

The Mission Society Commissions Eleven New Missionaries

Looking Back and Ahead, Agency's 25th Anniversary a Time of Celebration

(NORCROSS, Ga. – September 28, 2009) – Celebrating its Silver Anniversary, The Mission Society kept its focus on the future by commissioning 11 new missionaries. The commissioning service, on September 11, in Norcross, Georgia included the new missionaries and their families, along with Mission Society staff and board members, and invited guests.

Since The Mission Society's founding, more than 500 missionaries have been sent out in service.

Among the speakers for the commissioning service at the Hilton Hotel was the Rev. Florencio Guzman, The Mission Society's first cross-cultural worker. A native of Peru, Florencio and his wife, Maria, were commissioned in 1985 to serve in Mexico with The Mission Society. Since then the Guzmans have ministered in several countries throughout Latin America. "This is a new day in God's Church," said Guzman. "It's the beginning of revival in the Church. I can hear people praying all around the world, praising the Lord."

Present at the commissioning service were founding Mission Society president, the Rev. Dr. H.T. Maclin; and the Rev. Dr. Phil Granger, president of The Mission Society (who would, later that day, be succeeded in office by the Rev. Dick McClain).

The new missionaries include Wayne Burgess and Gary and Tula Crumpton, assigned to the Global Resource Team. GRT members have specialized skills and serve as full or part-time Mission Society missionaries. They use their expertise not in one geographic location, but globally on various fields. Elliott and Katherine Stotler have been assigned to South Africa. Six other new missionaries have been assigned to secure locations, so their names cannot be released.

Founded in 1984 in the Wesleyan tradition, The Mission Society recruits, trains and sends Christian missionaries to minister around the world. The Mission Society has 200 missionaries in 36 countries. The Mission Society develops diverse programs and ministries in accordance with its missionaries' unique callings and gifts, ranging from well-drilling and the arts to more traditional ministries, such as teaching English and church planting. Its church ministry department provides seminars, workshops and mentoring for congregations in the United States and overseas, helping equip them for strategic outreach in their communities and throughout the world. For more information on The Mission Society, call 1.800.478.8963 or visit www.themissionsociety.org.

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Media Contact:

Ruth Burgner

Direct: 678.542.9038

rburgner@themissionsociety.org