

THE WHOLE GOSPEL TO THE WHOLE WORLD BY THE WHOLE CHURCH

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# AIMERS' ALLEY

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1<sup>ST</sup> QUARTER 2017



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## A PERSONAL NOTE

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Dear AIM Family,

Several weeks ago our team here in the office got together for a unique meeting. It was a meeting where we asked the question, "What is the mission of AIM?" I think I can be blamed for asking such a massive question. I asked honestly and sincerely, and though that question took up our entire scheduled team meeting for the week (Sorry, Brother Poitras!), I am so glad I did. In looking for a mission statement that could encompass all the facets of the Associate in Missions Program we had the best team in the world. We had the wisdom of the woman, the myth, and the legend, Sister Pat Morgan. The brains and diplomacy of the dynamic-duo, Brother and Sister Poitras. The experienced and oh-so-creative genius, Angie Clark, along with myself, the gaining-experience millennial.

Putting our heads together, we thought of each previous, present, and future AIMer. We thought about you and we thought about your purpose. Being on AIM is no easy thing. It is a calling. It is shaking and shaping the Kingdom. It is a giving each of you experience, it is giving an additional set of hands to our fields', and it is breeding burdens through exposure. Not just in you, but in all those that you share your experience with through casting vision and AIM newsletters. We thought of what AIM means to us here in the office, you and our missionaries there on the field, and of what it could mean to those at home who have yet to apply.

With all of that resting heavily in our minds and hearts, we all agreed on the phrase:

***AIM2go: providing a pathway to the harvest, creating a community of laborers.***

What better definition and mission of a program that is impacting this world with the Gospel of Jesus Christ?

Honestly, as I sit here at my desk in St. Louis, I could not be more honored to serve on a team that is providing a pathway and creating a community for Jesus. My heart rejoices with each report, photo, and video. Each of you have impacted me more than you could ever imagine and I haven't even met half of you.

As we kick off 2017, I ask that each of you keep this in mind. While on AIM and while in this season of life, how are you providing a pathway to the harvest and creating a community of laborers? What does AIM mean to you? How is it impacting you or your field? As you ponder this, I pray you will send your feed-back and any pictures or videos that you think could contribute to this mission, to our mission. Let's spread the word. Let's work together. From each of our harvest fields—the plains of Africa, the people of Asia, the flavor of Central America & Mexico, the architecture of Europe & the Middle East, our office in North America, the islands of the Pacific, and the mountains of South America—we are a community.

Our team loves you, prays for you, and has your back. We are family, the AIM family.

Yours for the Kingdom,



Tia Reynolds

*-Providing a pathway, creating a community-*

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## WELCOME

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We would like to give a very warm welcome to our newest team member, Angie Clark! She has joined the team as our new Executive Assistant to Brother James G. Poitras. Sister Angie has served in many different capacities on and off the field and will be an incredible asset to our AIM team. She has been with us for two months now, and we could not imagine the office without her. Welcome to the family, Angie!




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## REGIONAL UPDATES

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2017 is HERE! From the looks of all the AIM Reports, each of you have been extremely busy! We hope you enjoy a few updates we have picked up from some of your newsletters. Please remember that anything you put in newsletter/reports are subject to being posted or published on social media, our website, or AIMers' Alley unless expressed otherwise. We hope you enjoy the updates from the AIM community!

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## AFRICA

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As things kick off for 2017, we have AIMers in all stages. From those who are digging in their heels for more months of AIM to those who are wrapping up their appointed time, every season of AIM is a gift that holds something new!

“The raucous revelers were celebrating to the maximum on the palace grounds. The sounds and sights of fireworks were escorting 2016 out and 2017 in. But in Kampala Central Church it was a different sound of celebration. We were singing, worshiping and shouting 2016 out and 2017 in! It was my honor to preach the final message of 2016. It was a time of great blessing as the church enjoyed the overnight prayer meeting.” -The Easthams, Uganda



“These last 6 months have absolutely flown by! I am beyond blessed for this opportunity to have come and serve here in Ghana for these past 6 months. My life is forever changed because of this experience. As much as I can say I hope and pray that I have helped make an impact on Ghana, I know the impact Ghana has made on me far exceeds what I could have imagined it would. I do not take this experience or this calling lightly and I pray that God would continue to direct my steps and journey that will lead to my next AIM trip in the future.” – Juana Wilburn, Ghana

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## NEWLY APPROVED AIMERS /CHANGE OF FIELD

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- Juana Wilburn, Ghana (Extension)
- Malorie Bovee, Ghana

## ASIA

Sometimes on AIM, you may find yourself facing some pretty difficult situations. Yet, we know our God is faithful and that He is the lifter of our heads! We are asking that our AIM family bind together and pray for the Pantons, AIMers in Japan.

“Wonderful things are happening... God is good, and we are excited about what He is doing. Right now, our focus is almost entirely upon the city of Nago (that and raising two... energetic children). God has done miracles, opening doors in that city. We are hoping to be living there by March 1st. Though there are some very significant barriers to cross in a very short time to make that possible, God has worked against the odds many a time to bring us to this point, so my faith is strong. While there hasn't been any numerical growth in the Nago preaching point, I have definitely felt a growing sense of family among the core members.

I have been working on my Japanese... While I probably won't be able to continue attending that class once we move to Nago, I really believe our Japanese level will increase very quickly once we are living there. There are far fewer English speaking people, and we will, often, be separated from the English speak friends we currently, have around us.

I hope to spend a lot of time in Nago doing outreach. We have a few ideas such as holding free English classes in our home and reaching out to the nearby universities.”



### NEWLY APPROVED AIMERS/CHANGE OF FIELD

- Collin Miller, Japan
- Augustin & Hannah Martinez, Japan
- Cameron Pye, Japan
- Cynthia Martin, India

## CENTRAL AMERICA/CARIBBEAN



“During January I spent another week in the town of Victoria with the Decker's and Rachel. This was our third trip up to this area, where we have been constructing a house that was destroyed after Hurricane Otto. This month our project was to put in the septic tank system. I helped dig holes, lay pipes, pile rocks for the drainage field. and mix cement. I knew nothing about septic tank systems, so it was fun to learn something new. I guess I can say that AIM is truly teaching me things I never thought I would learn! It's been a slow process, but it is exciting to see the house come together.” -Elisha Thompson, Costa Rica

“After a nearly 6-hour bus ride, we met the Deckers and went to the pastor's home. We spent the next few days working. After digging many holes, moving many rocks, and digging even more holes, we were able to put in their septic system! It sounds impressive to say I helped put in a septic system, but in reality I'm not exactly sure how it all came together, I just put my shovel where they told me to! I've been amazed at the different opportunities I've gotten and ways I've been challenged spiritually, mentally, and physically since starting on AIM. You'll never be bored or stagnant when you're working in God's kingdom!” -Rachel Goebel, Costa Rica



You never know what you might find yourself doing on AIM. Just as ask these two ladies. They started off on Next Steps this past summer, but God has seen fit to keep them a little longer than expected. Months later they are still in Costa Rica as AIMers. You never know what the incredible journey of missions has in store but it's so sweet to trust in His plan and His timing!

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## NEWLY APPROVED AIMERS/CHANGE OF FIELD

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- Craig & Carolyn McKenzie, Belize

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## EUROPE/MIDDLE EAST

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Let's talk about real life. It doesn't always go according to plan and it doesn't always happen when or how we want it too. Just ask Baron and Jen Carson, AIMers to the Netherlands.

The Carson's have been trying to get residency status in Holland for over thirteen months! A couple of weeks ago they had their final hearing and are waiting to hear back from the judge. And then, when it seems the stress is over, there is more. "Upon attempting to obtain a new visa stamp, we were told they can no longer grant us a visa extension with our passport. Because of this, we are having to return to the USA while awaiting the decision by the immigration judge. No... We are not being kicked out. However, this is the wise thing to do while we wait to insure that we do not encounter any issues here that would effect us in the future."



Sometimes it doesn't make sense. Visa issues can be the devil (can I get an AIMer witness!?), BUT how we respond to that challenge, or any other, makes all the difference. Brother and Sister Carson have had an exemplary attitude about the whole situation.

Why include this entry you might ask? Because there is something about the peace of God that goes beyond all understanding. Knowing that our calling is in His hands lets us all know that He alone is in control. Pursuing His will and seeking His Kingdom first is the perfect combination for victory! It reminds me of an older song lyric, "No matter what may come my way, my life is in His Hands." I can confidently say that the Carson's are in God's hands, and that everything is going according to plan, His plan.

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## NEWLY APPROVED AIMERS/NEXT STEPPERS

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Andrew &amp; Ester Quezada, Jordan</li> <li>• Craig Christophersen, Sweden</li> <li>• Jonathan &amp; Elizabeth Taylor, Gulf States</li> <li>• Kameron &amp; Gloria Burgess, Spain</li> <li>• Makenzi Smith, Scotland</li> <li>• Jordan Dunning, Austria</li> <li>• Carl &amp; Bethany Sledge, Germany</li> <li>• Johanna Alwardt, NS</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rebecca Atwood, NS</li> <li>• Kaitlyn Barbour, NS</li> <li>• Brooke Roberts, NS</li> <li>• Jessica Sully, NS</li> <li>• Melissa Baker, NS</li> <li>• Ashton Loyd, NS</li> </ul> |
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## PACIFIC

You never know what can happen in just a few months of AIM... Just ask the McIntyre's:

"We are so excited about what God did in Fiji during the four months we were there this year (2016)."

- In Suva, at the Bible College nine graduated.
- We participated in three District Conferences where a total of sixty-two were baptized in Jesus name, 122 received the Holy Ghost for the first time, and thirty-eight received their healing.
- Lakeba Island Evangelistic Meetings
  - A prominent witch lives there that has had a great influence on the islanders on Lakeba Island, and she hates the Apostolic Pentecostal people. I'm happy to report that her husband has been baptized in Jesus' name and filled with the Holy Ghost.
  - During our week of meetings on this island:
    - Six received the Holy Ghost for the first time
    - Eight received their Healing

"Thank God for the revival fires that are burning throughout these islands!" Overall, there was a total of 420 that received the Holy Ghost for the first time, 300 were baptized in Jesus name (includes two Trinitarian pastors), 500 received a renewing of the Holy Ghost, and 350 received their healing. (These results include the totals of services mentioned above.)



## NEWLY APPROVED AIMERS/CHANGE OF FIELD

- Breanna Ratliff, Vanuatu

## SOUTH AMERICA



There is nothing like seeing someone receive the gift of the Holy Ghost! Bible studies are so important and we are thankful for all of our dedicated AIMers who are reaching people one by one!

"We held home Bible studies in Varzea Paulista three different Thursdays in January, and we are overjoyed to share that in our study on January 26th two first time guests received the Holy Ghost right there in the living room! God moved in such a powerful way, and we all felt renewed and strengthened after being in His Presence!

During the month of January we also held four different Bible study nights with Roselaine, Eduardo, and their two children. This month was extra special since one of the nights was held in our own home, and we were able to share a few "American" foods with them! Please continue to pray that this special family will take the next step of baptism in Jesus name!"

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## NEWLY APPROVED AIMERS/CHANGE OF FIELD

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- Katie Rhoads, Brazil

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## OTHER NEWS

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A friendly reminder from Sis. Pat:

*Please be sure to communicate when coming on and off the field. I need to know when you arrive on the field and also, when you arrive home. This is important to help me keep up with your file. A simple email will do! Thank you in advance for your help on this!*

We are extremely excited to hear from our AIMers all over the globe. Thank you so much for all the hard work and sacrifice you are making. We appreciate you more than words! Don't forget to send your AIM reports on a monthly basis to [pmorgan@upci.org](mailto:pmorgan@upci.org) or any pictures to [treynolds@upci.org](mailto:treynolds@upci.org). We love seeing what is happening in your corner of the world!