

CONNECT

Winter 2016



REID SAUNDERS
ASSOCIATION

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

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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503-581-7394 info@reidsaunders.org



UPCOMING TRIPS

Cambodia / Laos	May 8 -17, 2016
Malawi, Africa	August 2016
Moldova	October 2016
Mandalay, Myanmar	Oct. 22 - Nov. 1, 2016

You are invited to spend the evening with Reid at the
Reid Saunders Association
Annual Dessert Benefit - April 28, 2016

UNTIL ALL HAVE HEARD

Please contact Karen Olson if you would like to attend but have not received a personal invitation from a Table Host. 503-581-7394 or email info@reidsaunders.org

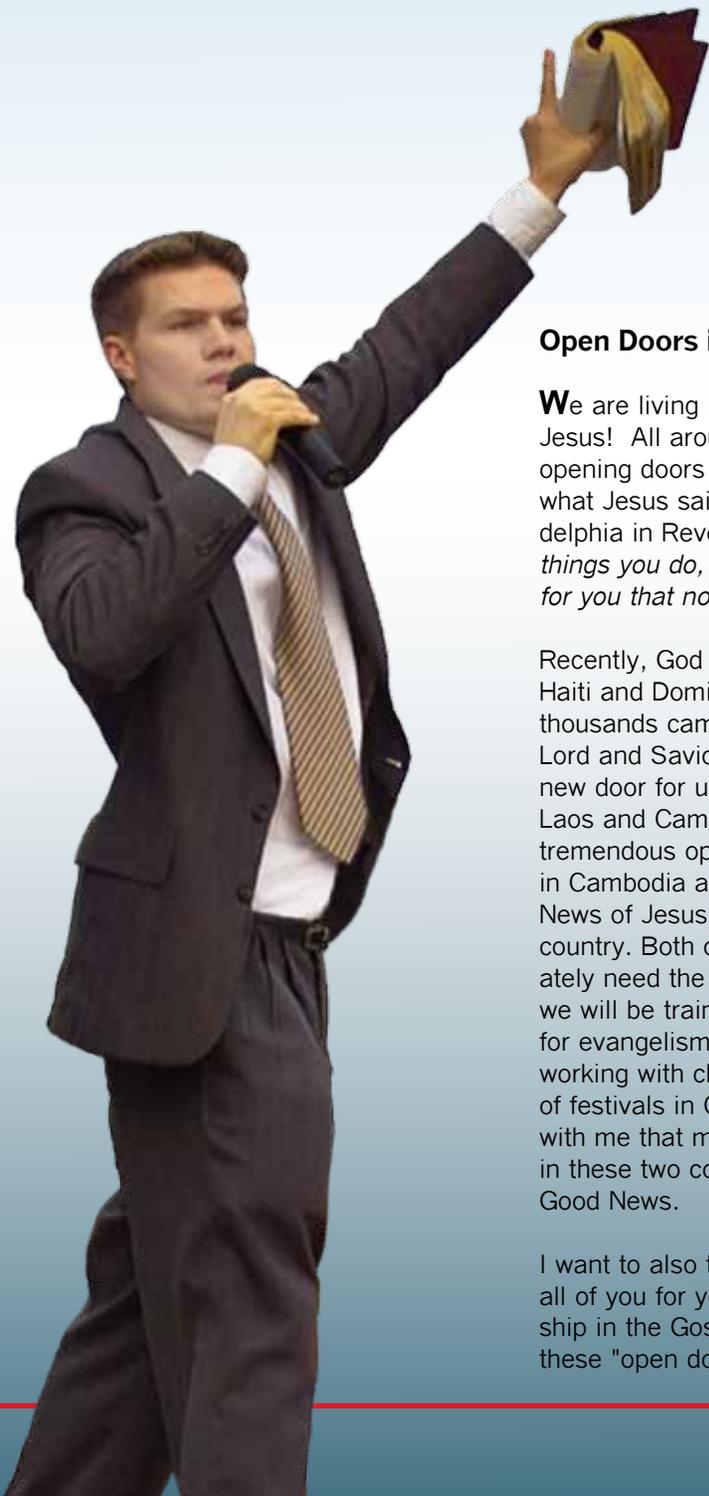


Supplies Needed for Kid Zone Ministry

Beads for Wordless Book presentation, Nail Polish, Evangecube, Soccer Balls, Face Paints. Contact Carmen Saunders for specific needs and supply sources. Email her at saundersreid@aol.com or contact the office at info@reidsaunders.org



ALL FOR JESUS



Potential festival site in Cambodia

Open Doors in Cambodia and Laos

We are living in exciting times to serve Jesus! All around the world, the Lord is opening doors for His Good News. I love what Jesus said to the Church in Philadelphia in Revelation 3:8 *"I know all the things you do, and I have opened a door for you that no one can shut."*

Recently, God opened a door for us in Haiti and Dominican Republic where thousands came to know Jesus as Lord and Savior! God has opened a new door for us to take the Gospel to Laos and Cambodia this May. This is a tremendous opportunity! The churches in Cambodia are so excited for the Good News of Jesus to be proclaimed in their country. Both of these countries desperately need the hope of Jesus. In Laos, we will be training pastors and believers for evangelism. We are planning and working with churches to hold three days of festivals in Cambodia. Please pray with me that many will come to Jesus in these two countries as we share the Good News.

I want to also take this time to thank all of you for your prayers and partnership in the Gospel. We can't go through these "open doors" without your faithful

prayers and financial support. We have been given an amazing match from one of our ministry champions of \$20,000 for Laos and Cambodia. That means every dollar you give toward Laos and Cambodia will be matched dollar-for-dollar, up to \$20,000. In order to receive the grant, we need to raise the full \$20,000. Please pray about how the Lord might lead you to get involved with this exciting and generous match. It is a joy to serve Jesus with you!

May 10-11 Sisophon, Cambodia - Banteay Outdoor Evangelistic Outreach

May 13-14 Siem Reap, Cambodia - Indoor Outreach (possibly twice daily)

May 15-16 Vientiane, Laos - Pastors & Workers Evangelism Conference

Planners are expecting 5,000 people to attend Sisophon Festival and 3,000 at Siem Reap Festival. Thirty churches are involved in the planning, and 150 churches are participating in Festivals.

The goal is to train 200 counselors and workers at the evangelism conference in Laos.

All for Jesus,

Until all have heard... Mark 16:15

TEAM UNITY IS A CHALLENGE AND REWARD IN HAITI AND DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

By Olivia Artzis

In a litter-strewn field, the blackened dirt was hot under a mid-day sun. The dry powder coated shoes, equipment, and the bare feet of Haitian children as they walked across a scorched earth scattered with broken pieces of glass and rusty nails. In this vacant city block, with hundreds of motorcycles parked randomly between trucks and vans - with street vendors all around - a crowd of onlookers watched the construction of a stage, sound system and BMX bike ramps with curiosity.

Driving up to the charred festival site, Reid Saunders Association (RSA) Communications Director, Mike Bartlett, surveyed the scene before him. The lyrics of a popular Chris Tomlin song played in his head. *"Into the darkness you shine, out of the ashes we rise. There's no one like you, none like you."* It was then that Mike had a momentary vision of thousands of people coming to hear the Gospel in that very field of ashes. This fleeting image soon became reality, as thousands of people came to fill the vacant lot, some even standing beside glowing embers in the trash piles.

An estimated crowd of 17,000 had come to hear God's Word in Ouanaminthe, Haiti, the festival being one of two held as a part of Lifest 2016. From January 30 to February 8, a total of 63 people from all over the U.S. and from different mission organizations cooperated together in unity, ministering to some of the neediest people of Haiti and Dominican Republic. The impact was immeasurable.

Crossing the border into Haiti, there is immediate change. The lush green landscape of Dominican Republic gives way to dusty desolation - Haiti, the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere. It is a country of both material and spiritual poverty, nearly half of its people still practicing voodoo.

Praying to bring the hope of Christ to the people in Haiti and DR, RSA members Brett Butcher and Ruth Daniels worked with DR Pastor Fernando Ruiz Fleming to organize eight days of ministry. Those assembled included a team from RSA, Next Generation Alliance members

Andrew Palau and Dave Luben of Luis Palau Association, John Andrus and Vic Murphy of Action Sports Outreach, Pastor Harry Thomas of Creation Festivals, Josh Brewer and Alan Greene of LifeLight, Bob Lenz of Life Promotions, and members of Christ the Rock Church in Wisconsin.

This marked the first time RSA had organized such a large group. It consisted of five evangelists and their teams - a total of 63 people - ministering in two very different countries simultaneously. The preparation was time-consuming; but Ruth, International Events and Team Coordinator at RSA, says the planning was worthwhile and purposeful. "Of course, more will reach more!" she says in regard to the size of the team.

Andrew Palau prayed with 60 inmates that made a decision to follow Jesus in a DR prison. Reid with Pastor Fernando before Sunday Festival with an estimated crowd of more than 20,000.



In fact, more **did** reach more. The team of 63 proclaimed the truth and love of Christ to thousands of people in Haiti and DR. Weekdays were spent ministering to the people's physical needs by distributing 275 articles of clothing, providing more than 900 people with five days of free medical clinics, and handing out personal hygiene packets to prisoners. The team proclaimed Christ to almost 70,000 people in orphanages, churches, schools and throughout the weekend festivals. These festivals were citywide and incorporated presentation of the Gospel, music, dramas, kid-zone activities, BMX bike demonstrations, and other entertainment.

The team also worked with local pastors to help churches become healthy and self-sustaining. Fostering long-term partnership, they demonstrated unity and cooperation, displaying for churches what it looks like to maintain healthy community structure and strong ministry. As a result, the pastors were more united to carry out evangelism in their cities. According to Ruth, they felt powerfully motivated to continue the work of



Vic Murphy shared his testimony with thousands in Ouanaminthe, Haiti. Reid with Pastor Harry Thomas of Creation Festivals and fellow evangelist, Bob Lenz of Life Promotions



Christ. "The most impacting comment I heard from church members," she says, "was that we planted a lot of love by connecting with the people and showing them the love of God."

By the end of team outreaches, and four city-wide festivals, nearly 12,000 people made the decision to follow Christ - a result of one team working together for God in unity and humility. Such humility was displayed in amazing ways: already established leaders were willing to bow out, humbly allowing others to take control when necessary. Kellan Sawyer, RSA bookkeeper and the RSA organizer for the Haiti team, observed this unity within her group members. "Unity can be quenched very easily by pride and arrogance and having to do it 'my way,'" she explains. "That was tabled quite a bit. It's what really made it work - being one in mind and purpose and goal and operating in that condition."

Andrew Palau of Luis Palau Association, one of the evangelists who ministered in DR, witnessed a prison warden allow his inmates to have weekly meetings

of fellowship after seeing the commitment and collaboration of the mission organizations with the local pastors. "We are more mighty together and can have such a bigger and stronger influence on a community when we all work together," he says, as he reflects on the team's impact in Haiti and DR.

Indeed, as Paul wrote in Ephesians chapter four, Christians as a body are called to grow up into Christ, the head, "from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love" (ESV). Each part of the body is critical in carrying out the will of God.

The will of God certainly manifested itself that Sunday evening in Ouanaminthe, as more than 20,000 people crowded shoulder-to-shoulder around the festival stage to hear the Good News. Almost overwhelmed by the masses, Mike Bartlett, along with evangelists Reid Saunders, Harry Thomas, and Bob Lenz, made his way through

the crowd to the main stage. There could be no way of knowing just how many responded to Christ that night. It was only through the enabling power of God that a group of 63 people, separated by distance and regional lines, came together as brothers and sisters in Christ to reach thousands in need of salvation.

Baby Dieudnaylove is a Living Miracle

by Bev Schmidgall and Kellan Sawyer



Coming home from a long hard day at the free medical clinics and being told that a badly burned infant was on the way to us was a bit overwhelming, but, wow, what an opportunity! This is why we had come to Haiti - to serve! It was around 4:00 in the afternoon when that tiny bundle of badly burned baby arrived. My heart ached for the mother and her tiny three week old child. When we actually unwrapped her and saw the extent of her burns, I was definitely concerned and fearful of the possible outcome. Large pieces of skin were completely missing from her limbs and lower body. Of course she was crying!

How can such a severe burn over such a great percentage of her little body heal without infections? The burns were obviously life-threatening and we had to react quickly. Fluid loss, and infection were the first things we would treat. Our very capable team of medical professionals was ready, surrounding her with helpful hands and fervent prayer. The makeshift medical team worked as a cohesive unit, as though they had worked together for years. (They had just met two days earlier.) Each person in the team brought something valuable to the table in stabilizing this baby.

The Lord answered our prayer and together we were able to provide the necessary first line of care including starting an IV and getting her wrapped. Soon, we set off across the border to a hospital with burn unit in Dominican Republic, which had the appropriate doctors and willingness to accept her. Crossing the

Thailand and Myanmar Churches Experience Dramatic Growth

Returning to Thailand twelve months after our first visit to the city of Tak, we were excited to find thriving churches with many new believers. Nearly 120 new believers crowded into a former retail space in Chiang Mai, a city located one hour north of our previous festival site. Manop, our Thailand festival coordinator, explained to Reid and fellow passengers on the way to Sunday morning services in his dry, humorous way, "Reid is a problem everywhere he goes in the world... they have to build new churches when he leaves." Acts of Abundant Love Church, a good example, was a one-year old congregation formed shortly after the Tak River Festival. Their contagious enthusiasm and friendship was a welcome sign to us and a reminder that God was building His church around the world.

The second visit, in November 2015, took us further north to the cities of Chiang Mai, and Mae Sai, directly across from the Myanmar border. Nearly 40,000 people heard the Gospel presentation in five days of festivals, community outreaches, and school visits. We are excited and praising God for the 3,000 people that made decisions for Jesus Christ in one week. These new believers are being disciplined through local Bible-believing churches that are eager for the new opportunities.

More than 600 people from the Myanmar border region were treated at a riverside medical clinic near Mae Sai. After crossing the river in a large canoe hired to transport them, the crowd waited patiently in the morning heat for the RSA team to arrive. Eyeglasses were distributed with the help of the local Lions club, toothbrushes and children's clothing were distributed to the most needy. A team of Thai medical personnel screened patients and dispensed donated meds as needed. Team members witnessed miraculous healing as they prayed for individuals that gathered.

Reid was able to present the Gospel to an estimated radio audience of one million listeners. Fellow evangelist and teachers, Ray Centanni and Andrea Larson encouraged and trained 70 pastors and their wives during four conferences in Thailand and Myanmar. The sixteen-member team returned home a few days before Thanksgiving, exhausted



but grateful to be a part of God's mighty work around the world.

As part of a follow up trip, Mike Bartlett was privileged to visit another thriving church in Mae Sot, a thirty-minute drive from the city of Tak, on the Myanmar border. Forty teens and young adults gathered for an evening youth service of worship and teaching in a church that was less than eighteen months old. The Mae Sot church, painted bright pink, was comprised of Myanmar migrants and refugees that were developing roots within their host country. Many of the youth had come to Christ at the Tak River Festival or attended one of the community outreaches that the

RSA drama, medical, and BMX teams held in surrounding communities. This church was actively reaching out to their own community through in-home music concerts, prison ministry, and food programs. Mike also had a chance to visit two Christian schools, (450 students) that have been established along the border to teach the Bible and educate the migrant population.

Political and economic conditions are improving in Myanmar and RSA plans to return October 27- November 7, 2016 to the city of Mandalay. Spaces are open for additional team members. Please contact the office if you would like to be a part of this next outreach.



JOIN US FOR UPCOMING TRIPS

MALAWI: AUGUST 13 - 22, 2016

Every year, RSA plans trips that both partner with local churches and other ministries. This year our team is committed to a trip to Malawi, a small country in East Africa just south of Tanzania and north of South Africa. We are planning a country-wide outreach through festivals in 6-8 cities in virtually every region of this small country, finishing with a festival in the city of Lilongwe with fellow evangelist Andrew Palau. Est. Trip Cost \$3500-\$4000

MOLDOVA: OCTOBER 11-21, 2016

RSA is teaming up with Next Generation Alliance in taking a team to work with churches in the Moldovan capital of Chisinau and Balti, the second largest city. We will be doing single events depending upon the size of the community. These events could include pizza for students, dinner for police officers, businessmen, etc. The Gospel is shared by an evangelist as the "after-dinner speaker." Local churches are trained and equipped to befriend and disciple new believers. We are looking for musicians to join us on this trip. Est. Trip Cost: \$3500

PERU: APRIL 2017

After the pastors training held in Lima, Peru in August of 2015, the pastors there caught the vision of planning a festival for their city. Although Lima is the fourth-largest city in the Americas, and one of the most important financial centers in Latin America, Lima is also home of extreme poverty and crime. The rapid population growth in the city is a result of the migration of people from rural areas in search of better access to basic services. Low wages, high unemployment, and lack of appropriate housing have left the migrant people living in dire poverty. In the outskirts of Lima, there are about one million people living in communities that consist of small shacks that lack access to water and electricity. The purpose of the mission trip and festival in Lima is to reach the people living in these communities with the message of hope in Christ through medical clinics, schools assemblies, and a two-day festival. Est. Trip Cost: \$3500

Baby Dieudnaylove



border at night, something that rarely happens, was a major hurdle. There was also money available to pay for treatment. Generous people in the States had already given money to some of the team members with the understanding that when the need arose, the team members would know, "This was it!"

We received report on February 14th, two weeks after the event: *"I just wanted you to know that baby Dieudnaylove was released from the hospital yesterday and I was able to transport them home last night. She looks really good. There are two small spots on her legs that are not yet dry, but other than that, she seems to be healing better than expected. Praise God!"*

I know she was prayed for by believers near and far, so it should have not surprised me. She is a miracle! I believe she will be a star for Jesus as she grows up. Our God does care. It takes believers in the church to bring His love to this earth. When the body gathers together in His name, lives are changed, and lives are saved.



Back row: Ruth Daniels, Phil Strom, Brett Butcher, center row: Reid Saunders, Karen Olson, Paul Null, Kaylyn Blum, Front row: Carmen Saunders, Kellan Sawyer, Mike Bartlett. Not in picture: Olivia Artzis, intern and communications assistant. Phil joined our staff in December as Director of Operations and Development; Brett will transition to Next Study, an online decision and discipleship program for our festivals; Kaylyn is executive assistant to Reid.

Prayer Partners Needed
for Upcoming Events:

Cambodia/Laos
Reset/Together 2016

Contact Carmen Saunders
for specific prayer requests
and group information.
info@reidsaunders.org



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Until all have heard... Mark 16:15



CONNECT

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143 high school students in Dominican Republic willingly took a bold step of faith to follow Jesus when they heard the Good News.