



the *Vine* institute
Grapevine
 press
 God's Kingdom without Borders

4.2 Edition

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Worship without Borders: the songs, the prayers, the Spirit

By DAVE ROWE

We gathered--we who with one heart name the Name of Jesus in many different tongues--to worship, adore and implore Him for power and blessing from on high to touch our city, our world, our lives. Some of us sang boldly, some timidly; some of us dressed formally and in gorgeous ethnic attire, some of us more casually; some of us prayed with quiet but reverent intensity, some of us at the top of our lungs with hands outstretched to heaven. For sure our worship displayed moments of glitches (awkwardness, squawking sound equipment, etc.) but these faded beneath moments of divine glory and fever-pitch passion as God the Spirit moved among us!

We gathered at the stately historic sanctuary of First United Methodist Church in Salt Lake City. "We" included people from numerous African, Asian, Euro-American, Latin American and multicultural churches. The opening song, a simple doxology, featured an English verse and then soloists in French, Spanish, Japanese, Dutch, Arabic, Swahili, and Tongan. Likewise,

leadership for the event was entrusted to a diverse planning team of three *Vine Institute* students (two African, one Tongan) and two others (one African American and my Anglo self). Our Sierra Leonean friend Jeremiah had offered a prayer in his heart language of Krio last May at the *Global Day of Prayer* service. Afterward he said "We ought to do this more often!" Then he backed up this sentiment with his life, not just words: He joined the planning team; offered excellent

ideas for the program; organized and ran the security team (ushers); brought refreshments; and led an energetic worship feature by the African Fellowship in which he played drums. In short, Jeremiah had with great enthusiasm seized ownership in a major way so this event could glorify God! We greatly value his gifts and he overflows with joy in this service to Christ.

All in all, as we of the global community of Jesus' followers feasted on refreshments after the service, we once again felt our spirits had abundantly feasted on God's goodness as we celebrated His gracious reign over our lives, our churches, our world.



Margaret Duku

Stepping into the Role

By KAY RUDD

Assuming authority and responsibility as a leader for *Christ for the Nations Church* happened gradually for Margaret Duku. She moved from the position of assistant pastor to pastor. During that transition a local minister/mentor challenged her to consider what hindered her from doing all God has called her to do as pastor. She serves in a tradition where male leadership is predominant. For example, when the bishop of the denomination came to town she missed

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Leaders are being equipped;
Churches are being strengthened;
The Kingdom of God is advancing.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

New Leaders for God's Diverse People



'Anitoni Ma'u & Shadow Woli

By TOM McCLENAHAN

In 1975 God began a new people movement: more than 300,000 people from over 50 nations—refugees and immigrants—have arrived in Utah. In fact, in Salt Lake City today the majority of school children are ethnic minority members and speak 100 different languages at home! Many of the newcomers worship Jesus and gather to form new ethnic congregations. **These churches need spiritually mature, trained leaders.**

To address this need God called *The Vine Institute* to offer Christian leadership training to equip these leaders. In three years 67 persons of 21 ethnicities from 29 churches

have taken courses at *The Vine Institute*.

Leaders are being equipped; Churches are being strengthened; The Kingdom of God is advancing. For example, among 2000 Bhutanese-Nepali refugees in Utah who are Hindu, God brought Binod Biswa, a young Christian man. Binod started a Bible study with his extended family. Binod enrolled in the “Caring for God's People” course. As he was discovering in the Bible that God was shepherding him, he learned to shepherd others—visiting them regularly, listening to their hearts, praying for their needs and concerns. Last Easter Binod led 140 Bhutanese-Nepali people in worshiping Jesus!

Alongside these blessings, God is bringing new challenges for *The Vine Institute*:

- By fall 2014 we will not be able to accommodate new students without hiring another person to teach. This will require an increase in regular income.
- By 2017 we will need to have a new younger generation of leaders. This is critical if the ministry is to continue into the future.

Our vision is that in three years the staff of *The Vine Institute* will reflect the diversity we serve. Please pray for new and diverse staff as God calls them to lead this vital ministry. **Please send your thoughts, questions, and comments!** 

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out on most of the conversations so she could prepare the food. When communion

“Just want you know that the step to do the communion was amazing, you have no idea how great that was to our congregation.

Glory be to God!”
Shadow Woli

was part of a worship service she waited for Sundays when visiting male pastors would be leading the service. God stirred Mar-

garet's heart and she desired to serve the people more completely by fulfilling all the responsibilities of pastor. Sunday Margaret led Holy Communion for the first time. 

Vine Board Update

We will miss the faithful service of Daid Ludwick, gone to glory. Thanks to Bob Nakaoka who generously served his full term. Welcome to Krysti Neller-moe and Tipiloma Pupu'a our new board members. We look forward to benefiting from their gifts.

**New courses will start January 2014.
Register online!**

www.vine-institute.org
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