



Made for *Mission*

ACROSS THE STREET | AROUND THE WORLD



Made for *Mission*



Jerusalem

STATESIDE MISSIONS | LOCAL MISSIONS

Made for Mission

Adult & Teen Challenge of Alabama

Overview

In 1958, one man started what would become one of the oldest, largest, and most successful programs of its kind in the world, Teen Challenge International. David Wilkerson began the initiative as an outreach to drug addicts and gang members in New York, writing the bestseller, *The Cross and the Switchblade*, detailing his experience. In the decades that followed, Teen Challenge evolved into an international faith-based drug rehabilitation program with one of the highest success rates in the world. Wilkerson passed away in 2011, but his ministry continues to grow, with over 1100 centers worldwide, helping tens of thousands of people each year.

Adult and Teen Challenge of Alabama is an addiction recovery and Christian discipleship program for men and women struggling with life-controlling problems. We provide a safe and loving environment where people can receive holistic care and long-term counseling necessary to change their lives.

We take a faith-based approach to addiction recovery. We invite ATC participants into a life-affirming discipleship process to transform their habits, community involvement, relationships, and vocation.

Ways to Pray for this Ministry

- Pray for the staff of ATC.
- Pray for those who are currently in a rehabilitation program.
- Pray for those who will enter into a rehabilitation program in the future.
- Pray that God would use ATC to help people understand and follow Jesus fully.

Alabama Baptist Children's Home & Family Care Gardendale, AL

Overview of Family Care Ministry

Our Family Care Ministry provides safe and stable homes to help struggling mothers and their dependent children get back on their feet. This program provides a mother and her children transitional housing while she gains or maintains employment, saves money, receives counseling, and learns life skills, such as budgeting and healthy parenting techniques. Depending on their commitment to the program, mothers may stay for up to one year.

We're thrilled that one of the Alabama Baptist Children's Home & Family Care facilities is located in Gardendale, AL. Valcena Pritchett, one of our church members, gives leadership to this facility. We're grateful for Valencia and the ministry of Alabama Baptist Children's Home and Family Ministries.

Ways to Pray for This Ministry

- Pray for the families and children currently living in Gardendale and other locations throughout the state. Pray that these families would experience love, peace, and help as they walk through a challenging time in their life.
- Pray that each children's home and family care ministry would be a place filled with God's presence and peace.
- Pray for Valencia and other staff that diligently serve hurting families and children.

For more information on missions at GFBC, visit gfbc.com/missions.

Baltimore, Maryland Church Planting

Church of the Harbor

Church planting continues the story that starts with evangelism. Send Network (North American Mission Board) has identified four areas of focus with great kingdom potential: major cities with high population density and diversity, college communities filled with students preparing to disperse throughout the world, military communities where the culture is unique and the congregations are transient, and strategic areas. Each presents distinct challenges and unique opportunities.

Gardendale First Baptist Church supports the North American Mission Board financially, but we also want to have intentional relationships with NAMB church planters. We have been partnering with Church of the Harbor for several years.

Pastors Jeff Belcher, Wes Gresham, Tyler Silvey, Joseph Kim and their families have been serving faithfully in Baltimore for several years. During this time, God has used them to launch Church of the Harbor, which has grown to three campuses: Essex, Edgemere, and Curtis Bay. For the past seven years, GFBC has been sending teams to work with Church of the Harbor. These teams have helped with block parties, community movie nights, building renovations, and door-to-door evangelism.

Ways to Pray for Baltimore and Church of the Harbor

- Pray for the salvation of the people of Baltimore.
- Pray for energy and rest for the Church of the Harbor pastors.
- Pray for the members of Church of the Harbor.
- Pray that God would continue to open up opportunities for Church of the Harbor to plant additional campuses.

As Christ followers, we are called to share the gospel not only to those around the world but also to those across the street. Baltimore is a trip where you are going to be evangelizing door to door. This may seem scary at first, but it truly isn't. It's a tough trip in seeing the spiritual brokenness there, but a well-worth-it trip in knowing you are first-hand spreading the gospel and being a light in a dark place. – Kayla Felix

Baltimore is a hard area for ministry. Jeff Belcher, Wes Gresham, and the entire Church of the Harbor staff work diligently to serve and love the community. If you want to be challenged in your walk with Jesus and inspired to share the gospel more effectively, spend time with Church of the Harbor in Baltimore! – Madison Terry

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Cornfields, Arizona

Overview

Over the past two years we have formed a relationship with a new outreach effort on a Navaho Reservation in Cornfields, Arizona.

Pastor Owen Chevarillo is a bivocational minister seeking to reach Native Americans on the reservation. Most recently, we have purchased a medal building that will serve as a place of worship for Pastor Owen and the congregation. We will continue to send teams to work with Pastor Owen on the facilities and to provide encouragement and training for future leader.

Ways to Pray for Cornfields

- Pray for strength and energy for Pastor Owen.
- Pray for God to provide the needed facilities for the church.
- Pray for God to raise up future leaders who will labor to see souls saved on the reservation.

Covenant Rescue Group

Overview

In the last year, CRG has been able to fund anti-human trafficking training for over ten different law enforcement agencies in multiple states. This training included close quarters combat training, intelligence and surveillance training, and setting up anti-trafficking sting operations. CRG was also able to advise and assist on anti-trafficking operations that have led to over 30 arrests.

Internationally, with Afghanistan recently falling under Taliban control, CRG has been able to collaborate on facilitating, funding, and securing the safe exit of over 100 at-risk Afghan Christians in safe areas of Tajikistan and Pakistan.

Ways to Pray for CRG

- Pray for victims of human trafficking all over the world. Pray for their safety and freedom. Pray that despite their circumstances, they will know that there is a God in heaven who loves them and cherishes them and sent His Son to die for them.
- Pray for the traffickers. Pray that they will be brought to justice. Pray that they will see their sin, repent, and turn to Jesus.
- Pray for the men and women of law enforcement who are on the front lines of the war on human trafficking every single day. Pray for them as they witness this evil on a daily basis.
- Pray for the Lord to continue to provide Covenant Rescue Group with the resources needed to fund the training of our law enforcement agencies and that we will be given opportunities to use these resources for God's glory and for the defeat of the evil that is human trafficking.

The church has turned a blind eye to the darker side of human trafficking for far too long. We are quick to minister to the victims AFTER they have been rescued, as we definitely should be. But what about those that are still in bondage? What about those who haven't been liberated? Who's going after them? The captive cannot be set free without a rescuer. That's the essence of the gospel. – Josh Moody, President, Covenant Rescue Group

SAV-A-LIFE

North Jefferson Women's Center

Overview

Our Mission - To help men and women embrace the Truth of God's Word as they make life-affirming decisions about their unborn child. Our average client is a female aged 15-29. 66% claim to be a Christian. We offer a wide range of services at no charge:

- Free pregnancy testing.
- Free ultrasound.
 - o These can include pregnancy decision coaching when a woman is in an unplanned pregnancy situation and considering abortion. We know that five out of ten abortion minded women will change their mind and choose life for their child, when they view an ultrasound.
- Free STI testing and treatment - This provides an opportunity to share facts about risk and options to choose abstinence and spiritual support towards a Christ-centered decision.
- After hours call center by trained staff to educate potential clients about our services and answer questions about abortion, pregnancy, and medical needs.
- Education, support and mentoring through our childbirth education, parenting classes, and fatherhood program. This includes the opportunity to shop in our baby boutique for much needed infant items, clothing, diapers, and wipes.
- Post Abortion Recovery program - One in 3 women will have an abortion with 80% experiencing post-traumatic stress syndrome. Our Healing Hearts recovery program is offered in a pressure-free, safe environment where women can share their pain with others who have had similar experiences coupled with the message of biblical grace and mercy.

It takes an army of volunteers to staff the North Jefferson Women's Center. These volunteers serve as pregnancy decision coaches, education mentors, receptionists, medical team members, boutique organizers, and more.

Ways to Pray for NJWC

- Pray for the staff and volunteers that are able to serve expectant mothers and fathers.
- Pray for the women (and men) that come to the center.
- Pray for the precious babies who have been born as a result of the center.
- Pray for the current women who are carrying babies and deciding what to do.

For more information on missions at GFBC, visit gfbc.com/missions.



Stateside Mission Builders for Christ

Brief Overview of What God has Done Through GFBC and BFC

For the past several years, we have traveled to Missouri, Illinois, Kansas, Virginia, Wisconsin, and Connecticut, along with volunteers from various churches, to construct buildings for churches in “non-Bible-belt” areas who are exponentially reaching people for Christ. We come along side our sister churches to make a way for them to continue the advancement of God’s Kingdom in their respective communities and cities.

Ways to Pray for BFC

- Pray for laborers, skilled in construction, to join us in serving churches across our country that have a vision to reach people through the construction of a new building or the expansion of a present limited facility.
- Pray for younger men and women to join us in our various mission projects because several, who have faithfully served for years, can no longer meet the physical demands.

I started participating in Stateside missions about 10 years ago. While I was new in my faith, the Lord laid on my heart to get involved. I was hungry to learn more about my God and to spend time with fellow believers in making an impact for the Kingdom. When I heard about state missions, I jumped at the opportunity to serve although I knew nothing about building churches. I asked God to provide the right task for me – and of course He did! Through missions, my relationship with my Father has grown. I have made memories and friendships that will last for a lifetime – both in our church and the churches we served. – Lesley McCoy

For more information on missions at GFBC, visit gfbc.com/missions.

The WellHouse

Overview

Provides residential, therapeutic programs to female victims of human trafficking who have been sexually exploited, offering medical, spiritual, mental, and emotional care. We welcome women and girls of all ages, and mothers with their children. Regardless of race, color, creed, or religion, survivors in pain can be assured they will find love and acceptance at The WellHouse.

Volunteers are Needed Throughout the Year to Help with Things Like...

- Maintenance on Buildings: electrical, plumbing, appliance repair.
- Yard Work: weed eating, mowing, edging, leaf blowing, bush hogging, trimming trees.
- Car Maintenance: taking cars for periodic oil changes, general repairs.
- Gardens
- Painting: upkeep, staining.

Ways to Pray for The WellHouse

- Pray for the staff and volunteers at The WellHouse.
- Pray for the women that are currently being served at The WellHouse.
- Pray for women who need rescuing from their situation.
- Pray that The WellHouse would be a place of healing, restoration, and new life.



Judea

BRAZIL | GUATEMALA | HAITI
NICARAGUA | VANCOUVER

Made for Mission

Brazil - Amazon Basin

Lauren Stovall

Brazil

In the Amazon Basin, there are several IMB teams who utilize Bible storying methods to reach those who live in spiritual darkness. Many people who hear the gospel and believe are the first in their family to follow Jesus. Discipleship and growing healthy churches are essential to developing a long-lasting presence for the gospel. The goal is that all in the Amazon Basin would have an opportunity to hear the gospel, respond, and ultimately become mature believers who lead others to Jesus. This is challenging work due to the numerous small people groups with diverse cultures and languages. However, we believe that the Holy Spirit can break through these barriers so that we see lives eternally changed.

Lauren Stovall has been connected to GFBC for over 20 years. As a church, we are honored and thrilled to partner with Lauren as she continues to minister in the Amazon Basin.

Ways to pray for Brazil and Lauren

- Pray for our teams to quickly learn Portuguese and local languages.
- Pray for God to prepare people to listen and respond to the gospel.
- Pray for friendship and discipleship opportunities for all our teams.
- Pray that teams would withstand the spiritual warfare that we face daily.

The needs in South America are challenging because of physical and spiritual barriers, and multiple people groups are hopelessly in need of the Light of Jesus. I have been called to share the Good News because of the Great Commission, and God has specifically gifted me to work among these least reached areas - know that God's Word will not return void. – Lauren Stovall



Guatemala, Casas Por Cristo Kyle & Hannah St. Amand

Overview

We offer group and individual mission trips to San Raymundo, Guatemala. In just one week, partner with a local church to construct a home from start to finish for a family in need. We offer one model home in Guatemala with three rooms and a large front porch. Finish your trip with a day of shopping and sightseeing in historic Antigua, Guatemala.

With adequate housing provided, families are relieved of one of their greatest financial struggles and a break is made in this vicious cycle. Children are given hope for the future while parents can use their resources for food and necessities rather than shelter. As the American church partners with the Guatemalan church, a perfect picture of the Gospel is painted as cultures and nations are bridged together bringing about necessary provisions in the name of Christ.

Ways to Pray for Casas Por Cristo and Kyle & Hannah St. Amand

- Pray for energy, rest, and perseverance for Kyle and Hannah.
- Pray for their little girl, Emmy.
- Pray for the Casas Por Cristo staff.
- Pray for the families that Casas Por Cristo and Kyle and Hannah serve.
- Pray that God would use Kyle, Hannah, and Casas Por Cristo to help many people hear about and practically see the love of Jesus.

Guatemala Hope of Life

Zacapa, Guatemala

The mission that Hope of Life longs to share with you is that simple. As you join us in saving the lives of people in Guatemala, whatever their circumstance, you are helping share God's love and the message of the gospel - bringing hope to people in both practical and spiritual ways.

The greatest thing about Hope of Life, as it relates to our church, is that if you sponsor a child from the village of Antombran, you are able to spend time with your sponsored child as you join us in Guatemala. Many members and lifegroups at GFBC have sponsored children from the village of Antombran (upwards of 50-60 children). Our goal is to have all of the remaining children on the Hope of Life sponsorship list sponsored by our church body in the near future. In past trips, we have also built a church, houses, wells, worked at the school, given out food bags to entire villages, and given out shoes! God is doing so much in Guatemala through Hope of Life.

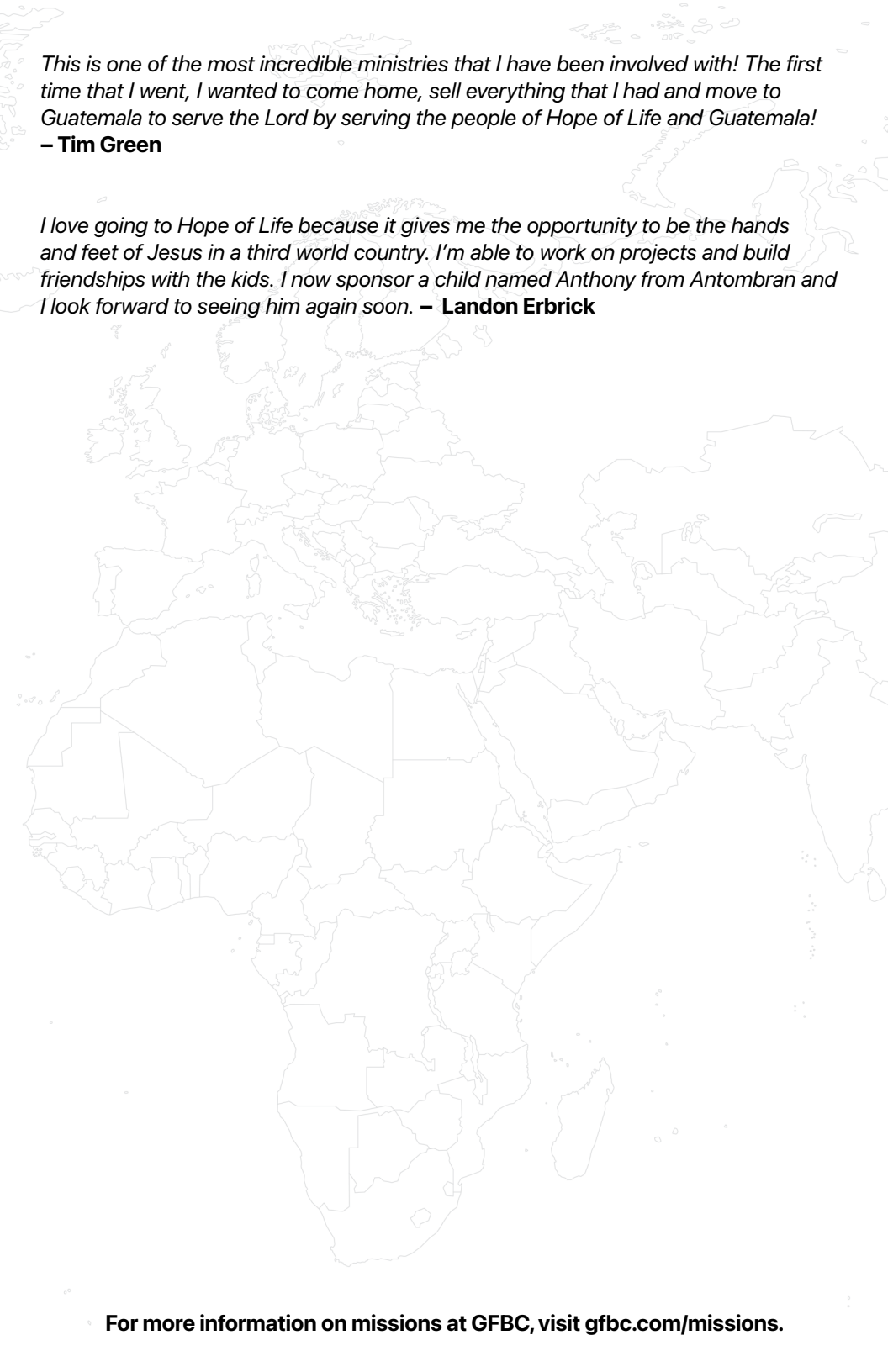
Ways to Pray for Hope of Life

- Pray for the salvation of the lost people in Guatemala.
- Pray for the believers in Guatemala that they would experience encouragement from us.
- Pray for the children and elderly at Hope of Life. Ask God to show our team members simple ways to serve them.
- Pray for the safety as the team travels to Hope of Life.
- Pray for God to create a servant's attitude in each team member's heart.
- Pray for the staff of Hope of Life.

I went because I had a stirring in my spirit that I should go. Also, I was hopeful I would meet our sponsored child. I immediately felt a connection with the people at the village. It was as if I had known them forever and had such strong feelings toward them. Loved visiting the babies in the hospital, but wanted to bring them home. It was hard saying goodbye to all the people. It made me appreciate all that God has truly blessed us with and to appreciate the little things in life. Hope to go back some day.

– Ronnie Graveman

I go because of the opportunities they offer to serve in all areas of ministry. Inside the compound and around the country. They allow you to be blessed, while blessing others. – Wayne Jones



This is one of the most incredible ministries that I have been involved with! The first time that I went, I wanted to come home, sell everything that I had and move to Guatemala to serve the Lord by serving the people of Hope of Life and Guatemala!
– **Tim Green**

I love going to Hope of Life because it gives me the opportunity to be the hands and feet of Jesus in a third world country. I'm able to work on projects and build friendships with the kids. I now sponsor a child named Anthony from Antombran and I look forward to seeing him again soon. – **Landon Erbrick**

For more information on missions at GFBC, visit gfbc.com/missions.



Haiti

Elise Cadet

Overview

God is using Elise Cadet and his team in a mighty way to meet practical needs and spiritual needs in a dark place - Haiti. For years, God has used GFBC to support Elise. Many teams have been able to serve alongside of Elise and minister to the people of Haiti. The people of Haiti are in desperate need for medical care and resources to make a living. GFBC has been able to host medical clinics, provide tools and seeds for farmers, and support Elise as he boldly points people to Jesus.

Ways to Pray for Haiti and Elise

- Pray for Elise's health and protection.
- Pray that Elise and other Haitian Christians would point their communities to Jesus.
- Pray for the civil unrest in Haiti.
- Pray for the unsaved in Haiti who are trusting in false gospels.
- Pray that the gospel of Jesus would transform the people of Haiti.

When I visited Haiti, it was incredible to see how many people were hungry for what God was doing through Elise and his team. The kids walked miles and miles on dirt roads, starting early in the morning, just to get to school on time. They knew that education was important and would help them have a better life. The men gathered from around the villages to get tools and seeds to help provide for their families, and women came to get hygiene kits. They were in such desperate need to have their eyes checked or get medicine at the medical clinic, or to get their teeth cleaned or worked on, or be seen by a doctor that they waited for hours because they knew a team was there to help. This allowed us and Elise to share the Gospel and just love on the people as they came through. This is a tough area. It is very dark spiritually. The ministry is growing and the workers are few. They are tired. But they are relying on God to keep them going. They are there and willing, but they need our prayers and support. When I went to Haiti, as a school teacher, I could definitely see the importance of the school and how well the ministry was not only running there, but reaching out to other areas to share the Gospel and help others. – Laura Nixon



Nicaragua

Loyd & Alma Miguel

Overview

The country of Nicaragua is situated in the middle of Central America. It is a poor but beautiful paradise that has gone through cycles of revolution, civil war, communism, and democracy. Currently the country is in a time of political unrest, so GFBC has not been able to field any mission teams since April of 2017. At that time, a team led by Loyd Miguel spent five days on the Prinzapolka River sharing beans, rice, and tools with villages that had been devastated by floods a month earlier. A second team stayed in Rosita finishing up the new church providing electrical and painting skills.

With well over 30 mission projects, GFBC has been serving in Nicaragua since 1994. Working with IMB Missionaries Jim and Viola Palmer, first in Managua, Somotilla, and Granada on the west (Pacific) coast, and since 1998 working with the Miskito Indians along the Atlantic Coast, teams from Gardendale have served in many ways. GFBC has provided mission teams which included construction crews that built churches and Bible Institutes, medical teams that have served in places where no medical services were available and Evangelistic teams which touched 20 villages in one week telling the story of Jesus through teaching, preaching, and the Jesus Film. In 2015 the mission center, under the leadership of Loyd and Alma Miguel, was moved to Rosita, an area in the center of the country and one of the least evangelized areas in the country. Today the work continues in spite of the political tension in the land.

We are waiting for our God to open the door, once again, so we can serve with our pastors and friends sharing the blessed Hope of our Lord!

Ways to Pray for Nicaragua and Loyd & Alma Miguel

- Pray for the peace amidst the unrest in Nicaragua.
- Pray for the salvation of those in Nicaragua and Central America.
- Pray for the national pastors in Nicaragua.
- Pray for Loyd Miguel as he gives vision and leadership to ministry in Nicaragua.
- Pray for energy, rest, and perseverance for Loyd and his family.

For more information on missions at GFBC, visit gfbc.com/missions.



Vancouver Christian & Laura Rowland

Overview

In 2022, GFBC became strategic partners with New Song Community Church, a church plant seeking to reach the diverse cultures in the Vancouver metro area.

New Song Community Church started with two families and a university student meeting in a basement suite. As God began to draw others, one family opened up their home for us to gather for worship. In anticipation of officially launching the church, we moved into the Willoughby Community Centre. During the COVID-19 pandemic, we grew over Zoom as new people came to faith in Christ, a pastoral team formed, and the church received its religious charity status with the Canadian Revenue Service. God's blessing has been on New Song all the way.

Our mission is to lead all people of all nations to become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ. We want God to raise up and multiply disciples that live out their faith together and proclaim the gospel in their home, work, and city. We also want to see God start a church planting movement throughout Metro Vancouver and beyond. By His grace, New Song Community Church will be a place where new church planters and missionaries are discovered, developed, and deployed to fulfill the Great Commission and expand the Kingdom of God.

Christian Rowland currently serves as the church planting pastor for New Song Community Church. He grew up in South Korea and Okinawa before moving to Texas to study history and philosophy at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Upon receiving his call to church planting, he moved to Langley, BC and obtained a MA in Christian Studies from ACTS Seminaries. He is married to Laura, and they have three children.

Ways to Pray for New Song Community Church

- Pray for strength and energy for Christian, Laura, and their three young children.
- Pray for God to open new doors of ministry in the Vancouver area.
- Pray that God would continue to use New Song to see people come to know Christ.

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Samaria

GREECE | ISRAEL
NORTH AFRICA | SOUTH AFRICA

Made for Mission

Greece - Send Relief

Abraham & Grace Shepherd

Greece

Each day, dozens of refugees gather at the Athens Mission Center for the free coffee and the free wifi using the password...JOHN 3:16! The women and children immediately climb the stairs, and behind the upstairs closed door, they remove their face-veil to reveal beautifully long, dark hair. Next door, there is a play room full of toys for the children. English classes and Greek classes are offered weekly, and milk and diapers are given out weekly to the moms with babies.

GFBC is thrilled to partner with Abraham and Grace Shepherd as they seek to serve, love, and share the gospel with displaced people groups in Greece and other parts of the world. We have had the opportunity to send two mission teams to work at refugee centers, serving and loving those who have been forcibly displaced.

Ways to Pray for Greece

- Pray for economic security for the country of Greece. The whole country is in an economic crisis.
- Pray for the thousands of refugees fleeing to Greece as they seek to relocate to Europe. Many of these live in tent cities and have little clothing and food. Many children are not attending school, and medical care is difficult to locate.
- Pray that the predominately Muslim refugees will have dreams about Jesus and come to know the truth of His love for them.

My heart was stolen by the women refugees I met while visiting Athens. They are without a country...without a home or job...but they are strong for their children. They unite together to help each other. They receive our love and share whatever they have with us to return love. They listen as we share Jesus through interpreters, and I pray they will one day understand the Truth of His love for them.

- Debbie Harrison



Israel

Ayman & Mary Lolos

Overview

Pastor Ayman was born and raised in Bethlehem in the Holy Land, while Mary grew up in the U. S. After meeting in the Middle East, they married and spent 13 years serving the Arab Community overseas. Pastor Ayman and his family then moved to Northern Virginia and established Hope Community Center where they continued to serve the Arab Community.

In 2021, the Lolos family moved back to Israel to carry out a vision of planting churches. God is using the Lolos family in a powerful way to point the people of Israel to Jesus.

Ways to Pray for The Lolos Family

- Pray for peace in Israel.
- Pray for protection over the Lolos family.
- Pray for favor amongst those in Lolos' community.
- Pray for the events and outreach efforts that the Lolos family will conduct this year.

Our Vision is to establish a church among the refugee and Arabic-speaking communities. To win the lost, develop them into faithful disciples and equip them to reach their friends and family with the Gospel. – Ayman Lolos



Israel Baptist Village

Overview

The name, "Baptist Village," is not the best description of what the village is today. While the Baptist Village belongs to the Baptist Convention in Israel, most of our guests are not Baptists. And while it is called a "village," no one lives here on a permanent basis.

Today, the BV is a conference, camp, and sports center. We have guest rooms, meeting places, sports areas and lawns. Our mission is to provide a gathering place for like-minded followers of Yeshua in Israel.

Due to the war in Israel, the Baptist Village has become a place of resource and refuge for displaced people.

Ways to Pray for The Lolos Family

- Pray for the safety, health, and salvation of the displaced people who enter the village.
- Pray for the Baptist Village staff as they work alongside Send Relief.



North Africa

Bobby & Tammy Greer

North Africa

Bobby and Tammie Greer were members at GFBC before stepping onto the mission field of North Africa. After being sent out many years ago, God has been working in and through the Greers to reach people in a place dominated by Islam. Despite its challenges, God continues to move in North Africa. In the wake of a world confused by COVID-19, God has continued to seek and save the lost. People are hearing the gospel and putting their faith in Jesus.

Ways to Pray for North Africa

- Pray that more missionaries and national men and women would boldly share the gospel with their friends and family without fear. (Romans 1:16; 10:14)
- Pray that the Lord would awaken faith in those who hear the gospel so that they will cry out to God and be saved. (Acts 17:26-27; 1 Peter 1:3)
- Pray for the Lord to sustain missionaries and send more missionaries across North Africa. (Philippians 4:6-7; Matthew 9:37-38)
- Pray for strength, protection, and boldness for the Greers as they continue to find ways to share Christ.

"Come over to Macedonia (North Africa) and help us." **Acts 16:9, Paul going to Macedonia.**

"Finally, brothers, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may speed ahead and be honored, as happened among you." **2 Thessalonians 3:1**

Going to North Africa stripped the clutter and brought clarity to my relationship with God. It allowed me to see God in a new way. Going to North Africa gives you an opportunity to invest into missionaries who are investing into people.

- **Draper Rogers**



South Africa

Kevin & Donne Proctors

South Africa

The Proctors currently serve in South Africa and oversee a strategic ministry called Skills for Life. They host multiple skills courses (such as sewing, computers, wood working, etc.) throughout the year. In addition to learning “skills for life,” their students hear the truth of Jesus and see God’s love in action.

Ways to Pray for the Proctors

- For more volunteers to aid the Proctors.
- Protection over the students. Some of the students come from areas of conflict.
- For strength and energy for the Proctors as they raise their new baby and toddler and oversee the ministry.



Ends of the Earth

INDIA | SOUTHEAST ASIA
UGANDA

Made for Mission

India

Manipur, Gilgal Children's Home - James & Moite Lalrobul

Pastor James and his team diligently care for 300 children by providing daily food, GFBC has had the opportunity to partner with the Gilgal Children's Home since 2014. Pastor James and his team diligently care for 300 children by providing daily food, clothing, and medical care. Through the missions offering, we've been able to help purchase medical supplies, build wells and buildings, and much more. The teams that visit the orphanage spend time teaching and loving the children, encouraging and training the staff, and reaching out to the men and women in the community.

Ways to Pray for India

- Pray for James' health. The past couple of years have been challenging for him, but God has continued to help provide healing and strength.
- Pray for the children to receive Jesus, grow in Him, and enter Indian society as firm believers.
- Pray for peace in Manipur. Currently, there is a lot of hostility to Christianity in the area.

India is a place where it is easy to love! The children run to the volunteers each time they walk through the compound. The children are thrilled to hold your hand or to sit by you during worship services. It is a delight to love and be loved by each precious child of God at Gilgal Children's Home. - Debbie Harrison



Southeast Asia

The Browns

In 2023, GFBC was able to send out a young couple to serve in Southeast Asia. Due to safety concerns, we can only provide limited information. Nevertheless, God is powerfully using them to help the people of Southeast Asia hear the truth about Jesus. Their days are filled with learning the language, building relationships, and looking for strategic ways to share their faith.

Ways to Pray for the Browns

- Pray for energy, safety, strength, health, and boldness.
- Pray that they would quickly and easily learn the language.
- Pray that God would continue to open doors for them to meet people and build deep relationships.
- Pray that God would allow them to continue to share the truth of the gospel.



Uganda

James & Sonya Herron, Hatika Naymalo

When motorboats reach the shore of the Islands of Lake Victoria, the first sight is the tremendous needs of poverty and hunger as we look into the eyes of the children, men, and women. Through the mission offering, we provide food, medical supplies, seeds, tools, clean water, and the Gospel Message and Hope of Jesus Christ.

Ways to Pray for Uganda

- Pray for the political leadership of Uganda. Ask God to put His persons into leadership positions.
- Pray for the Christian church of Uganda and the pastors. It is very difficult being a pastor in Uganda.

Stretching beyond my deepest fears, I saw the innocent laughter of children and vibrant worship I had never before experienced. To end it all, God provided the most amazing sunsets, a beautiful new language, and my new sister that God bonded me to from many miles away. I thought to myself as I recalled my experiences, "Heaven will be like this!" – Christi Gillis



The Lydia Initiative

A Movement to Empower Women Across the Globe

All across the globe, EACH woman is meant for something greater than herself. This is a MOVEMENT to recognize that women can empower, inspire, and be bold within themselves and the community around them. Each woman from every background and culture has something to offer and it's time to listen...WILL YOU CHANGE THE WORLD WITH US?

Our Story

The Lydia Initiative is a movement that started in Greece to help Greek and Refugee women. The movement wanted to give women dignity and skills to be able to support themselves in their time of crisis. What was little projects here and there turned into a community of resources and empowerment for all women in every race, culture, and religion.

As we met with women across the globe, we realized that we've all walked through stages in life that we didn't necessarily know how to handle. We sought after different ways to cope and the conclusion we came to was not more research, but that we could reach out to other women who may have walked through the same thing.

We may be that woman just coming out of a crisis or hard stage of life having learned so much. On the other hand, we may be the one sitting alone in our thoughts and not knowing who to turn to or even how to process what's happening.

That is why we have come together to introduce The Lydia Initiative. A movement to give women the opportunity to use the resources that they have found helped them (knowledge, podcasts, websites, etc.) or to reach out if they need resources and don't have the time to research or just don't know where else to turn.

Our Passion

As women, we have experienced the heartaches, traumas, unfairness, and hate that the world offers. We have chosen to START A MOVEMENT to take these hardships, walk alongside each other, and say we are not alone!

Our passion is to provide a community where women can come together either in their local cities or globally. Whether this is offering up your resources and skills or you are in need of resources but don't know how to ask or where to go. THIS IS THE PLACE FOR YOU TO FEEL WELCOMED AND TO KNOW THAT YOU ARE NOT ALONE!

Who Was Lydia?

Lydia was a leader in her household, insistent on hospitality, and a business woman. She was a worshiper of God whose faith was evident in her deeds. (Acts 16)

Lydia was a woman in the world seeking to make others feel welcome, bringing her passions and skills to help others. She was not "just a woman." She was strong, bold, and empowered others by her everyday actions. The joy that comes from womanhood should be celebrated and inspire other women to help each other through all that life brings, just as Lydia portrayed.

Every woman has a story that is worth sharing. But not everyone gives credit to their experiences because of shame, doubt, guilt, etc. There is NO SHAME in being a woman and it's those experiences that we all go through that, when shared, help empower women around us that we are not alone.

How Do I Get Involved?

Become An Advocate

It doesn't matter what city or country you live in, you can become one of our advocates! Using your skills, time, knowledge, resources, or anything related to help other women become empowered and inspired.

Need Resources?

Are you struggling to figure out what you need in life or looking for ways to connect? Maybe you just need to be pointed in the right direction and we can help you with that!

Spread the Movement

We need women like YOU who are willing to share the movement and help provide others to connect. We are on Instagram and Facebook and have a blog that is on its way! Share our hashtag #TheLydiaInitiative or donate online now to help fund the movement.

For More Information About the Lydia Initiative:

WEBSITE: TheLydia.org

INSTAGRAM: [@the.lydia.initiative](https://www.instagram.com/the.lydia.initiative)

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/TheLydiaInitiative

EMAIL: FriendsOfLydia18@gmail.com

For more information on missions at GFBC, visit gfbc.com/missions.

Sonrise Baby Home Jinja, Uganda

At Sonrise Baby Home, our mission is to rescue and save babies in Uganda who are starving or in need of a loving and safe environment. We seek to help each baby grow physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually with the ultimate goal of knowing Jesus. Once a baby is healthy and strong, we work towards reuniting babies with a family member so they can grow up in a family.

Often we are contacted by the police, a hospital, or a village about a vulnerable baby who has no place to go. We then have just a few hours to rescue that baby. These circumstances may be due to a parent's death or the baby has been found abandoned. We provide food and the necessary medical care needed to help the baby begin to become healthy once again.

The babies stay with us until they are healthy and ready to be resettled with a family. The babies may be with us for a few months or a few years, so we do not have individual sponsorships. Instead, we have created Baby Home General Sponsorships so you are able to help all the babies who come into our home. Your support means we are able to rescue and feed more babies. Your support helps with the cost of formula/diapers for babies, food/clothing for toddlers, medical care/medicine, full time care by the best Aunties, and feed for our milk cows which provide 2-3 cups of fresh milk for each child per day.

Over the last several years we have been praying for God to provide a way to build more homes so the children have more space to play and to be able to become more self-sustaining. God has blown us away with His provision for His children! In September 2020, He provided the new land along the Nile River, the finances to build 6 "family style" homes to provide a larger space for the children to play, a water well for clean water, solar panels for each home, and the finances to completely furnish each home so we can move all the babies soon. This is a true testimony of what God can do when we trust Him and pray. Praise GOD!!

Some of the crops we have planted in the rich soil include sweet potatoes, bananas, tomatoes, beans, corn, pineapples, and cassava. We have purchased some milk cows to provide the babies with fresh milk, however we need a few more so the babies will have organic milk from grass fed cows. We had a team come in June 2021 and they constructed a chicken pen for us. We have no chickens yet, but we are hoping to be able to purchase them soon so we are also able to provide the babies with fresh eggs.

We are seeking partners to join with us to help create a sustainable budget so we do not have to turn away a baby who needs urgent care. You can partner with us by going to our website: sonriseministriesinc.org/babyhome

For more information on missions at GFBC, visit gfbc.com/missions.



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