

CROSSING BRIDGES, INC.
2010 ACTIVITIES REPORT
(Summary)

Although the support-base for Crossing Bridges was significantly reduced (roughly 75% loss of regular support) upon returning to the US, God provided enough funding to allow four major ministry trips in 2010. We are especially grateful for a \$5000 grant from The Riverside Foundation.

GHANA: Ghana Leadership Initiative – February 22 through March 7

1. Disability awareness and ministry training at pastors' conferences in Kumasi, Accra, Kormantse, and Cape Coast. Approximately 150 men and women attended the conferences. *My presentation was entitled "The Church's Responsibility to Persons with Disability: A Ministry Challenge – or an Opportunity?"*
2. Speaking about disability issues at Ghana Christian University College, Trinity Theological Seminary, and Valley View University.
3. Visiting Mephibosheth Training Center in Apam, a residential school for children with various disabilities. This is a ministry with which I have had a loose connection since 2005.
4. Preaching at New Generation Gospel Church (Accra). As always, the message including reference to disability.

SERBIA: Part 1–Joni and Friends Family Retreat – April 2 through 10

1. Training for volunteers from the US and from HUB Bible School who would be helping with the children and families at the Family Retreat. Training focused on God's view of disability and persons with disabilities. Twelve families dealing with disability were present at the Retreat.
2. Speaking to parents of children with disabilities about God's view of disability and disabled persons. Most families were not Christian; most believed that their disabled child was God's punishment for something they had done.
3. Preaching on Easter Sunday at an evangelical church in Sombor. Also preached at a Baptist church in Belgrade.
4. Made connections with a young couple who have a daughter with autism and have created an organization called "Hana's Hope."

SERBIA: Part 2–HUB Bible School – April 11 through 25

1. Teaching "Designed by God: A Biblical Theology of Disability, Suffering, and the Church" to second-year students at HUB Bible School, outside Belgrade. About half the group of 12 students had been volunteers at the Family Retreat.
2. Due to the Iceland volcano's disruption of air traffic, I spent an extra week at HUB and was able to teach a course on Discipleship,
3. Visited a residential program (government run) for adults with severe disabilities. Spent time with two sisters (Christians) who are physically disabled to offer encouragement and share God's love.

CAMEROON: Joni and Friends Family Retreat – July 25 through August 4

1. Spoke with families, church leaders, and some volunteers at Cameroon's first Family Retreat. As with Serbia, my comments mostly focused on how God sees people with disabilities. Ten families having children with disabilities were at the retreat.

UKRAINE: Pastors' Conferences – October 21 through November 1

1. Taught on “Ministry to the Disabled” at two leadership conferences: Kremenchug Regional Bible College, and Cherkassy House of Gospel. Approximately 20 persons participated in the seminars I presented. Several were already involved in some form of disability outreach, either through formal ministry or as a volunteer.
2. Revisited Tamila (Director) at the Territorial Center in Zolotonosha, whom I had met in 2006. This is a government-sponsored service for children with disabilities. Toured the facility.
3. Preached at The Shine of God’s Glory Church in Kremenchug, and at Christ the Savior Church in Chapaivka.
4. While at Kremenchug Regional Bible College, I discussed with John Haglund, Dean, and Alex Zigalenko, Director, the possibility of returning to Ukraine to teach a full course at the Bible School (“Theology of Disability, Suffering, and the Church”).

Other activities:

1. January – Spoke to students at Bellevue Christian School/Mack Elementary, Woodinville, Washington, about Cameroon ministry and disabilities. This was in appreciation for a donation to Crossing Bridges from the school out of monies raised through their Jog-a-Thon.
2. May – Gave a presentation to Kingdom Builders Adult Bible Fellowship about ministry activity of Crossing Bridges (Kenya 2009; Ghana 2010; Serbia 2010).
3. July – Gave a presentation about the ministry of Crossing Bridges at the Summer Missions Forum at Calvary Church, Roseville.
4. December – Gave a presentation to Kingdom Builders Adult Bible Fellowship about Ukraine ministry (2010)

PLANNED / ANTICIPATED MINISTRY IN 2011

1. **Ghana:** March 15 – April 4. Teaching at Trinity Theological Seminary (“Designed by God: A Biblical Theology of Disability, Suffering, and the Church”).
2. **Serbia:** April 22(?) – May 2(?). Joni and Friends Family Retreat. Speak with families and at a concurrent Pastors’ Conference.
3. **China:** May 22 – 29. Pastors’ Conference. Teaching “Through the Roof” course for pastors and church leaders.
4. **Haiti:** July 8 – 20. Pastors’ Conference. Teaching theology of disability and suffering.
5. **Uganda:** August 15(?) – December 31(?). Working with Dennis Okoth at Messiah Theological Institute/LivingStone University. Teaching Designed by God: A Biblical Theology of Disability, Suffering, and the Church” and other courses. Assisting with program development. Possibly connecting with Joni and Friends to assist at a Wheels for the World Distribution and/or to teach on disability issues at another Bible school in Uganda.
6. **El Salvador:** There is a remote possibility of teaching at a seminary in El Salvador. This would be in association with Joni and Friends, but is dependent on the dates (which at this point are unknown).

Submitted by: David W Anderson, Ed.D., President
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