



Love In Action
International
A Hands on Ministry to the Lord of Doing, Going, and Giving.

An independent and voluntary organization of Grace Brethren people working in concert to both fulfill the Great Commission and to meet the needs of our brethren around the world.

Inside this issue:

Metal Fabrication Shop	1
Life in Chad	2
MRTC Update	3
EFMA Presentation	3
Project Update	3
Newsletter Information	4

LIAI is a 501(c)(3) Organization!

Love In Action International has recently gained recognition from the government as a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization. This makes it possible for LIAI to receive tax deductible gifts and bequests.

“Love Notes”

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Teaching Practical and Biblical Lessons

Metal Fabrication Workers continue to study as well as apply what they have learned to encourage others.

The students at the Metal Fabrication Shop are well into their training. They are being trained in the basics of filing, sawing, drilling, cutting treads, tapping, chiselling, riveting, and bending. They have also started gas welding and plan to do arc welding.

In addition to practical training, their instructor, missionary Matthais Ezel, is also helping to establish basic biblical principles. Matthais is encouraged by the good discussions as a result of the Bible lessons.

In order to apply the biblical and practical lessons they have been taught, Matthais organized a nine day trip to the Kybabe region in the eastern part of Chad. Although there are existing churches in this region there are not enough pastors to feed the flocks on a regular basis. The goals of the trip were to visit, encourage and instruct the existing churches and to challenge and instruct the five young Metal Shop students through active participation. The trip proved to be extremely valuable

and encouraging in both areas.

Each student was responsible to prepare and present a message using the biblical material that Matthias has been teaching them. Additional teaching was given by Matthias and another evangelist, Dadge Samuel. It was a great encouragement to see the young believers of these churches have a hunger and enthusiasm to participate in these lessons.

Because most of these believers are illiterate, the lessons were first given in a basic outline which was then memorized. Further detailed instruction was then given to explain the points covered in the outline.

Please pray that these people will soon acquire not only biblical material in

their own language but also the literacy skills necessary to be able to study these materials on their own.

In addition to the encouragement and training of these believers, the time spent with the five metal shop students was extremely valuable. Each student expressed deep gratitude for having the opportunity to take part in this trip. Please continue to pray for these five young men as they learn valuable skills as well as valuable Bible lessons on which to base their life. Pray for continued wisdom and strength for Matthais as he instructs.



Trip to Kybabe.



Congratulations!

Congratulations to Matthais and Melina Ezel on the birth of their new daughter, Emmie Lauren. She arrived on March 19 at 8:49 a.m. and weighed 7 lbs. 5 oz. and was 20 inches long. She was born in Leonberg, Germany where the Ezels as well as the Puhls were stationed for Home Ministries. The Exels returned to their ministry in Chad in April and the Puhls plan to return in August.



Charis, Micah, and Emmie Ezel



Life in Chad



One can gain a lot of understanding into another culture by experiencing its daily life. As you read the following account by Melina Ezel, pray for our brothers and sisters as they serve in Chad.

“Normally hospitals in third world countries are to be avoided at all costs. But after five days of struggling unsuccessfully to doctor back to health two very swollen and infected ears, I succumbed to the reality that I did in fact need to go see a doctor. So it was with our useless as usual western wisdom we decided to set off for the hospital as early as possible in hopes to “beat the crowd.” Upon arrival, we were shown where to wait for the ear specialist, since he had not yet arrived.

Rather than being one large building the hospital here is comprised of many rows of long one-story buildings facing each other across wide courtyards. The courtyards are populated by men, women and children of all sorts, each with their collection of cooking pots, sleeping mats, etc. These are the people responsible for caring for the patients. Since the hospital

does not provide services such as food or laundry, it is customary for the friends or family of the patient to accompany and care for him for the duration of his stay in the hospital.

Strangely enough, it would seem that this is also a coveted position. So much so that the hospital actually sells tickets to those wishing to accompany their sick in order to limit the number of people per patient.

After two hours of waiting, the ear specialist finally showed up. Upon arrival the doctor turned on an air conditioner which was mounted above the door to the office and actually functioned although it did produce a steady stream of drips. He then informed us that I could not be treated without a “carnet” (which proved to be nothing more than a small book of blank white paper), so my husband ran to purchase this item.

Armed with this worthy document and being careful to dodge the drips we then entered the doctor’s office. It was small and very dirty, littered with various utensils that vaguely hinted at the owner’s trade and a great deal of dusty paper and junk that yelled the contrary. But after the long wait

and having no other option, I was not about to bail out now. Down I sat on the small metal chair he indicated and answered his cheerful questions as best I could since I really could not hear what he was saying. He then grabbed his otoscope (which I hoped had been cleaned before my entry since it definitely had not been cleaned since) and proceeded with the exam. He declared the right ear fine though filled with fluid that he would wash out, a diagnosis I found interesting since it was just as swollen and deaf as the other ear. The left ear he said was seriously infected so he wouldn’t touch it but prescribed some antibiotics. Next, he prepared the water to wash the ear. First I noticed the dirty bowl which was emptied of its contents, swished with water and then refilled with tap water. Then I noticed the very rusty and suspicious looking machine on the floor out of which he dipped more water to add to the tap water. Next I noticed him swishing his bare hand in the bowl of water to check the temperature, at which point I gave up observing and hoped that if the antibiotics he prescribed were strong enough to deal with the existing infection, they could also handle whatever new bacteria he was about to introduce. He then filled a large

Continued on pg. 4

MRTC Update




The Mike Retterer Training Center (MRTC) has been functioning and useful for Bible classes, ministry and leadership

training, and specialized vocational training. This building was built to honor Mike Retterer, co-founder of LIAI and long-time supporter of the ministry in Chad who passed away suddenly a few years ago.

LIAI hopes to complete this building by providing funds for furnishings, equipment, land-


scaping, and electrical fixtures. The recent passing of Mike's mother occasioned the creation of an additional memorial fund to help with some of these costs.

Please pray for the completion of this project as well as the impact the meetings in this facility will have on the Chadian people. 

Presentation at EFMA Conference

On April 9, the Evangelical Missiological Society held their regional meeting at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School near North Chicago with a two track theme. One track covered "Short-term Missions", the other track covered "Business as Mission." Tom Stallter was invited to present LIAI as an example of using business as mission. Many mission teachers, missiologists, missionaries, and mission agency personnel attended this session as it focused on small business and very practical applications that could be implemented rather simply.


Part of that presentation spoke of the vision of LIAI for vocational training for Christians and part of it

set out the necessary elements. Those elements are: A vision for enabling the National church; Market potential for the training business; Finding African experts or outsiders with expertise for training nationals; African structure for the venture; Respected, influential Africans committed to the venture who can give cultural advice; and Apprentices with an authentic faith, an aptitude for the training and African business. 



The Ministry of LIAI

Thank you for the generous giving of so many the end of last year to help the LIAI projects in Chad. Because of this giving, many of LIAI's current projects are about half-way completed. The following is the list and current needs.

- Metal Fabrication Shop \$6,500 to complete building and equipment needs.
- Sewing Center \$300 for expanded building and embroidery machine.
- Apprentice Fund \$1,800 to provide encouragement to apprentices during their 2-3 year commitment.
- Mike Retterer Training Center \$2,700 for furnishings, equipment, landscaping, and electrical fixtures.
- Jesus Film Project \$1,900 for purchase of rugged video projector to show the films in the bush.
- General Fund \$1,600 for administrative and logistics costs. 



LIAI goes Electronic

In addition to the publication of "Love Notes", LIAI would like to keep you updated with the projects and needs in Chad electronically. It is LIAI's desire to send quarterly news via email to all who are interested. Therefore, we are currently working on building our email contact list and would like to include your address. Please send your email address to vcrumbley@loveinactioninternational.org or include it in a mailing to Love In Action International, Inc., P.O. Box 805, Winona Lake, IN 46590.

Be sure to visit our website at www.loveinactioninternational.org for additional information regarding LIAI's ministry in Chad.



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A Ministry of Ministry to the Lord of Strength, Courage, and Compassion

Life in Chad continued . . .

Continued from pg. 2

rubber bulb with this questionable water and proceeded to spray it with great force into the left ear—yes the one with the serious infection that he was "not going to touch." He had told me to tell him to stop when it hurt. No problem there, the message was loud and clear. Believe it or not, we then proceeded to explain to him that it was actually the right ear that needed cleaning, not the left at which point he incredulously grabbed up the otoscope to verify the fact. Nevertheless the right received its due cleaning which amazingly did help a little and we left. I am happy to say that both of my ears have improved tremendously so it would seem the little experience was worthwhile after all. That is not to say I will be patronizing Moundou's worthy hospital again any time soon. With that I'll end yet another adventure of life in Tchad. :) **Now you know why we so often mention being thankful for good health and how much your prayers on our behalf mean to us.**



Donations & Newsletter Signup

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**** Please include your email address for quarterly updates. ****

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Jesus Film & Video Fund.....\$ _____
The Apprentice Fund\$ _____
Sewing Center Fund.....\$ _____
Mike Retterer Training Center.....\$ _____
Metal Fabrication Shop\$ _____
Frank & Karin Puhl Fund.....\$ _____

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If you have any questions regarding newsletter articles or general questions regarding LIAI's ministry in Chad, please contact Valerie Crumbley at (574) 269-4513 or by email at vcrumbley@loveinactioninternational.org.