

From Darkness to Light

by Mrs. Gail Patton

A woman who was the leader of the Mother's Union was also practicing witchcraft in the church. She held a "seat of power" that hindered people from coming to Christ. During the Emotionally Free Seminar she received Christ and was changed from evil to good. The light of Christ was visibly present on her countenance as she testified that God was a mighty God and He had saved her and set her free. After she received Christ many in the church were saved and healed including a blind man and woman who received sight. The church was revived.

During the August mission to Tanzania two multinational teams (USA, Kenya and Tanzania) witnessed the fruit of the Emotionally Free project that began in 2003 to train people from the culture how to teach and pray with others for healing from the hurts experienced in life. Our teams included Tanzanian team members, whom SOMA had previously trained. God anointed their ministry.

Our teams taught and ministered in the Diocese of Central Tanganyika. We held Emotionally Free seminars, seminars for healing of the land, and services for physical healing. To date we have provided 7000 copies of the *Emotionally Free* text in Kiswahili. Stanley Ngoma who attended the seminars in Mvumi beginning in 2005 is one who is being called to teach and pray for others. He testifies:



Transformed by God!



Tanzanians teach and minister.



Children involved in seminars.



Receiving texts in their language.

"The SOMA group helped me a lot because they left that book. It helped me a lot... I've been telling everyone about the teachings."

In a land where the drought is the worst in 100 years, God is growing a healing ministry. There is a hunger to hear and learn the truths of God and a sincere effort to be obedient to the truth that He teaches. For the first time children actively participated in the seminars and were part of the prayer ministry. In locations where Emotionally Free was taught in 2005 the Lord had made the people ready to confess and repentant for sins that defile their land. God touched many through SOMA healing services. The power of darkness is being broken. Spiritual rain is falling and physical rain is beginning to fall in central Tanzania.

We were reminded that when everything looks desolate and lifeless we need to look close for life beginning afresh—God's gift. Radical transformations, endless testimonies of people being saved, healed, transformed and delivered, and evidence of spiritual growth reveal the heart of our God to bring restoration here and now. By the power of God His people are brought from darkness to light and His name is glorified. ■

Team list: Mrs. Gail Patton, team leader, and Mrs. Anne Coppersmith, All Saints', Dale City, VA; the Rev. Veena Bunyan, co-team leader, and Mrs. Lillian Sutton, St. James Anglican, Newport Beach, CA; the Rev. Mike Messina, St. Patrick's, Ocala, FL; Mrs. Mary Waiguchu and Mrs. Virginia Kinyanjui, Vanguard Ministries, Nairobi, Kenya; the Rt. Rev. John Lupaa, co-team leader, Rift Valley Diocese, TZ; the Rev. Capt. Anderson Madimilo, Mpwapwa Diocese, TZ; the Rev. Given Gaula, Central Tanganyika Diocese, TZ.

Prayer Walking with the Holy Spirit

by Mrs. Storm Harvey-Freire

Three years ago as I was leaving Kashmir, God asked me to return and pray for this part of the world. If I did, He promised that He would send the Holy Spirit to do His work. So this summer, John Parsons and I joined a local priest to prayer walk around one city and other smaller historically important areas. We were low key as we meandered around pretending to be tourists. The Lord was faithful to protect us. Our goal as we walked was to take back land from the enemy.

The vision was to bring down mercy through prayers, intercession and thanksgiving. We were also to leave a team of local people to continue the work of intercessory prayer. Every morning for 10 days we went out to specific places, as

directed by the Holy Spirit, where we gathered information and prayed about the problems that had been revealed. In the evenings we met with prayer groups, Bible classes and church leaders, preparing them to become the team to continue the work of God. We trust that our faithful God will continue to do a cleansing and healing work in Kashmir. ■



The team plans with host.

Team list: Ms. Storm Harvey-Freire, team leader, St. James Anglican, Newport Beach, CA, Mr. John Parsons, Christ the King, Santa Barbara, CA.



The Prayer Driven Church

by the Rev. Meg Phillips



John teaches on the Prayer Driven Church.

Challenged by a pastor's observation that the New Zealand church has moved from discouragement to cynicism to unbelief, the Rev. Gradon Harvey, National Director of SOMA New Zealand, realized that the statement was true

when it came to prayer meetings. He invited the Rev. John Guernsey, Chairman of SOMA USA's Board, and his wife, the Rev. Meg Phillips, to come to teach about "The Prayer Driven Church" (a video available from the American Anglican Council: www.americananglican.org).

On our first day in Auckland John preached about the priority of developing a deeper intimacy in prayer. The rector gave an invitation for people to come forward to receive prayer about their prayer lives. At first, John and I began praying together, but so many people came forward that we prayed for people individually, kneeling side-by-side at the altar rail. The scene was repeated at all three services. What a beautiful morning: so many people wanting to draw closer to our Lord.

I had a chance to take part in a very creative outreach ministry which Church of the Saviour offers for young children in the community. The focus was on Jesus in a host of activities involving dancing and worship songs and interaction with par-

ents or grandparents. I was so impressed by that parish's heart for their neighborhood and for reaching the next generations.

We traveled on to Waikenai and then to Blenheim and finally Christ Church. In all four settings when asked about the crisis in the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion, we learned that many people had only a superficial understanding of what is happening in the American church; they became deeply concerned as they heard our story. We are praying for them, as they are being called to stand firm for the Gospel in their Province, as well. ■



Power Ministry in Ghana

by the Rev. Doug Sherman

The Rev. Canon Mark Mukan had just finished teaching on the Holy Spirit and asked me to come forward to lead the ministry time. Inside a voice cried out "Oh, Lord, help; why didn't he lead the ministry time himself; that was why I assigned him to teach on the Holy Spirit in the first place." The Lord had called me to Ghana to grow in Him and this was one of the stretching events. He clearly answered my call for help. As soon as I asked Jesus to fill those present with the Holy Spirit, two people spun around, fell on the ground and were delivered of demonic spirits. People all over the room began to speak in tongues. One of the young people began to play the keyboard. God's presence surrounded all of us. As those wonderful minutes of intimacy with God drew to a close the Archbishop of West Africa, the Most Rev. Justice Akrofi, came forward and sealed off that time by marking the importance of what just happened and encouraging those present to continue to seek a Spirit filled life.

That is only one of the many wonderful encounters with God that our team experienced on our trip to (Continued on p. 3)

Embracing Life in the Holy Spirit

by Mrs. Edwina Thomas



Exuberant worship.

As huge raindrops fell from the edge of an approaching black cloud, a hundred or more kids and their catechism teacher left the shelter of the big tree and joined in joyous worship and dancing. I doubt that one of those young ones will ever forget being enfolded into the final celebration of the SOMA Clergy Conference of Masindi-Kitara Diocese, Uganda. All of us danced and sang loudly enough to enjoy ourselves above the sound of the rain pounding on the tin roof. What a rare privilege for youth to see their bishop, the canons and pastors in abandoned delight as they worshiped the Lord.



Treasures Old and New: A Spirit-filled Liturgy Conference

by the Rev. Canon Dr. Les Martin

This past August, an international team from SOMA responded to the request of Bishop Nathan Kyamanywa of Uganda's Bunyoro-Kitara Diocese to present a clergy conference on liturgy. Some 11 years ago, the Rev. Canon Dr. Alison Barfoot taught in the diocese on renewal in worship. This produced some large and successful renewal worship services. However, the bishop found that, over time, worship in his diocese was either renewal style or traditional, with no blending of the styles. Could SOMA come and help "bridge the gap," producing a style of worship at once both liturgical and renewed? We prayerfully set ourselves to this task.

Canon Barfoot comments on the experience as follows: "This time our focus was on the very practical aspects of planning liturgy that honors the best of the biblical tradition of Anglican prayer book worship and also makes room for the best of the new things the Holy Spirit has been doing in breathing life into liturgy. Our closing Eucharist was an amazing service that incarnated all that we had talked about... and the clergy and their spouses really came to life. Later when I saw Bishop Kyamanywa, he said that this was the first clergy conference he's ever had where no one has complained to him after it was over. They really liked it and want more."

A SOMA team of six Americans was joined by four Ugandans in our September response to Bishop Stanley Ntagali's invitation: "I need your help in the area of stewardship training, prayer and discipleship." Each teaching presentation was followed by a period of questions to which the teaching team, along with the Bishop, responded.

Mrs. Debbie Petta led a prayer room for local intercessors along with several guests visiting for this conference. Among the intercessors were three youth from North Kigezi Diocese who have previously assisted in SOMA's ministry in Uganda.

Near the close of the conference 10 or 12 younger clergy gathered around the senior clergyman from Masindi and our interest was piqued about what he might be saying. He was explaining why the church needed to embrace the things of the Holy Spirit that the team had taught. ■

Team list: Mrs. Edwina Thomas, SOMA USA, team leader; the Rev. Phil Ashy, South Riding Anglican, South Riding, VA; the Rev. Canon Lovey Kisebo, SOMA Uganda; Mrs. Debbie Petta, St. Andrew's, Fort Worth, TX; Mr. Kerry Walters, Mrs. Susan Walters, and Andrew Walters, All Saints', Dale City, VA; Mr. Ivan Atuyambe, Ms. Newlife Nabimanta, and Ms. Esther Asimwe, North Kigezi Diocese, Uganda.



Liturgy planning session.

As charismatic renewal matures throughout the world, it is encouraging to see bishops and dioceses reaching for the best that the Holy Spirit has to offer in both the experiences of today and the riches of the past: treasures old and new. ■

Team list: Mrs. Edwina Thomas, team leader, and the Rev. Canon Dr. Les Martin, SOMA USA; the Rt. Rev. Joel Obeita, Madi-West Nile Diocese, Uganda, the Rev. Canon Dr. Alison Barfoot and the Rev. Benoni Mugarura-Mutana, Church of Uganda.



Power Ministry (Cont'd from p. 2)

Ghana in September. Apart from me our team included Mr. Paul Waswa Ssembiro from Uganda and the Rev. Canon Mark Mukan from Nigeria. We were joined by several Ghanaian priests and lay people. We gave two seminars for approximately 120 youth in the Diocese of Accra. Thirty-four came forward at altar calls to receive Christ and most received an infilling of the Holy Spirit. All of them were formed into small groups that are meeting weekly for accountability and ministry and to pray for the SOMA crusade in Accra scheduled for December which will target over 1000 diocesan youth. ■

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Understanding the Times

SOMA's International family is under new leadership. The Rt. Rev. Dr. Benjamin Kwashi of the Diocese of Jos, Nigeria, is the new Chairman of the Board of Directors. During our recent National Directors' Meeting in Virginia, Bishop Kwashi shared his enthusiasm for SOMA's work globally.



The SOMA National Directors: Mr. Mario Agreda, Rep. from South America; the Rt. Rev. Len Whitten, Canada; the Rt. Rev. Dr. Benjamin Kwashi, Chairman; the Rev. John Simons, Australia; the Rev. Canon Lovey Kisembo, Uganda; Mrs. Edwina Thomas, USA; top, L. to R. the Rev. Don Brewin, UK; the Rt. Rev. Tunde Adeleye, Nigeria; the Rev. Chris Viljoen, Southern Africa; the Rev. Derek Lim, Singapore.

Kwashi encouraged us to get fired up: "A generation can change issues. Caleb and Joshua changed their nation for the next 80 years. David changed his world. His brothers were a washout, but David changed generations for the next 1000 years. Today, people are restrained by culture—we have a cultural blockage."

We in SOMA are actively promoting Kingdom values and Kingdom living rather than cultural values. We are all enmeshed in this struggle today and we have no idea of the way things will work out.

Bishop Ben encouraged us by his reflection: "When renewal came to Nigeria, it found fertile ground in Nigeria—renewal for transforming lives, changing society, and bringing the lost home. Renewal is now the movement of the day. A generation is changing something."

Opportunity is here. Now. Understanding the times is the key. ■