



World Headquarters

Reaching the Nations for Christ

October 2008

FYI!
In June and July
we drove
approximately
3,100 miles
(5,000 km)
and paid on avg.
US\$5.50/ gallon
(AU\$1.52/litre)
for gas (petrol).

Carlsons go Down Under

We were so encouraged by our ministry trip down under. Thank you for your prayers for the journey. I travelled to Australia with the kids, and Greg arrived ten days later as he was teaching in a seminary in Venezuela. The adjustment to the 16-hour difference between Indianapolis and Brisbane took us a good week. Recovering from jet lag usually takes a day for each time zone crossed. The family's day started at 3:00 a.m. playing and eating breakfast in the dark.



Shirley with Mum in Gympie, QLD

As we traveled we ministered at a retirement village, a craft group, women's meetings and a group of students from Korea, Japan and Taiwan learning English. We preached in Wesleyan, Baptist and Church of Christ churches. We shared in home groups and churches, both rural and city. We are encouraged to discover the passion so many have for the lost and their commitment to prayer.

My 85-year-old Mum travelled with us to our meetings in Queensland, time we cherish having spent together. She served with my Dad as a missionary in the Solomon Islands post WWII and later to the Australian Aboriginals.

We spent time with Ray and Lauren Airoso, the new executive director for OMS Australia (www.omsaus.org). They recently moved from South Africa and are excited about increasing the profile of our mission within Australia. Pray as they adjust to a new country and ministry. In August, one year-old Matteo had investigative surgery on his left eye, and the Airosas learned the retina is completely damaged. Please help us pray for this missionary family.



Shirley with the Airoso family in Melbourne

**Greg & Shirley
 Carlson**

OMS International

**World
 Headquarters**

God's answers are never late

God did a most amazing thing for us in answering prayer. It was the night before we were to drive north for three weeks of meetings, and we were still without a car. Several friends were praying, and I wondered how God would come through. That night I spoke to the women of Everton Hills Wesleyan Church. Before the meeting I told a friend how we were supposed to begin a journey of thousands of kilometers the next day, and I hadn't yet seen God provide a vehicle. When I finished my presentation for the group some missionary friends were standing at the back with keys to a brand new Toyota Tarago (minivan). I can't recall ever having God answer prayer in such an obvious way. God may not be early in His answers to prayer, but He is never late.

Mailing address:
755 Cowman Dr.
Greenwood, IN 46142

Phone:
(317) 534-2190

E-mail:
carlson.uruguay@gmail.com

Contributions:
Checks payable to
"OMS International"
for Carlson #801740

P. O. Box 1648
Monument, CO
80132-1648
USA

or
P. O. Box 897
Ringwood VIC 3134
AUSTRALIA

or
Box 24-038,
Hamilton
NEW ZEALAND

Also contribute online at
www.omsinternational.org/give/donate

****The chocolate fish
is a fish-shaped,
chocolate-covered
chewy marsh-
mallow lolly that
has become an
icon of New
Zealand. Give a
chocolate fish to
say "Thank you,"
"Sorry" or
"Good onya!"***

New Zealand: The land of chocolate fish*

The day we arrived in Auckland the worst cyclone New Zealand has experienced in ten years hit! For ten days we drove in torrential downpours and gale-force winter winds! We shared with a group devoted to praying for missionaries in my Grandma's church in Matamata. This is a sheep farming district and the location for filming "The Lord of the Rings" trilogy (which we haven't seen)! We visited cousins in Palmerston North who amazingly had just returned from the state of Iowa where they were hosted by OMS missionaries Bob and Lois Taber. It's a small world!

I was born in Pukekohe, a rural community of potato and onion growers across the highway from the Bombay Hills where my family lived in a cottage on a three-acre plot of land. On this visit to New Zealand, I preached in a Wesleyan church plant in Papakura just a few miles from my birthplace. What an amazing feeling of incredulity to preach in the same parish where one of my uncles pastored the Methodist church for years. A number of the congregation retold stories about their friendship with Uncle Graeme and Auntie Eunice, my Mum's sister.

We spent half a day with Chunillal Pema, the executive director for OMS New Zealand (www.oms.org.nz). He shared his pastoral vision that crosses denominations into parachurch organizations. Pray for Chuni as he leads our mission, recruiting short- and long-term missionaries, coordinating mission trips and increasing the awareness of OMS with people who will commit to praying, giving and going.



Chunillal Pema, Director OMS NZ

Currently, in the Northern hemisphere...

In September, Greg completed teaching a two-day seminar for the OMS regional directors. Pray for him as he coordinates promoting OMS in the USA. The last week of October Greg will be training new missionary candidates during their orientation to OMS. Pray God will provide new partners with OMS for these opportunities to send workers into the harvest.

I completed my part in writing a children's version of Missionary Warrior, the biography of OMS founders Charles and Lettie Cowman. Copies will be available soon from our Children's Ministry Resources department. I've started another book for the same series, the story of Valetta Steel Crumley, a missionary who experienced extreme sadness in her life. I have been meeting for prayer with Valetta the past few years. Pray that God will help me write so children can learn how Christians manage suffering.



Carlsons at OMS headquarters, Hamilton NZ

Reaching the nations for Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Charles".

P.S. If you would like to see a couple of articles I've written connect to the following website:
<http://omsinternational.org/missionaries/gscarlson>.