

W5 on Missions

Who? Darrell & Laura Lee Bustin

Darrell grew up in Moncton, NB, and Laura Lee grew up in Pugwash, NS. They met while attending Atlantic Baptist College (now Crandall University). After attending CBM's Conference on Overseas Ministries in January 2002, Darrell and Laura Lee felt that God was saying "now is the time" to move toward fulfilling the call to overseas ministry that both had felt since childhood. The Bustins have two children, Bronwyn (now studying in Canada) and Caleb.

When?

The Bustins were appointed as Global Field Staff by CBM in 2002 to teach at the Kalimantan Theological Seminary in Pontianak, Indonesia, where they helped to train and mentor future leaders for the local church. In 2012 the Bustins were reassigned to Rwanda.

Where? Rwanda

Rwanda is a nation in Africa diligently working to heal from a traumatic past. In 1994, approximately one million men, women and children were systematically killed in ethnic violence. The effects of the genocide continue to be felt at many levels today, particularly among the generation left orphaned and traumatized by the atrocities of the conflict. The nation has made remarkable progress towards good governance and helping the poor, but poverty remains one of the main issues affecting nearly half of the population. (www.cbmin.org)

What?

The Bustins moved to Rwanda in August 2012 to work with CBM's church partner, the Association of Baptist Churches of Rwanda (AEBR). Initially they were engaged in full time language study of Kinyarwanda as they settled into a new culture and surroundings. In 2014, the Bustins are continuing language study on a part time basis while beginning "hands on" ministry.

Laura Lee is responsible for overseeing the administrative details for the short-term mission teams that come to Rwanda. Darrell writes: "You can't imagine (or maybe you can) all the things that must be arranged before a team from Canada arrives. Much depends on good organization: effective ministry, safety, good cross-cultural experiences, meaningful relationships, and of course, the basics of food and lodging. The good news is that this is right up Laura Lee's alley with her organizational skills. The challenge is that there are many things to learn, especially given the fact that this is still a new country/culture for us. Thankfully André Sibomana (CBM National Field staff) has lots of experience and connections, and will be able to



L-R: Darrell, Caleb, Bronwyn, & Laura Lee Bustin

help her get up to speed over the course of this year." (Bustin' With News, March 2014)

Darrell's primary involvement is in pastoral training and church leadership development. He works both with pastors, as well as those studying to be pastors and church leaders. Darrell says: "My main focus for this year is to come alongside Pastor Nathan Ndyamiyemensi who is the head of the Evangelism Dept. of the Rwandan Baptists (AEBR). This department, which in Canada we might call the "Evangelism and Discipleship Dept.", is responsible for the spiritual oversight of the denomination: church planting, small groups, theological education, Sunday School, pastoral training, etc. I will also be involved to a limited degree in teaching and preaching this year. After all the time away from these types of ministries, it is thrilling for me to be "back in the saddle again." (Bustin' With News, March 2014)

The Bustins ask for continued prayer concerning Darrell's back issues. While there has been some improvement, it is important that progress continue, especially as there will be much travel during the Bustins' three month home assignment in Canada from May to July. The Bustins are excited about their home assignment and ask for prayer for all the details to come together, safety in all the travel, meaningful times together with many supporters, and times of refreshing with family and friends.

Darrell and Laura Lee are looking forward to the addition of Jonathan and Janice Mills to CBM's Team Rwanda. The Mills plan to arrive in Kigali in August and will be involved in literacy training and capacity building. Pray for the entire Rwandan team as they bond together in the Lord's service.

Why?

"Through the work of the local AEBR churches, vital programs exist to help communities move towards greater food security, peace, justice and reconciliation, and sustainable development. Leadership has always been a key component in bringing a hurting community together for effective dialogue and relevant programming. CBM invests in training leaders, leaders who ensure that beyond programs, relationships are built where the message of Christ's love, hope and peace is shared and practiced." (www.cbmin.org)

Lisa Lohnes

Corresponding Secretary for UBWMU/ABW