

Fellowship Network News

Building an Enduring Work of Truth

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Dear Saint,

It feels as though we have blinked and another year has passed with a new decade before us. The Midwest weather in Indiana confirms that Jack Frost is alive and Mr. Snowman has been coming right along behind him.

The staff is settled into our new office which has been a huge blessing and benefit for everyone. We all have had many thoughts and plans for 2010, many of which are already being implemented. The ministry theme for this coming year is Building on the Firm Foundation and we plan to concentrate on many foundational tasks and teachings. You probably have already noticed John Schoenheit's teachings "The Giver and The Gift" and "Giving and Tithing," as well as Dan Gallagher's teaching "Let's Get Together," which deals with the need for fellowship. We are devoting a lot of our effort toward supporting and building fellowships, which we consider fundamental to our vision and mission.

We would also like to mention that the Network News is now incorporating what was previously handled in our One Vision, One Heart and Intercessors' letters to streamline and eliminate duplication of efforts. We trust having one place to communicate with you on these important topics will be helpful to you.

Thank you for all of your support through 2009 and we wish you a blessed 2010.

Serving with you,

The Board of Directors & Staff
Spirit & Truth Fellowship International

~~ This newsletter is available online at STFonline.org/news ~~

Home-Office News

January 10th-16th marked the first time the STF Board of Directors was able to hold their annual Board retreat in the Home Office. Each day the Board members met in the new conference room to review the past year as well as to look forward to 2010 and beyond. Having the Staff close at hand was a great benefit not only for effectiveness but for fellowship as well. Another welcome benefit was the very conducive work environment, access to all the materials, and records, which allowed for higher productivity.

Events

Servant-Leaders Conference - November

During the weekend of Nov. 14th-15th, about 100 STF partners & contributors gathered in Indianapolis, IN for a Servant -Leaders Conference. The format for this conference was created to cover three areas of importance: “Where we’ve been,” covering the organization’s history since inception; “Where we are now,” with a state of the ministry discussion; “Where we are going,” which included a projection of our vision for the future. The meeting included times for prayer, praise and worship, and presentations, as well as several hours devoted to questions and answers and lots of lively discussion. You can view a report on what was covered at the meeting by going to the following link: <http://stfonline.org/2009report>

Live Out Loud - December

Bradford Woods, near Martinsville, IN hosted this year’s Live Out Loud conference, our year-end youth event. About 120 youth and elder staff were together for 3 days exploring the theme of Standing on the Firm Foundation. Highlights of the event were energetic Praise & Worship, Small Group activities where prayer and ministering to one another were the focus, as well as a New Year’s Eve celebration that included dancing and prayer to bring in 2010. The preaching and teaching of God’s Word centered upon Jesus Christ as our Firm Foundation. To see video highlights of the event use this link: www.STFonline.org/LOL2009

Annual Board Meeting - January

This year’s annual Board of Directors meeting was groundbreaking in many ways. We are very excited to report that the Board has expanded to five members with the addition of Mike Patten. Mike served during all of 2009 in a Board mentorship role, participating in all Board meetings and familiarizing himself with our ministry programs and policies. Additionally, Dave Hanson (Rhode Island) has been elected to be a ministry Corporate Officer as Treasurer. Dave brings a wealth of knowledge (MBA and Masters in Finance) and work experience. Dave has already made three trips to the Home Office and is greatly helping support our Finance Department. The other Officers are John Schoenheit as President, Gary Theisen as Vice President, Karen Theisen as Secretary and Dan Gallagher as Chief Executive Officer.

At this year’s meeting the Board also covered a wide array of topics such as a review of our bylaws, implementation of a Board member policy manual, the roles and responsibilities of the committees, event planning for 2010 and 2011, building and supporting our Fellowship Network, itineraries, and an educational curriculum. The Board will also now be posting the minutes from the annual meeting on our website so anyone interested can know what issues were discussed and what actions were taken.

2010 Upcoming Events

Apr.	30-May 2	Asheville National Event	Asheville, NC
May	4-8	Silent Retreat	Camp Vision
Jun.	6-11	Missions Trip	Appalachia
	25-27	Servant Leaders Conference	Camp Vision
Jul.	11-17	Teens & Twenties Camp	Camp Vision
Sep.	3-6	Twenties Conference	Camp Vision
	16-19	Women's Conference	Camp Vision
Oct.	21-24	Men's Camp	Camp Vision
	27-31	Silent Retreat	Camp Vision
Dec.	29-Jan 1	Live Out Loud	Bradford Woods

Registration is now open for both the Asheville National Conference and Missions trip. You may use this link to register: <http://stfonline.org/register/>

Camp Vision News

Camp Vision is closed for the winter and our Camp caretaker, Ron Bickel, is maintaining and repairing cabins in preparation for the 2010 season. The camp will spring back to life on March 27th with a Camp clean-up day, a time when volunteers will team up to clean cabins and grounds. This is in advance of our Silent Retreat, which officially opens the Camp season on May 4th. Please consider coming if you live close by.

Fellowship Network

In the past month a number of new fellowships and area contacts have been added to the Network.

New Fellowships

Name	City
Robert & Yanira Klink	Fredericksburg, VA
Pat & Laurie Lubomski	Ypsilanti, MI
Tiffany McBee	Fairmont, WV
Jackson Trigg (Teens n 20s)	Albuquerque, NM
Women's Fellowship	Merritt Island, FL

New Area Contacts

Name	City
Josh & Natalie Anderson	Los Angeles, CA
Christopher Bloch	Grove City, PA
Rene Marin	San Antonio, TX
Erin Hunter	Townsend/ Springfield, VT
Jacob & Ashley Hoppen	Columbus, MS
Don & Judee Mikula	Aurora, CO

In addition to the new local fellowships, several "phone fellowships" have sprung up around the country as individuals are taking advantage of modern technology so they are not isolated. Free conference call opportunities are providing a way to stay in touch and have fellowship with those in other communities.

Fellowship announcements

A new feature of our website we would encourage you to visit is our Photo Albums of Events. This site will also accommodate photos of your fellowships as well. Please e-mail us photos you would like to share with others. Below is the link you can visit.

<http://stfonline.org/network/photos>

Trips and Itineraries

Currently Dan, John, & Mike are working on finalizing upcoming travel plans to visit as many areas as possible in 2010. If you would like to be considered for one of these itineraries please contact the Home Office.

International News

Philippines

There is continuing opportunity to sow into our Livelihood projects in the Philippines as well as general need among our faithful servants in that country. Natural disasters such as typhoons as well as limited economic opportunities provide great challenges to our brothers and sisters there. Rudy Odarve, one of our Filipino Elders, now has a computer with which he is diligently translating many of our materials into Cebuano, the national language of the Philippines.

These will be posted online in the Cebuano version of TruthOrTradition.com (TruthOrTradition.com/Cebuano).

Haiti

As many of you know, the earthquake in Haiti has devastated the lives of millions of people, including some that we have been connected to through our missions outreach efforts. We have been very concerned for the life and safety of our dear brother, Lesly Bertrand, whom we have not been able to contact directly. We have heard through a third-party that Lesly and his family are alive, as well as the children he serves through his orphanage. We understand his orphanage is still standing but has not yet been deemed safe to re-enter. They are all currently sleeping outside with no shelter. They are blessed to have a water source, and a third party is sending them many supplies via a private plane that was donated to the cause. They have great need for food and supplies. We have received some donations for his aid and we will be sending it to him as soon as we can verify how to send it.

Outreach

Don't Have Internet Access???

We recognize that there are a number of people supporting us who do not have Internet Access. We have heard from a few people that they are concerned that our ministry's focus has become "all about the Internet." In reality, our focus is on getting the Gospel to people in whatever way we can and the Internet has proven to be a great resource, enabling us to reach millions with very little cost. Everything that is on the Internet is still available in hard copy, but the Internet allows us to give our materials away for free and reach many places that are otherwise inaccessible or hostile to Christianity.

Here are some of the ways we are reaching people:

- **YouTube Videos**

Since last spring when we launched our YouTube channel, more than 91,000 viewings have taken place. We now have over 130 separate ten-minute teaching videos and more are being added regularly. This is very exciting news because many of us have been praying for decades that the truth of the Word of God would reach around the world. Now, thanks to the Internet and all of us working together, people all over the world are hearing the Word.

- **TruthOrTradition.com**

The year 2009 saw this site receive 659,809 visits and 2,326,972 (2.3 million) page views! We continue to add teaching articles to this site and a regular basis. As well as all our audio and video teachings.

December alone recorded 56,538 visits (an average of 1,823 per day) and 185,571 page views (an average of 5,986 per day).

Number of pages viewed by country (not every country is listed):

USA: 119,210

Russian Federation: 21,628

Great Britain: 6,324

Canada: 5,391

Poland: 2,565

Australia: 2,075

Philippines: 2,074

Germany: 1,560

Netherlands: 1,539

South Africa: 1,497

Argentina: 1,371

Indonesia: 1,333

India: 1,200

Mexico: 984

France: 852

China: 806

Brazil: 748

Singapore: 673

Spain: 647

Colombia: 645

Latvia: 605

Venezuela: 577

South Korea: 553

New Zealand: 486

(This list could go on to include 158 more countries for a total of 182)

Audio Podcast Stats for 2009

Audio Podcasts played off our server 325,768 times in 2009 (this does not include iTunes). In December, 43,399 audio teachings were played (an average of 1,399 per day), which amounts to about 173 gigabytes of data that was streamed. Audio Podcasts require more Internet bandwidth than just viewing pages, so only locations that have the necessary bandwidth can get podcasts or see videos.

Number of Audio Podcasts per Country in December:

USA: 27,743
China: 11,295
Canada: 928
Australia: 613
Great Britain: 328
Singapore: 212
India: 185
Philippines: 153
Germany: 144
Japan: 126
South Africa: 108
Trinidad & Tobago: 102
El Salvador: 92
Argentina: 90
Malaysia: 84
Netherlands: 82
Sweden: 79
Brazil: 71
Taiwan: 63
Hong Kong: 63
Jamaica: 48
Mauritius: 45
New Zealand: 45
Russian Federation: 41
(There are more but we needed to cut this off someplace)

Our RSS audio feed (iTunes) was hit 15,253 times in December.

Our RSS video podcast feed (iTunes) was hit 10,639 times in December.

Do You Have News to Share?

Let us know if you would like to announce anything to the rest of the fellowships, such as area events, seminars, or special meetings. You may email us at STF@STFOnline.org

We will do our best to get the word out for you.

This newsletter is available online at STFonline.org/news

~ Truth Matters! Spread the Word ~

Spirit & Truth Fellowship

“Faith” list

(February 2010; Figures approximate)

We are praying for money for the following items:

Immediate Needs

Sale of the Indianapolis Building	
Potential income to be realized	\$60,000
Computers	
Laptops (3) (replacement of older units)	\$3,600
Home Office (Martinsville)	
Funds to expand the office to add a recording studio, offices, and warehouse.	\$100,000
Video and Recording Equipment	
High Definition Video Camera	\$5,000
Lavaliere microphone	\$400
Personnel	
Income to meet staffing needs, and to provide for some additional staff positions.	\$50,000 annually
International Outreach	
Missions Support:	
Support for international outreach, missionary work and itineraries.	\$30,000 annually

You can donate online by credit card or PayPal at STFonline.org/donate

“Building an Enduring Work of Truth”

Camp Vision

“Faith” list

(February 2010; Figures approximate)

We are praying for money to accomplish the following items in order to improve the camp so we can host events year-round, conduct a summer school program, and host international trainings. To do this we need additional housing, meeting areas, increased ability to cook and serve meals, and the winterizing of the facilities for year-round usage.

Immediate Needs: (2010)

Road Repair	Patch & resurface damaged areas	\$5,000
Apartment 8	Replace partial roofing	\$8,000
	Bathroom & interior repairs	\$2,000
Cabin 10	New metal roofing	\$7,000
	Tree removal	\$500
	Deck replacement (for handicap accessibility)	<u>\$2,500</u>
	Total:	\$ 25,000

Planned Improvements: (1 to 3 years)

	Install a permanent prayer shelter	\$5,000
Cabin 1	New metal roofing	\$7,000
Cabin 2	New metal roofing	\$7,000
	Deck and siding repairs	\$8,000
Cabin 5	Siding repairs	\$7,000
	Lower level remodel	\$4,000
Cabin 6	Siding repairs	\$2,500
Bath House	New metal roofing	\$6,000
Rec. Hall	Siding, decks, and exterior stairs	\$15,000
	New shop building with dormitory space above	<u>\$100,000</u>
	Total:	\$161,500

Long term work: (3-10 years)

	Winterization plans	\$15,000
	Replace Cabin 3 with a new dormitory	\$200,000
	Outdoor shelters and meeting spaces	\$45,000
	Portable classrooms (2)	\$100,000
	Large Community meeting hall (Lodge)	\$500,000
	Septic system improvements	\$50,000
	Paving of additional roads & pathways	<u>\$50,000</u>
	Total:	\$960,000

You can donate online by credit card or PayPal at STFonline.org/donate

“Building an Enduring Work of Truth”

Spirit & Truth Fellowship International
PRAYER LIST, February 2010

Board of Directors

Dan Gallagher (Lori)
Mike Patten (Mary)
John Schoenheit (Jenivee)
Gary & Karen Theisen

Full-time Home Office Staff

Jeff Blackburn (Michele)
Rachel Darr (Billy)
Ryan Maher
Janet Speakes (Gene)

Part-time Staff

Dustin Speakes
Renee Speakes
Austin Williams
Dustin Williams
Travis Williams

Contract Laborers

Joshua Anderson (Natalie)
Caleb Power

Volunteer Staff

Ron & Jane Bickel
Intercessors
Event Staff
Finance Committee
Youth Ministry
Women's Ministry
Men's Ministry

Finances:

- Our partnership program to cover the operational expenses of the ministry
- Timely sale of our Indianapolis property

Supporters

Blessings & protection for Partners & Contributors

Facilities—Present

- Home Office (Martinsville)
- Proper working of all physical systems (plumbing, electric, etc.)
- Protection and safety of staff and vehicles
- Blessings and safety for Camp Vision

Communications & Equipment

- Mail service
- Office machines and equipment
- Computer network, hardware, software, equipment, web servers
- Application of new technologies to move God's word

Vendor Support

- Ohmit Recording (audio teachings)
- Printing Partners (Sower publication)
- Sling Shot computer consultants

Projects and new materials

- Audio and Video seminars
- REV Bible translation project
- YouTube video outreach
- Website outreach:
BiblicalUnitarian.com
TruthOrTradition.com
STFonline.org

2010 Events

Asheville Conference
Silent Retreat
Missions Trip
Servant-Leaders Conference
Teens & Twenties Camp
Twenties Conference
Women's Conference
Men's Conference
Live Out Loud

Research

- Additional scholarly and manuscript support; new light; people rising up to do accurate research and writing.
- Our young people pursuing degrees in fields helpful for biblical research and ministry.

Fellowships

- A growing network of leaders and self-governing churches/fellowships both in the US and Internationally.

USA Outreach

- The spread of the Good News
- Pray for freedom to move the Word

International Outreach

Wisdom and direction; local leaders and support for trips to:

- Argentina
- Africa (D.R. of the Congo, Togo, Ghana, Kenya, Tanzania, and more)
- India
- Philippines
Leaders: Willie Matub, Rudy Odarve, James Batao, James and Nene Butoy, Rey Dilema, Benjie Casido, Leonidas Duazo, Edgardo Gavino
- Livelihood projects

Armed Services

- Pray for our men and women in the armed forces.

Government and Leaders

- President, Congress, Judiciary, and State and local government
- Healthy Functioning of our Democratic Republic

Economy

- Financial markets, etc.

Outreach in countries where we are in contact with at least one person

Albania	Hungary	Poland
Algeria	India	Portugal
Angola	Indonesia	Puerto Rico
Argentina	Iran	Qatar
Australia	Republic of	Romania
Austria	Ireland	Russia
Bahamas	Israel	Rwanda
Bangladesh	Italy	Saudi Arabia
Barbados	Ivory Coast	Senegal
Belgium	Jamaica	Serbia &
Belize	Kazakhstan	Montenegro
Bermuda	Kenya	Sierra Leone
Bosnia	Kingdom of	Singapore
Botswana	Bahrain	Solomon Islands
Brazil	Kosovo	South Africa
Bulgaria	Kuwait	South Korea
Cameroon	Lebanon	Spain
Canada	Lesotho	Sri Lanka
Chile	Liberia	St. Kitts
China	Malawi	St. Lucia
Colombia	Malaysia	St. Vincent
DR of the Congo	Maldives	Swaziland
Denmark	Mali	Sweden
Dominica	Malta	Switzerland
Dominican Republic	Mauritius	Syria
Ecuador	Mexico	Taiwan
Egypt	Morocco	Tanzania
El Salvador	Myanmar	Thailand
Eritrea	Namibia	Togo
Estonia	Nepal	Trinidad & Tobago
Ethiopia	Netherlands	Turkey
Fiji	Netherlands	U.S. Virgin Islands
Finland	Antilles	Uganda
France	New Zealand	Ukraine
Germany	Nigeria	United Arab
Ghana	Norway	Emirates
Greece	Oman	United Kingdom
Guam	Pakistan	Vanuatu
Guatemala	Papua New	Venezuela
Guyana	Guinea	Zambia
Haiti W.I.	Paraguay	Zimbabwe
Holland	Peru	
Hong Kong	Philippines	