

July 7, 2007

A letter from Howard & Aileen Ostendorff

Vacations with a Purpose!

Dear Beloved Ministry Partners,

Wow! Do I (Howard) have one excited wife! It's summer and our minds are on vacation. Our children are coming in a few weeks for us all to be together! What mom wouldn't be excited to have all her "chicks" in the nest?!!!

It's not just our family that Aileen is excited about! Our Global Outreach (International) Office, has decided to pursue **FamilyLife Family Mission Trips** or "Vacations with a Purpose!" We have not decided on a name but we have decided on the leader of this project! Aileen!

We've believed that we needed to pursue FamilyLife mission trips in which families could minister together, get to know our wonderful staff around the world, and build FamilyLife ministries at the same time! But how could an entire family minister? Adults can help start HomeBuilder's groups and youth can be involved with adults in orphan care.

A couple of years ago, FamilyLife started **Hope for Orphans** to bring greater attention to the needs of orphans around the world. That ministry has generated some wonderful networking partnerships with adoption and orphan care organizations around the world. The pieces of the plan are falling together wonderfully!

Aileen will focus on this project with her giftedness in organization & hospitality. We plan to recruit new staff that will help her plan these trips and work with church mission pastors so this can also be church-based! This year we will lay the groundwork and plan some test trips. Interested? Let us know!



More pictures at www.hostendorff.com

Recently, we have also had some vacations with a purpose! The first was around the birth of our new grandson, **Hamilton William Bare**. Born 9 days early on June 10, he was a healthy 7lbs 14oz. We went for a week to help James and Jenny, play with grandson, Luke, as well as enjoy this beautiful new creation of God! God is so awesome of how He creates such perfect little ones! Having lost a son in 1982, we don't take healthy births for granted!

The next week, we helped Allen and Sara move out of their house in Columbia. In August they go for training with a non-profit organization. By late October they will be working in the North Africa &

Middle East region in a support role. We will miss them and ask that you pray that God will keep them safe in their travel and work!

Please pray for our up-coming ministry **travel (Aug 11-22)** as we meet with FamilyLife and CCC leaders in **S. Africa** and help launch FamilyLife in Malawi. Through a marriage conference and training we'll help initiate FamilyLife through the **entire police force of Malawi at their request!** Awesome opportunity!

Blessings and love to you! Your prayers and giving are making a global impact for Christ!

Until Every Home is a Godly Home,

Howard & Aileen

Weekend to Remember- God's Blueprints for Marriage Changes Lives!

"We have been to counseling and paid \$200 an hour so we could blame each other. Not once was God ever mentioned. This weekend was priceless. **I know that we have a chance to stay together using what we learned from FamilyLife.**"

-US Army, married 10 years

"We attended our first conference 3 years ago. My husband accepted Christ at that Weekend to Remember. **Since then we have experienced such a powerful transformation—forgiveness, healing, restoration, and pure joy!** I would not have believed this was possible. Thank you, FamilyLife! Thank you God!!"

-Realtor, married 25 years

News about our FamilyLife Jordan Leaders, Issa and Reem Abassi



This lovely and dedicated couple took a ministry break to come to our offices for training and consultations in May. They have been leading our FamilyLife ministry in Jordan for a number of years and have also translated some of our HomeBuilder's Couples Series into Arabic. Along with our Egyptian FamilyLife leaders, they have a FamilyLife TV program that airs on satellite station Sat 7 and is broadcast throughout the Middle East and North Africa. This is a very strategic couple for this region!

However, their financial support team as Campus Crusade staff is woefully inadequate and it greatly endangers their continuing work. It is very difficult to get financial partners in their country because of the small number of believers. If you would consider joining with them, please let us know and we will get you more information.

Missionary Marriages!

Marriage and family challenges are a major reason why cross-cultural missionaries "throw in the towel" and leave their missionary assignment. If we can find ways to help them, they will stay and serve the longer and more effectively! Please pray for this FamilyLife Global Outreach (International) project:

- **June-Aug:** FamilyLife through our office is working with a professional research company to do a missionary marriage and family survey with over 15 major mission sending agencies this fall. Please pray for the final stages of the survey design.
- **Sept-Oct:** Research conducted
- **Nov-Jan:** Analysis and reporting
- **Feb:** Report findings and recommendations to the agency CEO's
- **May '07-May '08:** Preparation for MMF Summit.
- **May 29-30, 2008: Missionary Marriage and Family Summit** hosted by FamilyLife, Campus Crusade for Christ and the International Mission Board (Southern Baptist Convention) and others.

-This summit will bring together Mission agencies and marriage and family experts as well as mission care organizations to explore practical ways to strengthen missionary marriages & families!

News from our FamilyLife Kenyan Leaders, James and Chao Wanje

"We are currently working with a NIST [the seminary Aileen and I helped start] intern and his wife. Simon and Edith Kariuki have been with us for almost a month now. They will continue to partner with us as Associates. Currently we have trained Simon and Edith for HomeBuilders and have exposed him to three different HB meetings that we help facilitate. In two weeks we will do a half-day seminar with couples he has invited, with them facilitating in the meeting.

We have a group at a local church that wants to start HomeBuilders in their church. We will do a half-day seminar with them and at the meeting we will have Robert and Nellie, a volunteer couple from our HomeBuilders group do the HomeBuilders orientation part."

James and Chao currently need additional support due to inflation in Kenya. If you would like to help them, please contact us and we will send you more information.