I've Never Killed Anyone, “Project the Image,” and “The Case of the Unknown Killer” (2016 pastors’ handbook update). Materials may be ordered at store.lifemattersww.org or by phone 1-800-968-6086.

NEW STAFF MEMBER

John Macomber joined our staff in September as Director of Resource Development. In that capacity he will assist the President in maintaining and developing partners for the ministry: churches, pastors, businesses, and individuals.

John was operating his family’s steel fabrication business when he felt the call to ministry. During Bible college he served as the family care pastor at his home church, Heritage Baptist of Kentwood, Michigan.

John is excited to be working for Life Matters because he is able to use his gifts of...
leadership and encouragement in many different ways while keeping the Great Commission as the main focus. We’re glad John is part of our team!

PASTORS’ LUNCHEON & BANQUET 3/10/16

John Stonestreet will join us as our featured speaker for two events on March 10, 2016. First he’ll address Grand Rapids-area pastors over lunch at Cornerstone University. Later that day he’ll speak to hundreds of Life Matters’ supporters gathered at Meijer Gardens for our annual banquet.

You may know John from his Breakpoint radio broadcasts. He’s also an author of several books, and was recently named president of the Chuck Colson Center for Christian Worldview.

TOGO REPORT

In August, representatives from Life Matters Worldwide traveled to Togo in West Africa to follow up on a previous visit by participating in three conferences.

Tom Lothamer (current president), Ray Paget (past executive director), and Bob Gillespie (Answers in Genesis) laid the foundation for the biblical pro-life message with 35 pastors, and spoke in three church services.

Abstinence educator Tonya Delnay spoke about sexual purity, choices and consequences, and our relationship with God to 450 teens and women. She fielded many questions and was able to give sound biblical answers. Many teens dedicated themselves to making good choices in the future.

The highlight of the trip was the first ever National Parents’ Conference, with over 2,000 people from 75 Togolese Bible and Baptist churches in attendance. Sermons and workshops were conducted in three languages. People were very appreciative and are already anticipating the next conference in 2020. Organizers hope to be able to host as many as 5,000 people in a permanent structure rather than in tents.

Missionary Joseph Akakpo reports that the Lord brought conviction and repentance through the teaching sessions. “In my workshop I can see faces with tears of guilt and shame.” Lives were transformed, and husbands and wives reconciled.

Lives are also being changed through Centre Pre-natal, even though the pregnancy care center is not yet open. Esther Akakpo Aglago (Joseph’s daughter and the center’s director) has already been receiving calls for help. One 16-year-old had attempted abortion using chemicals and traditional herbs. The baby was still alive, but did not survive long after birth. Esther kept in touch with the girl and her mother, who both repented of their sin and prayed to receive forgiveness in Christ.

While making presentations in churches, Esther will often speak to the young people who have many questions pertaining to sex and pregnancy. She says, “We do have a huge problem and a big youth ministry gap here in Togo. Please continue praying for us!”

BIENNIAL PERU CONFERENCE

Every other year, we partner with missionary Evelyn Stone in hosting a Summit in Lima, Peru, for about 100 pregnancy care center workers from five South American countries. This coming January 28-30 we expect registrations to top 150!

In addition to the usual PCC focus, we’ll offer a track on LIFT to regional pastors and other Christian leaders. Brant and Julie Cuthbert (our LIFT Coordinator) will be traveling to Lima along with Tom Lothamer and John Macomber.

ULTRASOUNDS FOR HONDURAS

God is using an area businessman, a local church, and Life Matters to provide ultrasound equipment to meet a need in Honduras – a place with a high rate of illegal abortions. A group of Honduran mayors and some missionaries are also in the mix. Read more about it at lifemattersww.org > Missions > Pro-life partners around the world.

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

During the last half of 2015, Tom led four board training sessions, conducted a workshop at the Right to Life of Michigan conference, and provided keynote addresses at two pregnancy care center banquets in northern Michigan. At the start of 2016, we’ll be highlighting the biblical pro-life message in churches for Sanctity of Human Life Sunday.

YEAR-END NEED

During the final month of 2015, we need $80,000 of gift income to finish the year in the black and have sufficient funds to start the new year.

We’re confident God will provide, as He has in the past. Please watch and pray with us!