



Five... four... three... two... one... LIFT OFF!

Our navigation is set. Our course is determined. We are on the launch pad with rockets firing. It's time... to lift off into the future of God's vision for International Ministries.

This is indeed a bold and historic moment for IM, our global personnel, U.S and Puerto Rico churches, global partners and volunteers. The collective wisdom of 2,000 brothers and sisters worldwide has been gathered and prayerfully analyzed. And an ambitious vision has been discerned. It is a vision that is guiding us into deeper impact in global mission. A vision that increasingly positions us together to live out God's will "on earth as in heaven." (Matthew 6:10 NABRE)

With our churches, partners and YOU, God is using IM to:

- Accelerate the appointments of new global personnel and the sending of short-term volunteers.
- Deepen our commitment to pioneering and ground-breaking approaches to evangelism.
- Experiment in new methods to deliver theological education to women and men who lack access to it.
- Expand work globally among families in desperate situations, including immigrants and refugees.
- Build a vital, thriving youth and young adult ministry to transform hearts and minds and help young people to discover their callings.
- Create and reinforce connections that circle the earth promoting mission from "everywhere to everyone."*
- Stay sharply focused on sustainable growth and stewardship.

Respond to your call with IM! There is a place for you in global mission with IM. There are people who need your heart, your skills, your talents and your love. God is at work transforming all of creation and you are part of that work! Want to talk about it? Contact Karen Smith, director of Mission Design, at karen.smith@internationalministries.org.

*IM is grateful to friend, colleague and theologian Samuel Escobar for coining this phrase. See his book *The New Global Mission: The Gospel from Everywhere to Everyone* (©2003, Intervarsity Press).



Photo by Victoria Marcklinger

Thanks to Baptist volunteer mission construction teams and ongoing support through International Ministries, these children will, when they turn five years old, be able to attend a school in their impoverished Haitian/Dominican village in the bateyes of the Dominican Republic. See "Far-Reaching Impact from Short-Term Mission Trips," starting on page 10.

Letter from the Executive Director



In 2014–2015, American Baptist International Ministries (IM) established new mission partnerships in Zimbabwe, Rwanda and Mexico. We appointed missionaries to work in Turkey and endorsed others to prepare for service in Ghana, Hungary and regionally in Africa (see p. 9).

We completed interviews with some 2,000 people around the world. From this, we discerned God calling us to increase the impact of our ministries in four focused areas: inviting people to faith in Jesus, proclaiming God’s reign through holistic ministries, equipping the body of Christ for mission and pursuing organizational excellence. This Responding to the Call plan was unanimously approved by the IM Board of Directors.

Last year, after I announced that I would be retiring at the end of August 2016, our Board adopted an executive director succession plan, formed a Search Committee and engaged an executive search firm that assisted an open, nationwide search. That process culminated in the selection of the Rev. Sharon Koh as IM’s next executive director.



Rev. Sharon Koh

Sharon has a strong commitment to the Lord and to the mission of God in the world. She has travelled widely, providing oversight and care to missionaries serving with a variety of mission agencies, and is well known by a number of IM missionaries. We will introduce Sharon more fully in the next *ON LOCATION* and invite you to meet her at the July 4–9 World Mission Conference at Green Lake.

This issue of *International Ministries ON LOCATION* introduces yet another remarkable woman, Charlotte H. Atlee White Rowe, the first single woman appointed and sent into mission service from America. Charlotte Rowe was a forerunner of the pioneering women who in 1871 created the Woman’s American Baptist Foreign Mission Society, affirming that God calls women—both married and single—into full partnership in mission.

I am delighted that in the 145th anniversary year of that historic event, our sister Sharon Koh is responding to God’s call to lead us together in mission.

Reid S. Trulson

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www.internationalministries.org



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Letter from the Board President



Two decisions by the International Ministries Board of Directors in March, 2016, will shape the next decade of IM’s mission engagement.

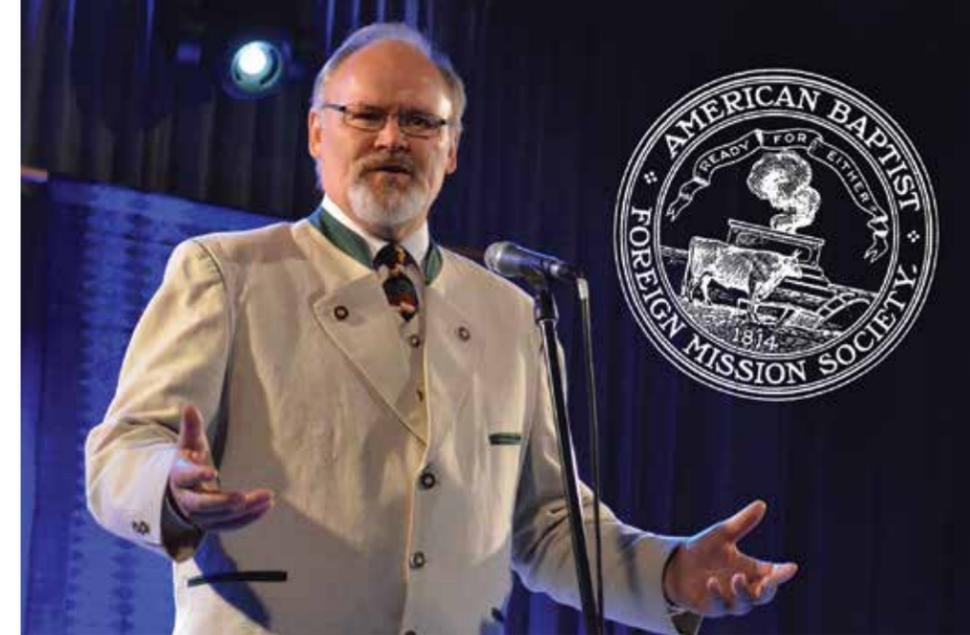
First, the board approved an operational guide for Responding to the Call (RTC), the strategic plan that was approved last June. Supported by the operational guide, RTC sets our strategic direction for a third century of mission.

Second, the board named the Rev. Sharon Koh as executive director of IM, effective September 1, 2016. In God’s matchless providence, Koh served on the IM Discernment Team that developed RTC. Her appointment as executive director provides a seamless transition into the next stage of RTC. God is always ahead of us—and that is why we follow rather than lead.

The Gospel of Matthew describes Jesus calling his first disciples. Referring to James and John, sons of Zebedee, Matthew tells us, “Jesus called them, and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.” (4:22) James and John left the security of occupation and family. They stepped out in faith to follow Jesus.

Today Jesus, calls you and me to follow him. We step out in faith. We respond to his call. This is how the IM board views the decisions we made in March. We are thankful that you too follow Jesus and desire to live in faithfulness. Together we work to fulfill Jesus’ prayer to his Heavenly Father: “your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.” (Matthew 6:10)

Reginald Mills



“Ready for Either”

by Stan Slade, associate executive director for program

The official seal of the American Baptist Foreign Mission Society featured an ox, a plow and an altar, with the words, “Ready for either.” We are grateful to God that at no point along the way has Reid Trulson been called upon to ascend the altar to make the ultimate sacrifice for the reign of God, but shouldering the plow in sacrificial service has characterized Reid’s life all along the way.

Qualities cultivated during his boyhood years on the farm in south-eastern Minnesota have come in handy in the most varied of places and circumstances! He has responded to the call to seek the common good in almost every role he has held, from president of the student bodies of both his high school and Fuller Seminary and leader of the Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship at the University of Minnesota, to president of the boards of the ABC of Wisconsin and of International Ministries—in every community, Reid has risen to the challenge of leadership. And whether working on the staff of the oldest African-American Baptist Church in Pasadena, California (Friendship Baptist Church), pastoring two congregations in Wisconsin or encouraging international partners and fellow missionaries as first a missionary in Europe, then an area director and now executive director for IM, Reid has demonstrated great creativity, thoughtfulness, patience, resilience, humor and faith in the Lord who called him to each of these places of service to the mission of God.

All who have been privileged to work with Reid along the way are grateful for his example of faith, hope and love. We pray God’s richest blessing upon him, his wife, Janelle, and the whole family as he continues responding to the call in whatever fresh ways “retirement” may bring!



Register today and save!
Pre-registration is open until June 10.
www.worldmissionconference.org



World Mission Conference 2016
On Earth as in Heaven

Remembering Charlotte

by Reid S. Trulson, executive director

Her Life

Charlotte Hazen Atlee (1782–1863) was a woman of distinction. Her family, some said, was descended from Sir Richard-at-the-Lee, the English knight who protected Robin Hood from the Sheriff of Nottingham. Her father was a prominent Pennsylvania judge. Yet, Charlotte's distinction came not from her family but from her own actions: She sought and achieved appointment as the first single woman missionary from America.

Charlotte, the youngest of seven daughters and four sons, was orphaned by age 11. She married Nathan Hazen White in Rutland, Massachusetts, in 1803, but her family ended abruptly with the deaths of her husband in 1804 and their only son in 1805. Amidst this trauma, Mrs. White came to faith in Christ. She wrote, "I was led to search the Scriptures in order to find assurance that Jesus Christ is the son of God; in doing which, I was blessed with a desire to be converted from darkness to light; the Holy Spirit rousing me to repent, and enabling me to confess Christ as my Lord and Saviour."

When Charlotte joined the First Baptist Church of Haverhill, Massachusetts, in 1807, Baptist women were already active in foreign mission. Twenty-five years earlier, Hannah Liele had sailed to Jamaica with her husband George and their four children. The Lielees, both former slaves, are honored as the first foreign missionaries from the United States. And in 1800, Mary Webb had formed the Boston Female Society for Missionary Purposes, the first women's missionary society in America. Twenty-one years old, single and confined to a wheelchair, Mary had organized Baptist and Congregationalist women to pray for and support the British Baptist mission in India and mission among the American Indian nations.

When Charlotte moved from

Haverhill to Philadelphia, she transferred her membership to the Sansom Street Baptist Church. The pastor, William Staughton, had helped organize the Baptists' national foreign mission society (now International Ministries) and was its founding corresponding secretary. Here Charlotte discerned her call to mission.

"Since the date of my conversion," she wrote, "I humbly hope my desire has been to do good, and glorify my Redeemer; and especially since missionary endeavours have come within

"When Charlotte asked the Board members for missionary appointment, she challenged their assumptions, as she was neither male nor ordained."

my knowledge I have felt myself deeply interested in them; and their success has been the constant subject of my prayers."

Adoniram and Ann Judson were already serving in Burma in 1814, when the new Baptist Board of Foreign Missions appointed Adoniram as its first missionary, naming Ann his "assistant." The Judsons were both gifted linguists, translating Scripture and writing religious tracts in Burmese. They immediately asked the Board to appoint a missionary who could print their translated work. George and Phebe Hough came to Philadelphia to be considered for that work, and there Charlotte met them both. She wrote, "On the coming of Mr. and Mrs. Hough to this city, and my being made acquainted with them and their missionary views, my ardour has been revived, and a desire pro-

duced to accompany them to India."

When Charlotte asked the Board members for missionary appointment, she challenged their assumptions, as she was neither male nor ordained. Since the Houghs had two small children, the Board suggested that the widowed Charlotte might accompany them to help care for the family.

But Charlotte's call to mission was wider than domestic assistance. She believed she was called "to pursue such studies as are requisite to the discharge of missionary duties." Lest anyone misunderstand, she wrote: "My wishes are ... to apply what talents I possess wholly to the service of the mission, either in the management of a school, or to hold private meetings, should there be opportunity, with native females, to instruct them in the principles of the gospel, hoping, by the blessing of God, that some of them will be raised from their degraded and miserable condition to participate in the riches of salvation."

Charlotte felt that she had previously "been excluded from rendering any service to the mission." But when this new possibility arose, even before it was approved, she was sure enough in God's provision to write, "I now rejoice that God has opened a way." She had no family obligations. She had Dr. Staughton's approval. She was an experienced educator. And she could sail to Asia with the Houghs.

While the Board debated whether to appoint a single woman, Charlotte was confident in knowing that God had provided one more thing: a modest estate. In November 1815, Charlotte contributed her estate to the Board to fund her own missionary service.

An ecumenical crowd filled Philadelphia's Second Baptist Church as seven preachers, including Dr. Staughton and Charlotte's Quaker brother Dr. Atlee, spoke, prayed and commended the missionaries to God's care. The service was part commissioning and

part funeral. "On the impulse of the moment," Charlotte wrote, the Presbyterian pastor composed and sang a short hymn conveying the clear expectation that the missionaries would serve, die and be buried in Burma.

In December 1815, Charlotte and the Houghs began their four-month voyage to India. After arriving in Calcutta, they were delayed for two months before proceeding to Rangoon—and these months yielded a surprise. At Serampore, Charlotte met Joshua Rowe, a British missionary and widower with three sons. The two soon married, and Charlotte joined the English Baptist Missionary Society, staying in India where she and Joshua became pioneer educational missionaries.

Charlotte and Joshua had three children, the last of whom was born in 1823. Joshua died the same year, leaving Charlotte to carry on their work while caring for six children as a single parent. Three years later, she returned to America.

Her Legacy

Charlotte H. White Rowe had cracked open the door for single women missionaries. Although resistance remained, the Board began to appoint some missionaries' daughters and sisters to assist the families. The Board also appointed single women to serve in North America in the Cherokee, Choctaw, Shawanoe, Putawatomie, Ojibwa, Creek, Ottawa and Delaware nations.

During its first 50 years, the Baptist Board sent out 386 missionaries, just over half of whom were women. In 1860, Ellen Mason came to the U.S. from Burma and urged American

Baptists to appoint single women.

When the Board would not send out "unprotected females" on a regular basis, Mason encouraged women to do it themselves. In 1861, women organized the nondenominational Woman's Union Missionary Society of America for Heathen Lands. To honor Mason for inspiring its formation, the society sent its first missionaries to Burma.

As single women demonstrated their abilities in Burma, India and China, calls grew for young women

"As single women demonstrated their abilities in Burma, India and China, calls grew for young women to serve as educational, evangelistic and medical missionaries."

to serve as educational, evangelistic and medical missionaries. This led Congregational, Methodist and Presbyterian women to form separate denominational societies.

On April 3, 1871, 200 women gathered in Newton Center, Massachusetts, to form the Woman's American Baptist Foreign Mission

Society (WABFMS) of the East and immediately adopted four single Baptist women that were already serving. A month later, women in Chicago organized the WABFMS of the West. By December, the societies sent their first recruits to Burma. The movement grew as women in California, Oregon and Washington created the WABFMS of the Pacific Coast in 1874.

The ministries of women missionaries have born much fruit, including equal appointment for women and men, both single and married. Over the last two centuries, women have constituted 60 percent of the 4,000 missionaries appointed by American Baptists. Today, 26 percent of long-term American Baptist missionary women are ordained.

Charlotte would praise God.



Ellen "Nellie" Mitchell pioneered in Burma as the first single woman doctor after her heroic service as a nurse during the American civil war.



Lena (right) and Brayton Case were agricultural missionaries in Burma in the early 1900s. Like Lena, most women missionaries were married. Since 1814, single and married women have constituted 60% of the 4,000 American Baptist missionaries.



Some missionaries, like Wendy Bernhard in the Congo, were the first women to be ordained by the national partners with whom they worked. After establishing the precedent, the partners ordained other women.



Melanie Baggao (fifth from right) and her Mission Partnership Team

California Church Rallies around Sending of IM Global Servant

by Roger Amerman

When she was 13 years old, Melanie Baggao heard God’s call to global ministry under a starry desert sky during a mission trip to Arizona.

Some 20 years later, through God’s providence, Melanie stands at the precipice of fulfilling that call. But she doesn’t stand alone. Fellow believers from her home church—Epic Church in downtown Fullerton, California—and across the U.S. and Puerto Rico are standing with her, supporting and encouraging her financially, emotionally and spiritually as she responds to God’s call on her life.

Melanie, a Biola University graduate and recent sixth grade teacher, began Arabic language study in October 2015 at the Arab Baptist Theological Seminary in Lebanon in preparation for ministry in Arabic-speaking cultures.

Melanie’s core support comes from her Mission Partnership Team (MPT), comprised of nine young, talented, Spirit-filled men and women who, in love, covenanted with her to provide necessary support before and during her service. All of the team members are personally committed to supporting Melanie’s call, in part because each one has participated in a short-term mission trip through Epic Church in recent years.

Jonathan Leung-Nilsson, who is a co-convenor of Melanie’s MPT alongside his wife, Joy, said that the impact of his two-week mission trip to Uganda in 2004 made his decision to assist Melanie “an easy call.” Other group members felt the same way.

Jill Pang, who took part in an Epic Church mission trip to Mexico, said that she has learned a lot from Melanie. “I felt God tugging at my heart to learn more about global mission,” she added. Jill serves as the communications advocate on Melanie’s MPT, while other

MPT members fulfill such roles as prayer advocate, pastoral care provider, mission field supporter and mission involvement energizer.

“These people are absolutely amazing,” Melanie said. “I was in a really bad car accident last year, coming back from a month-long training session in Colorado with [MPT members] Emily and Jake. About an hour and a half outside of

Flagstaff, we got a flat tire, spun and hit a big rig. It was really bad,” she said, adding that while Emily suffered numerous broken bones, “Jake and I literally walked away. It was a miracle.”

“My MPT drove seven hours through the night to be there for us,” Melanie continued. “They were able to get out our luggage, minister to our needs and then drive me home the next day. Everybody played a part.”

Encouragement from Mission-Minded Epic Church

Melanie has been a member of Epic Church since 2003. Affiliated with the American Baptist Churches of Los Angeles, Southwest and Hawaii, Epic is a young, multicultural church with a vibrant ministry to downtown Fullerton, California.

“We have supported [global servants] from the very beginning,” said Epic Pastor Kevin Doi, adding that Mel is the third global worker sent out from Epic. “Our church is gathering around these folks. We love them and we support them. But really, all we have done is provide them a context to explore what God is doing. We provide a community from which they are sent. Our bent is that we want you to build lasting relationships wherever God sends you, locally or abroad.

“We’re committed to this place,” said Kevin. “Our approach to mission in Fullerton is long-term—to come alongside people and hear their stories and to help them to understand what God is doing in their lives.”

Melanie affirmed Epic’s approach: “It helps to know that I have a safe place where I can share my raw feelings and struggles. It’s a place where I can be authentic and real. It’s helpful to know that I’m going on the field with this kind of support.”

One relationship-building program developed at Epic is called “Lead Story.” It is an intensive 10-week program in which participants map out their life experiences to discover God’s leading in their lives.

Sandee Hunt, the Lead Story class leader, said that Melanie took part in the program as she was investigating her call to international service. “It was exciting to see her story coming together to where God was calling her,” she said. “To have a class to process that experience in community was awesome.”

“I think Mel’s experience stirs everyone to look at their own calling,” Sandee added. “And as she goes and there is continued relationship [with Epic], that will have more impact on people.”

Epic Church is also home to former IM Board of Directors member Allen Yeh. He noted, “Mel’s call expands Epic’s global reach. Our emphasis has been on local ministry ... and so I think that Mel’s call provides some balance. It makes our church be more well-rounded and gives us a foothold in a different part of the world.”

“There is a paramount importance to reach the youth,” Allen continued, noting Melanie’s experience as a sixth grade teacher. “The younger generation needs dignity, purpose, direction and honor.”

Melanie was commissioned for her global assignment at Epic Church on October 4, 2015. Asked if her family has been supportive of her decision, she said emphatically, “Yes. I had several heart-to-hearts with my mom about it as I was growing up. My mother said, ‘If it’s God’s call, then we can’t compete!’”



Members gather at Epic Church, Melanie’s racially diverse, mission-minded church in Fullerton, California. “Our approach to mission is to come alongside people and hear their stories and to get them to understand what God is doing in their lives,” says Pastor Kevin Doi.



Melanie shares a moment with Jill Peng, who serves as Melanie’s communications advocate on her Mission Partnership Team Jill says, “Being part of Mel’s MPT makes me feel like I’m part of the mission, even though I’m not going to go.”



VOLUNTEERING OR VOLUNTOURING?

by Angela Sudermann, coordinator of volunteers



Good intentions are not enough. We volunteer, full of the desire to serve the Lord, to make a difference and to help. But unless we invest the time and energy to learn how things really work in the setting where we are ministering—and to learn even about ourselves and the baggage we unconsciously carry with us—our “service” can all too easily become self-serving, and our “helping” can actually hurt.

Perhaps you have heard some of the stories about how short-term volunteer mission can go wrong: a wall being painted over and over again so that each new team can have something to do, or the overload of “stuff” donated by volunteers who perceive a need but clearly don’t understand the underlying issues in the community, the challenges in meeting those needs and the cultural nuances of the area.

All too easily, our well-meaning volunteering can become mere “voluntourism,” focused on the needs of the volunteers themselves rather than on the communities they visit. Voluntourism can be exploitative, harmful and a waste of money. It makes people into needy objects, models for our photos or characters in a story we have already imagined, rather than recognizing and respecting them as our sisters, brothers and neighbors with whom we can be in mutually beneficial relationship. Volunteering should be about humbly serving in partnership with the community, empowering our brothers and sisters in Christ and learning from them.

You can avoid the pitfalls of voluntourism when you serve through International Ministries:

- **Meet actual needs.** IM missionaries serve alongside local partnering organizations that deeply understand the needs of the communities they serve. IM volunteers serve alongside these missionaries and partner organizations to support their long-term strategy in the community.

- **Build relationships.** As human beings and not human “doings,” we recognize and uphold that the most significant impact that volunteers can have is by learning from their hosts, encouraging the believers in the community and being humble followers of Jesus. The impact of relationship building will far outlast any construction or material donations.
- **Lasting values.** You’ll be joining a movement of God that for over 200 years has valued humility, servanthood and community in following and serving Jesus Christ. IM’s Volunteers in Global Mission ministry has achieved covenant member status in Missions Standards of Excellence by passing a mission agency peer review demonstrating that our short-term mission endeavors meet national measures of excellence, including the highest ethical standards. Read more at www.soe.org.
- **Develop cross-cultural competency.** You’ll have access to training and resources that can take your experience beyond being a “vacation with a purpose” to a real transformation in your life and the life of your church. The IM pre-trip training and study it is a great start to seeing each culture through new eyes. Rooted in Scripture, this program looks at issues such as poverty, giving and receiving and our own cultural stereotypes and those of others. Volunteers also receive devotionals and guides for post-trip follow-up.

Volunteers can be assured that the Volunteers in Global Mission team of IM is committed to walking with them in their journey of discernment, spiritual formation, service and follow-up as they seek to glorify God and take seriously the mandate to disciple all nations.

To learn more about the Volunteers in Global Mission team and opportunities to serve, visit www.internationalministries.org/get-involved or contact Angela Sudermann at angela.sudermann@internationalministries.org.

VOCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

by Jim Bell, director of vocational development



The *Responding to the Call (RTC)* strategic plan provides new focus and direction for IM’s ministry of vocational development, our work of identifying and preparing women and men called by God to global service inviting people to become disciples of Jesus Christ and proclaiming – through both word and deed – God’s reign of justice, peace, and abundant life for all creation.

RTC anticipates that between 2016 and 2021, God will send at least seventy new global servants through IM into ministries of evangelism, discipleship, theological education, immigrants and refugees, peace and justice, abolition of trafficking, education, economic development, and health and wellness. Focused efforts will be made to more readily enable young adults as well as persons in mid-life and mid-career to respond to God’s call to international mission. Even as IM continues to provide qualified personnel for opportunities and needs presented by our international partners, some of our new personnel will be placed in pioneering works of evangelism and discipleship among least-reached people groups through strategic

partnerships with organizations with proven effectiveness in contextual evangelism.

This ambitious plan will include IM partnering with ABC regions and churches in the United States

“Even as IM continues to provide qualified personnel for opportunities and needs presented by international partners, some of our new personnel will be placed in pioneering works of evangelism and discipleship among least-reached people groups...”

and Puerto Rico to further develop and refine processes for identifying potential mission candidates, help them discern a genuine call from

God, and prepare themselves spiritually, intellectually, and practically for the rigors of international life and ministry. New staff and programs will strengthen and deepen IM’s provision for effective orientation and training of new personnel in missiology, network-building and practical knowledge and skills for particular ministries. Review and refinement of IM’s personalized model of support, as well as more effective training and coaching in fundraising and network-building, will aim to shorten the time from endorsement to moving into active international service.

When Jesus looked upon the crowds, he was moved with compassion and called upon his followers to ask that the “Lord of the harvest” would send out workers into “his harvest field” (Matthew 9:35-38). We pray that as International Ministries faithfully responds to God’s call, through us God will send called, competent, compassionate servants for a great spiritual harvest, that God’s will may be done in earth as in heaven.

To learn more about Vocational Development team and opportunities to serve, visit www.internationalministries.org/get-involved or contact Jim Bell at jim.bell@internationalministries.org.

Endorsements to prepare for global service



Marilyn Raatz
Regional Consultant for Peace, Africa



Rovaughna Richardson
Ghana



Carmella Jones
Hungary



Katrina & Kyle Williams
Democratic Republic of the Congo



Jeni Pedzinski
Thailand



Laura & Rich Freeman
Turkey, with Turkish Connections International



Photo by Victoria Marciklinger

Far-Reaching Impact from Short-Term Mission Trips

by Roger Amerman

As hammers pounded on a new church building next door and smiling children flocked to a Vacation Bible School (VBS) in a rickety, soon-to-be-replaced church, Dan, Karen and Brenda marveled at what was happening around them.

They were part of a blessed-to-be-a-blessing short-term mission team that joyfully worked in the Dominican Republic last February.

The team's mission: To replace the cramped and leaky wooden Iglesia Bet-El Baptist Church with a sturdy new block building that will double the seating capacity from 50 to 100 people and to share their love of Jesus and the gospel message with children in a poor Haitian and Dominican village just north of Boca Chica, Dominican Republic.

"Last year, we worked with Dominican workers to lay the footers and walls of the new church," said mission trip leader Pastor Mike Hall of First Baptist Church in Reading, Pennsylvania. This year, the team provided the means to install the roof to provide a hurricane-safe building for the church. The team also led two VBS sessions per day—ministering to up to 109 children in the community.

The team was joined by three members of Primera Iglesia Bautista de Campo Rica in Puerto Rico, who made the 12-hour journey by ferry. Like their U.S. counterparts, they also

came with multiple suitcases filled with gifts of school supplies, food, clothing and toys, which were distributed freely throughout the week.

"It's a marvelous thing," said Iglesia Bet-El Pastor Mariana Charleston, clearly humbled by the outpouring of love from fellow believers. "Our prayers are coming true. This new building will enable us to continue to evangelize and bring more souls to the church and to do our job on a bigger scale."

Short-term trips, Long-lasting benefits

The work team was just one of 12 trips or more per year organized in the Dominican Republic and Cuba by International Ministries missionary Madeline Flores-López.



Photo by Victoria Marciklinger

Over the years, Madeline has organized many mission teams from the U.S. and Puerto Rico. The work is varied: Leading vacation Bible schools for children. Tackling large and small church construction projects. Providing training for pastors. Offering medical and dental clinics in communities that lack health care facilities. And more.

Each team commits to about a week of service, pays for travel and accommodations and provides the materials for the project. And whatever the task at hand, these lasting results are the same: God's love is shared, the gospel message is revealed and individual lives and communities are dramatically changed.

Such a change was evident in another Dominican Republic mission field: two impoverished communities in the bateyes (buh-TAYS), where Haitian and Dominican men work in sugar cane fields six days a week for a wage of about \$30 and a humble place to live.

From 2002–2004, teams from Montgomery Community Church in Cincinnati built two two-room school buildings in the batey villages of San Jose and La Javilla.

Madeline and her supportive pastor Jacqueline Ballista of Redil church in San Cristobal convinced the sugar cane company of the benefits of

providing education to young children. She also supplies school uniforms, which are required in government-staffed schools. The lasting impact: 5- and 6-year-olds are learning reading, math, writing and other essential skills—a vital head start for future studies that will take place in community schools outside the bateyes.

For these families, Madeline also

"We came down here to help, but we're the ones who are helped."

helps raise funds to provide simple water purification bucket systems, clothing and food.

"There is an evangelistic component to everything I do," Madeline said. "I want everyone to know who brought us here: God. I want people to know that God loves them and cares for them."

Just a mention of Madeline's name on a recent visit to two batey villages brought beaming smiles of appreciation from men, women and children alike—because of the schools' great impact on their children and the tangible, life-changing demonstration of God's love.

Volunteer mission help fan the flame of explosive growth among Baptist churches in Cuba

Volunteer mission is also playing a vital role in the growth of the Baptist church in Cuba.

An initiative led by IM missionary Madeline Flores-López is an annual conference for pastors and church leaders in Jiguani, Cuba. For the past eight years, hundreds have traveled to the event for teaching, discussions, education resources for their churches and encouragement. Three hundred are expected to attend this November.

Conference speakers are pastors who come primarily from Puerto Rico, Madeline says. Two U.S. pastors have also taken part, and she hopes to increase that number in the future.

On a recent visit to Jiguani, a dozen pastors from local communities shared with Madeline their appreciation for the conference. They particularly enjoyed seminars on topics like marriage counseling, evangelism, discipleship and how to prevent ministry burnout.

Madeline hopes to expand the pastors' conference ministry throughout Cuba in order to bring pastors new information and open their eyes to the outside world.

"We didn't have to wait for Obama to open doors to Cuba," Madeline says. "The doors are already open to do God's work there!"

Growing sister church relationships

In addition to the conferences, Madeline helps facilitate sister church relationships between Cuban and Puerto Rican churches. She also envisions building these relationships between Cuban and U.S. churches.

"Sister church relationships begin with friendship and prayer," she says. "Once a relationship is developed, a church in Puerto Rico or the U.S. can help determine and meet a Cuban church's needs. Sometimes churches bring medicines or musical instruments. Other times they provide monetary gifts to help build or maintain a church building."

Team CUBA!

In order to expand IM ministry in Cuba, a 15-member multidisciplinary team of pastors and lay leaders has been organized by Adalia Gutiérrez Lee, area director of Iberoamerica and the Caribbean. Madeline and the other team members live outside of Cuba, but will travel there regularly to assist, learn from and encourage IM partners.

The explosive growth of the Baptist church in Cuba will be highlighted in this year's World Mission Offering (WMO) materials. It's an amazing story of God's faithfulness and the church's perseverance. Watch for your church's WMO package this summer—and share the inspiring news with your congregation!



Photo by Oskander Rodriguez

GLOBAL PERSONNEL

AFRICA [22]

Democratic Republic of the Congo [11]

Glen & Rita Chapman
Jill & Mike Lowery
Katherine & Wayne Niles
Ed & Miriam Noyes
Kathy & Tim Rice
Kyle & Katrina Williams*

Ghana [1]

Rovaughna Richardson*

South Africa [3]

Anita & Rick Gutierrez
Cheryl Jones*

South Sudan [2]

Ann & Bill Clemmer

Togo [2]

Awenam Anifrani & Holale Azondjagni*

Regional Consultant [1]

Marilyn Raatz *

ASIA [21]

Japan - Mainland [3]

Gordon & Lee Ann Hwang
Shigemi Tomita

Philippines [2]

Jonathan & Thelma Nambu

Thailand [14]

Kim Brown
Aphiwan & Scott Coats
Annie & Jeff Dieselberg
Chuck & Ruth Fox
Lea Lindero
Becky Mann
Jeni Pedzinski
Kit Ripley
Karen Smith
Debby & Kyle Witmer

Regional Consultants [2]

Ann & Bruce Borquist

EUROPE & THE MIDDLE EAST [12]

Bulgaria [2]

Terry & Tom Myers

Czech Republic [2]

Pieter & Nora Kalkman

Hungary [4]

Carrie & Kurt Smalley
Larry & Rebecca Stanton

Lebanon [2]

Dan & Sarah Chetti

United Kingdom [2]

Hermelinda & Jorge Damasceno

IBEROAMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN [33]

Bolivia [2]

J.D. & Rhonda Reed

Brazil [2]

Corenne & Phil Smith

Chile [2]

Barb & Dwight Bolick

Costa Rica [2]

Sue Hegarty
Ruth Mooney

Dominican Republic [3]

Madeline Flores-López
Peter & Sarah McCurdy

Haiti [4]

Nancy & Stephen James
Kihomi Ngwemi & Nzunga Mabudiga

Honduras [1]

Dilia Zelaya

Mexico [6]

Mercy Gonzalez-Barnes
Patti & Tim Long
Deliris Carrión-Rosa
Debbie & Keith Myers
Chuck & Ramona Shawver

Nicaragua [6]

Carlos Bonilla & Mayra Giovanetti
David & Laura Parajón
Vital & Ketly Pierre

Panama [1]

Ingrid Roldán-Román

Regional Consultants [4]

Mylinda Baits
David & Joyce Reed
Ray Schellinger

GLOBAL CONSULTANTS [8]

Lauran Bethell
Dan Buttry
Sharon Buttry
Kristy Engel
Mike Mann
Stan Slade
Jeanine White
Walt White

DEVELOPMENT WORKERS [15]

Melanie Baggao
Dwayne & Janet Doyle
Laura & Rich Freeman
Joel Hoefle & Trish Magal
Katie & Taku Longkumer
Lori & Matt Mann
Deb Mulneix
Carole Sydnor
Emerson & Ivy Wu

ENDORSED AS GLOBAL SERVANT CANDIDATES [8]

Denise Aragon - Mexico
Juan Aragon - Mexico
Dwight Cook - Zambia
Natalie Cook - Zambia
Carmella Jones - Hungary
Ricardo Mayol - Regional
Brian Smith - Haiti
Lynette Smith - Haiti

SPECIAL ASSISTANTS [27]

Volunteers assisting specific IM staff in global mission under formal agreement

Gail Aita - Myanmar
Paul Aita - Myanmar
Jim Bender - MPT coach
Stephen Choi - China
Jabbie Chia - Conflict Transformation Ministry
Rob Ely - India
Samuel Escobar - Spain
Connie Gates - East Asia & India
Vic Gordon - Haiti
John Grisham - Costa Rica
Max Hill - Cuba
Joseph Huse - India
Paul Leuenberger - Africa
Lee McDonald - Netherlands
Anthony Ng - Capacity Building Ministry

Dario Peralta - Cuba & South America
Herb Rogers - Haiti & VIGM
Carla Romarate-Knipel - Philippines
David Sagar - South India
Bob Santilli - Global Prayer
Ron Schlosser - Media Distribution and Archiving
Sandra Schoeninger - Finance
Alan Selig - Vietnam
Gam Shae - China
Lisa Simmons - Mission Partnership Teams
Judy Sutterlin - China
David Wong - China

COLLEAGUES IN MISSION [1]

American Baptists in recognized relationship with IM serving with other agencies
Dan Sparkman - Japan

TOTAL:

110

GLOBAL SERVANTS

[in 30 countries
with 40 partners]

Countries where vocational global workers serve

*Not yet in Country of Service

As of May 1, 2016.

Board of Directors



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Roger Raikes, WV
Susan Rhodes, KS
Richard Schweissing, CO
Nancy Shaver, NJ

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Executive Director



Stanley D. Slade
Associate Executive
Director, Program



Patti Glasser
Associate Executive
Director, Administration

INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS

East Asia and India – Rev. Dr. Benjamin Chan

Asian Pacific Baptist Federation
Asia Pacific Forum
Foundation for Theological Education in South East Asia
Vellore Board
Amity Foundation
Center for Development of Transformation Ministry International
China Christian Council/Three Self Patriotic Movement
Divinity School of Chung Chi College
Haven of Hope Hospital
Hong Kong Baptist Theological Seminary
Hong Kong Christian Council
Hong Kong Christian Institute
Macau Bible Institute
Mission Outreach of Shantou (Swatow) Baptist Churches of Hong Kong
Wu Oi Christian Center
Evangelize China Fellowship, International
Balasore Technical School
Bengal-Orissa-Bihar Baptist Churches' Association
Gululsai Santal Mission Primary School
Nekursini Christian Hospital
Harding Theological College
Arunachal Baptist Church Council
Assam Baptist Convention
Baptist Theological College

Clark Theological College
Council of Baptist Churches in North East India
Eastern Theological College
Garo Baptist Convention
Impur Christian Hospital
Jorhat Christian Medical Center
Kangpopki Christian Hospital
Karbi Anglong Baptist Convention
Lewis Memorial Hostel
Manipur Baptist Convention
Manipur Theological College
Nagaland Baptist Church Council
Oriental Theological Seminary
Satribari Christian Hospital
Shalom Bible Seminary
Trinity Theological Seminary
Tura Christian Hospital
Tyrannus Hall
White Memorial Hostel
Woodstock School
Abundant Life Ministerial Associates
Andhra Christian Theological Seminary
Banjara Baptist Sanghevr Malawo
Banjara Development Trust
Baptist Convention of Telegu Churches
Christian Medical Hospital and College in Vellore
Kodaikanal International School
Mary Louise Slater Memorial Hospital

United Theological College
Human Development and Community Service
Nepal Baptist Church Council
United Mission to Nepal
Baptist World Aid
Church World Service
Korean Christian Federation
National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA
Antique Christian Center
Asian Baptist Graduate Theological Seminary
Bacolod Christian Center
Captiz Emmanuel Hospital
Central Philippines University
Convention Baptist Bible College
Convention of Philippines Baptist Churches
CPU College of Theology
Filamer Christian College
Iloilo Mission Hospital
Luzon Convention Baptist Fellowship
North Negros Baptist Bible College
Veteran Village Family Center

**Southeast Asia and Japan –
Rev. Leslie Turley**
Jumpah Project, Cambodia
Kalimantan Evangelical Churches, Indonesia
Kalimantan Evangelical Church Theological Seminary

Union of Indonesian Baptist Churches
Japan Baptist Union
Japan Baptist Seminary
Kanto Gakuin University
Shokei Jo Gakuin, Sendai
Hinomoto Girls School, Himeji
Soshin Girls School, Yokohama
Mead Christian Center, Osaka
Waseda Hoshien Christian Center, Tokyo
Okinawa Baptist Convention
Anglican Relief and Development Agency
Southeast Asia Friendship Ministries
Basel Christian Church of Malaysia
Padang Besar Praise Centre
Sabah Theological Seminary, Malaysia
Myanmar Baptist Convention
Myanmar Institute of Theology
Karen Theological Seminary
Lisu Theological Seminary
HOPE International
Symbiosis
Christian Outreach to the Handicapped, Singapore
Thomson Road Baptist Church, Singapore
Trinity Theological College, Singapore
Church of Christ in Thailand
12th Pakh of the Church of Christ in Thailand (Chinese Baptists)
16th Pakh of Church of Christ in Thailand (Karen Baptists, Chiang Mai)
18th Pakh of the Church of Christ in Thailand (Lahu Baptists Chiang Mai)
19th Pakh of Church of Christ in Thailand (Karen Baptists, Sanklaburi)
Christian Service Foundation
New Life Center Foundation
Center for the Development of Persons with Disabilities, Mae Sareong
House of Blessing, Chiang Mai
House of Love, Chiang Mai
NightLight, Bangkok
Development Agricultural and Educational Project for Akha
Payap University, Chiang Mai
Chiang Rai International Christian School
Thailand Baptist Missionary Fellowship
Mekong Minority Foundation

Akha Churches of Thailand
Global InterAction, Australia (Australian Baptists)
Baptist Churches of Vietnam
Vietnam Church Planting Ministries

Africa – Rev. Dr. Eleazar Zihembere
Free Baptist Church of Angola
Union of Protestant Baptist Churches of Benin
Free Baptist Churches of Burundi
The Baptist Union of Burundi
Native Baptist Church of Cameroon
Evangelical Baptist Churches of Congo
Union des Eglises Baptistes Missionnaires en Cote d'Ivoire
Communaute Baptiste du Congo
Addis Kidan Baptist Church
Ghana Baptist Convention
Jitokeze Wamama Wafrika
PeaceBuilding, Healing & Reconciliation
Baptist Convention of Mozambique
Association of Baptist Churches of Rwanda
Union des Eglises Baptistes du Rwanda
Seira Community Church of Rwanda
Baptist Association of South Africa
Baptist Convention of South Africa
Baptist Mission of South Africa
Baptist Union of Southern Africa
Interchurch Medical Assistance (U.S.-based)
All Africa Baptist Fellowship
Association for Cooperation in Tunisia
Togo Baptist Convention
Village2Village Project
Baptist Union of Uganda
The S-Consultation
Baptist Convention of Zambia
United Baptist Church of Zimbabwe

**Iberoamerica and the Caribbean –
Rev. Dr. Adalia Gutiérrez Lee**
Conviven Ministry
Asociación Bautista de Argentina
Seminario Teológico Bautista
Unión Bautista Boliviana
Convencao Batista Nacional
JAMI

Hope Unlimited
Seminario Teológico Bautista de Chile
Convención Bautista Nacional de Chile
Fundación Universitaria Bautista
Federacion de Asociaciones Bautistas de Costa Rica
Centro Teológico del Caribe
CEDCAS
Centro Evangélico de Estudios Pastorales en Centro América
Universidad Bíblica Latinoamericana
Convención Bautista de Cuba Oriental
Fraternidad de Iglesias Bautistas de Cuba
Asociación Bautista Vida Eterna
Iglesia Bautista Misionera Haitiana, Inc
Iglesias Bautistas de la República Dominicana
Asociación Femenil Bautista de El Salvador
Federación Bautista de El Salvador
Institución Misionera e Educacional Bautista de El Salvador
Seminario Bautista Latinoamericano
Universite Cretienne du Nord D'Haiti
Convention Baptiste d'Haiti (CBH)
Comunidad de Amor Internacional
Ministerio de Fe Vida Nueva
Jamaica Baptist Union
Caribbean Baptist Fellowship
Consejo de Iglesias Indígenas Evangélicas de México
Seminario Bautista de México
Conexion Mosaico in Mexico
Impulso 18 in Mexico
Habitat para la Humanidad in Mexico
Convención Regional de Iglesias Bautistas "Dios con Nosotros"
Convención Regional de Iglesias Bautistas de Baja California Sur
Convención Bautista de Nicaragua
AMOS - Health and Hope
UPOLI
CEPAD
Seminario Teologico Bautista
Centro Teológico del Caribe Panameño
Iglesias Bautistas Renovadas
Seminario Teologico UEBE
Unión Evangélica Bautista Española

Europe, the Middle East and Liberia – Rev. Charles Jones
Liberia Baptist Missionary & Educational Convention, Inc.
Liberia Direct Baptist Missionary Conference
Union of Evangelical Christian Baptist Churches of Armenia
Union of Evangelical Christian Baptists of Azerbaijan
Baptist Union of Bulgaria
Baptist Union of Croatia
SAT-7
European Baptist Federation
Project HOPE
International Baptist Theological Study Centre
Coptic Evangelical Organization for Social Services
Egyptian Baptist Convention
Union of Free Evangelical and Baptist Churches in Estonia
Federation of Evangelical Baptist Churches of France
The Evangelical Baptist Church of Georgia
Baptist Union of Hungary
Christian Mission to Gaza
Association of Baptist Churches in Israel
Baptist Union of Italy
Arab Baptist Theological Seminary
Convention of Evangelical Baptist Churches in Lebanon
Lebanese Society for Educational and Social Development
Baptist Union of Poland
Christian Education Center "Diamond"
Baptist Union of Romania
Convention of Hungarian Baptist Churches of Romania
Ruth School
Moscow Protestant Chaplaincy
The Union of Evangelical Christian Baptists of Russia
Union of Baptist Churches in Serbia

As of May 1, 2016

ANNUAL REPORT 2014-2015

Focused Impact Areas

FISCAL YEAR ENDING 9/30/2015

INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES
COME. GROW. CHANGE.



1 Inviting People to be Disciples

Evangelism

10 GLOBAL SERVANTS
6 SPECIAL ASSISTANTS
\$402,767

Discipleship

13 GLOBAL SERVANTS
\$358,596

Theological Education

14 GLOBAL SERVANTS
4 SPECIAL ASSISTANTS
\$1,168,234

2 Proclaiming God's Reign

Immigrants & Refugees

3 GLOBAL SERVANTS
\$202,972

Peace & Justice

6 GLOBAL SERVANTS
1 SPECIAL ASSISTANT
\$262,948

Abolishing Slavery

12 GLOBAL SERVANTS
\$569,521

Education

16 GLOBAL SERVANTS
\$872,481

Economic Development

8 GLOBAL SERVANTS
2 SPECIAL ASSISTANTS
\$502,062

Health & Wellness

15 GLOBAL SERVANTS
1 SPECIAL ASSISTANT
\$1,546,534

3 Equipping the Body of Christ

Everywhere to Everyone

2 GLOBAL SERVANTS
\$105,415

Short-Term Mission

4 GLOBAL SERVANTS
1 SPECIAL ASSISTANT
\$219,762

Youth & Young Adults

0 GLOBAL SERVANTS
1 SPECIAL ASSISTANT
\$37,920

Capacity Building

10 GLOBAL SERVANTS
6 SPECIAL ASSISTANTS
\$459,508

4 Pursuing Organizational Excellence

REVENUE: \$16,159,360
EXPENSES: \$15,143,049

Financial Health

Accountability

Technological Advancement

Communication

Care for Personnel

Volunteers

1,300 VOLUNTEERS IN GLOBAL MISSION
437 MISSION PARTNERSHIP TEAM MEMBERS
22 BOARD MEMBERS
22 SPECIAL ASSISTANTS
1,781 TOTAL VOLUNTEERS

80

girls from vulnerable situations attended 10 Girls' Clubs, emphasizing spiritual formation, positive social activities and mentoring.

PROJECT: SPONSOR 10 GIRLS' CLUBS IN CHILE, MANAGED BY BARBARA BOLICK

These three examples represent the vital impact being made by over 200 current mission projects worldwide.

73

villagers in Thailand gained access to clean drinking water for irrigation, gardens and sanitation.

PROJECT: CLEAN WATER SYSTEMS IN THAILAND, MANAGED BY MIKE MANN

15

Roma gypsy youths ages 5-20 completed the Sophia Baptist Church Literacy program.

PROJECT: STEP SPONSORS STUDENTS IN BULGARIA, MANAGED BY TERRY MYERS

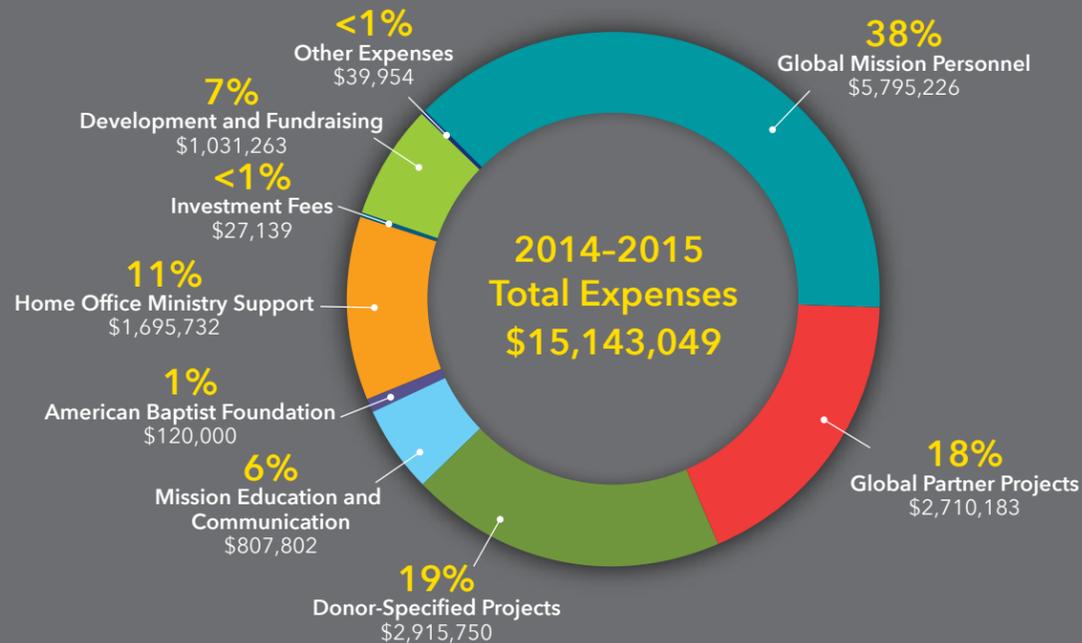
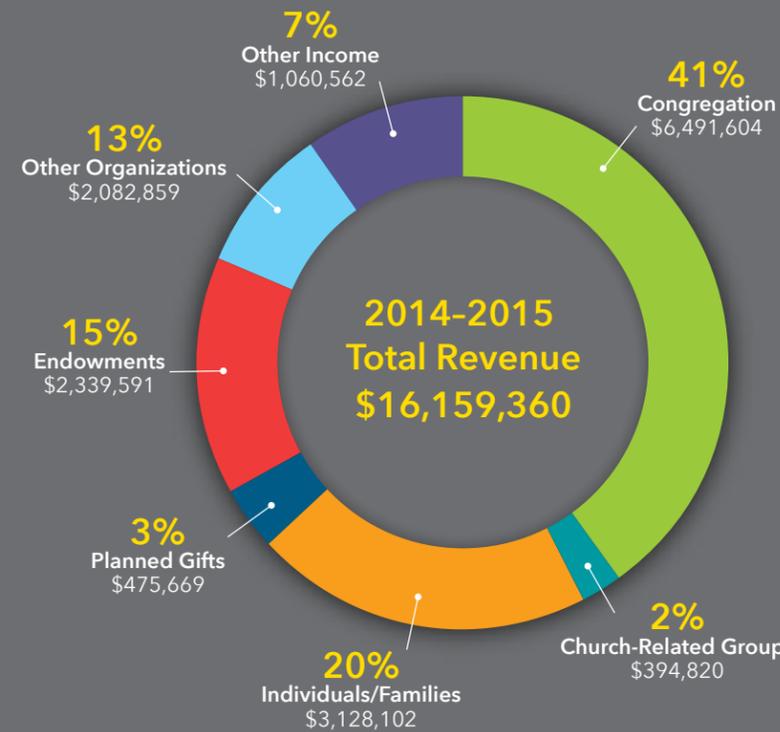
ANNUAL REPORT 2014-2015

2014-2015 Financial Snapshot

FISCAL YEAR ENDING 9/30/2015



Photo by Victoria Marcklinger



Note: Management reports represented here are unaudited financial statements. For a copy of IM's audited financial statements, please visit the Resources section of our website. Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

MISSION ADVANCEMENT

The Many Ways to Give

IM honors donor intent and offers many ministry options. Donations can be directed to support:

- the entire work of IM,
- one or more global servants,
- one or more mission projects,
- White Cross health, educational and social ministries,
- events such as the World Mission Conference and the Call Retreat,
- short-term mission trips and
- IM's endowment to provide long-term resources.

The variety of methods through which donors can exercise stewardship include:

Cash – Most gifts are given by cash, check, credit card, money order and bank draft. Cash contributions can be made in either lump sum payments or installments.

Securities – Common stock or other securities. Tax benefits may be realized by giving securities that have appreciated in value since their acquisition.

Charitable Trusts – Some donors create trusts that will pay out income over time. A Remainder Trust pays income to the donor, bequeaths the trust property to IM and allows the donor to take current federal income tax deductions. A Lead Trust pays income to IM and allows the donor to retain the trust property to bequeath to other beneficiaries at the end of the trust term.

Life Insurance – Gifts of life insurance are a popular mode of giving that can provide a sizable gift at a relatively low cost.

Bequests – The simplest gift planning method, bequests allow supporters to donate a set amount or percentage from their estates. The bequest often establishes a lasting memorial in honor of the supporter or members of his or her family.

Employer Matching Gifts – Many employers will match the funds that their employees donate to qualified charities. As you make your gift to IM, please see if your company has a matching gift or volunteer program.

In addition to financial gifts, you may also support IM:

- through your prayers
- by being a "friend-raiser": sharing the story of the IM, its ministry and its mission with your friends and associates, and
- by going and serving around the world.

Stewardship and Prayer

Please prayerfully consider the various options for how you may support God's work through IM. Determine how the Lord is leading you in your stewardship. Regardless of which method you select, your gifts will glorify God in all the earth.

Contributions to IM, a private not-for-profit organization, are tax-deductible as provided by law. IM is committed to principles of good stewardship and pledges to use the gifts you generously provide to benefit God's kingdom. As you prayerfully consider a gift to IM, please consult your tax adviser or financial planner.

A Unique Way to Support Global Missions

Christian Community Credit Union, a long-time partner of International Ministries, offers you a unique opportunity that gives to missions while serving your financial needs.

ACT TODAY!

myCCCU.com/IMPartnership
800.347.CCCU (2228), ext. 558



“ Thank you Christian Community Credit Union for partnering with us to help make a real difference in the needs of people's lives now and for all eternity. ”

Reid Trulson, IM Executive Director