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Bruce Johnson
President SIM USA
Dear Friend,

As we come to the close of 2014, I also draw toward the close of my first five-year term as president of SIM USA.

It has been an incredible five years: seeking the Lord for this ministry, seeing how He has moved in the hearts of people around the world, watching His kingdom grow. It has been an honor for SIM to be a small part of all of that and to be your partner in mission.

Before we start looking toward 2015, I’d like to update you on just how much has been realized for the kingdom throughout this past year, with your help.

Responding to Need

For decades SIM has been responding to need in some of the most difficult places around the world. Many of the ministries begun by SIM missionaries have since grown, become vital parts of the communities where they operate, and are being led by local workers.

A prime example of this is Egbe Hospital in Nigeria—SIM’s first training hospital—now owned by the Nigerian ECWA denomination. More than six decades after its founding, and several years into a major revitalization project, the hospital dedicated and opened a brand new surgical wing at a celebration attended by local people and dignitaries alike.

With the help of people like you, this vital teaching hospital is being brought out of the 1960s and into the medicine of the future.

In addition to many other ongoing responding initiatives, over the past year you have also helped provide incredible financial support and love for people at their greatest time of need by funding relief efforts in the Philippines, South Sudan, and most recently in Liberia and other parts of West Africa during the still-raging Ebola crisis. Thank you for your compassion for the suffering, and for enabling SIM to be the hands and feet of Jesus.

Proclaiming the Gospel

Proclaiming the gospel has always been a major emphasis of our work. During our consultation in Malaysia this past February, SIM leaders from all over the world renewed our organization’s central focus on reaching the as yet unreached in countries across the globe.

This year another key SIM ministry marked a significant milestone as Sports Friends celebrated its ten-year anniversary. That’s ten years of connecting with huge populations of youth through the multicultural language of sport.

What began in Ethiopia with a vision of reaching the unreached through sports and equipping churches for evangelism, is now a three-continent movement impacting thousands in Africa, Asia, and South America with the gospel, leading to hundreds of churches planted.

In addition, with your help, workers in Paraguay to date have distributed 24,500 Audio Bible players to families across the country. And workers in South America’s least-reached nation, Uruguay, successfully connected with thousands of youth—first steps in the movement to bring awareness of Jesus back to the country.

Equipping the Church

Multiplication happens through discipleship and transformation.

From SIM’s earliest days of ministry we have partnered with local believers, training them to minister within their cultural context to the people of their communities—eventually seeing them build vibrant churches and become independent missionary-sending nations.

We’ve worked hard to equip the Church through disciple-making programs like SIM’s Equipping Servants Pastoral Training that began in Bolivia. This ministry of developing believers into faithful, exceptionally capable leaders has now spread throughout several other South American countries.
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