



# Reformation Christian Ministries

## Poettcker's Prayer Partners

December 2007 & January 2008

Greetings in the God of providence!

Yes, our God is the living God; who has made all things for His glory and who continues to rule over them by His ever-present and almighty power. It is with that confidence in Him that we enter the New Year and wish you all a blessed and happy New Year!

Changes for PPP in 2008!

As we set out to be missionaries with RCM our vision and prayer was to have a partnership in our ministry based primarily upon prayer and secondarily for financial support. That is why we chose the name "PPP" (Poettcker's Prayer Partners), and are deeply thankful for the many partnerships God has granted to us over the years.

We are making some changes to future PPP's by having them included in the RCM newsletter. A separate PPP will be sent out once or twice a year. Therefore, **if you do not now receive the RCM newsletter and wish to keep up with the Lord's work through us, please ask to be on the RCM newsletter list.** Please call or email me ([rep@reformation.edu](mailto:rep@reformation.edu)); I will be sure you are added to it.

In keeping with our original vision, I will be emailing out regular prayer requests. They will be a brief update on our life, our ministry, our joys, our needs, and so on. **If you would like to receive these email prayer requests, please send me an email and I will include you in the list.**

Who are the Poettckers?

Since we have many new readers we'd like to reintroduce ourselves.

I was born to godly parents in Alberta, Canada. After graduating from university with a degree in History, and being involved in numerous trades and businesses, I eventually graduated from Mid-America Reformed Seminary with a Master of Divinity degree. I was ordained in 1988 and am presently a minister in the Covenant Reformed Presbyterian Church.

In 1972 I married Sharilyn Taves, who was also born to godly parents in Tchad, Africa. After attending nursing school she worked as a registered nurse; which made it possible for me to continue my education. The Lord gave us two children: Our daughter Karissa is now married with two children and living in Calgary, Alberta. Our son Micah was diagnosed with a brain tumor at the age of five and passed away at the age of eight, in 1992.

*So teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.* [Psalm 90:12]



**Rudy & Sharilyn Poettcker**  
(On Anniversary—Dec. 30)



**Asgar & Nirmala Hamid**  
(Gifts from FPC for Anniversary—Dec. 12)

### Our Living Address:

The Poettckers  
667 Fernandina St. NW,  
Palm Bay, FL, U.S.A. 32907

**Home Telephone:** 321-373-5294

**Email Address:** [rep@reformation.edu](mailto:rep@reformation.edu)

### Mailing Address for donations:

RCM  
13950-122<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Fellsmere, FL, U.S.A. 32948  
**Phone:** 772-571-8833

As a family of three we went to Suriname in 1994 to serve as missionaries with Reformation Christian Ministries (RCM). We took over for the Donnans, who were used of the Lord to start both the church and school there in 1978-79. What began as a two year plan became a twelve year stay! In those years I became, and continue to serve as, the Headmaster of Christian Liberty Academy (CLA). I also became the pastor of First Presbyterian Church and subsequently was used of the Lord to help train my replacement, Rev. Asgar Hamid. Our ministry is an RCM project and uses the name "SALT" (originally "Suriname Advanced Leadership Training", but now stands for "Scriptural Advanced Leadership Training").

In 2006 RCM arranged for our immigration to the United States to work more directly with its other ministries.

#### What we do:

Sharilyn is working as a registered nurse at a local hospital and it is her income that allows us to make payments for the house we live in.

Along with Rev. Donnan, I serve as co-pastor of a small church that we are working to see develop and grow; it is called "The King's Reformed Presbyterian Church". We both serve in this church on a voluntary basis; that is, without remuneration. We have a total of six households in membership with attendance averaging between 20-25 each Lord's Day.

I commute regularly for the work in Suriname and am Dean of Studies for "Reformation International Schools".

#### My work in Suriname:

I continue to serve as the Headmaster of CLA and work closely with Rev. Asgar Hamid who is the school administrator. This school has over 300 students, from K-5 to grade 12. I continue to develop and refine curriculum and courses for CLA. I am also responsible to recruit helpers from outside of Suriname, to teach the higher level courses in the High School, since qualified teachers are scarce locally.

#### My work as Dean of Studies:

This duty has slowly evolved over the years, and in a way is a natural outgrowth of my involvement in education at CLA. In "Reformation International College" (RIC) we are certified members of both the "Florida Council of Private Colleges" ([www.FCPC.info](http://www.FCPC.info)) and the Council of Private Colleges of America ([www.cpcamerica.org](http://www.cpcamerica.org)) through whom we are able to have a program of training teachers. Students can earn a Bachelor of Education and even write State of Florida teaching certificate exams. A good deal of my time

has been working on courses for this program. We started with two students in Suriname, and have since added two more, and will soon add a fifth. All are graduates of CLA. We hope soon to be able to offer this program for North American and other international students. Our prayerful desire is to provide future teachers for CLA, and other Christian schools around the world. Along with development and refinement of courses for the B.Ed. I work with the students; providing them with their study materials, grading their work, and keeping them on track with their studies. This is almost exclusively done via the internet (as a distance learning program).

In "Reformation International Theological Seminary" (RITS) I have been working with others to refine the existing programs and courses. The primary focus has been on the Master of Divinity degree program (MDiv) but along with that program we have various other approaches for those who desire theological training but may not be interested in entering the ministry. As a result we have Bachelor of Divinity, Master of Arts, Master of Christian Studies, and Master of Theology, as well as various doctoral programs handled by the RITS doctoral committee.

The web site for the educational programs is:

[www.reformation.edu](http://www.reformation.edu)

Donations for our ministry are tax deductible in both Canada and the U.S. (they should be made to RCM and designated to SALT). We treasure the partnerships God has granted to us in our ministry and appreciate your help in recruiting more who will unite with us in this far-reaching ministry.

#### **SPECIFIC MATTERS FOR PRAYER:**

- Pray for ongoing work in course development & my work as Dean of Studies with RCM (there is much to do!).
- Pray for Sharilyn in her work as oncology nurse, and especially for healing for her knees.
- Pray for continued donations for our ministry support.
- Pray for CLA and all who work there. Pray especially for Lance Visser and Courtney Withington as they continue to teach there. Pray for ongoing administration of CLA.
- Pray for the ministry of FPC and for the visitors who attend, which regularly includes students of CLA.

Look for pictures and articles at the RCM web site:

[www.reformation.ws](http://www.reformation.ws)

To be added to our mailing list, or to make a donation, please cut and send to: [or email to: [rep@reformation.edu](mailto:rep@reformation.edu) ]

**Reformation Christian Ministries.** FOR: S.A.L.T. (Scriptural Advanced Leadership Training)

**U.S.A.:** 13950 - 122 St. Fellsmere, FL. 32948-6411. Phone (772) 571-8833. Fax (772) 571-8010

**CANADA:** R.R. #1, 5060 Oliver Rd. Murillo, ONT. P0T2G0 Phone (807) 473-9344

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

(NOTE: Please make all checks payable to "Reformation Christian Ministries" and designate to "S.A.L.T.")

(All donations are tax exempt in the U.S. and eligible for charity receipts in Canada)