



Special Projects Verwer's Ministry Letter

GEORGE VERWER 2011/12 ITINERARY

November

- 22 Return to the UK
- 23 Prisoners Week Mtg, Plymouth
- 25 UCCF Missions Roadshow Nottingham

December

- 3 Valley Worship, Burford Village Hall, Near Tenbury Wells
- 4 Leominster Baptist Church
- 8 **Prayer Emphasis Day**
- 10 OM Christmas Party
- 11 St Barnabas, London N12
- 13 Fly to Dubai
- 13-15 Dubai
- 15-21 Logos Hope, Singapore
- 25 Ealing
- 28 ULM, Frankfurt
- 29-31 Mission Net, Germany

January 2012

- 1 Mission Net, Germany
- 8 Bethany Christian Centre, Houghton-le-Spring
- 9 The Message Prayer Day Manchester
- 10 Brunel CU
- 12 **Prayer Emphasis Day**
- 15 Bethany Chapel, Wirral
- 17 UCCF mtg – Dundee
- 20 UCCF Mtg – Edinburgh
- 21 pm – Mission Mtg, Lancaster
- 22 St Thomas's, Lancaster
- 23 Capernwray
- 26 Special Projects Board Mtg
- 27 Hollybush
- 29 Wycliffe Baptist Ch, Reading

February

- 2 Nottingham CU
- 5 – 26 Tentative -Trip to India
- 9 **Prayer Emphasis Day**
- 26-2 Mar ILM, Thailand

March

- 2 Return to UK
- 8 **Prayer Emphasis Day**
- 16-18 Naniboujou, MN
- 19 Liberty University Chapel, VA
- 23 25th Celebration – Ellet Grange

April

- 1 pm – St Mary's Ch, Chester
- 12 **Prayer Emphasis Day**
- 21,22 Woodhill Evan. Church-Glasgow
- 26-29 Ships weekend—USA

May

- 5-6 Diguna, Germany
- 7 – 11 SMILE meetings in Kosova & Albania
- 12-13 Tytherington Family Worship - Macclesfield

Dear Praying Friends

Greetings. I started writing this newsletter at Newark Airport on our return trip back to the UK. We were in the States the month of October . Our meetings went well and we want to again thank you for praying for us and making such trips possible.

It really is time for the picture edition of the Southeast London Letter, but Mike Wakely who writes it is in hospital for heart surgery.

In light of the tribute that I wrote about Jonathan McRostie, I felt I must get something out soon as some of you may not yet know that Jonathan has gone to be with the Lord. It was a privilege to attend and share at his memorial service in Belgium. His tribute is on the back of this letter.

The world has hit the **7 Billion** mark and reports say that one-fourth of them are Muslims. It is a major answer to prayer that we have about 1000 people working among these most unreached people.

It was 50 years ago that we sent out the first small team to the land of Turkey beginning our work among these people. In Special Projects Turkey is one of our priority commitments. We need your help if we are going to do what we believe God has put on our hearts.

I want to give an extra word of thanks to those who have supported Special Projects financially. I try to keep in touch with each one of you and I am sorry if I have failed to do that. These have been difficult months financially, but we are praying this will turn around as we move toward Christmas and the end of the year. We need your prayers as we need wisdom as to what requests we should respond to as they pour in from all over the world.

Please allow me to list some of the priority projects which need prayer and funding:

1. Leadership training and motivational materials in more languages as well as reprints.
2. HIV/AIDS related materials. Just today we agreed to print 300,000 leaflets in India for National AIDS Day.
3. New edition of **Operation World** for those who cannot afford to buy it.
4. Reprinting of my own books and publishing in new languages (I million in print)
5. Transportation related projects. There are many old needy vehicles in OM.
6. Evangelistic DVDs, leaflets & books for Logos Hope.
7. New Testaments in many languages.
8. Evangelistic literature in various languages.
9. Publishing Randy Alcorn's books- **Purity Principle & Why ProLife** in more languages as well as reprints in Russian that we feel is urgent right now.
10. Evangelistic literature and Scriptures for Muslim countries, especially Turkey, Pakistan and Bangladesh. We are trying to increase our efforts among the Muslims of India and support that work financially on a monthly basis.
11. Emergency medical needs for OMers and former OMers.

We know that many of you cannot give financially at this time, but perhaps you could share this with someone who would love to get involved. Many of you give to other aspects of OM and so we do not expect that you can give to us also.

Standing with you in prayer as we head for this busy, often confusing Christmas Season.

George Verwer

Mailing Address: PO Box 17, Bromley, Kent England BR1 3JP
Street Address: 62A Glebe Way, West Wickham, Kent BR4 0RL
Phone: 44 (0)20 8777 5268 UK Mobile 44 (0)7860 426426 USA Cell Phone: 1 (201) 657 0130
Email: george.verwer@om.org or georgev@swissmail.org

OM USA
 PO Box 444
 Tyrone, GA 30290

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 Registered Office: The Quinta, Weston Rhyn, Oswestry, SY10 7LT, United Kingdom
 A company limited by guarantee - registered no: 2564320 (England & Wales)
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Jonathan Stuart McRostie
(March 11, 1938–September 25, 2011)

We have just received word of the homegoing of our beloved brother, friend and one of the longest serving persons in our fellowship, Jonathan McRostie. His daughters Grace and Damaris were able to be with Margit at the hospital in Brussels and be with him before his graduation moment.

Nathanael arrived in time to see his Dad still in the hospital bed but in fact not really there anymore. Jonathan had been in the hospital for some days and Margit was often with him. He had been ill for some time and in some way we have been ready for this, but in other ways you are never ready and he will be greatly missed.

Jonathan was a senior student and leader when I arrived as a new student at Moody in January 1958. He had been assigned to meet me and little did we know what God had planned for us! (Next Easter we would have worked together 50 years). We did not get to know each other much during our time at Moody as he was soon off to Wheaton College to get his degree and more study. He went with us to Mexico in 1959 and he then made the decision to join me and help me out in the very beginning of OM in Europe. He planned to help for a year and stayed for a life time! Where can I find words to express what is on my heart about this faithful friend and servant of the Lord?

Jonathan was born March 11, 1938 in Bamako, Mali of godly missionary parents. He has a sister Jean and brother Gordon. He grew up in Mali, attending boarding school in Guinea (Conakry). In 1954 he moved to Kansas to finish his last two years of High School. He then attended Moody Bible Institute for 3 years followed by 2 years at Wheaton College for a BA Degree in Sociology.

I had asked a Swiss brother Konrad Sonderegger to be the leader of the work in Europe as I was soon headed to India, but in a short time it was clear that Jonathan was the man to take on that strategic role. He was based for a short time in the UK and then moved to Belgium.

He met Margit, a very committed woman from Germany, and they were married in Brussels April 27, 1968. They had three children, Grace, Nathanael and Damaris. They served OM mostly based in Belgium, as well as in Italy (1972 – 74) and then did a 6 month stint in Senegal in 1980 – 81.

In 1982 Jonathan was seriously injured in a terrible car accident in Spain and became paraplegic. It's hard to believe that for almost 30 years he has operated from his wheelchair. This did not stop him from serving the Lord both with OM and his local church. He was faithful in his commitment to OM and the team in Zaventem where he was involved from the very beginning of that ministry base.

Jonathan was an easy person to work with. I remember asking him in 1972 if he would spend a year or so in Italy to build up the work there and soon he was off living there. God used him in a significant way and where he would learn another language (he learned French and preached in French as well).

Jonathan had a great preaching and teaching ministry. He continued to travel and take meetings even after he stepped out of the overall leadership of Europe in the late '80s. He was also part of our International Executive Group during it's beginning years.

He was greatly respected in Belgium not only in connection with his leadership in OM but his strong involvement with his local church Assemblée Protestante Evangélique du Heysel, in Brussels, serving as an elder since 1981. In addition, Jonathan was a founding member and leader of the European Disability Network, starting in the early 90's.

In closing, some words that come to mind when I think of our dear brother, friend and co-worker are: Zeal, love, faithfulness, discipline, vision,

perseverance, forgiveness, honesty and much more. He loved Jesus and he loved people and wanted the whole world to be reached with the gospel.

I will not say more, though we could fill a book. Below is Margit's email and address as well as the children's emails. Let's uphold the McRostie Family in prayer.

Margit McRostie
Rue Sts. Pierre et Paul 15, Flat 10
Bruxelles BE-1120
Belgium
margit.mcrostie@om.org

Children:
Grace Willows married to Dan,
4 children:
Duncan, Ainsley, Lochlan and
Malcolm :
willows@surenet.net

Nathanael McRostie married to Hanna,
4 children:
Lena, Kaiah, Luisa and Stellan
nat.hanna@forevermail.com

Damaris Coppock married to Paul, 3
children:
Anneliese, Katherine and Nathan
dcoppock73@hotmail.com

Almost every week someone we love or have a link with goes to Heaven and we cannot keep up with it all. That is not the purpose of this letter, but here are a few people who recently have died.

Howard Harper, a great long-term missionary and Eye Specialist/doctor to Central Asia and especially Afghanistan graduated to glory.

Alfy Means of South Texas who stood with us in support and concern for over 50 years had his promotion.

VT Jacob from India went to be with the Lord. His earthly journey was cut short with unexpected swiftness due to cancer of the tongue. He has run his course for the Lord and is now with Him.

Lydia Paul, wife of a former OM leader, E Joseph Paul, aged 35 went to be with the Lord. She died in hospital after being admitted with severe stomach pain.

Let's pray for the families and loved ones of those who have graduated.

Thanks for your prayers and support.

In His grip

George Verwer