LOVEM International

Laborers Organized with a Vision for Evangelism and Missions

The ministry of Jody and Trisha Kennedy

Fall, 2003



More Open Doors in 2003!

In the spring of this year, as we were preparing for the summer ministries in Mexico, Ukraine and Belarus, we were contacted by a pastor of a Southern Baptist church in Fort Worth who had been praying about moving his church forward in the area of missions. After initial meetings, we felt that we needed additional time to pray and seek counsel about developing a partnership with this church. So we committed with the pastor to pray throughout the summer. Upon returning from Eastern Europe in mid-August and after further discussions we received confirmation that God's will for us is to partner with this church. This opportunity will allow us to continue our work with the Michael Gott ministries in Eastern Europe and Cuba and the Champions for Life Prison ministry. When not traveling in ministry, Jody will be working with this church a couple of days per week motivating and mobilizing their people to direct missions and evangelistic activities locally and overseas. We are excited about the open door God has placed before us to work with this congregation.

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Report on Summer Eastern Europe Ministries

Working with Michael Gott International, we conducted English Language Evangelism events in Ukraine and Belarus for eight weeks this summer. More than 100 lay volunteers gave twoweeks of their summer to teach English, make friends, and directly share Christ. We worked in four different two-week events in the cities of Lviv, Ukraine (1 event), Zhitomir, Ukraine (1 event), and Minsk, Belarus (2 events). Another team conducted a fifth event in Minsk in one church while we held an event at a different church. During these five events more than 4,000 adults attended and

decisions for Christ.

Follow-up teams of missionaries stationed in those cities will continue the work by conducting English Bible studies, English classes, integrating the new Christians into churches and forming new congregations. Our estimate is that more than 1,000 of the new Christians will be involved in some form of weekly follow-up activity and that 3 to 4 new congregations will be born.

Meet Yuri

Each of the more than 2000 Eastern European adults that accepted Christ this summer have a

News about a changed life....

unique and special story.

One of these was an older man, Yuri, who had lived under Communism his entire life (until 1989). He was a jet fighter pilot who flew patrols along the border between East Germany and West Germany during the Cold War. He had been indoctrinated into hating Americans and declaring that God does not exist. He shared with his teacher that he looked forward to shooting down NATO aircraft and hoped he would get to shoot down an American jet. He attended our English Language Evangelism event in Minsk, Belarus and was very skeptical at first. As his teacher prayed for him and reached out to him, his whole attitude shifted from one of gruff superiority to one of warm friendship. By the end of our event, he had seen the love of Christ through his teacher and clearly heard the gospel and he received Christ as his Savior.

Yuri teaches at one of the universities in Minsk and we pray that the message of Christ that he first heard from us will be repeated to his students and his family and that he will become involved in the discipleship opportunities in Minsk.

Report on Mexico Ministries

than 4,000 adults attended and Almost fifty adults and youth over 2,000 of them made first time from Retta Baptist Church in Bur-

leson, Texas joined with Jody to conduct VBS, women's Bible study and evening evangelism services in Reynosa, Mexico during the first week of June. The most important result was that 30 adults and dozens of children accepted Christ. Pastor Saul, our host, will work hard to integrate these new believers into his church. These short-term trips have proven to be a very effective way to introduce adults and teens to direct, evangelistic missions.

Champions for Life Prison Ministry

We volunteer for Champions for Life whenever our schedule allows. Jody has been invited to become an event coordinator which will give us even more opportunities across the country. For more information about this dynamic prison ministry, look on the web at www.lifechampions.org.

"If you're not fishing, you're not following."

- Bill Glass, founder of Champions for Life



Champions for Life sent a team of volunteers (Jody was one of 35) to reach the 500 "detainees" in the Houston INS Processing



Center Prison. Most are convicted felons who are in the U.S. illegally and are awaiting deportation back to their home country. During this Day of Champions event, more than 70 men accepted Christ.

Please pray for these men as many of them return to their home countries and take their newfound hope with them.

Coming Events

Contact us to find how you can be part of these vital ministries.

- ▼ September 6: Prison ministry in Houston, Texas
- October 7-12: Prison ministry in Rocky Mount, NC
- November 6-9: Prison ministry in Tallahassee, FL
- November 13-16: Prison ministry in Jackson, MS
- December 4-6: Prison ministry in Dallas/Ft. Worth
- ▼ January: Belarus*
- ▼ February: Ukraine*
- ▼ March: Cuba* (tentative)
- May: Training for summer ministry teams

*student enrollment in these locations cities is expected to be from 700-1000 adults at each 2 week English Language Evangelism Event (ELEE)

Who Can Go With Us?

To join us on a short-term mission trip, one must:

- ▶ Be a born again follower of Jesus Christ
- Be an active member of a Bible believing church
- Be 18 years of age or older (unless traveling with a parent)
- ▼ Be able to speak English
- ▼ Be ready to share the gospel
- Be willing to be a servant to the rest of the team
- Have a valid U.S. passport (for international ministries)

"Follow me and I will make you fishers of men." - Jesus Christ

Our Focus

- Train and equip lay teams for short-term direct mission projects
- Organize and lead lay teams for domestic projects and international projects in Mexico, Cuba, Poland, Romania, Ukraine, and Belarus and other countries as God open doors
- Involve men and women in prison ministry in cooperation with Champions for Life
- Mobilize and motivate church members to get involved in Christian service

RAYER is the essential ingredient in preparation and execution of any ministry. Without prayer, failure is almost always the result.

What is a "Faith" Ministry?

This simply means that we do not receive a full-time salary from any church or organization. Instead, we rely on God to provide for us through his people. God leads individuals, churches and organizations to support this type of ministry. We let people know ofour needs through letters, phone calls, speaking engagements, personal contacts, and our newsletters. Then we simply wait on God to provide. These finances are used to supply our

living and ministry expenses, which allows us to devote our full time and energy to ministry.

How <u>you</u> can support our ministry

- Pray for us. Ask about our specific needs
- ✔ Encourage us with cards, letters and emails
- **♥** Support us financially
- Go with us as a team member
- ✓ Share about us with neighbors & friends that might be interested in our ministry
- Invite us to speak to your group about missions

All donations to LOVEM International support Jody and Trisha exclusively. Donations are tax deductible.

About Trisha and Jody...

Trisha grew up in Arlington, Texas where she was an active member of First Baptist Church, Arlington. She accepted Christ as her Savior during a VBS event. Trisha got her first taste of missions as a teenager.

Jody grew up in Commerce, Texas. At the age of 34 years old, his life was transformed after asking Jesus to take control of his life.

Jody and Trisha are members of Hulen Street Baptist Church in Fort Worth, Texas where they attend and serve when not traveling in ministry.

Contact us: Telephone: 817 478-8184 email: jody@loveminternational.org or trisha@loveminternational.org

LOVEM International Jody and Trisha Kennedy 109 Timber Ridge Circle Burleson, Texas 76028