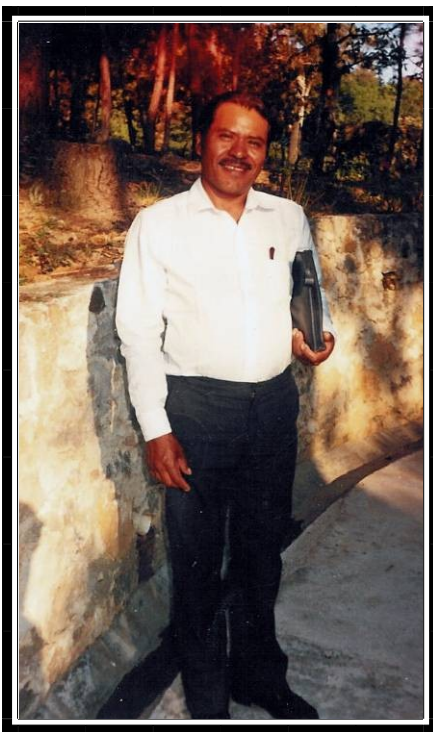


Serial Killer Threatens Layman But God's Love Wins Out

By Esther & J.K. Martínez



Layman Ismael Morales

Recently, lay worker Ismael Morales went to the town of San Sebastián to begin a short evangelistic campaign. He first went to a large house where the men of the village were having a "town hall" meeting. The men received him politely and gave him permission to speak. Ismael explained that he had come to serve them and shared his plan with them. Of the 20 men in attendance, only two were opposed, so

he received permission to conduct the meetings that week. However, after the meeting dismissed, one of the two men who were opposed approached Ismael and threatened, "If you stay here, I will burn you up, along with all of your equipment." Confident that he was on the Lord's business, Ismael tactfully invited the man to the evening meeting and went on his way.

That night, just two families came to the meeting. After sharing the Gospel with them, Brother Morales mentioned to one of the gentlemen about the man who had threatened to kill him. Brother Morales asked for the man's name, so he could try to visit him in his home. The gentleman warned him to be very careful, because the angry man was a serial killer and there was no doubt he would try to murder this worker for God the very next day.

In the morning, Brother Morales took longer than usual in his morning devotions, studying his Bible and praying for the man he was planning to go visit. He asked for special protection from the heavenly angels, and for added wisdom to be able to reach the angry man.

Feeling reassured that God would be with him, Brother Mora-

les set out to find the man's home. He says, "I found him, greeted him, and talked to him about the Word of God. Then I invited him to the meeting that evening, and left. That night, the very man who was once my enemy was the first one to arrive. He brought a friend with him, and they both came every night. They also accepted personal Bible studies with me."

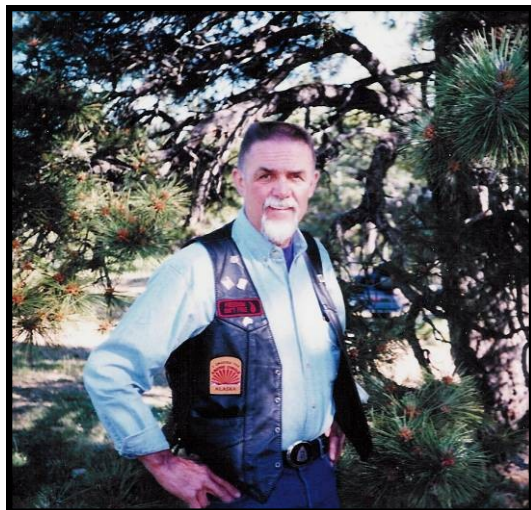
As in the case of Paul, sometimes those who most strongly oppose God's work become leaders in His cause.

MPI sponsors more than 40 laymen throughout Mexico & Belize, who devote their efforts to planting churches in unreached areas.



Former hardened criminals now praise God with their guitars.

From the President



Gary Andregg, MPI President

Dear MPI Supporters,

As we look to another new year we feel so blessed to be part of an organization that has such loyal helpers to maintain the projects that have been successful these past 25 years. President Bush stated it so clearly as he reported the loss of life aboard the space shuttle Columbia & quoted Isa. 40:25 that we are to "Lift up your eyes on high and behold who hath created these things, that bringeth out their host by number: He calleth them all by their names by the greatness of his might." This needs to be each of our prayers, doesn't it? We can never look up too much.

Again we want to thank you for all the help you give MPI to carry on in these final days of earth's history. We are greatly encouraged by the prospects of this coming year & what the Lord has in store for us—this is a very exciting time in which we are living!

During the month of March we will be involved in a Mission Trip to Chiapas, a quick visit to La Loma Luz in Belize and our Annual Board meeting at Linda Vista. Please pray for the decisions that are made, & that we will follow the Lord's leading.

Gary Andregg

Gary Andregg and his sweet wife Karen live in a log house on a mountainside near Hope, Idaho.

MPI Members

- President:** *Gary & Karen Andregg* - (Hope, ID)
(208) 264-5487 800-905-5MPI(674)
gbklandregg@nidlink.com
- Vice-President** *Melvin & Gladys Johnson* - (Hamilton, MT)
(406) 363-3080
- Treasurer:** *Jerry & Wendy Harris* - (Castle Valley, UT)
(435) 259-5987 daystar@lasal.net
- Newsletter and Communications:** *Fred & Diana Adams* - (Placerville, CA)
(530) 642-9441 adams@directcon.net
- Huichol Project:** *Karen Kotoske* - (Palo Alto, CA)
Dagoberto Cirilo - (Guadalajara, Mexico)
- Worthy Students:** *Gwen Emmerson* - (Billings, MT)
Philip & Sonatina Mitchell - (Huntsville, AL)
Loron Wade - (Montemorelos, Mexico)
- Other Members:** *Mel & June Anderson* - (Bozeman, MT)
Fred & Velma Beavon - (Dayton, MT)
Harold & Norma Beavon - (Gold Canyon, AZ)
Eddie & Lorraine Hamilton - (Salmon, ID)
Derek & Frances Miller - (Gentry, AR)
Elidia Walker - (Superior, AZ)

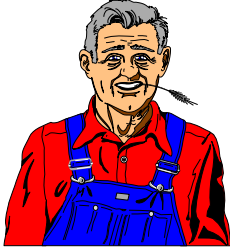
And we consider each person who supports us with your prayers and/or contributions to be part of the MPI family as well!

Website: www.tagnet.org/mpi

News Notes

Bibles for Mexico - Hey kids! Did you know that during the past 6 months you have helped raise more than \$1,077 dollars for Bibles? Now hundreds of people who are learning about Jesus can have their very own Bible—because of YOU! Thanks so much to the Juniors in Beaver Creek, Oregon, the Primaries of Bridger, Montana, as well as Heidi, Kayla and Hannah in Castle Valley, Utah.

San Lorenzo Building Fund - Has grown to \$9,650 so far. Though we're short of the \$16,000 needed to build 6 new classrooms in this remote mountain village, we have 63 volunteers ready to put up the walls during March 7 to 14. Medical professionals will treat patients and others will lead out in special programs for children & adults. Keep us in your prayers!



WORKING DOUBLE

“How much do you work for the Lord?” he was asked

“How many hours a day?”

“From sun to sun,” was the strange reply;

“Unceasingly I work and pray.”

“Why, friend, you are mad,” the other cried,

“We humans must rest now and then.”

“Ah, then, I will haste to explain my good plan
That makes me the happiest of men.

My labor begins with the new morning dawn,
And then when the day is done,
My substitute brave, in a far heathen land,
Has only his work just begun.

And the money I earn, though not very much,
Is divided between him and me;
So I work for the Lord twelve hours at home,
And twelve hours over the sea.

And I think when I've entered the bright glory
land,
And all those dear heathen appear—
Redeemed now and saved through the Savior's
blood,
I'll be glad I worked double down here.”

—Author Unknown



Former Drunk Becomes Bible Teacher

By Esther & J.K. Martínez

In the riverside town of Piedra Grande, lay worker Ismael Morales has been studying with an interested young man whom we will call José. José used to be known as the town drunk. It seemed he was drunk all the time. However, after he began studying the Bible with Brother Morales, God gave him the victory over alcohol. Soon the townspeople, including the Catholic priest, noticed that José was always sober and looked so much happier.

José was quickly named a catechism teacher in the Catholic church. The priest thought that by working with the children in the community, José would stay busy enough that he wouldn't have time to study the Bible with the Adventist preacher. But when José talked to Brother Morales about his dilemma, the lay worker replied, “Thank the Lord that He has given you this good work! Go ahead and work with the children, and teach them what you have learned from the Bible.”

And that is exactly what José is doing. Now the children are memorizing Scripture verses and discovering new Bible truths. Again we see how God works powerfully through His people when they put their trust in Him and work where He plants them.



Instead of getting drunk, José now shares God's Word with many children in his village.

Belize Evangelism

Many United with Christ in Unitedville

A recent evangelistic campaign in Unitedville, Belize resulted in 20 baptisms. The people of Unitedville are planning to build a new church and are very grateful for the help provided through MPI.

Layman Victor August led the campaign. Right from the start he believed that God had good things in store. It was an exciting event, because in addition to the people baptized, 30 more graduated from Bible courses presented during the meetings. As they discovered new Bible truths, people in the village kept saying, “we have never seen or heard anything like this before!”

Victor followed up the series by visiting the village twice a week in addition to his regular service on Sabbath. Plans are already being made to establish a church. “Pray for us,” Victor encourages, “as we continue the harvest and help to prepare others for the soon return of our coming King!”

These events have come with struggles at times. First, on the day of their baptism a couple of the ladies changed their minds. Then one of the leaders of the community came down with an illness. A



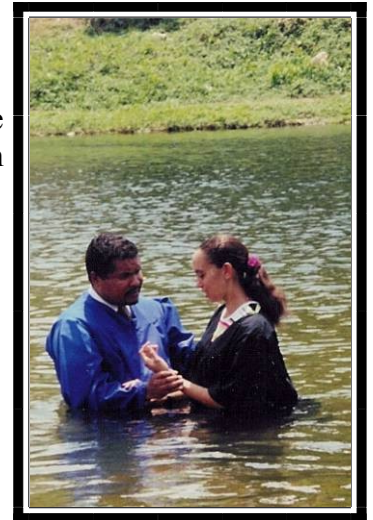
After peeking into the meeting house, a young man took off running . . .



Twenty new believers were baptized in the river.

young man arrived late while Victor was preaching. After peeking inside, he literally took off running. The pastor later said that “he saw the devil grab this fellow and pull him out of the place.”

But praise God—He still had the victory! They went ahead with the baptism, and by the time they got back from the river for lunch, the two ladies who had earlier changed their minds, came back, bringing their cousin with them to be baptized as well! Then the man who had earlier run off also returned. We experienced an exciting day as unexpected events unfolded one after another! How grateful we feel to serve an awesome, all-powerful God!



MPI sponsors laymen, church construction and La Loma Luz Hospital in the beautiful Caribbean country of Belize, Central America.

Worthy Student Aid



Dear MPI,

I am from the city of Oaxaca in the state of Oaxaca. I am the second of five children. I am here at Linda Vista because I want to continue studying to be able to serve the Lord and my fellow men better through my training. My major is Education with a Social Science emphasis. The past semester I maintained a 91% average.

I am working hard to continue stay in school. I work in the dormitory to be able to have a place to sleep and bathe. For my food, I work in the house of a teacher. But now my problem is I don't have money to register second semester – I am short \$2,000 pesos [\$200 dollars], and I'll need another \$2,000 pesos to complete the semester.

My father is a professor. He is only able to help my brothers and sisters and me with a few personal expenses since we are all in school and the money doesn't go around. My sister studies

Nursing and my two brothers study Theology and Medicine. My dad only sends us \$200 or \$250 pesos when he can, because my mother is sick.

She had an operation six years ago because she was diagnosed with a tumor in the cerebrum. They did two surgeries. In the first operation, she lost the ability to speak. She recovered the ability to speak in the second operation but lost her sight and has not been able to see since then. The second operation left half her body paralyzed. She is able to walk with assistance to go to the bathroom or to move from place to place. Because my father must pay for the medical care that my mother needs, very little is left to help us financially.

I bid you farewell. Thank you for your kindness, and may the Lord bless you abundantly.

With Love,

Yanet Dominguez

From the MPI Mailbox

Dear MPI,

I came close to deciding to never give you another penny. Why? Look at the way you spelled my name on the enclosed sheet. That's the 2nd time you've done that You need to get it right and print a correction I'll be watching to see how you handle this. Thanks.

Dear Friend,

Please accept my sincere apology for getting your name misspelled in two issues of the MPI newsletter. As a quadriplegic not having the use of my fingers, I type each word by strapping a pencil to my hand, then pecking at the keys with the pencil eraser.

I am by nature a perfectionist, and go out of my way to make sure the names are spelled correctly. I can imagine your horror at seeing your name so terribly mangled. If you can find it in your heart to forgive me, I'll try to be careful never to do it again. But, I am human, and I'll probably get someone else's name wrong!

We all volunteer our time and resources to MPI so that 100% of every dollar can go directly to support front-line mission work. Even if you don't give again, thank you for your generous support of God's work so far—you have already planted many seeds for the harvest when Christ returns!

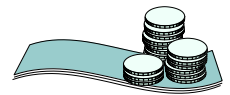
- Fred Adams



Dear Mr. Adams,

You are forgiven the mistake you made with my name. You are an incredible man and the project is very worthy. I have given since the "goof" and I will continue to give! I wish you God's blessings.

[Name withheld by editor]



Dear Friends,

I was so impressed with the story of the girl who was saving money to sponsor a lay worker that I decided I wanted to do the same.

I had been saving a small amount from each check for something for myself. I went and counted it and did not have quite enough, so my husband donated enough to make \$175.

Please use this for a lay worker.

Sincerely,

M.R. - Gresham, OR

Lacandóns

Editor's note: The Lacandóns are the only remaining pure blooded Mayas alive today. Numbering about 400 in total, they still live in very remote Chiapas jungles. Many Lacandón men and women still follow ancient traditions of wearing long hair and long white tunics. MPI provides support for a Lacandón native working among his people. Recently we received three letters from our Lacandón Indian brethren located in the remote jungle flatlands of Chiapas, Mexico. I have condensed their flowery language to share the basics of each message.

Dear Fred Adams and MPI,

We send our warm greetings, hoping you are enjoying physical, mental and spiritual health in Christ Jesus.

We would like to request financial assistance to purchase woodcarving and wood burning tools to use in making wood handicrafts to sell so we can feed and clothe our families. We make bows and arrows, carved key chains, carved armadillos & tigers, Maya heads, etc.

With nothing else to request, we await a positive response to our supplication.

Respectfully,

Your Brethren from the Bethel Bonampak Adventist Church



Dear Fred Adams and MPI,

We send our warm greetings, etc. . . .

We would like to request financial assistance to hire a Music teacher to train our 20 young people to play musical instruments. We have only one member who plays an instrument, but sadly, in spite of his great efforts, he doesn't understand the principles of musical notes. We would also like an electronic keyboard to make music in our church and to use for evangelism in surrounding villages. The hearts of our youth burn with desire to use music for the honor and glory of God.

With nothing else to request, each of the 20 youth await a positive response to our supplication.

Respectfully,

Your Brethren from the Bethel Bonampak Adventist Church



Dear Fred Adams and MPI,

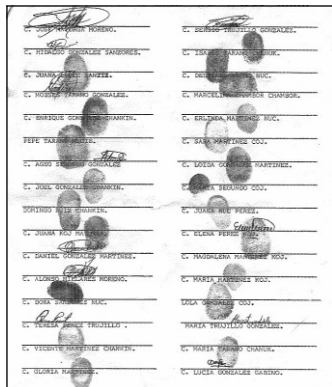
We send our warm greetings, etc. . . .

The motive for this letter is to request a satellite dish with all the necessary accessories so we can receive Spanish religious programming inside our church. By way of these satellite images we can be better prepared to reach out to those around us who have not yet been reached for Christ.

With nothing else to request, we await your support in the name of Jesus Christ.

Respectfully,

Your Brethren from the Bethel Bonampak Adventist Church



(These letters were each written on the same day - each one "with nothing else to request"! They came accompanied by 55 signatures and thumbprints.)

Special Occasion & Memori-

In Memory . . .

Birnell, Ronald

By Donna Birnell

Collard, Robert

By Dr. & Mrs. Clifford Vixie

Day, Ray & Pearl

By Larry & Bonnie Day

Emmerson, Lee Roy

By David & Theresa Wilson

Games, J.F. & Arlene

By Allan & Roxy Games

Giebelhouse, Flossie (Sallie) Case

By Raymond F. Giebelhouse

Gilliland, Earl

By Ruth MacKenzie

Gilliland, Emma

By Ruth MacKenzie

Halstead, Bruce

By Joy Halstead

Kurtz, Nettie & Burt

By Ruth Wiebold

Lambeth, Eunice

*By Larry Lambeth
Sue Shawler*

McFarlane, Grace

By Arvel & Vernita Sage

Norton, Merlyn

By Bill & Dorislee Norton

Plubell, Marvin

By Arvel & Vernita Sage

Roth, Fawn

By Arvel & Vernita Sage

Roth, Virginia

By Arvel & Vernita Sage

Schlatter, Tom

By Allan & Roxy Games

Silvestri, Gerald

By Walden Davis

Soulé, Lawrence

By Ruth MacKenzie

Anniversary . . .

Bill & Teresa Carter - 29th

By Arvel & Vernita Sage

Tim & Delnita McCormick - 25th

By Arvel & Vernita Sage

Arvel & Vernita Sage - 54th

Birthday . . .

Bill Borland

By Walter & Joanne Seavey

Christmas . . .

Fred & Velma Beavon

By Eric Beavon

"Our Family"

By Fred & Velma Beavon

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

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.

MEMORIAL & SPECIAL OCCASION GIVING

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

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

In behalf of: _____

Anniversary Baptism Birthday Death _____

o 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



P.O. Box 1950 ♦ Bozeman, MT 59771

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Shingle Springs, CA

Inside:
Serial Killer
Threatens Layman

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.).

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
_____ Huichol Humanitarian Work	_____ Lacandón Indian Project
_____ Spanish Literature	_____ Church Roofs
_____ San Lorenzo Teacher Salaries	_____ Church Construction
_____ Worthy Student Fund	_____ Use as 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 _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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!