



LMB

VENEZUELA  
COLOMBIA  
GUYANA  
SURINAME  
FRENCH GUIANA  
ECUADOR  
PERU  
BRAZIL  
BOLIVIA  
CHILE  
ARGENTINA  
PARAGUAY  
URUGUAY

MISSIONS 2019

#LMBCares

## SEPTEMBER

- 1** **Glenn Mathews, morning services, Auditorium (WC)**  
No evening service
- 2** Offices closed (Labor Day)
- 4** \*Teens, check *Imbc.org*  
\*LKC, 7 p.m., Gym/2nd Floor (FLC)  
Missionary Eugene Kozachenko, 7 p.m., Auditorium (WC)
- 8** Teen/Parent Meeting, noon, Renaissance Room (FLC)  
\*JAMZ (kid's choir) Rehearsal, 6 p.m., LKC Room (WC)
- 9-13** **Life Group Launch (Fall/Winter)**  
*A complete listing of Life Groups will be available in all lobby areas beginning Sept. 1.*
- 11** \*West Ridge Bible Study, 7 p.m., Auditorium (WC)
- 12** Widows Luncheon, 12:30 p.m., Renaissance Room (FLC)
- 15** **Starting Point, 4:30 p.m., HIS Way Cafe (SMB)**
- 19** PrimeTime Day Trip, Stonewall Jackson Resort  
*\*Call Vida Sexton, 304-617-7231, for all the details including cost*
- 20** PrimeTime Event, 6 p.m., Adkins' home  
(shuttle available from the church at 5:30 p.m.)

### 22-25 Missions Celebration

*\*see back page for a complete calendar of events*



### Operation Christmas Child

September collection items include:

- \*Toothbrushes
- Hairbrushes
- Bars of soap
- Combs
- Washcloths

**Very important: NO LIQUIDS** such as shampoo, lotion, etc. *\*toothpaste is no longer allowed*

Collection bins are in all lobby areas.

## CHARGE YOUR FAITH. PLUG INTO THE WORD.



## SEPT.

2<sup>nd</sup> Matthew 17:1-13; Luke 9:28-36

3<sup>rd</sup> Luke 11:33 & 12:31

4<sup>th</sup> Luke 15:1-32

5<sup>th</sup> Luke 16:1-31

6<sup>th</sup> Mark 10:17-31; Luke 18:18-30

OFF

9<sup>th</sup> John 7:1-52

10<sup>th</sup> John 8:1-20

11<sup>th</sup> John 9:1-41

12<sup>th</sup> John 10:1-21

13<sup>th</sup> Matthew 19:1-30

OFF

16<sup>th</sup> Luke 10:38-42; John 11:1-44

17<sup>th</sup> John 11:45 & 12:11

18<sup>th</sup> Luke 19:1-26

19<sup>th</sup> Matthew 23:1-39

20<sup>th</sup> Mark 12:41 & 13:37

OFF

23<sup>rd</sup> John 12:20-50

24<sup>th</sup> Matthew 26:1-5; John 13:1-30

25<sup>th</sup> 1 Corinthians 11:17-34; John 13:31-38

26<sup>th</sup> John 14:1-31

27<sup>th</sup> John 15 & 16:1-4

OFF

30<sup>th</sup> John 16:5-33

## Bereavements

- Eunice Adkins, DeAnna Scragg's mother
- Emma Beckett, infant daughter of Shawn & Bethany Beckett
- Raymond Gibson, longtime member of LMBC
- Carl Rimmer, Caitlin Newcome's grandfather
- Rene Tassen, Wanda Tassen's husband
- Steve Tassen, Pam Tassen's Husband & David Tassen's brother
- Jim Ward, Donnie Ward's father



## Staff Birthdays

- Jeremy Shaffer (7th)
- Vida Sexton (18th)
- Bill Blankenship (30th)

# Family News

Connect is the monthly news and informational publication from



*Presenting Christ as Savior.  
Pursuing Christ as Lord.*

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[lmbc.org](http://lmbc.org)

[@westridge\\_lmbc](https://facebook.com/lewismemorial)

Emergency pager: 304-691-0633

### SUNDAY WORSHIP

9 a.m., 10:45 a.m. & 6 p.m.

*Nurseries are available during all services on Sunday and on Wednesday evenings from 6:45-8:15.*

## JOINING OUR FAITH COMMUNITY:

1



*Trust Christ and follow Him in believer's baptism.*

2



*Complete an information card during a service or contact us so we can ask you a few simple questions.*

3



*Attend Starting Point. (Next session: Sept. 15)*

4



*Complete The Journey, a two-week small group Bible study of orientation to our church.*



### CONNECT STAFF:

Senior Editor,

*David Lemming*

Executive Editor,

*Angie O'Dell*

Content Editor,

*Mary Ellen Black*

Graphic Designer,

*Matt Waller*

*Find out more about Connect and read previous editions at [lmbc.org](http://lmbc.org).*

# GOING EVERYWHERE

by  
David  
Lemming

carrying out the great commission

Some time ago I read a provocative quote about cross-cultural missions that piqued my curiosity and got me to reading the author's words more carefully. He wrote, "Churches who continuously indoctrinate their people with 'your mission field is right where you are' without simultaneously challenging the congregation to follow Christ into cross-cultural missionary service are effectively splashing an ice-bucket challenge on the global, ethnē-centered words of the Great Commission."

To be honest, my first reaction to these words was negative, and I almost put them aside without any further consideration. The reason I felt this way is because I didn't read carefully enough his entire statement at first.

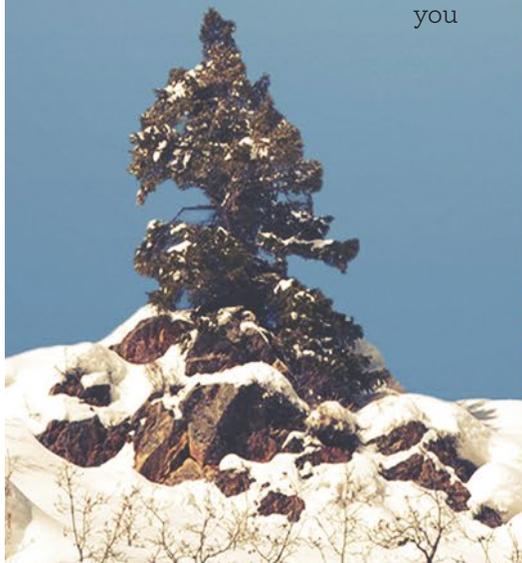
So, just in case  
you

are about to put away this article before finishing it, let me note that the author of this quote did not deny the necessity of teaching people that the "mission field is right where you are." What he said is that if we do this without ALSO challenging people "to follow Christ into cross-cultural missionary service" we are "splashing an ice-bucket challenge on the global, ethnē-centered words of the Great Commission."

What he is trying to help us realize is that the Great Commission is not an either/or proposition when it comes to evangelizing our world. He's not asking us to forget the mission field where we live. He's asking us to remember that it's not the ONLY mission field that needs to be evangelized with the Gospel. He wants us to understand that our responsibility as Christ's witnesses is both in our own neighborhood ("Jerusalem"), as well as to the "ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8)...and all parts in between.

I think when we say, "Your mission field is right next door" and/or "across the street," we are saying it with the best of intentions in a sincere effort to motivate people. We want them to see the potential harvest of lost souls that are all around them (at least, that's my motivation); and let's be honest, too often we haven't done a very good job at reaching those within our own sphere of influence. However, the danger in primarily making the mission field about "wherever you happen to be right now" is the potentially crippling effect it can have on the church fulfilling the global call of the Great Commission. Just from my observation as a pastor for more than 30 years, I think we in the American church are dangerously close to turning a worldwide message of hope into a truncated, provincial one.

God's mission is not just about our present location at this particular moment. It is also about showing the love of Christ through the preaching of the Gospel to every man, woman, boy and



girl wherever they may be found on this planet. The responsibility for taking this message to all those people in our own community and the farthest reaches of the earth is that of the church (you and me). We should even be willing to make ourselves available to be that cross-cultural missionary if God so chooses to call us to that specific task. Even if He doesn't ask us to leave our place of birth to head to a distant land, it is still our responsibility to help others go that have been called by partnering with them to make the global reach of the Gospel a possibility.

In the early days of the New Testament church, the new believers all wanted to stay around Jerusalem. Jesus intervened and broadened their geographic perspective and enabled them to see that the Gospel had to be carried to "Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8). Yes, it started where they were, but it didn't end there! They were to be involved both in the process of making disciples at home and abroad as part of the Great Commission of Christ.

I think we have to be careful when talking about Christ's commission that we don't stamp out the "burning embers" in local churches for the

cause of worldwide missions. Sure, you can "serve Christ anywhere," "there are lots of people right here that need the Gospel," and "moving overseas doesn't necessarily make you a missionary." However, we have to balance our appeal for local outreach with the regular reminder about the global outreach of the Gospel so that we don't inadvertently dismiss the clarion call given to the church to make disciples among all the nations of the earth (Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15).

The fact is that where we cannot go cross-culturally to take Christ's love, we have to be willing to help those that can go in our stead! We should even encourage our children and grandchildren to make themselves available as God's instruments to carry His glorious Good News to those that have never heard of Christ and "sit in darkness" (Luke 1:79). Making disciples of Christ from every ethnic group of people throughout the whole world has always been and still is the work of the church!

As we celebrate the work of cross-cultural missions during the month of September, we should make our best effort to hear from the missionary guests each Sunday evening of the

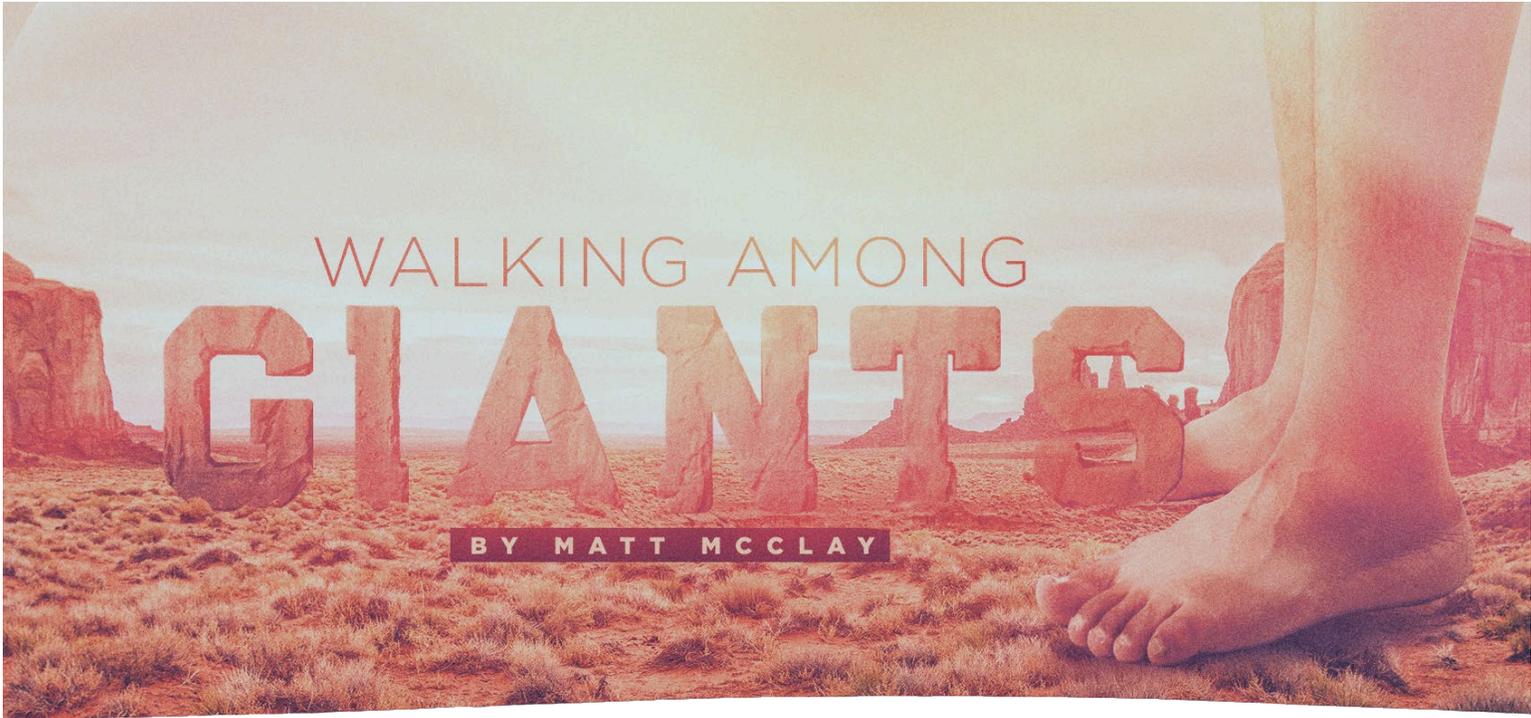
month. We need to be reminded that while we are seeking to reach out through our own networks of people God has placed around us, there is a great need for the Gospel where people have little or no opportunity to network with anyone that can bring them the Gospel. Think about that for a moment and then put yourself in their place!

Throughout these coming weeks, we should also be seeking and asking God to show us how we can financially partner with our missionaries through our Faith-Promise missions program to enable our church to continue reaching to the "ends of the earth" with the only message that can truly change people's lives. Faith-Promise giving has always been the primary way we support the cross-cultural ministry and church planting. God has blessed our church through our missionary endeavors, as well as those that have given to missions through our church.

It's time to make the commission (Matthew 28:19-20) great again in our church, and in each of our lives. It's time we reached out to those around us while reaching out to others in distant lands...at the same time.

***Even if He doesn't ask us to leave our place of birth to head to a distant land, it is still our responsibility to help others go ...***



A desert landscape with large stone letters spelling "GIANTS" and a giant foot stepping on them. The scene is bathed in a warm, golden light, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The letters are made of rough-hewn stone and are scattered across the dry, grassy ground. A large, realistic human foot is shown stepping onto the letters from the right side of the frame. The background shows more stone structures and a clear sky.

# WALKING AMONG

# GIANTS

BY MATT MCCLAY

**D**uring the month of July, a group of teens from our student ministry hit the road as part of our annual Summer mission trip for high schoolers. This year, our students served the community of Morehead City, North Carolina, where residents are still recovering from the widespread devastation incurred during hurricane Florence last Summer. The trip was, by all accounts, a “hands-on” trip, as our teens assisted two dear families whose homes suffered severe damage from the wind and rain. Our church has every reason to be proud of our teens’ hard work, as they fought through hot days and tough jobs, demonstrating the love of Jesus in a practical way. As a result of the efforts by our students, an elderly couple was able to move back into their home for the first time in eight months. At our other worksite, a single dad with two young children is now very close to bridging the gap between his insurance and the actual cost to rebuild his home!

Each day, as the sun went down over North Carolina, the hot afternoons turned into mild nights, and we took our students on the 10-minute drive to the shore for a time of Bible reading and worship through music. Night after night, we were blessed to hear students share how God had been working in their lives, as they connected

the dots between meeting the physical needs of people through labor, and meeting their spiritual needs by way of the gospel of Jesus.

Looking back on this memorable Summer, I was reminded of five things I learned while serving with our students in Morehead City, North Carolina:

## #1 – I walk among giants.

Some of our teens, still growing, are short in stature, while some have already surpassed me in height. In the case of the latter, I look up to them in more ways than one! However, I look up to all of our teens spiritually. They may be short in stature, but, the more I get to know them, the more I realize they are giants for Christ. Their skill, teachability, talents, energy, and obedience to Jesus give me all the hope in the world that our teens will not only continue in the faith through adulthood, but, in many ways will reach more people with the gospel than we could ever dream. We would be wise to cheer on this generation in the spirit of Elijah, who, in II Kings 2, was pleased to give his protégé, Elisha, a “double portion” of his spirit. Elisha went on to be used for exactly double the miracles (28) than was his mentor

Elijah (14). This rising generation of teenagers has more tools at their disposal to propagate the message of the gospel than ever. Let's mentor them, root for them, and believe that God will reach the multitudes through their faithful obedience!

### **#2 – Don't be afraid to take a chance on a teenager.**

The various times I served with our teens this Summer served as a reminder of how the cultural stereotypes of teenagers are patently untrue. Let's reject the narrative portraying teenagers as lazy, spiritually disinterested, destructive, and unreliable. During their Summer break, our teens reached over 90 inner city kids with the love of Christ downtown. They were involved in various ministries at LMBC from VBS, to music, to audio and video production. In Morehead City, NC, they ran miter saws, reciprocating saws, and nail guns. They laid down flooring, trimmed and attached baseboard, and completely "guttled" a house down to the framing. Paul told his young disciple, Timothy, "Don't let anyone think less of you because you are young. Be an example to all believers in what you say, in the way you live, in your love, your faith, and your purity" (1 Timothy 4:12 NLT). Everyone is looking for a purpose, and teens are no exception. If we want them to feel significant in our community of believers, we must give them something significant to do for the Lord. Take a chance on a teen this fall; you won't regret it!

### **#3 – Teenagers are listening, whether we realize it or not.**

Teenagers are the ultimate multitaskers! Such a skill must be a blessing of youth, because I'm all too easily distracted. During our devotional time on the beach each night, the sunset was so beautiful, and the moon over the ocean was so amazing, I wondered, "Will they even be able to focus on our time in the Bible?" My question was answered with a big, resounding "YES" day after day, as students discussed the Bible lessons from the previous evening. In addition to the devotions, we, as leaders on the trip, had the opportunity to teach basic carpentry skills to our teens as we worked. They were so intuitive. I would show them how to use a

tool one time, and they would pick the task right up, and do it with excellence. Our trip reminded me what an incredible responsibility we bear as adults in the church. Whether we realize it or not – and whether we like it or not – we are an example to those younger than us. Let us live a life in simple obedience, in order that we might be able to say with confidence the words of the Apostle Paul, "Imitate me, just as I imitate Christ" (1 Corinthians 11:1).

### **#4 – The group that sweats together, stays together.**

One of my favorite aspects of our Summer mission trips is watching a team grow closer together as they serve the Lord. Leaving the church parking lot at the outset of the trip, our team was a patchwork of various schools, families, and backgrounds. By the end of the trip, the team had grown incredibly close as a result of working – and working hard – together. There is something intimate about working together for the greatest cause in the history of the world: the gospel of Jesus. The harder we worked, the closer we grew. This concept is exemplified in Philippians 1:29-30, which reads, "For you have been given not only the privilege of trusting in Christ but also the privilege of suffering for him. We are in this struggle together." Are you looking for a place to belong? Jump in and sweat with us as we serve the Savior!

### **#5 – God uses ordinary people to do extraordinary things for his glory.**

Ultimately, the purpose of my sharing these reflections with you is, by no means, to brag on our teens and deflect attention away from Jesus. Rather, my prayer is that you see Christ in our teens as He enables them to serve through the power of His Holy Spirit. The truth is, our teens are just like us: Incredibly ordinary people who are blessed to serve a great God. Let our teens be an example to you of the faithfulness of God, who will do incredible, extraordinary things through each of us when we bring Him our trust and obedience.

*Gary & Alli*

# *Hale*



## *Gary*

Gary and Allison Hale are a vital part of our ministry in the Dominican Republic. Gary was sent out by our church and is co-founder and ministry leader of the DR Vision. He is also a co-founder and current board member for Daystar Baptist Missions.

He and his wife Allison were married in 2000 and the two enjoy exploring the island and playing with their Boxer, Rocksy. In his free time, Gary enjoys kayaking, snorkeling, and trying to play golf.

## *Alli*

Allison arrived in the Dominican Republic for the first time when she was 13 years old. Her parents, Doug and Paula Hodges, were missionaries to the city of La Romana. As she matured, a love for this country also grew. She returned every summer even throughout college to work and serve in the different cities of the DR. She met Gary while he was serving and leading his first missions trip to the country. A few months later they were engaged! Allison was grateful when God chose to send them full time to live and serve in San Pedro de Macoris Dominican Republic. They have been there since 2003 when the church in San Pedro was established.

## *D.R. Vision*

IBEM has recently and finally closed on the purchase of the facilities next door to the auditorium, allowing for the significant expansion across the church ministry. The final price was about \$200k of which \$32,000 has already been raised.

Please pray with us about the payoff of the building and the funds to continue to fix the building.

*Adam & Faith*

# *Drake*



## *Adam*

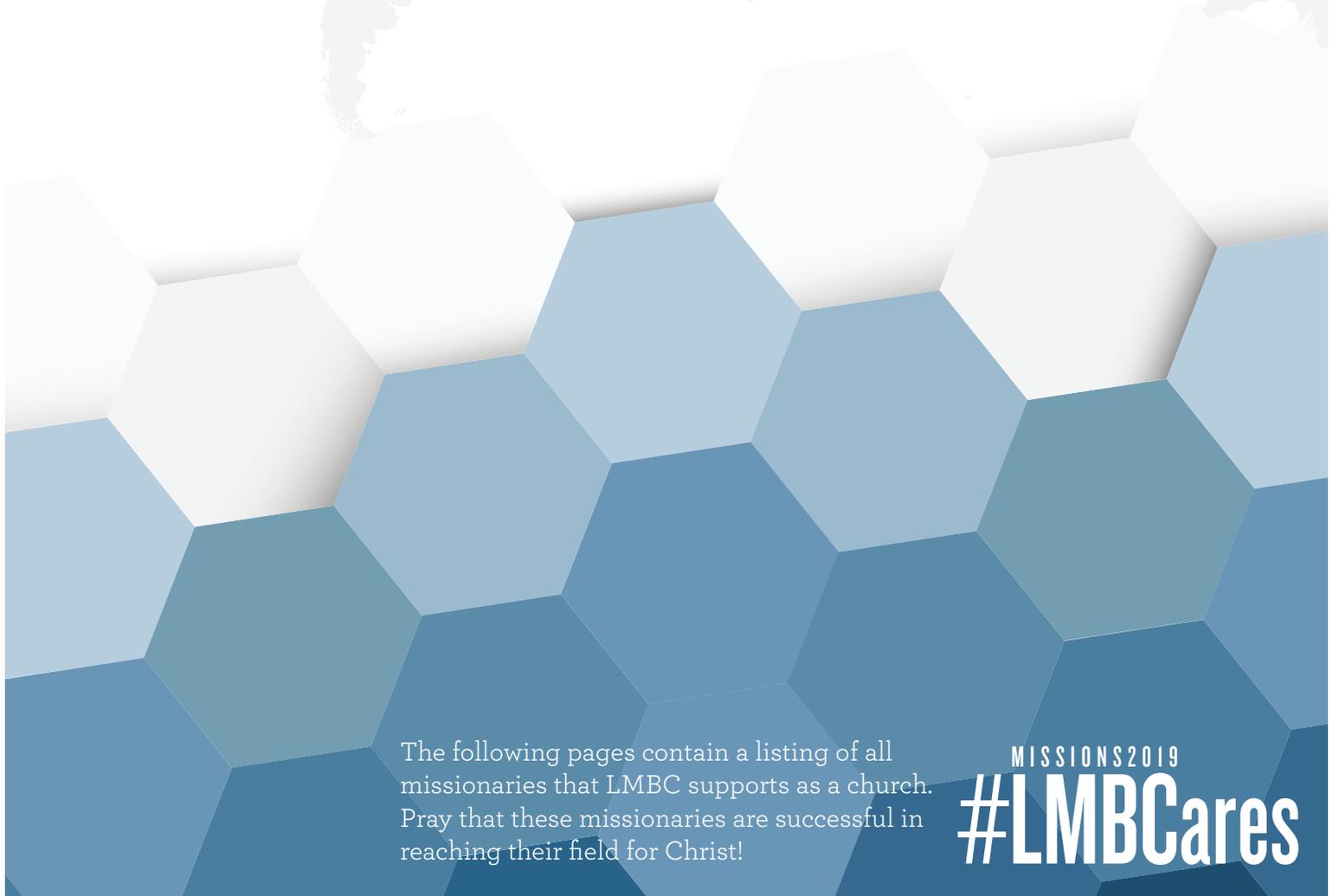
I grew up as a missionary kid in France. When I was six years old, I realized I was a sinner and needed to be saved. My father led me to the Lord and I had the privilege of being born again. As a teenager, God called me to pursue full time Christian service. So I attended Piedmont Baptist College and while there I felt God leading me toward missions, specifically toward Africa. After a summer mission trip to Togo I knew that God wanted me to serve Him there.

## *Faith*

At the age of five I accepted Jesus as my personal Savior. My parents were missionaries to Colombia, SA, and even though I had Christian influence constantly around me, I didn't always put God first. It wasn't until my junior year of high school that I realized God wanted me to serve Him full time somehow. I decided to go to Piedmont Baptist College, and while there, the Lord led me into missions. I went over on a short term trip to Togo, and God has been calling me back there ever since.

## *Hope Radio*

In the United States we are blessed to have various Christian radio stations across the nation. We have the option of tuning into a station that will uplift us, provide us with clean entertainment and keep our minds focused on “whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable” (Phil. 4:8). Not only do we enjoy it but our children enjoy it as well, and they can be filled with something other than what the world has to offer. Now, imagine not having the blessing of this technology, even worse not being in a location to hear the Bible spoken in your own language. In Togo, Africa, this problem was anything but hypothetical. Hope Radio spans across four countries and reaches people in the way only radio can. But it does more than your typical radio station. According to ABWE, “It enables the hospital to educate people and improve their physical well-being”. The people are being helped physically and spiritually for an overall healthier life.



The following pages contain a listing of all missionaries that LMBC supports as a church. Pray that these missionaries are successful in reaching their field for Christ!

MISSIONS2019  
**#LMBCares**



**1. Jenn Brogan**

- 2. Jake & Elizabeth Delich
- 3. Benji & Kerri Dryden
- 4. Matt & Dallita Goins
- 5. Gary & Alli Hale**
- 6. Chad & Wendy Justice**
- 7. Miguel & Noemi Mercedes

- D. R.**
- Puerto Rico
- Haiti
- Honduras
- D. R.**
- D. R.**
- D. R.



- 8. Mark & Odie Goddard
  - 9. Mike & Trisha Goddard
  - 10. John & Brenda Gossett
  - 11. Jon & Erin Mathews
  - 12. Dwayne & Dianna Spears
  - 13. S. Family
  - 14. Maicol & Mandy Venter
  - 15. V. Family
  - 16. John & Barb Windler
- Paraguay
  - Paraguay
  - Trinidad
  - Brazil
  - Brazil
  - Venezuela
  - Brazil
  - Ecuador
  - Paraguay

- 1. Randy & Ellen Mumper Canada
- 2. Gerald & Marguerite Pauley Canada
- 3. Dan & Jennifer Post Canada



- 4. **Trey & Terri Bailey** SCORE
- 5. **Tim & Diane Bilbrey** Daystar
- 6. Harry & Lydia Boekell CEF
- 7. Andy Conner FCA
- 8. A New Beginning Crisis Pregnancy Center
- 9. Daystar Baptist Missions, Inc.
- 10. Treasa Fox Arizona (Native Americans)
- 11. David & Jenny Greear North Carolina
- 12. Earl & Linda Hammons North Carolina (Military)
- 13. **Doug & Paula Hodges** Daystar
- 14. Huntington City Mission
- 15. Tom & Selva Kweder USA
- 16. Patrick & Lisa McCoy Alaska
- 17. Nathan & Erin Sayre CEF
- 18. Jerry & Sue Thomas USA
- 19. Nathaniel & Stacy Wall Utah (Mormons)





- |                             |          |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| 1. Andy & Mimi Bonikowsky   | Spain    |
| 2. Joel & Debbie Dicks      | Hungary  |
| 3. F. Family                | Bulgaria |
| 4. Tony & Dawn Hess         | Russia   |
| 5. Wendy Hinzman            | France   |
| 6. K. Family                | Ukraine  |
| 7. Tim & Kathy Laughlin     | Ireland  |
| 8. Brent & Tammy Lowe       | Portugal |
| 9. Doug & Kathy McClain     | Germany  |
| 10. Nahum & Arin O'Brien    | Norway   |
| 11. Rick & Jen Peace        | Ireland  |
| 12. Jason & Adele Rice      | Slovakia |
| 13. Amber & Doug Staley     | Ireland  |
| 14. Joshua & Denise Steward | Ireland  |
| 15. Mark & Hillary Stipp    | Spain    |
| 16. David & Annalise Wilson | England  |
| 17. W. Family               | Bulgaria |



- |                           |              |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| 1. JJ & Melissa Alderman  | Togo         |
| 2. C. Family              | Egypt        |
| 3. Adam & Faith Drake     | Togo         |
| 4. Diana Ferrell          | Uganda       |
| 5. John & Kidst Getaneh   | Zambia       |
| 6. Pascal & Becky Grenade | Mauritius    |
| 7. G. Family              | Egypt        |
| 8. Justin & Rachel Hoy    | Senegal      |
| 9. Darin & Kathy Ishler   | Kenya        |
| 10. Jim & Connie Jeremias | Kenya        |
| 11. Tom & Melissa Kendall | Togo         |
| 12. Luiz & Ana Nunes      | Cape Verde   |
| 13. Tom & Marilyn Wilson  | South Africa |
| 14. W. Family             | North Africa |





- 1. C. Family
- 2. D. Family
- 3. D. Family
- 4. G. Family
- 5. John & Mihyon Humphreys
- 6. J. Family
- 7. K. Family
- 8. L. Family
- 9. Tim & Charlene Miskiman
- 10. Doug & Becky Sisson
- 11. S. Family
- 12. V. Family

- Cambodia
- India
- Israel
- Middle East
- New Zealand
- India
- Kazakhstan
- China
- Thailand
- Philippines
- Israel
- Siberia

- 13. Robert & Lisa Gunter
- 14. Phil & Janice Smith
- 15. Josh & Sarah Wager

- Australia (Deaf)
- Papua New Guinea
- Micronesia

Sunday,  
Sept. 22  
all services



MISSIONS 2019  
**#LMB Cares**

**Gary Hale,**  
9 & 10:45 a.m., Auditorium (WC)

**Adam Drake,**  
6 p.m., Auditorium (WC)



**#nachonormalsundaynight**  
6 p.m., LKC Room (WC)

We'll kick off the Missions Celebration with a fun night of food, music, and games.

Monday,  
Sept. 23  
6 p.m.



**Women with Alli Hale**  
Auditorium (WC)



**Men with Gary Hale**  
SMB 3rd Floor



**#scavengerhunt**  
6 p.m., LKC Room (WC)

On night two of the Missions Celebration, we'll have a scavenger hunt and pizza party.

Tuesday,  
Sept. 24  
6 p.m.



**Gym (FLC) - Shuttle will be provided**

We send missionaries all over the world and this dinner is themed in their honor. We invite you to bring a meal with an international flair. Make it and bring it from home or pick it up through a drive-through window. We will provide drinks and desserts.

**REFUEL**  
Students

**Dinner with Gary & Alli Hale**  
in the SMB

Beast Feast for the Guys (Park)

Pasta Party for the Girls (Cafe)



**#internationalfoodchallenge**  
Renaissance Room (FLC)

Come to the FLC for something exotic on night three of the Missions Celebration. How many of these food challenges can you beat?

Wednesday,  
Sept. 25  
6-8 p.m.  
Lower  
Parking Lot

