



Year of the Harvest

The sanctuary was 29 degrees - or at least that is what it felt like. Six pews were stacked with shivering friends and parishioners focused on the bodies draped in white in the tank filled with tepid water. Cheering and clapping erupted multiple times from the witnesses as first sister then brother entered the baptismal, made public confessions of faith, and then went under and came up out of the water. Elienid (Tutu) and Luis Ramos were baptized and became members of Global Ministries Christian Church (GMCC) on January 4th, 2008. This night was a milestone for the siblings, our ministry and GMCC.

Both Tutu (sixteen) and Luis (fifteen) decided to follow Jesus during a Boston Project summer Bible CLUB. We have joyfully walked with them over these last five years navigating first jobs, exploring tough sections of scripture, fighting to not drop out of school, growing in their peer leadership, and discovering each one's spiritual gifts, talents and God-given dreams.

When asked about the baptism night Tutu smiles, "The water was cold." But when pressed for more details they both talk about the spiritual significance. "I felt like a brand new person when I came up!" Luis asserts.

When The Boston Project was birthed in 1995, God lead our founders to Dorchester Temple Baptist Church (now GMCC). We were immediately attracted to the church family's passionate love for God and commitment to social justice. In 1996 Pastor Bruce Wall, Pastor Craig McMullen, and the Deacons embraced our fledgling ministry and began serving as The Boston Project's fiscal conduit. The church supports The Boston Project as part of their missions work, helps host our volunteer teams (many college and church youth groups have slept on the hardwood and cement floors), and now is "home" office for our Service-Learning team.

Minister Barbara Nobles, the new director of GMCC's children and youth ministry, has said, "The Boston Project and Global Ministries are in a wonderfully unique partnership. The Boston Project is in a great place to outreach and bring young people into the church. Then the church can help them grow in their young Christian faith."

Likewise, Pastor Bruce Wall and Paul Malkemes serve together with a clear vision that the role of a para-church ministry is to walk alongside the church and not be a church. For Paul, "It's liberating to know that we can pursue the grass-roots, street-level outreach we are called to and not feel compelled to be all things to all people - that's what makes partnerships like this great. You learn over time how to lean on one another's strengths."



Thanks to the 50+ students from Campus Crusade's Winter Conference who helped us paint our new office in the church.

It is awesome to see how God is working in and through this partnership. Take Jerez: We first met Jerez this past summer through a friend attending The Spot, our summer teen café (supported by the Black Ministerial Alliance). Jerez quickly developed friendships with BP youth and staff, and stayed connected by attending our Homework Center. Through the invitation of his new friends, Jerez later investigated...

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Meet Our Growing Staff

Since 2004, the full-time, year-round staff of The Boston Project has grown from two (Paul and Keith) to nine amazing men and women. That's a 450% increase in less than 4 years! Also as our staff grows, the various types of neighborhood ministry we are able to engage in increases, as well. Let us introduce our current staff team:



Executive Office & Community Dev.

Paul Malkemes - Executive Director
Glenna Malkemes - Curriculum Dir.
Liz Boyd - Executive Assistant
Melissa Chappell - Development Dir.

Neighborhood Youth Ministries

Katie Rice (Director)
Catrina LaBrie

Service-Learning Programs

Keith Riddle (Director)
Kelly Desmarais
Nithin Thompson

Would you like to learn more about us?

JOIN US FOR A

Breakfast with The Boston Project



Saturday, March 8th
Saturday, April 12th
Saturday, May 10th
9:30-11:00 a.m.



Join our staff for a delicious, relaxed and informative breakfast. If you want to learn more about our ministry, this opportunity is for you!

- Share with others your interest in urban ministry.
- Learn about our history, present work, and future.
- Understand how you can become more involved.

Breakfast is FREE, but seating is limited to 8-10
RSVP (617) 929-0925 or melissa@tbpm.org

Year of the Harvest (continued from front page)

...the youth group at GMCC. On New Year's Eve, the church held a special Watch Night service where Jerez and his older brother both decided to commit their lives to Christ! Jerez is now growing in his Christian faith, and you will often see him at Friday night prayer meeting.

Each year, God impresses upon Pastor Wall a theme for our church and 2008 is the "Year of the Harvest" (Luke 10:2). We have great expectation that this is going to be significant year for many young people, and ourselves as well. It is humbling and awesome that we can be co-laborers in Christ together, and that God is already allowing us to see fruit.

We want to say thank you to all of you! God has had many of our paths intersect for a purpose during the past 13 years. You have helped to shape each of us personally and as a ministry. We request your on-going prayers. To God be the Glory!

Happy Birthday

February 28, 2008 marks the beginning of our 13th year of ministry.

**30%**
Thanks

Early last year, we were surprised when told by a professional fundraiser that a good financial growth rate for an organization our size is about 30% per year. With deep appreciation and awe, **we praise God that in 2007 our charitable income grew by 37%!** We understand that people's financial situations may change over time. If possible, please consider a regular gift in 2008 to help either our missionaries or a specific program (general fund, children & youth outreach, capital campaign) continue to flourish.

Please PRAY for these needs of The Boston Project

PRAISE GOD for our new staff member Catrina Labrie and seminary intern Nithin Thompson who are both former summer program directors and serving with us again; for your generous 2007 year-end giving; for our new Service-Learning office and Campus Crusade's exceptional painting help; for a dynamic weekend retreat with UConn Intervarsity students; for God's safety and protection over our youth and staff; and for more young people choosing to follow Jesus and becoming involved with our local church.

POWERFUL COLLEGE SPRING BREAK MISSION TRIPS – Ask God to speak to the students from Crighton College, Calvin College, and Georgia Southern University this March.

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT – Ask for God's guidance as we write our summer scripture curriculum.

MINISTRY HOUSING – God's provision of housing for our 16+ summer staff from June-August, and for a new ministry outreach house in an abutting neighborhood in 2008.

NEW CHURCH PARTNERSHIPS – Ask God to lead us into six new church partnerships in 2008 grounded in genuine relationship, love for God, and a shared vision for urban outreach.

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