



MPI UPDATE

Newsletter formerly known as Mission Projects, Inc

November-December 2004



ELISEO (pg. 3)

- Lay Workers
- Worthy Student
- Lay Workers in Africa
- Lacondon Indian Project



ROXANA

Investing for Eternity

Antonio felt called to be a pastor among his fellow Chamula Indian people, but he had no money. After many years of hard work, along with finan-



ANTONIO WITH HIS DAUGHTERS

cial assistance from MPI donors, Antonio fulfilled his dreams of studying Theology. During the past five years he's been district pastor of dozens of churches, baptized hundreds of new believers and trained many young people to plant churches in new areas. Each time we see Antonio, his face radiates with joy of fulfilling his dream to evangelize his tribe.

Roxana struggled to make ends meet as she studied Nursing. With only one semester to finish, she felt heartbroken to hear the news from the school treasurer – she owed too much and could not continue. The Director of Nursing called me, pleading for MPI to assist this promising student. Roxana was able to get her degree, because of your generosity.

more on page 3

NEWS NOTES

Color Issue -

We're very grateful to the volunteer staff & students at DayStar Academy who are making it possible to produce this very first color issue of the MPI newsletter, without increasing costs. A special thanks to Bev Christensen for all her work in this new design layout!
~ Fred Adams

WINTER MPI BOARD MEETING

To be held January 31-February 1, 2005
At SDA Church
Mesa, Arizona

For details, call
208.264.5487

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<i>Harold & Norma Beavon</i>	Mesa, AZ
<i>Bud & Susan Brookins</i>	Walla Walla, WA
<i>Eddie & Lorraine Hamilton</i>	Salmon, ID
<i>Elidia Walker</i>	Superior, AZ

MPI MEMBERS:

We consider *each and every person* who supports us with your prayers and/or contributions to be a part of the MPI family as well!



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Investing, concluded

Eliseo has struggled financially through two years of Theology. His dream is to work among his people of the Chol tribe. He has already translated a set of Bible studies. He sold books during the summer, but barely made enough to pay for his first few months' tuition. His latest e-mail indicated he wouldn't be able to continue studying after the first semester.

Right now many dozens of workers are out in the field, serving as pastors, nurses, teachers, accountants, administrators and in other areas, thanks to assistance through MPI's Worthy Student Aid program.

They came from extreme poverty, from broken homes, from homes with alcoholic fathers, from being disowned for their religious belief, and many other challenging situations. A Christian education gave them and their families a better future, enabling them to serve others and work for the Lord more efficiently.

Most of them needed just a small boost of \$500 to \$1,000 to make it through. But it made all the difference for them, and now they are out planting seeds that will produce an abundant harvest for eternity.

Currently we have dozens of requests from other worthy students. You will be seeing their stories in the months ahead.

Thank you for investing your resources where they will really make a difference!

~ Fred Adams



Left to right: Fred Adams, Evan Witzel, Linda Adams manning the MPI booth at summer campmeeting

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Mexican Lay Worker

An Angry Bull, Angry Men And an Army of Angels



PEDRO NÚÑEZ

By Esther J. Martinez

Heart pounding, lungs bursting, legs throbbing, Pedro races down the lonely road. An angry bull is gaining ground behind him. He can hear the sharp hooves pounding the earth only a few meters away; he can feel the hot breath down his neck. And then, when he can run no more, the bull races past him, just brushing the Pedro's shirt with its killer horns.

Pedro Núñez is a layman supported by you through MPI. He asks for prayer from donors who support the layworker program, because there are dangers around every corner. His story reminds me of Paul, who compiles quite an impressive list of trials he has endured (see 2 Corinthians 11:24-28), and then says, "[But] my deep concern is for all the churches."

That is Brother Pedro's concern as well. Having served as a layman for over 20 years, he can count at least eight times that God has protected him from death. Pedro's wife is concerned for his safety, and on occasion begs him to stop going out into the villages and towns where he has been threatened. However, Pedro quotes Matthew 24:46, which says, "Blessed is that servant whom his master, when he comes, will find work-



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ing.” And then he goes on with the work God has placed in his hands and heart.

This faithful lay worker tells of a recent experience in the small town of Rodriguez Cano. “Each week I arrived to visit. I stayed three or four days each time, sharing the Gospel with the people. Within a few months, 60 people were meeting each Sabbath. Then certain people became angry with me. I started hearing rumors that they were planning to kill me. The warned me to be very careful.

One day, a man blocked my way along a narrow mountain trail. He told me that he was going to kill me because I wouldn’t stop coming to his town. Then he reached into his jacket pocket, as if to pull out a weapon. Suddenly he turned and fled, turning back to look several times as he hurried down the trail.

Later he told the townspeople that he couldn’t harm me because I was surrounded by a group of armed soldiers. When people asked me if it’s true that I have an army protecting me; I told them that it is true—it’s the army of God’s angels!”

Brother Pedro looks forward to the day when we are together with Christ in the heavenly country and he will meet all the donors and prayer partners who have worked with him for the salvation of souls.

Esther J. Martínez is thankful to live in the peaceful community of Roy, Utah, where animals and guns are controlled by fences and laws.



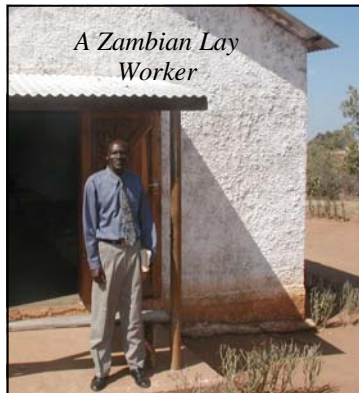
Pedro with his wife and children

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African Lay Workers

*Jerry Harris received the following email
from MPI Africa correspondent, Steve Grabiner*



Hi Jerry,

I thought I'd share some experiences I heard recently from one of the Bible workers.

Bob M'puliri is working in the Eastern part of the country (Zambia). The village where he is staying has only a very small and weak congregation. He [has] convinced a few church members that they should help him in evangel-

ism. He laid a plan to conduct three evangelistic series. The first was started, and no one came. In the darkness, outside the pale of the lights he could hear people mocking him and cursing him, but no one came to the meetings.

His second meeting had a good attendance. There were many people coming and they evidenced a good interest. He made an appeal for people to surrender to Christ and nearly the entire congregation responded. However, the next night no one came back. In fact no one after that. His small team was beginning to get discouraged and felt they shouldn't evangelize in this way.

Nevertheless, he persuaded them to go forward with their third series of meetings. At the end of this series he had 14 people committed and ready for baptism. A new branch Sabbath school has been opened and a foundation laid for a growing church. I'm glad he didn't quit!!!

Blessings to you,
Steve



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Worthy Student

Note: This account retains the original spelling and grammar as written in English by the student herself.

Escaping a Violent Childhood

I was born in home what no been Christian, my parents have had many problems at home. My father has been so much violent and my mother decided divorce of him and to remove the inheritance native of me. All the past I was alone since one age. I grow without father and when I was six years, my mother become a Christian.



My life of children has been difficult, since I wished love of my father. I knew my father at ten year, but never we live together, never he past my birthday with me. Since what I was child, my mother worked to educated me.

When I was 8 years in a business of snacks, at 10 years I begin to receive money and at 12 I begin to receive money to buy shoes, books, cloth, etc.) and my studies, elementary school, high school were pay for God and me.

In Summer, I sell books to study in Linda Vista University. I have the opportunity of stay in the first semester with many economical difficult. I wish to continue and thanks to the Lord and you I think I can continue. Only Jesus can help me and MPI, please help me.

Sincerely, Kenyi García *Note: Please excuse my English.*

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Lacandón Indian Project

Two Miracles for Erlinda

By Fred Adams



*Pastor Vázquez
in Lacandón tunic*

Erlinda felt miserable as she painfully turned over on her mat. She'd been suffering for months of an unknown tropical disease in the remote lowland jungles of Chiapas, south Mexico. Several times she'd bounced along in the back of a pickup for many hours over a rough dirt road to get to the nearest doctors, but they gave Erlinda no hope of recovery.

Christian believers in her small Lacandón Indian village of Bethel came often to pray with Erlinda. They brought food and encouraged her to surrender her life to God. But if God really existed, why was He letting her suffer so long? She was ready to give up and die.

One day she looked up and saw some visitors - city people who were definitely not of her tribe. They had traveled most of the day, risking bandits and other dangers, to visit Adventist believers in Bethel.

Pastor Villaney Vázquez, president of the North Chiapas Conference was among the visitors. After hearing with compassion about Erlinda's suffering, he offered to pray for her. As Erlinda listened to Pastor Villaney's prayer, her heart was deeply moved. She had studied the Bible and attended church for a time, but later became angry with God, and wouldn't even allow her children to attend church. But now she realized her only



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hope was in Jesus. She was dying, and suddenly felt a sudden urge to surrender her life completely to God. When Pastor Vázquez finished his prayer, Erlinda's face radiated peace and joy. "Pastor," she said. "I've been fighting God for many years, but I'm so unhappy. I've decided to surrender my life completely to Him. Can I be baptized?"

The next day was Sabbath, and with the help of someone on each side, Erlinda was able to walk to the church and sit up through the entire service. Afterwards, she walked another 500 feet to a creek, where Pastor Vázquez baptized her. The pastor even donned a typical Lacandón white tunic as he performed the ceremony!

Coming out of the water, Erlinda felt energized. Her pain was completely gone! She walked unassisted back to the church, where the believers enjoyed a meal and attended a praise service that afternoon. Everyone rejoiced because another lost sheep had returned to the fold!

Today Erlinda enjoys full health, and thanks God for two miracles in her life - a changed heart and a healthy body.

Fred Adams spent much of his life in mission service in Chiapas, Mexico. He currently monitors MPI's projects in Mexico from his home in the forested hills near Placerville, California

*Erlinda
(second from right)
with Pastor Vázquez
and some of the
Lacandón believers*



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**Thank you for making
the following mission projects happen!!
Pray that provision will be made
for each of the needs listed below:**

	To date	Need	Total
1 & 2	43,995	41,005	85,000
3	1,542	10,458	12,000
4	1,427	28,573	30,000
5	1,878	6,122	8,000
6	645	4,355	5,000

10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%

- 1/2. African/Mexican Lay Workers**
- 3. San Lorenzo school**
- 4. La Loma Luz Hospital**
- 5. Literature**
- 6. Church roofs**

MPI staff serve as volunteers from their homes across the country. Our overhead expenses are low, and covered from other sources.

This makes it possible for us to send 100% of your contributions to the MPI projects you designate.

Unless otherwise specified, your Memorial and Special Occasion gifts are used to purchase literature and other evangelistic materials for use by our laymen.

What is MPI?

Mission Projects, Incorporated is a supporting organization of the Seventh-day Adventist church, dedicated to spreading the Gospel by way of medical, educational and evangelistic endeavors. M.P.I. works in complete harmony with local Conferences and Missions, and is a member of Adventist Laymen's Services and Industries (A.S.I.).



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Memorials

AT REST . . .

Davis, Walden

By Ellen Davis

Halstead, Bruce

By Joy Halstead

Harris, Gordon

By Mrs. Nan T. Harris

Rigby, Edwin & Katherine

By Leo & Arline Finkbiner

Rowland, Edith

By Mr. & Mrs. Vernon Locke

Schlehuber, Fred

By Ruth Wiebold

Wiebold, Larry & Lonnie

By Ruth Wiebold

IN HONOR . . .

Celian & Betty Adams

50th Anniversary

**BLEST OF
GOD**

**Muriel
Schultz**
100 years old



MEMORIAL & SPECIAL OCCASION GIVING

Given by: _____ Amount: \$ _____ Date: _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

In behalf of: _____

Anniversary Baptism Birthday At Rest _____

Please send card to person below:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Send to: M.P.I. ♦ P.O. Box 1950 ♦ Bozeman, MT 59771

Please send me additional memorial forms

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Go Ye Into All the World

Please return this card with your tax-deductible donation to:
M.P.I. • P.O. Box 1950 • Bozeman, MT 59771
Indicate amount donated to each fund

\$ _____	La Loma Luz Hospital (Belize)	_____	Lay Workers in Africa
_____	Huichol Humanitarian Work	_____	Lay workers in Mexico
_____	Spanish Literature	_____	Lacandón Indian Project
_____	San Lorenzo Teacher Salaries	_____	Church Roofs
_____	Worthy Student Fund	_____	Use where most needed
_____	Bibles for Mexico	_____	Other _____

We encourage you to support your local church with your tithes & offerings also.
 I'd like to make my gift by charge card: Visa Mastercard
 Card # _____ - _____ - _____ - _____ Exp. Date: ____/____
 Name _____ Signature _____
 Address _____



Moving?
 Please send us your new address 4 to 6 weeks in advance. That will save us the additional expense of forwarded or returned newsletters. Thanks!



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