



September 2006

*“Mobilizing Families  
For God’s Kingdom Worldwide”*



Dear Friends in Christ,

We recently met with our Ministry Advisory Team to talk and pray about our goals for our new ministry. In short, we are seeking to take our 23 years of ministry experience with Campus Crusade for Christ in missions, evangelism, and discipleship and change our ‘target audience’ to families.

Every family has 3 missions fields: 1. Under their own roof. 2. Where they already live. 3. Wherever in the world the Lord would take them. Our new ministry is helping families, especially fathers, to take the next appropriate step for them to have greater involvement in the Great Commission as a family, beginning under their own roof.

Below are 3 bullet point highlights from each of the 5 areas of our ministry goals. BTW, the M.E.D.I.C. acronym stands for . . . Mission, Evangelism, Discipleship, Instruction and Christian heritage.

**Great Commission Families - Ministry Goals: M.E.D.I.C.**

**FAMILY MISSIONS** - *Mobilize Families for God’s Kingdom*

- Recruit family teams for short term family-friendly missions trips to Spain, Russia, Guatemala, Japan, India, China, Korea, Portugal, Germany, etc. using our many international connections developed over the years.
- Create a matching fund to help families go on these family-friendly missions trips as a family.
- Work closely with a like-minded new ministry, “Family Mission International” (whose motto is “Spreading Family Discipleship Worldwide”), by representing FMI when we speak at churches and homeschool conferences and also by coordinating FMI’s U.S. operations and communications, especially the recruiting and training of missionary families. Also develop a team of regional representatives for FMI and GCF.

**FAMILY EVANGELISM** - *Help Families Be Lights in a Lost World*

- Evangelism training for families in our home.
- Organize local outreaches to nursing homes, neighborhoods, parks, etc.
- Produce evangelistic tracts and articles for us and other families.

**FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP** - *Equip Parents to be Disciple Makers*

- Make available practical materials on family discipleship, personally and by hosting seminars in our home.
- Personal encouragement to roles in a godly family through personal discipleship groups that pattern the biblical model of older women teaching younger women ... and older men teaching younger men.
- Hospitality in our home, "**God's Peace**". The Lord has brought about 20 families through so far. We have found this to be an encouraging way to share our vision as we live it out as a family on a different path.

**FAMILY INSTRUCTION** - *Encourage Multigenerational Christianity*

- Share the vision of family missions, evangelism and discipleship at church retreats and home school conferences.
- Speak in churches, perhaps accompanied by other families desiring to minister together in music and testimony.
- Write articles and booklets to share our family journey (i.e. ministering together as a family, courtship, etc.).

**FAMILY CHRISTIAN HERITAGE** - *Share Our Regional Spiritual Heritage*

- Family tours of Gettysburg, C&O Canal, Harpers Ferry, Antietam, DC, Annapolis, Williamsburg, etc.
- Encourage families to discover their own spiritual heritage.
- Speaking topics, articles & booklets to be developed emphasizing our Christian heritage and spiritual applications.

**OTHER / ADMINISTRATION**

- Develop full missionary support through people and churches on our Prayer Letter list. Expand as needed.
- We’re also hoping to raise funds to enable our web guys (Josh & Aaron) to work beside us & help other ministries.
- Our web site in particular could eventually include:

**Bernie & Linda Beall ~ 35 Jeffrey Lane, Brunswick, MD 21758 ~ 301-834-7448**  
**Bernie@BeallFamily.org ~ Linda@BeallFamily.org**  
**Great Commission Families is a ministry program of Faith in the Family International**

1. Online registration for various events, trips and activities.
2. An article archive, Prayer Letter archive, and video recorded talks.
3. For GCF mission trips, we envision a place to download info and apply online.
4. A small store to sell materials we produce and selected materials we recommend when speaking.
5. Our itinerary and links to other ministries. Web planning and development is well under way with our sons!

Meanwhile, we thought you would be blessed to ‘meet’ our Ministry Advisory Team: 3 men and their families who give us counsel, encouragement and the blessing of their ministry experience as we develop Great Commission Families.

**Pastor Gary Cox** and his family have 28 years experience working in ministry with families. Gary graduated from Washington Bible College in 1977. With 10 children, including 2 married sons with a total of 8 grandchildren, one engaged daughter, and 6 other children and young adults under their roof, they bring much wisdom to our advisory team. They work together as a team, a large portion of the children working with their parents to help run the ministry and school ([www.WCFS.edu](http://www.WCFS.edu)). Even Pastor Gary's parents-in-law help in the ministry in various ways. In addition to raising up a Godly heritage stretching into a third, even fourth, generation, they have worked as an advocate for families successfully in Maryland government, starting Maryland's first private umbrella school which has graduated scores of young adults into their life purpose, they went as a family to do mission work in Guatemala last year, they have helped many young adults understand how to work with their parents instead of against them in seeking their life purpose, recently launched a satellite umbrella school in Korea, and the list goes on. We are blessed to sit under Pastor Gary's deep and profound teaching every Sunday, where he mines the riches of truth from the Word of God.



**Dr. David Parrish** graduated from Washington Bible College (also in 1977), Capital Bible Seminary and Dallas Theological Seminary (D.Min 1999). While at WBC, Dave met Joreen Bross from Lebanon, Pennsylvania, and they married in 1979. Dave and Joreen served as missionaries in Portugal from 1986 to 1995. They currently live with their 7 children in Greene County, Virginia and are a wonderful example of a family functioning together as God's first unit of ministry. As part of his current ministry ([www.InRich.org](http://www.InRich.org)), Dave and two of his children recently returned to Portugal to conduct Bible seminars on marriage and the family. Many were blessed as this is a huge need in the post-Christian culture of Portugal. Dave and his sons run a family painting business to help support his teaching and writing ministry. And his oldest son is following in his footsteps with the publishing of a newsletter called *The Point*. Their oldest daughter, in addition to helping on the homefront, is a model of industry as well, running a small dried flower and wreath business, and tutoring students in piano, guitar, voice, writing, and other areas she has experience in.

**Mr. Tol Butler** and his family have been a wonderful example to us of a family seeking to minister together. Tol and his wife Linda and 5 of their children spent 2002-2003 ministering together among orphans in Russia. After returning to Union Bridge, Maryland, they continue to minister on a regular basis among Ukrainian immigrants and in numerous other settings, doing evangelism and outreach many weekends through handing out literature, preaching and singing. They have gifts in exhortation and counseling, and are raising a beautiful legacy of children with hearts for God, family and ministry, who are industrious, serving in many capacities. We greatly value the encouragement and exhortation they bring to our advisory team.



Thank **YOU** for ministering along side of us, as well, with your prayers and faithful support. We are so grateful!!!  
God's great blessings to you,

In Christ,

*Bernie & Linda*

*"I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always offering prayer with joy in my every prayer for you all, in view of your participation in the gospel from the first day until now." ~ Philippians 1:3-5*



Prayer Requests - Fall 2006

1. Please pray for travel & logistical arrangements for three upcoming conferences. Bernie is scheduled to share the vision for family ministry, including family discipleship and family missions, at two of them.

Sept. 27-30 - HSLDA Nat'l Conf.,

Nashville, TN

Oct. 5-7 - Uniting Church & Family.

St. Louis, MO

Oct. 9-14 - Counseling Conference,

Indianapolis, IN

2. Pray that these conferences prove fruitful in setting up other speaking opportunities for the coming year.

3. Pray for C&O Canal 15-mile Bike Hike with historical spiritual lessons and outreach opportunities on 10/21.

4. Pray for the Timothy Pent Family <[www.PentFamily.com](http://www.PentFamily.com)> who we have been helping prepare for a year in South Korea with Family Mission International beginning Sept. 21.

5. Pray for evangelistic outreach in our new housing development (a former dairy farm :-)) and families