

October 2025

Dear Prayer Partner,

Our lives and service for Jesus was never meant to be easy. 2 Corinthians 11:24-28 the apostle Paul was beaten, shipwrecked, and imprisoned for serving the Lord. Isaiah 50:7 tells us of the obedience of Jesus and that He set His face like a flint, knowing that He would face death in Jerusalem. Our Lord was determined to go for this was the Father's will and the only way to save lost sinners.

Sad to say, but many in the church confuse kindness with softness. To many Christians believe that if we are sensitive enough the world will accept the gospel message. The Bible says that the gospel is "foolishness" to a lost world. "For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God" (1 Corinthians 1:18). Those who regard the gospel as foolishness, rejecting and even ridiculing God's Word, prove that they are perishing in sin on their way to hell.

It is not our niceness that changes the heart of the unsaved, but God's power working in our witness. Many Christians in the past were humble, scarred, and steadfast. They endured hardship with steel in their backs because they trusted our Lord. That's what we need today. We are not in need of brashness or arrogance, but the need for all Christians to have the grit to suffer for the truth. Softness and indifference only brunt the outcome of the gospel. We need to be courageous, clothed in the living Christ and proclaiming the gospel.

I had the blessing of visiting via the inner net with pastors and missionaries in Brazil. Pastors Mauricio Silva Filho and Silvio Santos shared with me a recent service in which eleven teenagers and children were saved. Pastor Silvio also works in some of the local prisons in the São Paulo area. Thank God for the men and women who have the faith and willingness to teach and preach the Word of God. Don't we need more such men and women in the church today? Thank you for your prayers and support.





The Langleys

Ben and Nan

Director of Pastoral Training

Dear Partners and Friends.

October 2025

JOHN 14:1 "LET NOT YOUR HEART BE TROUBLED; YE BELIEVE IN GOD, BELIEVE ALSO IN ME." JOHN 14:6 "I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE, NO MAN COMETH UNTO THE FATHER BUT BY ME."

This world is in a terrible condition! Here in the United States we have seen in the last few days a voice for God and Country murdered, Charlie Kirk. We see killing of innocent people on a daily basis and we see multitudes applauding the wrong that is being done. BUT GOD!

We as Christians know the answer. The answer is Jesus! We have hope because of Him, we know the outcome because of Him! We have a directive from our leader; "go ye into all the world and preach the gospel". That is the answer to the problems of this world.

In Myanmar where our mission work began eight years ago, there is a military junta that is murdering hundreds every week. We just received a notice from one of our staff pastors, Bro. ShaHtoo of a situation in the last few days; "military junta air strikes on the refugee camp destroyed 3 houses, killed 5 including 2 children in Kayah State." Their house and shelter was hit by bombs. He and his family were in a bunker so they survived, thank the Lord. We need \$1600.00 to help them rebuild their house and shelter, can you help?

This world needs to hear the Word of God to be saved, and we know Jesus is coming soon, the need is urgent, the cause is great.. Your help makes our work possible, thank you!

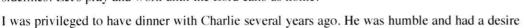
Because of HIM.

Ben Langley Romans 1:16

TIM LEE MINISTRIES **CONTROLLED **CONTROLLE

Greetings in the name above every name, the name of JESUS! One day every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess that Jesus is Lord!

I, along with all of you, was horrified to watch what happened to Charlie Kirk on that campus in Utah when an assassin took his life. The world watched as we saw the terror unfold. But in the days following this brutal murder we saw something else. We saw God work in ways that many of us have never seen before. We are seeing so many teenagers and young adults returning to church and many going to church for the first time. Nationwide there has been a 15% increase in church attendance! I think we can all agree that God is doing something extraordinary! It could be that we could see another Great Awakening before Jesus comes to take us home. Whatever the Lord is up to, I want to be a part of it and I pray you do too! I don't want to be sitting on the sidelines! Let's pray and work until the Lord calls us home!



to make a real difference in this mean and sinful world. I doubt Charlie ever imagined his life or even his death would make the profound impact that it has. That is how humble he was. There is no doubt in my mind that he and Jesus have been smiling a lot from Heaven as they watch this spirit of revival sweeping across America and even around the world. Christians, let us be mindful to continue to pray for Charlie's family — his wife Erika, their two little children, his parents, his sister and the rest of the family.

I want to express my gratitude. I shared in a previous newsletter about needing some help with travel expenses. We have the best supporters and you have come through for this ministry once again. Thank you from the bottom of my heart!



That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Philippians 2:10-11

On September 7th, Connie and I were in Simpsonville, South Carolina with Pastor Stephen Cox and the folks of Bible Baptist Church. This is a growing and exciting church. The building was full in both services. *Eleven came for salvation*, and scores more came for other decisions! To God be the glory!

The next Sunday, we were in North Carolina with Pastor Daniel Hawtree at Kerwin Baptist Church in Kernersville. I've been preaching at this church since 1980! We have some great friends in this church. This was the Sunday after Charlie Kirk was murdered and I preached about another young martyr, a follower of Jesus Christ, Stephen. We had an amazing service with folks coming from all over the vast auditorium during the invitation! Many decisions were made including several for salvation! It was great to see and visit with Tim Lee Ministries board members and dear friends, Tony and Chris Alford.

September 27th, we were back in North Carolina for the Faith and Freedom event in Marion. When we pulled into the parking lot there were people everywhere! After Charlie was murdered, people have decided they can no longer be quiet. People are deciding to stand up for what's right and for Jesus! There were over twenty great speakers at this important event including Dr. Ben Carson, Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem, Fox and Friends host Rachel Campos Duffy, Ambassador Mark Walker, Radio host Todd Starnes, Fox News contributor Joe Concha and so many more. I helped to close the event on Saturday evening. It was a great day as we gathered with so many other patriots.

When we left Marion, North Carolina we headed on to Asheboro. When we finally arrived to our hotel Saturday evening we were exhausted! It had been a great day but a busy one. Sunday morning I preached at Beulah Baptist Church in Bennett, North Carolina for Pastor Neal Jackson. Neal is also a State Representative in North Carolina. I thank God for these pastors courage to get into the political arena. We need more just like him! The Lord blessed with a sweet service. Again the altars were full and there were many, many decisions made including *three for salvation!* To God be the glory. It was an honor to have TLM board member Gaylord Rush and his precious wife Brenda in the service as well. They are great friends.

Thank you for your prayers, your encouragement and your financial support. I've said it before and I'll say it again and again, we could not do this work that God has called us to without your help.



TIM'S SCHEDULE

October 5

Worth Baptist Church Fort Worth, TX Pastor Tyler Gilbert

October 26

Canyon Ridge Baptist Church San Diego, CA Pastor Chris Chadwick



Dr. Ben Carson Salt & Light Conference

October 12

First Baptist Church New Castle, OK Pastor Jeremy Freeman

October 30

Liberty Chaplains Conference Lynchburg, VA Director Steve Keith



With Fox News contributor Joe Concha Salt & Light Conference

October 19

West Jacksonville Baptist Church Jacksonville, FL Pastor Rodney Kelley

Visit our website at timlee.org to see more events. Tim & Connie love seeing our Patriotic Partners at their meetings. If they are ever going to be in your area, make plans to go and take a friend with you.



Fox & Friends Host Rachel Campos Duffy Salt & Light Conference

PRAYER REQUESTS & PRAISES

Michael Barros asks that we pray for his mom as she moves

to Tennessee.

James Pruitt reminds us to pray for our country.

Norma Carmichael asks that we pray for her and her family. They lost 3 family members last week (aunt, great aunt and cousin) all due to health issues.

Neil Tenney asks that we pray for Christian who was in a bad car accident.

Norma Carmichael asks pray for two family members who need to stop drinking.

Karen Disher asks that we pray for her family.

A Partner asks that we pray for their son, Dax with many health issues.

Lori Cox is asking that we pray for her dad who needs salvation. He is 98 years old.

John Snyder reminds us to pray fervently for President Trump!

Travis Burgess has a PRAISE! We've been praying and his sister and brother in law are now coming to church!

REMEMBER...

Please remember to pray for **Tim Lee Ministries**

-Pray for Tim and his wife Connie as they travel.

-Pray for souls to be saved.

-Pray for the financial needs of Tim Lee Ministries to be met.

PRAYER REQUESTS

- If you have prayer requests to submit, please fill out the enclosed card (include your name on the card).
- We take your requests very seriously and will pray over them.

WE NEED YOU!

Please pray and consider helping TLM by supporting the ministry on a monthly basis.



Mail: PO Box 461674 Garland, TX 75046

Web: www.timlee.org

Phone: 972.276.3168 OR 800.872.9979

Identifying with Jesus

When you turn on the news these days you find so many people in desperate situations all over the world. And though it is true that there is a lot of hurt to go around there is also a lot of joy. Just look in the faces of these new believers in Jesus and the joy they have to express their faith in Christ.

Before I baptized these new believers, I reminded each one of them that because Jesus died and rose again and when they put their trust in Him, He gave them total forgiveness of their sin, and a new life with God that will never end. What joy!

We are so thankful that the Lord has raised up strong leaders within our church who have served Jesus so effectively. They have had a direct impact on these new believers through evangelistic efforts and follow up.

Thank you for you prayers and financial support that help Beth and me share this joy about our Lord Jesus here in Thailand. You have made a huge difference in the lives of these new believers. Your partnership in the ministry here has advanced the building of the Kingdom of our Lord in this Buddhist country. We thank the Lord for you!

Raymon Beth



Dr. Wiwut from a Thai Buddhist family, an elderly gentleman working at a local university. He trusts in Jesus!



Josh is from the Philippines living in Thailand. This young man just got engaged and now also has a Savior, Jesus!



Please pray for the 4 people who were baptized, new believers in Jesus!

Dr. Wiwaut, Josh, Mallie (Thai single mom of two teenage girls), and

Christine (tutor from the Philippines)











The Mexico Mission

Prayer Warriors,

First, we would like to thank each and every individual, church, and ministry who have prayed for us over the past 2 years. The Lord has answered our prayers through safety, and support. Since July of 2023 we had a 2 week survey trip to Mexico, one year of deputation, 6 months of language school in Costa Rica, and now a smooth move to Ramos Arizpe, Coahuila, Mexico. He has surely provided all of our needs, and listened to your prayers to encourage us, and keep us going. Thank you!

We were not able to obtain an appointment to discuss temporary residency, or did we receive temporary residency. That did not stop us, we decided to still come, and we received 180 visas that will need to be renewed in February. God is still good, and he made a way for us to move anyways.

In July we were able to spend a couple days at camp Minnetonka during Aurora's kids camp week, visit with a lot of family, and took a short trip to look for a house in Mexico. We were able to stay in Mexico from July 28-31, and during that time we looked at 8 potential houses. Mariana and Heriberto (the national pastor and his wife we are currently working with) set up all of the appointments for us, drove us around to look at the houses, and handled all of the communication. They have been a huge blessing through this entire process. We had also made connections with a couple who run an orphanage called "Big Heart Orphanage" in Ramos, and they allowed us to stay on their property for the few nights we were in Mexico. WE FOUND A HOUSE! On July 30th we signed the contract for a house we decided to rent, and then headed back to Texas on the 31st.

August was full of "see you laters", and visiting with our friends and families. August 25th at 4 a.m, we drove our car out of Aurora, with Judith's dad (Andrew Vandergriff), and one of our board members (Donnie Foster) in a church van with our remaining belongings. We pulled into our house around 4:30 p.m. (Mexico time) the same day. *Praise the Lord for his provision!* Mariana and Heriberto welcomed us with some decorations, and goodies in our kitchen. Andrew and Donnie stayed from the 25th-28th, to help us unload our belongings, and build furniture (we built 22 pieces of furniture).

Our time here has been full of ministry opportunities, fellowshipping, and talking about the future. We hit the ground running between a pastor and pastor's wives dinner, church services, celebrating independence day, becoming members of the church, Cade preaching, and organizing/directing an event at the orphanage.

Here is what we have been up to:

July 9-11: Visited the kids at Minnetonka

July 28-31: Looked at 8 potential houses, and signed on the 30th

Aug. 10: Going away celebration at Aurora

Aug. 24: Cade preached, and we both led worship at Keystone Bible Church FW

Aug. 25: Moved to Ramos Arizpe, Mexico

Aug. 30: Pastor and pastor's wives dinner from surrounding cities and states

Aug. 31: First Sunday service while living in Mexico

Sept. 4: Ladies conference in Monterrey for Judith

Sept. 6: Ladies Bible study with the women from El Vástago

Sept 7: We became members of El Vástago

Sept 14: Fiesta after church to celebrate Mexico's independence (on the16th)

Sept. 20: We hosted an event at Big Heart Orphanage with 11 others from church

Sept. 21: Cade preached at church

Sept. 27: Judith had a meeting where she joined the kid's ministry team

Sept. 14: Fiesta to celebrate the independence of Mexico (on the 16th)

We were able to attend service, and then afterward participate in the festivities. Cade was a judge for the salsa contest, and he participated in the "Mexican yell" contest; he won. Judith made refried beans for the



lunch. Here is a picture of the 3 pastors, and their families.

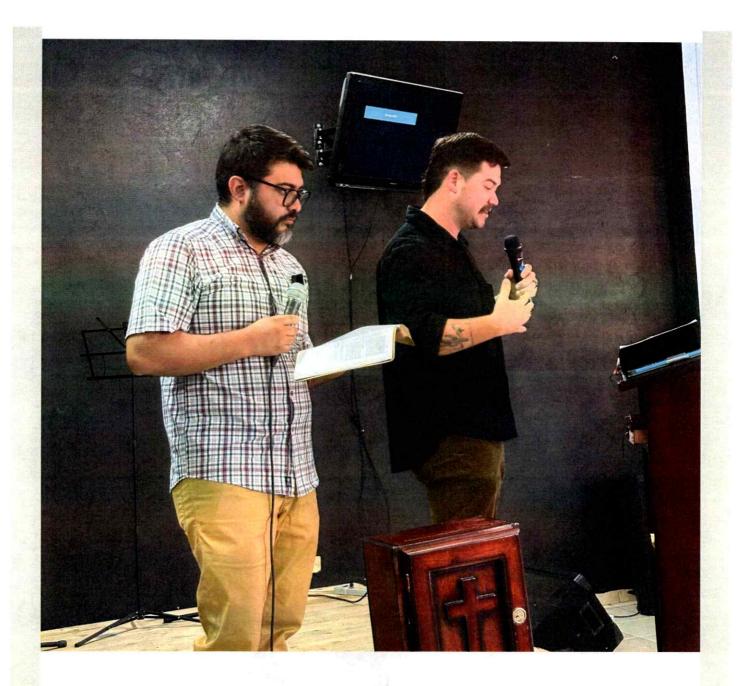


September 20: Event at Big Heart Orphanage

We had the privilege of helping organize, and direct an event at big heart orphanage in the mountains. They have 7 kids at the moment that they serve. Every 15 days, they have a new church/group come and put on an event from 9:00-12:00 for their kids, and the children from the surrounding neighborhood. This is something near to Judith's heart, and the orphanage asked for El Vástago to put together this event since they attend El Vástago. We were both involved in the planning, and organizing of this event. Judith was in charge of all communication to the church members who were helping, along with purchasing and putting together the materials for the craft time, and materials for all of the games. Judith directed, said the opening welcome and prayer, and did the craft time. Cade was in charge of media/sound, and a couple

of the games. There were 13 of us from the church helping, and it was a great turn out. In total, there were around 17 children that we served through breakfast, craft time, Bible lesson, games, worship, and prayer time.





If you would like to see pictures, and videos each week, you can follow our Facebook page "The Mexico Mission". There is a Facebook button at the top of the page, press it and the link to the Facebook page is attached.

If you would like to financially support us, the link to do so is located under the prayer requests below, attached to the round white button that says "The Mexico Mission". If you have any questions, comments, or encouragement, please feel free to email us at Cappsmexicomissions@gmail.com.

For detailed information about our testimonies, our calling, and our future ministry plans, please go to our website at **www.thecappsmexicomissions.com**



Dear Friend.

The last three months I have been writing about tears because they are some of the most precious indicators of how our father is using you to have a profound impact on the lives of people here in China. Not all of these people are Chinese, by the way.

I mentioned to you a while back about an American couple who may be ready for the good news. M and A have two precious little boys ages 4 and I. They have been joining us on Sundays regularly for several months now. During this time, they have heard the good news several times, but it did not quite seem to be clicking. One Thursday this month, we invited them over for a more thorough and personal good news conversation. During this conversation, we discovered that M had indeed made a past profession and had been dunked while serving in the Navy. His wife, A, however, had not. She had been dunked into the Morm-n group as a child. As we continued to ask probing good news questions and explain it, A was clearly emotional. As we approached the end, I asked her, "Have you ever done this before?" She simply replied, "No." Yet I could see on her face that she wanted to so I prompted her, "Would you like to?" It was like she was just waiting for that invitation, and emphatically said, "Yes!" She proceeded to talk to our father through priceless tears of repentance. She asked for forgiveness and to be filled with his spirit. That same day, we proceeded to teach what the book says about dunking. She wanted to do it that very next Sunday! That same day after being dunked, we were already planning to remember what the son did for us by receiving the elements. So, this was A's first time to participate in this as well. What an amazing week!

On a different note, we have several families that attend Hope Academy that struggle to meet their financial obligations. One of these families has two boys in the school, the mother is one of our teachers, and the father is a full-time worker for our father (but with very low pay). We had a meeting with the parents of this family to discuss their situation. As they poured out their hearts, I could see that they were truly overwhelmed with this challenge.

I wanted them to see how our father provides so I asked them, "Do you think he answers our requests?" They said, "Yes." So, I talked to our father about their situation asking for both wisdom and provision. Then I asked them, "Do you think our father can answer your requests before you even ask it?" Again, maybe a bit confused by the question, they

said, "Yes." So, I proceeded to tell them how I was asking our father for wisdom and provision in their situation over the last few weeks. I told them how after talking to our father about this, I received an unexpected text from a leader in the US specifically asking about R, the oldest son in this family. I shared with him their situation so he could also be lifting them up. A few days later, he replied with an extremely generous offer to help in such a way that nearly completely met what was lacking. As I shared this story, the mother's eyes overflowed with tears as she realized our father was already providing for them in an extraordinary way.

We regularly thank our father for all of you who help make this all possible, and we ask our father to bless you as well.

Grace and Peace, The Torres Family





October 2025



The Byrd's

in the Dominican Republic

Hello Friends,

Today we are writing to you from Mountain Home, Arkansas. Our daughter Darby gave birth to our 10th grandchild (all boys) 2 weeks ago, Beckham Wayne Kelley. So we have spent time visiting with them and our other children and their families, along with visiting our parents. With 7 kids it's not easy to see them all. Gary has been traveling back to the DR each month for a couple of weeks while Tami has helped Darby through her first child birth experience. Our youngest daughter Haley, just celebrated her 19th birthday as she starts her sophomore year of college. And our daughter Heidi's wedding is Oct. 3rd, so we will be heading to New Jersey next week to welcome Ethan, her husband to be, to our family.

We have been writing to you all recently about sustainability and leadership transition for our church. Sunday, will mark Gary's 10 year anniversary as the pastor of Abundant Life Baptist Church in La Vega. But Gary's calling was never to be the permanent pastor of the church, but rather to train up a team of leaders who would follow Christ, and allow the church to have godly Dominican leadership. It has been thrilling to see the church grow both spiritually and numerically this year. Our Pastoral interns (Luis, Walter, and Benel) have done an outstanding job! More and more of our church are serving in some area of the ministry. Our children and family ministries have never been stronger. God is doing what only He can do, build a church that glorifies Him. Please continue to pray for unity and faithfulness to God's Will in the coming months.



We have more exciting news. Remember we are trying to raise \$8000 to purchase solar panels for the church which would eliminate any electric bills for the future of the church. We have received \$3500!! Praise the Lord! God is on the move!! What a ride it is!! Thank you for your faithful prayers and sacrifices for God's work in the hearts of the Dominican and Haitian people in La Vega. We feel honored to partner with you all, and we hope you feel the same!

Living the Dream,

Gary, Tami, & Haley

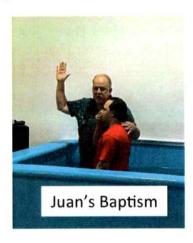


The Byrd's

February 2025

in the Dominican Republic

with Juan about Christ's love for him, and God's desire to save to Him, he beamed with joy and delight. All glory be to Jesus, He saved Juan's soul Sunday afternoon. He and Maria were baptized Wednesday night at our midweek family growth night. He returns to New York on Friday, so we are looking for a good church in his area. Your prayers for Juan and Angel would be greatly appreciated.





Living the Dream,

Gary, Tami, Heidi, Darby & Haley



View this email in your browser



Woodfin Prayer Update (Oct 2025)

Monthly Prayer Update

Check out the report and the video below to hear more.

Also, You can scroll down to see an update about our Family, and a short thought on one thing I have learned.

Thank you for everything!!

4 Years

Our church plant just celebrated 4 years!! That is an awesome accomplishment as most churches close in San Francisco within the first 3 years. Its understandable because it is SO hard to gain traction here in the City. As I have stated in the past much of what we do is simply tilling hard ground, with the goal of seeing future fruit. We face many challenges but God is good.

If you remember, Year 3 of our plant was definitely the most difficult...with heavy spiritual attacks...and over half our church members moving to other places around the U.S. But God sustained us...and with YOUR HELP...we have been able to continue to see souls saved, disciples made, and new outreaches started. Year four was our best year yet and we cannot wait to see what God does next!

Check out the video below to see everything that happened in our church over the past year.



PRAY FOR OUR FALL FEST OUTREACH





Part of what God has done is opened up doors for a possible new church plant!! Daly City is just south of San Francisco and a city of over 100,000 people. We have started a brand new outreach based Bible study there with the hopes of reaching new people with the Gospel and possibly being the seeds of a new church. Currently we refer to this new Bible Study as "Project Gateway" as Daly City is known as the "Gateway to the Peninsula."

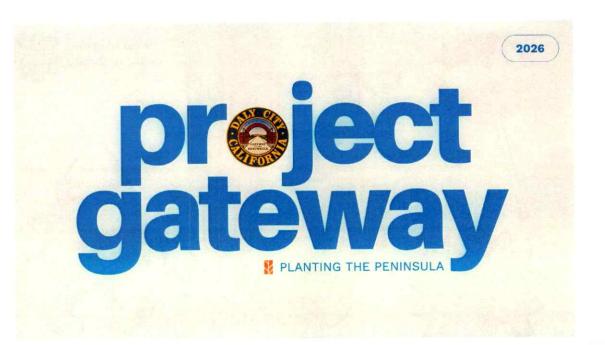
This is where we need your prayers. At the building where this new Bible study takes place in Daly City we are doing one of our biggest outreaches ever!! We are doing a Fall Fest for the families of Daly City.

We are going all out and our people are getting on board to reach new people in a brand new area!

We are hoping that through this outreach God will open up doors for us to meet new people and introduce the gospel to them!

Specifically pray for our prayer tent. We are going to have a tent up that is dedicated to getting people information, Bibles, and praying over people!

Please pray for this event and that God would allow us to reach more people with the Good News!



PRAYER

-Pray for the Fall Fest Event
-Pray for our Alpha outreach guests...specifically pray for Omar, Roxana, Camila.
-Pray for Zions Health.

-Pray for more laborers in San Francisco!! This area is begging for more gospel outreach and more churches. We need all the help we can get to see more souls saved!

FAMILY



We had a recent medical scare over the past few days.

Zion has always been a healthy kid...in fact he has not visited a dr. or a hospital since his birth!! But on Tuesday he was having trouble breathing. Hali took him to the E.R.

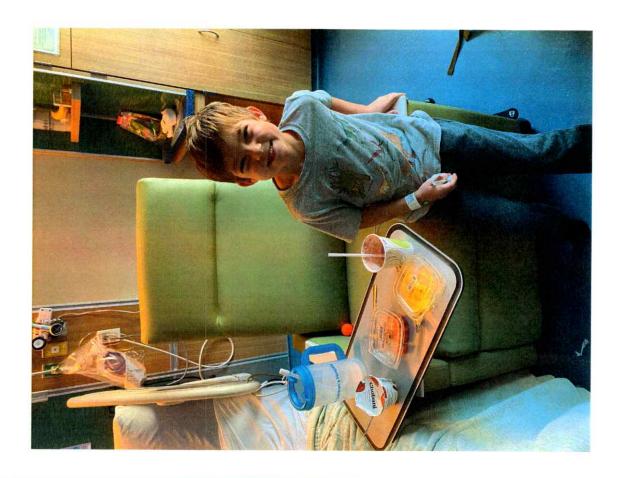
and he ended up having to spend 3 days in the hospital. His oxygen levels had dropped to dangerous levels and he was having to do constant breathing treatments. The Doctors were able to stabelize him finally and he was able to come home on Thursday night. It turns out he had a severe asthma attack but they are not sure why,

But we now have a plan of action so that is good.

Please continue to pray for his health.

or if this will happen again or not.

Our Friends Sam & Madie Dagg and their kids



Jake's One Thing

Here's One Thing I Have Learned....

Zion's health scare was just that...scary. When you child cannot walk because he is not getting enough oxygen to his body that is a frightful thing for any parent.

However, Hali and I both walked away with this one thing in our hearts...gratitude.

How? Why?

It seems like a weird position to take, to be grateful after such a horrible circumstance. And yet we are because we are seeing a whole picture.

I have a friend named Sam whose son one day couldn't walk because of a surprise neurological condition...they spent weeks in the hospital working it out, and although he is good now, the facts are that his condition could get worse.

We have a woman in our church whose son has extreme allergic reactions. He has had to be rushed to the E.R. on multiple occasions during life threatening conditions.

This was Zion's very first time to the hospital since he has been born!

And although, he went big with his first time back, we are still so incredibly grateful for how God has protected him and given him good health these last 6 years.

It is easy for anyone to feel the weight of their situations and circumstances and loose heart. However, if we step back, even in the hardest of situations we can find

This is the meaning of 1 Thessalonians 5:18

"In every thing give thanks:

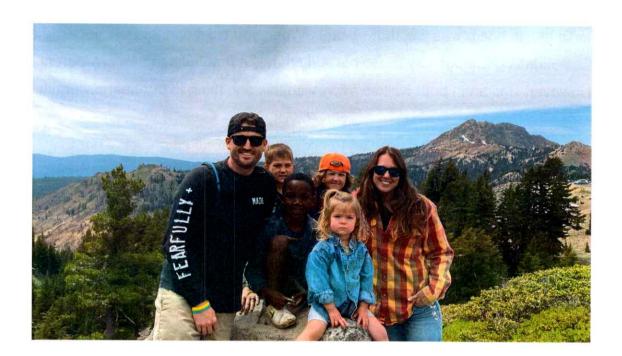
something in which to be thankful.

for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."

We do not have to be thankful for everything we go through, but in everything we go through, but in everything we go through, but in everything we go

And in doing so, we find a new strength, a new peace, that God gives us to be able to endure any trouble that may come.

-Jake Woodfin



Give to Support









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FORGOTTEN CALL

BAPTIST MISSIONS TO FORGOTTEN PEOPLES

Issue 10 October 2025

Thriving **Together as Friends**

joint effort. I have said for years that everyone

in ministry needs friends.

The sooner we realize that

our labor together

Missions

to



Jonathan & Rachelle Lyons ⁱⁿ President

for the Lord. We thank the Lord for the many of friends who work together to help **BMFP** reach highest its potential.

Leadership Friends: The BMFP leadership and office staff are not just a group of people who work in an office on a day-to-day basis. We are friends who enjoy working together for the common cause of helping and assisting local churches and missionaries. We enjoy being around each other. Many times, we get together outside of the office to do different things. We help and encourage each other. We are not just coworkers; we are friends!

Laboring Friends: The Lord has provided BMFP with wonderful board members and administrators who work on behalf of our missionaries. Over the years, the Lord has grown our friendships, and we are always excited to be able to get together to plan, encourage, and fellowship. Our labor becomes joy as we get to serve together!

Loving Friends: We often say that BMFP is a family! The Lord has blessed us with some of the best, loving missionaries that anyone could imagine. We are not perfect, and yes, we have our issues at times, but it is a joy to be able to love on and encourage our over 120 missionary families around the world! When the BMFP family gets together, lasting memories are made!

Linking Friends: Finally, there are the pastors that support BMFP and our missionaries. What a joy to work alongside those who have entrusted us with the watch care of their missionaries. The common cause of getting the gospel to a lost and dying world links us together. Only eternity will tell the impact all these friendships will have on souls around the world! Thank you for being a friend of BMFP!

Do No Harm

"It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man" - Psalm 118:8

of our One duties Christians as and missionaries is to help people understand that their dependence should be on God rather than man. Our godly BMFP Missionaries in Japan vision, under the Great Commission, should lead



Eli & Katie Guiltner

us to put a plan in place as to how to live this out. Oftentimes, we think we are doing the right thing to help others, when in practice, we are causing long-term hurt.

It has been said that in order to be a leader, you must be a reader! As those in ministry, we are called not only to trust God, but also to grow in wisdom, and one way to do that is by being lifelong readers. I believe it is of utmost importance that those in ministry continue reading and learning at every opportunity. One book that influenced my understanding of modern missions was an unusual book called "Toxic Charity," by Bob Lupton. He was a veteran urban ministry leader with over forty years of experience. In his book, he offered some profound insight as to how churches and missionaries can actually harm those whom they desire to help. I (and I suspect many others) had no prior knowledge of this important subject matter before reading this book. Here, I will share five important observations that he made concerning how harm is inflicted unintentionally by churches:

1. They do for nationals what God intended and expects them to do themselves.

2. They resolve crises for nationals by superseding cultural norms.

3. They employ and/or overcompensate nationals against culturally acceptable financial norms. 4. They hire nationals to do the work of the ministry

meant to be a voluntary giving of themselves. 5. Instead of growing the church through faith and obedience to develop a ministry of mercy to their own, they grow a church to be dependent on them, never developing faith, obedience, or mercy of their own. (Continued on next page)

Continued from front page by Eli Guiltner

Unfortunately, as a missionary, I have personally witnessed these actions performed and have resolved to prayerfully use caution and seek wisdom in these areas. Unintentional harm is

inflicted, especially in the area of finances, given that as Americans, we are some of the richest people on earth. Is that next multiple-thousand-dollar project potentially creating unnecessary dependence upon us rather than God? I believe it is vital to carefully consider these points and to consider how our own ministries may be hurting those whom we intend to help. If we can learn from our mistakes, we can further the cause of Christ for world missions!

"all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." Mark 10:27 tells us, "with God, all things are possible." When we are faced with exceedingly difficult situations, claiming His promises will encourage us to keep going on and not quit.

Third Cullture Kids (TCKs)

These kids want to belong and to feel normal. However, when they are constantly being prodded and questioned about their "weird" life, they are reminded how normal they aren't. Instead of quizzing the differences, it is better to form friendships around common and experiences. interests

more than one who

that were not to be

leader's life."

- Bill Bradley

News from the Field

Jim & Ruth Bianchi Canada iim.bianchi@gmail.com

Last month I had a most unusual phone call from a lady that knew my name but couldn't speak English. I simply replied that, "I am Pastor Bianchi" and ask her, "how can I help you?" At that moment she gave the phone to her daughter who knew English. She told me that their family was from Iran and they spoke Farsi.

She said they wanted to change their religion from Islam to Christianity. I asked how she got my number? She said from the immigration official. This had to be from the Lord, because I don't know anyone in immigration! So, I met the family at a Tim Horton's and talked about Islam and the difference in Christianity, with the 20 years old daughter being my interpreter. They were all ears, yet I realised that the mom was the

one truly interested. I knew they were not ready for a formal invitation to accept Christ. So, I simply invited them to church to experience a Christian service. They came and stayed for the fellowship too. I told them that I didn't know of a good Farsi speaking church. But if they would like, I would be willing to meet with them and help with learning English and the Bible. They thought that was a wonderful idea. Long story short, the mom and daughter came to our home on Thursday afternoon and I led

the mother to Christ. She was in tears!
Ruthie and her hugged and shared tears. The
next Sunday, I baptized her in the chilling "polar" bear cold" waters of Lake Ontario along with two other ladies at our church BBQ picnic. It was truly a special day (and a hot one at 90 degrees). Pastor Jack Young (Lighthouse Bible Baptist Church, Webster, NY) was our guest speaker that day. His morning and afternoon messages were deeply inspirational. The Lord is doing marvelous things in Toronto!

For Thou Shalt Go To All That I Shall Send Thee

God Keeps His Promises by Rachelle Lyons

About 8 years ago, I believe I was going into depression. I didn't realize it at that time. My mom was diagnosed with cancer, and they gave her 18 months to live. I was traveling every weekend to help take care of her and also caring for my aging father. It was very difficult to see my mom, who was our spiritual rock, in constant pain. Especially knowing that this terrible disease would eventually take her life. Along with that, there "A leader in the church is much

holds an office. He has been devinely appointed to One day, I found a missionary blog that talked about his position. Therefore, there depression. As I listened to it, I realized that the points were some characteristics made were all promises that are found in the Word of God. I permitted in a church also realized that they were the same verses and counseling that I had given to the ladies in our church. It was not that I didn't know them. It was that I was so concerned and so focused on my feelings that I was not focusing on the Word. I decided then that I needed to take my own counsel and put into action the promises that God has for me.

were other family and work issues

that we were trying to navigate.

The word promise, as a noun, is a declaration assuring that one will or will not do. As a verb, promise is to give an assurance of; undertake in the future.

The Bible is full of promises that we can claim. In Hebrews 13:5, He promised He "will never leave us nor forsake us." Romans 8:28 gives us a promise that

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