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Ministry News

This winter and spring appear to be busy. We are actively engaged in getting two and maybe three teams out this summer. And there could even be one beyond that. In January I (Harry) put the Ireland team from New Brunswick Bible Institute through the Culture Link Seminar for short term mission teams. Jack Caron, the missions professor would like me to accompany the team which will go June 10-25, but that requires that the students raise my funds as well as his. I am not comfortable with that arrangement. Since these are his students and he has more influence with them day to day, he should go instead of me. But if God supplies, then I will be willing to go along to assist them. The team is very excited to be involved in evangelism and church functions while there. The other team(s) may come from Belgrade Bible Church here in Maine. Pastor Larry Wiles has had me in for years to speak there, sometimes in regards to short term missions. I was there in December for a Sunday evening and shared some information on Ireland. At the end of the service Pastor Wiles challenged his people to stay for the information meeting after the service only if they were serious about going. Thirty-two people stayed. Sometimes God just knocks me over when He does things like this. The church decided to pray about it some more and a month later Pastor Wiles called to say that eighteep have given solid commitments to go this summer. We set a date for the Culture Link Seminar and I will be there for the entire weekend of March 6-8. We are not sure where they will go. We will try to fmd a field that will handle that many, or break them into two teams going to two fields. I will be in another church in late March which has asked me to come and talk more on short term opportunities and how they can be involved.

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I have several major missions conferences coming up where I am the keynote speaker. I also have two more campus visits to do this winter. I haven't even thought about teen camps for this summer. I will have to get in contact with the camps that usually have me come, but I really can't commit to that until I figure out if, and when, I will be overseas. Please keep praying about our financial support. With the economic downturn, our support future cannot be predicted. We are constantly amazed that God has kept us going through our faithful supporters for so many years. While we are behind in support, the level to date, has at least stayed steady. We can only praise Him who inspires His people to help us. It is all so humbling.

Family News

Our oldest, Steven will be getting married on March 14. He and Michele want to get on with serving the Lord and they want to do it together. The interesting thing about this date is it is my Dad's birthday. He went to be

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with the Lord in April of 2001. I think Dad would be thrilled if he knew. I know my mother is. Scott has returned to college and is doing well. He is working nights to support his family. So please pray for him, that he can juggle his time between family, studies and his job. There is word now that he will be taking a deployment this summer to a Muslim country with the Air National Guard. It will bring in a big paycheck for the two months he will be gone. Plus his night job will be there when he returns. It appears that Mark will also be deployed this late winter or spring. He will be going to England. So both boys will need much prayer for their safety as they serve our country. We are having a real Maine winter and I just love it! While we haven't had the record snow fall we had last year, we really do have plenty. If it wasn't for the snow blower, I would be in trouble as to where to put the snow. We only have just so much room. We want to thank you for your prayer and financial support. We praise God for His provision through you. We know He will reward you for your faithfulness to Him and to us.

In Christ,
Harry and Joyce Straub