

April 2010

# Connection

*DOVE Christian  
Fellowship International*

*Celebrating  
30 years*

*Pursuing Our Destiny*

Read the **DOVE family** history  
along with other stories of  
changed lives throughout  
the nations!

# Contents

- 3 | Rejoicing in 30 years  
by Larry Kreider
- 7 | God heals Hepatitis C  
by Gia Minardi
- 8 | A boost for small business  
by Angela Kungu
- 9 | Praying to a God who hears  
by Diane Omondi
- 10 | Church given free space  
for outreach by Dave & Sandra Redish
- 11 | Celebrity host helps soup kitchen
- 12 | Coffeehouse showcases talent  
by Suzanne Rutherford
- 14 | Prayer transforms the land  
by Daniel Mbiti
- 15 | News clips from around the world
- 16 | Stories of God touching lives in the  
DOVE family
- 19 | Relationships flourish as God  
brings leaders together
- 20 | Mission news
- 22 | DCFI partner and engaged  
church listing

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- Connection Magazine

## THE CONNECTION

Connection links the DOVE family of churches and ministries with church related news and relevant topics.

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DOVE Christian Fellowship International is an international apostolic family of churches who share common values. DCFI is led by an International Apostolic Council responsible for the overall vision, direction and focus of its network of churches.

Visit [www.dcfi.org](http://www.dcfi.org)  
for more about the DOVE family



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Apostolic Team Leaders  
Larry & LaVerne  
Kreider



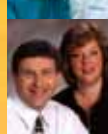
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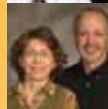
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and South Pacific  
Apostolic Team Leader  
Larry Kreider

# Rejoicing in 30 years Pursuing Our Destiny

Larry Kreider

DOVE is an international apostolic family of churches and ministries from six continents of the world, sharing common vision, mission, values, goals and commitment to plant and nurture churches and ministries throughout the nations.

The earliest roots of DOVE go back more than 30 years, when LaVerne and I, along with a group of Christian friends, developed a burden for the youth in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, community in the 1970s. We helped start a youth ministry to un-churched teens and set out to initiate creative and culturally effective ways to reach these kids with the love of Jesus. Through friendship evangelism we started to see dozens of young people come to know Jesus.

I was asked by our team to start a weekly Bible study for the youth who were new believers in Christ, teaching simple truths from scripture and

*Continued next page*





# Pursuing Our Destiny

*Continued from page 3*  
encouraging these kids to love Jesus with all their hearts. In this informal setting, they started to experience real church for the first time and got a taste of what loving Jesus was all about.

## The underground church

We did our best to help the new believers find church homes in the existing churches in our communities. We soon discovered, however, that these youth offered a challenge for the local congregations and vice-versa. Although the believers in the local churches were friendly and helpful, something wasn't clicking. The young believers simply were not being incorporated into the life of the established churches. Some of them were getting married and starting families of their own, but they were unable to feel at home within the existing church structures. Our goal of attempting to assimilate the kids into the body of Christ in our community proved to be more than a small challenge.

It was during this time that God spoke to me in prayer and asked if I was willing to be involved in the "underground church." I began to understand that an underground church would consist of believers gathered together in small groups meeting in homes (underground, in a manner of speaking) to pray, evangelize and build relationships with each other.

Two home groups were started, led

by a few young couples committed to discipling new believers. At 5:00 a.m. every Saturday, 12-15 desperate believers prayed for wisdom to start a new church—a new wineskin (Luke 5:38), tailor-made to serve and disciple these new believers in Jesus.

After months of prayer, we felt the Lord gave us the green light to begin. We added another small group and met in a large living room in October, 1980 for our first Sunday morning celebration. DOVE Christian Fellowship was born.

## Simple vision

Our vision was simple: we were called to pray, make disciples, reach the lost, and it was done relationally through small groups. At the same time we had lots of growing pains. Within the first six months, the original three small home groups became two groups—we were multiplying backwards! But the Lord was so faithful, as we learned from a few spiritual mentors who helped us understand some of the basics of biblical leadership.

Today, 30 years later, we are a family of thousands of believers in Christ from six continents of the world meeting in a whole host of small groups in homes with more than 150 local churches and house church networks worldwide. We are so privileged to partner together as the DOVE family from the nations of Barbados, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Guatemala,



Haiti, India, Kenya, New Zealand, Rwanda, Scotland, South Africa, Peru, The Netherlands, Uganda, St. Vincent (Canouan) and the United States. God has been good! And yet we feel, in so many ways, like we have just begun.

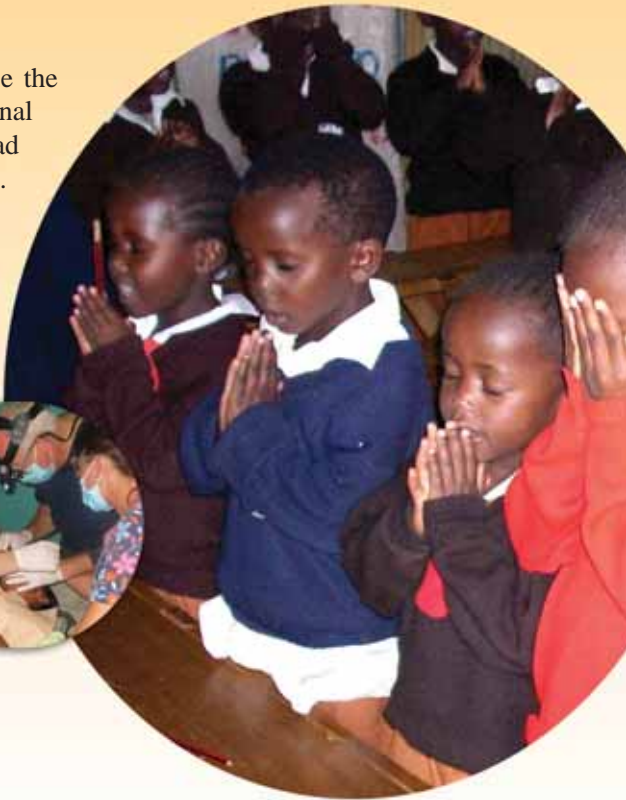
in larger clusters of congregations in eight different locations. We realized that as people are trained, they should be released (or given away) to start new churches. Multiplying people and allowing them to move out on their own affords limitless potential.

So we did just that. We turned over the leadership and ministry of the church to eight pastors (we call them senior elders), twenty-one elders, and a whole host of small group leaders. In 1996, our church decentralized and became eight

*Continued next page*

### Growing pains

For us to be able to experience the blessing of becoming an international family of churches worldwide, we had to make some difficult decisions. During the first ten years of DOVE Christian Fellowship, our church grew to well over 2,000 believers scattered throughout communities in a seven-county area of Pennsylvania. We met in more than 100 small groups during the week and on Sunday mornings came together



*Continued from page 5*

cell-based churches in PA along with three other churches in the nations of Kenya, Uganda and New Zealand. I was asked to serve as the “international director” for this new family of churches. These past fifteen years have been a great joy for us as dozens of churches have been planted and others joined the DOVE International family. We continue to trust God for many more new churches to be started for a new generation of believers in Christ.

### **Spiritual parenting is key**

There was nothing special about us then, and there certainly still isn't! We were ordinary people who had made lots of mistakes and have many stories to tell that are not all success stories. That said, we, and the team we served with, had the heart of spiritual parents to teach and release our spiritual children. We loved Jesus, we loved those young people, and as any parent, we expected them to grow! Spiritual parenting was a key in helping that to happen.

It has been a great privilege, as spiritual parents in the DOVE Christian Fel-

lowship International family, to watch many of our spiritual children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren reproduce spiritual sons and daughters as new small groups and new churches are being planted throughout the world. It is a great joy for us and many of the amazing servant-leaders in the DOVE family that we have the privilege to serve with, to encourage God's people throughout the world in this biblical process.

There is spiritual power released through global relationships. Each culture of the world has something to offer other cultures. We all need one another as a church family, and we need the whole body of Christ.

God has a call on each of our lives to pray, make disciples and reach those who do not yet know the Lord with the gospel of Jesus Christ. Or to say it another way, we are called to love Jesus, love His people and love the broken world around us. So let's be about our Father's business as we continue to pursue our destiny together for the next 30 years and beyond: loving Jesus, loving His people and loving those who need to know Him.

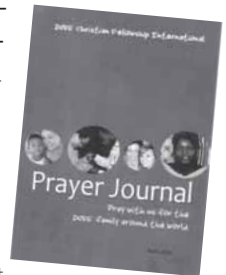
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## **Join in praying for the DOVE family worldwide**

**The Prayer Watch** provides a prayer covering for the DOVE family every hour of every day of the week. It is organized by Prayer Generals who take a four-hour time segment each week, working with other Generals and Prayer Warriors to see 24/7 prayer coverage.

**The Prayer Journal** consists of praise reports and prayer requests from each DOVE partner church and ministry. The 2010 issue is available as a booklet form and also available electronically on the

dcfi.org web page. Additionally, a Prayer Journal Update is sent via a monthly email that contains updated prayer information. This email is sent to Senior Elders, Prayer Generals, and anyone requesting it.



**To be involved** in the Prayer Watch or request additional information, email Nelson Martin at [NelsonM@dcfi.org](mailto:NelsonM@dcfi.org).

DOVE encourages every believer to find wholeness, healing, freedom and restoration

## God heals Hepatitis C in California

Playing with some of the great guitar players of all time, Mike McCarthy knew that living in the world came with a price. After fighting with drug and alcohol addiction for many years, he was captivated by the love and mercy of Jesus. He accepted Jesus as Lord in 2002 and was delivered from drug and alcohol addiction in 2003.

Freed from these chains, he strummed with purpose and passion for Jesus on the worship team and began serving in his cell group as an assistant cell leader. While his spirit soared, his physical body still suffered ailments and signs from his former days. In 2003, his doctor gave him the grim diagnosis, “You have Hepatitis C.” The doctor explained that Hepatitis C, while manageable, is not curable.

Holding on to the promises of Jesus, that “by His stripes we are healed,” Mike prayed and asked others to pray for his healing. He declined the doctor’s offer to put him on the newly popular drugs. While they claimed good results, there were many negative side effects. Steve and Mary Prokopchak, John and Kim Henry, and Mike’s cell group family all prayed for him—believing for his healing. “There came a point where I just had to stand in faith and thank God for my healing,” Mike said. “I just believed that I was healed, even though I didn’t see it in my body yet.”

In November of 2009, Mike visited his doctor for one of his regular blood tests. His doctor stood in unbelief as he delivered the news, “You do not have Hepatitis C. You never did.” Mike told him to pull his old records and he would find the diagnosis. “I can’t explain it,” his doctor admitted. “Even if you had been healed medically of the disease, you would still have detectable enzymes in your blood.” While medically unexplainable, Mike knows the source of his healing. Now, as Mike strums songs of praise he has yet another reason to worship Jesus—the one worthy of all praise!

—*Gia Minardi, House to Home Christian Fellowship, California*



**Mike strums songs of praise with yet another reason to worship Jesus**

We value releasing ministry  
in the marketplace

# Empowering lives

## Rekindling hope in Africa

Many families in the developing world are plagued by poverty that seems to never go away. We know the saying: “Give a person a fish and he will eat for a day; teach him to fish and he will eat for a lifetime.” What

about the phrase “Start a fishing pole industry and change a community?”

That’s what Springs of Africa Microfinance Faith Fund (SAMf3) strives to do.

I visited Irene, a SAMf3 client, in Kibera slums recently.

She believes in the SAMf3 philosophy that we can fight

poverty more effectively by giving

someone a hand to rise up rather than a “hand-out.” Irene was busy serving her customers. With \$150 from SAMf3, she started a hair salon and a barber shop. Her business is doing well. “I anticipate that my business is going to grow gradually and make a reasonable profit, which will

enable me to provide employment to others. My strategic focus is to see this beauty shop become a training college in the

future,” she said. She shared that her biggest challenge is the stiff competition. She looks for strategies to win more customers.

“The training on business management I received from SAMf3 has really helped me,” Irene testifies. She is paying her loan back and with the extra income she is able to pay school fees for her children and take care of most household needs.

—Angela Kungu, DOVE Nairobi

“The training on business management I received from SAMf3 has really helped me,” Irene testifies. She is paying her loan back and with the extra income she is able to pay school fees for her children and take care of most household needs.

—Angela Kungu, DOVE Nairobi

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**SAMf3, partners with DOVE Africa to empower members** to start small and medium businesses. Micro-finance loans represent a sustainable and empowering approach to giving because they help clients establish an income-generating business. This breaks the cycle of dependence. For information visit:  
[www.springsof africa.com](http://www.springsof africa.com)

# INDIA

## Praying to a God who hears

We are committed to releasing believers to plant new churches

### University students become church planters

Phillip Omondi left his homeland of Kenya and went to India 15 years ago in search of a university education. What he found there, in addition to a degree in Law, was a



life calling to serve God in India. By the time he was graduating, he realized that his passion for ministry was

stronger than his desire to work as a lawyer. He looked for ways to “buy time” in India by continuing with a few extra courses that would make it possible for him to extend his student visa. A similar thing happened with another Kenyan young lady in the student fellowship, Kerina, who was also studying Law. They found themselves in ministry together, and later got married. The student fellowship eventually became a church.

Today, Phillip and Kerina pastor Destiny Center, a DOVE church in Mysore, India. Many students from local universities, especially African students, still attend the church. But Muslim-background and Hindu-background families are also being

reached, and are the main “target” for prayer and witness in the Omondi’s hearts.

### A miracle!

Dutt Singh’s family converted from Hinduism to Christianity in the 1990’s. But trials and opposition drove them back to Hinduism. Soon after, Dutt’s father became paralyzed and mentally unstable. Dutt’s sister was not able to conceive, his aunt fell sick, and the family businesses were closing one after the other. The family was devastated.

Nearly ten years later, Dutt started going to Destiny Center with some friends. Phillip and Kerina began praying for them and even visited Dutt’s home. Through their love and concern, the family came back to Christ. Soon after that, the first miracle occurred. Dutt’s sister became pregnant.

The Hindu gods do not do miracles. The Hindu gods do not love those who worship them. But Jesus does! As Dutt’s family, the believers at Destiny Center, and other families who have come out of Hinduism join in prayer, there is faith for many more miracles to take place in Mysore. —*Diane Omondi, DOVE Missions International, Africa*



We aim to reach out with the love of Jesus to those in our communities

## Kentucky church given space for outreach 11,000 square feet for free!



More than a year ago, I was driving through the neighborhood near our church and noticed some adults holding outdoor activities with children in an apartment complex. I had a sense that this was connected with the kingdom so I stopped and spoke to the leader, Kelli Harris, about her vision.

About six months later she dropped in on our Wednesday small group that was meeting at the church building to pray for outreach opportunities. We spent time in prayer for her outreach ministry and had several prophetic words for her. A few months later, she stopped by our small group and mentioned that God had given her a building that formerly housed several businesses about five blocks from our church building. It encompassed 11,000 square feet. She felt that she received the building because of our prayer time a few months prior.

In the meantime, I had been teaching on “Open doors and new windows in the house of the Lord.” God was telling us to shape our perspective and outlook on our familiar world in new ways and that He was opening doors to effective service.

A few weeks ago, Kelli took us over to the outreach center for a tour and to pray. While we were there she said since we were “responsible” for the blessing, she wanted to bless us and give us office space so we can have a presence there and a free hand to help her work or start something of our own. We are now in the process of getting our plan together to paint and furnish the office and look forward to new opportunities in answer to our prayers and the prophetic teaching of the Lord.

—David and Sandra Redish, *The CROSSing, Lexington, Kentucky*



*The center's prayer group dedicates the building. David Redish is third from left.*

We believe the gospel compels us to help those in need

## Ohio soup kitchen gets a make-over Celebrity host boosts outreach efforts

A lot of cities are hard pressed by the recession these days, Wilmington, Ohio, more than most. “The effect on our city has been devastating,” said Allen Willoughby, director of Your Father’s Kitchen, the city’s local soup kitchen.

Wilmington has been hit with a 15 percent unemployment rate after parcel delivery service DHL and other businesses left town, and the soup kitchen, set up to help those in hard times, was having its own problems keeping up with demand. For many, the economy has hit hard at the dinner table.

When talk/cooking show host Rachael Ray heard about this community, in particular, that was struggling to get back on its feet, she decided to pitch in. Ray made a stop in Wilmington, as part of a road trip she did with Cincinnati native and singer Nick Lachey. But Ray didn’t just pop by for a visit. She helped to redo their kitchen. Over the course of nine days, Carter Oosterhouse (the handyman on “The Rachael Ray Show”), Lachey, and a whole crew rebuilt the space, installing new shelves and appliances and generally making it an easier space to work in.

“This is one community out of a multitude across the country that needs help,” Lachey said, “and what I’m hoping is that this raises awareness about hunger and pushes people to go out in their own communities to help out.”

*Allen Willoughby, Director of Your Father’s Kitchen, attends DOVE Wilmington Church, Ohio.*

Article excerpt from: <http://news.holidash.com/2009/11/09/rachael-ray-makes-thanksgiving-brighter-for-ohio-soup-kitchen>



**Celebrity guests  
Rachael Ray and  
Nick Lachey lend a  
hand.**



We believe art is a medium to point people to God and the values of His kingdom

Generating full spectrum arts in Muskoka, Ontario

# Power & Light Co.

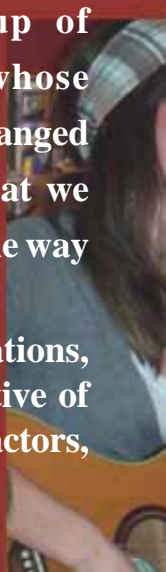
SHOWCASES TALENT AT COFFEE HOUSE MINISTRY



**A**rt is too big and rich to stay within the four walls of a church building! Power & Light Co. is a group of Muskoka friends whose hearts have been so changed by the love of Jesus that we just have to shine it in the way we know best.

We are an all generations, multi-racial arts collective of dancers and guitarists, actors,

by Suzanne Rutherford  
Muskoka Christian Fellowship



visual artists and musicians, singers, songwriters, sculptors, filmmakers, playwrights and poets who sponsor a Saturday evening coffeehouse in Muskoka, two hours north of Toronto, Canada, to showcase local talent.

**T**he idea of Power & Light Co. grew out of the spring 2009 leadership meetings of Muskoka Christian Fellowship, a small “Acts 13 model sending congregation” collection of families and friends, seeking for ways God could speak to us, strengthen and use us in ministry through the artistic gifts so abundant among us. A chance visit to the Healing Rooms at Gateway Worship Centre led to me seeing their church basement emblazoned with a huge logo “Underground Lounge!” I immediately asked pastor Ralph Rains if his church would be open to hosting a Christian artists’ coffeehouse in the Lounge. The Gateway congregation agreed and has enthusiastically embraced this monthly outreach.

In these economic times, what could be better than free admission to hear genuinely talented local youth and mentor musicians and artists shining out the love of Jesus? Also, this is a great way for youth to meet their peers, hone their skills, and support

one another’s lives and witness.

At a recent coffeehouse, we were wowed by Canadian singer/songwriter Julie Rains (*left*) and the amazing sculpture “Abandoned Love: The Prodigal Child” (*right*) by resident artist Katherine Dawkins. God is now catapulting some of us onto global stages. Please pray for teens Isaac Boyes, Bryan Boyes and David Pepper. Crowd faves at every P & L Co. event, their band, Rivers to Roads, (*right*) has been chosen to perform at the International G8 Youth Summit to be held June 2010 right here in Muskoka, Canada, for youth leaders from around the world!

P & L Co. has been characterized by remarkable unity, true division of labor according to strengths, and a shared vision. We have witnessed a coming together of generations and Christian denominations as we seek to build Jesus’ kingdom in our lives and in our community through the artistic gifts He has given.

Events are livestreaming to the Internet via [www.mcintec.net](http://www.mcintec.net). On Facebook too!



by French Photography



We believe it is essential for every believer to live by His Word and bring our needs to God in prayer

Ukambani Region, Kenya

## Prayer transforms the land



Ukambani Region is situated in the Eastern Province of Kenya, southeast of the city of Nairobi. This area has a long history of drought and famine. Most of the younger Akamba people have never known a good harvest.

After the disputed General Election results in 2008, homes and property were burned and looted and many people were displaced from their homes in surrounding areas. Since the Region of Ukambani was not much affected by the looting, many people took refuge here, pushing the food shortage even higher.

As the Christian community, Rebecca and I, and others in the church here, cried to God day and night asking the Father to heal the land (2 Chronicles 7:14). We then decided to prepare our farm for planting and bought the seeds even before we saw signs of rain. We announced in DOVE Machakos that no one should fail to plant because there would be a bumper crop this season. Most people heeded the advice, and we all planted our seeds before the rains which started on October 15, earlier than usual.

We continued to confess that there was going to be a bumper crop, in Jesus' name, every morning in our daily devotion. Before long, the weather people predicted that heavy "El-Nino" rains were coming and many areas of Kenya would experience flooding and severe soil erosion. We instead prayed Proverbs 10:22 that, "The blessing of the Lord makes a person rich, and he adds no sorrow with it." Heavy rain fell without flooding, and the crops and the vegetation sprang up. The land started looking very beautiful—areas where there had not been rain for over ten years received plenty of rain. People's faces changed to smiles all over, and life and hope came back.

By December many Akamba families feasted on green beans from their farms. Ukambani has plenty of food all over. Our God is an awesome God; He is more than enough to us. He knows how to heal the land and clothe it with His goodness. Ukambani is no longer a dry area but a transformed land, praise His holy name!

—Daniel Mbiti, *Apostolic Leader, Ukambani Region*

## DOVE Leadership Training School Two training locations in PA

A partnership with the Hopewell Network of Churches combines DOVE's 15-year-old training school with this like-minded apostolic network to train even more leaders. The weekend intensive classes are held Friday night and Saturday of each month at Petra Christian Fellowship, New Holland, PA. This second campus will compliment the Cumberland Valley DLT School started last year in Shippensburg, PA. —*Brian Sauder, DLTs Director*



## God is Adventurous

Over the years, Reading DOVE Ministry Center has met in parks, other church buildings and in homes all over the Reading area. We've finally found our church home on Center Avenue in downtown Reading. God has been so faithful to guide our steps and to use this process to draw us closer to Him and closer to one another. —*Erin Herndon, Reading DOVE Ministry Center*

## House church outreach in Northland, NZ

Les and Heather Gribben have been praying for their neighbors and meeting with them in Mangapai, Whangarei, where they now reside, and along with another local Christian couple, have started to meet together in their home, with a vision to reach the unsaved in the area for Jesus.

## Fruit of evangelism teams

Sixty-six people from DOVE Bulgaria were involved in forming 24 teams for evangelism. These 24 teams worked with 100 people who were open to hear the gospel of Jesus, and 40 of these were saved!

## Indiana woman serves Life matters!

About a year ago, our pastor at Indianapolis Christian Fellowship, Jeremy Bialek, encouraged us to get out of the walls and into the community. He had



*Kelli and Kathy*

already made contact with the crisis pregnancy center just down the road from our church and shared how we could serve there.

I signed up to be a volunteer counselor. Kelli was one of my first clients. She came into the center believing abortion was her only option. After counseling, praying and having an ultrasound, Kelli left choosing to carry her baby! Kelli and I became friends that day. We have met for Bible studies and fun times. She's become a part of our family.

A couple of weeks ago, she called me so excited to tell me that she talked a pregnant friend out of having an abortion. When I shared this story with a friend, she said to me, "Kathy, you are a grandma!" In a wonderful sense, I am! To God be the glory! It's amazing to watch the Holy Spirit work—knowing that it's totally Him and I'm there for the ride. —*Kathy Nyhuis, Indianapolis Christian Center*

We believe knowing God through His Son  
Jesus Christ is the foundation of life

# God changes lives



## Barbados: God answered my cries for help

**M**y life turned upside down in 2003 when my husband and I were divorced after nine years of marriage. Although I had seen it coming for a long time, nothing quite prepares you for all of the emotions that a separation from someone you loved so much can bring, especially when your best friend is now the new girlfriend. For five long years I was still very angry to the point that it was destroying me. I battled

with feelings of anger, hate, hurt, failure as a wife and a mother and feeling completely worthless. I was shattered. How could I go on? I was scared of what was happening to me. At the end of my rope, I started feeling a pull toward God. A friend invited me to participate in the Alpha Course at Home Way Ministries. God started answering my cry for help. He placed people in my life at the right moment. He surrounded me with Chris-



## Bulgaria: Her empty void is filled!

**W**hen Maria was a child her grandmother took her to church where she believed in Jesus. However, in her teenage years, she questioned everything. She attended university and eventually returned to Sliven with her live-in boyfriend.



Frequently, Maria felt an empty void inside. She often discussed her quest for God with a close friend, a Muslim, who, interestingly, pointed her to a girl, from our church, named Nori. Maria and Nori quickly became close friends. They began meeting regularly to talk about Jesus. Maria was soon challenged with the idea of discipleship and enrolled in our discipleship program.

At one of the church's seminars for new believers, Maria received the baptism in the Holy Spirit—an experience she said filled her with great power. We know that one of the conditions for the baptism in the Holy Spirit is *purity*.

We also knew that Maria lived with her boyfriend. When we saw her receiving the baptism in the Holy Spirit, it seemed our theology was shattered. But what we didn't know was that God had started His work in her heart. Two months earlier she had told her boyfriend that they

**Our job is not to fix people's lives but to love them and to speak the truth.**

tians—people who had a love for Him that could guide me toward Him. I found that there were so many questions that needed to be answered now that I had found God to be my Lord and Savior. It was like a constant thirst that needed to be quenched. I still have a long way to go, but God is continuing to guide me. I give glory to Him for His faithfulness for forgiving me, restoring me, and making me a part of God's family. —*Gale Ann Hutson, Home Way Ministries, Barbados*



*Continued next page*

would not be intimate until they got married. We didn't know about that, but God knew. That's why our job is not to fix people's lives but to love them and to speak the truth.

Her boyfriend started to see the change in her. He began to ask a lot of questions to learn more about her faith. He didn't expect Maria would be able to answer him but was surprised at her thoughtful and logical answers. Jivko was searching for the truth and came to church. The truths he heard challenged and touched him and he invited Jesus into his life.

**M**aria and Jivko officially got married, and now share how faith in God changed their relationship. Before they came to Christ their communication level was low. Now they always have something to talk about because Jesus binds them together.

God is real and not hidden. We can see Him with our spiritual eyes. If we allow Him into our hearts He will come and transform us. He gives us life that goes beyond what we can think or imagine.

—*Dimka Tenev, DOVE Sliven*

## Brazil: Set free!

This year Comunidade Crista DOVE has seen lives being transformed and the Holy Spirit drawing people to the church.

Recently, two women attended the Tuesday night prayer service. During prayer, a demon manifested itself in one of the women. We prayed, cast it out in the name of Jesus, and then explained how Jesus can set her free and save her because Jesus paid for her sins at the cross. She and the other woman gave their hearts to Lord! —*Victor & Vânia Gomes*

## USA: Sowing and reaping

In 1993, we hired a new secretary for our church. Deb and her husband lived on a small island on Indian Lake not far from the church. On more than a few occasions she came to work in deep distress because of the spiritual condition of her husband. He had a difficult time living the Christian life on an island that was known as “party central.” For ten years or so she prayed for the people on the island calling them out by name. As time passed her husband's employment changed and they moved away to Cape Cod.

Then Lee and Teresa DeMatos, from our church, moved to an apartment on the island. One day when Lee was out in the neighborhood he spotted Rick who was in despair because his wife had left him. Lee invited him to go for a cup of coffee. The end result of the four hour visit was a transformed life. Not long after that he was back with his wife who was trans-

formed. Rick and Maggie have a college age daughter who also accepted Christ as Lord. There is now a home group on the island that has grown to 35-40 people, most of whom live on the island.

On a recent Sunday, Deb and her husband visited and were reacquainted with those who she had prayed for in the past. There are times when we feel that our prayers go unheard, until we see that some do the sowing, others do the watering, and still others are the harvesters. —*Joe Ford, Calvary Worship Center, Massachusetts*

**There is now a home group on the island that has grown to 35-40 people.**

We believe relationships are essential in building God's kingdom

## African leaders work together to bring in the harvest Relationships flourish as God brings leaders together

I visited a DOVE church in Nairobi while I was attending University, and it ignited in me a zeal for loving the lost that eventually led me to start and oversee over 60 DOVE congregations in my home country of Uganda. On that first visit, the brotherly love that was exhibited during that Sunday celebration in 1991, spoke to me. Everyone seemed interested in each other's life and there was joy in and outside the church service.

I was invited to meet with Ibrahim Omondi and was impressed that he was interested in knowing who I was—my marital status, the number of children I had and my testimony. By the time I left, we were both crying together as he prayed for me and my family who were hundreds of miles away. A new relationship had begun.

I attended every Nairobi pastors' meeting that I was invited to. Ibrahim took me with him to the prayer breakfasts with church leaders, and I attended training retreats. There were powerful Friday night prayer vigils. There was a desire to have more of God in us!

I started leading a cell group, and every Friday evening, the house where we met sounded with laughter and sometimes tears as we interacted in each other's lives. I realized that the cell group method of church planting was the most ideal for starting churches in Uganda, and in April 1994, the DOVE Nairobi church elders laid their hands on me to prepare me to return to Uganda to start a church that loved the Lord, loved each other and changed the world around them from house to house.

I thought that I would start a cell church in a neighborhood of the educated and well-to-do that could afford to support a pastor, but the Lord in His wisdom located a place in one of the poorest suburbs of Kampala City where a cell group was begun. Other cell groups were started in the community as the Lord brought all sorts of people in the kingdom. My desire has always been to ask God to build a church in Kampala that believed in prayer and that would catapult the ministry to various parts of Uganda. By God's grace it is happening!—*Ephraim Tumusiime*



*Jova & Ephraim, DOVE Uganda Apostolic leaders; Diane & Ibrahim, DOVE Africa Apostolic leaders.*

**DMI AFRICA**

## Helping to change nations

### Tobias and Judith Oloo's story



Tobias Oloo was a vibrant member of DOVE Nairobi in the early 90's, but was also restless due to a call on his life to plant churches. After serving and being nurtured in DOVE Nairobi, the elders recognized this call and commissioned him to plant a DOVE church in Kibera, the city's largest slum area.

Meetings started in 1998, in a small rented room, and the ministry continued to grow. People found in DOVE Kibera not only spiritual nurture but also genuine love being expressed in practical ways such as food distribution, home visits and children's ministry. As the church grew, they were able to buy land in Kibera and

build both a sanctuary and a school. Tobias also found a wife during this time. Judy joined him in ministry and now is headmistress of Desert Streams School.

In their commitment to the Great Commission, Tobias and Judy have initiated a church plant and community project in Migori, Western Kenya. They also managed to cross borders to Tanzania to spread the gospel. Previously, Tanzania was the only country in East Africa that DOVE had not reached.

God has used this couple to reach out to the world through evangelism, care and social action. They have walked in unity to advance God's kingdom in Kibera, Migori and now in Tanzania, using whatever resources God has entrusted to their care. The world can see God's love through them. —*Angela Kungu*



They reach  
the world through  
evangelism and  
social action

**DMI USA**

## Ministering to abandoned children of India



In India there are many children who are orphaned or who have been abandoned by families who feel un-

able to care for them. When these children have severe special needs this is all the more distressing. It is to such children that Theresa Hill, DMI missionary from Crossroad Community Church, Winchester VA, is called. With a background in special needs education, Theresa is now serving those who would otherwise be in a desperate plight. Theresa serves with a ministry called Sarah's Covenant Homes, Ongole. Theresa is caring for the children and training staff to be able to provide appropriate stimulation and education so that each child can be developed to their full potential. The ministry also provides the medical care needed to improve some of the physical needs of the children.

## Kerri Craig hears the missionary call!



When we think of missionaries we may think of church planters and Bible teachers. But today, the work of a missionary can also include communications and book-keeping. Such roles are vital for the work of evangelism and church planting. The multiplication of churches we have seen in DOVE Africa has led to the need for someone with communication and organizational skills to see the work flourish. Kerri Craig is from the Lighthouse Christian Center in Massachusetts and she has heard this call to serve. Kerri hopes to leave for Kenya as soon as she has raised the necessary financial support to begin this ministry. Please consider making a pledge to help Kerri serve DOVE Africa. Pledges and gifts can be sent to DMI, earmarked "Kenya A."

For more missions information visit [www.dovemission.org](http://www.dovemission.org)

## Join the great adventure! Short term missions



DOVE Mission Int'l USA is hosting a whole range of teams during the year to mobilize many to go. Join a team leaving in the next few months! Teams are head-

ing to Spain, Netherlands, South Africa, Carbondale, PA, Peru, Barbados, Canada

Details are available on  
[www.dovemission.org](http://www.dovemission.org)

# DOVE Christian Fellowship

## International family of churches

### DCFI Partner & Engaged Churches

Partner Churches are congregations or networks called to serve with other DOVE churches. An Engaged Church (♦) has similar values and is in a one-year relationship-building period with DOVE before becoming a Partner Church. To learn more visit [www.dcfi.org](http://www.dcfi.org) or Email [info@dcfi.org](mailto:info@dcfi.org)

### A F R I C A

#### *KENYA: Kitale region*

Chebukaka DCF—Charles & Alice Simiyu  
 Chesamis DCF—Dismas Wafula  
 Kabuyefwe DCF—Joseph & Jane Simiyu  
 Kaibeiyi DCF—Benjamin & Susan Too  
 Kapretwa DCF—Andrew & Agnes Kimibei  
 Langas DCF—Joseph & Tabitha Waithanji  
 Liavo DCF—Jacktan & Janerose Chesing'ara  
 Matunda DCF—Philip & Florence Omoto  
 Milele DCF—Vincent & Rose Wasike  
 Muroki DCF—Francis Wanyonyi  
 Nang'eni DCF—Elder Team  
 Navakholo DCF—Kennedy & Judith Kaula  
 Nyortis DCF—William & Joina Munyanya  
 Sango DCF—Pius & Elizabeth Wanyonyi  
 Serena DCF—Dismas Olumas  
 Weyolola DCF—Alex & Beatrice Sabari

#### *KENYA: Kisumu region*

Restoration Community Church Kadawa—Hesbone & Violet Odindo  
 Restoration Community Church Magwar—Laban & Alberta Okinda

#### *KENYA: Nairobi region*

DOVE Kangemi Praise Center—Jackson Nale  
 DOVE Kitengela—Samuel & Linet Wamela  
 Kianda DCF—Charles & Rose Wanyama  
 Kibera DOVE Desert Streams—Tobias & Judith Oloo  
 Kilimani DOVE House Church—Benard & Robai Amboga  
 Nairobi DCF—Ibrahim & Diane Omondi  
 Ndalua DCF—Stephen & Rebecca Inzofu  
 Nyarombo DCF—Harrison & Peres Odhiambo

#### *KENYA: Ukambani region*

Ikumbini DCF—Benjamin & Elizabeth Mutuku  
 Ikungu DCF—David & Naska Musyoka  
 Ivumbuni DCF—Moses & Judith Ndiva  
 Kabete DCF—Joseph & Elizabeth Munyao  
 ♦Kamuthanga Worship Center—Abel & Anne Kaindi  
 Kimua DCF—Boniface & Margret Mutunga  
 Kyasila DOVE—Julius & Penninah Kithokoi  
 Machakos DCF—Daniel & Rebecca Mbiti  
 Mbulutini DCF—James & Truphosa Mwendwa  
 Mithanga DCF—Benedict & Jane Muinde  
 Mutituni DCF—Daniel & Jackline Mulinge

Mutuyu DCF—Samuel & Agnes Maloki  
 Nguluni DCF: Daniel & Faith Mutunga  
 Vota DCF: Boniface & Margaret Mutunga  
*RWANDA*

Kanombe Celebration—Michel Byabagabo & Elizabeth Nyirakiraji  
 Kimisagari Celebration—Elisee Kawayo & Deborah Nyiragazura  
 Mugambazi Celebration—Thomas Nshimiyimana & Dorcas Nyirankundwa

#### *SOUTH AFRICA*

House of Kings—Merle & Cheree Shenk

#### *UGANDA*

Bugolobi DCF—Obadiah & Joval Aryatwujuka  
 Bumbobi DCF—Sam Kauka  
 Bunamwaya DCF—Zakariya & Gorretti Male  
 Kakaari DCF—Mark & Sadrass Ndyagasha  
 Kalungami DCF—Moses & Janet Tutwala  
 Kampala DCF—Ephraim & Jova Batwusime  
 Kiberenge DCF—Edward & Christine Byamukana  
 Kinyomozi DCF—Joseph & Faith Bakoba  
 Kyemba DCF—Joyce Baboineki  
 Napulu DCF—Sam Wandera  
 Nfasha DCF—Milton Rukana  
 Nkongooro DCF—Mrs. Allen Muganga  
 Nyakagando DCF—Caleb & Janet Mwendwa  
 Nyakahita DCF—Winter & Irene Kihumuro  
 Rongoro DCF—Paul & Annet Woluganda  
 Rubona DCF—Jackson & Hilda Byeiguru  
 Shiroh Christian Ministries—Nicolas Kato  
 Wakiso DCF—Davis & Grace Havasa

♦ Wanyange Pentecostal Church—David & Sarah Kiirya

### A S I A

#### *INDIA*

Destiny Centre International—Phillip & Kerina Omondi



## CANADA

- ON Dove's Landing Christian Fellowship—John & Barbara Day
- ON Emmaus Road—Ginny Peng
- ON ♦Goderich Apostolic Fellowship—Shawn Wagstaff
- ON Harvest Family Community Church—Lynn Ironside
- ON Living Stones Christian Fellowship—Bern & Marion McLaughlan
- ON Muskoka Christian Fellowship—Deb Carter
- ON The Gathering—Philip & Lisa Wright
- ON Valens Community Church—Kirk & Arlene Wannop

## CARIBBEAN

### BARBADOS

- Home Way Ministries—Andrew & Vicki Sheperd
- The Living Room—Steve & Shelly Moore

### ST. VINCENT-CANOUAN

- ♦Wells of Living Water—Asbert & Paula Games

### HAITI

- Haiti Mission—Miguel & Crysla Riseme
- L'église de Shalom—Daniel & Antonia Emile
- Temple of the Bible Church—Precol & Amante Charles
- Tistos Disciples for Christ—Gesner Fedelus

## EUROPE

### BULGARIA

- DCF Bulgaria, Sliven—Danail Tenev
- DCF Bulgaria, Lozarevo—Tihomir & Dimka Tenev
- DCF Bulgaria, Sofia—Plamen & Maya Kolevi

### THE NETHERLANDS

- The Living—Dirk & Hanneke Develing

### SCOTLAND

- Living Waters Community Church—John & Gena Buchan

## CENTRAL & SOUTH AMERICA

### BRAZIL

- Comunidade Crista DOVE—Victor & Vânia Gomes

### GUATEMALA

- Ministerios Cristianos Luz Y Vida—Julio & Jodie Rodriguez

### PERU

- Heroes 21 Christian Mission—Justo & Loren Lleclish

## SOUTH PACIFIC

### NEW ZEALAND

#### Three Rivers Network:

- Journeys—Bryan & Michelle Bayley
- Exensionz (Gisborne)—Heather Alexander

## USA

- AR Christian Life Church—Ted & Jana Walker
- CA House to Home Christian Fellowship—John & Kimberly Henry
- CT Grace and Peace Fellowship—John & Mary Lynn Graham
- ID River City Network—Ed & Kellie Canger
- ID House of Service—Bruce & Alice Preston
- IN Indianapolis Christian Fellowship—Jeremy & Julie Bialek
- IN The Network @ Greensburg—Norm & Judy Schlemmer
- KY Grace Fellowship—Philip & Janet McCoy
- KY The CROSSing—David & Sandra Redish
- MA Calvary Worship Center—Joe & Shellie Ford
- RI Anchor of Hope—Jim & Beth Galvin
- MA ♦Lamblight Christian Fellowship—Stephen & Maureen Wade
- MA Lighthouse Christian Center—J. Richard & Annette Dunn
- MD ♦Breath of God Christian Fellowship—Dianne & Joe Welsh
- MD Perry Hall Family Worship Center—Dominic & Lisa Correlli
- MO Kansas City Renewal Fellowship—Sharon & Jim Allen
- NJ Abundant Life Christian Center—Scott & Priscilla Walsh
- NY Revolutionary Life Church—Scott & Michelle Waterman
- NY ♦The BridGe—Luis & Pamela Perez
- OH Agape Community Fellowship of Marysville—Gene & Tisha Miller
- OH DOVE Church Wilmington—Steve & Trudi Fricke
- OH WINGS Christian Fellowship—Mike & Heather Sabin
- OR Desert Streams Church—Gil & Nanci Miller
- OR The Crossing Community Church—Richard & Laura Wong
- PA Bridge to Life—James & Judy Laughrey
- PA DOVE Christian Fellowship Elizabethtown—Tom & Nancy Barnett
- PA DOVE Christian Fellowship Lebanon—Al & Becky Rainbow
- PA DOVE Christian Fellowship Westgate—Duane & Reyna Britton
- PA DOVE Community Cell Church—Monte & Sondra Jones
- PA DOVE Rivers of Life Fellowship—Rick & Sue Patterson
- PA ELANCO DOVE Fellowship—Bob & Trish Snyder
- PA God's Mountain Fellowship—Lamar & Nancy Esbenshade
- PA Koinonia House—Todd & Jessi Clemmer
- PA Lancaster Micro Church Network—Mike & Brie Stoltzfus
- PA Living Stones Christian Fellowship—Scott & Lorraine Jackson
- PA New Life in Jesus Fellowship—LeRoy & Nora Weaver
- PA Newport DOVE—Allen & Julie Dise
- PA Overflow Ministries—Doug & Jenn Lehman
- PA North Gate DOVE Christian Fellowship—Ron & Martha Good
- PA Oasis Fellowship—Glen & Ellen Yoder
- PA Reading DOVE Ministry Center—Craig & Tracie Nanna
- PA The Fireplace Christian Fellowship—Charlie & Heidi Kline
- PA The Fountain at Philadelphia—Stephen & Delisa Riley
- SC ♦Bethel Church—Joey & Renee Bozard
- SD Christian Outreach Fellowship—Bob & Lauri Brunz
- VA ♦Broadlands Community Church—Wallace & Linda Mitchell
- VA Crossroads Community Church—Bobby & Wanda Alger
- VA G2:20 Lifehouse—Todd & Sharon Jones
- VA Westgate Chapel—Brett and Leigh Anne Monk
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