

Whirlwind Missions

Outreach Update

May 2008

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Hello, my friends!

I don't work in a safe place. That's why they call it "missions." If it was easy everyone would do it!

Some of my best partners are police officers. One new friend is Officer Ayala. I knew there was something different about him from our first meeting. He has a radiant smile and a sparkle in his eye that made me know he was a believer. The first time we met was at a Spanish Pastor's meeting. As he introduced himself to the pastors he said, "We need the church to help us. The residents in these communities need Jesus—HE is the answer to the problems we face!" My eyebrows went up with that statement! I don't hear cops talk like that!

Our first official partnership is at Wynscape apartments. I work in rough areas and this complex is no exception. In the last two months they have had three homicides. Normally, I look for the worst areas to start work. When the complex is THAT bad, they are more than willing to partner with churches! Ashley and I met Officer Ayala at the complex and we set up two computers for the kids there. We looked on the white board. Ayala had been teaching a course to stay away from gangs. "The first thing you need DIOS!" was written on the board. God is indeed the answer!

The next day Officer Ayala and I went to look at the property. "They have a large playground, but it's in terrible shape." We climbed through chest high brush and weeds that reminded me of Africa. "Terrible is putting it mildly," I mentioned quietly. We broke through a final clump of trees to reveal an overgrown area that used to be a basketball court. Gang graffiti, MS13 and XV3 covered the walls. The place smelled of urine and discarded beer bottles. "This could be a nice place for the families," he said cheerily. We walked around the area and spotted a man drinking a quart of Budweiser leaning against the wall. I went up to talk to him, Ayala grabbed my forearm with an iron grip. He went up to the man and frisked him for weapons. "You have to be careful, Tim." I nodded in agreement.

The next week I had a terrific team from Agricola Baptist Church, MS come to clean up the area. Armed with chainsaws, weed whackers, rakes and trash bags they transformed that jungle into a family park! The Police department and manager of the property was astonished by the transformation! Now we have a safe spot where we can share Jesus with the resident families.

This is one small example of the partnerships that make Whirlwind Missions work. Churches together with the police, managers, ministries and residents working together to improve our communities one apartment complex at a time. Please pray that our ministry in this area will flourish and that many families will come to know Christ and get involved in local churches!





Take the Church, To the People!



Please support our ministry!
Make checks to the **North American Mission Board** designated to
Tim A. Cummins #5993 **Ashley Cummins #9064**



Whirlwind Missions

Ashley's Dispatch May 2008

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I did it backwards from most people. I got my dream job, being a missionary, then I applied for school—Georgia State University!

I remember a few weeks ago sitting at Pho Truc eating Vietnamese eggrolls when my Aunt Catherine Palmer asked me, “Well Ashley, what are you going to do now that your year off from school is almost up?”



“Uhh,” I stammered. “I *meant* the WHOLE annual year.”

“Oh,” she nodded her head. That seemed like a good enough answer for her. The more I thought about it though it wasn't good enough for me. The idea of being a student appealed to me. I have so enjoyed this year of working at the mission full time. I've not only learned a lot from the prestigious “University of Tim,” I was also appointed by the North American Mission Board! Isn't the university campus another mission field? Absolutely!



You may ask yourself, “Well, what's our youngest North American Mission Board Missionary going to study?” I've decided to focus on Journalism and Broadcast Media. These subjects will better equip me to share the lives of the people that I work with. The more people know about our ministry the more effective their prayers will be!



Last week I applied to school. Georgia State University is located in the heart of Atlanta in the shadow of the Capital building. I'll be taking the Marta train from the Kensington Station stop right across the street from my mission! I'll get on the train in the morning, go to school, then in the afternoon I'll ride back just in time to meet the mission kids at the bus!



Please pray for me as I face the challenges ahead. I know that God will use my college experience to help me grow in many ways. Pray that I will be able to share the love of Christ with many of my schoolmates. Pray that some of them will come and help me at our mission!

Ashley

