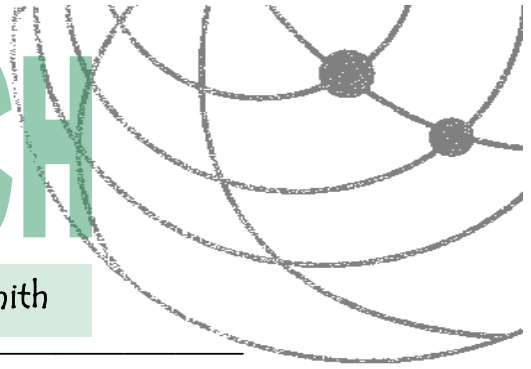


# WORLD CHURCH

Autumn 2010 Up-date

Edited by Brenda Smith



## THE BARNABAS FUND - Afghanistan

**D**id you know that one of every ten Christians live with persecution? We are the other nine, we own a Bible, are free to worship together in public and private. By contrast many live today facing fear and harassment, even death, simply because they follow Christ. Today, in Afghanistan, Christian families fear for their lives after calls from Afghan media and politicians for the execution of those who convert away from Islam. President Karzai himself has expressed great concern about the existence of such converts within his country and it is reported that the police are seeking some 23 people for whom they have arrest warrants. Homes have been searched in Kabul prompting dozens of Christians to flee, some even to leave the country.

*[Please ask for a copy of BARNABAS AID magazine if you would like to pray more effectively? Or go to [www.barnabasfund.org](http://www.barnabasfund.org) ]*

## THE SHALOM CENTRE in Arequipa

**I**t was really good to have Paul & Ruth Turner with us in late June and hear their up-date on the work among disabled children at the centre. There were two main needs we were asked to pray about:

- The need for someone to administer the centre and liaise with the educational and social authorities
- An urgent need to start finding occupational opportunities for the youngsters who have completed their schooling at the centre, but for whom some involvement with the work place is now vital, if they are not to return to being virtually imprisoned in their homes. Paul & Ruth have recently arrived back in Peru and hope to be involved in finding answers to this latter need. But they will also be largely responsible for LATIN LINK's "Step & Stride" youth programme. They are keen to see young Peruvian Christians included in the teams sent from here..

## MIDDLE EAST CHRISTIAN OUTREACH

**N**eil and Paula report that this year there is cause to celebrate 150 years of MECO in the Middle East, supporting ministries that give both physical and spiritual release to the oppressed, through Jesus.

But this is a very diverse Mission which requires considerable administration and it is in this that they are engaged from their UK home in Chelmsford. Neil writes:

"Please pray especially for:

- New workers shortly to be sent abroad for language study and ministry. Visas have recently become an issue with one worker having to delay her departure from the UK. Negotiating with the authorities requires wisdom.
- Many people are involved in education and the start of a new academic year is a significant time for MECO
- The future scope and shape of my role here. This has still not been worked out. Please pray that the challenges of everyday "busy-ness" will not leave insufficient time for long-term thinking (a problem familiar to many of you I'm sure)."

## BIBLE TRAINING PARTNERSHIP in Nigeria

**D**uring the summer months, two teams from the UK visited, one to teach pastors in the northern city of Gusau, and the other to begin a training course in the Makurdi region, near the capital city of Abuja. The Lord answered prayer and both visits went well. The folks in Makurdi are excited to be beginning the Bible training we offer – it will help their pastors to be better equipped to teach their people in this vast and fast-changing country.

*"The things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses, entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others". 2 Timothy 2,2*

Ours is one of several organisations working with the Nigerian church to train leaders. Please pray that godly and wise leadership will grow. David says: "Pray especially for Bishop John in Gusau and Bishop Nathan in Makurdi."

## WYCLIFFE BIBLE TRANSLATORS

**F**amily concerns have continued to add to Brian & Val's Mission programme responsibilities over the past few weeks, but they praise the Lord that they have been able to complete a couple of bigish reports recently. We are unable to detail all of the difficulties they face in their ministry, but pray for members also experiencing visa problems. Brian is due for a big planning meeting in November. Neither he nor Val have fully recovered from a viral infection and ask us to pray that they may find time before November for a short break together, of which they both feel badly in need.

As we pray for them we remember Becky (in the USA) and Esther too.

## UCCF & MICHAEL REEVES

The new term and year is just starting, and as well as doing a number of evangelistic events and teaching staff and students, I'm due to speak in the next few weeks at a number of conferences on topics such as 'the love of God', 'the Trinity' and 'the supremacy of Christ'. Please pray that the gospel might refresh and comfort many. Please pray for the family, Bethan, Lucy and Mia while I'm away. And please pray that I'll find a moment or two to write a nice and easy introductory book on the Trinity (for Paternoster). *[We'll need to do that if he's hoping to make the Trinity easy! Ed]* And please pray for our hearts, that our love for the Lord will deepen and strengthen through all this.

## RACHEL ELLIOTT visits AFFINET

St. Paul's was given an excellent update on Mityana when Rachel returned after a visit to Uganda recently, including a month living with Michael & Janepher. She taught in Affinet's vocational training institute (skills she didn't know she had!) and also in the Glory High School which, like most in Uganda, suffers from a lack of resources. She organised a library of books previously unused, but now available for students. The church is growing and Michael and the Diocese are looking at the possibilities of enlarging the building. Let's remember Rachel prayerfully, now back at Cambridge University. *[A fuller account of her visit is on the World Church notice board. Ed]*

## .....ED & SALLY SURREY report back from Perth.....

They have moved house, to a place much closer to St. Matt's Church, which means they can walk everywhere and have people at home more easily. It also has a spare bedroom which is great they say, because:



*"We are expecting an addition to our family in March. Sally is carrying a healthy baby*

*and we had our first scan yesterday. It's very exciting!"*

They are also excited at having started another Bible study group in a place called Maida Vale, slightly further out of town, reaching those who were too far away to drive in.

They especially ask you to thank God that one of the people in their Tuesday group has become a Christian. Also to pray:

- That new kids will settle in quickly as Term 4 begins.
- That more people will sign up for "Campingground" (a project planned for the Youth Group) and that they'll be able to raise enough money for the venture
- That they might be given strength to faithfully minister the Word, and soft hearts to love and care for those they minister to.
- For continued health and safety for Sally and baby

They have sent us greetings from some of the locals. Here are three of them ..

**From Rory Shiner, the Pastor of Unichurch**



*"It has been so great to have Ed and Sally come over and help us with the ministry here in Perth. They bring a wealth of experience, energy and ideas to the table, and we have already seen much fruit for their ministry ..... We do thank God for them, and for the kind people in the UK who have encouraged them to come. Love and Blessings, Rory Shiner "*

**From Jennie, Associate Pastor**



*"Dear people of England, We can only assume you're a very generous bunch because you've been so willing to 'lend' Sal and Ed to us for a while. On behalf of Unichurch, and indeed Perth, thank you! We do have quite a few "poms" out here, but most of them aren't a patch on the Surreys. I*

*mostly get to work alongside Sal, which is really encouraging and 'sharpening' for me. She's patient, wise, thoughtful, prayerful and longs to see our girls know Jesus more.....we feel very cared for by Sally. All the girls that she ministers to know that she cares about us and our lives, she doesn't just want to help us with the admin."*

**From Josh, a member of Common Ground, the Youth Group ...**



*"G'day to Ed and Sally's Brit support team:*

*I'm one of Ed's recruits to "Common Ground". I've been going to St. Matts for about eight months and Ed and Sally were about the first people I met, making me and my family feel extremely welcome. In particular, the youth at St. Matts has been great, and the organisation of Surrey & Co fantastic; not too rigid but flexible enough to learn more about Christ with friends..... I particularly enjoy listening to Ed's talks s he passionately shares his faith with us and relates the Bible to where we are at as teenagers. His colourful character (and socks, as well as his pommy accent) always get us motivated, so we really appreciate the work Ed and Sally do!"*