



Mission Update

News from Renaissance Outreach Ministries

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Experiencing post-Covid Kathmandu

By Bishop Jan L. Baderstadt
President

As the plane approached Tribhuvan International Airport, the snowcapped peaks of the Himalayas could be seen to the north. The world's highest mountains were created by the conflict between two tectonic plates that are constantly pushing against each other. This mounting pressure is alleviated by small tremors from time to time. Fortunately, the big earthquakes only happen about every 75 years. So small quakes helps to avoid the big ones.

These days the capital city of Kathmandu is ablaze with activity. There are new five star hotels going up, creating a different skyline. Some of the old temples and structures that were destroyed in the earthquake either have been rebuilt or are in the process of rebuilding. The roads are under construction as the process to widen the Ring Road is very slow.

My first four weeks have been a whirlwind. I have discovered just how much I have been missed by so many people. While walking down the main street of Thamel, several merchants came out to greet me. Yes, 3½ years is a long time.

The Jesus Seminary is doing well. We have students from across Nepal. Classes are now done primarily on ZOOM. This has allowed for students in the far western part of the country to participate in classes. It will open the doors for those in Africa and other countries to also join with us.

According to reports I am getting, Christianity is now the second largest religion in the country. It has now surpassed Buddhism. Islam continues to hold a distant fourth place, with little to no growth.

Hinduism is the largest religion in the country. The new government is afraid to publish the results of their survey for fear of upsetting Buddhists and Hindus who have been the majority for centuries. There is a new force rising in the country. Indeed, the SON is rising on a new day.

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Youth sit around eating after church during their time of fellowship. Instead of pizza they have puffed rice mixed with spice. They attend the New Jerusalem Church of the Worldwide Anglican Church of Kathmandu, Nepal.



Rubi Guru, our office manager in Nepal recently went to visit a place that produces singing bowls in Kathmandu. Renaissance Outreach Ministries is looking to have special singing bowls made with the ICHTHUS fish emblem on the bottom along with the words "Jesus Christ, God's Son, Saviour" around the sides.



FISHTAIL MOUNTAIN

Pastor's Bible Study begins in Nepal

Bishop Jan Baderstadt has started a pastor's Bible Study in his Kathmandu home. It was the result of comments made at the meeting of pastors for his new leadership class.

Bishop Imran Bhatti, an instructor at the Jesus Seminary of the Himalayas, complained that many Nepali pastors have not even read the entire Bible. As Christianity is new in Nepal, there has not been a strong emphasis on Biblical education.

The first class was attended by eleven area pastors. The class meets weekly on Monday mornings in the city. Pastors are being encouraged to invite others to the fellowship.

They are studying the Pastoral Epistles. Bishop Jan is encouraging them to look at their Christian traditions to see if they match what the Bible says.

Some early missionaries instituted rules and regulations that have become followed more than the Bible. In addition, the study focuses on encouraging pastors to ask questions and talk.

Nepali education does not encourage students to ask questions. This study will do just the opposite.

"It's been a great start. We got some controversy going which started people asking questions. It's a great way to bond", said Bishop Jan.

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News and stories about the work of Renaissance Outreach Ministries

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Covid took its toll on everyone

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Nepal experienced two lockdowns for COVID which hurt everyone economically. People were terrified about the virus, even to the point of some buying and eating cow dung because some people were selling it as a cure along as a preventative.

The lockdowns were very severe, with people only allowed on the streets for about two hours a day. In the cities, it was strictly enforced by the police who would beat those violating curfew.

According to Pastor Madhav Poudal, 262 pastors died of COVID. Most died from the second wave that hit the country. "Pastors died because they were summoned by families to pray for the sick. As they laid hands on people, they ended up with the disease," noted Poudal. His church as well as his Bible School was closed down during that time.

Many churches have merged as churches couldn't afford to pay rent on their property. This may have actually helped to strengthen churches along with giving them stronger financial bases.

COVID still creates fear among the people of Nepal. Many people are still wearing masks, although some of it is due to pollution created by construction in the Kathmandu Valley. Severe lockdowns along with the economic hardships has created feelings of hopelessness.

Still the church continues to grow. All the anti-conversion laws have had little to no impact upon the growth of Christianity. People are still being baptized and church membership is growing.

Renaissance New Treasurer

After nearly ten years as our treasurer, Ron Simpson of Greentown, Indiana has announced he's stepping down as our treasurer.

Ron just turned 89 Dec. 27, and thought it's maybe time to start giving up his secretarial duties that he's been tapped for in many community organizations.

Bishop Gordon Flick of Indianapolis, Indiana will be taking over. Bishop Flick is involved in ministry in the city with training fathers on how to be fathers in the inner city.

More about the transition in our next edition of *Mission Update*.



Christian Singing Bowls

With the popularity of yoga in USA, Renaissance Outreach Ministries has worked with a local craftsman in Nepal to make Christian singing bowls. Available in red or purple, it features the ICHTHUS logo. There is a cross on the bottom, plus on the sides the words "Jesus Christ, God's Son, Savior". Each is four inches across and weights approx. 465 grams. They are now available from Renaissance Outreach for \$65, including shipping. Order one today at our website.



Photo by Rubi Gurung

Christian Leadership Class at the Jesus Seminary of the Himalayas

Bishop Jan L. Baderstadt (left) is teaching in February a class on Christian Leadership as part of the Jesus Seminary of the Himalayas. Ten students are from the Kathmandu Valley while others will be participating on line from rural parts of Nepal. The Jesus Seminary converted many of the classes to ZOOM because of lockdowns. What was discovered was that it opened up opportunities for rural pastors who otherwise could not afford the time to come and stay in Kathmandu. These classes are also giving opportunities for students in other countries to participate. This class is Master Level.

Join us for a Uganda Crusade April 10—24, 2023

There's nothing quite as exciting as being part of a crusade for Christ in Africa. Renaissance Outreach Ministries will be featuring Two Crusades right after Easter in the East African Nation of Uganda April 10 through 24 of next year.

Uganda is a safe, western oriented East African country with a stable, pro-American government. The people of Uganda are very friendly and are known for their hospitality.

In Uganda, crusades will be held in two locations. One of them is in the capital city of Kampala where the crusade grounds will hold over 5,000 people. A smaller crusade will also be held in the western city of Kigadi where we anticipate anywhere from 1500 to 3000 people in attendance.

The Uganda Crusade will give a great flavor of the various people and denominations of the country. In Kampala, we will enjoy the hospitality of six major denominations while in Kigadi we will be host of Pentecostals. All of the crusades will feature local choirs.

At both locations, we will have translators. While English is an official language of Uganda, not everyone speaks English.

During the days at each crusade location we will have pastoral training seminars. It is especially important in places like Kigadi which does not have access to local Bible Schools.

Accommodations will be three star hotels with western toilets and hot water showers. Food will include both traditional Ugandan as well as western foods. While in the country, we will travel in 15 passenger Toyota HIACE Vans which are comfortable and ideal for travel.

Spouses are welcome to join us on the trip. There will be an opportunity for sightseeing as well as to take a one day safari into Queen Elizabeth National Park at Kasese.

The government of Uganda does require all have a yellow fever shot prior to entry.

This is the ideal time to travel to East Africa. Weather is sunny with occasional rain. Highs are around 85° with a low of 65° at night.

The cost to participate is \$2600 plus airfare (estimated at \$1500 roundtrip per person.) The expenses are based on three people.

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Bishop Jan Baderstadt preaching a crusade in Uganda.

Crusade Schedule

MONDAY, APRIL 10—Leave USA

TUESDAY, APRIL 11—Arrive in Entebbe, Uganda where we will be met by our Ugandan team. We travel to Kampala to check into our airport. Welcome dinner at our hotel.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12—Orientation meeting and opportunity to interact with our Ugandan team. Visit to crusade site along with a visit to the Ugandan's Martyr's Museum which commemorates the Christian martyrs of Uganda.

THURSDAY, APRIL 13—First day of Kampala crusade. Pastoral training in the morning with crusade in evening.

FRIDAY, APRIL 14—Second day of Kampala Crusade. Similar program.

SATURDAY, APRIL 15—Final day of Kampala Crusade. No pastor training during the day. Crusade in Evening.

SUNDAY, APRIL 16—Travel to Kigadi in Bunyoro District near the shores of Lake Albert, the 27th largest lake in the world. It will be a day of travel as we head west to Fort Portal, then north to Kigadi. Meet our Kigadi Ugandans upon arrival.

MONDAY, APRIL 17—Today is a day of rest as well as some sightseeing in the area as we orientate ourselves to a different culture. We

will be working with area Pentecostal churches in Kigadi.

TUESDAY, APRIL 18—First day of Kigadi Crusade. Like in Kampala, we will be doing a two day pastoral training seminar in the mornings. The Crusade is in the evening.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19—Final Day of Crusade. Schedule same as April 18th.

THURSDAY, APRIL 20—Travel to Kasese, Uganda where we will spend two nights at Glacier Traveler's Resort in the city. Dinner in Kasese.

FRIDAY, APRIL 21—Sightseeing in Queen Elizabeth National Park. We will enjoy exploring the park along with taking a river cruise down the Kazinga Channel to look for African animals which are prevalent. Lost of elephants, hippos and more. If we are lucky, we will see some lions. Cultural program in the evening.

SATURDAY, APRIL 22—We will return to Kampala where we will spend two nights.

SUNDAY, APRIL 23—Preaching in local churches in the greater Kampala area. Departure dinner in the evening.

MONDAY, APRIL 24—Travel to Entebbe to board our flight back to USA.

TUESDAY, APRIL 25—Arrival in USA.



Visiting Traditional Villages in Uganda



Himalayan Spices

For centuries, the Himalayas have been known for their spices. Harvested by hand, the soil of the Himalayas creates some of the finest spices in the world. Through our contacts at Renaissance Outreach Ministries, we can now offer freshly ground spices that are better than anything you've every encountered!

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|--|-----------------------|-----------------|
| •Black Pepper (Ground) | •Garlic Powder | •Long Pepper |
| •Black Peppercorns | •Garlic Salt | •Mace |
| •Black Cardamom | •Ginger | •Mixed Masala |
| •Coriander Seed | •Ground Avocado Seed | •Mustard Ground |
| •Cinnamon | •Green Cardamom | •Mustard Seeds |
| •Cloves | •Himalayan White Salt | •Nutmeg |
| •Cumin | •Himalayan Pink Salt | •Sesame Seeds |
| •Dalle Khursani (World's hottest spice!) | •Himalayan Red Salt | •Turmeric |
| | •Himalayan Black Salt | •Timur Pepper |

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RENAISSANCE

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Ugandan Crusade set for April 10-24

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ple traveling with Bishop Jan Baderstadt. If more participate, then the costs will be cheaper.

The costs cover the following:

Rental of Van w/driver—\$800
Fuel Costs—\$1200
Lodging- \$560 per person, double occupancy
Two Crusades at \$700 each
Advertising & Promotion in Uganda—\$900
Food for Travelers—\$640
National Park—\$125 per person (Inc. boat trip)
Guide

We cover the cost of translators, crusade promotion and all transportation expenses. We do not cover the cost of musical instruments, or provide food for those in attendance. We are in partnership with the local churches, and they are expected to provide location, sound systems and musical groups.

"It will be an amazing time as we share God's word. The faith and hospitality of the African people will touch your very soul. There is an incredible hunger for God, much unlike what we see in America today," noted Bishop Jan Baderstadt who's been traveling to Africa since 1998

For more information, contact Bishop Jan Baderstadt . He can be contacted by phone in Nepal until March 25th by calling +977-9849881826 or by email anytime at be.kultraining@gmail.com

Plan to be a part of this exciting event!

CLUB 100 APPLICATION

Yes! Please enroll me as a member of the Club 100. I want to be a supporter of the Jesus Seminary of the Himalayas. I agree to give \$_____ a month/year (circle one).

Name _____

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Please send your tax-deductable donation to Renaissance Outreach Ministries, P. O. Box 121, Greentown, IN 46936. Minimum membership is \$6.25 a month/\$75 a year. Larger contributions will be accepted. Make checks payable to Renaissance Outreach Ministries.