

# CONNECT

Fall 2017



A Love Malta prayer team member talks with a family of four after they heard the message of God's grace and forgiveness.

See Malta story, page 4



*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

Engage the culture 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

PO Box 4275 Salem Oregon 97302  
503-581-7394 [info@reidsaunders.org](mailto:info@reidsaunders.org)



# UPCOMING EVENTS

Ivory Coast Trip .....	November 2-6, 2017
Spain/Portugal Pre-trip .....	March 1-7, 2018
Israel Team Trip .....	March 8-18, 2018
Reid Saunders Dessert Benefit .....	April 19, 2018
Armenia/Georgia trip .....	May 18-28, 2018
Brazil Team Trip .....	August 9-21, 2018
Bolivia Team Trip .....	September 7-18, 2018
Reid Saunders Golf Tournament .....	September 24, 2018

## ISRAEL TEAM TRIP



### MARCH 8-18, 2018

Spots are filling up quickly! Don't miss your opportunity for a trip of a lifetime to the Holy Land with Reid Saunders Association, March 8-18, 2018.

Informational meeting: Sunday, November 19 at 3:00 PM at RSA office:

1790 16th Street SE, Suite 201, Salem OR 97302      Contact: [ruth@reidsaunders.org](mailto:ruth@reidsaunders.org)

Application due November 15, 2017

All-inclusive trip from Portland, Oregon \$3,500

Payment schedule for the Israel trip:

\$1,000 by November 15, 2017

\$1,000 by January 15, 2018

\$1,500 by February 15, 2018

We are partnering with Holy Land Missions and The Center for Jewish-Christian Understanding & Cooperation (CJCUC) to learn first-hand about the life of Jews and Christians in the Holy Land, all while walking where Jesus walked. You will experience affinity, outreach events, youth, and breakfast outreach events, attend Christian music concerts, and gain insight from Jewish and Arab believers. You will be immersed in the culture and history of the Bible by a Jewish rabbi and an Arab pastor. There will be opportunities to share your faith, a special worship with local believers, and a chance to minister to the persecuted Christians in Bethlehem!

Sightseeing opportunities: Mount of Olives, Sea of Galilee, City of Jerusalem, Bible Land Museum, Shepherd Fields, Dead Sea, Western Wall, and the Garden Tomb.



# ALL FOR JESUS

God has opened the door for a huge youth festival in Seoul, South Korea early in 2019! We met with key local churches and leaders who want to partner with us to see the youth of Korea reached for Jesus. We were surprised to see how many young people in this densely populated city had never even heard about Jesus. This is truly an unreached generation and we're excited to partner with the churches to see people come to know the Lord in Seoul, so please be praying for this opportunity.

From Korea, we went to Indonesia, which is the largest Muslim country in the world. Christian leaders told me that when the powerful tsunami hit in December of 2004, Muslims and non-Muslims alike were shocked and devastated. But the Muslim population noticed that the first people to show up and help were Christians. The compassion of the

Christian relief workers opened the door for us to share the love of Christ. The Muslim people have been much more open to the Good News of Jesus since that time.

We're preparing a five-year plan, in partnership with Corban University, to work with local Christian churches and reach the islands of Indonesia, focusing primarily on the youth. Sheldon Nord, President of Corban University, helped us make great contacts with specific leaders in the country. As we prayed and trusted God, He opened the door for us to take the gospel to the ends of the earth. Rallies in schools and open-air festivals will work well in Indonesia. Whether we conduct them inside buildings or outside in public areas, citywide festivals will be possible. This is an exciting opportunity!

Brett Butcher and I had the opportunity to meet with an influential radio and TV pro-

ducer, who is also a believer, on the island. He assured us that we will have a clear opening to preach the gospel on both radio and TV stations. That alone could potentially reach millions of people for Christ across Indonesia. Even in a predominantly Muslim country, many smaller Christian churches are allowed to exist. Please pray that God will continue to prepare the people's hearts in this region.

While the doors are open, let's prepare to take the gospel to both Indonesia and South Korea. We want to reach the unreached in Southeast Asia ... *all for Jesus!*

Reid Saunders



Seoul, Korea - 2019  
Five-year plan for Indonesia



By Team Member Tara Roberts

Malta marks my third official trip with Reid Saunders Association. God has allowed me to participate all over the world with various evangelists, experiencing different cultures who, one would think, have different needs; but honestly, the core of humanity has but one need... **to be forgiven.** Malta is no different, other than I witnessed a unique approach and response by the people of Malta that was new to me. Their main religion is Orthodox Catholicism, essentially worship of Mary and the Saints. This trip was also different as we were joining another team, LifeLight, as opposed to them joining us.

**Sunday,** I was asked to speak at the church on the university campus with Vic Murphy and John Andrus, the BMX stunt performers. My part on this team was to share my story of redemption and how God took my hopeless and impossible situation and turned it into hope and victory. The church was responsive to my testimony and I was encouraged.

**Monday** was our first scheduled outreach was in the capitol city, Valletta. This area was filled with stately government buildings and a busy shopping dis-

trict swarming with tourists and people on the move. Our strategic focus was on the youth of the island, considering most of the population is 35 and younger. We took to the streets with a rapper, BMX riders, and extremely talented musicians and singers. We handed out flyers and invited the audience to the upcoming Love Malta Festival. In a large courtyard, under the warm Mediterranean sun, the teams poured out their gifts to honor

on them with the hope of Jesus Christ. My personal agenda was to encourage those who were already believers, to know their identity in Christ and their unlimited access to limitless resources. For those who didn't believe, I prayed to make them jealous for that inheritance and want it for themselves. The night was a success! Many rededicated their lives, some gave their lives to Christ for the first time, and other women received

## Our focus changed from "numbers" of those saved to "those whom God has chosen" to be saved.

God and speak to the passing crowd. At the end of this event, we split up into small groups to do a prayer walk through the streets for all the island. Each of us called out for our Heavenly Father to do His will, abundantly more than we could ask. We were there to set the prisoners free. He whom the Lord sets free is free indeed (John 8:36).

Our first women's dessert was held that evening at the River of Life Church. I was prepared to speak to the women and love

prayer for broken hearts and bodies. This was one of my favorite nights.

**Tuesday** we set out to do street evangelism in Selena and visit an English-language school. The night ended with a group of us heading to a local Domino's Pizza. In the middle of Dominos, dancing, singing, BMX bike stunts, and rapping erupted. Customers pulled out their phones to record the crazy Americans. The gospel was presented, as well as invitations to the Love Malta Festi-

**LOVE**  **malta**  
FESTIVAL

val. HISPOP, an amazing Christian hip hop group from Thailand, came with us and leveled-up the energy. They sing and dance for the glory of God in such a beautiful expression of worship. It reminds me of Paul's quote, "I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some."

**Wednesday** started with a trip to the Laferla Cross, a monument on the highest part of the island, for a prayer time where we worshipped and prayed over the island. Our prayers were that spiritual territory the enemy had taken would be reclaimed for Christ. It was a divine moment, in my opinion. I was reminded

a future beyond a career! It was moving to watch the kids, both boys and girls, ages eight to about eighteen, step out in faith before their peers, some tearfully, to receive salvation. It was truly a sight to behold and great celebration was witnessed in heaven that night.

**Thursday** was our trip to Gozo. We took a ferry across a narrow channel to a small neighboring island and participated in more street evangelism and a bit of historical sightseeing. Our walk took us down cozy cobblestone streets with incredible architecture and style toward a public square surrounded by open-air restaurants, framed by an enormous

cent stage had been erected, talent from all over the world was assembled, and those gifted in evangelism prepared to reap the harvest for Jesus. World-class BMX riders, motorcycle stunt riders from Italy, and up-and-coming young Christian worship talents set the stage for one of the greatest shows I have been honored to participate in, where the Gospel has been shared. The excitement and dedication of the team in the presence of one of the most challenging spiritual atmospheres I have personally encountered was indeed humbling.

Our hope was for massive crowds of many thousands, but we experienced a much smaller number. On Saturday and Sunday crowds were slightly larger, but not what we had envisioned. As we prayed for the individuals that made decisions to follow Jesus each of these three nights, we encountered this truth... those who did come to the festival were drawn by the Holy Spirit and wanted to know Jesus. Our focus changed from "numbers" of those saved to "those whom God has chosen" to be saved. These new believers were called and would indeed influence and change the atmosphere of the island.

The ultimate picture I saw in my mind was that dams of doubt and hopelessness were broken and the Living Water was released over this dry and thirsty island. The church was encouraged and something new started. From what I heard, there truly hasn't been an evangelical movement on this island since the Apostle Paul was shipwrecked a couple thousand years ago. It was an honor to participate in this harvest of souls and I hope to be called yet again to proclaim the Good News to those who need to know God's forgiveness.



Above: Many members of the audience was deeply moved by Tara's personal testimony and story of her spiritual journey. John Andrus signed autographs on the helmets of young, inspired BMX riders. Below: Team member, Mike Svoboda prays with one of the young BMX bike riders that made a decision to follow Christ after Vic Murphy and Josh Brewer presented the Gospel to bike riders and their parents at the Pembroke Skate Park.

the battle we have is not with man, but with the spiritual world. We fought on our knees, overlooking the city below.

That night, we headed to our first BMX park. This is where John and Vic do what they do so well. They know how to play and draw in the youth, then share the gospel. We watched as they delighted both the parents and the kids who come to these parks in hopes of a future of professional BMX riding; but tonight, as the youth rode with champions of their sport, they got to listen to champions of hope that gave them the Good News of

Catholic church. We did a short musical presentation, a dance performance, and gave testimonies with hopes of increasing the harvest and drawing a larger crowd to the Love Malta Festival.

After 10:00 p.m. that night, a few of us visited the "Red Light District" to hand out flyers, as well as approach some of the women working in the area to give them hope and the truth of a God who loves them and has a plan for them. God gave us favor, as several of them came to Christ that night!

**Friday**, the festival began. A magnifi-



Tara Roberts

# PRAYER TEAM

MINISTRY  
OPPORTUNITY

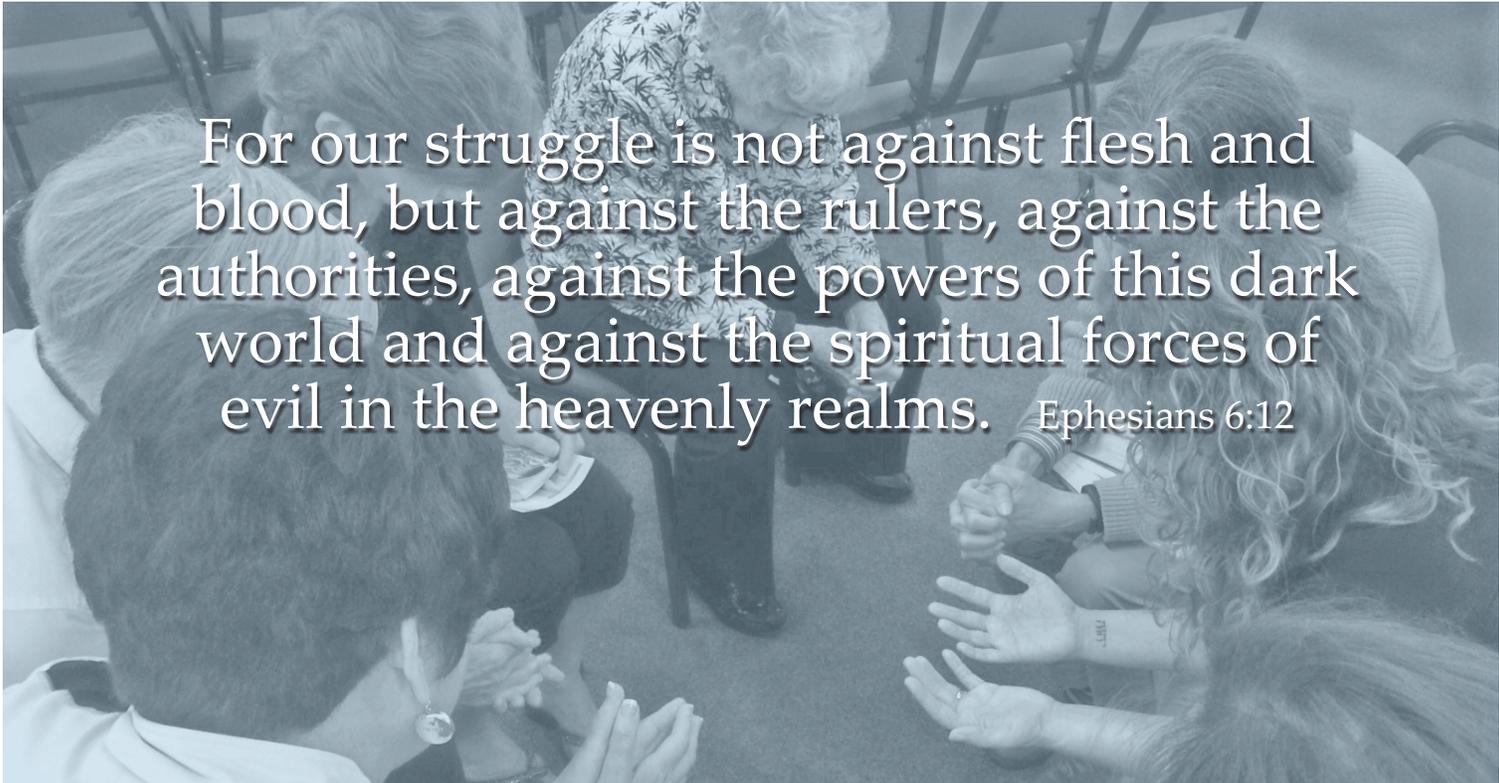
**Prayer Teams** provide an opportunity for groups to meet together in corporate, strategic prayer for specific mission trips. A team is formed for each mission trip and commits to meet together to pray one hour each week, over the course of four weeks. There are three prayer phases during this time:

**Preparation** – One week before the trip, the team meets. During these first three prayer times, the team prays for God to prepare and clear the way.

**Provision** – Two weeks during the mission trip, the team meets to pray for the work that is taking place.

**Protection** – One week after the mission trip, the team meets. This last prayer gathering is one to give thanks to God and to pray for new believers. We are aware of the devil's schemes to steal the new 'seedlings' or to drown them with cares and worries. We also pray for the increased church body.

Sign up is available on our web site:  
[reidsaunders.org/prayer-team-registration/](https://reidsaunders.org/prayer-team-registration/)



For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Ephesians 6:12

By Kellan Sawyer, Prayer Team Hostess

**RSA** believes prayer is absolutely vital to our ministry, and the key that unlocks the doors of Heaven. Whenever someone testifies to the saving message of Jesus Christ, a battle between opposing spirit kingdoms takes place. The fight is intense.

The teams going into the battlefield are the ground troops. The prayers that are offered up in support of the troops provide tactical air support.

For spiritual ground to be taken, troops must go in; there is no other way. The ground troops advance and fight in many different ways, on many fronts

because there are numerous types of enemy resistance.

Now picture this: NO AIR SUPPORT for the ground troops. How easily can they advance? What will be the physical cost? How will they achieve victory?

Our prayers act as air support, providing intel and protection, clearing the way for the ground troops. Prayers provide cover for our troops to advance. Prayers neutralize enemy fire so our soldiers may advance in safety.

I recall what happened recently at our last event. Friday, the first evening of the Malta Festival, our team was gathered for prayer at my home. Reid called halfway through, discouraged.

We knew ministry was difficult and had prayed accordingly. After hearing how poorly the first night went, a wave of power and anticipation swept over me, dispelling any doubt or discouragement. Our prayers shifted and became alive and powerful. Spiritual energy now surged into Malta, over the teams, and into the churches. We knew something had happened during our time and could not wait to hear the updates. Saturday's festival was no surprise to us. Reid reported that he could feel and see a difference. The crowd more than doubled and the response was dramatic. Churches are being impacted, and a nation was changed forever. Praise God!

## Meet some new members of the family



Diane Dufresne  
Office Director

One of Diane's earliest memories is accepting Christ in kindergarten, then coming home to organize evangelism outreach for her younger brother, the neighborhood children, and the family pets. In high school she made a choice to go into missions and has spent close to 20 years in paid ministry. Diane is passionate about restoration of relationship with God, frequently teaching in Community Groups and participating in healing prayer ministry at her church.

When not at work, Diane is likely to be found outside, rain, sun, snow or whatever Oregon brings. Diane constantly looks for ways to share laughter, encourage, and help others experience spiritual connection.



Caleb Crossman  
Development Director

A graduate of Corban University, Caleb has been actively involved in church ministry for two decades. He is currently working in RSA's development department to find ways to expand the ministry's scope and reach by networking with other ministries and laypeople.

As the father of three beautiful girls and husband of one beautiful wife, he has his hands quite full. Playing with dolls and reading picture books take up the bulk of his free time. Listening to jazz and prog rock helps him get to sleep, but his daughters conspire to wake him as early as possible.



Pam Connell  
Administrative Assistant

I was fortunate to be born and raised in a Christian home. I am a wife of 34 years and mother to two amazing daughters, one of whom is on the staff at RSA, Kaylyn Blum. In my spare time I love to bake, read, crochet, try new crafts, and telling silly jokes.

I'm always amazed that no matter how often I read the Bible, I can always learn something new. Philippians 4:4-9 is my favorite passage of the Bible. *...whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.* This passage has given me hope and has been an anchor for my soul.

## Benefit Tournament Builds Community Support for Ministry



Sixty golfers enjoyed a warm and slightly smoky August afternoon of tournament golf for a worthy cause, supporting evangelism and great ministry around the world. Through generous business sponsorship, meals were provided on the golf course, followed by a brief message from Reid, an awards presentation and dessert. Many golfers commented that they really enjoyed the tournament location, meals, friendly atmosphere, and chance to support a great cause. The next Reid Saunders Benefit Golf Tournament is scheduled for Creekside Golf Course on September 24, 2018.





**REID SAUNDERS**  
ASSOCIATION

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*Until all have heard... Mark 16:15*

In Malta, a country that has seen a thousand of years of religious domination, young people were skeptical but listened intently for the truth. A smaller than expected crowd gathered to hear the Good News proclaimed each night at the Love Malta Festival, September 15-17; but, encouragingly, many new believers were drawn by the Holy Spirit and added to the evangelical churches throughout the small, island nation.

