One way that we can do this is to support evangelism efforts already underway in our neighborhood. Do you

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*Inside Wyoming* is published by and for the members and friends of the Wyoming Avenue Baptist Church.

Contributions of articles and information are most welcome! Contact the editor, Walter Rice, Jr., at 215-820-0165.

# 2003 Missions Conference

By Walter Rice, Jr.



On Sunday, October 19, Richard and Judy Olenick from Mission Aviation Fellowship joined us for the first Sunday of our Missions Conference. Now on home assignment in a support role for MAF, Rich was a pilot for 17 years in Africa. His wife Judy works as an assistant to the president of MAF.

The Olenicks started their visit with a presentation in Sunday School. They showed us a video describing MAF's work around the world. MAF doesn't just fly missionaries - they provide air ambulance services, they provide transportation for local pastors, and deliver supplies to villages that can be days away from the nearest town. In some places, like Russia, MAF doesn't even fly airplanes. But their objective is the same: to provide logistical and technical help to missionaries all over the world, that the gospel may go forth unhindered.

Rich spoke in the morning service as well, bringing us a message from the Bible. He focused on Genesis 12, where Abram is called by God to leave his country, his people, and his father's household to go to a

land God would show him. Rich used the passage to describe his and Judy's own call to the missions field, one that like Abram's was difficult, but it had a specific purpose, that

through them the families of the earth would be blessed. And their obedience, like Abram's, bore fruit. God richly blessed them and used them to bless other people, to help bring the good news of salvation to those who desperately needed to hear it.

Following God's unique call in our lives, Rich went on to explain, is something for which we must be willing to give up everything we have. Jesus says in Matthew 13:45-46 (NIV), "The kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it." The kingdom of God is *so valuable*, that to gain it is worth everything we own. To follow Christ demands our all, but in giving it all up, we gain great reward and blessing.



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# Beky Poteat Visits Ladies Missionary Society

by Wanda Eibner

The Lord blessed us with a delightful meeting on Thursday, October 16, 2003. Beky Poteat, our missionary from Togo, came dressed in her African attire. She told us about her work with the Togolese people, about their strange (to us) customs and fetish beliefs. They mostly live in thatched huts with dirt floors and cook outdoors on a sort of fireplace. They live in small villages managed by the village chief. The children as well as adults love to be with Beky because she truly loves them, teaches, plays and shares God's love. She also drives them to the hospital, etc., when needed. She is doing a remarkable, godly work there.

Our luncheon, prepared by Mary Rice and our ladies, was delicious especially Mary's baked beans.

In addition to our regular group, we were happy to have Stella Newton join us. We were glad that our pre-school

teachers, Shirley Parcell, Nancy Dambach, and Annie Rodriguez were able to attend, as well as Daniel and Rose Ndimantang and Walt Rice, Jr. Daniel and Beky had a fine time speaking French together, but more importantly, discussing the educational needs of the African people.

Cathy Pisani, one of my former Bible study teachers, sang two beautiful Christian solos. She has a lovely soprano voice. I'm sure her little granddaughter, who came with her, will

always remember this day because she lost her first tooth.

Several baby blankets, hats and booties, mostly made by Joanne Becker, were on display before being delivered to Carolyn Boxmeyer, area coordinator for ABC Quilts.

Our group meets the third Thursday of the month in Fellowship Hall. We roll bandages for Togo, cut squares of fabric for the Philippines, and make baby hats, booties, and blankets. We would really like to have more members, so if you can, please join us!



Top: Katherine with Beky Poteat  
Bottom: Cathy Pisani and her granddaughter

# Graduation of the Biblical Institute for Islamic Studies

By *Walter Rice, Jr.*

Earlier this year we reported Rev. Daniel Ndimantang's graduation from Biblical Theological Seminary with a masters degree in Biblical Counseling. Always eager to learn, Daniel continued his studies with the Biblical Institute for Islamic Studies, and on October 10, 2003, he graduated from BIIS with a Diploma in Islamic Studies. The graduation ceremony was held at a banquet at Williamson's Restaurant in Horsham.

Daniel graduating with a class of 8 students, all members of Feltonville's Muslim Bridge Team, organized by Rev. Luis Centeno. Pastor Luis was also one of the graduates. As part of their coursework, the students learned about Islam through books, discussions, and by interacting with Muslims at the local mosque.

Pastor Luis, Daniel, and many of the students intend to work towards bachelor's degrees in Islamic Studies, a program that will enhance their ministry by providing them with the background and the skills (such as speaking and reading Arabic) necessary to effectively reach out to Muslims in our community and around the world.



Above: graduates –  
Luis Centeno,  
Daniel Ndimantang,  
David Day,  
Maher Salhani,  
Collins Alaribe,  
Mitch Walker,  
Charles Colbert,  
Marion Day,  
and BIIS President  
Dr. Anees Zaka.



Right: Pastor Luis  
introduces Daniel to  
give a testimony.

The Biblical Institute for Islamic Studies is a component of Church Without Walls, a ministry in 10 different cities around the world to reach out to Muslims and teach them about Jesus and Christianity.

## Missions Conference, *cont'd from p. 3*



The next Sunday, October 26, we were privileged to have Eleanor Marzullo and Roxanna Doane with us. Eleanor and Roxanna are with BCM International, formerly the Bible Club Movement. They are missionaries in South Philadelphia, working at the Grace Settlement House for children. They teach pre-school four days a week, run after-school Bible clubs, work at Vacation Bible Schools, and run a summer camp for city kids called Camp Sonshine.

In Sunday School, Eleanor and Roxanna took us through some of the lessons that they teach to their children. Eleanor went through the basics of the gospel and our responsibility to witness. Roxanne showed us some of the materials she uses to teach pre-schoolers about Jesus.

In the morning service, Eleanor reminded us that the primary purpose of the church is to evangelize. We are “saved to serve” the King, and the way he has told us to serve is to go into all nations, baptizing and making disciples, teaching them to obey Jesus Christ.

We were privileged to have a luncheon after both Sundays of the Missions Conference, prepared by the members of the Board of Missions. We appreciate all their hard work!

## The World at Our Doorstep

*cont'd from page 2*

know there is a Muslim Bridge Team that goes out and ministers to Muslims in our community?

One of the things they do is foster discussion between Christians and Muslims. One such “Meeting for Better Understanding” was held at Wyoming; another was held at a local mosque. At a meeting, there are two speakers, one Muslim, one Christian, who address a specific topic. The topic of the last meeting was the “Requirements of Paradise/Heaven.” These meetings allow us to better understand Islam, and to present the Word of God to people who otherwise would not hear it.

Pray for these continuing efforts. If you are interested in coming to the Meetings for Better Understanding, or beginning to reach out to the Muslims in the community, or evangelism in general, talk to Daniel. He can tell you what things need prayer, and he can let you know ways you can get involved.

*[Jesus said,] “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”*

*Matthew 28:19-20 (NIV)*

## *Prayer*

As I closed my eyes and began to pray  
I thought of where to start, and what to say

Thank you Lord for the things you've given me  
And thank you for dying, thus setting me free  
I once was lost, but now I'm found  
I can't believe I'm telling you so much, without making a sound  
Thank you Lord for this wonderful day  
I know that without you there is no other way  
The life you gave shows how much you care  
Thanks for the satisfaction, knowing that you'll always be there  
To share the gospel is what I vow to do  
You've done everything for me, it's the least I can do for you  
Forgive me Lord for the sins I've done  
Thank you God, for giving your Son!

I will always remember that day  
When I closed my eyes and began to pray

*by George Wilson*



On Saturday, October 25, Wyoming's Youth Group and some of their friends took a trip to Dorney Park. You'll have to pardon some of the kids for not looking so happy... they had a long day, and the picture was taken after dinner! Until the end of the year, the Youth Group will be meeting after church (at 1 pm) for lunch, a Bible lesson, and games. Anybody from grade 7 through college is welcome!

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