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July 22, 2009

Additional Lottie Moon offering gifts send more missionaries to field

Gifts from several sources are enabling IMB to send additional missionaries to the field this year after a shortfall in the 2008 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering® forced suspension of some programs and restricted new missionary appointments. In addition to an offering taken at the Pastors Conference and a check presented by the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention during the Southern Baptist Convention meeting, several churches have indicated they are taking special offerings.

IMB appoints 21 missionaries in Ohio

An encounter with someone who had been waiting 30 years to hear about Jesus and an overwhelming sense of spiritual lostness were two incentives mentioned by people appointed as missionaries July 12 at Urbancrest Baptist Church in Lebanon, Ohio. Their addition brings the number of missionaries serving through IMB to 5,544.



News

Missions pioneer John Mills dies

Missionary pioneer John E. Mills, who personally opened mission work in Ivory Coast and later led Southern Baptists to



nearly triple the number of mission fields in West Africa, [died July 10](#). He was 87. Bill Bullington, a close friend and colleague who succeeded Mills as area director for West Africa, observed, "...because John lived and worked to see West Africans come to Christ, there are multiple thousands in heaven or on their way there."



Pray

WorldView: Imam on the move

Yusuf (not his real name) is a 20-something imam (prayer leader) at one of London's Muslim mosques.



Frustrated about conflicting demands, he complains about being swamped with "stupid, like, administrative stuff." He wants more time to get out into the community, introducing what he called the "right message" of Islam and countering the "so-called Muslims who give Islam a bad name." As [Ramadan approaches](#), remember this imam, and pray that he will come to know the one, true God.

Visit [WorldView Conversation](#), the blog related to Erich Bridges' column.

Hey there! imbprayerdir is using Twitter

Do you tweet? Have you considered using Twitter for



up-to-date prayer requests? Go to <http://twitter.com/imbprayerdir> to follow current, strategic requests posted by Ed Cox, director of IMB's prayer office, or link in from the prayer Web site.



Lead Your Church

International Mission Study 2009:

North Africa

North African Berbers call themselves the *Imazighen*, literally the “free



men.” But the Berber people are anything but free. They are a people layered away from the Gospel by geography, culture, language and the folk Islamic beliefs that shroud their lives. Plan to take your church on a journey to North Africa to see how, despite these barriers, God is touching the lives of North African Berbers as He works to set these captives free. A [promotion kit](#) is available now from Woman's Missionary Union; age-level products are coming in August.

A [gallery of downloadable photos](#) on the North African Berbers is available from IMB to help you plan the International Mission Study in your church.

Missionary Appointment Service coming to Florida

Celebrate the power of God at work as those He has called prepare to join Him on the field. Be inspired and challenged yourself at a missionary appointment service Sept. 16 at First Baptist Church of Jacksonville, Fla. Visit IMB's [events page](#) for more information. Be sure to check out upcoming summits and conferences this fall.

Engage Europe Summit

Learn how your church can be a part of God's work planting churches among Eastern Europeans at the

Engage Europe Summit in Forney, Texas, at First Baptist Church Oct. 11-13. Get [more information and register](#).

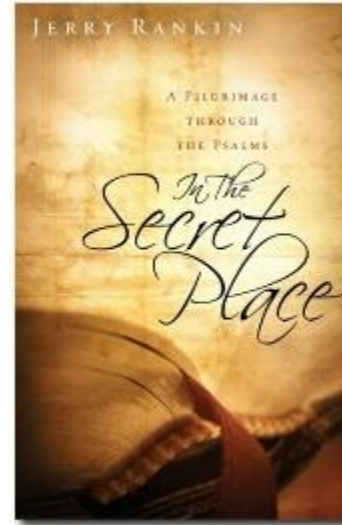


Resources

In the Secret Place

IMB president Jerry Rankin begins each day reading and meditating on a psalm he believes reveals the nature and character of God. [Join Rankin in a pilgrimage](#) through the Psalms in his new book of devotions and prayers, *In the Secret Place*.

Personal yet universal, these meditations reflect an openhearted journey of faith and deepening love for God.



Speaking of missions

Missions by the Book: The gift of God

“I remind you to keep ablaze the gift of God that is in you ... for God has not given us a spirit of fearfulness, but one of power, love, and sound judgment” (2 Timothy 1:6-7, HCSB).

Quotable: Asleep at the wheel

“God is calling and sending, but at our historical height of financial capacity, the Christian church in America is, at best, asleep at the wheel and, at worst, grossly over-concerned with padding our own pews to the detriment of the unreached nations/people groups. As regards Christ's church, ours is not a financial crisis, it is a spiritual one.”

Brian Mimbs, pastor, Chapel Hill Baptist Church, Tallahassee, Fla.



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