

from the

REGIONS BEYOND

Bruce & Becky McDonald

October 2005

REGIONS BEYOND: The entire time we lived in Russia, Bruce III was my traveling and ministry companion. We were privileged for Bruce to take his vacation to travel with me in Africa, including the former Communist country of Ethiopia. The Russian influence is ever-present in the capitol city, Addis Ababa, from the Russian type architecture, wide streets, squares, monuments and vehicles. Additionally, the spiritual forces are squarely recognizable from our early years in what was then known as the Soviet Union. Today, there is a great search for answers and hope following years of persecution.



The McDonalds
Bruce, Becky & Bruce III



Multitudes Respond to Gospel

Hidden Empire: For centuries Ethiopia was isolated and referred to as the Hidden Empire. With the collapse of the Soviet Union, battle lines are being re-drawn by spiritual forces as Islam is pitted against the church throughout the northern part of Africa. Ethiopia is a primary focal point in this spiritual battle. Hosting some of the most inhospitable geography on earth and bordering known terrorist basis, one of the great revivals in progress is currently taking place in Ethiopia.

Growth of Ethiopian Church: We provide spiritual oversight and leadership teaching to 220 Ethiopian churches with an estimated membership exceeding 230,000. So far this year an average of two new churches per month have been established. This movement of churches started twenty years ago with a handful of young men who were subsequently persecuted by their families. In one instance, one of the young men was hung upside down and beaten by his father. In another, a young woman who subsequently married the leader was tied up in her house to prevent her from going to Christian meetings.



Typical Ethiopian Church Service
1000s Pack Into Small Buildings
Great Need is Training Leaders



"Our desire is to preach the gospel in the regions beyond" 2 Corinthians 10:16

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Where Are The McDonalds?

For security reasons we have removed our field location address from our website. We believe this is an opportune time to present a geographical picture of where we minister. These culturally diverse areas present many challenges. With only a few exceptions, the English and Russian languages serve us well.



Map: Sixteen years of living overseas in Russia, Latvia and Africa has enabled us to develop a large base of ministry. Our focus in ministry has remained two-fold; training and development of church leaders, and crusade evangelism. The map above indicates the primary areas where we are currently active in pastoral training or crusade evangelism that will lead to the establishment of new churches. As this is a miniature of a map we utilize to set our travel schedule, it also reflects the primary transportation hubs we use to reach the specific areas of ministry. These hubs are indicated by the light colored stars and essentially mean that we have to travel to one of these areas to ultimately reach an area of ministry as there are few direct flights to most areas we minister in and no direct flights to remote areas.

Newsletters: Once in awhile we are asked how we choose the areas of ministry to highlight in newsletters. It is impossible to include everything we do in newsletters and we try to choose areas of general interest and variety. In the course of a year, our newsletters will include a representation of every major type of ministry we are involved in. An exception is that we seldom include specific information regarding sensitive areas that could endanger the people we work with or which could potentially cause future hazard for us.

You Can Help

Prayer is crucial to the success of every endeavor. Your prayers provide the hedge of protection around us.

Please continue to keep us in prayer. There have been numerous recent security breaches that have serious impact on our personal safety.

Many souls saved in the Ethiopia meetings taking place as you receive this newsletter.

Compassion Ministries



Orphanage

Located in the highlands region, temperatures frequently drop into the high 40s at night. We recently delivered blankets, sweaters and jackets for all 31 of the children in the orphanage.



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