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# Daily News Brief



LAUSANNE Younger Leaders
Gathering

SATURDAY— 30 September 2006

**ISSUE 7** 

### "Ich bin ein Lausanner"

by Judd Birdsall

"Lausanne '74 truly changed my life," said Peter Kuzmic, Friday's keynote speaker. Kuzmic recounted the impact of the International Congress on World Evangelization on his ministry as a theological educator.

"It was at Lausanne that I learned that theology must serve the Kingdom of God...or else it is a selfish academic enterprise," said Kuzmic. The conference impressed upon him the need for a holistic gospel and the marriage of mission and theology. "All theology must be missiologically focused," he emphasized, "and all missions must be theologically grounded."

Kuzmic took this vision back to his then two-year-old seminary in Osijek, Croatia. His students caught a passion for reaching and reconciling the war-torn peoples of the Balkans. They developed and executed a strategy for evangelizing a number of cities in their region. In a land searching for and even fighting for a sense of identity, Kuzmic and his students preached a message of reconciliation grounded in the gospel. "Our primary identity is in Christ...and that's why we have a message of reconciliation."



"I thought Kuzmic was one of the best speakers," responded Miles Giljam of South Africa. Giljam believed that Kuzmic's personal experience of the oppression and conflict in the Balkans gave his message profound authenticity. "It was not just glib comments," he said.

Kuzmic is distinguished professor of mission and European studies at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary in Hamilton, Massachusetts, USA. He is also the

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## Priorities in World Evangelization

by Paul Eshleman

The Lausanne Strategy Working Group has identified fourteen strategic priorities that should be at the top of the Church's agenda if we are to see disciples made in all nations. Two of the priorities have been printed in each edition of the YLG Daily News Brief. Today's edition includes priorities 13 and 14, thus completing the list.

13. To ensure a greater emphasis on reaching the "oral learners" of our world. Two-thirds of our world prefers to learn through stories, music and examples—much like we learned before we went to school. They are not interested in getting their teaching by way of five steps and three principles. Jesus taught primarily by means of stories. The world is reading less

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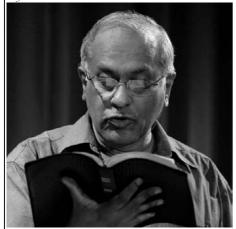
Paul Eshleman is the chair of the Lausanne Strategy Working Group



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### **Developing Disciples Jesus' Way**



Tom Lepatu is trying to live out the importance of discipleship and unity which Ajith Fernando, National Director of Youth for Christ (YFC) in Sri Lanka spoke about in plenary sessions 7 and 8. Lepatu works with the student ministry Tertiary Students Christian Fellowship (TSCF) in Papua New Guinea.

"TSCF is interdenominational," Lepatu said. "We are a bridge builder and there is a shift taking place in Papua New Guinea where churches are starting to work together. Discipleship is important because when Christians are equipped and trained they can share God in a more intimate way with others."

During the Thursday night and Friday morning plenary sessions Fernando spoke about "Jesus: Developing His Disciples" by looking at some key ways Jesus interacted with, trained and sent out those closest to him. The foundation for Fernando's talk was John 17:6-19, the longest of Jesus' recorded prayers.

"Christian growth always takes place in community," he emphasized. "When we mentor people we always do it in the context of a team... Working in the context of a team protects us."

Fernando focused on the following nine points of Jesus' relationship with his disciples: Jesus revealed God, Jesus was a steward, Jesus prayed for his disciples, Jesus protected his disciples and prepared them for departure, Jesus communicated joy to his disciples, Jesus exposed his disciples to the hatred of the world, Jesus sent his disciples into the world and Jesus died to make his disciples holy.

"As we communicate the gospel, this is one of the greatest challenges we face—to tell others what God is like," Fernando explained. This is done, he said, by one's life, by one's teaching and in community. "Look to the Bible to determine your strategy," he said. "No matter how hard this might be. Please, look to the Bible and follow the letter of the Word. Give people the Word of God and in the context of everyday life, learn to apply the truth of God."

The importance of staying in Scripture was evident as Fernando reminded his audience that they needed to keep going back to what God said. "The great truths of Scripture are bigger than the issues that divide us," he stated. Tied to the importance of remaining in God's Word is the importance of having the joy of the Lord fill one's life. "The joy of the Lord is your strength!" he exclaimed. "When your joy goes, so too your strength goes. Battle for joy in your life! Don't leave home without

Fernando also touched upon what it means to be both a disciple and a leader. "Leadership does not have to do with status," he said. "It has to do with responsibility." With this responsibility comes caring for their needs, protecting them and holding them up in prayer daily. "For those to whom we are responsible, we need to pray daily," he pleaded. "We must look beyond the weakness of people to the possibilities of grace in their lives."

Paul Liang, who works for Campus Evangelical Fellowship Press in Taiwan, believes that what Fernando said about discipleship is important for Christians to hear. "We must show to the world who God is and discipleship is following God," he said. "When we have good discipleship, people will see who God is and the character of God."

#### **Priorities in World Evangelization** (cont. from pg. 1)

and less. Those who can read prefer to get their information by media. We need to evaluate all of our materials and discipleship strategies in the years ahead. Short-film strategies and personal stories may be the wave of the future.

14. To be willing to change our strategies, locations, methodologies, materials, etc. to reach those who haven't heard. The surest thing happening in our society today is change. Longestablished traditions, brands of products, etc. vanish daily because they are irrelevant. No matter how much is known about the peoples and areas who haven't been touched with the gospel, we tend to spend most of our effort and money where we already are. We need more pioneers, mold-breakers and kindhearted rebels who will make the changes necessary—and do it now!

"Leadership does not have to do with status. It has to do with responsibility."



## Daily News Brief LAUSANNE Younger Leaders 30 September 06



#### Meet the Translators for YLG-06

by Laurie Fortunak

The participants at the Lausanne Younger Leaders Gathering represent 112 nations and dozens of languages. To help Lausanne ensure that all leaders can fully engage in the life of the conference, five interpreters have volunteered their time and energy to translate the plenary sessions and workshops into Portuguese, French, Spanish, Korean and Chinese. They have also put countless hours into helping the participants take care of checking in and tending to basic needs. The Lausanne Movement and YLG-06 thanks the interpreters and would like to introduce you to these men and women who have blessed many younger leaders through their translation ministry.

#### **PORTUGESE**

Name: Daniel Lottis Hometown: Curitiba, Brazil



Occupation: independent translation and editorial work for university faculty

The biggest blessing at YLG-06: "Being absolutely focused during every

minute of every plenary session. I have been deeply moved by every session. My connection to what has been said has also been deeper because I am translating."

#### **FRENCH**

Name: Esther Heckman

Hometown: Saint-Julien-en-Genevois,

France

Occupation: communications in Switzer-

land

The biggest blessing at YLG-06:



Taking time out from my very hectic job and lifestyle to reflect on what God is doing in different parts of the world. Learning about the

experiences from the testimonies of others. The encouragement here has been amazing. The energy and enthusiasm of the Christians here is amazing."

#### **SPANISH**

Name: Pedro Gismondi Hometown: Lima, Peru

Occupation: starting up a ministry in

Lima with The Navigators

The biggest blessing at YLG-06:



"The fact that there are leaders here from all over the world. There is young energy and the people here are doing things for God. I have also met

old friends who I didn't know would be here. Also, I feel blessed when I am translating because I am carrying the message of what the speaker is trying to say to others. I want my Spanish-speaking friends to get the message."

#### **KOREAN**

Name: Samuel Choi

Hometown: Sydney, Australia; Korean-

Occupation: Masters of Divinity student at Presbyterian College and Theological Seminary of Korea

The biggest blessing at YLG-06:



"Meeting people from different backgrounds. It's been a great experience in terms of me broadening my mind. Being able to serve others

has also been a great blessing."

#### **CHINESE**

Name: Lin Huei Hoo

Hometown: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia Occupation: research and development department for Malaysia Campus Crusade

for Christ

The biggest blessing at YLG-06: "I'm very encouraged by the translators. Before we met we introduced ourselves through email. We are helping each other and working as a team here. There's a spirit of cooperation. It is a blessing to be part of this team."

#### "Ich bin ein Lausanner" (cont. from pg. 1)

founding president of Evandjeoski Teoloski Fakultet in Osijek, Croatia and is widely regarded as the foremost evangelical scholar in Eastern Europe.

Kuzmic lamented the prevalence of "half-gospels" that do not take seriously the cross or human pain. These halfgospels, he said, lead to self-sufficiency, competition, duplication, and an "emotionally-driven Christianity that has no transformative effect." Addressing the world's complex problems requires a whole gospel.

Kuzmic commended the Lausanne Covenant as the clearest articulation of the holistic gospel. Invoking former American President John F. Kennedy's famous line "Ich bin ein Berliner" (trying to say "I am a Berliner"), Kuzmic declared his indebtedness to the Lausanne movement Friday night by saying "Ich bin ein Lausanner."

To comprehend the whole gospel we must first understand, according to Kuzmic, that "the Great Commission begins with the Great Foundation." This foundation is expressed in the verses preceding what is typically thought to be the Great Commission. Christ's commandment to disciple the nations does not begin with "go." Rather it is anchored in Christ's astonishing declaration of cosmological sovereignty. "All authority on heaven and earth has been given to me," Jesus said, as recorded in the Gospel of Matthew.

When the Great Foundation and the Great Commission are held together, Christians are emboldened to preach biblical truth in all spheres of life. "Let's be holistic gospelers," concluded Kuzmic.

Serbian pastor Stefan Stankovic said Kuzmic "really spoke to my heart." Kuzmic insisted that the young generation in the Balkans is not responsible for the past conflicts there. That message "took away the guilt for us," added Stankovic.

Andrew Chiang of Hong Kong found the evening message "really helpful." Chiang said he was inspired by Kuzmic's point that "unity in Christ transcends ethnic and national boundaries."



### Daily News Brief LAUSANNE Younger Leaders



### From Pattaya to Port Dickson

by Tetsunao Yamamori

Time flies when you are enjoying doing the Lord's work. It seems like only yesterday when I assumed the responsibility of International Director of the Lausanne Committee for World Evangelization (LCWE) at Pattaya, Thailand. It is hard to believe that was two years ago. Now it is my delight to hand over the baton to Lindsay Brown. It is also time to reflect over the past two years of my Lausanne

Two years ago, I had a feeling of ambivalence about the future of Lausanne, but this is no longer the case. I wanted to believe that all would be well for the movement that had such a remarkable beginning in 1974. At the International Congress on World Evangelization at Lausanne, Switzerland, Billy Graham articulated the urgency of the evangelistic task. The Lausanne Covenant, a product of the Congress, has served as a unifying document for evangelicals around the world; it is focused on the singular task of evangelization.

Lausanne has a holistic understanding of evangelization. The Covenant emphatically declared, "Although reconciliation with man is not reconciliation with God, nor is social action evangelism, nor is political liberation salvation, nevertheless we affirm that evangelism and sociopolitical involvement are both part of our Christian duty" (Section 5). The Lausanne mandate is to call the whole Church to take the holistic gospel to the peoples of the world.

The Lausanne Movement went through some quiet years following Lausanne II in 1989. But at Pattaya, Thailand, the 2004 Forum for World Evangelization assembled over 1,500 evangelical leaders from 130 countries to define the obstacles to effective evangelism in the twenty-first century. The Forum indeed contributed to the revitalization of Lausanne.

Each of the thirty-one Issue Groups organized for the Forum produced a 25,000-word paper on its assigned topic. Reports of the thirty-one Issue Groups were placed online as the Lausanne Occasional Papers. David Claydon, former International Director, edited the Forum papers as the compendium in three volumes entitled A New Vision, A New Heart, A Renewed Call.

Naomi Frizzell, Director of Communications for the LCWE, helped launch the online monthly "Lausanne e-Newsletter" and LausanneWorldPulse.com to advance Lausanne's communications arm and highlight the working of God around the

Lausanne is a team effort. Under the visionary and efficient leadership of its Executive Chair, Doug Birdsall, all of us work diligently, collaborating with one another. The Administrative Committee is the decision-making center that oversees the overall workings of Lausanne. It consists of people who have their own Lausanne responsibilities. The ministry of Lausanne is carried out by its various functional groups and Senior Associates. Furthermore, International Deputy Directors in eleven regions of the world work closely with ministries, churches and organizations in their respective areas to encourage them and network with them for the common cause. When highly motivated people of God work together, things tend to happen for the common good.

All Lausanne-related people are volunteers. No one is paid to work. As such, various tasks and events are accomplished by people with an entrepreneurial spirit. Among the programs planned during the past two years, I personally enjoyed attending the North American Consultation on "The Role of the Church in the HIV/ AIDS Pandemic" held in Louisville, Kentucky, USA in November 2005. The Church cannot be silent on this crucial issue. In May of this year, the Asia Lausanne Committee hosted a conference in Manila on evangelizing Asia. It was another example of Lausanne people in action delving into issues of evangelization for effective implementation.

Recently, a friend of mine asked me what I thought to be the most important challenge facing evangelicals in missions over the next fifty years. I told him it would be religious pluralism. In fact, it has been, is and will be in the future. It is the ideology that affirms the independent validity of all religions. Carried to its logical conclusion, it means that Christianity, Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam and Hare Krishna are all equally true. People who think this way say, "All roads lead to God. A man's religion is his own private business. Any attempt to persuade another person to a particular religious point of view constitutes an invasion of his privacy and an abrogation of his liberty." In such a pluralistic climate, the evangelical Church must vigorously defend the uniqueness of Christ. Without it, our evangelistic efforts will become nullified. Lausanne can help the church address this

Lausanne is a global network made up of people who firmly believe that their mandate is to repeatedly trumpet a fresh call to world evangelization until the Lord returns. The movement therefore must perpetuate itself by investing in the next generation of leaders. Lausanne undertook the first Conference of Young Leaders in Singapore in 1987. Some of today's mission and church leaders were present, including Doug Birdsall, Ajith Fernando, Peter Kuzmić, John Piper and Ramez Atallah.

Why did we have another Younger Leaders Gathering in 2006? The answer is obvious. Lausanne needs to train its future leaders. I feel a bright future for Lausanne is assured because of the quality of younger leaders assembled here and their unfettered dedication to the Lord who commands them to make disciples. The road from Pattaya to Port Dickson has been a clear pathway of hope. Now, the Spirit-guided participants of the Lausanne Younger Leaders Gathering 2006 will venture out with holy ambition to claim the world for Christ.





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### **Staying Connected**

Hundreds of names and dozens of business cards and email addresses have been exchanged at the YLG-06. Connectedness with other leaders and mentors has been central to this Gather. But, how will you stay connected once you leave Port Dickson? Here are several suggestions:

#### YLG-06 Yahoo Group

In the next few days, you will receive an invitation to join the YLG-06 online group at Yahoo. This invitation will go to everyone except for those coming from closed countries. This will be a place where you can connect with other YLG participants, download resources, and participate in ongoing discussions. Joining is completely voluntary on your part. Also, be advised that any information you put into your profile will be available to the others in the group.

#### **International Deputy Directors**

Connect with the Lausanne International Deputy Director in your region: Anglophone Africa: John Azumah; Francophone Africa: Kadabe Daniel Bourdonnae; Latin America: Norberto Saracco; North America: Earl Robinson; East Asia: Hyung Keun (Paul) Choi; North Asia: Agnes Lui; South Asia: Adrian de Visser; Eastern Europe: Marek Wyrzykowski; Western Europe: Elke Werner; Australia/ Oceania: Daniel Willis.

#### Lausanne Monthly Enewsletter

Lausanne Connecting Point offers monthly news, information and stories from around the world. Sign-up for the free enewsletter online at www.lausanne.org.

#### Lausanne World Pulse

www.Lausanneworldpulse.com. Discover world missions and evangelism news, commentaries, ministry reports, research and resources. Monthly issues are free online and as a downloadable PDF. Sign-up for the email alert or RSS feed that will notify when new content is posted.

#### Lausanne III

Offer your suggestions and input into the program for the Lausanne III World Congress on Evangelization scheduled for 2010. Email L3program@lausanne.org.

#### Invaluable Contributions Behind the Scenes of the YLG-06

by Laurie Fortunak



Dozens of volunteers from ministries such as Campus Crusade for Christ (CCC), The Navigators, Youth With A Mission and others have been invaluable to the planning and production of the YLG-06. For more than a vear some of the volunteers involved in organizing the event have been hard at work to make this conference possible. They have played various roles including: leadership, participant selection, administrative help, finance, operations, program planning, worship, mentoring, small groups, prayer, registration, transportation, visa issues, technology, housing, email and translation.

"By working at this conference, we feel like we are seeing a snapshot of heaven with attendees here from all over the world!" said Robin Ronk, of CCC and co-coordinator of operations for YLG-06. "We have seen God at work in the small and large details so many times over the last few days with everything from housing to visas. We are thankful that God allowed us to play a small part in such an inspiring gathering."

The Lausanne Movement would like thank all the volunteers who played a key role in making this YLG-06 a reality:

Paul, Rick, Larry, Matt, Alan, Grace, Jacob, Marcell, Samuel, Andy, Terry, Michael, Bulus, Gaby, Mark, Pedro, Esther, Hoo, Daniel, Samuel, Kelly, Lay Kying, Lindy, Leslie, Jessica, Patrick, Louis, Ella, Debi, Ed, Poh, Mick, Rachel, Doris, Andy, Michelle, Mike, Paul, Chin Yeong, Heng Kee, Feleen, Steve, John, Carl, Robin, Steve, Kelly, Simon, Ted, Lee Anne, Mike, Boon Hwi, Pei Kin, Lim, Jason, Jonathan, Pooi San, Bok Wan, Denise and many others.

This conference would not been possible without you. You are very much appreciated. May the Lord bless you for your service!

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