

HOME OFFICE UPDATE

One of the most exciting parts of working in a mission is that you get to work with so many amazing people. The hard part comes when it's time for them to return to the field. That time has come for our Office Manager, Reidar Fostervold.

Although he planned on staying with us for two years, he feels the strong call of ministry in South America. Visa complications have made it clear that it is time for him to return and startup his ministry in Paraguay.

Reidar's ministry will focus primarily on the youth on serving the youth of the Aché people. As a tribe, the Aché have made the transition from stone age to digital age in less than forty years. That has brought a lot of challenges with it. Reidar wants to help the young people keep their integrity and find their fulfillment in God alone, while also helping them navigate this globalized world.

We have not been able to find a full time replacement for Reidar yet, but we get the pleasure of working with two Rachels this summer while we search.

The first is Rachel Madella. She will be filling in as the office manager for three months. Rachel has a Master's in Inter-cultural and Urban Studies from the Moody Theological Seminary. Diverse



Rachel Madella will be new Office Manager for the next three months.

cultures, ethnicities, people groups and food interest her as she is passionate about serving God in a cross-cultural setting. While she waits to see how the Lord will lead her further, she will work with us the next 3 months.

The second Rachel we are working with is a name that you will recognize, Rachel Kuehl. Rachel has a strong background in organizational fundraising and will be working on building fundraising campaigns and other projects for us.

We are very excited to work with these talented individuals this year. Always remember that you can reach us the same old way and we are happy to talk with you at any time. ■

UPCOMING NEWS & EVENTS

—ZEMA ANNUAL BANQUET 2018!

We are excited to announce that we will hold the annual banquet on **November 10, 2018 at 6:00pm.**

This year we will be hosting the banquet at the Midlane Country Club in Waukegan, IL. Our speaker is **Roy Patterson**, host of many programs on Moody Radio and a gifted expositor of God's word.

More details to come!

CONTACT INFORMATION

You can always reach us at:

zema@zema.org

(847) 872-7363

zema.org



Lights, Camera, and Action!

Dear ZEMA supporters,

It has been a busy spring at ZEMA. Now that summer has arrived we are excited to tell you all about it. Among the things I want to tell you is a visit to the field that is going to bear exciting fruit later on this year... but before that, let's review two things that happened in 2017.

Last spring, we held a fundraiser for our ZEMA Development Fund for promotional projects, where you helped us raise nearly \$15,000. As a direct result of your donations, we were able to launch a new video about ZEMA at our Annual Banquet. This video has proven to be a great tool in explaining our story to new supporters and has moved everyone who have seen it. If you haven't been able to see the video, you can find it on the ZEMA.org homepage, so be sure to check it out!

This spring the videographer who made that first video agreed to go down for a second trip! Matthew Abeler and I left for South Africa in early April and started to work on three new videos highlighting key ministries among the amaZioni.



The first video will tell *Matthew Abeler visiting with the Kuehls*



Matthew and Kit conducting an interview with a college student.

the detailed story of the Zion Evangelical Bible School program (ZEBs). Tim and Luann Kuehl coordinated with different schools, so we could get the footage and interview teachers. Explaining ZEBs to people outside the ZEMA family can be complicated, so this video will give a window into that ministry to a larger audience.

The second video will follow Kit Tischler in the campus ministry to amaZioni college students. We visited several universities in Johannesburg interviewing students. Kit's ministry is exploding, and we are very excited to have a video showing why.

Lastly, we have a video highlighting the huge opportunity we have with radio in South Africa. Paul Seelhammer took us to visit three radio stations that air ZEMA programming targeted to the amaZioni people. These stations reach well over 500,000 listeners!

We are eager to share these three videos with you later this year. Matthew donated his time and talent for this project and we are so grateful to him for all he has done for ZEMA.

Continued on page 3


ZEMA
PO Box 1153
Chicago, IL 60690
www.ZEMA.org
847-872-7363

NON-PROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE PAID
ZION, IL 60099
PERMIT #148

April 2018 Newsletter



THE HOFFMANS

Dan and Beth Hoffman are back in the US on furlough. After three years ministering as the camp managers at the Sunbury Christian Camp in eastern South Africa, we got the opportunity to catch up with them...

MAY 24 2018

R: Where will you be going during the furlough?

Dan: Were going to be in northern Wisconsin for two weeks at Forest Springs Camp, a Christian camp we want to partner with, and then we will go for a week's debrief where we will be able to take time for ourselves, debriefing, revisioning, renewal, and such. So we are excited for that. After that we will head down to Georgia for two weeks to visit family and ministry partners in the Atlanta area.

R: How long will you be in the US?

D: Our plan right now is to be here until the 13th of August.

What will you be doing? Mostly traveling and fundraising?

D: We're kind of multitasking while we are here in the US because we are meeting with ministry partners, we are raising additional support since we are only at about 85% support and we need to get to 100% to return to the field. And this connection with Forest Springs camp in Wisconsin is where we are networking and learning the different camping related programs they have and seeing how God can use that in Sunbury.



Then aside from all of that we are also taking care of a lot of things for Sunbury in the way of finances and payroll as well as reservations and things like that. So we still have our feet at Sunbury a little bit doing different things. We're in contact usually at least every couple of days

with the Swanks (Howard and Lynn Swank) are filling in for us while we are away. When there are a lot of questions we are able to help them through things. And then also they are sending over things for banking and payroll. There's kind of an ebb and flow so we need to set time aside to take care of those things.

R: So who is in charge of the camp right now?

D: Well, right now Lynn and Howard Swank are over there as well as Greg and Carlene Seghers. They're holding the fort down while we are here in the US.

R: How is the family doing?

D: Yeah, I think that overall we are doing well. Beth and I are doing good both health wise and otherwise, and Tucker also is doing well. Then it has been a blessing to spend the last couple of months with our oldest son Cooper, who we left in America last year, before we see him off to basic training on Tuesday [May 29]. It's been great to spend time as family all four of us together.

R: How have you seen the ministry grow in the last couple of years?

D: It's been great to be a part of all of the happenings at Sunbury and really see it grow as far as being able to update the infrastructure and connect with the employees there. I think it is a matter of building relationships not only with employees but also with other churches that come and use the camp besides the amaZioni. After three years, we've seen some of those camps return two, three, sometimes four times even. And to even start calling people by name that you see every year. So it is great to see that growth and to have developed these relationships over time. And I think that is why you see that Sunbury is always booked out, having a full calendar of camps because we are building these relationships.

“ I think that we were prepared to go to a different culture, but not necessarily to a place where there were so many... ”

R: What kind of churches, amaZioni and otherwise, usually go to Sunbury?

D: It is actually very diverse. It is mostly churches that will camp there for family camp, youth camp or just all around church camps for their congregations. But then we also have a couple of organizations that use our facilities for youth camps, retreats and conferences. And of course there is the ministry to the amaZioni with classes and graduations for Zion Evangelical Bible Schools (ZEBS) and

for ZEFA. We have a fair amount of Indian churches that come and use our facilities, as well as Afrikaans and Zulu camps. So the people that we work with are very diverse.

R: So what are some of the major challenges that you have faced running the camp?

D: I would say exactly what you just said about demographics. There are all these different groups of people. I think that we were prepared to go to a different culture, but not necessarily to a place where there were so many. One weekend we are dealing with a group of Indians, which is a very different style and culture from the Afrikaans who will come in the next weekend; and they are very different from the Zulu group that will come after them! So we are learning all about culture, but not just one. We're learning about numerous ethnicities and how we need to adapt to work with all of them.

R: What are some things that you see happening in your ministry that makes you very excited?

D: We are excited about where Sunbury is going in the future, especially as we look at the possibility of hosting an amaZioni women's conference for the first time. And there is the relationship we are building with this Christian camp in Wisconsin. There is one other organization in South Africa that does conferences as well. God is developing this vision for us as to where Sunbury is going to go in the next ten years. Even as we look at the old chapel at Sunbury that is needing to be replaced, what is going to go there and what are we going to develop as new ministry opportunities arise. And how will that impact the amaZioni.

R: What is one specific prayer request you have for your time here in the USA and for ministry back in SA?

D: I think that definitely for South Africa it would be to pray for Lynn and Howard Swank, that they will continue to have strength as they take care of Sunbury in our absence. As far as here we are praying for our visas as well as our needed financial support needed to return to the field. ■



...Continued from page 1

On the home front, Greg Seghers and I have continued working on programs to recruit new missionaries. We are very excited about the fruit we are seeing. In our last newsletter you may recall us introducing you to the Boatman and Steiner families who are in process of support raising. Both families came to us through mutual connections, but Greg and I are working on a recruitment program for people who have never heard of ZEMA.

Towards that end we moved our office to downtown Chicago. Here we have access to the South African consulate and, most importantly, proximity to the Moody Bible Institute. We have worked with Moody to build an internship program as a recruitment tool and it has started to bear fruit!



Michael Baker has lived with the Umpungose family for the past 5 weeks

Michael Baker is the first intern who has joined our program. He is a Moody intercultural studies student with an interest in missions. He is spending 8 weeks in South Africa this summer to

fulfill his internship requirements and find out more about ZEMA. We are very excited to have Michael with us and the reports coming back from the field have been enthusiastic.

In 2019 we have another internship lined up with Joe Scherschligt, a Theology major from Moody who feels called into missionary service. This summer he is marrying his fiancé Myranda. Both are excited about ZEMA, so much that they are going to join us for our annual South Africa conference in January before his internship. They feel a strong burden for the amaZioni people and we are really excited to build a relationship with this young couple.



Michael has helped teach and minister at many ZEBS classes.

There is so much more that I could add to this. To say that God is working in ZEMA would be an understatement! We are so grateful for the prayers, gifts and other support you send ZEMA to keep this great work going. Be encouraged that the Kingdom is advancing among the amaZioni.

In Christ,

—Andrew ■