

INTERVIEWS WITH THE TALLEY'S & VELMA**Tim & Rebecca****1. Tell us a bit about how you got to know the church and your conversion story.**

Tim: I grew up in Claunch, New Mexico, USA, a small ghost town with the population of 11 people. It was a bit "wild west" and not highly churched. My parents did not grow up in strong Christian families, but when a one-armed travelling preacher from the churches of Christ came through, my rough and tumble father – cowboy, boxer, baseball player, dance hall musician cum rancher – and my smart and proper mother were baptized in an old dirt tank. Thus the Claunch Church of Christ was borne. By the time I was born (I'm the baby of the family) Dad had built a stucco church building and every Sunday morning we could expect an attendance of nine people – my parents, us five kids and the Deans who lived 10 miles down the road. With a church that small there was no way I could get by with not listening, much less goofing off on the back row. Getting to know the church was not a matter of choice. However, getting to know the Lord was a different matter. Though my father was a tough, quick-tempered man, he was tenderhearted and quick to point out his own faults and encourage us to be better than he. He was dedicated to Bible study. I can't remember a single morning of my first 18 years of life that our family didn't gather around the breakfast table and Dad read scripture and devotional thoughts from Truth for Today. I heard The Truth every Sunday at church, but I saw it every day in my father. That is how I was converted.

Rebecca: My parents were the first missionaries in Thailand from the Churches of Christ. For the first four years of my life the church in Bangkok met in our home, so I guess you can say I literally grew up in the church. Listening to countless sermons and Bible classes gave me an understanding and a love for the church at an early age. By the time I was six I was wanting to be baptized. My parents wisely made me wait. Finally, after much study and many tears my father baptized me into Christ. I was eight.

2. How did you meet each other and what was your wedding like?

Tim: The first time I saw Rebecca was in the cafeteria at Lubbock Christian University where I was a sophomore Bible major. I was sitting with my roommate when saw her walk in. I said, "You see that girl there? I'm going to marry her." My roommate laughed and said something about snowballs in Hades. In my investigation to find out who she was I was shocked to find that we had many mutual friends, yet I had never met her. After wrangling an introduction I set my course and four years later we were married.

Rebecca: It is so odd that Tim should have seen me in the cafeteria that day. It was the first time I had been in the cafeteria all year – I was so shy and afraid there would be no one to sit with me. I remember standing in line that day praying God would send someone to sit with me. I guess He DOES do immeasurably more than we ask or think!

Our wedding day was pretty much a blur. We both graduated from LCU that morning and got married that night! Tim likes to say he got his Bachelor's and lost it all in the same day!

3. Who influenced you the most in regards to character and values?

Tim: Without a doubt it would be my parents and older siblings ... especially my father and brother.

Rebecca: My parents and older brother and sister had the greatest influence on me in my formative years. Of course, the Thai culture had a big influence on me as well.

4. Can you tell us in your opinion what is more important, experience or sound judgment?

Sound judgment often proves to be unwise in the fires of experience. On the other hand, experience doesn't always produce sound judgment. However, someone with sound judgment strengthened by experience is wise indeed.

NEWS AND NOTES

Welcome

We welcome you this morning and hope and pray that your time with us will be spiritually uplifting and fulfilling. We look forward to seeing you again.

CampING 2010 The Gospel is for All

CampING begins next Fri 5th March at 8pm with games and a devotional. Please remember to pack you linen/sleeping bags, towels, swimmers and bible. There'll some great lessons, time for fellowship, an opportunity to donate to the One Mile Clinic and fun as you participate in the Theatre Sports and Talent night. If you'd like to contribute a cultural experience and are stuck for ideas, please see Gareth or Johanna Lewis.

"Now this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' Jn1:19 'He said: 'I am " The voice of one crying in the wilderness: Make straight the way of the Lord.'" What a beautiful image! Imagine if we all lived with the same commitment that John had. What an amazing power would be unleashed among God's people if we all lived to prepare the way for Jesus! Why not start right now and commit to giving the rest of your life to prepare the way for others to know Jesus? Prayerfully begin each day asking God to open your eyes to someone who is looking for the love and mercy of Jesus. Keep a list of 4 or 5 people to whom you are carefully listening , waiting in anticipation for the door of their hearts to open for you to share God's grace. Find a way to put a good word in for Jesus in a surprising place each day. Give thanks each evening for the Lord using you to touch the lives of others with His grace.

CampING - International Bazaar

We invite you all to take part in the International Bazaar on Saturday 6th March, at 7:30pm, where you can help us celebrate Belmore Road Church of Christ's diverse cultural heritage, and discover how much you know about other lands, customs and people.

We need your participation in one of these 3 activities happening on the night:-

Cultural Experience Package – Fundraising Auction

If you have a cultural experience to offer someone – whether a traditional dining experience, the chance to learn some of your native lingo, or inviting someone to see a cultural event with you – or any other experience, please let Jackie Baldwin know this weekend.

World Snacks & Refreshments Stand
We would love to have you donate those tasty, sweet or spicy snacks you just can't resist from your home town. Remember, if any of these foods are not guaranteed to be NUT free, they must be labelled as such (e.g. "may contain nuts" or "contains nuts". Please see Johanna Lewis this weekend to let her know what pre-packaged / manufactured snack-foods or delicacies you can give for the night.

Souvenir (to remember) Stand!
Do you have a small nick-knack from another country that you would like to donate to our souvenir stand? Your memento could become someone else's Souvenir. Speak to Nancy this weekend and let her know what you can donate.

Last of all, don't forget to bring your coins on the night, we don't want you to leave hungry or empty handed. We look forward to seeing you there for a fun night of fund-raising for a very worthy cause.

Koinz 4 Kids

As we are going to church camp on the first Sunday of March, Koinz 4 Kidz is postponed to the following Sunday after the camp. The K4K collection in this month was \$ 453.90 cents. I am so thankful and grateful to you for your generosity and request you to continue in showing your love and generosity towards these kids. Kids are really doing very good and growing in the Lord. I thank you all for your generous donations and also thank the congregation at Sathupalli, India for their efforts in caring for these kids. I also thank Sally Kate and Jennifer Permezel for their efforts in making sure the presents reach these kids. Praying for you all and urge you to pray for these kids to continue their growth in the word of God.

Chorlian

5. In hindsight, what would you do differently?

Tim: I would have gotten more education at an earlier age. It took me 20 years to get my Masters Degree. I could have used it a lot earlier.

Rebecca: Like Tim, I would have immediately continued my education after graduating from college.

6. Tell us a little about your work and the things you do for the Lord.

Tim: Basically, what I do is leadership training. That includes teaching Bible courses and seminars and a lot of counselling and encouragement. I'm also on the board of preacher training schools and involved in development projects (education, well-drilling, food relief). I spend time visiting different churches, teaching and encouraging.

Rebecca: My role continues to evolve. Through the years my primary work has been our children – either home-schooling or supplementing what's offered in the local schools, and being attentive to the spiritual, social and physical stresses our children might have. As the children have grown I've been able to spend more time teaching women Bible, working in literacy and small self-help projects. I am also developing a Swahili Sunday school program and teaching in the church kindergarten (a school in which almost 90% of the children are Muslim).

7. What is your favourite food?

Tim and Rebecca: Thai food and Mexican food.

8. What is your favourite spot in East Africa?

Tim and Rebecca: Mudanda Rock, a huge rock in Tsavo East game park (Kenya) is one of our favourite places. It is in a very desolate area and one of the few places in the game park you are allowed get out of your car. After a short and easy climb to the top a panorama of savannah comes into view with a watering hole at the foot of the rock. From relative safety (though lions have been known to climb the rock), you can watch elephant, gazelle, giraffe, zebra, warthogs and sometimes even rhino drink, play and fight in the water below.

9. What is your favourite book and why?

Tim: I really enjoy Jack London books as well as Hemingway's.

Rebecca: I have many favourite books, depending if I want to escape, to be stretched or to be deepened. Books by Wilbur Smith, Le Carre, Grisham, Clancy and Mary Stewart are great escapes. William Young, Anne Lamott and C.S. Lewis are mind stretchers. However, a book that pulls me back over and over is Celebration of Discipline by Richard Foster.

10. An embarrassing moment ...?

Tim: It would be the time I took my warm ups off in an exercise class, thinking that I had gym shorts on underneath....wrong, I had forgotten my shorts and just had on the 'ol jock strap. Ouch!

Rebecca: One of my many embarrassing moments happened our first year in East Africa. We were struggling to learn Kigiriama, the language of the people group we were working with. I pulled up to a petrol station and with great confidence told the attendant to fill up my car with snot!

11. If you were given a lazy weekend, what would you do?

Tim: Sit on the beach under an umbrella and read, walk on the beach.

Rebecca: If I were home I would love to read or explore the mangroves.

12. I am thankful to God for...

Tim and Rebecca: ... our children, our godly parents and siblings and each other

13. A spiritual goal to achieve in the next two years is ...

Tim and Rebecca: We are in the process of moving to a small village and living among a people group that is over 80% Muslim. It is a dark place where witchcraft is pervasive, despite the Islamic whitewash. Making an impact in this area will require a lot of prayer, fasting and study on our part. Though we will have to do our homework as far as language and cultural studies are concerned, our only hope of success will be through the spiritual strength God gives us and His working in people's hearts.

Abigail

1. Tell us a little about your conversion story.

I have always been a believer and was taught from a young age. When I was thirteen I was baptized.

2. What is it like having missionary parents?

Since I have never had any other parents it feels pretty normal. I guess having missionary parents has made me more aware of the cultural boundaries that separate people. It has also helped me see things through the eyes of people who are different from me.

3. What do you plan to do in the future?

I will start college this August at Abilene Christian University in the States. I plan to study Pre-Med, but if I am anything like my sisters I will probably change my major a couple times.

4. Who are your close friends and why have you chosen them?

My closest friends are Yakuta and Alifyah, who are Pakistani Muslims. Another close friend is Yoshuwa, who is my Tanzanian neighbor. I went to school with all of them.

5. What is it like living and growing up in a different culture?

Since I was born and raised in East Africa, it is very much home for me. Yet, I realize that no matter how long I live here or how well I know the language, I will always be a "Mzungu" (white person). And when I am in the United States I will probably be "that girl from Africa." No matter where I live there will be a part of me that is different. However, I will still have the joy of feeling comfortable in either place.

6. What is your favourite movie and why?

My favourite movies are "Enchanted" and "Iron Man". "Enchanted" is one of those movies that just make me happy and I really like the action and suspense in "Iron Man".

7. What do you admire about your parents?

I admire the way they are able to build relationships with people and how they interact with them. Usually even the most unreceptive person can't help but respond to my parents after talking with them for awhile.

8. An embarrassing moment and why.

In elementary school I starred in play where I was supposed to be a really good soccer player. The climax of the play was at the end when I would score an amazing goal, though in reality it should have been very easy. But to my embarrassment I completely missed it!

9. I am really thankful to God for...

Giving me a chance to finally go to Australia!

Velma Forman

1. Tell us about your conversion story

I was raised in a believing home so Jesus was always a reality to me. Even as a young child I was assured of His presence, knew the Bible stories, and memorized scripture. At the age of seven years I was convicted of my need to be baptized to be in Christ, a part of His church, His child and forgiven.

2. Who has influenced you the most in regards to missionary work?

Mom's brother and his wife and family spent years in Zambia (then Northern Rhodesia) teaching at Namwianga. We were always fascinated to hear their stories and see their slides and artefacts when they returned to Canada on leave. In the late eighties Uncle Allan phoned asking me if I would consider nursing in a mission setting in a third world country as there was so much need. At the same time one of my sisters and her husband and children were doing short-term mission work in Malawi and Joan, too, thought I was needed "overseas"! I applied to attend Mission 1000, a paramissionary training program in Memphis, TN. I was accepted and spent three months in 1992 in an intensive program taught by people who were either currently active in mission work or who had been missionaries. The program was directed by Joe and Rosa-Belle Cannon (former missionaries to Japan and PNG) and the rest is history!

3. Tell us a little about your work and things you do for the Lord

I came to PNG in May 1993 by invitation to run the churches Primary Health Clinic in Lae (started in the seventies and closed for two years prior to my arrival). We serve the urban poor and rural villages by providing outpatient care (using standard treatment manuals). We also manage care for people with tuberculosis by using the WHO TB DOTS program. I am also involved with the students at the Melanesian Bible college teaching a two year program of First Aid and Taking Responsibility for Your Health. The clinic provides free care for the students, treated mosquito nets, and referral to the general hospital. I am part of the congregation that meets at the MBC chapel and have been involved in teaching Sunday school and ladies classes.

4. What is your favourite food?

My favourite food is a PNG dish of chicken, pitpit, taro and aibika cooked in coconut milk. Yum!

5. What is your favourite spot in Papua New Guinea and why?

My favourite spot in PNG is Tami Island. It's a group of five very small islands with a lagoon in the middle and surrounded by gorgeous reef. It is a very relaxing place to visit as the local people are friendly and quiet. We'll be going there over the Easter weekend for the PNG Women's Workshop.

6. An embarrassing moment

While on leave in B.C. during the nineties I was busy setting up for a presentation on PNG while the congregation I was visiting was enjoying a potluck lunch after Sunday morning meeting. When it was nearly time for the afternoon session and no one had appeared yet I began to wonder what was happening. One of the women came running upstairs, all out of breath to tell me that everyone had been looking all over for me for some time as they had a birthday cake for me! I was really embarrassed that I had put them to so much trouble by not letting them know what I was up to.:-)

7. If you were given a lazy weekend, what would you do?

If I were given a lazy weekend I would catch up with letter writing, read, and go for a long walk.

8. I am thankful to God for...

I am thankful to God as He is gracious and merciful to all of us-the God of second chances and surprises. He has blessed me with an abundance of friends worldwide in His family.

9. What impresses you about the values of the people you serve?

One of the core values of the Papua New Guinean society is sharing. Even toddlers are taught to divide whatever they are given so they can share with their siblings.

10. A spiritual goal to achieve in the next 2 years is...

I want to commit time for in-depth Bible study (not just Bible reading and preparing lessons to teach). I am currently starting a study of the book of Ephesians using the program Precept Upon Precept (inductive Bible study)

11. Could you tell us a little about Dogo your friend?

Dogo, too, was raised in a believing home in the Upper Waria Valley in PNG. She committed her life to Christ through baptism when she was sixteen years old. Her childhood was spent between her home village in the Waria, early school years with an aunt and uncle in Lae, and high school in Popondetta. In 1994 after her father had passed away, Dogo returned to Lae and we ended up living together for two years with a missionary from Arizona, Rose Cobb, and a lady, Martha, from the Markham Valley. When I left Lae for my first leave in 1996, Dogo returned to her home village (in late 1995) and married Michael Tatara a few months later. Their first child, Becky, was born in 1997 and their second daughter, Velma Venessa was born in 2000. Dogo and Michael both work at MBC. They are also caring for Dogo's youngest brother, Arthur, and Dogo's niece, Joanne (both in high school). Their house is always busy with people coming and going from their home villages in the Waria. Never a dull moment!

NEWS AND NOTES

CONTINUED OVER...

Humphris' Thankyou

The Humphris family would like to thank everyone for all their prayers and thoughts upon the arrival of Roy and for the lovely bunch of flowers!
love Luke, Beth Grace, Tom and Roy

Ladies' Prayer Group



Need refuelling during the week? Join a small group of sisters who share in a time of devotional and prayer.

Previously on alternate Fridays, we might be changing the day and venue for our gathering, so please do let Sally-Kate know what suits you best and we will work something out. The LPG is part of the Women's Ministry and we are always interested in ideas and suggestions on how we can further equip our women in the Lord. Please let Sally-Kate or Richard know your wonderful ideas.

Autumn Songfest 2010

Keith Lancaster will once again be in Melbourne to lead a citywide singing event. This free event, attended by hundreds previously, is on again at Beaumont Hall, Blackburn High School on 7.30pm, Wed, 3rd Mar 2010. There will also be a song leader's workshop the night before (7.30pm) at Essex Park Community Centre, Endeavour Hills.



Prayers Please

- Pray for the improved health of Pauline's sister Ann in Singapore
- Continue to pray for Hannah's health

The Pearly Gates



- Pray for Sonia's mother, Mdm. Zheng who has been diagnosed with cancer
- For Beth Humphris and new son Roy Benjamin
- For Alice Merigoux and new son Stephan
- Our pregnant mums Ainz, Sophie, Paula and Emma Thomas
- For the continued health of Andrew Penhall
- For Amber Drew as she settles in at STAMP
- Susan Ocenasek (David's Wilsons) sister has bone cancer and it is progressing very quickly. She is experiencing extreme discomfort and pain. David continues to share the good news with her. Susan reads and studies regularly and is considering a relationship with our Lord.
- Thanks to God for looking after Chris. All went well with the permacath and fistula.

People Movements

- Ruth Zu is in China visiting with her parents until 6th March.
- Damien Forbes is back from India
- Benny Tabalujan is spending a few days with his parents in Singapore. He'll back on Monday.

For the Record

21st February 2010

Contribution: 14/02 - \$1,119.00
21/02 - \$2,879.00
Attendance: English : 108
Chinese : 14

We are on the web
www.belmoreroadchurch.org.au

Belmore Road
 church of Christ
 reaching out sharing God's love

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 OF CHRIST**

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Belmore Road church of Christ is a God centered, Bible based family that provides a nurturing environment to share God's truth in love.

In Jesus and through his spirit, we foster and encourage spiritual growth and understanding, offering friendship and help to those in need. We reach out to all, starting with those who are seeking the truth, people in our local community and those who we meet in our daily lives. As we have come to know God's love, we reach out and share His love with others.

WORSHIP ROSTER FEBRUARY 2010

Jan	Greeters	Announce (Op+Cl Prayer)	Songs	Lord's Supper	Reading + assist LS	Sp Prayer + assist LS	Preaching - "The Ser- mon on the Mount"	Sun Adults' Class - "The Cross - Reflec- tion on God's Re- demption"
28	Gareth L Nic L	Alan R	Peter R	Trevor B	Francis H	David T	Benny T	Peter R
Mid- week	Discovery Group: Feb 10 Alan Rowley.; Discovery Group commences Feb 15							

DUTY ROSTER FEBRUARY 2010

Lord's Supper	Luncheon Duty	Morning Tea	Mowing	Cleaning
Tjing Krause	Jackie Baldwin Analene F	Jean Collier Amy Waugh Bethany B	Roger D John B	06 - Ibbertson 13 - Lewis 20 - Chan 27 - Permezel

DUTY ROSTER MARCH 2010

Lord's Supper	Luncheon Duty	Morning Tea	Mowing	Cleaning
Marissa Carpenter	N/A (Camp)	Debbie Carpenter Sarah Chan Sonia	Pak Tjun C. John C.	06 - CampING 13 - R. Hooi 20 - Ruth & Nancy W 27 - Forbes