



Doing Good That Is Good™

The newsletter of FARMS International Formerly AGRICULTURAL EVANGELISM

A Time to Look Ahead - Nepal Update - February 2008

Providing revolving entrepreneurial loans to poor Christian families – Galatians 6:10

A Time to Look Ahead!

FARMS looks forward with faith in our Lord Jesus to the challenges that lay ahead in 2008.

1 Thessalonians 5:16- encourages us with these words,

"Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." There is no greater joy for us than to help God's children.

We have many opportunities at home and abroad that require guidance only God can provide. We appreciate all your prayers and your support of FARMS.

In this New Year we encourage our many supporters who send in their prayer requests regarding family issues, physical struggles, and spiritual needs to continue to do so. We provide a confidential prayer list to our Board of Trustees and Staff. All of us count it a real blessing to be included in bringing your needs before God. We know that when two or more agree in prayer, God will answer.

So, pray with us for these needs in this New Year.

Pray for our all volunteer committees around the world as they work with local Christians to strengthen families by breaking the bonds of poverty through our unique micro-credit program.

Pray that the churches benefiting from the FARMS programs will have an effective impact as they reach out to others with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

The Moldova program needs prayer as the regulations and red tape continue to make expansion and program operations difficult.

The Bangladesh cyclone aftermath: prayer for guidance as assessments and implementation strategies begin to restore Christians in this hard hit area. Our friend, Dr. Goddard is visiting there as we write.

We have many new program possibilities in Asia, South America and Africa; some are in "closed" countries. Pray for open doors.

Opportunities for FARMS to expand our reach through partnerships with individuals, "like-minded" churches, mission agencies, and missionaries.

Continued opportunities to share the vision of FARMS over the radio, internet, publications, and churches.

We appreciate all that you continue to do in helping us accomplish the many opportunities that will present themselves in 2008! God always surprises us.

Blessings in Jesus,

Nathan McLaughlin
FARMS International

Nepal Program Continues to Show Great Progress!!

WE ARE EXCITED TO UPDATE YOU on some great reports that have recently come in from our program in Nepal. This particular program is a partnership between FARMS and the Evangelical Friends Mission.

Areas within this country have witnessed a lot of turmoil over the past years. It has had some impact on other programs being able to reach their full potential. Yet, the program highlighted in this edition has been able to continue working with believers, and is showing some tremendous results given the difficult political and economic situations that exist.

The amazing testimony about every FARMS pro-

gram is the tremendous dedication that is shown by the leadership to implement a program in what many would call impossible situations. The churches continue to reach out to the lost, and the FARMS program has been a great tool to help build families and churches.

Many FARMS loans are given for non-agricultural

(Continued on next page)



FARMS International, Inc. • P.O. Box 270 • Knife River, MN 55609 • (218) 834-2676 • 1-888-99FARMS
E-mail: info@farmsinternational.com • Website: www.farmsinternational.com

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(Nepal Program, continued from page 1)

projects. Some of those in Nepal are tailoring, rickshaw, cosmetic sales, grocery, construction, taxi service, telephone, and clothing sales. The entrepreneurial vigor is always a joy to see. We give the committees full liberty and latitude in determining what types of projects fit the skills of the recipients.

One loan from FARMS-Friends Nepal funded a grocery shop. The committee reported:

“It is easier now for LT’s family of five to live day to day. Also, she is an active lay leader in local church in Kathmandu, and tithes regularly.”



LT outside her grocery store



Customers purchasing goods and providing a good income to LT's family

A second report states:

“BB took a loan three years back and began rearing goats. He owes FARMS nothing now and his project continues today. He is an active member of local



This goat FARMS project continues three years later.

Friends church in Nepal. He tithes regularly and maintains his family so that it is a testimony to others in his area.”

Another great testimony is:

“KD borrowed his loan from FARMS and began a tailoring project. It is the only means of income for his family of eight. He employs others in his village. He tithes regularly and serves God in church voluntarily.”



KD supports a family of eight and tithes to his church.



He provides jobs and income to others too.

FARMS’s loan philosophy is strikingly different from many other loan organizations. We provide the technical and financial support needed so our project holders will not need continuous loans and will become self-sufficient even from our program! This is, “Doing Good that is Good!”

Children Abuzz for FARMS

A WORKER BEE is just over a centimeter long and weighs only about sixty milligrams; nevertheless, she can fly with a load heavier than herself.¹ This is God's miracle; He defies physics and human explanation to demonstrate His wonders.

... And they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint. (Isaiah 40:31) In this new season of life, be encouraged by this verse.

Now let us look at what happened at Cornerstone Bible Church in Cedar Hills, Texas.

Last fall a group of about twenty children from Children's Mission Church gathered at the church. They were children from kindergarten to sixth grade. As usual, name tags adorned their chests, but this time it was not their name, but a Moldovan name!

When the children at Cornerstone heard about the FARMS's honey project in Moldova, they gathered to pray and seek God about how they could help.



They wanted to see what He had in store for their church. They discussed the customs, dress, food, climate, industry, language, and living standards of Moldovans. They even prepared "French" toast sticks made with real Moldovan honey. Y U M!

Last October, they did a skit at their church to stir up awareness and raise funds for the Moldovan FARMS projects. The kids gave up their sodas, movies, and candy treats. They even took on extra chores to make "honey" for the Kingdom of God, it looked sacrificial to some, but they found it a joy to be a bee for the poor.

—Emebet Davies



A Moldovan beehive



FARMS honey project in Moldova

¹ *The Honey Bee* by James L. Gould and Carol Grant Gould



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Edward J. Wiebe: 1916-2007

EDWARD J. WIEBE was born into a Kansas farming family and community.

At a young age he contracted polio. It took an extended period of time for him to recuperate from the disease, and it caused him to limp for the rest of his life. He worked on the family farm with his parents, four brothers, and four sisters. He often mentioned he was expected to do the same work as his siblings even with his walking limitations.

He went into ministry training in high school. He served in the Ozarks of Oklahoma as a schoolteacher, missionary, and pastor. After seminary he served a church in a farming community in Oklahoma. During those years I remember many former classmates and friends who came to visit and were missionaries in different parts of the world.



The visitors had a big influence in my interest and education in world missions. Prayers of my father always included missionaries by name both at church and at home. When I went to Bolivia to serve as a missionary it was no surprise to dad. When I told my parents I had met a girl from Illinois who was teaching missionary children and she was going to be my wife they were glad.

I know my parents gave to missions out of their meager income and taught their kids to tithe. They never complained of lack of resources for themselves, but knew God would supply.

A significant limp marred dad's physical walk; however, his spiritual walk was done as a race in which he did not falter. I know he won the race and attained his prize with "well done good and faithful servant".

—Gary Wiebe, Trustee

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A higher purpose.*

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