

# Mel & Carol Brown

## Missionaries

Helping Missionaries with conferences,  
Bible Institute material, and short-term furlough relief.



February 27, 2007

Dear Praying and Sharing Friends,

Greetings once again. We praise God for all He is doing in and through us these days of world unrest. God is still on His throne and is still saving those who come to Him.

The article to the right was in the last issue of BIMI WORLD. I thought it might interest our readers.

Carol and I were one of the first couples who entered into this type of ministry along with our regular missionary work.

As you know we spent 17 wonderful years planting churches and Bible Institutes in the Philippines. Because of a stroke in 1997 we had to return to the States for medical reasons.

God led us to help other missionaries around the world as well as continue to serve on a limited basis in the Philippines.

Since 1997 we have relieved missionaries in Canada 3 times and in Scotland 3 times. We had to drive our own van to Canada each time because the missionaries had to use their own transportation to return to the States. Some missionaries have to return to the States for medical emergencies etc.

We are on call all the time and are eager to assist those who are in need of our help. It has been a blessing to Carol and me in serving others who are serving the Lord on their field.

Thank you again for your continued prayer and financial support. It not only means a lot to us but it also means a lot to those who are in need of a relief missionary. May God bless you.

## Relief Missionaries

### Meeting a Tremendous Need

By: David Snyder

One of the difficulties that our family faced as church planters in Alaska was the need to report to our supporting churches and the inability to find someone to watch over the new work while we were on furlough. I was reminded of this need during a recent Personnel Committee Meeting with Tom and Cathy Talley, missionaries serving in South Indian Lake, Manitoba, Canada. The Biblical approach to the missionary furlough remains the same as it always has. However, the world in which we live has made travel much less expensive and much faster than a hundred years ago. Most missionaries, including the Talleys, are now able to take shorter furloughs more often, thus reducing the failure rate of new church plants due to the missionary's absence.

The opportunity for someone to temporarily take over a church planter's work has been simplified by the convenience of the modern travel options available today. God is raising up what we call "Relief Missionaries" to fill this pressing need. The Relief Missionary is an individual who has served the Lord in the Gospel ministry for many years and now travels to different parts of the world filling in for furloughing church planters. During our Personnel Committee Meeting, the Talleys expressed their thankfulness for the Relief Missionaries who are presently in South Indian Lake, thus allowing them to report to their supporting churches.

Relief Missionaries play an integral role in today's church planting efforts around the globe. Like many parts of the world, the Far North is a place where it normally takes much longer than four years for a church to become autonomous. Again, this emphasizes the need for those who relieve missionaries, allowing them to take a furlough. As the Far North Director, I am thankful for those whom God has called to the unique ministry of "Relief Missionary" Consequently, I am also very grateful for those who financially and prayerfully support Relief Missionaries and the crucial ministry that God has given them. Thank you for seeing and responding to the need!

BIMI WORLD - Number 3, 2006

In His service 'til He comes.

*Mel & Carol Brown*

Melvyn & Carol Brown

**Baptist International Missions, Inc.**

P.O. Box 9215, Chattanooga, TN 37412

Phone: (423) 344-5050 FAX: (432) 344-4774



www.bimi.org



www.bama4u.org bama4u@bellsouth.net

**P.O. Box 193**

**Clay, AL 35048**