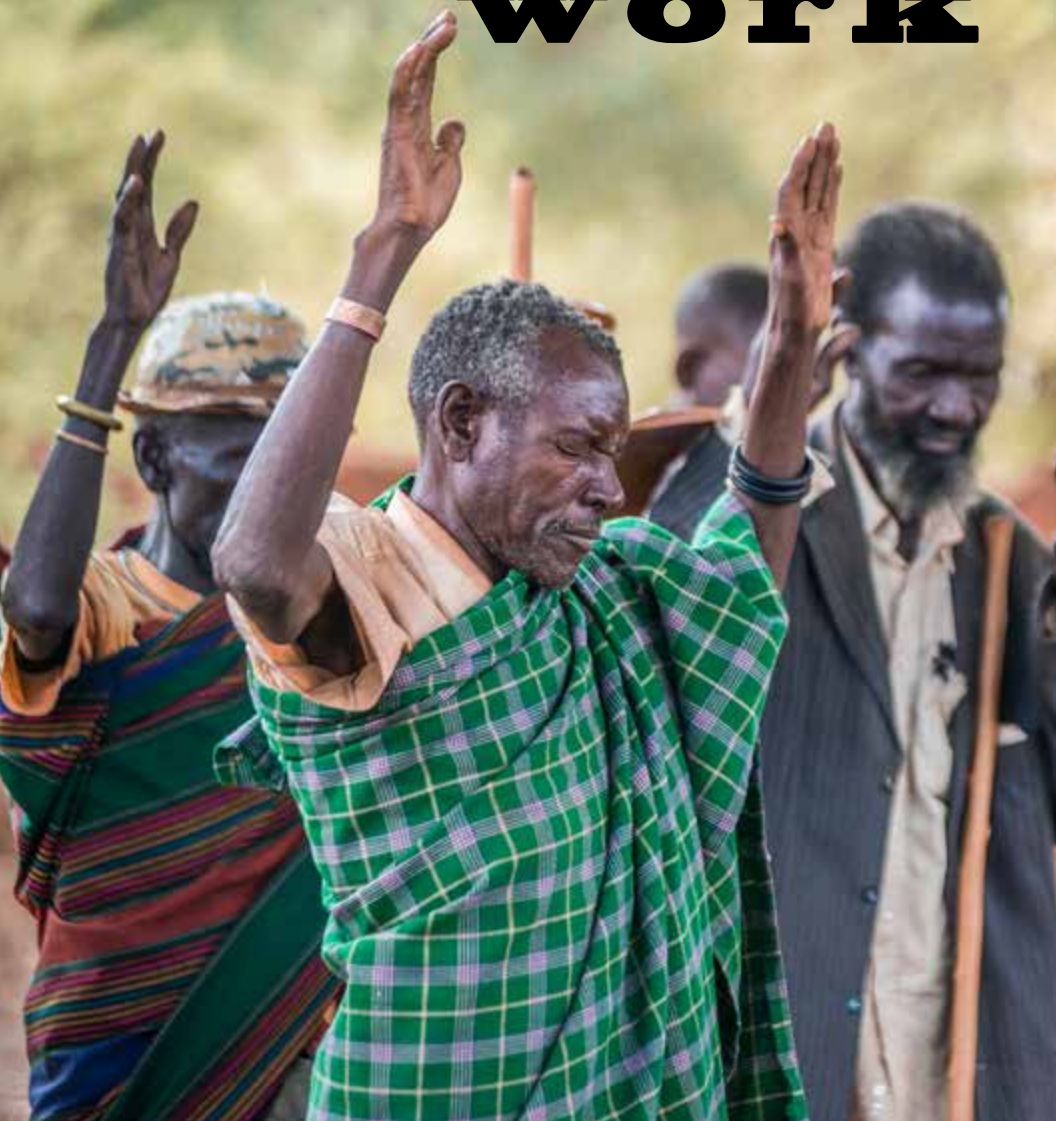




AFRICA INLAND MISSION CANADA

God @ work



A Call to Prayer

Dr. Luke *International Director*

*Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall;
He lifts his voice, the earth melts. Psalm 46:6*

The Sons of Korah penned these words about 3000 years ago, but they are just as true today as they were in BC 1000. Nations are still in an uproar and kingdoms still fall and rise on a regular basis. We experience this turmoil, in our nations, in our ministries, in our families, and in ourselves. The 2nd part of the verse is also just as true today as it was then: the voice of the Lord melts ice, mountains, and hard hearts. Whether He speaks in mercy or in judgement, His powerful voice changes our world and our lives.

It is appropriate for us to fill this year of 2019 with special times of prayer. I am honored to call all of us to pray. As you pray, please think of Ps 46, and in particular, ask the Lord to speak powerfully into every situation you pray for. Ask Him specifically to lift His voice. "Father God, speak to your people! Lift your voice! Melt frozen and hard hearts, melt the mountains that oppose your kingdom, melt the opposition of humans and demons to the progress of your church! Lord, lift your voice! Speak in such a way that we cannot but hear! Guide us clearly in the ways that we should walk; speak words of comfort, exhortation, rebuke, correction, mercy, or counsel, according to the needs of your people!

Lord, lift your voice today!



Recognizing the importance of unity in prayer, and the high priority of prayer in the spiritual battle, we will embrace daily prayer.

Our New Inland

Dan Baetz *Canadian Director*



VISION2020

IN FAITH • IN HOPE • INLAND

Webster's Dictionary defines 'vision' as 'the power of seeing, foresight'. This was Peter Cameron Scott's experience when he landed on the coast of East Africa in 1895. He had a vision for a string of mission outposts right across the continent. His purpose was twofold: first to proclaim the gospel, then secondly to stop the flow of 'religion' from the North to the Southern part of the African continent. The missionaries then set their sights 'inland' toward the center of Africa where many of Africa's people remained untouched by the message of the Gospel.

That visionary spirit lives on!

In 2015, through an intensive process of both analysis and seeking the Lord, "Vision 2020" was finalized and a 'blue-print' developed for the next five years of ministry.

A.I.M. remains true to its original calling – to reach Africa's remaining unreached peoples wherever they may live – from the center of Africa to the cities of Europe and North America and beyond. This is the nexus of Vision 2020.

An unreached people group is considered unengaged where there is no church planting effort going on. In comparison, an unreached people group is engaged when all of the following elements are in place:

1. A pioneer church planting effort;
2. A commitment to work in the local language and culture;

3. A commitment to long term ministry;
4. A commitment to work toward seeing a church planting movement emerge.

One example of an unreached people group is the Maba of Eastern Chad. The population is roughly 495,000 and they are primarily farmers, raising millet and wheat as their staple crops. They are predominantly Muslim – 96%. Only 0.04% are Christians.

There are more than 100 Canadians working alongside A.I.M. members from Europe, the United States, Asia Pacific, South Africa and South America in over 20 African nations. They teach in schools and local churches in discipling believers, serve as coaches in sports ministry, they teach literacy, household skills like sewing and handicraft; also offer practical skills in livestock farming and agriculture. They are theological Educators, nurses, doctors, pastoring in churches and fellowship with their neighbours through community activities. Prayer is their foundation as they use their professional talents and skills.

One such missionary is Brian Myrholm who serves with A.I.M.'s Ugandan partner-Global Link Africa. This is an indigenous African mission agency, managed by Africans seeking to identify, equip and send Christians to serve. As a non-denominational, evangelical Christian organization, they work with local church ministries to mobilize, train and facilitate the sending of African missionaries to their communities that need the gospel.

Progress....

As part of Vision 2020 –

18/20 Unreached People Groups have been newly engaged with the gospel.

2/20 Unreached People Groups have moved from Unreached to Reached.

One such group is the Samburu of Northern Kenya. A.I.M. started working with Africa Inland Church in providing 3 basic services to these communities in 1966. Two missionary couples taught school, preached in local churches and dispensed medicine. The Samburu thought of Ngai as a distant creator who is present in nature, and they practiced sacrificial rituals as a way of life. More than

50 years later, evangelism is prevalent and the Africans are taking the gospel to their neighbors. A.I.M. missionaries now fulfill the role of equipping and mobilization. 30% of the population are now Christians but there are still many people in isolated areas who need to be reached with the gospel. Several of our Canadian Missionaries have worked with the Samburu and continue friendships and close ties with this people group.

Since 2015 more than 230 Africans have been mobilized into mission work.

We have exceeded the goal of training 4000 African church leaders. 6000 have been trained. PRAISE GOD!

10 of the 40 Diaspora Teams have been created in several countries including Canada, England, Spain, France, Belgium and the United States.

Peter Cameron Scott's vision is being expanded as A.I.M. answers the call to execute new initiatives in North and West Africa. We praise God for his many blessings, and endeavor to embrace the associated challenges to grow these mission outposts across Africa. Please continue to participate with us in this wonderful vision through your prayers.....your giving....your going!

There is still much work to be done in God's vineyard.



OUR ORIGINAL CALLING

SIGHTS SET INLAND

Africa Inland Mission had its beginning in the work of Peter Cameron Scott. In October 1895, AIM's first missionary party arrived off the East African coast and set their sights "inland" toward the center of the continent where many of Africa's people remained untouched by the message of the Gospel.



AFRICA INLAND MISSION

1895

2020



VISION 2020 IN FAITH • IN HOPE • INLAND

OUR NEW INLAND

AFRICA'S REMAINING UNREACHED

120 years later, AIM remains true to this original calling, as we set our sights on Africa's remaining unreached peoples wherever they may live - from the center of Africa to the cities of Europe. Vision 2020 is a five year strategy in step with our global "Ends": *With priority for unreached people groups, Christ-centered churches among all African peoples.*



This represents an overwhelming challenge.

THE CHALLENGE

ABOUT

3700 PEOPLE GROUPS IN AFRICA

1000 PEOPLE GROUPS STILL UNREACHED

28% OF AFRICAN POPULATION ARE UNREACHED

ABOUT
1.1 BILLION PEOPLE
316 MILLION

THE RESPONSE



PRAYER // Recognizing the importance of unity in prayer, and the high priority of prayer in the spiritual battle, we will embrace daily prayer.



GROWING THE HARVEST FORCE // We will redouble our efforts to recruit needed support personnel for regional offices, new team leaders, and other key positions, and continue to look for ways to bring African leaders and African influence into AIM.



APPRECIATING ALL PARTS OF THE BODY // All parts of the body, are precious. All of our members, long-term, short-term, frontline and support ministries, mobilizing and receiving regions, will work together and depend on one another.

THE PROGRESS

18/20 NEW UPGS ENGAGED

2/20 UPGS REACHED

10/40 DIASPORA TEAMS

230/400 NEW AFRICAN WORKERS

6000/4000 AFRICAN LEADERS EQUIPPED

ENGAGE >> 20 NEW



UNREACHED PEOPLE GROUPS

REACH >> SEE 20 MOVED



FROM UNREACHED TO REACHED

BUILD >> 40 TEAMS



TO REACH AFRICAN DIASPORA UPGS

MOBILIZE >> 400
NEW AFRICAN WORKERS



TO ENGAGE THE UNREACHED

EQUIP >> 4000
AFRICAN CHURCH LEADERS



TO STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH

CHOOSING TO BE CALLED

by Abbie Desloges



Since hitting the field with Africa Inland Mission five years ago, first as a short-term, then as a full-term missionary; I have had more than my share of “How did I get here?” moments. My husband and I presently serve alongside the local church in Bunia, Democratic Republic of the Congo; equipping church leaders for ministry. When I express thoughts like this one, it appears as if planning is a regular part of my life. The truth is that I don’t, and never have.

Our journey to “the field” was, at best, unintentional. My husband is a planner. He knew exactly where we were going to be five years into our marriage, but instead of finding ourselves in a city where I could work an office job and he could do youth ministry, we ended up in the centre of Africa in a place we had never heard of!

How did we get there?

I had found the A.I.M. website by accident when I was looking for job openings in aid/

development work in Africa. I was in the middle of a Master of Arts program and trying to find a job during a recession. I had the thought that maybe an organization in Africa could use a francophone academic, but that would mean convincing my husband to throw the five-year plan he had created for us ‘out the window’.

In the first conversation we had with Susan, A.I.M.’s provincial mobilizer for Ontario, she talked about how she and her husband had served in DR Congo. She also spoke about how much they needed francophones to serve in French Africa, and that recently the Congolese church had put in a request for a youth worker and a development worker to come and serve short-term. She also identified other options. We could have gone to another French African country, but we began to feel very strongly that God was calling us to a particular place for a particular purpose. More than that, we felt that He had been preparing us to go on this

specific assignment for our entire lives. We therefore signed on for a one-year short-term assignment in DR Congo. We got our vaccines, raised the money for our Outgoing and Monthly support, packed our bags and left. This all happened without fully comprehending the reality of what we were doing. Like most young adults, we trusted that we would ‘figure it out’ and that we could survive just about anything for at least one year.

What we don’t always tell people is that our first months were a haze of learning, confusion, and discovery that left us exhausted as we worked through culture shock and language barriers. It took about three months before we stopped feeling like zombies, but within six months we felt at home. Despite the fact that several missionaries and humanitarian workers began leaving DR Congo, we had no such thought.



How did we get there?

When we arrived, there were no other A.I.M. missionaries serving in our city. We were embraced and supported by missionaries from other organizations. The leaders of the local church also adopted us. Tom started serving at the church’s shelter for street boys. I worked at the Christian university helping with development projects. We adjusted to new methods of living, learned how to do our shopping, how to exist without electricity, and mastered water filtration. More importantly, we learned how to properly greet our new neighbors and new acquaintances introducing ourselves in Swahili. We joined a local church congregation, and we started making friends.

We felt comfortable in our surroundings and felt that we were a good ‘fit’ for this mission.

Around that six-month anniversary, we attended a conference for members of Africa inland Mission serving in the Central Region of Africa. We met many people who became our missionary heroes. We saw families raising their kids on the field. We met brothers and sisters in Christ who were mobilizing and equipping African churches and church leaders, and seeing incredible fruit as a result of their efforts. We recognized that it was really possible for service as missionaries to be our vocation. We decided then that we would put in our full-term applications to A.I.M. from Congo using a slow, unreliable, satellite internet connection. We have never regretted it!

When Christians talk about having a 'call' what we often miss from the conversation is that it involves a choice. Jeremiah 6:16 reads:

This is what the LORD says: "Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls." (NIV)

When my husband and I first started out, we asked where the good path was. We identified service as missionaries and we followed it. We did find rest in DR Congo. We could have chosen lives of familiarity and ease in Canada. We could have explored opportunities in countries offering more comfort, instead we chose obedience, we have settled into our lives in DR Congo.

Having a call or purpose is universal, and it is also continuous. Paul wrote:

So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of

God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ." (Ephesians 4:11-13 NIV)

As a body, we are equipping others as we ourselves are being equipped. We are built up and we build up others with the goals of unity and knowledge. We move toward maturity and fullness, knowing just how far away these goals are. For every Christian in every context, this is the trajectory of the church body.

This equipping, unifying work is the continuous work of the Spirit, calling people to roles and places they never dreamed of, for the glory of God. The rhythm of call, response, and equipping requires our participation. We must choose obedience; it cannot be forced upon us. I pray, therefore, and for the sake of all nations, that every hairdresser and doctor and social worker and missionary would walk in the path that God has shown them is good. Our journey is one of challenge, but it is also one of peace, resting and trusting in the One who called us.

Tom and Abbie Desloges are A.I.M. Unit Leaders in the Democratic Republic of Congo



Teachers WANTED

Taking children to the mission field can be a difficult decision, and a child's education plays a large role in when and where missionaries choose to serve. Whether you are a fully qualified teacher and want to teach a large and diverse student body, or you simply love children and want to support a family living in a remote location, A.I.M. can use you!

Rift Valley Academy (RVA) was established by Africa Inland Mission in 1906 to provide education for the children of its missionaries in Kijabe, Kenya. This American-European curriculum based boarding school has grown tremendously over the last century, not only in numbers but also in the interpretation of their ministry. This goal is to see the holistic development of their student population as they learn how to apply biblical truth in the world around them. This foundation allows for the development of their God-given abilities to impact the world for Christ, and lead healthy lives that positively contribute positively to their communities. RVA strives for academic excellence combined with a variety of sports and arts extra-curricular activities. RVA is looking for people to be part of their missionary personnel, from teachers, to support staff, to dorm parents.

Another of our learning institutions in Africa is **Wellspring Academy** in N'Djamena, the capital of Chad. It has 30 children in grades 1 - 8. There are 3 full time teachers serving multi-grade classes. Heidi Plett, a missionary from Manitoba returned to Wellspring in early 2019 after a well-deserved six-month Home Assignment. She recently wrote,

"I am happy to be reunited with my teaching colleagues. Once per week we gather to pray for the needs of the school and to pray for each other. It has entailed vulnerability in sharing our hearts and it is good. I am teaching grades 3-5 and have a lovely class of 7 very unique individuals... They are full of smiles and energy

and like to talk! I am blessed to be part of their lives and play a role in their development as God's valuable children. I am also teaching music to the whole student body once per week and this has proven to be fun as we tap into rhythm and movement and song with appreciation for classical composition."

A.I.M. is searching for a qualified elementary teacher to serve for one year or longer at Wellspring Academy.



Home Schooling is also an option to serve in missions in Africa. Many missionary families live in remote locations where sending their children to a local school is not an option. Families often desire to stay together to create special bonds as they integrate into their communities. Often parents struggle as they seek to balance their children's education at the same time they are meeting the demands of full time ministry. In offering help as a home school teacher, you would enable missionaries to focus primarily on their spiritual goal of sharing the Gospel with the unreached and mobilizing the church of Jesus Christ.

A.I.M. also works in conjunction with several **theological institutions** in Kenya, training men and women called by God to serve as pastors, church leaders, teachers, chaplains and missionaries. Current needs for lecturers include theology, music and English.

Visit ca.aimint.org/go for a list of opportunities to serve.



Surrender & Submission

David Vandenbroek is a Gen Y, living in Ontario. He is preparing to leave Canada for Torit, South Sudan in October, 2019. There he will be involved in A.I.M.'s efforts at partnership with local churches in outreach and discipleship.

This is his story.

I was born to missionary parents in Senegal, West Africa where I lived for my first 11 years. I have 2 sisters and 3 brothers. I worship in a small church community, and serve as a small group leader, a Sunday school teacher and a tech/media support assistant when needed. I enjoy the outdoors particularly biking and swimming.

I learnt about Jesus Christ early in my life as devotions was the center of our daily activities as a family. However, it must be noted that my parents' calling as missionaries was not the catalyst that has placed me on my present path. I cherish growing up in Senegal. There were so many outdoor fun things to do with my siblings. I also enjoyed the opportunity to spend time with my dad as he fostered relationships with locals in our neighbouring villages. When challenged by my parents to consider following in their footsteps, I was adamant that being a missionary was not in my DNA.

We moved back to Canada I found the transition very stressful. I would dare say that it was downright unpleasant. While it offered a comfortable existence, it was not satisfying! I immersed myself in church life, and embraced financial gain as my new 'god'. I worked very hard and made financial strides but became restless in my soul. I sensed that I was experiencing a prompting from God to identify the things that would bring greater relevance to my life since my soul was not being satisfied.

In January 2012 I left for Australia with the hope of finding myself. Instead, I 'found' Jesus! God worked 'in me' and 'on me' for a period of 60 days. During this time He called me to total obedience to His will for my life. I surrendered and submitted to His plan wherever He was leading. He then placed in my heart a deep and insatiable desire to return to the continent of my birth and serve Him as a missionary.

I have humbly accepted His plan for my life.

Saying goodbye is not easy – I will miss my family and my church community. Yet, I am looking forward to being stretched by God as I learn a new language, relearn what it is to be an African and embrace my 'new' culture. I must also connect with individuals and churches to seek prayer and financial partners, complete my Bible training, sell my vehicle and eliminate all 'un-necessaries' as only 2 pieces of luggage are allowed. This journey has made me trust my Father God like never before. His words found in Romans 14: 7 & 8 (NIV) serve as my guide.

For none of us lives for ourselves alone, and none of us dies for ourselves alone. If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord. So whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord.

I am excited at the prospect of God using me to grow His Kingdom as I walk alongside brothers and sisters in Christ in Central Africa.

To be my financial/prayer partner, visit ca.aimint.org/give.



Friendship Day

John P. Brown MAC Director



What if you had a full day of friendship building with a Muslim Imam and his mosque congregation? What if you invited Christians from across Toronto to meet in that mosque, learn more about Islam, and break down misunderstandings and fear? And what if the Imam spoke to our Christian-Muslim audience on what Muslims believe about Jesus—and then to top it off, a born-again leader spoke on what we Christians believe about Jesus?

Far-fetched...but worth the try!

Last summer fellow MAC member Nathan Deboer and I met with Shaykh Yusuf Badat, leader of one of Toronto's largest mosques. To our astonishment he was as excited about the idea as we were. "We'll make a day of it," he said. We looked at our schedules and agreed on October 27th.

So on that Saturday morning about 45 members of the Islamic Foundation of Toronto warmly welcomed about 25 of us Christians. Shaykh Yusuf gave a spirited talk on where Islam and Christianity agree about Jesus—and where we differ. "Jesus is not God," he insisted. "Jesus is not the Son of God. And Jesus did not die on a cross."

Then our A.I.M. UK Director Andrew Chard took the microphone and spoke caringly from



John 3:16, "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." We are all sinners. Our good works can never get us to Paradise. "The only way we can be sure our sins are forgiven and we are going to Paradise," Andrew explained, "is by putting our faith in Jesus. He is the sinless Son of God."

The audience had all received copies of the Gospel of John and they followed Andrew word by word in their own open Bibles. As soon as Andrew was finished guests wrote out their questions on 3x5 cards and a blizzard of them were passed up to him and the Shaykh. If there were any uncertainties left about what the Good News is, Andrew cleared them up in that lively Q&A.

Over and over I shook my head thinking all this is happening right inside a Sunni mosque! Genuine friendships were made that day. We know the Spirit of God will continue working in many hearts.

Check out our Friendship Day video yourself: <https://vimeo.com/305284838>



CAMP SOAR

"More camp, pleeeeeease!"



"My favourite part of camp is when we are around the campfire learning about God's love for us and that God wants us to be with him and live with him in heaven."

That's what one of our campers told us on the last morning of Ontario Camp last summer.

Another camper said,

"Camp was so fun because we made new friends. I really can't wait for next year. One thing I just want next year is for camp to be longer... pleeeeeease."

Before last summer's Camp in Nova Scotia, several Nigerian campers had been captured and held by the terrorists of Boko Haram. Two others, brothers recently arrived as refugees from Angola, spoke just Portuguese and bit of French. At school they'd felt adrift, but at Camp they made Congolese and Ethiopian friends who could communicate with them.

Then in the talent show they blew everyone away with their ability to drum! The smiles that beamed from the brothers' faces as their peers clapped and cheered were priceless.

In MAC (Ministry to Africans in Canada) we are gearing up for another summer of outreach to New Canadian kids. Besides Camp Soar in Nova Scotia and Ontario, we will have Camp Rhino on Lake Ontario for young people from Muslim families and a brand new Day Camp for North African kids in Montreal.

That means we are expecting 150 immigrant and refugee kids to come for a week of fun, new friends, and meeting the God who loves them so much He gave His Only Son for them. Would you consider making it possible for one of these kids to have the time of their lives this summer?

To make this possible, however, we need to raise about \$250 per camper, or \$37,500. To help visit ca.aimint.org/give/canadaprojects



God at Work

“Habari, how much for the avocados?” I asked the market stall owner as I stared at what must be the largest avocado I have ever seen”.

“Nzuri, 20 shillings” (about 20 cents)! Is it to be eaten today or tomorrow?

We continued the conversation asking about some of the fruit that we have never seen before and learning a bit more about what she is selling...

After paying for the avocado and some chili peppers we continue on our day through the market stopping to watch a flock of sheep run through the main thoroughfare eating all of the scraps that have been tossed out as we enjoy a fresh banana....

These were some of the first impressions shared by a new missionary couple as they experienced living in Africa in January, 2019. They were part of a Canadian group of 6 adults and 2 children participating in a 3 week orientation program – African Based Orientation as part of their initiation to serving in missions with Africa Inland Mission in Africa.

“Habari Zenu” writes another professional couple, the husband an engineer and the wife a nurse from Saskatchewan. “We have arrived in Kenya! Since life in Africa is very different from living on the Canadian prairies, A.I.M. is training us for 3 weeks....this includes living in the bustling city of Nairobi

and starting a 4 day course called Language Acquisition Made Practical. We will spend 6 weeks learning Swahili as we prepare to minister among the Gabbra people of Kenya.”

We praise God for his goodness as he enabled our missionaries to travel safely to Kenya, only missing a few bags which eventually caught up with them. He continues to call people to His service, and to raise up supporters who value their contribution to the building up of God’s Kingdom. A.I.M.

God is moving among His people. He is at Work!

appreciates the sacrifice that is involved as we seek to fulfill the purpose of “seeing Christ-centred churches among all African people”, with priority for the unreached.

Presently, there are 5 adults and 2 children departing for Kenya in July to serve with Africa Inland Mission in Outreach, discipleship, education and mission aviation. In addition, there are 24 persons serving or preparing to serve on Short Term Assignments (12 months or less) with A.I.M. in 9 African countries. Please join us in prayer for God’s protection of His servants as they go. **GOD IS MOVING AMONG HIS PEOPLE...HE IS AT WORK!**

When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.” Matt. 9:36-38

Honoring Faithful Servants Through Giving

Since 1953, Africa Inland Mission Canada has been equipping and sending missionaries and support staff to Africa and parts of Canada in God’s service. Many have served nearly forty years as doctors, nurses, midwives, pastors, Bible translators, and in other capacities in remote areas to bring the gospel to the unreached in Africa. They exhibit character, integrity and a servant’s heart by reflecting God’s love to those they serve.

A Legacy Fund was recently established to honor these pioneers who have served for a lifetime with distinction. The goal is to ‘extend’ their service by raising funds to support the sacrifices of those who have followed in their footsteps, those who have since dedicated their lives to God’s harvest field.

These funds will be dedicated to areas of highest need throughout A.I.M. Contributions to the Legacy Fund allow for the launch of new outreach initiatives, or the support of a worker with essential or unique skills required on the field. It has the potential to provide required seed money for a business aimed at building relationships in a specific community; or be part of a foundation where a sustainable base for a missionary is being developed.

One of the hallmarks of A.I.M. Canada is the fact that its members continually praise the support they receive from the organization’s administrative team.

“.....Thank you so much for your hard work in making our trip to Africa possible. We are incredibly grateful for the time and energy you’ve put into our team...” AIM AIR Vision Trip 2018

“.....I just wanted to write a note and say how thankful I am to have all of you in my life and for everything you have done to prepare me and get me where I am today...” S.T. Alberta

Everyone has the ability to leave a lasting legacy. It is not the amount given but the associated sacrifice that creates the legacy, contributing to the advancement of the church of Jesus Christ in Africa and around the world. Let us help you create a lasting legacy that will continue to advance the church including the diaspora living in our beautiful country - Canada.

HOW DO I PARTICPATE?

To contribute to the LEGACY FUND, consider the following ways to give:

- Cash donation on a monthly basis, or a one-time donation
- Stocks, bonds, life insurance, real estate
- Charitable Gift Annuity
- Naming AIM as a beneficiary in your will

To give a gift of any kind, please contact Keith and Christine Tennant for more information. Development.ca@aimint.org - 289 686 9753





AFRICA INLAND MISSION

Christ-centered churches
among all African peoples

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