From the Director

Dear Partners,

Together we have blessed thousands of lives as you partnered with us to share the gospel and relieve suffering.

In Cambodia:
Since 2003 more than 75 churches have been planted according to a recent count taken by missionaries there.

1500 life-saving vests were given to school children in Kampong Khleang.

The Water Purification Raft celebrated a year of providing pure water to a town of 12,000 and a church was planted there.

26% of the 406 children in the Back To School Program finished in the top 10% of their classes as we began our 8th year of sending kids back to school.

The Ship of Life treated more than 32,000 patients with everything from common colds to alligator bites.

In Burma (Myanmar):
The ten churches planted in the Delta region since 2009 continue to grow and the eleventh was added this year.
Two training seminars for church leaders had more than 100 in attendance and Yangon City retreat is planned for December.

In Madagascar:
Responding to a request from World Christian Broadcasting, fifty-two workers from eight nations were brought together to run two short-term clinics that were well received by the church, the people and the government, who had been holding up the operation of the new radio station there.

Without you this would not have been possible.

William E. “Bill” & Marie-Claire McDonough

On the Tonle Sap Lake in northern Cambodia more than 10,000 children are traveling to school by canoe each day. Each year many of these little canoes are capsized and children drown. Parents often do not allow their kids to go to school because of the danger and so they don’t get to start until they are 10 or 12 years old, which sets them back for life. Many don’t get to go to school at all because of parental concern. With family earnings of $100 per year, they cannot afford even a $5 life vest.

$5 Saves A Drowning Child

We gave the 1500 school children in the village of Kampong Khleang life vests and the mayor said in a newspaper interview, “This is the most helpful thing that has ever been done for us because now our children can get an education and the whole potential of our village has been changed.”

How many lives will you help us save for $5?

Visit our website www.partnersinprogress.org for regular updates.
Making a Family Vacation Count

Philippe and Evelyne Pahud of Geneva, Switzerland, decided to make their family vacation count for the Lord this year and brought their three adult children to work on the Ship of Life in Cambodia. Philippe has been involved in short term medical missions for more than 20 years, but wanted his wife and children to have the joy of helping “those who need it most.”

Dr. Justus of Searcy, Arkansas, has long made medical missions a priority in his life and has served with Partners in Progress and others since the 1980s in the Caribbean, Africa and Asia, taking his wife and children whenever they were available for a family experience of serving others.

Drs. Karsten & Kirsten Jablonka of Bremen, Germany, joined the Madagascar team in March on their family vacation. Kirsten had not practiced in some time, but refreshed her skills and came with her husband, who heads up the pediatric department in a large hospital in Bremen, to serve those who have no doctor.

Dr. Rick Northen, who with his wife Gail lived onboard and managed the Ship five years, recruited his brother Gary, also a dentist, to bring his wife and a team to work among the village people the ship serves. They were a wonderful example of families working together to help the less fortunate.
El Dorado, Arkansas Ladies Sewing and Sending!

Touched by the reports of poverty and children without decent clothes to wear, the ladies in south Arkansas are “Sewing and Sending” little pillowcase dresses around the world. To date they have made and sent 2,011 dress packages that include not only a beautiful dress, but a little necklace in a lovely package that any little girl would be delighted to have.

Working through churches and missionaries, they have sent their packages to 12 foreign countries in Africa, Central America and now Asia as well as to four cities in the USA that have suffered natural disasters.

They contacted us to ask if we could use some of their beautiful dresses and when we told them of the poverty on the Tonle Sap Lake, they responded immediately with 151 packages that will thrill the hearts of little girls and their mothers who have never had a pretty dress in their life before.

This is just another way people are finding to help in church planting in Cambodia as these items will open doors to Bible study and soften hearts to the gospel.

In Cambodia: 75 churches have been planted since 2003, but the northern part of the country has hardly been touched through our evangelistic efforts. The city of Siem Reap is the fastest growing in the country and plays host to 5 million tourists each year providing unprecedented job opportunities.

English Bible Study Teachers: You are needed to help teach university students English Bible studies. Join us for a month, February 13 through March 13, and help make an eternal difference for many.

Medical Clinicians: Come help us conduct a short-term clinic on the Water Purification/Church Building Raft March 16–22.

MADAGASCAR: World Christian Broadcasting, who requested we bring a medical team to the site of their new short wave radio station, is now asking us to bring a second team. The radio station will enable WCB to preach the Word to 1/3 of the world’s population.

WCB reports that the government’s attitude is changing in a very positive way and they are optimistic the station will soon be allowed to open. As the result of a military coup, operations were brought to a standstill. In spite of the delay, they believe humanitarian aid is changing attitudes while relieving suffering.

Medical Clinicians are asked to join us the second week in October to impact Madagascar.
A Quarter of our Back to School Kids Score in the Top 10% of their Classes

The five year old son of our accountant in Cambodia helped his mother and the PIP staff pack cooking oil and rice for the Back to School rewards and was so committed he said, “Mama, we can’t go home until this work is done.” He is just one of several people that work to make this program a tremendous success that other organizations are now copying to put kids back in school who have been pulled out by the parents and sent to work.

Now in our 8th year, the Back to School Program has sent an average of 450 children to school that could not be in school without your support and partnership. This year 26% of that group scored in the top 10% of their classes. Three are now attending university and the teens are becoming Christians.

Teaching responsibility, we have encouraged the older students to become volunteer monitors of our Book Clubs and Lending Libraries in 12 villages. They check the books out and in, repair damaged books, insure that they are kept clean (which is a major problem in remote villages) and encourage the children to keep reading.

With a national non-literacy rate at more than 50%, the Back to School program is having a tremendous long-term effect on the future of many villages.

Without your partnership this could not have happened. Only $25 puts a child back in school.