

OACI UPDATE

Reports from the Frontline Ministry of
OPEN AIR CAMPAIGNERS INTERNATIONAL

OACI IS AN INTERDENOMINATIONAL MINISTRY OF EVANGELISM COMMITTED TO PREACHING THE GOSPEL TO THE UNREACHED THROUGH OPEN-AIR AND OTHER OUTREACHES IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CHURCH.

A Word From The OAC International President...



Lately I have been thinking and pondering a lot about how we, as Christians, can be effective witnesses in a secular and pluralistic society. As I considered this, the biblical character that came to mind was Daniel.

In Daniel 6:3 it tells us that, “Daniel so distinguished himself...” The word ‘distinguished’ (NIV) really challenged me to consider Daniel’s life, and the way he lived in a very secular society such as in Babylon. In such an anti-GOD society, Daniel distinguished himself from his government colleagues and everyone else around him. He so distinguished himself that everything he did and said was a powerful ‘*evangel*’ (witness of God) to the people working closely with him. His witness was so powerful that he impacted those in highest authority, as well as the common people. Daniel distinguished himself in the following areas...

- HIS ATTITUDE: He was humble before GOD and people and was respectful of human authorities.
- HIS ACTIONS: He resolved not to defile himself and stood firm in his convictions rather than conform to the ways of Babylon. He trusted GOD and remained faithful to GOD and kept on praying even when it became punishable by death.
- HIS SPEECH: He boldly spoke about the GOD he served, the GOD he trusted, and the GOD who is able to save. He boldly spoke in and out of season, of GOD’S greatness and sovereignty over all.

I believe we, as Christians today, can be ‘distinguished’ like Daniel was, and we too can be effective in our witness where we are. Our OAC evangelists, worldwide, are striving to be such ‘distinguished’ servants of Christ in the increasingly anti-GOD societies we are called to minister in, by having the same ‘*attitude*’ as Daniel, and by ‘*acting*’ as Daniel did, and by ‘*boldly speaking*’ (preaching) of the GOD we serve. This is the same loving, merciful and gracious GOD of Daniel, who is also just and sovereign in all His ways, and who is able to save sinners from hell, and set them free from bondage to Satan, only through JESUS CHRIST!

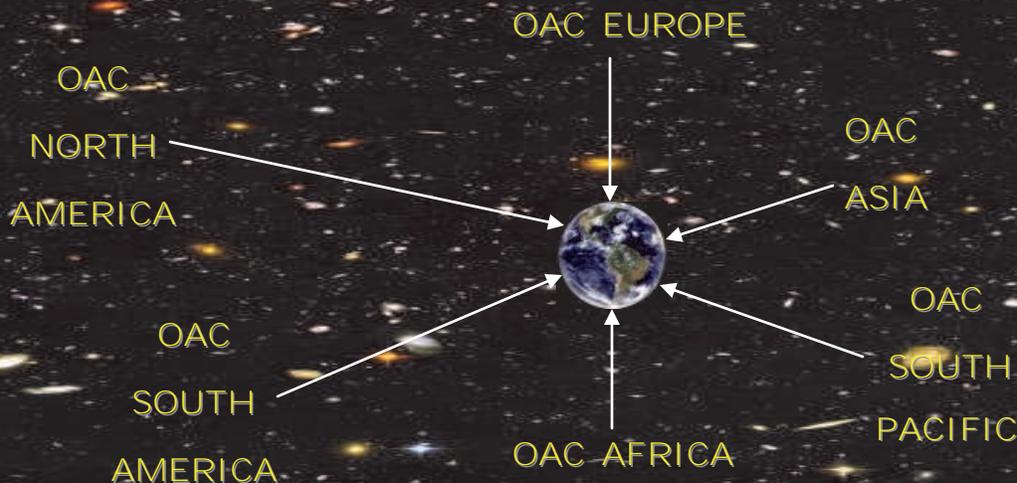
Please join us and purpose yourself to be ‘distinguished’ like Daniel (*distinguished from everyone and everything else fighting so hard to get the attention of the world we live in*), so that we can effectively reach and impact many more people, where they are, with the message of hope, the Gospel of CHRIST.

GOD bless,

Robert Siakimotu - OACI President



SPEAKING OF DANIEL, GOD TOLD HIM, THOSE WHO ARE WISE WILL SHINE LIKE THE BRIGHTNESS OF THE HEAVENS, AND THOSE WHO LEAD MANY TO RIGHTEOUSNESS, LIKE THE STARS FOR EVER AND EVER.
DANIEL 12:3



PLEASE CONSIDER PARTNERING WITH OPEN AIR CAMPAIGNERS, AND BE STARS FOR JESUS WITH US AS WE SHINE THE LIGHT OF THE GOSPEL ON EVERY CONTINENT
(see inside for some shining examples of OAC ministries worldwide)

OAC SHINING THE LIGHT OF JESUS IN ASIA AND THE SOUTH PACIFIC

JESUS SAID, I AM THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD... (AND TO HIS FOLLOWERS) ...YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD (AS WE REFLECT HIS LIGHT IN OUR LIVES AND SHINE THE LIGHT OF HIS GOSPEL INTO OTHER PEOPLE'S LIVES) JOHN 8:12 & MATT.5:14

AUSTRALIA



Geoff Westlake, from our Western Australia branch, did a **youth camp located on Western Australia's beautiful South Coast**. There was also beauty of another kind as six young people made public professions of faith and many others who already knew the Saviour were very encouraged in ways to integrate their faith more fully into their lives. The camp included a Messianic Passover meal!



Throughout Australia over the summer months, there are many great opportunities to share the faith. Prior to Christmas (yes, it is summer at Christmastime in Australia) programs are conducted in several hundred schools. Then during the December / January holidays many more programs are taken at caravan parks, holiday clubs, and camps. This is a continuation of the work which began on Coogee Beach in Sydney way back in 1892 where OAC was born!

NEW ZEALAND



OAC Christchurch branch held 23 school assemblies over 17 days and shared the Christmas message with over **3000 children**. This year's program included a routine by Marty Scheib, the branch director, with his puppet Ziggy the turtle. Ziggy decides he wants to be a



shepherd because they were the first ones to see the Lord Jesus after he was born.

Another OAC evangelist, Roy Ouwerkerk, told the story of the beggar who was really the king. Acting it out includes a number of costume changes.



The program was concluded by a fun game of Zonk, which reviews the main teaching points. They received very good feedback from teachers and children, showing they comprehended and were receptive to the truth about the King of kings!

INDIA



Assam is located in northern India near the Himalayan Mountains.

Only about 3% of the people are Christian, and there are many unreached people where few have ever heard the way of salvation. Our OAC evangelists were invited by a church planting mission to conduct open-air outreaches in one of these remote tribal areas. At this altitude a cold and thick mist came down each night. Even so, good crowds came to see the film on Christ and to hear the gospel preached. The people were very responsive, wanting to know more about the Lord Jesus Christ. Some are now enrolled in our Bible Correspondence School. The mission is doing follow up. Our OAC evangelists have been asked, by the people, to return next year.

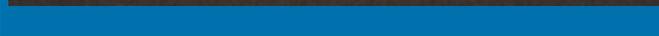


SOUTHEAST ASIA



OACI's international evangelist, Rob George from Australia, spends up to half his time in various countries in South East Asia. Training others in open air evangelism in Thailand and the Philippines has been a highlight, but there have also been great opportunities for children's ministry, mainly in Singapore and Malaysia.

Recently a kids' holiday club featured Rob's wife, Gayle, as the Nutty Professor. The Gospel was presented using science and mathematics themes much to the delight and interest of the children. Good feedback was received from the church leaders as they followed up those who responded.



OAC SHINING THE LIGHT OF JESUS IN NORTH AMERICA

...YOU SHINE LIKE STARS IN THE UNIVERSE AS YOU HOLD OUT THE WORD OF LIFE.... PHIL.2:15



JAMAICA

"God is our Refuge and Strength."

He continues to open up new doors for ministry in Jamaica. At Christmas, a friend of mine who

has a program on the local television station, asked me to do a sketch board Gospel presentation, which I did. Now he has offered me five minutes of air time, five days a week to use the sketch board method to share the Gospel to the kids. God has been praised!

The Lord always encourages me by sending someone to share with me what God has

done for them. I met a man last summer who remembered fondly that 25 years ago, when he was 8 years old, I came to his school to do devotions. Praise the Lord that OAC ministry makes such a long-term impression on kids.



MEXICO

This year we received a visit from David Proano of OAC Ecuador.

We worked very hard for two weeks and preached in the center plazas

of Guadalajara and Arandas. David also preached in a university in the state of Michoacán, and for the first time we had the opportunity to preach in a hospital. God used a sister who lives in Guadalajara to open this door. At first we were a little skeptical, thinking it would not work, and doubted how preaching would go inside the

hospital, but God showed us that it was a great harvest field in which to present the message of the Gospel.



USA

One of our OAC staff evangelists in Philadelphia, Dave Braun, related the following story to us.: In Isaiah 55:11, we learn that God's Word does not return void. After preaching for many years, I have found this to be true. Last

year I had a conversation with a Hispanic woman at the bus stop in Camden, New Jersey. I remember sharing with her about God's love. She started to cry and told me that God had just spoken to her. Her husband was committing adultery and she was on her way to kill him! However, through our divine appointment, God had changed her mind. She decided instead to recommit her life to God. Sometimes God uses you without you even knowing it. A year later another evangelist spoke to her, and she told him the story and said that she was still walking with the Lord. Glory to God!!!



NATIVE USA VIA SWITZERLAND

The Swiss couple, Kurt and Susanne Schafli, have served internationally with OAC in youth ministry for the last 30 years. Since 1991 they felt called to come to a USA native reserve area in



Wyoming and work with the Native Youth. They organize open-air events, after school clubs, Bible camps, and help in local churches and in prison ministry with special programs using visual aids like sketch board, puppets, drama, Gospel magic, balloons, and multi-media (from overhead projector and tape recorder to power point and DVD).

A good

winter opportunity opened up this year as a local college asked them to teach handicapped people in puppetry and balloon sculptures. The students enjoyed making their puppets and balloons. In the process they also heard the story of the prophet Jonah and the true meaning of Christmas.



CANADA

For the third year in a row, our OAC missionaries in Atlantic Canada have had a good outreach at Victoria Park in Moncton, New Brunswick on Remembrance Day (November 11th). A short memorial service is done each year, and for the past three years OAC evangelist, Kirk Hubick, has been

asked to close the service in prayer. Immediately following the service, Kirk does a Gospel sketch board presentation, the theme of which revolves around the cost of freedom. This has wonderfully opened the door to preach on the death, burial and resurrection of the living Christ. This year we made the board higher by making longer legs and used a good PA system so that all could see and hear the message. There were many wonderful witnessing conversations with people as well.



OAC SHINING THE LIGHT OF JESUS IN EUROPE

... THE PEOPLE LIVING IN DARKNESS HAVE SEEN A GREAT LIGHT; ON THOSE LIVING IN THE LAND OF THE SHADOW OF DEATH A LIGHT HAS DAWNED. MATTHEW 4:16

I AM SENDING YOU TO OPEN THEIR EYES, SO THAT THEY MAY TURN FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT... THAT THEY MAY RECEIVE FORGIVENESS OF SINS... BY FAITH IN ME. ACTS 26:17,18



RUSSIA

God has answered our prayers. In the summer, we were able to do open-air meetings at the Black Sea shore in Anapa town. People from all ends of our huge country were walking there every night. Thanks to God that in these open-air meetings, hundreds of people heard the Gospel and received Gospel booklets or New Testaments. I did not seek permission from local authorities but just started to preach, moving a little bit away from the very center of the main street. During all the meetings, no police came and nobody asked me to get permission or any other documents. Later I visited the city of Tuapse,



which is located on the Black Sea. One Christian family from there expressed their desire to learn how to preach Christ on the streets and at the school. We did several meetings there, and now that family is preaching Christ on the sea shores with the youth group from a local church. Also, they lead Christ-centered lessons in a public school. We praise God for extending our ministry and new people to join our wonderful ministry for God.



LATVIA

God has given OAC a very special group of Latvian team members. Over the Christmas season, six teams from Latvia (plus the director's family) shared the Gospel by all creative means, everywhere (including kindergartens, schools, an orphanage, churches, a factory, a family centre, a pensioners home, and even in sub-zero temperatures at an open-air bus stop). Teachers at a large school in a remote rural area said that we brought 'light' to their school, and were amazed at how well such normally disruptive children listened to what we shared about Jesus Christ. Many seeds were sown in people's lives, from young children to old age pensioners, and only in eternity will we truly know the full value of what these teams have achieved.



GERMANY

In Germany, we see special events are special opportunities for OAC ministry. At one such event more than 130, 000 long-term participants and 40,000 daily visitors attended the German Ecumenical Church Congress (Kirchentag) in Munich for one week. Many of them were searching for spiritual experiences. We at OAC saw it was a good opportunity to come in contact with seeking people. Together with the Munich Free Evangelical Church, four OAC evangelists used this opportunity to preach the Gospel on the streets for five days. This resulted in having good conversations and chances to explain the Gospel. Another great event was a festival in the town of Siegen. Siegen is not only the name of the town but also the German word for "to win!" Our OAC people used this play on words to get in contact with the



people and tell them that the victory is in Jesus. All together about 400, 000 visitors came to the city festival during that weekend. The OAC team had a very good site in the Old Town directly in front of the Nicolai Church with the golden coronet on top of the tower, which is the city's landmark. There are many such good opportunities, and OAC is glad to take advantage of them to win more people for Christ's Kingdom in Germany!



NORWAY

One day when I evangelized in Drammen, I met some youth. I presented the Gospel for them and we had a good interaction with them. At the end of the conversation I asked if they would like me to pray for them. One girl said that she had had a cold for a long time and asked me to pray, which I did. Around one year later we did an open-air meeting in the same city. We preached the Gospel and a good crowd listened. After the preaching we started to talk and give out tracts. I ran into a young couple and asked if they believed in Jesus. The girl said, "I remember you. I spoke to you last year and you prayed for my cold." And then she told me that she was healed the day after I had prayed for her. She got interested in God and started to seek Him, believe in Him, and go to church. When I heard that I was so happy and grateful to God. We do not see many people come to Christ in Norway, but I believe that we must be faithful in preaching the Gospel. For God has given us His promise about His word (in Isaiah 55:11): "So shall my word be that goes forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it." So, let us be faithful in preaching the Gospel; there is a great need!



UKRAINE

Many people in Ukraine think that God is inaccessible, punishing, and very far from the lives of ordinary people. We are called to share that God came into the world in a human body to die for our sins and is absolutely accessible to everyone who believes. The spring and summer is always a "hot" time for evangelism ministry with outreach programs in streets, showing of Christian films in the villages, children's and youth camps, and training seminars. About 2000 programs have been made already for this year, which includes volunteers who have been trained by us in seminars on our visual method of evangelism. One young church in Kiev sent four people to our seminar. After the theory part of the seminar, we went to the park for the practice part of the program. That evening, neighbors of one of the volunteers appeared at the program and accepted Christ as their Savior - that is what it is all about - Glory to God!



OAC SHINING THE LIGHT OF JESUS IN SOUTH AMERICA

FOR THIS IS WHAT THE LORD HAS COMMANDED US: I HAVE MADE YOU A LIGHT FOR THE GENTILES, THAT YOU MAY BRING SALVATION TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH. ACTS 13:47



ECUADOR

Some 50 years ago, God called a family to the Cofan communities in the

Ecuadorian jungle, to translate the Bible and give witness of Jesus Christ. They were not well received there in the community of Dubuno, and so were forced to move to another community called Dureno where they began their ministry among the Cofan people. During all those years, Dubuno has been closed to the Gospel. This last year, Ronald Bohrman (one of the grown children of those missionaries, who has continued working there) gave me the privilege of doing a two-day evangelistic campaign in the community of Dubuno. This community, that for so many years had refused to hear, finally received the precious Gospel message of Jesus Christ when we presented it with painting, films and other audiovisuals. This makes me think that God has a time for everything and uses his servants



how and when He wants. It is an honor for me to have taken a small part in this precious ministry committed to the Bohrman family. I was the servant who just worked one hour, and the Lord allowed me to be filled with the same joy as those who have dedicated their lives to reaching the Cofan people. As Jesus said, "the sowers and the reapers shall rejoice together..."



BRAZIL

OAC Brazil is reaching people in the large cities, Indian tribes, poor villages and public schools. At the plazas, the meetings are incredible. We can reach 100 – 200 people in just one meeting! At the schools, hundreds pray with us after the meetings to give their lives to Jesus. At far away places, like in the Amazon, we can



reach many Indians, working in partnership with local missionaries for follow up. After our program in one Indian tribe, when we gave the invitation, the people did not wait for a second: they came so quickly to the front that it surprised us to see how much they wanted to know Christ. There is no greater joy than being in a place that is ripe for harvest and seeing the people respond to our Lord and Savior - Hallelujah!



PARAGUAY

The doors to preach the Gospel in schools, both public and private, are wide open. We are always growing and constantly preaching at colleges, schools, plazas, on streets, at the police academy, and traveling to the interior. Regarding the interior, OAC evangelist, Felipe Diaz, was invited to go to do an open-air meeting in the interior. The pastor said that he had never before done an evangelistic crusade in this place. As Felipe began to announce the meeting through the streets over the loud-speakers, suddenly a man came out and threatened him with



a machete, but Felipe got quickly away. That night around 90 people came to the meeting, and many accepted Jesus. When Felipe left the place, four brothers in Christ had to accompany him to ward off some men who were waiting with machetes saying they wanted to kill them. OAC is planning to return to the same place to have a program with the children, and to preach the Gospel at night to the adults, again trusting in God to keep them by His power. They are also ready, if necessary, to suffer for the advancement of the Gospel.



ARGENTINA

We hosted a mission team from the USA recently, and together we sowed the seed of the Word of God in schools, in prisons, and places in the city where we could preach the Gospel to the people. It was a very fruitful

time and served to strengthen and expand our vision as we saw God at work in the hearts of many people in various places. One such person is David, a young man who was in one of our meetings. We talked to him at the end of the program, and he spoke, with tears in his eyes, about the pain he felt having separated from his wife and son. We shared with him how he needed to turn to Christ, confess his sin, and give his life to Him. He cried as he asked the Lord to forgive him and make him His child. What a joy to see another person be reconciled to God. There is much to do, and many places to go for preaching, and we believe there is a whole country waiting to be evangelized.



OAC SHINING THE LIGHT OF JESUS IN AFRICA

...WE HAVE THE **WORD** ... AND YOU WILL DO WELL TO PAY ATTENTION TO IT,
AS TO A LIGHT SHINING IN A DARK **PLACE**... 2PETER 1:19

...**THE** LIGHT OF THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE GLORY OF GOD IN THE FACE OF CHRIST.. 2 CORINTH. 4:6



KENYA

Robert Moffatt, a celebrated missionary back in the 1800s, once gave an address in which 20 special words were used by

God to send David Livingstone to Africa. He said, "I have sometimes seen, in the morning sun, the smoke of a thousand villages where no missionary has ever been." It is to these villages in northern Kenya, still mostly untouched with the Gospel, that OAC Kenya goes. Hundreds of nomadic tribal people gather to watch the Jesus film and to listen to the Good News preached. Wherever possible, a pastor comes for the follow up. Also, in the local schools, hundreds of



students attend our assembly programs. Many are responding to Christ.



UGANDA

This past Christmastime, our OAC Uganda associate named Romans, organized a Christmas carol sing

outreach by faith. As he describes it, God took over in a big way and over 15 choirs came together to help. It was an all-day event from 10 am to 7 pm, and a friend donated the funds to feed all comers, which involved over a thousand people



(Including Catholics, Protestants of many varieties, Moslems, and even interested 'pagans'). During the day, a very powerful message was preached with about 300 listeners hearing the Gospel for the very first time, out of which 13 people surrendered their lives to Jesus, including a Moslem.



OACI also has active ministries or branches in:

Albania - Austria - Belgium - Denmark - Fiji - Finland - France - Great Britain - Greece - Hungary - Ireland - Italy - Netherlands - Romania - Slovakia - Spain - and Switzerland

HOW ABOUT YOU? God says to us, as believers, that "... you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light ... and find out what pleases the Lord." (Ephesians 5:8-10) Very few people can be some kind of super-star on earth, but any believer can be a (supernatural-spiritual) star in Heaven's eyes, and in its Hall of Faith-Heroes, by letting your light so shine, and sending the Gospel light as far as possible in our world, so that many more people will come to glorify our Father in Heaven. OACI has tremendous opportunities for you to be involved in national and international Gospel outreach for Christ. Volunteer workers are essential in each branch. Summer and other short-term mission trips and training seminars are tremendous experiences in serving the Great Commission cause of Christ and developing witnessing skills and freedom. Perhaps God may be calling you to be a national or international OAC missionary evangelist! God is calling all His people to help shine the Gospel light as courageous communicators. OACI is here to help Christians and churches heed that call to shine as heavenly stars in the night. Also, supporting our national and international staff and/or branches makes you a significant part of their Gospel-shining ministries, leading many to find their way into God's Kingdom.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ANY OAC NATIONAL BRANCH, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE, www.oaci.org, OR CONTACT AN OAC OFFICE (listed below):

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