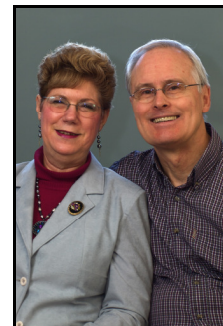


News from Gary & Betty Stevenson March 2010



*Eager and ready to go ...
but, wait, something has come up*

Turkey Team

This Year's team is coming together, a little short of desired numbers but I am thrilled with the makeup of the team so far. For one thing it is truly international. We have a Filipino pastor, a Chinese-Canadian psychologist, a Romanian university student, an Iranian believer, and Anglo-me. Moreover, they are spiritually mature and seriously focused on ministry now and in the future. An added bonus is that the student's mother is an ESL teacher and has offered to help in aspects of our training.

Challenges and Prospects

However, uncertainty hangs over much of what we anticipate. Many in the beginning expressed interest in going but since then several needed to drop out. Even the Iranian believer called yesterday to say that the doctors have discovered a serious health concern. She can tell me in two weeks if the doctors have cleared her to go. Pray for "Heidi".

We need a minimum of five to have an effective team. So, we're planning this summer with three contingency plans in place. Betty's brother has reminded me that great spiritual ends are only achieved while advancing along a stormy path. In fact, it's an indicator that we are already on the right path.

The pastor on our team plans to reach Muslims near his church and wants to join us because he has no experience in Muslim evangelism. He is also attempting to recruit others from his congregation to go with us. However, they are intimidated by the prospects of fundraising for the trip. Pray for breakthroughs.

Some of those who needed to drop out of this summer ministry have asked about joining our 2011 team. One has gone through our lengthy application process and will soon be fundraising for summer 2011. Pray for this young man.

Local Outreach

Large numbers of Arab Muslims live near one Greater Vancouver church. It has taken as its mission the goal

of evangelizing and establishing an Arab fellowship of new believers in the neighborhood. Others from other congregations are also involved in this upcoming outreach. My colleague is assisting them in training for and organizing for it. Pray for them and for my colleague.

The missions coordinator of that church, who has been key in promoting and planning this local outreach, recently lost his job and has had to move out of province for employment. His son-in-law has taken over the leadership in his absence. His son-in-law was originally slated to co-lead our Turkey team this summer but, for this and other reasons, has had to postpone his Turkey involvement for another year. Pray for this gifted couple.

Internships

In addition to our summer teams and other ministry projects, we oversee an internship for those with long-term ministry objectives in the Muslim world. Prior to leaving for Turkey this summer a man from Nova Scotia is moving here for a two-month for internship with us in conjunction with a local Iranian church. I will provide oversight for the training and will mentor him during his time here. Pray for our new intern.

And in the fall a family from Oregon will move here for 5½ months. I will likewise provide mentored training for them. Pray that God will use their time here to aptly prepare them for future overseas ministry.

**PLEASE NOTE BELOW NEW CANADIAN AND
AMERICAN ADDRESSES FOR GIFTS.**

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