THE BUSSEN FAMILY MISIONARY PRESS



- SPEGIAL EBENEZER EDITION - FAIL 2020



HEADLINE NEWS: 35-30 VISION IS LOOKING GOOD: BLORY TO GOD FOR 35 YEARS OF SERVING IN MISSIONS (30 WITH OAG)

I love the Bible passage (1Sam.7:12) where Samuel set up a stone of remembrance and called it "Ebenezer," which meant "Thus far the Lord has helped us!" This coming school year has many milestones to remind us of how God has so faithfully, but unconventionally helped us through the many years of our marriage & missions ministry life. We are coming up to our 40th wedding Anniversary, and our 35th Anniversary of missions' ministry, and our 30th Anniversary of working with OAC. Here is a quick review of God's missionary calling adventure for us (see pgs 2-3 for a pictorial view): **THE MINNESOTA ERA:** Renae was Born-Again as a High School teen 45 years ago, and me in college 42 years ago. We met through Campus Crusade as we were being discipled to be all out committed to the Great Commission Cause of Christ. Then, after we married in February of 1981, God soon launched us off to Bible college to pursue His confirmed missionary calling on our lives!

THE CHICAGO ERA - 1985-87: Graduating from Moody Bible Institute, God opened the door to begin our missionary ministry at a downtown Chicago rescue mission called Pacific Garden Mission, daily giving the Gospel and the love of God (in the form of food & shelter, etc.) to the homeless, as well as to young soldiers in town on leave from the nearby Great Lakes Naval Base (at our military hospitality center).

THE EUROPE ERA - 1987-90: God fulfilled a dream He had put on my heart since coming to Christ through a teammate on a College football team, by joining the ministry of Christian Sports Outreach International and **the first ever missionary football team** (and numerous other sports teams) as we won athletes to Christ as we toured all over Europe (including the former Soviet Union with a Hockey team, as the Iron Curtain began crumbling down and opening up).

THE OAC CANADA (and beyond) ERA - 1990- 2008: Glory to God for over 17 years of fruitful Canadian ministry covering from East to West (The Maritimes & Montreal & Ottawa & Toronto & Hamilton & Brantford, and all the way out to Calgary and even to Vancouver, and a lot of places in-between). Thousands upon thousands of Canadians (kids, youth, adults, seniors, and prisoners) received the Gospel in some creative & positive way, and we enlisted & equipped many more laborers for the Lord. Also, due to some difficult Canadian weather seasons for open air ministry, and other reasons, God also gave me the blessing to take the Gospel on the road (or I should say air routes) to do fruitful short-term outreach ministries in other countries like Jamaica, The Bahamas, England, Mexico and the USA over those years.

THE USA (and beyond) ERA - 2008-Present (and hopefully beyond): God re-directed us in mid-life to help facilitate the ministries of other evangelists throughout the USA, Canada and the World, through the OAC Central Services National HQ Office in the USA. Also there is opportunity to continue to do training and outreach ministries in our local-regional Nazareth & Lehigh Valley area (and East Coast of the USA), where tens of thousands (of kids & teens & adults) have already received the gospel through various outreaches we have been involved in. Even more exciting is to help keep evangelists going with the Gospel from coast to coast, and in such countries as Albania, Greece, Jamaica, Ukraine, Russia, India, Kenya, Congo, Canada, Mexico, Brazil, Ecuador, Peru, Paraguay, Bolivia, etc., to reach multitudes more than I (or you) could ever get to personally. You have a share in all these things by your prayer and material support of us,

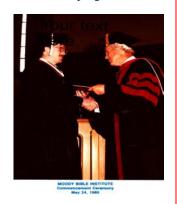
Well, there you have it – 35 years in a nut-shell. Looking back, it seems like a life-time, and yet it also seems like only yesterday we were just getting started – time sure does fly, and eternity fast approaches!! During those years we raised 4 kids for Christ as well, and they have all flown the coop, and we are now in a new era of being empty-nesters. Of course we give all the glory to God for any good accomplished, as imperfect and unworthy as we are to serve the perfectly holy but very merciful & gracious & amazing God. We are also SO thankful for the so many of you who have been committed to God in partnering with us in our Kingdom calling, in providing prayer & material support! We SO look forward to you enjoying eternal rewards in return. Still GO-ing with the Gospel for the Lord for as many more years as God enables and supplies (...No turning back, no turning back) – Sincerely & Gratefully, *Michael & Renae*

SNAP SHOTS OF A MISSIONARY LIFETIME

1981: The Bussen Missionary Family Begins...



1982-85: Study to show yourself approved unto God, a workman that need not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. Thank you Moody Bible Institute for helping with that!



1985-87: Missionary ministry begins at the old lighthouse, Pacific Garden Mission in Chicago—a home for the homeless, and a home away from home for young Servicemen, where many prodigals find their way home to the Father up above.





1988-90: Missionary football, now that's a combination that can't be beat for an old gridiron gladiator turned gospel evangelist. We tackled people for Jesus in Holland, Belgium, Germany & Austria, and they loved it (and so did I)!





Hockey Evangelism was a hit in Scandinavia and Russia—and learning OAC sketch-board preaching at MBI helped me to score for Christ in the community as well.

1990: Dutch Treat—a whole season of football follies trying to lead a team in Holland (The Rotterdam Trojans) to gridiron glory and the Gospel story. Well, we didn't win too many games, but hopefully we won some hearts over to God's team.

In any case we had a great time preparing little Matt for the Dutch girl he would later find and marry in Canada.





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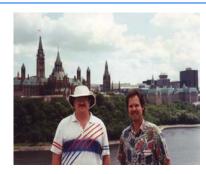


Evangelists in Ottawa, Canada Presenting Christ by all means everywhere Ottawa Telephone Number (613) 825-7718

1991: Oh Canada—ready or not here we come -Joining OAC in the true north strong and free.

1991: Baby Sarah arrives just in time to launch her missionary career in Canada - as an Anne of Green Gables look-alike she was a hit from coast to coast!





91-98: Fellow American transplant Chip Welton and I take the National Capitol, Ottawa, by storm. Well maybe it was more of a gentle steady sprinkle—but it got thoroughly soaked with the Gospel of God's love & truth over many fruitful years there.

91-98: Multitudes get the message on the streets...



reached at Camps Camps for Christ...



Matt was a great help all along the way.....



Many kids were reached in Churches too.



Training the next generation of evangelists at Canada Bible Colleges (1993-2008)



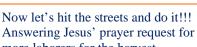
The 90s: Many kids are





In the class

John, Stephanie & Sarah were BIG helpers too—kids for Christ leading kids to Christ.





room, keeping our evangelism Jamaica man theology, strategy, and methodology within biblical and practical boundaries.



more laborers for the harvest.



98-2000 the teacher remains a student graduating from **Graduate Seminary** along the way—to God be the Glory!



Jolly old England



Now having a hand in reaching throughout the world through the OAC-USA Central Services Headquarters ministry, and through Eastern USA region through personal OAC training and Gospel outreach opportunities.



Soldiering on in frontline Gospel opportunities for the Lord and for the Lost. May we be found faithful to the end!

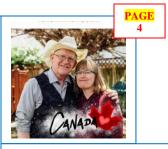


Bahamas



SEE **SPECIAL** 2020 REPORT ON BACK!

2020 IS A BLESSING A PLENTY!!! Such a heading may seem odd, given the CRISIS-CRAZINESS of this year! However, we have experienced plenty of times that trials can turn out to be GOD'S BLESSINGS IN DISGUISE!!! This year we have experienced the totally unexpected grief of the passing of a dearly loved fellow evangelist-friend (Jerry Wallace) from Canada (from a sudden cancer diagnosis which took his life within a few months), and of course the Impeachment craziness, and the Covid-virus crisis, including the lockdown of our Churches and the economic crash, and all the inconvenient & aggravating restrictions (which have kept us from seeing any of our kids & Grandkids still residing in Canada), as well as the explosion of angry-hateful-violent rioting & looting & killings in major & minor cities throughout the Country here (and we still have 3 months to go and a crazy-volatile election about to happen). Also to top it off our dear fellow OAC colleague-friend here (John Cutlip and his wife Sue) who is the National Director of our OAC Central Services HQ Office ministries, and on who's property our OAC offices & supplies warehouse is located, just suffered a catastrophic fire which totally destroyed their home of 30+ years (which handyman John had so wonderfully refurbished & renovated over the years from the century+ old farmhouse it originally was). SO HOW COULD THIS YEAR BE CONSIDERED A BLESSING???!!! Well first of all, thank God that John & Sue awoke in time (at 5 AM by fire alarms) to get out of the house alive & well, mere minutes before it was totally engulfed in flames. Also, thankfully the OAC Office out-buildings were not damaged, though electricity is out and we have had to temporarily re-locate (but God provided an amazing blessing-provision to take care of that within a week, in a wonderful empty home made available from a Christian friend in the nearby area, which is also freely housing the Cutlips - PTL!). It will be a stressful & long recovery time for the Cutlips, to be sure, but they have already experienced God's amazing grace & love being poured out to overflowing from family & Church & Mission friends from all over (including blowing the top off of an initial GoFundMe campaign goal initiated by their son - if you want to help reach the new goal go to the online link: www.gofundme.com/f/john-amp-sue-cutlip-house-fire-fund). Also, regarding our dear deceased friend Jerry, we know that he is the happiest camper that he can possibly be right now in the precious arms of King Jesus, whom Jerry served so faithfully, for so long, as a wonderfully creative artist-story-teller evangelist for kids & families across Canada and internationally, along with his wonderful wife and Gospel musician-singer Bonnie. Please pray for her as she recovers and carries on the wonderful Wallace family ministries legacy - and check it out and consider support-partnering with her at: www.adventuresinartandmusic.ca. Then regarding the virus-crisis, and social-rioting crisis, and political crisis we are facing, I believe God is using this all in a powerful way to answer the prayers of many multitudes of believers over many years (including ourselves) for effecting the Great new National & World REVIVAL-AWAKENING which is sorely needed, certainly in America & Canada (who, as leaders of the world will affect everywhere else). This situation here in the USA is providing a GREAT SHAKE UP that I believe is bringing us to the brink of the GREAT WAKE UP that we need in the Church & Society here!! There are many signs & pockets of revival breaking out all over the Country, and we experienced an absolutely culminating experience of such at the National Prayer Rally & March that were simultaneously yet separately scheduled on the same September Saturday and place (the National Capital Mall in Washington DC), which brought up to an estimated 100,000 believers together in an AWESOME experience of God's presence & power, including the circumstance of a SCOTUS replacement nomination which could turn the tide of our worst National SIN of the slaughter of multitudes of innocent-helpless pre-born Americans in abortion. If all the 2020 craziness leads to such a revival of the Church and awakening of multitudes more to enter the Kingdom and rise up to finally give us the God-fearing Government representatives needed to overturn even that one sin, it will be worth it all!!!! One other note of blessing – our Pastor here wisely told us to not let the Pandemic go to waste (but put it to good use for something productive and fruitful in & with our lives). So, I have taken that challenge to heart, and since we cannot go much of anywhere, I embarked on a 100-day veggie-liquidfasting journey (some 70+ days ago now) to recover my health (from blood sugar & pressure & coronary problems) and I have lost over 60-lbs of my 100+ goal. Also, it is a spiritual journey of prayer for God's recovery of Renae from 3 recent-years surgeries, and another to come this month for falling innards, and of our family prodigal situation, and our Nation's prodigalness situation. In that regards, God led me to produce & print & distribute a Gospel tract entitled "YOUR LIFE MATTERS," which I have been giving to people and delivering to homes by the hundreds here. I am including a copy for you, if you would like to copy-print it and use it as such yourself. It is so easy to just give to people all along the way by just saying, "I like to give out this encouraging message to people, as a help during these difficult days we are experiencing." In any event, please join me in praying through to November 10th and beyond, to see all of these challenges realized within 2020!!! One last prayer-need is for a 2020 miracle of God's leading of some Christian Publisher to "discover" my book, "THE GOSPEL MOTIVATED AND FRUITFUL **LIFE,"** which I have put out there for consideration. I would like a major part of any proceeds to go towards starting a foundation for funding over 100 OAC evangelists across America & Canada to majorly recirculate the Gospel in our day here, as well as provide for more OAC International evangelists on every continent!! I will email a digital copy of my book to any of you for any generous donation designated to my OAC-BUSSEN EASY EVANGELISM FUND (to distribute to needy OAC-ers across the Country & World)! If you so desire & send something, let me know at my









One other praise report we have received gifts putting us over 25% of our needed Vehicle Replacement Funds – Hallelujah & thanks a zillion to you generous "vehicles" of God's grace to us in that way!!! Please pray with us for the rest of the needed miracle we are needing & asking for (some \$18K more), if God would grant 100% to come in by the end of 2020, before our inspection stickers expire and it would require a major expenditure to keep our present vehicles on the road.