

Editorial

My three years as editor of *Seedbed* come to an end with the third trimester of 2007. This period has been a fulfilling time of interaction with you; I have enjoyed encouraging you to write about your thoughts and experiences for working among the peoples of the Arab world. You have stimulated us all with your insights and suggestions.

Changes are in the wind for *Seedbed* as Don Little, our missiologist, takes over the editorship. I am sure you will appreciate his fresh approach – using modern computer technology to increase the possibilities for exchanging ideas and for publishing future articles.

This present issue emphasises communication of the Gospel – both by word and by life. First, Marten de Vries describes a Muslim-Christian discussion about Abraham. Both groups agreed to listen to each other. The account of their meeting serves as an example for future exchanges that you might like to try. JF adds to the challenge for finding ways to interact by suggesting a change from the usual debate topics to a look at questions of hypocrisy and of heart needs.

SC raises issues related to transformational ministry in our sinful world and moves us on to the practical application in real life of communication / language skills. As we point others to the Saviour, we live out our faith holistically in our daily roles. EM and HC take us beyond our comfort zone to consider how we may serve the most vulnerable and despised persons in society. We are impressed with the need to pray for them while looking for ways to help them. H. JohnMark gives us practical advice on improving our learning of languages in order to be better communicators of truth.

Our book reviews show us God's work in North Africa. First we have John L. Blanc's account of the awakening in modern-day Kabylia (eastern Algeria); it is evaluated for us by Eva Longley who herself lived through the beginnings of this movement. Our second book choice takes us to a much earlier period of North African church history – the story of third century martyrs in Carthage – a most stirring example for today's new Christians of that area who also face pressures to deny their faith.

May this edition of *Seedbed* inspire you with ideas for carrying out your own ministries.

Donna Smith