

*For unto us a
Savior is born!*

The Best Gift of ALL!

December 2013

Praying Friends and Family,

Christmas is almost here and it is a special time of the year in which we focus on Jesus and express our appreciation to Him. Dr. Luke reminds us that He came to seek and save the lost (Luke 19:10) and the apostle Paul gives thanks to God for His indescribable gift (2 Corinthians 9:15). One poet summarizes what Christmas is all about: "Jesus [God's gift]—wrapped in the simple joy of a baby and filled with the light of God's immeasurable grace and mercy."



Ministry Milestones

2006

BLM Launch in OKC

2007

Mission Trip to Kenya

2008

BLM Registration in OK

2009

IRS grants non-profit status

2010

Leadership Training in Kenya

2011

Pastor's conference in the Congo
with 92 in attendance

2012

BLM partnered with three other
non-profit ministries

2013

Fruitful ministry with
Internationals in Oklahoma City

In March this year, Barnabas Leadership Ministries (BLM) celebrated seven years of God's faithfulness to lead, provide, teach, and abide with us. 58 of you came to hear God's story of how He imparted the vision and how He has graciously allowed us to partner with Him and His people in advancing His kingdom. Lyn Smith captured the evening in a story she wrote in [her blog](#).

So far, BLM has encouraged and equipped pastors, lay leaders, and children (leaders in the making) in Kenya, Ethiopia, Zimbabwe, India, Peru, Rwanda, Congo, and (most recently) Indonesia. This would not have been possible without your faithful prayers and support. In this newsletter, we will share three stories of lives touched through our ministry and provide a list of other key ministries we have been involved with since 2006. Finally, we will share our future vision by presenting some projects, praise notes, and prayer requests, and asking you to consider giving an end-of-year gift and/or a regular gift to the Barnabas ministry.

Stories of God's amazing love and provision through BLM:

RAY'S LIFE-CHANGING STORY

God had a glorious plan for Ray's life when he moved from China to the United States to pursue a Master's degree in Computer Science from Oklahoma City University. Once on campus, Ray was invited to All Nations Church nearby that serves internationals. Kirk Goss (the pastor of All Nations), Sam (All Nations' worship leader), and others began to invest in Ray. He attended Sam's Friday evening Bible study for a year and a half, and began building relationships and working on his English skills Tuesday nights at Heritage Baptist Church's Conversation Café.



(L to R) Greg Rader from Heritage Baptist Church, Ray and Sam

During this time as person after person expressed the love of Christ to Ray, the Holy Spirit began drawing him to Christianity. On a visit home to China, Ray asked his father what he thought of Christianity. His father had no opinion but also no objections, so Ray came back to The States eager to pursue this compelling faith.



In September, 2013, Sam invited Ray to attend a Navigators conference where the speaker explained how the love of Christ is demonstrated through serving and investing in others. Ray realized he had been experiencing that very love through Sam and others at All Nations Church. That Saturday in September, Ray made the decision to give his heart and life to Jesus Christ. In his words, "God knocked on my heart and I opened the door." December 15 of this year, Ray was baptized. Glory to God!

250 BIBLES FOR INDONESIA

Would you believe that only \$4.50 can buy a Bible for a new believer or a would-be believer? In July of this year, in response to BLM's God-given mission of encouraging and equipping under-trained and under-resourced pastors and lay leaders for the advancing of God's kingdom, we contacted some friends in Indonesia to see if they needed Bibles.

Having served as All Nations' worship leader and lived in America for 24 years, Johan Luhulima and his wife Sandra relocated back to their home of Indonesia, a predominantly Muslim country. Not sure of what the future holds, they moved back in faith with a passion to spread God's Word. With meager resources, Johan and Sandra began handing out Bibles. Seeing pictures on Facebook of those receiving Bibles, Sam contacted Johan to ask if BLM could help, as one of BLM's missions is to give Bibles to those in need.



(L to R) Sandra and Johan Luhulima

Not coincidentally, it turned out that Johan and Sandra had set a faith goal of distributing 100 Bibles this year and God had already provided money to BLM through generous donors for Bible distribution. Barnabas Ministries joyfully sent funds to buy 250 Bibles, abundantly exceeding the goal of 100! As a result of these Bibles being distributed, these amazing things have happened:

- a university student received salvation through Jesus Christ,
- another person received confirmation of God's will,
- another received encouragement to come back to God after having wandered from faith,
- another received provision at the exact moment needed, and more.

God continues to use His Word in mighty ways through the generosity of BLM supporters and faithful servants like Johan and Sandra. The photos below show some of the families and individuals that received the Bibles. PTL!

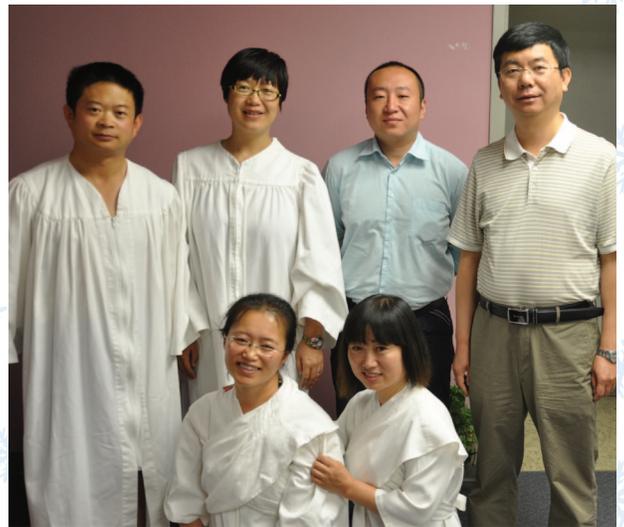


VISITING CHINESE DOCTORS ENCOUNTER CHRIST

God changed Sam's summer plans for eternal purposes.

Doctors from China frequently come to Oklahoma as visiting scholars to further their careers by working in hospitals and clinics. During the summer of 2013, when Sam had planned to be in Kenya, he remained in Oklahoma due to a school conflict. Six Chinese doctors began attending All Nations Church in the summer where they met Sam, Kirk Goss, and others who loved them with the love of Christ.

They invited Sam to one of their homes where he shared his testimony of God's love and power in his life. He began going regularly to their home where they sang praise songs and studied the Bible. Sam and his new doctor friends enjoyed a trip to Branson, Missouri, this summer that would not have been possible if God had not kept him in Oklahoma. Before returning to China at the end of the summer, three of the doctors received Jesus Christ and were baptized.



BLM praises God for His mysterious ways that are always for our good and His glory.

Ways you can partner with BLM in 2014

Projects:

1. Providing **Bibles** in Kenya, Sierra Leone, Indonesia, Congo, and Oklahoma City at the cost of \$1200, \$300, \$1125, \$400 and \$150 respectively.
2. Purchasing **The Jesus Film DVDs** for international students and others (\$200).
3. Sending funds to buy **bicycles** for Pastors and Lay Leaders in Peru (\$300).
4. Replacing our malfunctioning 16-year old Nissan pick-up with a **reliable SUV** either through a donor or donations. The pick-up has helped give rides to students as well as help them move houses/apartments, etc.
5. Updating the current **website** or building a new one. (Please let us know if you build websites or know someone who does).

Praise Notes:

1. Support team—individuals, churches, and businesses that have partnered with us
2. Host family that has provided a living space for Sam
3. Sam's completion of his coursework at Regent University (only one question to pass and then work on the dissertation)
4. God's continued direction and provision for BLM
5. Many answers to prayer resulting from your interest and prayers for this ministry.

Prayer Requests

1. Potential partnerships in discipleship and church planting with "One-on-One with God" ([watch this video clip](#)) and "[Living Bread Ministries](#)" respectively.
2. God's hand on Kenya and other countries in Africa that are strategic for the spread of the Gospel there and globally. Kenya celebrated 50 years as a republic on 12.12.13. Let us ask the Father for the battles against terrorism, corruption, and tribalism to be won and that evil will not triumph over good.
3. International Ministry at All Nations Church and Heritage Baptist Church
4. Sam to pass the research question and to progress through his dissertation quickly.



Thank you for providing this motorcycle for Pastor Kahindo Kashindi. Please continue to pray for his ministry.



Four men representing Crossings Community Church, C-CADE and BLM that partnered in 2012. Pray that God will open more doors for partnerships in 2014.

**The mission of BLM continues as God compels us forward in 2014.
May He join your hearts with ours as you consider
being on our support team.**

In His joyous service, ☺Sam Kirui • 405.694.6717

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**Make a Year End
Contribution to BLM**