

Dear Friends of The Antioch Partners (TAP),

As 2010 comes to a close, I want to take this opportunity to share some of what God has been doing through TAP, and highlight some of the important aspects of how TAP operates. But, before I do, I want to express our appreciation again to you for your partnership in this effort. TAP is expanding long-term, cross-cultural, incarnational mission service opportunities for Presbyterians. We praise God for what he has done, and is doing, through TAP, but without your engagement (prayer support, financial support, encouragement, creative input, promotion of TAP, etc.), we wouldn't be where we are today. So, know that we continue to praise God for you!

As many of you know, it was in 2006 that The Outreach Foundation (TOF) and Presbyterian Frontier Fellowship (PFF) joined in a strategic alliance for the purpose of creating a new structure to expand long-term, mission service opportunities for Presbyterians. That step of faith set in motion months of prayer, planning and preparations which culminated in the creation of TAP. TAP became operational in summer 2007, and twenty mission personnel (we call them "Partners") have now been appointed for mission service (we expect more to be appointed in the coming months). Seven of these Partners are currently developing their support teams and they are looking forward to moving to their locations of service in 2011. We praise God for the growing number of Partners serving through TAP, and the growing number of local congregations TAP is serving in the assessment, training, sending and supporting of long-term missionaries.

In order to help you better understand how TAP functions, I want to highlight some of the important aspects of how TAP operates:

- Participation in Discernment Process: We are eager to enter into the discernment process with those sensing God's call to long-term, cross-cultural service. We are committed to assisting people as they walk through the discernment process, whether or not TAP turns out to be the best sending agency option for them.
- First Who, Then What*: We focus on appointing those who have a clear sense of call to long-term mission service (and this call has been affirmed by their home fellowship), and have appropriate gifts and abilities to thrive in cross-cultural service. We then work with global partners to identify appropriate roles for these cross-cultural servants. * This phrase comes from Jim Collin's book, Good to Great.
- Placement Priorities: TAP has two main priorities in placing mission personnel - serving in frontier mission contexts, and strengthening the missional capacity of global partners.
- Missionary Support Teams: TAP Partners develop their own support teams (this includes raising their own financial support) with assistance from TAP Staff.
- Regionally-based Support Teams: Whenever possible, we encourage regionally-based support teams for Partners. Regional support teams help TAP Partners develop deeper, more meaningfully relationships with those who are serving as senders for them.
- Collaborative Missionary Care: Our perspective is effective missionary care (often called member care) is essential, and this can only happen when support teams (sending churches and individuals), local partners and TAP Staff all work together to create communities of care for mission personnel.



Village wedding in Asia where
TAP Partner is serving.

Also, I want to comment on TAP's relationship with Presbyterian World Mission (the global partnerships and missionary-sending structure of the PCUSA). We are committed to a cooperative relationship with Presbyterian World Mission (PWM) and our goal is to complement and support the important role PWM plays in our denominational context. We praise God for Hunter Farrell and the other PWM Staff who are implementing a new vision for PWM. Furthermore, we value our Presbyterian mission history, and we are committed to building upon what has been learned during the many years Presbyterian missionaries have been engaged in God's mission.

Finally, as we all prepare to celebrate the hope, joy, peace and wonder of the incarnation, I pray each of us will experience God's unconditional love in profound, fresh ways. I also pray that our passion for those who have not yet had a chance to hear about this baby born in Bethlehem will be reignited as well. Truly, Jesus is the "light of the world" and "a light for revelation to the Gentiles." May this be the testimony of our lives!

In Christ,



W. Andrew Adair

Executive Director, The Antioch Partners



New TAP Partners, Tihomir and Christine, who lead Renewing Our Minds (ROM) based in Croatia.



ROM participants in this past summer's leadership and reconciliation conference held in Croatia.