
NCYM MISSIONS NEWSLETTER

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Our People Serve



Hello Friends and G'day from down under.

My name is Jonathan Thomas Spainhour. My home meeting is Thomasville Friends. Some of you may know me as the grandson of Barney and Francis Pierce, or the son of Tom and Janice Spainhour. I was born in High Point and was moved to Lynn, Ind., where my father was pastor. I was a part of IYM until I was about 19, at which time I returned to N.C. I have attended Thomasville Friends pretty much ever since, barring the time I spent at App. State. I must admit that from the time I was 13 through to the age of 25, I was quite "backslidden." Finally, when I realized that living for myself was never going to lead me anywhere but down, and after being literally saved by the grace of God time and time again, I gave up and let God take over. I decided to go to do something called a DTS (Discipleship

Training School) shortly after recommitting my life to Christ, kind of wanting to work in missions, but mostly wanting to see if God was real.

I found out very quickly that God is real. By allowing myself to be led by the Holy Spirit I started to see how real and alive Jesus truly is. That was between Oct. 2004 and March 2005, at which time I came back to the States to prepare to go back overseas, per God's specific call for me to return. I had the opportunity to do an internship with WYM in Indiana, under Jesse Vore, and Steve and Marlene Pettigo, and what an amazing time of refinement. I also attended NCYM and a young adult beach retreat during which I was able to meet some of the staff like Darlene and Matt. In Oct. 2005, I returned down under to Townsville Queensland Australia.

I have been serving fulltime in the capacity of head cook almost the entire time I have been here, or as I am titled Ministry Area Leader. We have a base of about 100 fulltime missionaries from all over the world, and run three Discipleship Training Schools per year to help equip young men and women for full time ministry in the mission field. Other schools are available to anyone who has done a DTS anywhere in the world that are designed for more specific equipping in different areas of ministry, everything from web support to music in missions. We also are involved with straight up evangelism and involved with around 70 churches in the area. We run a program every Saturday with more than seventy kids coming each week. We are also involved in something called Auslife, which allows us to go into public high schools and elementary schools to share the Gospel of Christ. Just last week we went into eight schools and invited them to come to the base for a special program on Saturday night. During this time we saw 92 people, young and old, receive Christ as their personal Savior. Not only that but we were able to plug them into local churches in their area. I and eight others went into the local youth detention center the next day and were able to lead 40 more young men to Christ. Not bad since there were only 45 present, ha-ha.

I am currently continuing to seek God and lift up Christ in all I do, and by his Grace be sensitive to the Holy Spirit. I believe that with this, along with study of the Bible as my guide for life, I will continue to see fruit everywhere I go. I believe that for you as well, and challenge you with this quote from Nelson Mandela. *Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our light, not our darkness, that most frightens us. We ask ourselves, "Who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented and fabulous?" Actually, who are you not to be? You are a child of God. Your playing small doesn't serve the world. There's nothing enlightened about shrinking so that other people won't feel insecure around you. We were born to manifest the glory of God that is within us... And as we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same. As we are liberated from our own fear, our presence automatically liberates others.*

Check me out on the web at www.reeftooutback.com I am in the staff and student section, just scroll down until you find my name.

May Christ reign in my heart and yours until then, and my blessing to you is Numbers 6:24-26, which I pray in Jesus' awesome holy name.

Stouts Request Prayer

An email with the date of March 9, asks that we continue to pray for Andy Stout. His back pain (see December 2005 newsletter) has returned. Andy, Lisa, and Spencer are now in Wabash, Indiana, where Andy is receiving physical therapy with the hope that surgery can be avoided.

Andy and Lisa believe they were having a positive influence on the boys at Friends Boys School in Belize. Besides working with the boys in their sports teams (soccer in February), Andy had begun working with a group who had been in some trouble with drugs, and was sharing from the book of John during the Friday morning devotion time. Lisa was more involved with the banking, bill paying, and bookkeeping aspects of keeping the school going. One really important aspect of what they were accomplishing, was that through Andy, Lisa, and Spencer the students were seeing a whole family together. The boys need to see that traditional family structure model.

Pray for God's healing touch on Andy and for the pain to be driven from his body so that he and Lisa can again be about the business God has for them to do.

"I will sing to the Lord all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live. May my meditation be pleasing to Him as I rejoice in the Lord."

Psalm 104:33-34

Thank You for Responding To Financial Crisis

Karl and Peggy Luff's support account was critically low. Their status in the field was in danger. But now, thanks to the quick response of God's people, their support account is out of immediate danger. The way of course for it to continue that way is for there to be continued giving.

Immediate concerns for the school: Increased sponsorship for students and a dormitory solution. Currently two houses are being rented for the students to live in, but the location is less than desirable. An

ideal solution would be a large two-story building with a separate area that could be used by a couple.

Friends Theological College (FTC)

FTC, a ministry of Friends United Meeting, was founded in 1942 on the original Kaimosi Friends Mission which was founded in 1902. The purpose of FTC is to prepare Friends for Christian leadership and pastoral ministry in East Africa. There are approximately 70 students. An affiliation with St. Paul's United Theological College in Limuru, means that students receive an accredited diploma which enables graduates to transfer their credits from FTC to other colleges where, with two additional years of study, they may obtain a bachelor's degree. Plans are to expand the campus to accommodate up to 120 students and, by 2010, admit the first incoming class which will receive a bachelor's degree from FTC.

Patrick Nugent and Mary Kay Rehard are the FUM Field Staff currently serving at FTC. In their March newsletter there was the suggestion that groups may be interested in emailing them with a list of questions and they would email answers back to the group. One member, or leader, of the group should be responsible for emailing the group's questions and then sharing the answers received. Please be aware that email connection in Kenya is slow and costs them 20 cents per minute, so please be concise with your questions, greetings, or well wishes. Please do not forward chain emails, web pages, political appeals, jokes, etc. Emailing questions about FTC and the Nugent Rehard family would be a great way for Sunday School classes and youth or adult groups to learn about the school, the Field Staff family, the needs, and ways people in the U.S. can be of help to the people in Kaimosi. If your group wants to have an email conversation you may email to ftc@africaonline.co.ke or ftc1@fum.org. Remember the cost and time involved and be wise with your questions.

Learn more about FTC in a future Newsletter.