

Langham Partnership news

Process not event

Written by Jonathan Lamb, International Director for Langham Preaching

Growing fellowships of Bible preachers

We all agree that a church is more than its services, a family more than its meal times. And since it began six years ago, Langham Preaching has sought to encourage 'fellowships' rather than just run events. In several countries there is gradually emerging a fellowship of preachers – a 'movement' for Biblical preaching. Supported by seminars, books and training resources, such a movement is most clearly seen through the emergence of preachers' clubs in towns and villages. Meeting regularly in their home region, small groups of pastors and lay preachers gather to study a Bible passage, work on sermon preparation, and plan their preaching series. And of course they pray for one another and support each other's desire to preach better. Linked to regional or national seminar programmes which provide training materials and good models for Biblical preaching, preachers' clubs are the heartbeat of national preaching movements.



■ Mercy Ileri

They are growing across **Kenya**, encouraged to meet regularly by country coordinator **Mercy Ileri** who uses her cell phone to good effect as she chases up local leaders for news of their club meetings, or encourages them forward with new ideas. Pastors often

contact Langham Preaching via our web site, and we can quickly forward names to Mercy who soon plugs them into the network of preachers' clubs gradually extending across the country. *'A few months ago you forwarded to me an email from pastor Jonathan in Nakuru. I put him in touch with the leader of the preachers' club, Asman, there in the Rift Valley. Asman told me that they had a good meeting and are planning to work together. At the time I put them in touch it was during the violence – it did not even cross my mind that Jonathan is a Kalenjin and Asman is Kikuyu. Asman told me that it was a miracle for both of them to sit together and even have a cup of tea!'*

For the past three years a small core of 40 pastors have been attending the Langham training programme in the **Democratic Republic of Congo**, and developing preachers' clubs in their home regions. And now? *'We have actually 28 clubs in the country with 298 members'*, says country coordinator **Muhindo Ilesomo**, who travels widely to encourage them. *'And I believe this will increase after the next Langham training of trainers event in October'*. Through the generosity of friends at St Andrew's church Oxford we have recently been able to support their work through the provision of bikes and Bibles, (see photo) enabling the pastors to travel to their many scattered congregations and to meet to study scripture together.

Continued on next page.



Chairman's Word

The LPI Council met in Farnham, U.K. in late September.

One of the speakers was Dr Parush Parushev, Principal of the International Baptist Theological Seminary in Prague. He was supported by two Langham scholars. Each speaker identified the challenges faced by evangelical Christians in Eastern Europe, including their need for good quality Christian books written by local Christians, in local languages. The importance of providing opportunities for future Christian leaders to study at PhD level, and to secure recognition as scholars, was also emphasised.

The LPI grass roots preaching programs, in the same region, were the subject of a further report. Without those teaching opportunities many pastors would struggle to accurately teach God's word to their people.

Please remember our brothers and sisters who seek to live faithful Christian lives in Eastern Europe, and across the majority world, without access to the literature, educational opportunities and sound teaching that we take for granted. Please remember this need in your prayers and again consider your financial support for the work of LPI, as it seeks to provide training, opportunities and resources to meet the needs of our brothers and sisters in the faith.

Trevor Cork



Langham Partnership Australia

PO Box 530
Springwood NSW 2777
Tel/Fax 02 4751 9036

mail@langhampartnership.org.au
www.langhampartnership.org.au

LPA Board of Reference

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Rev Dr Ross Clifford
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In **Tanzania**, small clubs have been established across the country, forming the base for 13 regional programmes which are now starting small training events for local pastors. And in **Bolivia** and **Columbia**, and other Latin countries, preachers' clubs are vital training arenas – so much so they are called 'escuelitas', little schools for preachers.



For any movement to catch fire, local people must own it, and passionate and committed people in the country must drive it forward. We don't know if this will happen in each country, but this is what we pray for – national preaching movements which seek to unite, encourage, equip, train and inspire all those who are faithfully teaching and preaching God's Word.

Wendy Toulmin, Executive Officer, LPA continues ...

Here in our Pacific Region Langham Preaching continues to have an impact. In Vanuatu just last week we heard of five preaching clubs meeting on the island of Pentecost as the result of one man's attendance at level 1 training in March of this year. With level 2 planned for March 09 in Vanuatu and level 1 in both the Solomon Islands (June 09) and Papua New Guinea (November 09) we look to our LPA friends and partners to support these exciting opportunities here on our doorstep in both prayer and giving.



Particularly for your prayers – recent and upcoming Preaching programmes

- October 6-10** Chile, Santiago (Level 1)
- October 16,17** South Africa line up visit
- October 27-30** Congo DRC (Training of local facilitators)
- October 27-31** Thailand, Chiangmai Seminar for Biblical Preaching (Level 2)
- October 31** Rwanda line-up visit
- November 1-7** Burundi (Levels 1, 2 & 3)
- November 10-14** Bolivia, La Paz (CCM programme)
- November 17-21** Ecuador (Level 1)
- November 19-22** TBC Croatia (Levels 2 & 3)
- November 22-24** Panama consultation on Central America
- November 27-30** TBC Jamaica (Training of local facilitators)
- November 6-9** Kenya (Training of local facilitators)
- December 1-5** Liberia (Level 1)
- December 6-10** Bolivia, Santa Cruz (Level 1)
- January 19-23** Tatarstan, Kazan (Level 2)
- January/February** Ghana
- January** Myanmar (with Crosslinks)
- February** Tanzania (Level 3)
- February 23-25** Brazil consultation with local leaders
- March 8-14** Zambia (Level 1)
- March 27-30** Vanuatu (Level 1)
- March 30-April 4** Vanuatu (Level 2)
- March 30-April 3** Nigeria (Levels 1,2,3)
- April 20-24** TBC Kyrgyzstan (Level 1)
- April 20-24** Colombia, Medellin (Level 1)

Jonathan Lamb is speaking in Melbourne at the Belgrave Heights Summer Convention, Dec 31 - Jan 4 www.bhc.org.au

Langham Australia visits Egypt

Wendy Toulmin, Executive Officer LPA, had the great privilege recently of spending time with the remarkable team of men and women, training and being trained, at the Evangelical Theological Seminary of Cairo. During her visit she asked Dr Atef Gendy, Principal of the College, about the Church in Egypt.



"I believe the Egyptian Church is in a unique situation though not an easy one. Despite all the problems it encounters

- in being a minority church
- in existing in probably the most violent part of the world
- in being amongst a majority of Muslims (especially if you remember that whereas Mecca in Saudi Arabia is considered the 'heart' of Islam, **Egypt is called the 'mind' of Islam**



because of the Al-Azhar University, which is the main university responsible for graduating and equipping Islamic leaders for the whole world) ... despite all this, we are in a unique situation, as **we are blessed with many important opportunities.**

Egypt experiences a great degree of religious freedom compared to neighbouring countries such as the Gulf States or Northern Africa countries. There is, at least, the recognition of **a church that has been functioning since the first century.**



This recognition allows the minority Egyptian church to worship over the ground and to practice its mission and testimony to the whole region. This puts a responsibility on us for which we need Christians who are willing to get rid of their fear and the 'minority complex', the sense of being inferior, or weak or vulnerable. We need to remember more and more that we carry a message that the majority lacks and we have something that the whole world needs. Accordingly we don't have to look down on ourselves.



This is what we feel to be our responsibility as leaders of the church to equip leaders who not only have zeal for the message they carry but they have trust, pride, and a conviction that they have all the riches of the

Langham Scholars in Australia

Ma'afu Palu is now in the final stages of his PhD. Please pray for him as he completes his thesis and works through the necessary proofing and revisions with his supervisors. Remember also his wife Elizabeth and their two sons over this time. Ma'afu, together with Richard Chin (National Director of AFES) travelled to Port Moresby early October for a weekend PNG Graduates Conference. Ma'afu was encouraged to see student ministry taking place and especially to meet with faithful people working for the Gospel in the University and the Church.

Alfred Olwa is Dean of the Bishop Tucker School of Divinity and Theology at Uganda Christian University. He has just arrived to begin his PhD studies through Moore College on a scholarship provided jointly by the Archbishop of Sydney's Overseas Ministry Fund, CMS, Moore College and Langham Partnership.

Pictured at right Ma'afu (with Freddie) and Alfred together with Trevor Cork (Chair of LPA) and Wendy Toulmin (Executive Officer)



Publishing project in Cambodia

Langham Partnership Australia has recently been able to offer financial support for the publishing of 6 book titles over the next 2 years in Khmer for the Church in Cambodia. These photos show you the team of the Fount of Wisdom Publishing House in Phnom Penh and some of their publications to date. This has only been possible through the generous support of Pilgrim International. Thank you Pilgrim.



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Gospel which the whole world needs and this particular part of the world needs much more than others.'

WT: 'And how can Langham support you in this task?'

'Your support of us is to continue your prayer and what you are doing as the Langham Partnership –

- Supporting and equipping leaders for the church in the majority world like what you did with me and other scholars in my region. This reflects a wonderful message that God has witnesses everywhere in the world not just in the west or the north.
- By continuing your support to our libraries by good theological literature, and encouraging nationals theologians to write in their own languages, reflecting on their own situations instead of depending totally on translations that might be suitable to certain contexts.
- Expanding your expository preaching to equip the new believers so the Church will not spread too thin since there is a curtail need for the church to mature and go deeper in its relationship with God.

I hope to see these three areas working together in harmony. I also hope to see scholarships offered to prepare world class scholars in preaching so that in the near future we may have expository preaching taught appropriately as a main subject in most of our seminaries and bible colleges.'



Have you thought of holding a prayer meeting in your area?

Langham Partnership greatly appreciates the people who stand with us and support this work through prayer. If you would like to hold a prayer meeting in your area for the work of Langham Partnership and be a part of this valuable support network, please contact Wendy Toulmin on 0416 126 368 or via email wendy.toulmin@langhampartnership.org.au or drop a note via PO Box 530 Springwood, NSW 2777.

Please join us in prayer ...

- Praising God for his faithful people in many difficult areas of the world.
- Thanking him for partner organizations like Koorong and Pilgrim International coming alongside financially in support of the ABC and Khmer projects.
- Please pray for our Langham Scholars around the world. There are 102 at present pursuing their PhDs supported by LPI. Many are far from family and friends and find it very difficult.
- Pray also for Langham International staff – Chris Wright, Jonathan Lamb (Preaching), Pieter Kwant (Literature) and Steve Hardy (Scholars); for godly wisdom and grace in their very demanding lives.

Thank you ...

for your gifts in 2008. Those gifts enabled LPA amongst other things –

- To launch the Pacific Preaching seminars;
- to support the Bislama Bible Commentary in Vanuatu, and the Khmer publishing project in Cambodia;
- and to financially support fine men and women pursuing PhD studies like Ma'afu and Alfred.

Please give ...

to this very strategic ministry.

Online donation facilities are available on the website.

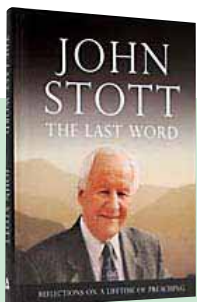
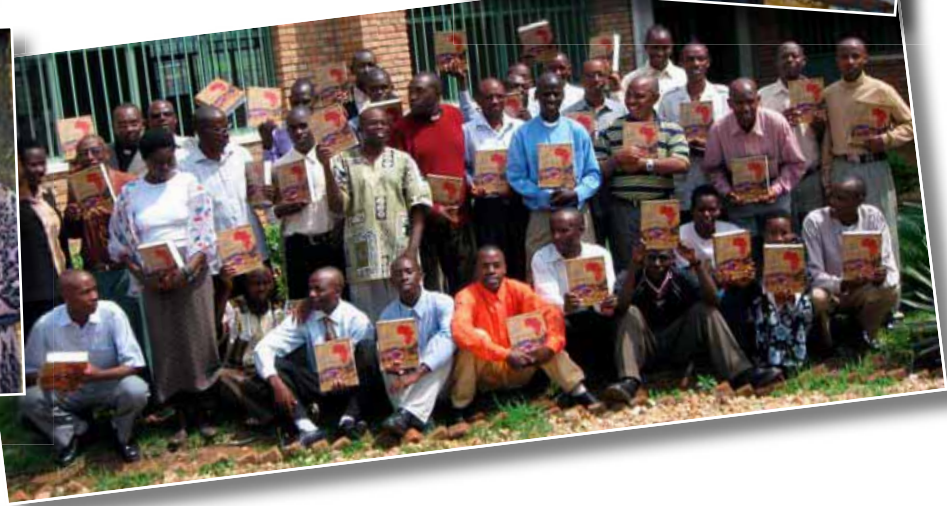
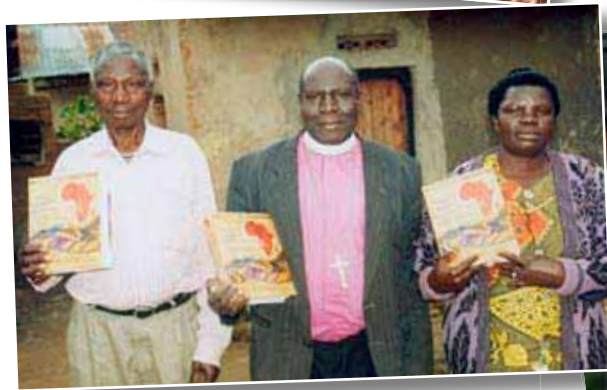
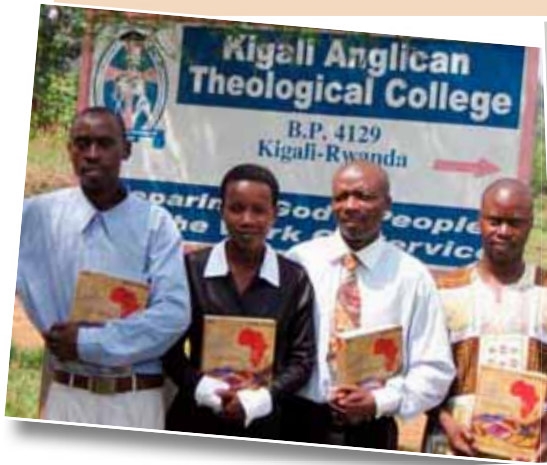
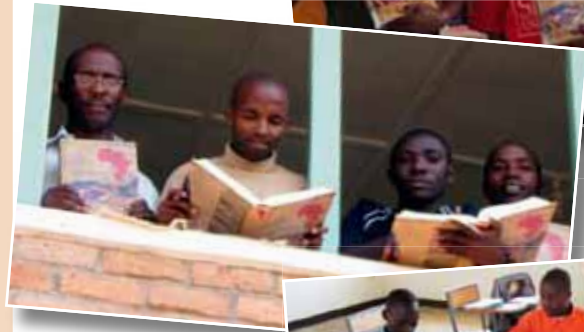


Thank You

Langham Partnership would like to express its appreciation and gratitude to all those who have given towards our Africa Bible Commentary campaign. The people who are receiving this valuable tool are so grateful and it is making a huge difference in their study and preparation for the vital tasks of preaching and teaching. We can praise God for the great result from LPA's partnership with Koorong Books during their May Mission Month. The \$74,000 raised is funding over 2,400 Africa Bible Commentaries in English (11 countries) and French (17 countries) being given to African pastors and church leaders. In Africa, English is the official language across 21 countries with a population of 392 million people, while French is the official language in 31 countries with a population of 242 million people (source Wikipedia).

I thought you would like to see some of the wonderful photos we have been receiving with notes of thanks from Malawi, Uganda, Rwanda, Swaziland, Burundi, Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia and Namibia.

Wendy Toulmin LPA



Two new books by John Stott

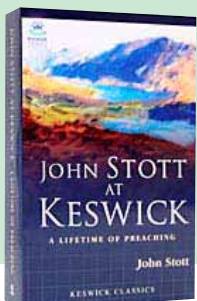
The Last Word: Reflections on a Lifetime of Teaching by John Stott

The last public speaking engagement of one of the world's most respected preachers

John Stott at Keswick: A Lifetime of Teaching by John Stott

A collection of John Stott's teaching over the last 40 years at Keswick Convention UK.

Both these titles will be available early 2009 from Koorong.



Langham Partnership Australia a member of Langham Partnership International

Pioneered by John Stott and now led by Christopher Wright, Langham Partnership has been Resourcing the Majority World Church for Growth in Biblical Maturity for over 35 years through its 3 strategies:

- **Preaching** - Growing a new generation of preachers and teachers
- **Literature** - Multiplying indigenous evangelical literature, writers and publishers
- **Scholars** - Developing Strategic Christian Leaders Worldwide

Our vision is to see Majority World churches being equipped for mission and growing to maturity through the ministry of Christian leaders and pastors who sincerely believe, diligently study, faithfully expound and relevantly apply the Word of God.

Response Form

Yes I would like to stand with you

I want to —

- Give something regularly — monthly / quarterly / annually (circle whichever applies).

Please complete the donation amount and the payment authority sections below.

- Give a one off gift of \$
- Please make cheques payable to Langham Partnership (Aust) or complete card details below.*

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Date

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You may wish to arrange with your Bank to set up Periodical Payments from your account directly to the Langham Partnership Bank account or to transfer monies directly via Internet banking. The details you will need are:

Account Name Langham Partnership (Aust)
Bank and Branch Westpac, Springwood NSW
BSB 032-837 Account Number 14-4002

[See Website for Online Donations](#)

Langham Partnership Australia
PO Box 530 Springwood NSW 2777