



## Get to Know our Missions!

Each month in the Newsletter there will be highlighted several of the Missions or Missionaries that JCC supports. The same four questions were asked of each of the missions.

Are you interested in learning even more about these missions or becoming involved? Contact Jane Haugh or any other Missions Committee member.

## Burlington Street Ministries

### 1. When and how did you come to know the Lord?

I came to Christ on November 6, 1974 after hearing a street preacher in downtown Burlington. The very next day, I began to hang out with a small group of Christians who were doing ministry on the street.

### 2. When did you feel called to start Burlington Street Ministries?

My calling to the Streets was almost immediate. After several years doing street ministries, I wanted to open the opportunity to the wider Church, and in 1995 I officially launched Burlington Street Ministries.

### 3. What does Burlington Street Ministries do?

Burlington Street Ministries is a ministry of compassion and discipleship to the street population. We minister through

acts of compassion such as food, clothing, and other physical needs as well as direct evangelism, and discipleship groups. We hold two Bible discussion groups downtown, one on Thursday evening at Borders Book Store and one on Friday evenings at the food court in the mall downtown. We also give out bibles.

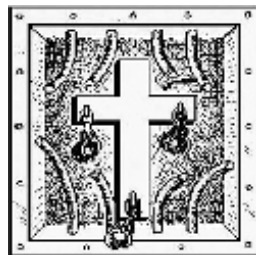
Mostly we are a ministry of presence, spending a lot of time downtown building relationships with people sharing our faith in Jesus Christ with all who will listen.

### 4. How has God used you, His servant, in Burlington?

God has used me in leading several people to Christ, discipling many, as well as bringing awareness of what is happening on the streets to the Churches. Since my background is the streets, I can relate to the homeless and other who call the streets home.

Dave

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## The Church at Prison

### 1. When and how did each of you come to know the Lord?

On July 2, 1978 at 2:30am I repented to God and later that morning to my wife for messing up

our lives. We sought marriage counseling from a Christian who formally had us accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

### 2. When did you feel called to serve in The Church at Prison and Patmos Christian College?

In March 1992 I spoke in the prison (North West State Correctional Facility) during an evangelistic event. God broke open my heart and poured in His love for prisoners. From there we took over a Sunday night church service in Sept. It quickly developed into a church and in May 1993 God told me to leave IBM and go fulltime. From that church service we developed The Church At NorthWest. We incorporated in 1997 as The Church At Prison. In 1999 we founded Patmos Christian College as a satellite campus of Vision International University in Ramona California.

### 3. What does The Church at Prison and Patmos Christian College do?

The Church At Prison is the corporate covering for all our ministries.

a) The Church At NorthWest is a real church in the prison. Inmates have been educated, trained, to lead and run the church with some assistance from us.

b) Patmos Christian College provides a standard bible college curriculum for inmates. As much as possible we use inmate instructors and administrators. We have a satellite campus at NSCF in Newport.

c) Bridge Builders of Vermont is our ministry that helps prisoners make the transition back into society as they are planning for release. We recruit and clinically train church based support people and teams to work with them.

When their risk of re-offending is high, we can provide intensive support teams.

d) We sponsor an annual Conference for Prison Ministers in VT. We have held 9. We provide motivational speakers and training workshops.

e) More recently we are helping others learn how to do what we do. We currently have invitations to NJ, ME, NH, and Nigeria to train and help develop ministries like ours.

#### **4. How has God used you, His people in St Albans?**

We have been used by God in His harvest field among the incarcerated and others supervised by VT DOC. Many have received salvation and opportunities to turn their lives around from being predators preying on society to God's servants praying on people.

We have raised the image that VT DOC has of Christian Volunteers from religious people that must be allowed to Corrections Professionals of great value to DOC and Society.

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## International Teams

Steve and Miki Thrall

#### **1. When and how did each of you come to know the Lord?**

Steve grew up in South Windsor, CT. During his high

school years, Steve sensed God was calling him into the ministry. He attended Elim Bible Institute from 1975-1978. It was there that Steve met his wife, Miki. Miki grew up in Moultrie, GA. We both grew up in Christian homes. Steve started following the Lord on his own at age 13. Miki was 18 when she clearly made her own commitment to the Lord.

#### **2. When did you feel called to serve?**

We were married in 1979. After a year on the staff of a large church in the Midwest, we graduated from Gordon College where Steve received a degree in Biblical Studies. We worked with Intervarsity Christian Fellowship as Campus Staff Members in VT from 1982-1987. We then joined the mission, "International Teams". After 6 months of training, we were sent out as missionaries to Paris, France in March 1988, where we still serve 15 years later.

#### **3. What do you do and how has God used you in France?**

After 12 years as pastor of a small multi-cultural church in downtown Paris, Steve stepped down sensing that his ministry was taking a new direction. He has been involved in urban ministry initiatives in France and throughout Europe for 10 years. As a result, he accepted an offer to begin studying in this field toward a Doctor of Ministry degree. Steve's new focus of ministry is using his pastoral skills to help French Christian artists of different kinds to become more effective in communicating the Gospel in Paris using their artistic gifts. Steve is also working on a European [project] in helping to create a new urban ministry network entitled P.L.A.C.E.

(Partners learning and Acting in Cities of Europe).

International Teams:

[www.iteams.org](http://www.iteams.org)

P.L.A.C.E:

[www.place-online.com](http://www.place-online.com)

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#### **1. What is the history of CareNet?**

Care Net, formerly called Burlington Pregnancy Services, was founded in 1985 by Andy Smith, a medical student.

#### **2. What is the goal of CareNet?**

Our goal is to provide support and care to women experiencing an unplanned or crisis pregnancy as an alternative to abortion. Recognizing the need for spiritual rebirth, we also seek to introduce clients to Jesus Christ through the Gospel.

#### **3. How has God used you, His people, in Burlington?**

In addition to a small but wonderful staff, God has used His people to fulfill our goal through volunteers and individuals who help in the following areas: Board members, client advocates, helping to sort and organize clothing and furniture, clerical and project support, fund raising, etc. Care Net would not be possible without its faithful donors and prayer warriors. It takes many hands to make Care Net effective and we are so grateful for those who respond to the Father's call.

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# FamilyLife

Matt and Lorraine Hoffman

## 1. When and how did each of you come to know the Lord?

Lorraine: I came to know the Lord in 1979 as I was in my living room reading an Oral Roberts book, after having attended a Women's Aglow meeting earlier that day with my mother.

Matt: Lorraine prayed for me for about two years. I finally started to attend a church in Vergennes with her on Easter Sunday. I came to know the Lord as a result of an altar call after a sermon on "Blessed are the poor in spirit" in July of 1981.

## 2. When did you feel called to serve in FamilyLife?

In 1995, a couple of years after having attended our first FamilyLife conference [Editor's note: FamilyLife is a part of Campus Crusade for Christ ministries] and having become involved with the local leadership team, a Family-Life representative suggested we consider a full-time staff position. At that time Lorraine felt that call. She prayed for God to change my heart to feel that call also, and over a year later, in September 1996, I also felt this was what God wanted us to do.

## 3. What does FamilyLife do?

Our mission statement is: To effect-tively develop godly families who change the world one home at a time. We do this through our Marriage Conferences, Home-Builder's Couples series of Bible studies, our radio broadcasts,

and other materials developed to help couples understand and follow God's plan for marriage and parenting.

## 4. How has God used you, His people at FamilyLife?

In just over three years, Matt has planned and administered 28 different Marriage Conferences, with nearly 15,000 people in attendance. At these events, nearly 400 people indicated they made a first-time decision to follow Christ as their Lord and Savior. Comments that have been received have indicated that there were many couples whose marriages were saved from divorce. We know that nearly everyone who attends leaves with a strengthened marriage, a new hope and plan for their marriage and family.

We want you to know that we greatly appreciate your support, which enables us to minister to the marriages and families of the world.

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# InterVarsity Christian Fellowship

Chris and Tracy Centracchio at  
UVM and St. Michael's College

## 1. When and how did you come to know the Lord?

Tracy grew up in church but did not commit to really following the Lord until college through InterVarsity. Chris made a commitment as a child but really

grew spiritually for the first time in college.

## 2. When did you feel called to IntersVarsity?

We both started looking into full-time ministry after we were married and Tracy was finishing up school. Inter-Varsity felt like an obvious choice because we had grown so much during our involvement as students. We have been very pleased with the organization over our 10 years of employment. We both really enjoy the college age population.

## 3. What does IntersVarsity Christian Fellowship do?

InterVarsity seeks to develop witnessing communities on college campuses who are growing love for God, for God's word, for God's people in all our ethnic diversity, and for God's purposes in the world. Some tools we use to do this are campus outreach events, student-led small group Bible studies, weekly corporate worship, weekend training conferences, and missions projects. We focus on whole life discipleship and leadership development.

## 4. How has God used you, His servant, at IntersVarsity?

InterVarsity has been a great fit for us, given our gifts and passions. We both love to see people grow spiritually and come to know God in a deeper way and are honored God has allowed us to be a part of that for a career. We have loved training students to use their leadership skills to make a difference for the gospel with the people around them based on Jesus' model throughout the gospels.

### Editor's Note:

Chris and Tracy had a new baby boy on July 18<sup>th</sup>! Zachary

Christopher joins a sister Lindsey and a brother Benjamin. For online pictures, visit: <http://community.webshots.com/album/82682589wBeZCd?241> or check the bulletin board in the fellowship hall.

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# Wycliffe Bible Translators

Brian & Helen Chapaitis

## 1. When and how did each of you come to know the Lord?

Helen became a Christian through the youth group in her church and grew spiritually through her involvement with Young Life ministry during High School. I am the "fruit" of a very special Navigator fellowship while at Cornell University. Of course, it is really God who does the calling and makes all the arrangements for heart preparation to receive His Word and His Spirit (John 15:16).

## 2. When did you feel called to serve in Wycliffe Bible Translators?

This is difficult to pin-point for both of us. Helen felt the call to be a Missionary Doctor during High School, and I had the "vision" to use my technical skills (as an M.E.E.) while flying up for interviews for IBM in Vermont (1977). It was many years later, while in preparation for going overseas, that Helen and I met and married, while staying in beloved Vermont. By 1981, months after our wedding, Helen and I interviewed many mission agencies at the Urbana Missions Conference

(IVCF) of that year. We discovered that only a few mission agencies could both use a physician and an engineer, so then it was not hard to narrow the possibilities to the Wycliffe Bible Translators.

## 3. What do Wycliffe Bible Translators do?

The Wycliffe Bible Translators are a world-wide organization. Membership comes from over 50 countries and we are working in 70 around the world. Working with partners worldwide, Wycliffe USA is accelerating the pace of Bible translation for the 380 million people who still don't have the Word in their language. "Like the ripples of a bubbling spring, God's Word continues to spread. Like a river it flows into hearts and minds, bringing life and refreshment. As the waters cover the sea, God's glory is being made known." Wycliffe Annual Report 2002

Mission Statement: To assist the Church in making disciples of all nations through Bible Translation.

### More Facts:

- 6,800+ languages in the world today
- 392 languages have a complete Bible
- Almost 2,000 have some of the Bible
- Wycliffe and its worldwide partners are currently involved in more than 1,500 language projects in more than 70 countries
- Wycliffe has been involved in a total of 59 Jesus film projects to date.

## 4. How has God used you, His people in New Guinea?

I know this is a difficult concept to get across in a short paragraph or two, mainly because the Church in America views

missionaries in only a few possible roles. Helen and I support the task of Bible Translators (we help people succeed in their work) when there is no infrastructure to facilitate the work in a given third-world country. Helen, as a primary care Physician keeps translators going in the field when they struggle with infections, injuries, diseases, and possibly, complete medical evacuations (by private airplane) out of the country. We have a small, struggling clinic (often overwhelmed) in the Highlands of Papua New Guinea.

Bible Translation is about decoding language and culture. Understanding a newly discovered language well enough to do an excellent translation is facilitated by the use of one or more computers. Computers in harsh environments often fail for any number of reasons, and we use custom software programs that are sometimes difficult to use and understand. I (Brian) help the translators use their computer-assisted tools adequately for the task, and I also coordinate International efforts (via the Internet) for our next generation of software development. My official title is "Language Computer Consultant". Even today, while on furlough, I am consulting and programming solutions that help partner technologists with their computers via the Internet.

As a Christian business man goes about his workday earning a living, he may also spend "extra" time ministering to people he meets along the way. In the same way, we minister to the people of PNG with whom we have regular contact. We have also been actively involved in a local village church located just across the river from where we live. We have many opportunities to teach and

sometimes preach and do personal Bible study and fellowship with our PNG brothers and sisters there. Often SIL/ Wycliffe business will send me to remote village settings, where I am able to speak and even preach in the trade language of the country. My personal goal, and Helen's too, is to always make disciples of Christ wherever God may have us at the moment. This includes our furlough times, while in the States.

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## Kids ALIVE!

Pastor Doug Hoffman

### Description of Kids Alive:

A church for Children, primarily un-churched children. It meets every Saturday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. with a program consisting of worship, games, personal prayer time, a Bible lesson, and lunch. We have a weekly visitation where we meet the children in their homes.

### 1. When and how did you come to know the Lord?

I came to know the Lord when I was eight years old. I grew up in churches, but when I was eight, I attended church camp for the first time. It was there in an out-door chapel under the summer sky in the hills of Pennsylvania that I responded to an altar call to receive Jesus as Lord and Savior.

### 2. When did God lead you to start Kids Alive and with what goal?

The seeds of vision for child evangelism were planted in my heart over many years. In 1993 an Invasion of Burlington was staged by Burlington churches, with a different outreach every night for a month. They found two things to be successful: Church Street evangelism and child evangelism. Pastor Bill Watson of Metro Ministries was another catalyst. He and his staff are reaching over 20,000 children weekly in the inner city in N.Y. During these years I was struggling with adult evangelism in Burlington's Old North End. Nothing seemed to work. I stormed Heaven as to why. The Lord's answer was to reach people while they are young. "It's easier to build boys and girls than to repair men and women." Pastor Bill Wilson. With the help of Rick Callahan of Maranatha Christian Church, Kids Alive was begun in July of 1997 with a goal of evangelizing and discipling un-churched children.

### 3. How has God fulfilled that goal using you as His instrument?

The goals are being fulfilled. I see my responsibilities as threefold: 1) to pastor these children in the Word and ways of God; 2) To direct this ministry in its mission and goals; 3) to promote the vision of this ministry within the Body of Christ and wherever interest may lie.

### Short Term Visions:

Sister program for 12 and over  
Back on the streets early Sat.  
morning  
Time release program/middle school.  
More special events  
Relationship with a Christian Camp

Tighter relationship/  
churches/individuals

### Long Term Visions:

Tutoring, especially reading  
Parental involvement  
Big brother/sister program  
Winooski spin off  
Our own facility  
Paid Staff

### Needs:

Staff/volunteers  
Passenger van  
musician  
lunch providers  
Sponsor /CMI spot  
Copier

...all of this bathed with prayer.  
Thanks to JCC for their care and heart toward the children here. Know that you are in my prayers too.

Light on, Pastor Doug

