

Dear Friends,

Happy and Blessed 2012...

It has taken over twenty years to be able to write this letter. It explains some exciting changes that are taking place within EPI.

First, I want to thank you for your prayers and support over the years and for taking the time to read about these new developments.

This year marks 23 years of ministry for EPI. We were incorporated in Memphis, Tennessee in May of 1989 with my wife, myself, and our lawyer as initial board members. It was not long before we moved to Maine, added board members, took Marcia off the board at her request, and made do with an annual budget of about \$70,000.

As you may remember, the initial tag line of the ministry was "Field Evangelism Unto Church Planting". Over the past 23 years that philosophy has not changed, although the method of getting it done has multiplied, expanded, and diversified.

This past May at our annual board meeting, we spent a few days cataloging all that we now do and organizing it into four areas of concern. It was not an easy task. Our primary goal is still to evangelize the unreached. And while everything we do includes an aspect of evangelism, we recognize that we engage in a variety of activities to reach that goal.

Which brings me to the reason for this letter. Beginning in 2012, you will start to see our communications and finances presented as corresponding to our four areas of concern. We have spent the past 7 months working on the strategic plan for EPI based around these four causes and the funding for them. Here they are...

The Shelter Fund - "Humanitarian Efforts" Addressing critical humanitarian needs: We partner with our indigenous national directors to respond to suffering in different areas of the world. By focusing on the problems of human trafficking, child abuse, poor healthcare, and the aftermath of natural disasters, we demonstrate our love and compassion.

Examples: Rescuing Young Girls from Sex Industry in Nepal
Treating Thousands of people in Medical Clinics
Helping to fund over 500 orphans in Nepal
Supplying thousands of eye glasses to the poor

The Shepherd Fund - "Evangelism and Church Planting" Proclaiming the gospel in unreached areas of the world: We send trained missionaries to those who do not know Christ. We proclaim the gospel using methods appropriate for the culture and plant churches to effectively mentor these new believers.

Examples: Open-Air Preaching in Marketplaces in Ghana
VBS with low caste slum children in North India
One-on-One Evangelism at Medical Clinics
New churches in India, Haiti, Ghana, and Kenya

The Laborer Fund - "Training at Home and Overseas" Preparing Christians to engage in effective international ministry: We train, equip, and motivate believers to participate in what God is doing in cultures where we serve. This energizes lay people to meet the dynamic challenges of a changing world. Additionally, by training indigenous church leaders we ensure the local church is taught to obey the life-changing truths of Scripture.

Examples: Training for pastors to plant 20,000 churches in India
Theological education to church planters in Kenya
Equipping 50 to 100 project personnel each year

The Eagle Fund - "Providing the Foundation" Financing essential EPI operations to carry out our mission: We efficiently structure operations with integrity to ensure that we have the greatest impact and most effective deployment of assets.

Examples: Providing all of the pre-trip project preparation
Recruiting project personnel
Funding the office staff to make all of this happen

Over the next few months you will begin to see these funds and causes represented in our letters, presentations, and on our website. We feel that this new method of communication and accountability will simplify our activities. It will also provide a clear and concise overview of our ministry and make it easier for us to explain what we do to potential donors.

At the beginning of January, the EPI Board will meet to approve the budget for 2012. At that meeting we will allocate funds to our four causes according to this schedule. Throughout the year we will be sending you updates on how we are meeting our goals for each fund.

You will begin to notice the changes on our donation page and our mail-in response card.

Once again, thank you for standing with us all these years. We are excited about the opportunities for this year and all that God has for us. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to email me.

Have a Blessed New Year in the Harvest,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Philip", with a large circular flourish at the beginning and a horizontal line with a small crossbar at the end.

Dr. Philip C. Eyster
President, EPI, Inc.