



DECEMBER 2011

TO OUR MANY FRIENDS AND FAMILY: HAVE A WONDERFUL CHRISTMAS AND A BLESSED NEW YEAR!

For almost two decades, God has used you to allow us to minister overseas in many limited access countries. Thank you! We are greatly encouraged by your faithful support, and we want you to know how truly grateful we are!



JOE'S MINISTRY: As most of you know, I have been serving as a part of the leadership of East-West Ministries since its founding in the early 90's. Currently I serve as the **Executive Vice President of Field Ministries** and oversee all of our ministries worldwide. We are focused on limited access countries from Cuba to the Far East, and we have **significant ministry in 20 countries and assist other ministries with training and special projects in an additional 19 countries.**

East-West Ministries' Ten-year Goal: Many of you may be aware of the ten-year goals East-West has been focused on over the past nine and a half years. In 2002, our founder and president, John Maisel, challenged our little mission to step out on faith and pray that God would use us **to expose 1% of the world's 5 billion unreached people of the world to the Gospel (50 million), train 10,000 leaders, plant 1000 churches, and penetrate 100 unreached people groups.** God has answered our prayers and has allowed us to help **plant more than 20,000 churches, including churches in more than 100 unreached people groups.** We have also **trained tens of thousands** of national workers and **exposed more than 32 million to the gospel.** We are still praying that God will allow us to expose the remaining 18 million in the goal over the next several months. **Please pray with us.** We will keep you posted.

FAMILY NEWS

We had a great Thanksgiving in Colorado with both Chris's and Scot's families, with everyone wrapped up in our new grandson, **Tyler.** **Here he is with his father, Chris,** enjoying *Green Eggs and Ham* together.



Magnolia Bible Church, where Scot is pastor and we are members, will be **dedicating our new building next month.**

Prayer Requests

- Praise for God's provision so Linda would not have to travel alone to Russia earlier this month.
- Pray for Linda's upcoming trip to Baku, Azerbaijan: safety and good plan for setting up a women's center for abused former Muslim women.
- Pray for Joe's trip to Kenya and Egypt in February to learn and encourage our teams there.

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LINDA'S MINISTRIES



I don't know who was more **nervous about my traveling to Krasnodar, Russia**, Joe or me. However, God was so Good! For various reasons, I was making this long journey alone—until we casually mentioned to some Russian friends from Uzbekistan, Ivan and Svetlana Bychkov, that I was leaving for Russia in a couple of days. Ivan replied, “So am I. I just changed my ticket from Saturday to Friday”—which just “happened” to be the day I was leaving. “What airline, I asked?”—“Singapore,” was his reply. Then, we found out he was returning—same flight, same day as I was. *Coincidentally* --a Russian speaker, who was already a friend, was traveling at the same time to the same destination on the same airline. He was delighted to help me with my luggage, my transfer in Moscow, and to handle payment for my overweight. **How like God to arrange such a gift!**

This trip to Krasnodar **I was introducing a new concept to our Russian students—Facilitated Teaching.**

I felt that I needed an expert to introduce a totally new concept, so Tom McLennan, an Entrust missionary,



consented to handle the bulk of the session. He did a masterful job even though many were unconvinced that anything but lecture would work. We gave them a chance to participate in a discussion in a larger group and then gave them several opportunities to practice in smaller groups. They have promised me they will attempt it in their small groups in their home areas. **They are so willing to embrace new things, which is thrilling to me.**



Trip to Baku, Azerbaijan, Planned for January. In January I will be traveling to Baku, Azerbaijan, to meet with our Azeri friends to hammer out the possibilities for a **Women's Center for abused women** there. I would appreciate prayer as my **three companions, Joy Gilliam, J'Anne Rawson, and Jinks Greenstreet**, work with me to try to find the best way to meet the needs of these women, as well as trying to develop a program which will bring them to trust in Jesus Christ. We will spend the better part of 5 days assessing the needs, the possible leadership, and the feasibility of maintaining whatever program we can develop for the long haul. I have tried to lay this project down for nearly ten years and God seems to keep giving me one more reason to pursue it. **Please pray for discernment and God's guidance as we work with our Azeri sisters on this project.**