EVANGELIST SUPPORT ANNUAL REPORT 2011

“... do you love me?... Lord you know everything; you know that I love you. ...Take care of my sheep.”

(Written by Hanitra Randrianantenaina, who together with her husband, Dr. Elson, manage FOMM’s work with the Evangelist Support Program.)

1- Introduction

As the Lord said “…If you give even a cup of cold water to one of the least of my followers, you will surely be rewarded.” Friends of Madagascar Mission (FOMM) is not only interested in providing food for the patients in the hospital and handicapped children, but they are also concerned with sharing the Good News of the Gospel in places where Jesus is not known.

2- Reaching out with the Gospel through support of evangelists

FOMM Evangelist #1

FOMM’s support began with Evangelist Razafimandimby Mampiadana Todisoa on February 1, 2011 as he began serving at Behomby. He and his family are supported by Singsaas Lutheran Church, Hendricks, Minnesota.
The goal of the Malagasy Lutheran church is to preach the gospel and expand the Kingdom of God all across Madagascar. The resources of the Church are limited even to provide the $600 a year salary for the evangelists. This is an exciting opportunity for USA congregations, through FOMM to support a “missionary”.

Only one month after providing support of an evangelist, they began on March 1, 2011 supporting a second evangelist. His name is Tolisoa and he serves at Esatra. He and his family are supported by Singsaas Lutheran Church, Hendricks, Minnesota.

FOMM Evangelist #2

FOMM Evangelist #3

By God’s grace, on the first of May, 2011; evangelist Elongondrae Jean was installed at Sakoantovo. He and his family are supported by Faith Lutheran Church, Monona, Iowa.
FOMM Evangelist #4

We believe that God will provide for our needs. God’s faithfulness was evident when on July 1, 2011, the forth Evangelist Lahimahery Roger was installed at Betaratse. He and his family are supported by Hosanna Lutheran Church, Watertown, South Dakota.

FOMM Evangelist #5

The Bible says, “You are to be my witnesses…” We thank God that FOMM continues to expand their support of evangelists. At the end of the year we were informed that there are two congregations who have submitted support for 2 additional evangelists. They will start their work on January 1, 2012.

Randriantenaina Leon will serve at Ranohandatse Gogogogo. He and his family are supported by Trinity Lutheran Church, Carrington, North Dakota.
FOMM Evangelist #6

Lambo Tsimaniva Marcel will serve at Anivorano Fotadrevo. He and his family are supported by St. Mark Lutheran Church, Lindenhurst, Illinois.

The 6 FOMM Evangelists

All 6 of these evangelists graduated from the Manasoa Bible school. They meet together several times a year to support one another and discuss their local situations. Serving in villages where the Gospel has not been proclaimed before is difficult work and support is very important. These evangelists are convinced that God is working through their ministries so that people will hear the Word, believe, and that everything will be done according to His glorious plan. To God alone be the glory!

From left to right: Todisoa, Loen, Lahimahery, Elongondray, Lambo and Tolisoa.
3- Conclusion

As the Bible says, “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” (Matthew 28:19-20)

We thank FOMM for providing funds for these six evangelists. This mission of sending out evangelists has a significant effect that will bear fruit for people’s salvation. People’s lives are changed forever and they are transformed from living in the dark, into the Light of Jesus Christ.

We pray that, whatever may happen in our lives and in our death, we may bring glory to Him through our faithfulness in telling the story of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Praise alone be to His wonderful Name!
I. Introduction

Southern Madagascar frequently experiences famine. As a result many are only able to eat once a day. The families of patients in the hospital are responsible to feed them. If the family does not have an adequate food supply, then their hospitalized family member also goes without food. This situation is detrimental to the health and healing of the patient. Unfortunately, this scenario happens very often at Ejeda Hospital. We are blessed to have Friends of Madagascar Mission providing funds for giving food to the hospital patients and also to the TB patients we treat at the hospital.

II. Feeding program activities

Feeding the patients whose families do not have adequate food helps them get well. Most of the patients are destitute and live long distances from the hospital. This Nutrition Project has given significant help to the needy. We give rice and meat when possible. When the price of meat gets too expensive, we substitute Voagnemba instead of meat. Each patient receives four cups of rice and two cups of Voagnemba every two days. (Voagnemba is a dried bean high in protein)

Lightfoot and Radony are distributing food to the patients.

The process used to distribute the food.

1. First, we put the rice and the voagnemba inside of plastic bags.
2- Secondly, we bring them to the Ejeda Hospital.

3- And then we give the food to the patient’s families.

For the Tuberculosis patients, we distribute the food early, every Saturday morning. They receive fourteen cups of rice and four cups of voagnemba weekly.
4. We also give food for two handicapped children who receive the same quantity of food that the TB patient receive.

This Christmas season, I (Hanitra) gave them a toy, to make them happy.

Zanarivelo (small girl) and I (Hanitra)  
She is happy receiving the doll

Evoeaze (armless and legless boy) with his toy (small truck)

We thank you for your loving kindness and prayers

We wish you a merry Christmas and A Happy New Year!!!
I - Evangelize

We evangelize in 5 prisons each week. The prisons are for men, women and youth. Some of them are maximum security prisons. We have four pastors, four catechists and forty Shepherds (lay ministers) who participate in these services. The pastors lead the worship services with Holy Communion, perform the baptisms and conduct the services of confirmation for the inmates.

The catechists teach a class for five months to the prisoners who want to become Christian. We experience the desire of the prisoners to accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior and see a change in their life. We teach the bible clearly and truthfully. This year we have seen the number of prisoners who wish to become Christians increase in number. This year the number becoming Christian has almost doubled. For example, in one week we confirmed and baptized 36 prisoners. After they are confirmed we give them their own Bible.

Thanks be to God!

II - Sharing Bibles

The prisoners want to read the bible. We share 40 Bibles for individual prisoners and 40 Bibles for the Chapels in each prison. These amounts of Bibles are not sufficient because most of the prisoners want their own Bible. Unfortunately we cannot give a Bible to everyone, because we do not have adequate resources to provide Bibles for each person.

III - Social worker

Because of the political crisis in Madagascar, the number of the prisoners rises each year. Everywhere there is unemployment and malnutrition. The families in Madagascar are responsible to provide the prisoners with food. If the families do not have enough food for themselves, they are not able to bring food to family members who are in prison. So there is a hunger crisis in the prisons. We reach out to the prisoners who are without food and share rice and cereal in our weekly visits to the prison.

IV - Health Services

We have a doctor in the Shepherd Ministry who visits the prisons with us. The prisoners become ill because of the poor conditions in the prisons. The prison itself is in poor repair, they suffer from a
lack of food, and the medical conditions are poor. When prisoners need an operation we attempt to help as much as we are able. Most of the prisoner’s families do not have the resources to pay for these costs. Once a month, at each prison, we bring medications to the infirmary for the prisoners.

V-In Conclusion: THANKS!

We do all that we are able to do for the prisoners. We wish to thank Friends of Madagascar Mission for your financial support. Without you and your donors we would not be able to provide the Christian witness in Christ’s Name and the humanitarian work in these prisons. Your continued prayers and support are greatly appreciated. God bless you!

Figure 1: Pictured above are several of the men who have been confirmed through the prison ministry.
Figure 2: Each week the Prison Ministry team brings food to share with the prisoners whose families are unable to bring food.

Figure 3: A close up view of the bowls of food show what they eat: rice, grain, and a small piece of meat.
Figure 4: The Shepherds distribute Bibles to the prisoners after they are confirmed.

Figure 5: At a men's prison, they gather for a worship service.