

FALL 2011

Voices

CENTRAL COAST BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

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October 1, 2011

equipping leaders for the harvest



Church LEADERSHIP Training

English & Korean site
 Piedmont Hills High School
 1377 Piedmont Road, San Jose

Spanish site
 Iglesia Bautista White Road
 480 S. White Road, San Jose

Registration begins at 7:30 am. Conference is 8:30 am - 3:30 pm

Cost for Leaders from the Sponsoring Associations: \$25 (\$40 after September 26)

Cost for All Other Leaders: \$40 (\$55 after September 26)

Over 30 courses covering all aspects of Church Leadership will be offered. See inside for a complete course listing. To register, go to www.MyCLT.org

Sponsored by the California Southern Baptist Convention; the Georgia Baptist Convention; Lifeway Christian Resources; and the Central Coast, Central Valley, Costa Meda, East Bay, Golden Hills, Pacific, Redwood Empire, and San Francisco Peninsula Baptist Associations.



Greetings,
brothers
and sisters in
Christ.

I hope that your summer has been a blessed one with extra time for your family and for yourself to reflect on God's faithfulness throughout all generations. As the economic fallout of our nation continues, churches, associations, and our state and national conventions continue to deal with decreasing revenues. Due to circumstances beyond their control, many of our church members have lost their homes and their income and are struggling to give to the local church. As a result many churches are collecting less and almost every SBC agency in the country is receiving less, including the CCBA.

In addition to decreased church giving, the economy has also affected demand at the Hearts & Hands Christian Preschool centers. When one parent loses their job, the family no longer uses preschool services. Many preschools in the region have closed due to these unfortunate circumstances, and we are grateful that every H&H site is operating. Our sites are stable but we are praying for more families this fall.

Due to these economic challenges, we have had to make adjustments at the

associational staff level. Dr. Dewey Squyres is now serving as the part-time Church and Pastoral Ministries Director through October 15. He and his wife, Sharon, are looking forward to moving to their retirement home in Hemet after the sale of their home in San Jose. Dr. Squyres will continue in part-time ministry there and has already been asked to consider ministry positions in that area. Rev. Oscar Bauer will continue to serve as the Hispanic Ministry Director and Spanish Seminary Director but will not direct the church planting efforts as before. Finally, Sandra Ezat will remain as CMI Refugee Ministry Coordinator but will no longer oversee other CMI ministries. Both positions will be compensated on a per event stipend basis throughout the year. Please keep these wonderful Christian leaders in your prayers. CCBA will still continue to serve its member churches in every way possible. This has been an extremely difficult economy to navigate but I am confident that God will provide and we will continue to invest in the mission work of Jesus Christ.

Cooperative Program

Statewide, Cooperative Program giving is down for the third consecutive year. This means less support for our world-wide mission efforts. Please make Cooperative Program giving one of the highest priorities of your church budget. International Mission Board missionaries around the world are depending upon us to put food on their tables as they serve the Lord. For a first hand account of one of these missionaries, see pages 14-15.

Dr. Michael J. Stewart

The past few months have been very busy at Hearts & Hands. All three centers hosted special events for our parents and students. These events were an Easter Special, a Mother's Day Tea and a Father's Day BBQ. Each event at each center had a special theme, a specific menu and had many prizes that were donated by local merchants. Families who attended were so thankful and generous with their compliments about the events and how Hearts & Hands has changed their little one's lives, as well as their own.

Hearts & Hands is blessed to have such a dedicated and passionate team of teachers that work hard to go the extra mile for our families.

Lannette Lozano
H&H Ministry Director



Hearts & Hands

CCBA Hosts Unique Missions Conference in 2011

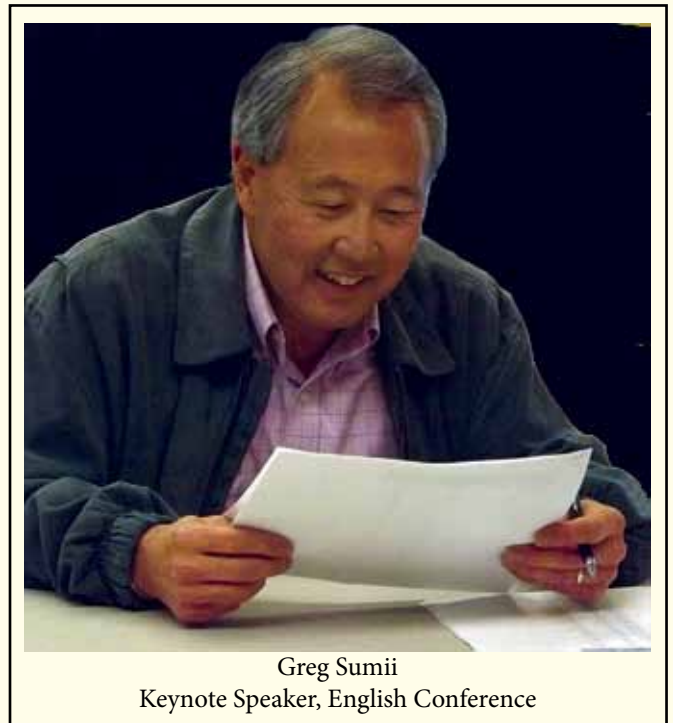
One word that could be used to describe the 2011 CCBA Missions Conference would be “unique.” It could also be said to be “innovative,” “inspirational,” and “challenging” in its uniqueness.

The conference was a two-day event held May 21-22. Some of the unique features were:

1. Specific programs offered in English, Spanish, and Korean. Special expert guests proficient in each language were invited to be presenters.
2. The addition of a youth conference on Saturday at yet a fourth venue.
3. An all-CCBA prayer breakfast for pastors and wives on the morning of May 21.
4. Streaming video to link the four sites on May 22 for the business session of the Annual Meeting portion of the Missions Conference.
5. New Song, the women’s choir of California Baptist University, performed beautifully in each of the four venues.

The programs were planned by teams dedicated to each of the four venues. The CCBA office provided overall coordination of the planning process.

There were a total of 267 in attendance at the



Greg Sumii
Keynote Speaker, English Conference

Missions Conference. This broke down as follows:

English	97
Korean	25
Spanish	107
<u>Youth</u>	<u>38</u>
Grand Total	267

Building God's Kingdom



TOGETHER

A missions offering of \$1,484.09 was received. This will go to support new work in CCBA.

The all-CCBA pastors and wives breakfast was hosted by The Lord's Baptist Church.

One of the highlights of the Mission Conference was the testimony of "Daniel Smith", an IMB missionary (whose name is being withheld for security reasons) currently serving in Uzbekistan. Daniel spoke at each site telling the challenges of sharing Christ in international areas that are officially closed to the Gospel. He moved his audiences with stories of the dedication of mere handfuls of Christians in whole countries, and their faithfulness under intense persecution. See pages 14-15 for his full testimony.

Dr. Mike Stewart, CCBA Director of Missions, also spoke at each site. His theme was "The Ever-Widening Circle," emphasizing the outreach strategy in Acts and its implications for us today.

Site specific guest speakers/conference leaders included:

1. English: Greg Sumii; Randy McWhorter; Horatio Jones; Joe DeLeon; and Gary Gallegos.
2. Spanish: Josue del Risco; Rodolfo Lagos; and Joe DeLeon
3. Korean: Hyong Min Kim and Song Sik Kim.
4. Youth: Benjy MacNaughton and Sherann Kim.

The Association honored the silver anniversary



Operation Share Director, Jackie Bailey, received the CCBA's Clifford Harris Missions Service Award in acknowledgement of her years of dedicated leadership.



Women attending the Spanish Conference

of its Operation Share food outreach ministry. Early leaders George Wilson and Greg Sumii were recognized, as were current site volunteers.

During the business session, messengers approved the CCBA calendar; adopted a budget of \$2,401,130; and elected our 2011-2012 officers:

1. Moderator: Ken Reese, Pastor, North Salinas Baptist Church, Salinas.
2. Vice Moderator: Tim Chan, New Zone Pastor, Crosspoint Chinese Church, Milpitas.
3. Treasurer: Bruce Daniel, Pastor, First Baptist Church of Campbell.
4. Clerk: Robert Bailey, Deacon, Oak Grove Baptist Church, San Jose.

Post conference surveys from CCBA members indicated:

- A preferences for all churches to be together for at least part of the conference;
- Members would prefer the conference be moved to November because this seems to be a lighter church calendar month;
- The speakers were well-received. (Indeed, they were excellent!);
- The Pastor's prayer breakfast was a highlight because every CCBA church received prayer during this time.



Primera Iglesia Bautista “Fuente de Salvacion” recently held their first baptismal service. Lawrence Leos is the pastor.



Pat Moore receives an award for her faithful service at the Rosewood Community Operation Share site.



Ken Reese (Left) was elected as the new moderator of the CCBA. Ken is the pastor of North Salinas Baptist Church.



Mr. & Mrs. Adam Stewart



Mr. & Mrs. Jason Latham



Dr. Mike and Sheila Stewart have had two blessed events recently. Their son, Adam, married Jillian Caparros on March 19. On August 6, their daughter, Sara, married Jason Latham. Adam and Jillian are members of South Bay Community Church in Santa Clara while Jason and Sara serve at FBC Gilroy. Mom and Dad feel very blessed by the new additions to the family. Dad was honored to be asked to officiate both weddings.



Preschool

Teaching Preschoolers

Lee Ann Stark

We will discuss the needs and characteristics of preschoolers as well as how they learn. Topics will include activities, resources, and lesson planning.

Children

Children's Sunday School Leadership

Todd Capps

Youth

Turning Youth Bible Study into Youth Ministry

Darryl Watts

So all your church has for student ministry is a Bible study small group? No worries. It's easy to use that group as the basis for a well-rounded, disciple making student ministry.

Live Out Loud: For Students Only

Sherann Kim

I want to share my faith, but I don't know what to say! Learn how to share your faith: from His story, to your story and to your world.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School Leadership: Young and Middle Adults

George Yates

Teachers and class leaders working with adults ages 18-49 will strengthen skills that help adults discover and apply God's Word, as well as reach and minister with adults.

Sunday School Leadership: Empty Nesters and Retired Adults

David Apple

Sunday School for people 50 and up. Teachers and class leaders working with adults 50 and older will strengthen skills that help adults discover and apply God's Word, as well as reach and minister with adults.

SPECIAL INTEREST

Small Group Topics

Tim Weems

This course will include principles and practices of small groups, small group leadership, how to start a small group ministry, leading a group and the small group meeting. Also, this session will highlight some helpful resources to equip leaders and a variety of sources for small group curriculum.

Engaging Your Congregation in Worship

Justin McWhorter

Help your congregation come alive in your current worship context as you introduce fresh expressions of worship. This course contains practical tips for worship leaders and worship teams--no matter where your congregation is at right now.

Leadership Greatness

Mike McGuffee

Transforming ourselves into a "great" leader for His kingdom does not occur overnight. It is a journey that starts and ends with the Master, is built up and torn down through circumstances, and it has no finish line. This workshop focuses on equipping and encouraging today's Christians to be leaders in the home, in ministry, and the community in which God has placed them.

Leadership Greatness is biblically based and powerfully practical. The workshop utilizes hands-on assessment tools, multimedia presentations, group discussion time, and interactive exercises that stimulate learning and application. This material address five traits of great leadership: Calling, Contentment, Character, Crafting, and Coaching.

Leaders & Laity Leading Together for Effective Ministry

John Tarrer

A misunderstanding of our ministry roles hinder many churches from engaging in the ministry that we are called to do. If we are to engage the world, there needs to be a refocus on the Scriptural model for the Leaders & Laity's role in working together. This will encourage unity and foster respect for each ministry. Paul said that "we are laborers together for God." (1 Cor. 3:9). This course is for both staff and church members.

The SERVE Leadership Workshop

Benny Pate

This workshop examines the principles and practices of exceptional leadership based on Psalm 78:72. Created by Chik-fil-A, this workshop seeks to explore the five practices of leading at a high level.

The Church on Purpose

Mike Gravette

After taking this course based on Ephesians 4, you should be able to know God's plan for your church and how to put a plan in action to reach your goals.

Everything You Need to Know about Values, Mission, Vision and Strategy

Randy McWhorter



Your Financial Journey with God

Rod Wiltrout & David Rudledge

People have more money today than any previous generation, yet money is the number one cause of discouragement. Does the end of your money come before the end of the month? Learn how to:

- Get out of debt and stay out.
- Find money you never knew you had.
- Determine the cause of financial troubles.
- Plan for the future.
- Develop a practical money management system.
- Discover what the Bible says about money!

I Minister to the Minister

Rhonda Stoppe

A recent survey revealed that 1,500 ministers leave the ministry each month, with the number one reason being too much stress on their marriage and family. This class will provide insights and tools to live successfully as the ministers' wife, providing specific instruction from God's Word, personal accounts and practical advice.

5 Leadership Essentials and the Unique Dynamics for Women's Groups

Debbie Williams

Designed to give you a new understanding of your leadership potential, this workshop focuses on relationships, group building, communication, time management, and conflict management. With these basics, you will become an effective leader in your church, community, and workplace, and confident in your abilities. Next, we'll discuss the unique blessings, challenges, struggles, and issues pertaining to leading women's groups. Come away with clearer awareness of how to meet the unique needs of dynamic women's groups.

Steps in Building a Balanced Men's Ministry

Don Hargis

Witnessing to Muslims, Hindus, and Buddhists

Teacher TBD

Church Planting

Linda Bergquist

Korean

강의 주제(Theme of Lecture):
하나님의 음성 듣기(Hearing God)

예수님께서서는 “내 양은 내 음성을 들으며” (요 10:27)라고 말씀하셨습니다. 그리스도인은 하나님의 음성을 들으며 신앙생활을 하는 사람들입니다. 그러나, 어떻게 하나님의 음성을 들어야 하는지 모르는 분들이 많이 있습니다. 본 강의에서는 하나님의 음성을 듣는 방법에 대한 여러 가지 이론들을 정리하고, 침례교 전통에 입각한 하나님의 말씀인 성경과 하나님과의 대화인 기도를 통하여 하나님의 음성을 어떻게 들을 수 있는지를 구체적으로 제시합니다.

강사 프로파일 (Instructor Profile):
대전 침례신학대학교 (M. Div, M.R.E 졸업, Th.D 수료)

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
(Ph.D 기독교교육)

대전침례 신학대학교, 수도침례신학교 강사
북미남침례교회한인교회협의회 교육부장
코너스톤 커뮤니티 교회 담임목사(2001-현재)

Register Early and Save!

The cost for church leaders from sponsoring Associations is \$25. For all other church leaders, the cost is \$40. This cost is valid through September 26. On September 27, the cost increases to \$40 and \$55 respectively.

Sponsoring associations are: Central Coast, Central Valley, Costa Meda, East Bay, Golden Hills, Pacific, Redwood Empire, and the San Francisco Peninsula Baptist Associations. If your church is a member of any of these Baptist Associations, you may register for the Sponsoring Association price.

To register, go to www.MyCLT.org

Elective Conferences

Elective Session 1 at 12:15

Achieving the Acts 1:8 Challenge Through Disaster Relief Ministries

Don Hargis

Beginning ESL Ministry in Your Church

Teacher TBD

Internships

Teacher TBD

Knowing Your Community

Teacher TBD

Legal Issues in Youth Ministry

Daryl Watts

It's not just about saving your church from a lawsuit. It's about keeping your church and your students safe and secure.

The Life Book Movement

Sherann Kim

Quality Training for your Bible Study Leaders

George Yates

This workshop is designed to assist pastors, Sunday School directors, and ministers of education in providing the best equipping methods for their teachers and leaders to carry out the Great Commission, building disciples through Sunday School classes. Learn 15 ways to train and equip your leaders.

Spending Personalities

Rod Wiltrout & David Rutledge

God made you like you are, but your strengths can become weaknesses. Have you ever asked the questions: Why do I (or my spouse) handle the money the way I do? Why do some people make money decisions for everyone? Why are some people's checkbooks filled and others are not? Why don't people budget?

Using Attractional Events to Reach People

Randy McWhorter

Think of an evangelistic event as a relational door to your community that provides a great opportunity to reach lost people for Christ. This session will answer the questions: What is an attractional event? Why should the church hold attractional events? and What are some ideas for attractional events?

Women Who Rock Their World

Rhonda Stoppe

You will become intimately acquainted with specific women in Scripture that God used to "rock" their world as you discover your call to live deliberately in this generation.

Elective Session 2 at 1:20

10 Basics of Investing

Rod Wiltrout & David Rutledge

Everyone needs to plan for retirement, but few plan as they need to so they can retire properly. This one hour class will give you principles that work no matter what the market is doing. Follow these steps and retire well.

The Big Toolbox

Isabel Patton

What resources are out there to help me with women's ministry or plug missions education into already existing programs? This workshop will give you the resources and many creative ways to use them.

Effectively Using Video in Worship

Justin McWhorter

If a picture is worth a thousand words . . . then a video must be worth tens of thousands! This course focuses on how to integrate video effectively into your worship service.

Funding Mission Teams in a Sluggish Economy

John Tarrer

Missions is the very heart of God. However, there are often many obstacles to overcome in order to actively engage in Acts 1:8 missions. The economy is one of the obstacles that hinders individuals and churches from obeying God's command to go into all the world. This course will provide help to overcome this obstacle.

God's Word Still Comes Alive

David Apple

This session will help you gain an understanding of spiritual transformation and the importance of Bible study in that transformation. Come, and discover ways to experience God's Word in fresh and life changing ways.

Guerilla Coaching: How to Equip Leaders 'One at a Time'

Tom Belew

Today, church leaders believe their ministry situation or church is unique. As a result, leaders have to engage new approaches to equipping leaders and help members. This session will provide leaders with new tools (techniques) for interacting with leaders, volunteers and members.

Ministers Mentoring Men

Steve Stoppe

Safety and Security Issues for Children and Preschool Ministry.

Lee Ann Stark



Korean Elective Session 1 at 12:15

Southern Baptist Life: Cooperative Program and Entities, Related and Working Together.

Songsik Kim

English Ministry in Korean Churches and Its Future

Pastor Kim, Taehoon

강의 제목: 한국교회내의 영어 목회의 현 상황 및 미래 준비

요지: 한국 교회 내의 영어 목회의 현 상황 설명
한국 교회 내의 영어 목회의 여러가지 모델들
한국 교회 내의 영어 목회의 난관점 및 해결 방안
한국 교회 내의 영어 목회가 나아가야 할 방향성

Korean Elective Session 2 at 1:20

Stewardship in the Korean Church

Fanny Kim

Children's Ministry & Mission

Mrs. Wee, KwangHye

제목: 어린이 사역과 선교교육

우리 아이들을 하나님이 원하시는 건강한 크리스찬, 건강한 시민으로 양육시키는 것이 어린이 사역의 목표입니다. 선교교육을 통해서 하나님의 사랑의 눈으로 이 세상을 바라 볼 수 있도록 격려해 줍니다. 어릴 때부터 자기 중심적인 생각에서 벗어나 선교적인 삶을 살도록 지도해야 합니다

CLT in Korean

한국어 강의 일정

(피드몬트 고등학교, 산호세)

- 오전 7:30 - 등록 접수
- 오전 8:30 - 전체 모임
- 오전 9:30 - 주 강의 #1
- 오전 10:30 - 휴식
- 오전 10:40 - 주 강의 #2
- 오전 11:40 - 점심 식사
- 오후 12:15 - 선택 강의 #1
- 오후 1:10 - 휴식
- 오후 1:20 - 선택 강의 #2
- 오후 2:15 - 휴식
- 오후 2:25 - 주 강의 #3
- 오후 3:30 - 종강

CLT In English

(at Living Word Christian Center, Milpitas)

- 7:30 AM - Registration
- 8:30 AM - General Session
- 9:30 AM - Core Track Session One
- 10:30 AM - Break
- 10:40 AM - Core Track Session Two
- 11:40 AM --Lunch (provided on-site)
- 12:15 PM--Elective session 1
- 1:10 PM - Break
- 1:20 PM - Elective session 2
- 2:15 PM --Break
- 2:25 PM--Core Track Session 3
- 3:30 PM--Dismiss - End of Day

CLT En Español

(a Iglesia Bautista de White Road, San Jose)

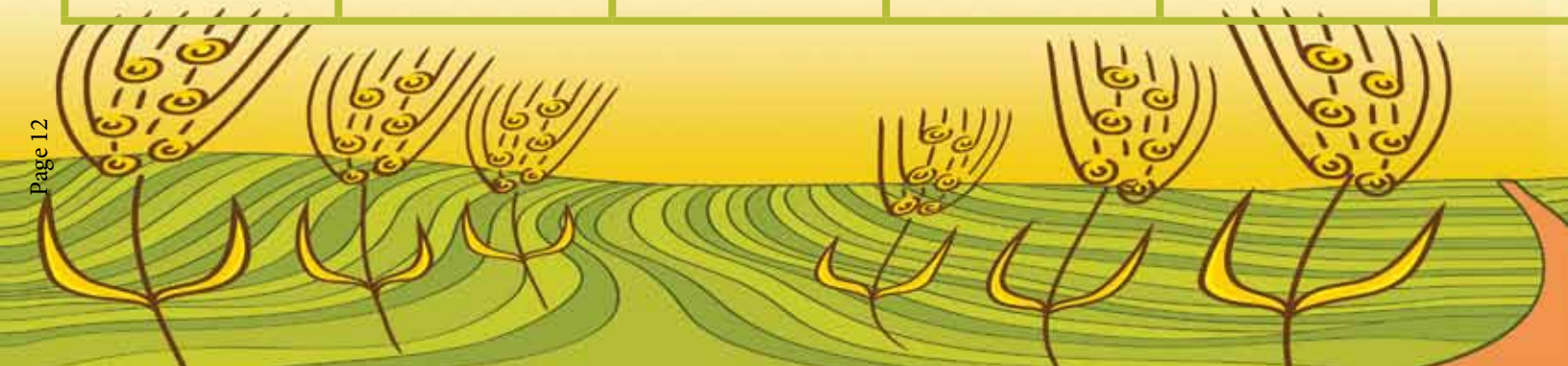
- 7:30 - 9:00 am - Registro (foyer)
- 9:00 - 9:30 am - Sesión General (auditorio)
- 9:30 - 10:20 am - Primera Sesión
- 10:25 - 11:15 am - Segunda Sesión
- 11:15 - 11:30 am - Descanso
- 11:30 am - 12:20 pm - Tercera Sesión
- 12:20 - 1:10 pm - Comida (incluida solamente si se pre-registra)
- 1:10 - 2:00 pm - Cuarta Sesión
- 2:05 - 2:55 pm - Quinta Sesión



Agenda



Horario	Track A	Track B	Track C	Track D	Track E
	Su iglesia puede empezar Iglesias nuevas <i>Joe DeLeon & Josias Robledo, Jr.</i>	Música y adoración <i>Wilber Villalta</i>	Taller de tesorero <i>Mike Solorio</i>	Básica de La Unión Femenil Misionera <i>Eva De La Rosa & Rita Rios</i>	Cesar Ca... y el mov... G-
7:30 – 9 am					
9 – 9:30 am					
9:30 – 10:20 am Primera Sesión	Creando el clima para plantación de iglesias	¿Porque alabar?	Parte 1	¡Bienvenido a la Union Femenil Misionera! Aprende los conceptos básicos	Par...
10:25 – 11:15 am Segunda Sesión	Identificando lideres presents/futuros	Cómo planear y dirigir la alabanza	Parte 2	¡Bienvenido a la Union Femenil Misionera! Aprende los conceptos básicos. (Continuado)	Par...
11:15 – 11:30 am					
11:30 am – 12:20 pm Tercera Sesión	Pleando y capitalizando la plantación de iglesias	Cómo crear un equipo de alabanza	Parte 3	Básicos para líderes de Amiguitos Misioneros (los preescolares, 3 años-K)	Par...
12:20 – 1:10	Comida (incluida si se pre-registra en myclt.org , por su cuenta)				
1:10 pm – 2 pm Cuarta Sesión	Socios en la plantación de iglesias	Trabajando con tu equipo pastoral	Parte 4	Básicos de misiones para líderes de los niños (grados 1–6)	Par...
2:05 – 2:55 pm Quinta Sesión	Resumen de Entrenamiento Básico	Discipulando tu equipo de alabanza	Parte 5	Soy un Nuevo Líder: Y Ahora Qué?	Par...



Programa del liderazgo de la Iglesia

Track E Estudiantes de 12 años	Track F Modelos de evangelización de la iglesia local <i>Hugo Campos</i>	Track G Evangelización del Niño	Track H Organizando su escuela dominical para crecer	Track I Lideres de jóvenes <i>Alberto Chipoco</i>	Track J Los jóvenes: sólo para estudiantes
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Registro (foyer) Sesión General

Parte 1	Parte 1	Parte 1	Parte 1	Parte 1	Parte 1
Parte 2	Parte 2	Parte 2	Parte 2	Parte 2	Parte 2

Descanso (refrigerio)

Parte 3	Parte 3	Parte 3	Parte 3	Parte 3	Parte 3
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(Si se registra a la puerta del evento) (Cuidado de Niños: Recoja a su niño para que coma con usted)

Parte 4	Parte 4	Parte 4	Parte 4	Parte 4	Parte 4
Parte 5	Parte 5	Parte 5	Parte 5	Parte 5	Parte 5



Following is a summary of the address to the CCBA by Daniel Smith, an IMB missionary serving in Uzbekistan. (His name has been changed to protect his identity.)

Greetings Brothers and Sisters in Christ

Today I will be sharing a little of the situation in Central Asia. I will be giving you a little insight on the lives and cultures of Central Asian Muslims and how this changes when they give their lives to Christ.

You will hear lots of information today and you will forget most of it before your next meal but please above all else remember:

1. You have been saved to shine for the Almighty God of the Universe.
2. Thanks to those who have participated through your gifts to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering and the Cooperative Program.
3. The harvest is still plentiful and the laborers are still few.

Beginning in Genesis, God has commanded us--through Abraham--to GO and be a blessing to ALL the peoples of the world. Christ has commanded us – you and me – to go to THE peoples of the world. This does not mean OUR peoples scattered throughout the world. This message is consistent throughout the entire Bible: The goal of these commands is to spread God's glory above all else.

Here is a little background on myself:

I am a white American. I was raised in a small town in Indiana. My wife is from China and we have four children. We are supported through the generous gifts of Southern Baptists through the Lottie Moon and Cooperative Program offerings. For 20 years, we have worked in countries where it is illegal to be a missionary, and so we have always had another job along with our missionary role.

Many people think things are tough today in America. Their eyes are closed to most of the world. Americans have the freedom to seek God and own a Bible. But around the world, there are many people who live in squalor and lack the freedom to worship

God. They have no Bible in their language. Can we who sit at a spiritual feast ignore those who are starving to death on hell's doorstep?

Uzbekistan shares borders with Turkmenistan, Afghanistan, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, and Kyrgyzstan. It has almost 30 million people and is one of the largest countries in Central Asia. Like the surrounding area, the people are culturally conservative Muslims. Religious freedom is very limited. The most open countries, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan, allow Muslims who become Christians to have open fellowship and Bible teachings. In the rest of these countries it is illegal. In Afghanistan becoming a Christian is a crime punishable by death, as is saying anything negative about Islam or its prophets.

The architecture in Uzbekistan is very Islamic and the people are normal people who must cope with stress and pressure. Many have been forced to leave for Russia to look for work.

Our ministry is done through our jobs. We meet people in our daily activities and share the hope we have in Christ. This simple model is very natural and our local friends learn to do the same. There are no open churches for the Uzbeks. They worship God quietly in their homes, slowly increasing in numbers as God call new ones into faith.

I would like to tell you a story about two brothers in Christ with whom I was involved when I worked in Western China. Osman was born into a poor Muslim family that suffered greatly under the communist government. Osman went to university and became a serious Muslim. Over the years God began to grow a sense of conviction of sin against an almighty God. Nothing Osman did helped this. Even though he prayed 5 times a day, his sins could not be washed away. He heard about Jesus from a North American teacher who was at his school. Osman accepted Christ. When he returned to his hometown he returned to his old Islamic ways and began to do daily



*A young Uzbek boy holding a stack of flatbread.
Source: imb.org*

From the Fields



ds traditional bread.

prayers. About this time we had started a company close to his town and offered him a job. During this time Osman's faith in Christ became stronger and he was discipled.

After a few years he moved to a different city and did some additional Bible training. During these years Osman had been very vocal in sharing his changed life. He had the heart of an evangelist and encountered persecution from the local Mullahs. In the summer of 2007 he was taken by the police and held for over a month, beaten and asked to deny his faith. He stood strong. That fall, he was arrested and given two years of hard labor in a Chinese labor camp. Osman is married with two children. He got out of labor camp a few months ago and is now trying to return to normal life. He still has nightmares and has difficulty eating.

Another brother I want to tell you about is Alim. I met Alim in 1995. He began following Christ a few weeks later and was baptized. He was faithful in sharing the Good News with people who had not heard. In 2008, Alim was arrested and sent to jail. He waited over a year before he was sentenced. When his sentence was announced the world was shocked – 15 years in hard labor. We have heard stories of his hardships and we have heard that he has stood strong. He has shared his food, clothes, blankets and his faith with those around him. Some have come to faith and contacted his wife with thanksgiving. Please pray for Alim and let him be a model to us to preach boldly even when it hurts.

I will leave you with some items of praise and further prayer:



Praise God:

- He continues to use you and the IMB to send workers to the lost
- God received glory through the suffering and perseverance of His saints
- Alim and Osman stood firm in their faith
- Despite dangers, new people from all over the world are joining the harvest fields.
- His church is growing – stronger if not always bigger

UPDATE:

The Smith's have recently returned to Uzbekistan. We are grateful to have had them staying in the missionary home in Cupertino. The Missionary Home is provided free of charge to IMB missionaries, and is supported by generous donors and your gifts to the CCBA.

g support almost 5,000 missionaries worldwide, including the Smiths.

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