

March 2010

Focal Points



Foreign Missions Division ♦ United Pentecostal Church International ♦ 8855 Dunn Road ♦ Hazelwood, MO 63042 ♦ 314.837.7300 ♦ www.foreignmissions.com

3-2-1-Blast Off!

by **Nick Sisco**

Africa Representative

Global Association of Theological Studies

Ten, nine, eight, seven, six ... was the countdown heard within the minds of thousands of people at the St. Louis General Conference on Friday evening, October 2, 2009. A new aspect of GATS (Global Association of Theological Studies) was being launched and excitement filled the air. The platform had been laid and now with great anticipation



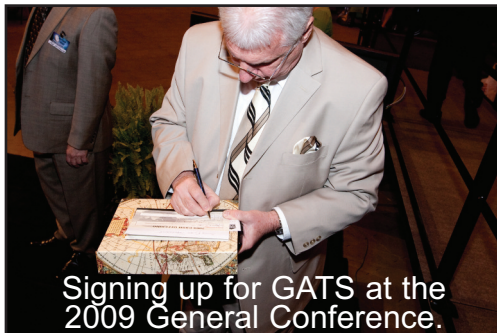
The Sisco Family at the 2009 General Conference.

fuel was being gathered to propel this program forward. Would we reach our goal? Would GATS move to another level of operation? Could we actually raise the desired amount which would empower us to develop curriculum to transform the world? \$500,000

would certainly move this project into the stratosphere.

The engine started and the countdown began. Very quickly it became evident that this large educational ship was going to fly and the multitudes watched, praised and prayed as it prepared for take off: \$5,000; \$10,000; \$50,000; \$250,000; \$500,000, blast off! Pledges were received, and payments are presently coming in to the Foreign Missions Division.

For some the inconceivable had just taken place. Even the engineers were pleasantly surprised with the results and the participants rejoiced as a miracle materialized before their eyes. God smiled as Matthew 28:19-20 took on greater meaning for His church, "Go ye therefore, and TEACH all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: TEACHING THEM to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen."



Signing up for GATS at the 2009 General Conference.

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Africa News

GABON: During a children's service, five received the Holy Ghost and three were baptized in Jesus' name.—**Reported by Pastor Désire**

KENYA: A special service at a children's home had over 200 in attendance from three nearby government run homes/reform institutions. A former Bible school graduate preached a short message and gave a brief altar call. Thirty-five children received the Holy Ghost.

A local church prayed for a stolen heard of cattle. They were found and returned. Although the owner wasn't a member of the church, he was so impressed he donated \$380 to the church building fund.—**Jim Crumpacker and Patrick Groves families**

LESOTHO: In regular services, twenty received the Holy Ghost, nine were baptized in Jesus' name, and a new record attendance of 208 people was set.

During conference, eight received the Holy Ghost and eight were baptized in Jesus' name. Three leaders were ordained and two received general license upgrades.—**David and Alice Kline**

UGANDA: At General Conference, forty-four received the Holy Ghost and twenty-nine were baptized in Jesus' name including seven pastors. Eight new churches have also been added.

In three districts, a total of sixty-three received the Holy Ghost, seventy were baptized in Jesus' name and three churches were started.—**Phil and Twyla Tolstad**

ZIMBABWE: A total of sixty-two were baptized in Jesus' name in two different areas of the nation.—**Tremayne and Vicki Simoneaux**

GATS has become the vehicle for Bible school training across the globe. It is an objective based curriculum that can be tailored to meet the individual needs of any mission field but uniform enough to collectively keep all working towards the common goal of raising the standard of ministerial excellence. 2010 is your year to reach higher heights in theological training. Are you ready? ... Five, four, three, two, one blast off!

MISSIONS BULLETINS

CHILE: One of the most exciting things we are able to do here in Chile is to share in the baptisms. Since many of the churches are in rented buildings or homes, most of them do not have baptisteries. This means that we go to the country to find a river. It's also a good excuse to have an asado (cookout) and fellowship. Usually we just make a day of it and baptize several people. In the last two or three weeks, we have seen around fifteen people go down in the wonderful name of Jesus. What an awesome privilege to witness a person enter the water with a heart stained by sin and, with the mention of a Name, those sins are forever washed away! It NEVER gets old. "Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be white as snow."—**Dan and Debbie Barkley**



ARGENTINA: They came from every part of the country with tremendous faith and expectations of a great move of God; they were not disappointed. The 2009 National Ladies Conference was a blessed time as the presence of God moved throughout the auditorium in every service.

Pastor and Sister John Dean of Bentonville, Arkansas, were the guest speakers and they were wonderfully used of the Lord to minister to the conference. As of this report, there were 275 filled with the Holy Ghost and many miracles of healing. One lady stood and testified of how the doctors had given her up for dead due to cancer, but that when she was prayed for, God healed her completely. It was a blessed time and a wonderful conference.—**Michael and Miriam Sponsler**



SPAIN: A few weeks ago we had record attendance in Salamanca of 41! We are very excited about what the Lord is doing here! Over the weekend of November 28-29, 2009, we had a special group come from **Brother Gary Sones'** church in Madrid to pass out tracts, and minister in our Saturday home service and Sunday evening church service. They were a very special blessing resulting in two receiving the Holy Ghost and being baptized in Jesus' name!—**John and Vonda Guidry**

PROJECT OF THE MONTH: Evangelism in the Asia Region



The Vietnam war took its toll on the Vietnamese people, and now healing is finally taking place. Through evangelism and training, the Vietnamese people are being saved and healed by the power of Jesus Christ. Your donation will ensure a continued revival fire in Vietnam.

Please send your offerings to the Foreign Missions Division at 8855 Dunn Road, Hazelwood, MO 63042 and designate them for account number **103.FA0310F.033215.25.2501.1.8706** or to **Vietnam Evangelism**.

Masthead Photo

A view of the platform during the Foreign Missions service at the 2009 General Conference. \$500,000 was raised for the GATS Program and ten missionaries were sent back to the field.

