

# MISSION: EXPLOSION INTERNATIONAL

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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As I write this letter I am in India with Phil Hancock, one of Mission: Explosion International's board members. We will be here through the month of September. We have a lot of ministry going on here, and I will fill you in on that after I share with you a few things we have been involved in this summer.

We have had a very fruitful summer with the ministry. We have traveled to some of our supporting churches in Georgia, Maryland, and Indiana. We had a fantastic Vacation Bible School in Baltimore. We started the summer off by preaching a revival on Maui. The church there is doing well. We now have a Filipino minister, and we are making plans to build a church building there in the very near future. We then made the trip down to Louisiana. There we saw the great need to plant the Christian Church in a community called Plaquemines Parish. It has been two years since Hurricane Katrina devastated that area, and we simply cannot walk away leaving only houses built back without a place of worship for the people of the community. Our plans for planting the church in Buras, Louisiana include having a carnival sometime around fall break, bringing as many people as we can down to set up booths and games and to try to find sponsoring companies to donate children's prizes. We plan to launch our first church service there and open the doors of Community Christian Church around the first week of November.

If you have an interest in working in the carnival or helping with this church plant, please contact me immediately. We are trying to put together as many people as we can who would like to use their talents in this ministry. We are looking for churches to give at least a two-year commitment to help us with this task.

We plan to be at the Missionary Convention in November. Our booth number is L27. That "L" means we are in the lobby. The convention is in Cincinnati, so please stop by and say "hello" if you are there. We plan on heading back to Louisiana after Thanksgiving and staying there until our group leaves for India.

We are in an expanding mode in India right now. We want to focus more of our attention toward Andhra Pradesh over the next several months, planting at least ten or more churches in that region of the state. We have a large group planning to be in India with us in early January, so if you plan on going to India in January we need to know ASAP! We will need your \$100 deposit sent in immediately to make sure that you will have a seat on the airlines. The trip will be approximately between 10-14 days. We will be in Andhra Pradesh most of the time. This is an unreached area. Because we were able to sell our building on the coast, we will finally be able to expand the ministry in India, focusing on expanding into other states and starting a television ministry.

Phil and I are here in India now finalizing the sale of the property and overseeing the distribution of funds. We are also planning to travel to other parts of India looking for other opportunities to expand the ministry and test the waters for acceptance in those places. Please be praying for us. Just a few miles down the road in a place called Hyderabad there was a terrorist bombing with several injured and killed. We have such a short time to get the Gospel proclaimed in these places, so we have a strong commitment to expand the Lord's churches beyond the Tamil Nadu region.

We will try to get a regular type newsletter with photos and other information to you sometime in the fall. Please understand that we have a very, very heavy travel schedule and are going to be busy serving the Lord over the next several months. It is vitally important that you continue to support this ministry

financially and continue to pray for open doors and non-hostile environments as we serve here in this place.

All of the churches we now have established are doing well. Our evangelists and elders are doing a super job from what I can tell by the short time that I have been here.

Our plans for 2008 are to have World Mission Builders come and build the chapel on Maui and to continue growing the church in Louisiana. We have trips planned for the following countries: Malta, Maui, India, and Dubai. Please give us a call or keep watch in future newsletters for dates, times and places. If you have a desire to serve on any of these trips in 2008, please contact us as soon as possible. May God bless each and every one of you as you continue to support us and partner with us in this ministry. 2008 is going to be an exciting year for serving the Lord. Get on board with Mission Explosion International and let's go do something good for God this year!

Because of Jesus I Live!

Rusty Swafford