

ANNUAL REPORT

2017 – 2018



international
ministries 

Vision

“ONEARTHASITISINHEAVEN.” — MATTHEW 6:10

4 DISTINCTIVES OF INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES

We respond to God’s call as Jesus taught us and as the Holy Spirit leads us.

IM seeks to embody the example of Jesus, who met the poor and marginalized where they lived. We align with the creative power and still small voice of the Holy Spirit, embodied in our global servants and partners.

It is with flexibility, focus and investment that our work centers on persons and partnerships. We focus on discipleship and education, work for peace and justice, advocate for those caught in human trafficking and global slavery, nurture economic and community development and offer opportunities for all to participate in our work. Our faith and openness to innovation drive us.

Global servants sustain and fuel our mission movement.

Our dynamic, relational and incarnational global servants are answering God’s call. They are deciphering global need and helping to usher in God’s reign of peace, where justice prevails, through their sacrificial and transformative ministries. They have received and are responding to a unique call on their lives to grow and steward our mission.

We have been responding for centuries. IM is the oldest Baptist international mission agency in North America and remains committed to staying true to the Gospel, faithfully innovating and sharing God’s love. We are committed to our heritage and to creative exploration and inventiveness in ministry.

International Ministries
1003 West 9th Avenue, Suite A
King of Prussia, PA 19406-1210
phone: 610.768.2168
donor questions:
IMdonorservices@internationalministries.org



Table of Contents

1	Letter from the CEO
2	A Life of Faith Abolishing Global Slavery Part 1
3	Part 2
4	A Life of Service Health & Wellness
6	A Life of Community Economic Development
8	Area Directors
10	Global Servants 2018
12	The Legacy of the Hopevale Missionaries
14	Development Staff
16	Financial Data
18	Missiology and the Art of Listening
20	Board & Leadership

Letter From the CEO

“BUT WHOEVER DRINKS THE WATER I GIVE THEM WILL NEVER THIRST. INDEED, THE WATER I GIVE THEM WILL BECOME IN THEM A SPRING OF WATER WELLING UP TO ETERNAL LIFE.” — JOHN 4:14

Dear IM Family,

Some would say that we live in uncertain times. Natural disaster, violence, displaced people and a divisive political climate are all examples of the darkness pressing in. Spiritually, we are thirsty, longing for something more. Together, humankind asks God to hear our cries and satisfy our thirst.

In our times of need, the voice of our Lord Jesus rings out, “whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” (John 4:14)

With your partnership and investment, 2018 has been a fruitful year for the IM family. God has allowed us to serve with 123 global servants in 30 countries. Through global partnerships, International Ministries is involved in mission in over 70 countries. Thank you for your prayer and support of our work all around the world!

This year, we celebrated the endorsement of three new global servants and the commissioning of five more to the field. God continues to call people to cross-cultural mission, and I give thanks that,

with your help, we are able to prepare, send and support them as they answer that call.

We were joined in ministry by 96 short-term mission teams, including 77 youths and 120 young adults, who served alongside IM partners and global servants in Lebanon, Guyana, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Zambia, Rwanda, Cuba, Nepal, Mexico, Ghana, Liberia, The Netherlands, South Korea, Costa Rica, Haiti, Myanmar, Colombia, the Philippines, Japan, Brazil, Uganda, Malaysia, El Salvador, Nigeria and China. An additional 33 individual volunteers served in Kenya, Hungary, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Liberia, Nicaragua, Haiti, Peru, China, Bolivia and Mexico.

The next few pages are full of many exciting examples of how God is moving in the world. Reading through accounts like these, I marvel at the timeless truth that lives are impacted one relationship at a time.

Our Lord Jesus was the first to embody an incarnational love, and we thank you for partnering with us as we seek to do the same. Thank you for entering with us into the worlds of those

who are thirsty, broken and downtrodden. Together, we are able to take part in God’s plan as the gospel of Jesus Christ continues to change lives around the world today.

Praying with you that all will come to faith in Jesus Christ and that it will be on earth as it is in heaven,



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sharon Koh".

Sharon Koh
Executive Director / CEO

A Life of Faith, Part 1

ABOLISHING GLOBAL SLAVERY

Aphiwan and Scott Coats support ministries to ethnic minorities that tackle the root causes of slavery.



In July 2018, the world witnessed a miracle: In one of the most dangerous cave rescue operations to date, 12 boys and their soccer coach were carried, alive and well, from the flooded tunnels where they had been trapped for three weeks. The “Thai cave rescue” was the work of experts from around the globe, supported by hundreds of volunteers and the prayers of thousands.

For one of these boys, this was actually the second life-saving intervention. The first, although less public, was no less the work of a community coming together to defend the vulnerable.

When Adul was just five years old, his parents made the heartbreaking decision to send him away. As long as he remained in Myanmar, he was in danger of being conscripted as a child soldier.

Aphiwan “Tan” and Scott Coats are leaders in a community that is working to save children like Adul from a life of forced labor. They support Thai nationals in ministries that empower communities to organize for social and economic change.

“Slavery in Myanmar and Thailand is a societal issue, deeply rooted in traditional thinking and response to circumstances,” explains Scott.

Aphiwan adds, “It is caused by a lack of education, lack of options, unstable families, historic cultural norms and social problems such as drug addiction.”

Aphiwan and Scott’s ministry focuses on practical measures, such as educational and job opportunities and sustainable agriculture, that reduce the need for families to seek income from harmful sources.

For Adul’s parents, this fundamental change would not come soon enough, but they did the best that they could for their son. Adul was taken in by Pastor Go Chin Maung, a friend of the Coats, who received the young boy with open arms and the love of Christ.

Pastor Go and his church have provided a home and education to 40 at-risk children. Together with the Coats, they are part of the community that is working to transform society from the inside out.

“God works in mighty ways,” Aphiwan says. “We are pleased to be able to have a small part in encouraging and supporting Pastor Go and his church as they improve the lives of so many.”



Aphiwan & Scott Coats

A Life of Faith, Part 2

ABOLISHING GLOBAL SLAVERY

“What I see often awes and saddens me. But when lives are restored, I see real evidence of God’s light and the gift of the Holy Spirit being with us.” —Rovaughna Richardson, International Ministries global servant in Ghana

For the past two years, Rovaughna has been working at the Baptist Vocational Training Centre, a ministry of the Ghana Baptist Convention that serves young women who have been freed from a life of servitude as trokosi slaves.

A young girl becomes a trokosi, or “wife of the gods,” when her family gives her to a shrine as a sacrifice to appease the gods. She will serve the

priest through labor, sexual favors and anything else he demands. If she is ever rescued or released, she will find herself in an unfamiliar world for which she is completely unprepared.

The Training Centre seeks to help former trokosis through this difficult transition. In a three-year residential program, the young women receive hygiene and social skills coaching, literacy education and vocational training as well as emotional, spiritual and health care.

As a counselor and educator, Rovaughna strives to help residents cope with trauma, overcome the frustration of learning a new way of life and build healthy support networks. She is currently developing a counseling center to expand this aspect of the program.

In an effort to address the cultural causes of the trokosi system, “IM’s partnership with the Ghana Baptist Convention takes the gospel message even further, to the parents of those girls, to the villages and even to the priests, with a message that there is no need for a girl to be sacrificed,” says the Rev. Dr. Eleazar Ziherambere, IM area director for Africa. “God has already accomplished that in Jesus Christ’s death on the cross.”



Rovaughna Richardson

A Life of Service

HEALTH & WELLNESS



At Deborah's House, Valeria and her children learned what it was to be a family, and they left transformed.

The Mexican state of Baja California ranks second in the nation for homicide against women. In the city of Tijuana, three out of every ten women suffer family violence, and seven out of ten experience other types of violence.¹

"As people of God, we cannot ignore the reality of domestic violence," says IM global servant Deliris Carrión-Joseph. "We firmly believe that with God we find the peace, freedom and strength we need to live in this world with dignity and respect for ourselves and for others."

The women's union of the Convención Regional Bautista "Dios con Nosotros" (Regional Baptist Convention "God with Us") and International Ministries responded to God's call by founding Deborah's House, a place of refuge where women and their children can be restored to health and wellness in an atmosphere of safety, peace and freedom.

At Deborah's House, those who have suffered from domestic violence receive pastoral, psychological and medical care as well as various types of vocational training and legal assistance as necessary. They are surrounded by the love of Jesus as their Lord and Savior and equipped for new life opportunities.

“IHAVETOLDYOUTHESETHINGS,SO THATINMEYOU MAYHAVEPEACE.IN THISWORLDYOU WILL HAVE TROUBLE. BUT TAKE HEART! I HAVE OVERCOME THE WORLD.” — JOHN 16:33

Deliris supports this work by providing pastoral and occupational counseling for residents, working with each family as a whole as well as with women and children individually.

One bright spot that stands out in her memory is the case of Valeria, a young woman whose time in Deborah’s House was truly transformational for herself and for her children.

Valeria

Valeria and her four children had endured a home life of intense abuse. Because of the violence, Valeria had been forced to ignore the needs of her children, and distinct developmental delays told the story of the trauma that they had experienced.

“The children were fearful and suffered greatly from speech difficulties and psychomotor development problems,” Deliris recalls. “Valerie, the youngest child, was already a year old and could not crawl. This developmental delay is typical of a child who has not received enough sensory affective stimulation due to living in a large and unstable family.”

Valeria recognized that she needed to re-learn how to love and care for her children, and so she began to attend parenting classes. At the same time, she received medical care and treatment for depression. She pursued vocational training in several areas, learning how to weave, sew, design jewelry and bake.

Throughout this process, Valeria gradually rediscovered herself and learned to love God again. She turned to God for the strength and courage to restore her family. These changes in her spread outward to her children, and they too started to thrive.

Valeria was overjoyed when, after six months of personal attention and intensive therapy, baby Valerie began to take her first tentative steps. By the time the family was ready to leave Deborah’s House, the toddler could run, climb up and down stairs and even speak a few words. The other children also showed greatly improved language skills, and they had overcome their fear of animals and learned to play on the swings, play catch and work with their hands.

Today, Valeria and her family live in Mexico City with her parents. Her older children are attending school and Valerie stays at home with her mother.

Valeria has put her training in baking to work, and a month after returning home, she sold her first cake. “This gives us a ray of hope that her future will be better,” Deliris says. “To God be the glory!”

God continues calling

As Deliris knows all too well, Valeria’s former home situation is far from unique. Domestic violence affects women, children and even men all over the world—including those who attend church every week.

“I encourage you to look beyond what your eyes can see,” says Deliris. “We serve a God who sees and listens to the cries of those who suffer, and God continues calling servants to the field.”



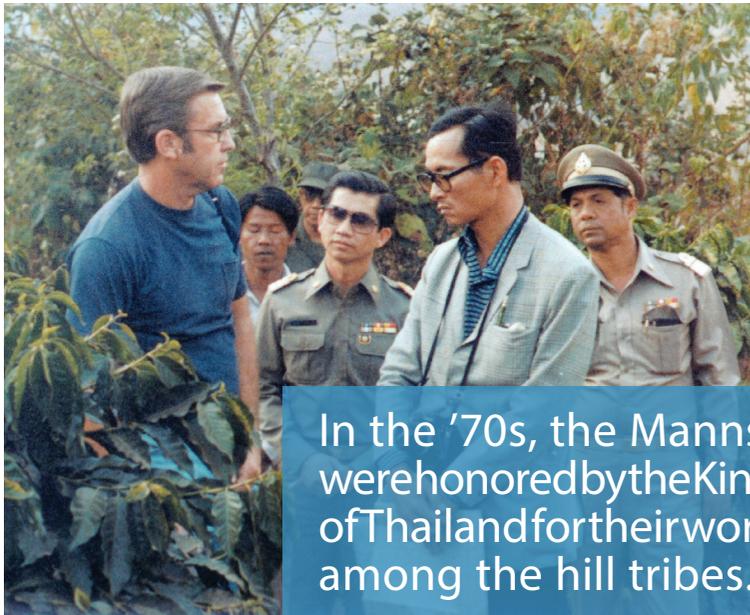
Deliris Carrión-Joseph

1. “7 de cada 10 mujeres sufre violencia en BC”, accessed on June 13, 2018, at <https://www.elsoldetijuana.com.mx/local/7-de-cada-10-mujeres-sufre-violencia-en-bc-1758621.html>.

A Life of Community

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

In 1961, agricultural missionaries Richard “Dick” and Marlene Mann heard God’s call to apply a simple solution to a difficult social challenge. Their work in northern Thailand dramatically transformed the lives of thousands of farmers who lived in poverty there. From this humble beginning grew an amazing enterprise that has been passed down through three generations of Manns, reaches around the globe . . . and may even be touching your life today.



In the '70s, the Manns were honored by the King of Thailand for their work among the hill tribes.

In 1958, Dick and Marlene and their two small children, Mike and Christine, were sent to serve as agricultural missionaries in Thailand by the American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (now International Ministries) to work with hill tribe farmers to introduce a variety of crops.

Early on, Dick determined that the heavily forested, high-altitude terrain, climate and soil were ideal for farming coffee. In 1961, he provided coffee seedlings to the villagers and helped to plant the first tree in Huey Hawm village. Partnering with one village at a time, the reach and impact of the coffee project grew. Eventually, Dick’s work caught the attention of the United Nations, and a new agricultural mission began to take shape.

At that time, large-scale opium farming in Thailand presented a major social and economic problem. The country was one of the world’s leading growers of this plant, a raw material for heroin. There was increasing pressure on the Thai government to find a replacement crop.

Based on his successful work with coffee among the hill tribes, in 1972, Dick was recruited by the UN to lead the opium eradication project in Thailand. Dick and Marlene responded to

the call. Their new mission became to free the hill tribe farmers from a reliance on opium farming and the oppression of the international drug lords by replacing opium farming with coffee farming. Slowly, the Manns’ efforts met with success.

“Over half a million hill tribe farmers in Thailand are living below the poverty line. It is our responsibility to walk alongside them and to help them do the kind of economic and community development that will last for generations.” —Mike Mann

Mike Mann followed in his parents’ footsteps as an IM missionary in Thailand. In 1991, he and his wife, Becky, founded the Integrated Tribal Development Programme (ITDP) to both continue the coffee farming and production ministry and launch supplemental economic development projects. ITDP’s mission is to make possible holistic and sustainable development that helps hill tribe farmers rise out of poverty.

Today, the ministries of ITDP and the Manns build clean water and sanitation systems in remote villages, establish schools and clinics and lead agriculture extension and training initiatives. They host volunteer teams from all over the world to support these projects.

Recently, the Manns have welcomed a third generation into the family ministry. Their oldest son, Richard, now works with ITDP Coffee as marketing director.

Nearly fifty years after Dick and Marlene began the ambitious journey to free hill tribe villagers from a life of poverty, ITDP's coffee enterprise has expanded from four villages to thirty-five, with 400 cooperative member families. More than 200 tons of coffee beans were harvested in 2018. The bulk of this coffee is being shipped domestically and internationally to Bon Coffee,

Lanna Coffee USA and Starbucks, and is enjoyed by people at breakfast tables, cafes and restaurants the world over.

Through this all, the ones most greatly impacted are the coffee growers themselves. These are their words:

"I want to thank ITDP for the past and the future. Coffee generates income for those who live on high ground, reduces the damage to the environment and restores balance to nature." —Nate Praikeerepreuksa



"Coffee growing provides me with enough money to send my three kids to school, an opportunity I never had. I am happy to see my kids get an education. Thank you for supporting us in Thailand. We take great pride in being able to produce a coffee that you enjoy and hope to continue doing so for many years." —Soksan Arutenee

"When I was a kid, I remember seeing opium fields everywhere. It was very dangerous because the organizations that were employing opium growers were bad people and abused many of the farmers. There were also many clashes with the border patrol. Now I look out over these mountains and see the natural forest returning with the coffee trees below. There are no longer police raids or abuse from drug organizations."
—Apichet Suriyachainphan



www.lannacoffeeco.com
www.itdpinternational.org



Mike & Becky Mann

Area Directors

International Ministries global personnel, programs and partner relationships are overseen by our five area directors. Each one approaches the unique joys and challenges of ministry with a commitment to sound mission principles, respect for our international partners and a pastoral heart for IM's global servants, rooted in devotion to Jesus Christ.



Adalia Gutiérrez Lee
Iberoamerica and
the Caribbean

In 2018, we forged new partnerships with Fundación SEPAZ in Colombia, COESECH in Chile, Misión Vida y Paz in El Salvador and ACPEDES in Haiti. In partnership with Eastern University's Palmer Seminary and the American Baptist Home Mission Societies, we celebrated the first graduating class of the Master of Theological Studies for Latino/a Ministries. Launched in 2016, this online, Spanish-language program provides theological education and leadership development for pastors and lay leaders in Latin American churches. Pray that God would continue to strengthen the church in Latin America.



Eleazar
Zihembere
Africa

Partnerships are a cornerstone of IM's mission, and in 2018 Executive Director / CEO Sharon Koh visited our partners in Africa to renew relationships, discuss current ministries and identify goals for the future. In Benin, the Baptist church is establishing congregations in predominantly Muslim areas. The Baptist Mission of South Africa, working with IM global servants Drs. Anita and Rick Gutierrez, is sending its own missionaries to Swaziland and Mozambique. Praise God for the missional spirit of our partners in Africa!



Charles Jones
Europe, the Middle
East and Liberia

In this region, one of the highlights of 2018 was helping American Baptist churches connect with ministries in Lebanon and Egypt by leading a team of pastors and executive ministers to visit IM global servants and partners in those countries. We also participated in significant multinational events including the European Baptist Fellowship council meeting in Lviv, Ukraine, and the first Christ at the Checkpoint convention to be held in the United States. Please pray that the relationships built in these meetings would continue to grow and to strengthen the body of Christ worldwide.



Ben Chan
East and
South Asia

For many IM global servants, a key part of ministry is encouraging collaborative mission relationships. In 2018, we saw several significant advances in this area. Ivy and Emerson Wu have made impressive progress in building a Global Chinese Mission Network for church leaders throughout Asia and the United States. Katie and Taku have played an important role in planning the 2019 India Baptist Summit. Special Assistant David Hojin Yu facilitated a new partnership between IM and the Baptist Churches of the Republic of Korea. Praise God for working through our global servants to bring people and ministries together!



Leslie Turley
Southeast Asia
and Japan

An ongoing concern in Southeast Asia is the oppression of religious minorities in the predominantly Buddhist country of Myanmar. In 2018, IM had several rare opportunities to advocate for these groups with the governments of the United States and Myanmar. This was also a year of significant ministry anniversaries: Jonathan and Thelma Nambu celebrated 25 years of mission in the Philippines with their organization, Samaritana Transformation Ministries, and the New Life Center Foundation in Thailand, now served by Karen Smith, Kit Ripley and Jeni Pedzinski, turned 30. Pray with us for an end to religious oppression and that God would bless many more years of ministry.

Hello & Goodbyes

We welcomed these new global servants:



These global servants finished preparations and began full-time global ministries:



We bid a fond farewell to these global servants:



Global Serv

IBEROAMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

-  Mercy Gonzalez-Barnes
Regional Consultant
-  Ricardo Mayol-Bracero
Regional Consultant
-  David & Joyce Reed
Regional Consultants
-  JD & Rhonda Reed
Regional Consultant & Bolivia
-  Sarah Nash
Bolivia
-  Corenne & Philip Smith
Brazil
-  Barbara & Dwight Bolick
Chile
-  Carlos Bonilla & Mayra Giovanetti
Columbia
-  Sue Hegarty
Costa Rica
-  Peter & Sarah McCurdy
Costa Rica
-  Ruth Vindas
Costa Rica
-  Madeline Flores-López
Dominican Republic
-  Ketly & Vital Pierre
Dominican Republic
-  Nancy & Stephen James
Haiti
-  Kihomi Ngwemi & Mabudiga Nzunga
Haiti
-  Stacy & Tim Reese
Haiti
-  Brian & Lynette Smith
Haiti
-  Dilia Zelaya
Honduras
-  Denise & Juan Aragón
Mexico
-  Deliris Carrión-Joseph
Mexico

-  Patti & Tim Long
Mexico
-  Debbie & Keith Myers
Mexico
-  Jae Stockton
Mexico
-  David & Laura Parajón
Nicaragua
-  Ingrid Roldán-Román
Panama

AFRICA

-  Glen & Rita Chapman
DR Congo
-  Ann & Bill Clemmer
DR Congo & South Sudan
-  Jill & Mike Lowery
DR Congo
-  Katherine & Wayne Niles
DR Congo
-  Ed & Miriam Noyes
DR Congo
-  Kathy & Tim Rice
DR Congo
-  Katrina & Kyle Williams
DR Congo
-  Rovaughna Richardson
Ghana
-  Anita & Rick Gutierrez
South Africa
-  Marilyn Raatz
South Africa
-  Faye Carol Yarbrough
South Africa

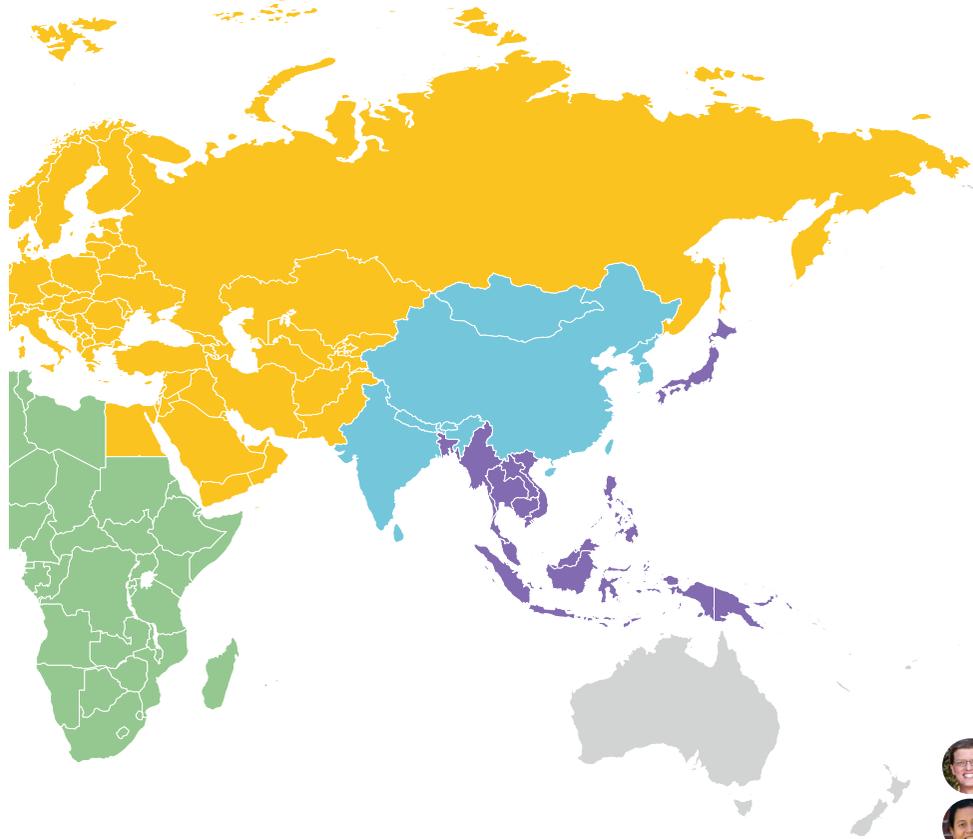
EUROPE, THE MIDDLE EAST AND LIBERIA

-  Nora & Pieter Kalkman
Regional Consultants
-  Terry & Tom Myers
Bulgaria
-  Amanda & Jon Good
Hungary
-  Carmella Jones
Hungary
-  Carrie & Kurt Smalley
Hungary
-  Larry & Rebecca Stanton
Hungary
-  Melanie Baggao
Middle East
-  Dan & Sarah Chetti
Middle East
-  Laura & Rich Freeman
Middle East
-  Hermelinda & Jorge Damasceno
United Kingdom

GLOBAL

-  Myllinda Baits
Restorative Arts
-  Lauran Bethell
Human Trafficking
-  Dan & Sharon Buttry
Peace & Justice
-  Kristy Engel
Health
-  Mike Mann
Rural Development
-  Ray Schellinger
Immigrants & Refugees
-  Stan Slade
Theological Education
-  Jeanine & Walt White
Cross-Cultural Training

servants 2018



123 TOTAL GLOBAL SERVANTS
 69 GLOBAL SERVANT UNITS
 30 COUNTRIES WITH GLOBAL SERVANTS IN RESIDENCE
 931 SHORT-TERM VOLUNTEERS

SOUTH AND EAST ASIA

-  Debbie Mulneix
Regional Consultant
-  Emerson & Ivy Wu
Regional Consultants
-  Katie & Taku
-  Carole Sydnor
Nepal

SOUTHEAST ASIA AND JAPAN

-  Ann & Bruce Borquist
Regional Consultants
-  Ruth Fox
Regional Consultant
-  Gordon & Lee Ann Hwang
Japan
-  Shigemi Tomita
Japan

-  Aaron & Valerie Osterbrock
Malaysia
-  Aphiwan & Scott Coats
Myanmar & Thailand
-  Jonathan & Thelma Nambu
Philippines
-  Paul Rollet
Philippines
-  Lori & Matt Mann
Southeast Asia
-  Kim Brown
Thailand
-  Annie & Jeff Dieselberg
Thailand
-  Joel Hoefle & Trish Magal
Thailand

-  Alise & Mark Juanes
Thailand
-  Lea Lindero
Thailand
-  Becky Mann
Thailand
-  Jennifer Pedzinski
Thailand
-  Kit Ripley
Thailand
-  Karen Smith
Thailand
-  Debby & Kyle Witmer
Thailand
-  Marlene Po
Serving the Myanmar Diaspora in the U.S.

The Legacy of the Hopevale M

“GREATER LOVE HAS NO ONE THAN THIS: TO LAY DOWN ONE’S LIFE FOR ONE’S FRIENDS.” — JOHN 15:13

December 20, 2018, marked a historic event: the 75th anniversary of the martyrdom of 11 missionaries of the American Baptist Foreign Mission Society (ABFMS, now known as International Ministries) in the Philippines during World War II.

This tragedy has deeply affected American and Filipino Baptists alike, and on the anniversary, over 400 people made the pilgrimage to the remote area where these missionaries spent the last months of their lives.

Their story

ABFMS missionaries James and Charma Covell were serving as teachers in Japan when the war broke out. As the country became increasingly militarized, they felt convicted that this conflict ran counter to the teachings of Jesus, and they could not remain silent.

The Covells’ open defiance was a source of danger not only to themselves, but also to other Baptists in Japan. For safety, James and Charma were relocated to the Philippine island of Panay, where 19 other ABFMS missionaries had an established ministry. Unfortunately, the Japanese military was not far behind.

“The triumph of their faith in God has become an inspiration for all who hear their story.” — Leslie Turley



With invading forces closing in, 10 of the missionaries decided to stay and surrender.¹ The rest reached out to a Filipino pastor they knew,² and he took them deep into the jungle to find a suitable hiding place. They stopped at the bottom of a ravine surrounded by thick forest and called this place “Hopevale.”³

Over the next 20 months, Hopevale became a waystation for Americans fleeing the Japanese forces. Its presence was a closely guarded secret, but the steady stream of refugees was an undeniable risk. Eventually, an American miner was captured, and under torture he gave up the location.

On December 19, 1943, the little camp was overtaken. No one escaped.

The leader of the arresting platoon, a captain, was attempting to contact his superiors about what to do with the missionaries. Before he could proceed, however, his group was intercepted by another platoon—this one led by a colonel, a higher-ranking officer. Overruling the captain’s protests, the colonel demanded that the prisoners be killed.

James Covell begged the officers for their lives, indicating that they were missionaries and not soldiers, but this was refused. He asked to be

Missionaries

taken to the internment camp. This was also refused. Seeing no other options, he requested a time to prepare for death. This was granted.

The condemned prisoners, 11 adults and one couple's young son, clasped hands and prayed, then lifted their voices to sing a hymn. Finally, James Covell said, "Now we are ready." They were taken to separate sites, two by two, and executed.

Their legacy

As word of this tragedy spread, even as Baptists mourned the loss, people throughout the Philippines were deeply touched by the martyrs' faith and many came to Christ. Even today, this legacy continues to animate the spirit of the Convention of Philippine Baptist Churches.

For the 75th anniversary, the Convention organized a four-day time of remembrance. A group of eight represented IM at the event to commemorate this part of our shared history.

Leslie Turley, area director for Southeast Asia and Japan, recalls, "It was a sobering time as we looked back at the tragic deaths of missionaries who had given their all in service to God and the people of the Philippines. But what shines

through is the amazing triumph of our God who lived in the hearts and lives of those who bore witness to his goodness and faithfulness as they went to their deaths singing a hymn of faith."

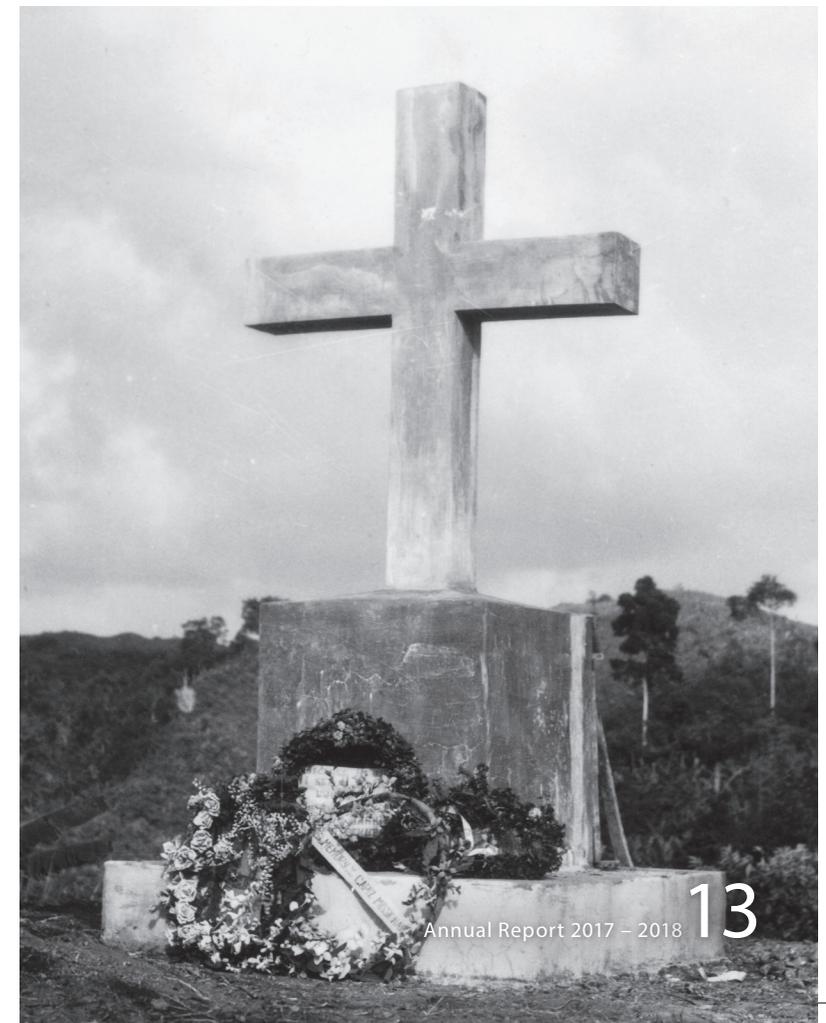
While few are called to make such a sacrifice, the Hopevale martyrs remind us that we must give witness to the power of the Holy Spirit every day of our lives, no matter the cost. If you are seeking to revitalize the spirit of your church, remember the Hopevale missionaries!

This account is adapted from *No Greater Love: Triumph and Sacrifice of American Baptist Missionaries in WW II Philippines, and the Martyrdom in Hopevale*, published in 2007 by Worldwide Gifts, co-authored by Wilma Ruth Taylor and the Rev. Dr. Elmo D. Familiaran.

Read more about the 75th anniversary commemoration in an article by the Rev. Dr. Elmo D. Familiaran at www.internationalministries.org.

1. The 10 missionaries taken as prisoners of war were interned in prison camps until the U.S. defeated Japanese forces in the Philippines in 1945.
2. The Rev. Delfin Dianala was one of the first graduates of the College of Theology in Iliolo City, which the ABFMS missionaries had founded. They had remained in close contact over the years as he established a mountain village named Katipunán, Ilonggo for "a place of gathering," and became the first pastor of Katipunán Evangelical Church. The Rev. Dianala, maternal grandfather of the Rev. Dr. Elmo D. Familiaran, died in 1996 at age 112.

3. Not long after they had settled at Hopevale, missionary Dr. Francis H. Rose built a makeshift chapel of rocks and trees, which they named "The Cathedral in the Glen." A replica now stands on the American Baptist Assembly grounds in Green Lake, Wisconsin.



Development

MISSION ADVANCEMENT

I recently had the pleasure of hosting a friend from the Midwest, and we took the opportunity to tour the beautiful farmland that is so abundant in eastern Pennsylvania. There seems to be no end to the planting, fertilizing and cultivating that is necessary to produce a steady stream of life-giving food.

In mission work, when we sow the seed of the gospel, we may not always be able to see clearly or immediately what the harvest will be. But we are assured in Scripture that, when we continue to pour the love of God into the lives of those with whom we serve, restoring dignity and sharing the Word, God will bless our labors and produce a bountiful harvest in eternity.

For over 200 years, International Ministries global servants around the world have been pointing those seeking assistance, restoration and wholeness to Christ. As we press on in the work of advancing God's kingdom, we depend on your continued kindness in coming alongside IM in three types of support.

1 | Personalized support for a global servant

Lifting up the work of IM global servants through giving and prayer is like watering the seeds of their ministry. When you make a donation in support of an IM global servant, you are helping to meet his or her personalized support goal (PSG). This is the funding necessary for a global servant to live and serve where God has called.

Because the cost of living varies from country to country, PSGs also vary. Part of the PSG is used for living expenses such as housing, retirement, medical benefits and other personal and family needs. Another part includes basic ministry expenses such as travel visas, passports,



technology licenses and internet services. The remainder provides for vital program support by dedicated personnel, including an area director.

Currently, the amount each global servant is raising in personalized support represents approximately 83% of what it costs to sustain her or his ministry.

2 | Gifts to the World Mission Offering and the General Fund

Undesignated gifts to the World Mission Offering (WMO) and gifts to the General Fund fill the approximately 17% gap in global servant support that is not covered by the PSG. Even when personalized support falls behind for a period of time, global servants are able to remain in the field thanks to additional assistance from the General Fund.

Another part of the General Fund furnishes resources like the website, awareness efforts, mission education, finance, donor services and the home office staff.

General giving is also a critical driving force for the future of IM's mission. It funds the work of mobilizing the next generation of global servants, and it enables IM staff to build the relationships between global

“WHOEVER SOWS BOUNTIFULLY WILL ALSO REAP BOUNTIFULLY.” — 2 CORINTHIANS 9:6

servants, international partners and mission supporters that are crucial for identifying and developing new ministry opportunities.

3 | Giving toward a mission project

Mission projects, White Cross projects and emergency relief funds are opportunities for you to help achieve a particular short-term

ministry objective that will have a lasting impact. Each fund has a financial target, and you can see the progress toward that goal on the project page on IM’s website.

Projects address specific needs shared with us by our global servants and partners, ranging from meals and medical supplies to school buildings and clean water systems.

Giving for the future

Contributing to the IM endowment is a wise stewardship decision today that generates investment income in perpetuity. By growing the endowment, you will also be growing the possibility for future global servants to continue to respond to the call.

We thank God for you and the sacrificial ways you support IM individually and through your church. Contact mission advancement with any questions you may have or to find out how we can help you participate in God’s work around the world.



New Friends & Familiar Faces

As IM moves into the next century of global mission, we are working diligently to cultivate relationships with our supporters through personal meetings with our development staff and more frequent and transparent information provided by the home office. We are excited to introduce you to the newest members of the Development team, Joyce Bagiraneza and Marc Kirchoff, who have joined longtime IM advocate Ray Schooler in connecting with churches and individual donors across the U.S. and Puerto Rico.



Joyce Bagiraneza
Donor Advisor



Ray Schooler, DMin
Sr. Director of
Development



Marc Kirchoff, DMin
Donor Advisor



Zofia Dripps

Financial Data

2018 was not without its challenges for our nation and the world, but once again God produced a great harvest of good works through International Ministries. You can catch a glimpse of this work through the stories shared on these pages—work that was made possible by the continued generosity of our donors, churches and regions.

As reflected in this financial summary, the cost of IM's global outreach in 2018 increased by \$1.2 million, the majority of which funded program expenses. American Baptist mission support remained our most significant source of funding; however, contributions toward support of our global outreach decreased by more than \$400,000 in 2018.

We continue to live in uncertain times, but we look forward in hope as God continues providing generously so we may multiply his harvest throughout the world.

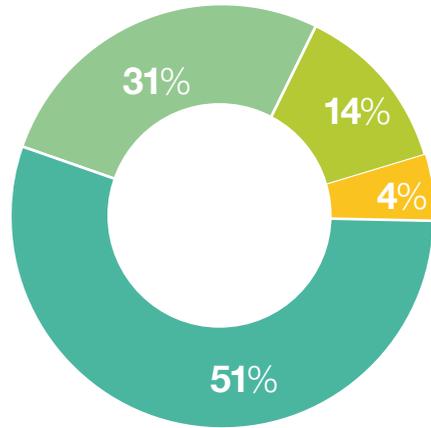


Patti Glasser

Statement of Mission Ministry For fiscal years ending September 30, 2018, and 2017

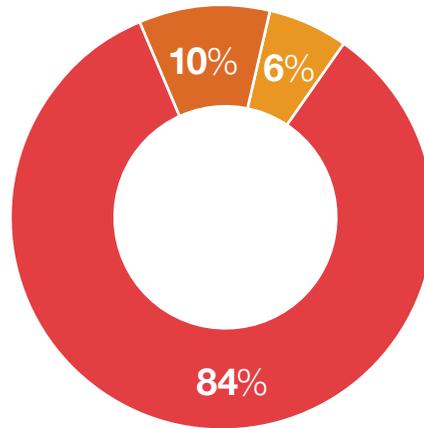
	2018	2017
Revenue, Gains and Other Support		
Contributions	11,839,506	12,282,858
Contributions to Endowment Fund	305,718	183,464
Realized Planned Gifts	877,818	604,038
Other Income	319,796	320,327
Endowment Income for Current Operations	2,527,875	2,056,436
Other Investment Income/Misc.	116,589	137,396
Total Revenue	\$ 15,987,302	\$ 15,584,519
Expenses		
Ministry of Missionaries and Global Partners	10,723,893	9,771,918
Ministry Support and Education	3,122,960	3,920,768
Total Program Expenses	13,846,853	12,692,686
Administrative Support and Fees	1,573,404	1,481,519
Development and Fundraising	966,717	997,181
Total Supporting Expenses	2,540,121	2,478,700
Total Expenses	\$ 16,386,974	\$ 15,171,386

“FOR GOD PROVIDES SEED FOR THE FARMER AND THEN BREAD TO EAT. IN THE SAME WAY, HE WILL PROVIDE AND INCREASE YOUR RESOURCES AND THEN PRODUCE A GREAT HARVEST OF GENEROSITY IN YOU.” — 2 CORINTHIANS 9:10



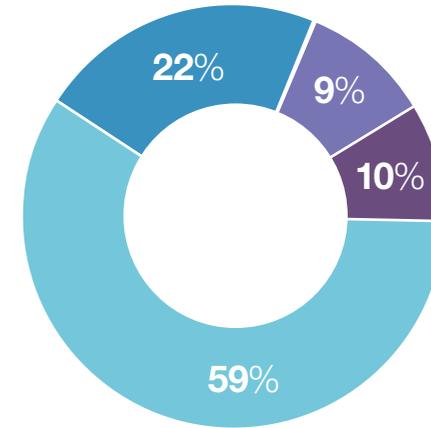
Sources of Contributions

- Congregations and Church Groups
- Individuals and Others
- Businesses, Foundations and Organizations
- Planned Gifts



Expenses

- Program Expenses
- Administrative Support and Fees
- Development and Fundraising



Global Servant Support Distribution

- Global Servant Income
- Medical/Retirement Plan
- Ministry Expense
- Indirect Support

Global servant support is personalized to the ministry, geographic area, family size and cost of living in the country of service. IM global servants have budgeted support goals to provide personal care and meet the needs in serving where God calls. While no two situations are exactly alike, this chart conveys the average distribution of funds received for global servant personalized support.

Missiology and the Art of Listening



Listening is a bridge over which God's love travels.

Many of us grieve the loss of civility in our society. One symptom of this loss can often be seen in the news media when people of opposing positions argue. They do not listen and then respond, they talk at each other simultaneously. They cancel each other out, each person's words effectively blocking the other's from being heard.

We have become unwilling to listen, and this prevents others from hearing us as well. How much better might life be if people of differing perspectives would actually listen to each other?

I believe that intentional listening is a key part of what it means for God's kingdom to come to earth, and it is one of the threads running through International Ministries missiology, or how we do mission. Missiology has to do with the message, means and methods by which the church engages in God's mission. For us, the message is always Jesus, the means is the power of the Holy Spirit and the methods that we use all require listening.

Listening is an act of faith.

Jesus set this example for us. He frequently withdrew to quiet places to listen to his Heavenly Father. Jesus taught his followers, "Listen then to

ening

what the parable of the sower means.” (Matt. 13:18, NIV) He called the crowd to him and said, “Listen and understand.” (Matt. 15:10, NIV) When we follow Jesus’ command to love one another, we become intentional listeners.

IM’s strategic plan is titled Responding to the Call because our first responsibility is to listen: We listen to God, we hear God’s direction and then we respond. Our global servants listen to God’s Word and to God’s still small voice as they discern God’s plan for their lives. IM’s vocational staff listen as potential global servants share how they believe God is directing or calling them. IM area directors listen to our global partners about the needs of God’s people in each country. You and I listen to the stories of God at work in the world and respond through prayer and financial support. The core values of Responding to the Call, faith, service and community, become modalities for listening.

Listening informs our service.

We shape our service based on hearing God speak and on hearing the needs, strengths and dreams of God’s children. We listen to all

of God’s creation. We listen with respect. We share the gospel of Jesus with our voices, with our hands and with our feet, but first with the act of listening.

Listening amplifies the voices of others, the voices of those God will heal, touch, encourage, lift, free, empower and draw close. We listen so the Spirit may guide us to serve with integrity, accountability, flexibility and innovation.

Listening builds community.

God’s mission is not carried out in isolation. We listen to and learn from our gifted domestic and international partners. We listen with respect to those who are engaged in God’s mission beyond the American Baptist Churches. We care for all people. God uses our listening and our actions to build global communities of mutual giving and receiving, of blessing and being blessed.

This happens because listening is not just hearing. The acts of listening are the first steps that lead, guide and drive myriad acts of love. God uses our global servants and partners to invite people to faith in Jesus

Christ, nurture individuals in discipleship, assist survivors of human trafficking, improve literacy, train church leaders, develop health care systems, promote health and wellness, foster economic development, offer compassion to immigrants and refugees and transform conflict into cooperation. With our partners’ help we also feed the hungry, heal the sick, are present with the lonely, comfort the forgotten and the marginalized, free captives and give hope to the downtrodden. This all begins with and is guided by listening.

Listening is a bridge over which God’s love travels, and I thank God that listening remains a basic skill and practice for IM. Thank you for your prayers and financial support. Thank you for listening with us and for your faithful partnership.



Rev. Dr. Reginald Mills

Board of Directors



Reginald Mills,
MDiv, PhD
President



Mercy Johnson
Vice President



Paul Vick, MDiv, JD
Treasurer

Wendy Bernhard

Terry Farmer

David Gnirk

Ivan Greuter

Laura Harris-Adam

Marijane Kiley

Vivan Martindale

Ronald Maxwell

Jorge Medero

Barry Moultrie

Timothy Pantoja

Jenny Quey

Roger Raikes

IM Staff Leadership



Sharon Koh,
MDiv, MAT
Executive
Director / CEO



Jim Bell, MDiv/CE
Associate Executive
Director for Global
Mission



Patti Glasser
Associate Executive
Director for
Operations



Zofia Dripps,
MMin, CFRE
Associate Executive
Director for Mission
Advancement



Ray Schooler,
DMin
Senior Director for
Development

Our Purpose

International Ministries, also known as the American Baptist Foreign Mission Society, works cross-culturally to invite people to become disciples of Jesus Christ and to proclaim, through both word and deed, God's reign of justice, peace and abundant life for all creation.