

EMU⁺

INTERNATIONAL

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PROCLAIMING THE TRIUMPHS OF THE GOSPEL

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Ken & Joan Jensen
Assistant Director

ALONG THE WAY . . .

It sometimes feels that the election cycle in our country is spinning faster and faster. Joan and I have not been answering phone calls that are toll free, out-of-area, or unfamiliar numbers on caller ID – especially if the call is after 5:00 p.m. (We trust that if the call is important, the caller will leave a message on our voice mail.) If we answered every call, we would not get anything else done, it seems. Right now, for the 4th Congressional District Seat for South Carolina, currently held by retiring Trey Gowdy, there are 19 candidates running in the primaries – 13 Republicans, 5 Democrats, and 1 American Party. That's a lot of phone calls for those of us who live in this district! And between the primaries, the runoff primaries, and the November election, the calls will multiply. And the news/entertainment media is even worse. To listen to the radio or watch TV is a labor of endurance. But as we all know, even mid-term elections are big business, and the political ads are helping the economy! Thankfully, in the US elections are not so critical as to be a matter of life and death, or freedom and tyranny. In other countries they can be.

At least two of the nations where we have missionaries are having national elections this summer: Mexico on July 1 and Cambodia on July 29. I actually do not know as much about the political scene in Mexico as I do for Cambodia. Both of these countries could be subject to unrest, though
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A KNIGHT-ERRANT ACCEPTS A NEW VENTURE

by Tim and Lynnette Chevalier, newest EMU missionaries to the 10/40 Window

[Editor's notes in italics] The name "Chevalier" is French for a knight. And a knight-errant is one who accepts a new, possibly dangerous and taxing, assignment for his King.

On Tuesday evening, May 17, a special EMU board meeting was held to interview Tim and Lynnette Chevalier, our newest missionary applicants. All except three of our board members were "present," though one was here via Facetime and another via Skype. After hearing the Chevaliers' testimonies and asking many questions, this couple was accepted as missionaries with EMU. Much preparatory ground work took place before the board meeting, so the final vote was basically a formality. All of our board members, except one, have known the Chevaliers for "ages." Tim and Lynnette joined Hampton Park Baptist Church in 1985. But Lynnette's parents, Dick and Muriel Murr, joined HPBC in 1969, a year before I joined. Dick was my summer boss when I worked on the yard crew at Bob Jones University, and Joan had Muriel for a piano class at BJU. We do not know Tim's parents at all, but we have known him since he and Lynnette joined our church.

The Chevaliers have been a vital part of HPBC for as long as I have known them. Tim very definitely has the spiritual gift of teaching, and if there was a spiritual gift of singing, he has that, too! (I'm hoping to die before he does so he can sing at my funeral. Maybe we should have a rehearsal, so I can enjoy it, too!) We love this couple and are thrilled to have them in the EMU family.

Testimony of Tim Chevalier:

I was born in a small town in southeastern Ohio, the youngest of 5 children. While my dad was fighting in Europe during WWII, my mom made a profession of faith in Christ, thanks to the influence of my dad's sister. It would be 20+ years before my dad would come to Christ. We regularly attended a small country church. Now that I understand the Gospel, I can honestly say I



Lynnette & Tim Chevalier

was first exposed to Gospel truth at an early age at this church.

When I was 10 years old, my oldest sister committed suicide. As a result, my life took a very dark turn for the next several years. After being invited to The Wilds Christian Camp in 1975 and making a profession of faith, I made many changes for the good; but, after a couple of years, when confronted about the validity of my faith in Christ, I realized that I more or less had adopted a Christian lifestyle without truly placing my faith in Christ. In June of 1977, I truly repented and put my full confidence in Jesus and His redemptive work on my behalf. I am truly indebted to the many people at my home church who invested in my life spiritually.

After graduating from my public high school, I went to BJU for university, majored in Bible and secondary education, and earned a MA in NT Theology. I met Lynnette while at BJU, and we were married in August of 1984. For the next 9 years, Lynnette taught 3rd grade and worked at the press, and I taught Bible at Bob Jones Junior High and was a school counselor.

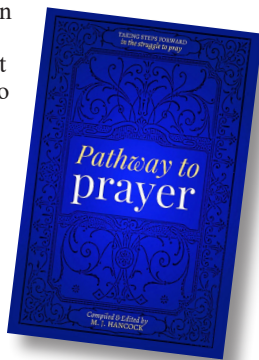
Several years after we were married, Lynnette gave me a valentine's card that aptly describes our lives together. It said,

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ALONG THE WAY...*(continued from page 1)*

currently none is predicted (as a sure thing). And though the results of these elections will not endanger the lives of any of our missionaries, the elected rulers can make a huge difference for how Christian ministry can take place. Pray that the lead-up to these elections will remain violence-free and that the candidates who will allow the most freedom for preaching the Gospel will prevail. (And pray that I don't smash every phone in our house!)

A new book has been published by one of our missionaries that can help anyone who has difficulty with prayer – for which I am most needy! **Matt Hancock** compiled 40 pages of quotes and short scripture in a book entitled *“Pathway to Prayer.”* The three major sections are “Steps Toward Praying,” “Steps While Praying,” and “Steps After Praying.” We just today received a PDF copy of the publication, and even a brief scan of the material was instructive, convicting, and a blessing. I am not yet sure how Matt intends the dissemination of the hardcopy script, but a PDF of the book can be downloaded at <https://openingtheireyes.com/> and click “Prayer Book” on the menu line.



The Hancock family will be visiting churches in Alabama, Pennsylvania, and Ohio in June.

Late Tuesday night May 29, the Lord took Ariel Camacho of Montevideo, Uruguay, to heaven. He had turned 80 years old in March. **Ariel and Elsa Camacho** entered Misión Evangelica del Uruguay in March 1972, shortly after his graduation from the MEU Bible Institute. His occupation before that time was as a banker, with a very comfortable salary. But after this couple accepted Christ as Lord and Savior, their desire was to serve the Lord in full-



Elsa and Ariel Camacho at Camp Emmanuel in February 2015

time ministry. Upon entering MEU, Ariel became the pastor of Gethsemani Church in Montevideo. Under his leadership, the church grew to become one of our strongest churches in Uruguay. Ariel's other duties included Office Administrator and Financial Manager in Uruguay, and he served for decades on the MEU Board of Directors. I can truly say that Ariel was my father's (George Jensen) right-hand-man from 1972 until Dad resigned as the Director of EMU in 1987. As the Office Administrator in the US office during those years, I also worked closely with Ariel. Several years ago, Ariel was diagnosed with leukemia and then Alzheimer's. Before then, he had resigned from being the pastor of Gethsemani Church, with the desire that Gabriel Gomez become the new pastor. Gabriel and his older brother, Hector, were both trained by Ariel to be pastors, and both Gómezes became pastors of MEU churches. Even before leaving the pastorate, Ariel resigned as the office administrator in Uruguay, a position that Gabriel Gomez filled for many years, until Pedro Donzé entered MEU. I first met the Camachos in 1973 during my first visit to Uruguay. We became fast friends. Their two children made professions of faith early in their lives, were involved in the ministries of Gethsemani and Camp Emmanuel, and both married long-time believers. However, both children and their families turned their backs on the things of the Lord as young married adults. Ariel and Elsa often told me that their family was the members of Gethsemani Church, as they had no spiritual fellowship with their biological children. Pray that Adrianna and Pablo and their families will repent and turn to Christ soon. All those who knew Ariel loved him. His congregation was close-knit, and he was an enormous blessing to all of our missionaries in Uruguay. We miss him greatly.

Rosana Gomez, Gabriel's wife, wrote to let us know that a terribly painful shoulder injury Gaby has suffered with for several months **finally** was diagnosed as a cervical disc hernia. Gaby's surgeon is deciding what procedure he will need to repair the damage. Painkillers have been ineffective in curbing the agony. Pray that Gabriel will soon have relief and a full recovery.

Marianne Rauter of Montevideo, Uruguay, has, for decades, been in charge of translating into English the letters written by our MEU missionaries in Spanish. She has been fighting macular degeneration for a long time under a doctor's care. Recently, her eyesight took a turn for the worse, and she was unable to read or see her computer screen for a few days. We knew this day was coming, but we held out hope that a solution would come first, which left us scrambling for someone else to do this difficult task. (I would tell you Marianne's age, but she might not forgive me! She was, however, one of the first graduates of the Bible Institute in Uruguay.) The Lord has provided a young lady from Hampton Park Baptist

Church to take up the baton. Her “connection” with MEU is amazing. **Yani** was born in Perú, but shortly afterwards, her parents moved the family to Montevideo, Uruguay, to attend the MEU Bible Institute. After graduating, the **Portugal** family moved to Spain to minister.



Marianne Rauter

Yani went to Bible college in Puerto Rico where she met and married fellow-student Rene Rodriguez. The Rodriguezes ended up in Arlington, TX, where Rene was teaching math. They and our son, Joshua, and his wife, Amy, began attending the same church. Through a chain of events, we met the Rodríguezes in Arlington, made the Portugal connection, and soon after then Rene was hired to be a math teacher at Hampton Park Christian School in Greenville, SC, our church's school. And now Yani is the answer to our prayers concerning a MEU need! What a blessing!

Josh and Amy Jensen and their four children will be driving to Phnom Penh from their home in northeastern Cambodia on June 23. This day-long drive is being made in order to secure new drivers' licenses and to meet with the head of religious affairs for the department of Ban Lung. They need to extend for two more years their permission to continue living in the small town of Oyadao, where Josh and Amy minister among the Jarai tribal people. Josh told us that they are allowing a week in Phnom Penh for the licenses because of the number of government offices that need to be visited and the number of times they might fail and need to retake the driving and written tests. Pray that both objectives – the licenses and permission to stay in Oyadao – will be readily secured. And pray for safety on the long drive to and from the capital.

The Pastors' School in Ban Lung, Cambodia, held another “semester” of classes May 13-18. The material for this session covered Genesis to Judges, and

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Students taking an exam at the Pastors' School

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One of the missionaries teaching at the Pastors' School
(Yes, that is a lady at bottom right. Church leaders of both sexes
are taking the classes.)

was based on a book written by Jeremy Farmer. The few reports we have received indicate that the School was a great success again. All of our in-country missionary men in Cambodia taught several classes, as did other Christian leaders in the area. Joshua Jensen related to us a couple of conversations he had with Jarai church leaders later in May which indicated that the teaching was understood and incorporated into the students' lives. The next session will be held in November of this year. Some generous donations from the US towards the expenses of the Pastors' School were a great help as the "tuition" charged to the students for room and board and materials did not cover the cost of the School.



Brian (rt), Julia & Jackson (front), church elder Phuey (next to Brian), and three Krung teenagers, who were also baptized

The Kane family, living in Ban Lung, had two very special blessings in May apart from the Pastors' School. **Brian**



Brian serving communion at Somroh village

was privileged to baptize two of their children – **Jackson** and **Julia**. The service took place at a creek about a 20 -minute

walk from the Krung village of Somroh on May 29. Three Krung young people were also baptized. After the baptism, the congregation returned to the village church where the Lord's Supper was served, including five new participants.

Brian and his Krung co-worker, **Nigh**, finished checking the new translation of

Philippians, Galatians, and Colossians. They have started 1 & 2 Peter. These translation checks take place in different Krung villages to make sure the text is understood across the language group. These next two Epistles will be reviewed in the village of Tun. The church in Tun is struggling with many problems, so pray that the time Brian and Nigh spend in Tun will be a tremendous help to the Christians in that Krung village.

Due to the current exorbitant cost of plane tickets to Togo, **Ted Allston** cancelled his planned visit to his "second home." However, he is still planning to fly to Uganda in August to teach a group of church leaders.

Tim and Ruth Bixby contacted us last week requesting some of their funds toward the purchase of the new church building in Sarcelles! The insurance company will hopefully soon get the second repair bid, so the insurance claim can be settled, and the Sarcelles church can finalize the purchase of the building. Then they can begin work on the fire/smoke damaged auditorium. (As a reminder: a malcontent attempted to burn the building down after the owner decided to evict the renters in order to get the building ready for sale.) After months of stalling by the insurance company and builders, something positive is finally happening. A family from the US arrived in France at the end of May to help with the construction necessary to make the building usable as a church. This family will be in France until sometime in August. Pray that the repairs and construction on the building can be started and finished soon.

At the Saint Denis church, the ladies' Bible study of Colossians finished in May. Forty-one ladies attended the last session. Ruth Bixby and Krista Colas were the teachers. Also, Tim Bixby completed lessons 9-12 on Fundamental Truths with seven students. The Bixbys and Krista are very pleased with the participation in these classes.

The **Crnkovics** continue to look for a building or land to purchase to provide a larger meeting place for their church in Koprivnica, Croatia. They sent us photos of

property in the center of the city that is for sale, which included three structures, all in need of repairs. This is the first property that has been even close to what they are looking for. I'll let you know if anything develops! Also, the Crnkovics will be hosting two ministry teams from Northern Ireland this summer, as well as participating in two weeks of camp held by the Baptist churches of Croatia.

Steve and Charity, with their three sons, will be helping with their church's camp. Because of tighter restrictions placed on religious activity in China, the camp has been reduced to just two days. And the opportunities to help with camps outside of Beijing have been cancelled for now. The three Erkens boys participated in and had parts in the children's choir and youth drama put on in the Three-self Church they attend. The occasion was Children's Day in China.



May 20 baptism in Cancún: (l-r) Monserrat, Jesus, Kevin, Marco, Diego, & Iris

Marco and Gwendolyn Nuñez receive more visitors to their field than any other of our missionaries. Maybe it's the location – Cancún, Mexico! On Saturday, late afternoon, June 23, the Nuñezes will be greeting 17 visitors at the Cancún airport who will be with them until July 3. The Nuñezes' sending church, Hampton Park Baptist Church, is sending a mission team of two couples, two college students, and thirteen teens to Mexico. The schedule will keep the teens from getting bored as they minister in the churches in Cancún, Bécac, Chemax, and Playa del Carmen. Services at each location will be held for the entire church, the youth group, and children's ministry. The young people of HPBC have been working and preparing for this trip for a long time. Pray that their ministry will be a blessing to the Mexican churches, and that the Lord will call some of these young people (and adults) into full-time missionary work.

Last month I let you know that Melody, the **financial secretary for EMU**, had resigned effective the end of May. As of this writing, a lady named Pam has been hired as the new financial secretary. She will begin working on June 11. Much of her adult life has been in full-time ministry, serving with her husband. Training a new person for the office work is always time consuming, but we believe Pam has the skills to handle the job. So, you can stop praying for a new worker and start praying for the training of the new worker.

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A Path of Suffering - and Triumph *(continued from page 1)*



Tim Chevalier with his translator teaching a class in the capital of Mongolia on a trip with Ted in January 2018

“And they lived their own slightly bizarre version of happily ever after.” I’ve been looking for Hallmark’s hidden camera ever since.

Like every couple, we began our fairytale filled with optimism. But we have experienced many difficulties throughout our story. Our first year of marriage was invaded by a critical illness that required Lynnette to have a liver transplant and months of hospitalization. After this very dark time, the Lord graciously gave us our children, Alana and Dustan, through the gift of adoption. To this day they are a reminder to us of God’s grace and love for us, and we are blessed now as well by their spouses and our four grandkids. But the circumstances of illness took a serious toll. Our marriage

needed help, but we were too ashamed or too proud to ask. The story could have ended there as a tragedy, but difficult circumstances and brokenness were the hand of God working to bring us to the end of self-sufficiency.

In 1997, I had surgery for a congenital spinal problem that causes nerve damage and a progressive disabling of my hands and upper body. Since there is no apparent additional treatment, I am at times apprehensive about the long-term prognosis. Lynnette has enjoyed miraculously good health since her transplant,

but her anti-rejection medications have caused severe joint deterioration, resulting in four (yes, I said 4) hip replacements. We often say that there aren’t enough good body parts between the two of us to make one good person! God says, “a cheerful heart doeth good like a medicine.” Humor is a wonderful gift from God, and we are grateful for its contribution to our lives.

God’s grace has taken our circumstances, even our blunders, and used them for our benefit and His glory. Our Redeemer is faithful and true. His grace is so amazing! We would be lost in every way without it.

I’ve worked secular jobs since May 1993, availing myself of opportunities to teach

and do short-term missions. We are excited (and a little nervous) as we enter this new adventure of full-time travel to do theological teaching. We are thankful that God has been opening the doors one by one to bring this to reality, and we trust Him to continue to direct our path.

Testimony of Lynnette Chevalier:

I grew up in a loving Christian home on the campus of Bob Jones University. I had many opportunities to hear the truth of God’s Word and to see its truth lived out through the lives of my campus family. I personally accepted Christ when I was eight years old following a camp service at the Bill Rice Ranch. God’s amazing grace rescued my lost soul that night.

During my high school years, I met Tim. One of the things that attracted me to him was that he was amazed and excited about the work of Christ in his life. God gave us a love for one another, and we were married in 1984. Before we reached our first anniversary, God, in His sovereignty, allowed a severe liver disease to disrupt our own plans and dreams. Although it is not the path we would have chosen for our lives, God has taught us that His character of love and goodness remains the same even when our circumstances don’t seem to align with our own ideas of what is good. We continue to learn that God’s love for us is steadfast, and we can anchor our souls in His faithfulness. †

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At the end of this column, I can’t help thinking of the contrast between **the US election** and **God’s election**. I know that whatever He brings my way is given for my good. I don’t have quite that confidence in our country’s elections! When Melody tendered her resignation, I started worrying

‘concerned consideration’ about who would fill her place. God knew all along that Pam would have the job by the beginning of June. I remember last year’s time without a financial secretary and the workload on Joan. God knew about that, too, and used it for great good in Joan’s life, for which she is thankful. Knowing that the Lord is always good to His people only helps when we rest in that truth. That includes not

needing to worry about this summer’s and the November elections. God is good to His people – all the time! †

Email: office@emuinternational.org
Website: www.emuinternational.org
Phone: (864) 268-9267
