<u>Reverend Sanford Hashimoto</u> Christian & Missionary Alliance Missionary Sao Paulo, Brazil

Sanford and his wife Gwendolyn (Wendie) have served as C&MA missionaries for over 25 years! They are currently serving the Lord in Brazil. They have two daughters, Tracy (in college) & Ginger (teacher in Sao Paulo, Brazil). We are pleased to have Sanford Hashimoto come to Long Beach Alliance Church and share about what God has been doing in his life as a successful church planter, teacher, and preacher! Sanford's joy is to see the church grow and mature, and to teach the Bible to new believers. Sanford's life verse is Philippians 1:21, "For to me to live is Christ and to die is gain."

Sermon Notes:

International Mission Partner Long-Beach Alliance Church - February 20th, 2005 - Pastor Chris Lankford

While they were ministering to the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." Then, when they had fasted and prayed and laid their hands on them, they sent them away. So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia and from there they sailed to Cyprus... ~Acts 13:2-4 (NASB)

A Brief History Of The Christian & Missionary Alliance

In 1887, Presbyterian minister Dr. Albert B. Simpson began to mobilize Christians from many different churches and walks of life to "take the whole Bible to the whole world." Dr. Simpson believed that any person who was

truly controlled by the Holy Spirit would have no choice but to share the Good News about Jesus Christ with others, either as a missionary overseas, or as a missionary here at home in the United States.

Dr. Simpson preferred that the people involved in the "movement" remain a part of their own churches, rather than develop another denomination. His desire was for unity around a cause, rather than the 'separatist' idea of a denomination. With this in mind, two separate missions organizations (The Christian Alliance & The Evangelical Missionary Alliance) combined their efforts in 1897 and became The Christian & Missionary Alliance. The C&MA established "branches," instead of denominational churches, in an effort to evangelize the world in Christ's name Despite Simpson's vision, by the end of the 1930's, the Alliance was operating much like a denomination, even though it was not operating as such in name. With over 650 branches and 500+ missionaries around the world, the Alliance had become a major force in worldwide evangelism.

The C&MA went through rapid growth and expansion after this point, adding four Alliance Schools (Toccoa Falls in GA; Crown College in MN, Simpson University in CA & Nyack College/Alliance Theological Seminary in NY), a publishing house (Christian Publications), four Alliance retirement centers (including Town & Country Manor in Santa Ana, CA) and finally organized officially as a denomination in 1974. In 1981 the C&MA Canada became autonomous from the C&MA USA, leading to more international missionaries and further growth in North America and abroad.

One of the common questions people always pose about the C&MA is, "What is that logo all about? It looks kind of cultish!" In reality, the logo of the C&MA is very meaningful and full of history. Here is a brief explanation for each symbol in the C&MA logo...

The CROSS: Christ Our Savior

Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under __heaven given to man by which we must be saved (Acts 4:12)

We believe Jesus Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures . . . that we are redeemed through His precious blood, justified by His death and Resurrection, made righteous through His righteousness, and accepted in His name.

The <u>LAVER</u>: Christ Our Sanctifier His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness (2nd Peter 1:3)

Holiness is the Lord Jesus Christ Himself–so dwelling in our hearts and so walking in our steps that we shall live like Him. This can never be in a sense that will minister to our own pride or self-sufficiency, for before we can receive it, we must come to the end of ourselves and never become self-sufficient apart from Christ. Such holiness means living a life of simple dependence, moment by moment, on Christ alone.

Note: The laver symbol represents a vessel used in the temple of the Old Testament. The priest used it to wash his feet before entering the Holy Place. It signifies the daily cleansing from sin by the power of the Holy Spirit.

The <u>PITCHER</u>: Christ Our Healer And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the

Lord will raise him up (James 5:15)

The Lord Jesus has purchased and provided for His believing and obedient children physical strength, life, and healing as freely as the spiritual blessings of the gospel. He took up our infirmities as well as our sins, and from His risen life and living touch, our faith may draw health and strength until our life work is done.

Note: This symbol represents a pitcher containing oil to anoint the sick for healing that comes through obedience to God's Word.

The <u>CROWN</u>: Christ Our Coming King You will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven (Mark 14:62)



The Lord Jesus is coming personally to this earth again. It is not a mere spiritual coming, either at death or in a deeper experience of the Holy Spirit, or in the spread of the gospel throughout the world; but it is the coming of the Lord Himself as literally and personally as when He went away.

The <u>GLOBE</u>: Completing Christ's Commission And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come (Matthew 24:14)

The globe adds a new dimension to the long-familiar official logo of the C&MA. The four Christ-centered symbols speak of God's gift of love to all peoples of every generation. They represent what Christ gives of Himself to His people so that He may present them to the Father without fault and with great joy. Now we give because He gave.

The globe represents our mission in the world. "Freely you have received, freely give," the Lord urged His followers as He sent them to spread the Good News throughout the land. That appeal from His heart to ours will continue until the gospel, through the efforts of His Church, has reached all peoples, and He comes again.

Today, the Christian & Missionary Alliance, under the direction of its 10th president, Peter N. Nanfelt, supports more than 1,100 missionaries in 49 nations and has churches in 66 countries. In the USA, the Alliance has churches in every state. The Alliance has over 350,000 members in over 2,000 churches worldwide. The C&MA is unique in that it has a larger international membership than USA membership. This May in Cincinnati, Ohio, the delegates to General Council will nominate our 11th President as we continue to accelerate into the 21st century. For more information on the C&MA visit the denominational website @ www.cmalliance.org/index.jsp.