

# CONNECT

Spring 2015



REID SAUNDERS  
ASSOCIATION

*Taking the message of the cross to the ends of the earth... All for Jesus*

# CONNECT

## EVANGELISM

2 Timothy 4:5

Target unreached people groups around the world

Be culturally relevant without changing the Good News of Jesus Christ

Demonstrate God's care and compassion by providing humanitarian aid for those in need

Invite people into a relationship with Christ

## BUILD UP THE BODY OF CHRIST

Ephesians 4:12

Promote unity and cooperation among the local Bible-believing churches

Train and equip teams of believers for the work of evangelism

Partner with local churches to make disciples of new believers

Saturate communities through city-wide festivals



REID SAUNDERS ASSOCIATION

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# UPCOMING TRIPS 2015

Southern Europe .....	April 28- May 9
Oaxaca, Mexico .....	July 18-28
Peru Pastors' Conference .....	August 11-18
Argentina .....	September 16-22
Myanmar .....	November 13-23

You are cordially invited to attend the **Annual Dessert Benefit**

Thursday, April 16, 2015  
at the  
Keizer Civic Center  
930 Chemawa Rd NE

Please contact  
karen@reidsaunders.org  
503-581-7394 for further information.  
Volunteers and table hosts are needed.



**SOWING**  
*Generously*  
**FOR A**  
*Generous*  
**HARVEST**



## Donated Supplies shipped to India

Thousands of pounds of donated office furnishings, theology books, computers, electronics, and clothing were loaded on a truck December 12 by volunteers. Part of the load was bound for Great Harvest Bible College in Tamil Nada, operated by Sunny Abraham, the Asia coordinator for RSA ([www.greatharvestoutreach.com](http://www.greatharvestoutreach.com)). The

remaining part of the load, comprised of appliances and household supplies, will be delivered to the family of Brad Butcher, a full-time evangelist living in India, serving as president of Passion 4 People International. Brad is one of Brett Butcher's brothers. Fred Butcher and members of Warren Community Fellowship in St. Helens drove the truck to San Diego and loaded everything onto a shipping container. Thank you to the people who donated and to the willing volunteers!

# ALL FOR JESUS



Wow! Incredible! Amazing! These words barely describe how excited I am for our Annual Dessert Benefit. *The fields are ripe for harvest* has been our overall theme for this year. We praise the Lord for the harvest of souls He has brought this year and all He is continuing to bring in through this ministry! Together, God is using us in the harvest field as we sow the Good News of Jesus Christ. *Sowing Generously for a Generous Harvest* will be my message at our dessert. It comes from 2 Corinthians 9:6. "Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously." We need to get out in the fields and sow the Gospel seeds to as many people as possible.



I want to encourage you to join me and attend our Dessert on April 16. You will be encouraged as you see and hear stories of how God is using our ministry to sow generously the Good News of Jesus all over the world! I'm still in awe over what God just did in Kenya as thousands gave their lives to Jesus! One of my favorite stories is seeing the pastors rejoicing over all the people God saved! For many months these Kenyan pastors have been praying and sowing Gospel seeds in their cities as they prepared for the festivals. It was so exciting to see God answer their prayers as thousands responded to the Gospel! Oh, what a joy it is to be out in the fields of the world, from Salem to Kenya, sowing generously the Gospel seeds. All for Jesus!

So invite and bring your friends as we need more workers for the harvest fields. I look forward to seeing you on April 16 as we praise God for the harvest of souls!

All for Jesus!  
Reid

... the fields are ripe for harvest. John 4:35

Yesu en Jawar

# GOD LOVES KENYA

Homa Bay  
Mbita, Oyugis  
Outreach Festivals  
January 21-31, 2015

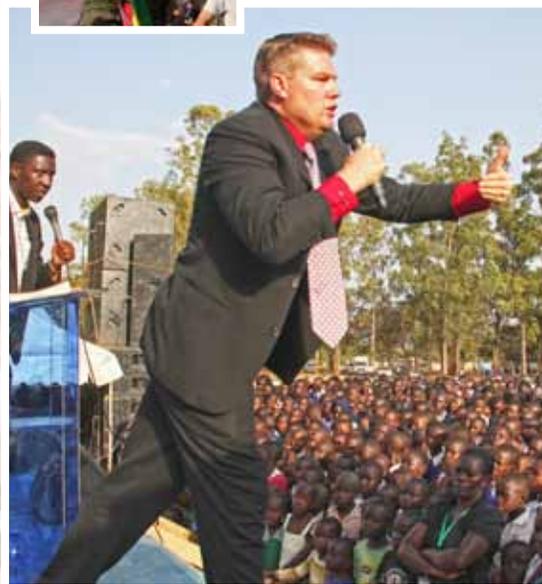
## Thousands come to Christ in Kenya outreach festivals

We were so excited to see more than 17,000 people give their lives to Jesus Christ! It was great to be a part of the **God Loves Kenya** outreach and see so many people impacted for eternity. We are still praising God for the amazing things He is doing in Africa!

During the first week of the outreach, hundreds of people were served at medical and dental clinics, eyeglasses and clothing were distributed to the needy, and 200 local pastors took part in a discipleship training conference. During the last six days of the evangelistic outreach, festivals were held in Homa Bay, Mbita, and Oyugis. Over 60,000 people in attendance heard the Gospel presented through music, drama and testimonies. This southwest region of Kenya, along the shores of Lake Victoria, will be impacted for a very long time. Brett Butcher was impressed with the spirit of unity displayed by local church leaders and their commitment to reaching their communities for Christ.

The **God Loves Kenya** outreach was the first time that a festival-style event was attempted in this region. Held January 19 through 31, 2015, it was a powerful team effort and a testimony of Christian unity. More than 50 local churches and community leaders, Reid Saunders Association, and a group of evangelists from the United States all joined forces. Raymond Centanni from Rock of Ages, Mark Johnston, Richard and Ginger Hamlett from Global Ministries Foundation, Vic Murphy, and Mark Mohr of Christafari, were all part of a team that was able to accomplish more by planning, combining resources, and working together.

The doors to Kenya were truly wide open to the Gospel and there was a tremendous response to our message. We ask you to please pray for these 17,000 new believers and for the 50 local churches that will be responsible for the followup. Thank you again for your continued prayers and financial support of the ministry!



# Getting Out of Your Comfy Little Box

By David Brouse

Our story began 11 years ago when God asked us to step out of our comfort zone. Karen and I have been hanging out with kids in the dirtiest place in the church... The Underground. It didn't have a whole lot going for it at first: no skateboards, no helmets, no ramps, no lights, no sound system, no heat, no money. But it did have a group of skaters that wanted to share Jesus with young people. Together, we have had the opportunity to share Jesus Christ with thousands of youth over the years.

It didn't take long until God redirected us and this time He said, "It's time to get out of your comfy little box. Get outside the church building and get into the community." We'd never done anything like this before, but God was all over it. So we held our first community outreach and had people that we didn't even know show up to help us move our ramps. And we were humbled by God as we saw over 30 people give their lives to Jesus as a result of us "getting out of the box."

Soon, God was calling us to minister to skateboarding youth at the Creation Northeast Festival. After a couple years, they asked us if we would take a skate team to Ghana, Africa with Come Alive International and Reid Saunders Association. Not even on our radar! Never in our wildest dreams did we ever imagine that we would take skaters to Africa. But we did, and it was the beginning of an amazing relationship with RSA.

In 2014, Reid Saunders asked us to travel to Barahona, Dominican Republic. We never quite know what we're going to do on these trips and we always pray, "God if you want us to go a totally different direction from what we have planned, give us open eyes to see and open ears to hear."

I guess that's what was different on this trip - God took Karen and me in a totally different direction. Yes, we got to minister to kids via the skateboarders, but we also filled a need supporting the medical team. It was my heart's desire to get into the real culture and see just what the needs really were. "What did you do for the least of these?" kept coming to my mind. When the medical team shared that they needed more eyes and ears, we volunteered. We had no idea what we

would be doing, but God already knew where He was leading us. We held kids, we played games, we let them comb our hair, we gave them Bibles, we prayed for them. Oh, did we pray for people! On the night before the last medical clinic, God made it clear to me that I was to pray for every person that came to the clinic the next day. My prayer partner, Steve, and I laid hands on every person that came that day, and we prayed and prayed. I can't fully describe how amazing it feels to know that you are doing God's will.

After we had been back from the DR for a couple months, God literally stopped me as I was backing the car into our garage and said, "Stop and pray." I was overwhelmed and I looked at Karen and said "We're supposed to pray." Before I could start praying, she was praying exactly what I was feeling... that we were to go

so many amazing people that live there and totally want to see their friends, their families, their city, and their nation come to know Jesus. Had we not gone on the first Dominican Republic trip with Reid Saunders, we would not have met our medical team director, our interpreters, Pastor Fernando Fleming, his whole incredible church, and we would not have met the wonderful people of the Children of the Nations.

Little did we know, God was already laying the foundation for our return trip. All my concerns were eliminated. They drove our vans, prepared our meals, translated Spanish for us, and they cared so deeply for their brothers and sisters that visited our medical clinics. It was an honor to serve alongside these wonderful people and to see the compassion they have for their fellow countrymen and women.



David and Karen Brouse took a team of skaters on the trip to Dominican Republic with Reid Saunders in February 2014 and fell deeply in love with the people. God is calling them back to serve full time.

back to Barahona and, if nothing else, take clothing and shoes. We hadn't really spoken about this, but it was clear to both of us that even if no one else went, we were to go.

The beautiful thing about traveling with Reid Saunders is that you will get to see God's people in action. You will get to share Jesus with people right where they are. You will get to share hope with the "least of these." You will get to meet amazing people.

When we started getting serious about returning to Barahona, it wasn't hard to figure out who to contact. We had met

Simply put, they are some of the most Christ-centered people we have ever met.

We are back home now and we feel God calling us to something even greater. Yes, we've scheduled another trip back to the same country and the same town. There is so much opportunity in Barahona. The harvest is ripe. We don't know when, but we feel God calling us to be more than visitors. We've opened the door and we're waiting, patiently. So please pray for us as we discern God's call in our lives. We can now see ourselves outside of this comfy little box and living and serving alongside the people of Barahona.

"In those moments, God was restoring something in my heart. He was increasing my capacity to love." Abe Pfeifer

When I decided to go to Thailand with Reid Saunders Association, I was looking forward to going on a missions trip like I've done before on several occasions, and bringing some individuals from my church, as well, to experience serving God in another country. However, I quickly discovered that this was more



than just another missions trip. This was an opportunity to encounter God afresh!

I woke up the day before we left, and was feeling weary. It had been a very full season of ministry. Nothing negative really, but I just felt empty. I wondered what good I would be on this trip when I felt like I had nothing left to give. After I prayed with my wife I felt encouraged, and started preparing for my journey to Tak.

Once we arrived, I seized some time for worship and prayer, so that I could be strengthened. Although I wasn't yet at full strength, I felt good enough to start ministering.

That first day we went to a remote mountain village where we ministered to the kids and held a medical clinic. As the people came through the medical clinic, they also had opportunity to come to a couple of us for prayer. One of the first ladies who came to me had difficulty seeing - her friend told me she was blind. I prayed for her and asked her how her eyes were, and she said they were better. I asked if I could pray one more time. After that she said, her eyes were even better. She started reading signs on the wall!

Needless to say I was excited! As we continued to pray, more and more people were healed. But as this happened,

something even greater was happening inside of me. God was reminding me of His love for people.

Later in the week I had the opportunity to teach at a pastors' conference. As we were all gathered and worshipping before I began teaching, I paused during one of the songs. I began to weep for the people of Thailand. In those moments, God was restoring something in my heart. He was increasing my capacity to love. It was out of that work that I was able to minister to the pastors, and God did some profound things that day!

By the time the trip was over, I had more life and joy than I had come with, because I had experienced a fresh encounter with the living God! That happened because a shift occurred in my life. Before the trip I had been "spending" my life away without much focus. But going on the trip helped me move into "investing" my life once again for the sake of the Kingdom of Heaven.

written by Abe Pfeifer, pastor of New Hope Foursquare Church, Salem OR.

# Oaxaca Mexico Trip coming July 18-28

Rich with culture and history, the city of Oaxaca (pronounced wă'hăka) is located in Southern Mexico, not far from the Guatemalan border. With a population of nearly 250,000, it is a regional center for trade and tourism. Oaxaca is known for its gorgeous Mexican Baroque architecture, ancient ruins from past civilizations, colorful crafts, lively market places, unique Mole' cuisine, chocolate factories, and an interesting, indigenous culture.

This region of Mexico is highly religious. Ancient pagan practices and beliefs are often mixed with organized church traditions. Combined with poor church attendance, alcohol and drugs, many of the people are confused and searching for answers. Evangelical

Christian churches are under increasing pressure to conform to the worldly patterns that cause them to water down their biblical message. The people have a desperate need



of hearing God's Word and message of salvation. RSA teams will partner with long-time missionaries, Brenton and Martha Trent, and local evangeli-

cal pastors to reach this important city for Christ. Reid Saunders Association will spend a week providing medical clinics, distributing clothing to the needy, presenting the Gospel through evangelistic outreaches in orphanages, market places, and a woman's prison. The week-long trip will end with a two-day outreach festival that will include BMX demonstrations, Christian music, a children's area, dramas and presentation of the Gospel message.

For those interested in going on this trip, the cost is \$2,400. Applications will be accepted through April 17, 2015. See our web site for PDF copies of the application.

<http://reidsaunders.org/join-us/take-a-trip/mission-forms>

## 2015 National Prayer Breakfast

written by Carmen Saunders

Reid and I had the incredible honor and privilege to attend The National Prayer Breakfast in February. I was inspired to see first-hand how Congress men and women put aside their political sides and agendas, and come together in the Name of Jesus, not only on this day, but weekly to pray together! Approximately a quarter of the Senate and House attend weekly Prayer Breakfasts, as do many leaders who are committed to prayer and accountability, uniting in the Spirit of Jesus.

We gathered with over 3,600 people from 130 Nations, including President Obama and the First Lady, as well as members of Con-



gress. The President spoke about coming together in humility and prayer. We also heard many personal testimonies of how Jesus is grabbing hold of lives and changing them for eternity! Some of my favorite testimonies were the NASCAR Hall of Fame legend Darrell Waltrip, Eight-Division Champion Boxer Manny Pacquiao, who is now a House Representative in his own Filipino government, and a former Muslim Extremist, who trained under Bin Laden. All their lives now have the sweet fragrance of love for Jesus.

We heard a moving prayer from Dr. Kent Brantly, winner of Time Magazine's Person of the Year for 2014. As a medical doctor working for Samaritan's Purse, he contracted Ebola in Liberia but now is cured, attributing it to prayer and a miracle from God. He is now donating his plasma for others and to help find a cure. He weaved together a beautiful prayer using the Lord's Prayer and various Scriptures as he lifted up world leaders. The closing prayer was given by Andrew J. Young, a dear friend of Martin Luther King, Jr., who urged us to listen to the Holy Spirit, a theme emphasized throughout the meetings.

For three days the hotel was filled with people from all over the world, deep in conversations, intent on building friendships and connections in Christ. Ministries varied from working with the poor in developing countries, sex-trafficking homeland and abroad, to those influencing world diplomacy. In one of the breakout sessions we heard former U.S. Congressman and UN Ambassador Mark Siljander share about his book *A Deadly Misunderstanding; A Congressman's Quest to Bridge the Muslim-Christian Divide*.

Siljander has had conversations with the Dalai Lama, Yasser Arafat, Kadafi, and other Muslim world leaders, talking about mainly two things -Jesus and friendship. These kind of friendships are changing the world and affecting foreign policy.

Abram Vereide, a Norwegian clergy who immigrated to Seattle, cared for the poorest of the poor and eventually founded Goodwill Industries. Through his work with the political leadership in the city of Seattle, he also started the Prayer Breakfast movement. Sixty-three years ago, in an effort to bring political leaders together after the war, Vereide helped to establish the National Prayer Breakfast. In response to the breakfast, President Eisenhower remarked, "That is the craziest idea I've ever heard, and the greatest idea I've ever heard." Since 1953, there has been a National Prayer Breakfast, attended by the President of the United States, where political and spiritual leaders fellowship and pray over a meal in the Name of Jesus.

Doug Coe, who assumed the role of his friend and mentor, Abram Vereide, spoke at a small gathering after the breakfast. "The Gospel can be summed up in one word... Jesus. Love can be summed up in one word ...Jesus. And unity can be accomplished through one word... Jesus."

Most of all, I am grateful to Jim and Janet Eney, representatives of not only Oregon, but of Jesus, who invited us, invested in us with the deep love of Christ, and who exemplified all that the Prayer Breakfast is about: the meaningful fellowship, prayer, and partnering in the Name of Jesus to impact the nations.



**REID SAUNDERS**  
ASSOCIATION

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**RETURN ADDRESS REQUESTED**



*... the fields are ripe for harvest. John 4:35*

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