



Reformation Christian Ministries' *Fall & Winter 2014* *News and Prayer Letter*

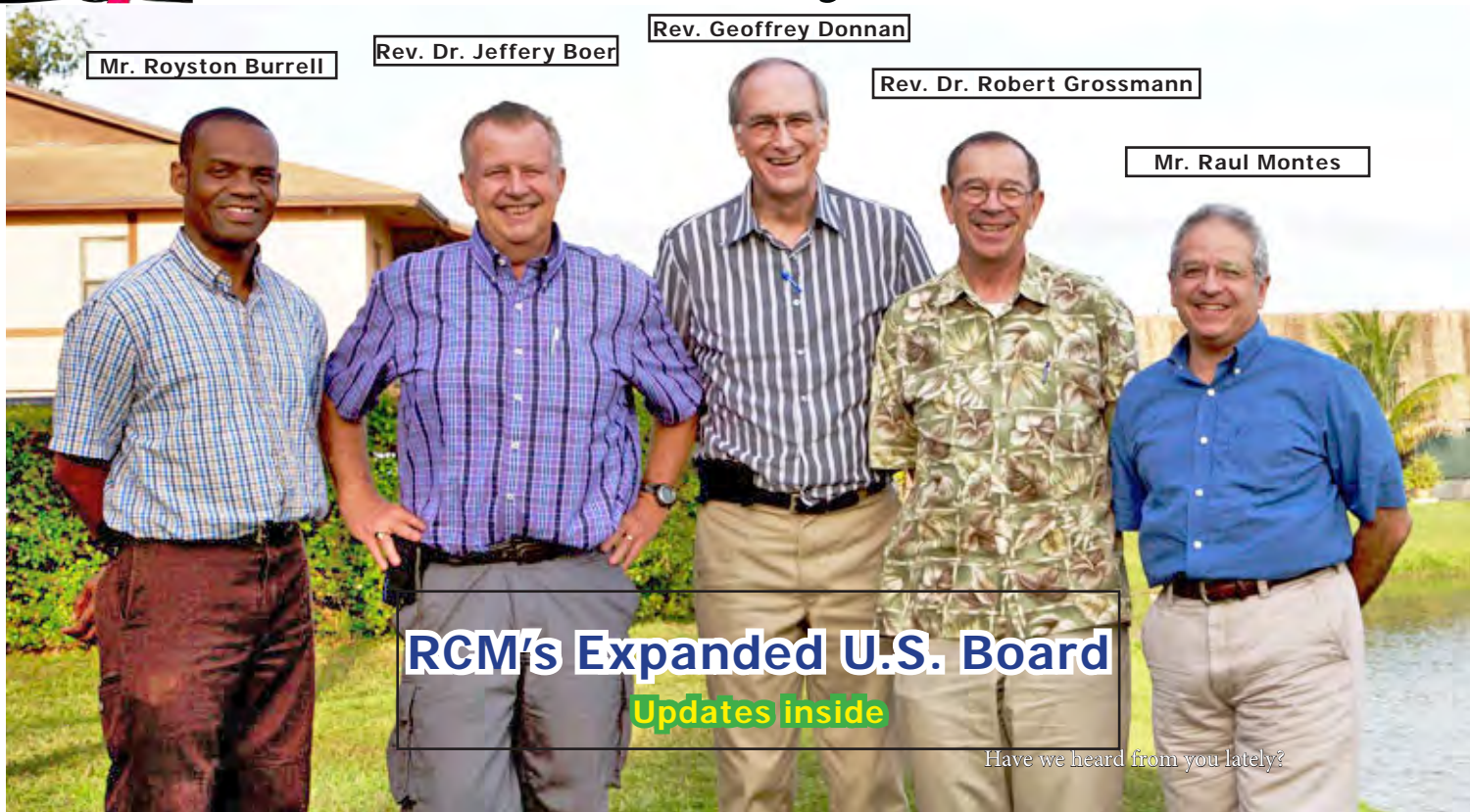
Mr. Royston Burrell

Rev. Dr. Jeffery Boer

Rev. Geoffrey Donnan

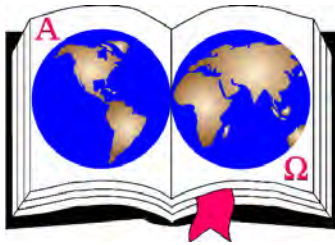
Rev. Dr. Robert Grossmann

Mr. Raul Montes



RCM's Expanded U.S. Board
Updates inside

Have we heard from you lately?



Reformation Christian Ministries

News & Prayer Letter

Winter 2014

*Jesus answered and said unto them, Verily I say unto you, If ye have faith, and doubt not, ye shall not only do this which is done to the fig tree, but also if ye shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; it shall be done. And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, **believing**, ye shall receive. (Matthew 21:21-22)*

The great power of prayer is faith. With it, we can do anything. Without it, we can do nothing. However, the faith spoken of here is not just will-power or anything imagined, to which the word "faith" is "annexed". Instead, it is the grace-empowered faith implanted in us by the Holy Spirit who is given to us as our Comforter at the time God sovereignly gives us our new birth enabling us to believe. When we rightly understand God's promises from Scripture and believingly pray them persistently (Acts 12:5, Rom. 1:9, 1Th 1:3, 2:13, 5:17; 2 Tim 1:3), God promises to hear and answer them (1John 5:14-15). Some things not found in God's word must be prayed in faith qualified by "if it is thy will" (Mat. 6:10), but we must be careful not to use this as a cop out for not first searching the Scripture for God's promises which He intends that we pray back to Him.

Reformation Christian Ministries (RCM) for over 36 years has relied upon the prayers of God's people and God's churches to carry out its work. That is no less the case now than before and it is truly a privilege to pray and work together with you.

By God's grace using your prayers, RCM has survived the economic changes of the last seven years and the health challenges of its director (now largely overcome). It is now leaner and even more focused on expanding its core ministries. This newsletter will update you.

We have long recognized that God works through His churches and His people. We do not take lightly that all we have accomplished and will yet accomplish are by His hand. But we also thank His work in you and your believing prayers both for us and those we are reaching with the Gospel through this ministry throughout the different nations of the world. Stand with us that we may continue.

Geoffrey Donnan

The RCM News & Prayer Letter is published almost monthly by
Reformation Christian Ministries

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The RCM News & Prayer Letter is available upon request without obligation
(an annual donation of \$20.00 is suggested to cover costs).

Reformation Christian Ministries, an international, educational missions ministry, is under the oversight of The King's Reformed Presbyterian Church and Sharon Orthodox Presbyterian Church. RCM is eligible to receive tax-exempt donations in both the United States and Canada and is underwritten by donations from individuals and other churches.

The Board of Directors for RCM in Canada is responsible for the affairs of RCM in Canada. RCM in the U.S.A. and Canada cooperate on like-minded projects. RCM cooperates by agreement with like-minded churches and denominations by assisting with mission work in specific fields and/or projects. Ecclesiastical authority for missionary ministers comes from their respective churches, not from RCM. Fields: Albania, Italy, Russia, U.K., Europe and Suriname. Director of Missions: G. W. Donnan, Minister

RCM's U.S. Board Expanded.

Part of RCM's expansion is our growing Board. We are privileged and blessed with two additional men bringing experience, expertise and counsel. (See full RCM Board at our April 2014 meeting in Miami on newsletter cover.)

The first is **Rev. Dr. Robert Grossman**. While retired from more than 30 years in the pastorate, he still serves in many capacities in the RCUS (Reformed Church of the United



States). He also served for many years as both a professor and later a board member at Mid America Reformed Seminary (MARS). He has worked closely with us for many years as a professor for many of our courses at our seminary — Reformation International

Theological Seminary (RITS). He brings to our board special expertise in theological education as well as exposure to missions and mission fields. He has promoted our Good News Bible Study (GNBS) while a professor at MARS and will assist us in reviewing those materials as well.

Next is **Mr. Roy Burrell**. He is a degreed programmer having worked in the business world for some years prior to becoming an entrepreneur running a Christian daycare school.

He became a deacon in our church and has provided his building for our church services. He has been using our GNBS program in the training of his teachers. He also was born and raised in Jamaica but educated in the U.S. He brings expertise in Christian schooling, curriculum and education as well as programming to help with our website and GNBS on-line programs.



RCM's Staff Expands

We also rejoice in introducing you to Pastor John Otis who has joined the RCM staff to assist in the outreach of the Good News Bible Study ministry. He is involved in course development, and will oversee course translation into other languages. As funding permits, his wife Christine would also like to lend her skills to course layout and programming administration. They are an answer to years of prayer.

Pastor Otis has been a church planter for many years with the Reformed Presbyterian Church of the U.S. (RPCUS). We



met him when he went to Nicaragua on a missions trip with RCM. We then became impressed with his strong commitment to the faith, solid training and his skills as a writer. When we became aware that he was searching for a call that would enable him to live in Georgia, we quickly approached him about our long-standing need in the GNBS ministry. After receiving approval from his overseeing presbytery, he accepted the call last Spring, and began his work after he returned to Georgia.

While doing church planting, Pastor Otis supported himself as a professional painter, a business also involving two of his sons. He continues in this capacity while seeking the support necessary to devote full-time to ministry with RCM.

Pastor Otis has already written the draft of our second Bible course taking the theme of Light in contrast to Darkness and showing how God's Light makes the Darkness of Sin go away. He is now working on our third course on the Authority of Scripture..

The name for the project supporting the work of Pastor John Otis is **Project PETER**: "Proclaiming", "Evangelizing", "Training", "Educating" and "Reforming". This is the intended work of the Good News Bible Study Ministries division of RCM.

Project PETER Budget Needs

The current budget objective for Project Peter and the work of John Otis is \$60,000 annually. This will enable him to devote full time to this work and turn over his house painting business to his sons. He currently has about \$7,500 pledged. If you would like to donate to Project Peter, please use the coupon on page 3.

Our Newsletter Frequency

Due to limited office staff, we are going to change our newsletter approach. Once or twice a year we will put out our standard newsletter (like this one) in both printed and electronic form. However, we will then try to put out simple monthly prayer updates with occasional special letters by email to everyone, but also in printed versions to our regular financial supporters. Anyone else who will commit to pray for us regularly will also receive these, but they will be by request only. See our coupon on p. 3 to make request.

Update on GNBS Website

We have really had some issues trying to resolve our programming needs using volunteers, so our board in Canada particularly has mandated us to use some available funds to hire a qualified programmer to quickly resolve our current need of making the on-line Good News Bible Study program interact properly with the printed courses so that we can use the on-line grading and record keeping process for both on-line and printed course students. Please pray for this.

AND, if you know a committed Christian with the following programming skills who would be interested in working with us, please put them in contact with us.

Part-time programmer Needed

Software Programmer needed to join our GNBS programming team: Need to know C#, .NET 2.0+, ASP.NET 2.0+ (uses Web Forms), Visual Studio (MonoDevelop ok), Sql Knowledge; basic knowledge of CSS, Html, JavaScript; localization of ASP.NET applications, GIT experience useful (at least how to use locally, push & merge changes).

Updates on non-English GNBS courses

We are sorry to announce that it was not possible for Peter Yuan to continue to work on the **Chinese** GNBS project for RCM. We appreciate the contributions he made to the project and do intend to continue with the Chinese course. To do this, we are in need of someone who is theologically trained and capable of taking over the responsibilities that he would have fulfilled to head up the Chinese Grading Center. If you know of anyone who might be able and willing to assist, please put them in contact with us immediately.

Prayer is also appreciated for the final editing process on the **Russian** and **Italian** Bible courses. Anyone capable and interested in doing the same with the **Spanish, Dutch** and **French** courses, should contact us immediately.



THEOLOGICAL STUDENT MENTORS/TUTORS NEEDED



We are in need of several theologically like-minded reformed/presbyterian pastors/professors who are willing to assist RCM on a volunteer basis with English-speaking foreign pastors seeking education. Excellent for those seeking additional and unique ministry opportunities and/or those retired or handicapped in some way. The student-pastors are those who do not immediately fit the requirements for our existing seminary program but still show promise. Mentors would utilize our course **study guides with answer keys** from selected basic course lectures in our seminary program. All contact is done by email. Work involves interaction with students on their answers to the questions until they grasp the concepts. Time commitments per week are minimal and totally mentor manageable. Please pass this information on to anyone qualified. Have them contact Rev. Geoffrey Donnan.

Do you know someone who can?

Below are some practical ways in which you, or someone you may know, can provide practical assistance for some of RCM's needs. Please scan this list and pass it around. Such help can move us forward without great expense. It also can greatly help relieve our director from some of these tasks.

- Set up and help manage social media site presence on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn for RCM, RITS & GNBS.
- Adobe InDesign cut & paste work for our non-English Bible courses. Familiarity with the languages is helpful but not necessary: Spanish, French, Dutch, Italian, Russian and Albanian.
- Grading Center Director for our GNBS courses in Chinese, French, Spanish, Dutch, Italian, Russian and Albanian.
- Computer typing of Pakistani Urdu and Gurmukhti Punjabi translations of our GNBS into Windows or Mac computer using standard word processing software like MS Word.
- Digital audio editing of seminary lectures removing extraneous material and improve low volume portions. Knowledge of Audacity or comparable audio editing software.
- Website Programmer to improve and gradually redesign RCM html-based websites. Not using CMS.
- Professors and pastors willing to accept invitations RCM received to preach and teach around the world.
- Teachers for RCM's elementary and secondary school in Suriname for minimum one school year (esp. high school).

Year-End Donations to RCM

Your generous gift to RCM at the end of this calendar year is greatly needed and will be sincerely appreciated. All such donations must be transacted or postmarked by Dec. 31, 2014

Special Offer for Prayer Warriors

Do you really know how to pray?

RCM's newest staff member, Pastor John Otis, has written an excellent booklet on *The Praying Christian: God's Warrior*. In the introduction he writes: "Many Christians are living a powerless and ineffective life because of a poor prayer life. They have feeble expectations because they have a feeble concept



of a sovereign God, who eagerly waits to pour out His blessings to a people, who are bold enough to pray as they are commanded in Scripture." Warriors follow the command of their King.

Prayer is the blessed means by which fellowship with our Father. It is also the way by which we are instruments in His hand by His word to carry out the Kingdom work of making disciples of all the nations (Mat. 28:19-20) under the promise that He will be with us until the task is complete.

We invite you to become Prayer Warriors for RCM, its staff, its volunteers, its students and those who are being reached through

its ministries. We will keep you regularly posted with specific battlefield prayer needs and all we ask is for you to commit to keep us before the throne of God's grace on a regular basis. Make that commitment on the coupon below and we will send you a free copy of this booklet. Please join us in this battle by being RCM Prayer Warriors.

To: Reformation Christian Ministries

E-MAIL: gwd@reformation.edu
WEB: <http://www.reformation.edu>

Fall & Winter 2014

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Internet connection:
<input type="checkbox"/> High Speed
<input type="checkbox"/> Dial-Up

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Please send e-mail updates from RCM to (e-mail address): _____ Country: _____

I am interested in staying on your newsletter list. Please remove my name from your newsletter list.

Send me RCM Newsletters

PRAYER WARRIOR UPDATES (I commit to pray regularly for RCM/particular staff members.)

I have no email. Send me PRINTED Prayer Warrior Updates.

E-mail updates for: Poettckers: Prayer Partners (SALT) Knodels: (HEAR-YE)

Otis: Project Peter Updates (PETER)

Enclosed is a contribution of \$10 \$25 \$50 \$100 \$500 \$ _____

METHOD OF DONATION: I plan to contribute per mo. qtr. year

Check or money order is enclosed payable to REFORMATION CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES.

Credit card donations: call 772-571-8833 or visit our website

DONATE ON LINE AT <http://www.reformation.edu/donate/index.htm>

STOCK & BOND DONATIONS:

Contact Rev. Geoff Donnan or see website <http://reformation.edu/opps/index.htm#stocks>

Your designation below assists us in knowing God's will in applying your donation to :

- | | |
|---|---|
| \$ _____ HQ Needs | \$ _____ Russia & Russian Website |
| \$ _____ SALT (Ministry of Rev. Rudy Poettcker) | \$ _____ Italy, Italian GNBS & translation |
| \$ _____ PROJECT PETER (Ministry of Rev. John Otis) | \$ _____ Overseas Seminary Student Subsidies/Scholarships |
| \$ _____ HEAR-YE (Ministry of Dr. Richard Knodel) | \$ _____ Courses to Oversea Pastors (\$50 avg. per course cost) |
| \$ _____ Good News Bible Study Ministries | \$ _____ Other _____ |

I would like to teach at Christian Liberty Academy in Suriname.

I would like to assist with the college and/or seminary program. I am sending a resume.

TAX RECEIPT

Donation Deadline

for 2014

Checks dated & posted by

Credit/debit cards transacted by

Midnight

December 31, 2014

Update on Suriname and Ministry of Rev. Rudy Poettcker.

Our church and school in Suriname are now celebrating over 36 years of ministry. Rev. Donnan oversaw both from 1978 to 1998. After that, Rev. Rudy Poettcker was put in charge and sometime later after sufficiently trained and ordained, our local minister, Rev. Asgar Hamid became pastor of the church and Administrator for the school. Under their leadership, the outreach in Suriname through the church and school continue as a strong witness for Christ.



The entire graduating class of 2014 (12 seniors) is seen here in the **picture above**. Rev. Asgar Hamid is on the far right.

Picture on left. Rev. Asgar Hamid (right) and Rev. Rudy Poettcker (left) presenting graduation diplomas at the school auditorium of Christian Liberty Academy.

The picture below is especially special because Hannah Kandasammy has graduated from CLA this year. She is the adopted daughter of Gregory Kandasammy who was first a graduate of our school, but also now a long



time employee in charge of the grounds. The Poettckers knew her from the time she was a little baby. Seeing her graduating as a fine young lady was even more meaningful at the giving of this certificate by Pastor Poettcker requiring a hug.

The S.A.L.T. Project stands for **S**trategic **A**dvanced **L**eadership **T**raining and is the project to which funds are donated for the work of Rev. Rudy Poettcker with RCM involving the training of pastors, especially through the Seminary and college programs offered by RCM. .

SALT Project Budget Needs

Rev. Rudy Poettcker is partially reimbursed for his work through various ministry sources and donations. He has no other source of income other than from his wife's employment, though she is presently unemployed till January. His total budgeted needs are \$36,000 annually/\$3,000 per month. At present he has commitments that cover approximately \$1,500 per month leaving an additional \$1,500 month shortfall. He has an urgent need to fill this gap. RCM assists as it can from undesignated funds, but additional donations specifically designated for SALT are greatly needed. Please consider becoming a partner with the SALT project by designating your donation on page 3.

DO YOU NEED RCM REPLY ENVELOPES FOR YOUR DONATIONS?

ORDER BY EMAIL FROM: GWD @ REFORMATION . EDU

**FOR CONVENIENCE IN MAILING YOUR DONATIONS, PLEASE CUT AND PASTE THE APPROPRIATE ADDRESS
(U.S. ADDRESS FOR U.S. AND ALL OTHER COUNTRIES, CANADA ADDRESS FOR CANADA ONLY)**

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