

BMFP

FORGOTTEN CALL

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BAPTIST MISSIONS TO FORGOTTEN PEOPLES

Pressing Toward the Mark by Emphasizing the Mission



Jonathan & Rachelle Lyons
President

As I reflect upon our theme for 2026, "Pressing Toward the Mark," I am reminded that we can only move forward effectively when we remain united around the mission Christ gave His church. Paul's challenge to the believers in Corinth (1 Corinthians 1:10) was to be of the same mind and purpose. That same challenge is before us today as we labor together to reach forgotten peoples with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Baptist Missions to Forgotten Peoples has had the privilege of assisting local churches in their fulfillment of the Great Commission for forty-six years. God has allowed us to partner with missionaries in planting churches, training leaders, strengthening ministries, and carrying the Gospel into areas where there is little or no Gospel witness.

As I travel, meet with pastors, and communicate with our missionaries serving across the globe, I am continually reminded that the need is still great. There are villages without churches, communities without a faithful Gospel witness, and countless souls who have never heard the name of Jesus Christ. The harvest remains plentiful, and the laborers are still few. This is why we must continue emphasizing the mission.

I want to personally encourage you to be more involved in missions. Pray faithfully for our missionaries and their families. Promote missions in your church. Encourage young people to consider God's call upon their lives. And as the Lord enables, consider partnering financially with Baptist Missions to Forgotten Peoples.

Your investment allows missionaries to remain on the field, churches to be planted, leaders to be trained, and the Gospel to advance into regions that many have forgotten but God has not forgotten. As pastors, churches, missionaries, and supporters, let us remain united in purpose and continue pressing toward the mark until every forgotten person has the opportunity to hear of our wonderful Savior.

BMFP Assisting Local Churches and Their Pastors



Jon & Carolyn DeRusha
Church planting
Administrators

One of the founders of Baptist Missions to Forgotten Peoples, Dr. Gene Burge, would often say something that contradicts a commonly held notion: "BMFP does not send missionaries to the mission field." He would pause to let that statement sink in, then he would add, "That is the job of the local church." That truth has come to be embraced with conviction among us who call ourselves independent, fundamental, missionary, pre-millennial, Baptists. No one among us will contradict that statement. Well, where does BMFP, or any mission board for that matter, factor into the equation of the fulfillment of the Great Commission? In answer to that question, Dr. Burge would say, "BMFP exists to assist the sending churches and pastors in their pursuit of the fulfillment of the Great Commission."

There are several operative concepts here:

- BMFP is a duly recognized mission agency with 45+ years of credible experience
- We exist—we have a physical address, a phone number, an email address, and a website
- We assist, not replace, as a ministry of assistance
- The sending churches are those local churches from whose membership God is calling missionaries to extend the fulfillment of the Great Commission
- Pastors are those men God has installed in a local church to serve as their overseer and under shepherd
- The local church pursuit is an active, aggressive, intentional, purposeful, and personal engagement to see a definitive objective obtained
- Seeking fulfillment—not partial but complete—the realization of total accomplishment
- The Great Commission is the mission of the local church as issued by the authority of the resurrected Lord Jesus Christ, the sole justification for the existence of any local body of believers

(Continued on next page)

Making Plans for MK-26 by Mike Eastridge

As part of our biennial BMFP Stateside Retreat, since 2022, Pam and I have been hosting a program for the MK's who attend with their families. These are the youngest members of our BMFP missionary family who serve alongside their parents in both the hallelujahs and hardships of missionary life. The program includes a daily challenge from Scripture followed by a time of exciting games and activities. With this, our MK choir & players will be preparing a song and several skits for the evening meetings.

This year, the nearby Freedom Baptist Church has offered their gymnasium each morning where our MK's can turn up the enthusiasm without disturbing the adult group. Once again, we will be inviting the adults to join us on Wednesday for a BMFP family picnic with plenty of food and fun for all ages.

Pam and I would like to ask for your help as we prepare for this year's program.

- » **Participate** – the program is open for BMFP kids ages 6-16 who attend with their parents. Be sure to include the names and ages of your children when you confirm your registration with the office. A brief information form will be e-mailed to you prior to the retreat.
- » **Pray** – Join us in praying that God will make this a blessed and memorable time for our MK's. We are asking God to make today's BMFP Missionary Kids tomorrow's BMFP missionary candidates.
- » **Promote** – If you know churches and individuals who might be willing to invest in this endeavor, put them in touch with us. We would be glad to send information or possibly schedule a visit with their church.

Contributions can be sent directly to our BMFP Office (BMFP, P.O. Box 219, Kernersville, NC 27285) or made through "Online Giving" via the BMFP website (bmfp.org/donate). Please be sure to indicate that gifts are for "MK-26".

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Continued from front page by Jon DeRusha

How can BMFP assist you?

It is important that you understand what our assistance consists of, and why it is needed and credible. Let me enumerate some areas of assistance:

- Prayer Assistance—first and foremost, you have a prayer partner in BMFP
- Logistical Assistance—the legal and financial
- Inspirational Assistance—mission conferences, mission Sunday, etc.
- Educational Assistance—expositing the Great Commission, and the motivation, methodology, and maturity necessary to get the

job done

- Personal Assistance—coaching and encouraging missionaries entrusted to us.

Who provides this assistance?

- A passionate and compassionate executive board comprised of pastors and former pastors
 - An experienced leadership team of administrators—men and their wives who are eager to listen and pray with you any time
 - A diligent and efficient office staff that is cheerful and eager to assist you with the logistical side
- The Great Commission's fulfillment is not a one-man show. It requires a collaborated and communicated effort. "For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building" (1 Corinthians 3:9).

According to the New Testament, the principal responsibility for fulfilling the Great Commission, from a human perspective, falls on the shoulders of the local church pastor. Pastors, we love, respect, and pray for you. We are here to assist you. You do not have to do this by yourself. We count it an honor to serve you.

Third Culture Kids (TCKs)

Debriefing is an important part of a TCK reintegrating to the passport country. The local church has the responsibility of ensuring these young people have a secure, loving, and supportive environment where they can express frustrations and experiences while receiving biblical counsel.

"When the Devil attacks, I just grab another bundle of sticks and throw it on the fire...If he goes after my children, I'm going to go after his children...the Devil figures out every time I attack Jerry Ross, all he does is go into his office and start another soul-winning program."
– Jerry Ross

***For Thou Shalt Go To All That
I Shall Send Thee***



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