

W5 on Missions

Who... Jeff and Deann Carter

Jeff was born in Wolfville, NS. He enrolled at Nova Scotia Agricultural College with a view to agricultural missions. Jeff took theological training at Acadia Divinity College (M.Div. & M.R.E.). After graduation he taught for four months in Bolivia with Canadian Baptist Volunteers. Jeff served as Christian Education Director at First Baptist Church, Charlottetown where he discovered his love of youth work. Jeff has served on staff with IVCF Canada, and as IVCF Coordinator in the Atlantic Provinces. Jeff also has a Doctor of Ministry degree from McMaster Divinity College.

Deann is also from Nova Scotia and a graduate of ADC (M.Div. & M.Th.). Jeff and Deann met at Acadia. They married in 1992. They have two sons, Zachary and Matthew.

When... Jeff and Deann Carter were appointed as CBM Global Field Staff in 2002.

Where... The Carters are based in **Prague, Czech Republic.**

What... Jeff serves as the Coordinator of Youth Ministry Leadership Training for the European Baptist Federation (EBF) made up of 54 countries in Europe and the Middle East. His work is in partnership with the EBF, the International Baptist Theological Seminary (IBTS) in Prague and Acadia Divinity College, Wolfville, NS.

Jeff's work involves travel to many countries in Europe and the Middle East. In his *Dec/08 Newsletter*, Jeff talks of a wonderful training conference this past October in Armenia for 45 youth leaders from Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan and Nagorno Karabakh where Jeff and Vasko led sessions in leadership training. Jeff also tells of an equally inspiring and fruitful ministry in Israel with the Baptist youth leaders network. Jeff taught seminars at youth meetings and the Nazareth Bible College.

In his *Spring/09 Newsletter*, Jeff writes: Teaching has become one of my passions. This year I have developed a close relationship with the **Certificate of Applied Theology** students and they clearly enjoyed the course and often after it was over at the end of winter term they would express disappointment that it was no longer in progress. As a teacher it is an encouragement to me to know that the students have been challenged and that it is reaching them. They too have enriched us and we were touched when they invited us as a family to share in their communal dinner one Friday evening. It always amazes me how students from such diverse backgrounds from across Europe and the Middle East can live, work and learn together. They will be missed! What a joy to see them go into ministries across this vast region. The end of May will see us at yet another graduation and another commissioning of these young leaders to God.



Jeff Carter (at left, front row) with the Certificate of Applied Theology students.

This past February after a couple of years of development, IBTS introduced the first ever **Master's level Youth Ministry course at IBTS in Applied Theology** created and taught by Jeff. The first students registered for the intensive course and are now in the middle of



writing papers! The time we had together as a class was stimulating, especially when you have dialogue between people from Croatia, Belgium, Poland, Armenia and the Czech Republic. This course will be a regular course taught in the February block and we are having inquires already for next year. Again, teaching has been a joy and bringing people into conversation around youth work from around the world is a blessing for all.

Prayer items: Praise God for a successful and inspiring Youth and Children's conference in Romania this past January with James Penner (Alberta) as our guest speaker.

Praise God for the continuing development of the new HORIZONS material and that as we begin a strategy for training course mentors in countries around Europe and the Middle East that we will be drawn to the right people.

Pray for us as we prepare to leave for Canada for a time of "home assignment" this summer sharing with churches, friends and family from May 31st to September 1st.

Pray for our CBM colleague Vasil Vasilev as he works on the Amsterdam 400 team this summer and then joins our family in Canada for the month of August. Pray for his health and safe travel and that his time with us will be rewarding as he shares with churches and supporters.

Why... Jeff and Deann feel that God has called them to work together in missions; their focus is on youth and the training of youth leaders.

Information from Czech Up! with the Carter Family Dec/08 and Spring/09. Used by permission.

Lorna McCain Corresponding Secretary for UBWMU/ABW