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Around the World*

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Editors' Notes

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Editors' Notes

D'ESTA LOVE AND STUART LOVE

This issue of *Leaven* is entitled *Unfamiliar Voices: The Restoration Movement Around the World*. Our purpose is to listen to voices of restoration movements—most of which are outside the United States—to hear others describe their attempts to restore New Testament Christianity, sometimes knowing or having ties to the Stone-Campbell tradition, and sometimes not. To edit this issue we needed someone with a global perspective, and found that person in Dr. Dyron Daughrity.

Dyron has traveled extensively, studying the history of Christianity. Born in California, he grew up in Portales, New Mexico, and attended Lubbock Christian University and Abilene Christian University where he studied history and theology under Dr. Douglas Foster, Leonard Allen and Everett Ferguson. He received his doctorate in the history of religious movements and institutions at the University of Calgary in Canada. His doctoral dissertation, *Bishop Stephen Neill, From Edinburgh to South India*, was published in 2008 by Peter Lang Publishing. Awarded four research fellowships by the Disciples of Christ (Canada), Dyron made a number of study travels outside Canada and the United States. He studied at Oxford University and served as a visiting professor at Union Biblical Seminary in Pune, India, located near Bombay. Recently, Dyron has studied the origins of the Restoration Movement in Scotland. At Pepperdine University since 2007, Dyron currently teaches church history, world religions, and Christianity and culture.

Our next and final issue of 2009 is entitled *The Hymns of Scripture*, and features articles presented at the *Leaven Symposium* at the 2008 Pepperdine University Bible Lectures. Please keep *Leaven* in your prayers.

GUEST EDITOR'S INTRODUCTION

DYRON DAUGHRITY

The origin of the Restoration Movement is a prominent chapter in the history of Christianity in the United States of America. The Cane Ridge Revival, the *Last Will and Testament of the Springfield Presbytery*, the herculean ministries of Alexander Campbell and Barton W. Stone, and the pioneering preachers and teachers who fanned out all across the United States in the name of New Testament Christianity all serve as reminders that the Restoration Movement has a distinguished pedigree in America. However, it is important to realize that Restoration Christianity is certainly not limited to the United States; it is today a global movement.

Undoubtedly there are readers quite familiar with Restoration Christianity in Canada, England and even Africa, but there are many who may not be as familiar with the global nature of the movement. Indeed, the historic heartland for Restoration Christianity has been located in the "Bible Belt" of the United States. However, we have sisters and brothers in this movement all over the world, from New York City to the Democratic Republic of the Congo. It might come as a surprise to some to realize that the heartland of the Restoration Movement is in the process of shifting to the Global South (Asia, Africa and Latin America). If not already, the time will soon arrive when there will be more Restoration Christians in Africa than in the United States. Similarly, it is important for those of us within the Restoration Movement to acknowledge our sisters and brothers in the other streams of the movement: Independent Churches, Disciples, International

Church of Christ and the various *a capella* groups. Why is this important? Perhaps one reason is simply to realize we have kinfolk whom we have never met. It is always a wonderful thing to go to a family reunion and meet up with people who share our blood but of whom we know very little. Join me as we listen to some Unfamiliar Voices and get to know some loved ones we have perhaps never met. In this issue, you will have the opportunity to listen to the following:

- **Bosela Eale** is a prominent Disciples minister in the Congo who has a broad understanding of the Restoration Movement in Africa.
- **Carmelo Alvarez** is a distinguished Puerto Rican scholar, well known for his extensive publications on Christianity in Latin America.
- **Claude Cox and Stan Litke** are long-time Restoration Christians in Canada.
- **Elizabeth Whatley** is from a Churches of Christ background and now directs the Florence, Italy program for Pepperdine University.
- **Jared Looney** is from an *a capella* background and now serves Christ in the Bronx, New York City.
- **Lyndsay Jacobs**, from New Zealand, has served the worldwide Restoration Movement in a number of ways throughout his many years of service, chiefly as general secretary of the World Convention for twelve years.
- **Ong Kok Bin** is a Malaysian Christian with a wealth of ministerial experience in that country.
- **Robert Carrillo** is a Mexican-American working with the International Church of Christ (ICOC) in San Diego and Tijuana.
- **Yann Opsitch** is a French Christian who has a good overall understanding of the nature of Restoration Christianity in Europe.

It is my hope that these international perspectives might touch your heart and perhaps expand your Restoration horizons. I am thankful for our contributors and I am thankful for your taking the time to hear these perhaps Unfamiliar Voices.

