

STORIES OF IMPACT

How you are facilitating the ministries of IM global servants.

MEET OUR LEADERS

Hear from our CEO, leadership, and new board president.

FINANCIAL DATA

How your partnership is having an impact.



ANNUAL report 2019 – 2020

cover photo | Women in the Tsotsil community in Chiapas, Mexico, where Global Servants Denise and Juan Aragón serve

international
ministries 

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABOUT IM

- 02 Mission
- 03 Impact Areas and Ministry Priorities

STORIES OF IMPACT

- 04 Building Health
- 06 Supporting Children on the Margins
- 08 The Project of Hope
- 10 Finding a Spiritual Family
- 12 Providing Pandemic Relief

LEADING CHANGE

- 14 Global Servants
- 16 Meet Board President Jorge Medero-Roldán
- 17 Board of Directors
- 18 Message from Global Mission
- 19 Executive Director's Council
- 20 IM Directors' Highlights

FINANCIALS AND ADVANCEMENT

- 22 Financial Data
- 24 Mission Advancement



WE'VE BEEN
surprised *by*
GOD'S **GLORY**

Greetings in the name of our risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

This has been a memorable year. The COVID-19 pandemic brought all life to a halt in March; racism has reared its ugly head; and travel, education, and church all seem to be disrupted indefinitely. Most of us are having to find new ways to work, relax, exercise, and even be around family and friends. And the longer things drag on, the less likely it seems that anything is going to go back to "normal."

Yet God has entered our mundane, repetitive days in surprising ways. God has been present in video-conferenced prayer meetings, social gatherings, and milestone events. At International Ministries, we had a few historic moments in 2020, including our first online commissioning with Global Servant Faye Yarbrough, our first World Mission Conference Live Stream event, and numerous online meetings and celebrations during which we were very present with each other and yet located all over the world. **COVID-19 is teaching our IM family that God is not limited by our inability to be together in person.**

I've been very pleasantly surprised to see how our global servants have embraced ministry in creative new ways. We have had Holy Communion over Zoom and taken virtual short-term mission trips to Hungary, Thailand, Japan, and the Dominican Republic; and in many of these instances, the participation was greater in number and farther in reach than it would have been in traditional settings.

We've been surprised by God's glory.

I think of Noah, who surely had cabin fever after being cooped up on a ship with his family and some animals during months of unrelenting rain, sending out a dove over an abyss of water just one more time—but this time the dove returned with a freshly plucked olive leaf! Or Moses, leading his flock across the barren desert terrain just like he had done yesterday and the day before—but this time, he came across a fiery bush that burned and yet was not consumed. I think of Joseph enduring another night in prison until a conversation about a couple of weird dreams changed his lot in life. **God surprised them as God surprises us—interrupting life as they knew it and reaching into the darkest, loneliest, most hopeless times and places with a message of hope.**

IM was very pleasantly surprised to turn a financial corner even in the midst of the pandemic. Given the global context, we saw this as a surprising experience of God's glory, carried out through sacrificial and generous giving among our friends and supporters.

Thank you for your partnership and participation in God's mission through IM. As the year ahead unfolds, we look forward to more and more ways that God's glory will surprise us, and we look forward to celebrating those moments of interruption together.

"From his abundance we have all received one gracious blessing after another." (John 1:16)

Serving together with you in God's mission,



Sharon T. Koh, MDiv, MAT
Executive Director / CEO of International Ministries

Our MISSION

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.

**ON EARTH
AS IT IS IN
HEAVEN** MATTHEW
6:10

70 **COUNTRIES**

120+ **GLOBAL SERVANTS**

250+ **GLOBAL PARTNERS**

430 **SHORT-TERM MISSION VOLUNTEERS**

impact areas *and*

MINISTRY PRIORITIES

INVITING PEOPLE TO BE DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST



EVANGELISM



DISCIPLESHIP



THEOLOGICAL
EDUCATION

PROCLAIMING GOD'S REIGN OF JUSTICE, PEACE AND ABUNDANT LIFE



IMMIGRANTS
& REFUGEES



PEACE & JUSTICE



ABOLISHING
GLOBAL SLAVERY



EDUCATION



ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT



HEALTH &
WELLNESS

EQUIPPING THE BODY OF CHRIST TO ENGAGE IN GOD'S MISSION



MISSION FROM
EVERYWHERE
TO EVERYONE



SHORT-TERM
MISSION



YOUTH &
YOUNG ADULTS



TRAINING &
CAPACITY
BUILDING

Building HEALTH

Partnerships foster holistic health care
in areas of rural and urban poverty.



Drs. Anita & Rick Gutierrez
Global Servants to South Africa

Seventeen years ago, Drs. Anita and Rick Gutierrez left their family medicine practice in Michigan to work in the province of KwaZulu-Natal in South Africa. Traveling into impoverished areas from their base in Durban, they train “Health Builders”—laypersons who can perform health screenings and provide education and referrals to local clinics for people with obesity, diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, and HIV.

The Zulu population of KwaZulu-Natal was the epicenter of the HIV pandemic during its start in the 1980s and has been heavily affected by the virus in the years since. “We were pioneers in our training of laypersons to do HIV tests in the community starting around 2005,” says Rick. “Because we were family physicians with a broad focus on Health and Wellness, we never attempted to segregate screening services for different



Health Builder trainers Jabu (left) and Pilile (right) train people in health building and gardening and organize weekly community health education meetings in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa.

disease types. I remember in 2008, when we were doing health outreach alongside many well-equipped Centers for Disease Control and Prevention mobile units, the CDC workers were flabbergasted when the people flocked to be tested by our Health Builders, while the larger CDC units went unused. The answer was that by offering a variety of health services alongside HIV testing, there was no stigma for people screened."

Anita and Rick think holistically about community health. This means emphasizing not only medical interventions, but also promoting healthy living, including access to good nutrition. In 2010, they began brainstorming with Health Builders in rural Zululand about starting small businesses and decided to try raising chickens. Rick trained at the KwaZulu-Natal Poultry Institute and began raising a hardy South African breed of chicken good for eggs and meat. After receiving grant support and investing in the necessary equipment, Anita, Rick, and local Health Builders hatched and raised as many as 3,000 chickens and quail in a year.

"What excites us most about our mission is the way in which its primary foci enhance one another," Rick explains. "The Health Building enhances people's quality of life and changes the way they look at themselves and their community. The Bible studies that are a part of this training create a space for deep interactions. On a practical basis, having a garden or animals to tend is very helpful in maintaining health. So, we've grown our agricultural pursuits from the poultry focus to integrate vegetable gardening and now fruit tree nurseries and orchards."

Over time, Anita and Rick have been able to increase the number of Health Builders they train annually from twenty to fifty, by using experienced Health Builders as co-trainers at conferences and weekly sessions. "We spend additional time training and equipping our Health Builders to become successful poultry farmers, tree nursery keepers, and gardeners, to help them in their efforts to establish small businesses. Our focus is working side-by-side with them to better their overall quality of life," Anita says.

To increase the reach of their health training, Anita and Rick started creating educational videos. So far, they have produced nearly thirty videos in several languages on topics ranging from how to measure blood pressure to how to graft fruit trees. Their series on HIV has received over half a million views on YouTube.

At the core of Anita and Rick's ministry are long-term, meaningful partnerships and a continuing trust in God.

"Living far from family, working with people facing the challenges of poverty, and experiencing cultures different from ours have sometimes given rise to situations that made me feel some anxiety or pain," says Anita. "God has taught me that daily prayer, Bible study, and worship are the most important part of each day. By giving thanks for what God has provided, I am increasingly able to embrace each day knowing that no matter what I may face, God will be with me and his goodness will prevail. God calls us on journeys where only his strength can take us, and this is where we have most powerfully seen his love."

3,000

CHICKENS & QUAILS RAISED

1,000

FRUIT TREES PRODUCED

589,000

VIEWS OF ANITA AND RICK'S HIV VIDEO SERIES ON YOUTUBE

supporting CHILDREN on the MARGINS

Wherever she goes—whether into a school or beside a hospice bed—Carmella Jones brings the joy of the Lord with her.

Early on Monday mornings in Budapest, Hungary, Global Servant Carmella Jones walks through the doors of the Pannonhalmi Béla Baptista school, past the cross recently installed in the school's foyer, and into her classroom.



Tabitha House in Budapest, Hungary

Re-opened in September after a coronavirus lockdown, this Baptist school of a hundred children in grades one to eight is small enough to feel more like a family than a school. It is a special place for children with learning disabilities, in a culture that has often marginalized them. Ninety percent of children at this school have individual educational plans, as they learn with autism, attention deficit disorder, hyperactivity disorder, or dyslexia with numbers and letters.

“As a Christian, I believe it’s important that we realize God cares for those on the margins,” Carmella says. “And people with disabilities are certainly on the margins.”

In her role as school chaplain, Carmella team-teaches sixteen English classes a week with a Hungarian teacher and interacts with every child in the school. “As a native English speaker, my language is a gift to give,” Carmella explains. “It’s not a gift I did anything for, but I see how God can use this gift to change the future for these children. Here, you can’t graduate high school unless you know another language, so we are giving our children every opportunity.”

On Thursdays, Carmella spends the day working at Tabitha House. The only pediatric hospice institute

in Hungary, Tabitha House has just ten beds with which to serve children with terminal or chronically life-limiting conditions and their families. Every family in the program can receive up to twenty-eight days each year of overnight care, as well as day care support for six to twelve hours a day.

"Tabitha House is pretty unique," Carmella says. "These children are the most marginalized, and I see God's hand caring for them. One boy's

parents couldn't cope with his disabilities, and they left him in the hospital for the state to care for him. Tabitha House isn't a long-term care facility, but God opened the door in our facility. He provided for this child through every nurse, every volunteer, every heart filled with compassion. We cared for him up until the time he died. God provided the funds needed for his care over and over again. And when it came time to bury him, the nurses were at the funeral."

Carmella describes the impact Tabitha House has on parents who need a break from intensive caregiving to focus on their other children, and on rest for themselves. "I'm reading to the children, holding them, feeding them, playing with them. This may be a child who can do absolutely nothing for themselves but they can look at you and just giggle. And when the parent can come in and hear their child giggling—it's a comfort to that parent knowing their child is treated with kindness, compassion, and dignity."

Thinking back to the time when God first called Carmella from her work as an ordained Baptist pastor and a nurse to move to Hungary and teach children, she says, "I felt totally out of my element. But this is so clearly where God has led me. I would hope that my being here would bring my children joy and help them know what joy looks like. Many people do not smile here. I'll hear a child say, 'I'm always going to be happy when Carmella comes in the room, because she is always smiling.' My hope is that they will see how God brings joy to the life of the believer. That's how I understand my smile and my joy—as a reminder that God is near."



Carmella Jones
Global Servant to Hungary

180

HOURS SPENT EACH YEAR WITH CHILDREN
IN HOSPICE CARE AT TABITHA HOUSE

16

CLASSES TAUGHT EACH WEEK TO STUDENTS
AT THE BAPTIST SCHOOL IN BUDAPEST

THE *Project* OF HOPE

As the Project of Hope provides health care and empowers leaders, the Holy Spirit is transforming lives.



Sarah Matos | J.D. & Rhonda Reed
Global Servants to Bolivia

“Over the past six years, one of the main things we have tried to do has been to empower local leaders to build relationships among themselves and within their ministries. When House of Hope became a Bolivian nonprofit foundation in 2018, it opened doors to empower local ministries to participate in the foundation,” says J.D. Reed, IM regional consultant for theological education. “This has opened the door for relationship development and long-term sustainability.”

House of Hope was founded sixteen years ago in Cochabamba, Bolivia, by former IM Global Servants Mario and the late Iris Morales, as they worked with newly graduated seminary students to develop ministries that would partner with local churches to make an impact on their communities. Today, as the Fundación Proyecto de Esperanza (FPE, or Project of Hope Foundation), it focuses on health and wellness, training local leaders, and local church empowerment in conjunction with short-term volunteer teams. Local FPE Directors Carmen Flores and Richard Achu manage the ministry in Cochabamba, while IM Global Servants J.D. and Rhonda Reed provide administration to the foundation, fostering relationships between FPE and local churches.

In 2019, FPE conducted 20 mobile dental clinics that served more than 800 patients and 10 medical clinics with more than 450 patients, all of which was made possible through White Cross ministry grants and donations. These clinics provided basic

60+

MINISTRIES PARTNER WITH FPE IN
LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

800

CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES
BENEFITED FROM MOBILE DENTAL CLINICS

400

ADULTS BENEFITED FROM MOBILE
MEDICAL CLINICS

Dr. Danitza Vargas takes a medical history at a mobile clinic in Cochabamba.



care mainly for children and their parents who are outside the health care system. Local churches use clinic days as an outreach into their communities.

Over the past sixteen years, FPE has partnered with more than sixty local ministries to identify and train local Christian leaders. Leadership development meetings have provided a place for participants to worship, pray, share what God is doing in their communities, support one another, and engage in leadership training.

FPE also regularly hosts short-term volunteer teams from the U.S. in partnership with local churches. These teams work on projects that will empower and sustain the churches' ministries in their communities, building both physical structures and relationships.

It was through short-term mission that J.D. and Rhonda first forged a deeper connection with House of Hope. "I had the opportunity to take five trips as a pastor with short-term teams to the House of Hope ministry," J.D. says. "When we began our time with IM and they offered it as one of the places we could go, it made the most sense for our family. Since we already had deep relationships with the leaders there, it made the transition much easier."

IM Global Servant Sarah Matos (Nash) also first connected with FPE through short-term mission. Now she has been invited to join the team and help expand FPE's ministries into Santa Cruz. "I feel honored to serve alongside this holistic ministry that brings transformation and hope into children's lives," Sarah says. "What excites me is partnering with churches in the city and training Bolivian women to be mentors in the Talita Cumi Girls' Club program for girls ages eight to twelve. This project uses Christian virtues to encourage girls to stay in school and prevent human trafficking, abuse, and adolescent pregnancies."

As Bolivians currently face the weight of the global pandemic as well as political unrest and a dengue outbreak, the Reeds and Sarah are flexibly responding to the needs of their communities. "Even in the midst of all of this, we see God working," Rhonda says. "God

has provided food and resources for all of our leaders' families, as they have not had an income since March. For now, FPE is serving our leaders and their families as they try to encourage their communities. We are letting them know that we love them and they are not forgotten."

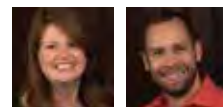
In the coming years, J.D. says, "we hope to foster local community transformation by working through the local church and its leaders, empowering them to share the love and grace of Christ throughout their communities. Our prayer is that the Holy Spirit will open space for lives to be transformed both physically and spiritually."

FPE Director Carmen Flores poses with a Quechua woman at a clinic in Camiri, Bolivia.



finding *a* SPIRITUAL FAMILY

In Debrecen, God used the lockdown to create a spiritual family.



Amanda & Jon Good

Global Servants to Hungary

Leaders in the Baptist church in Debrecen, Hungary, noticed that international students at the local university were lonely and isolated. These leaders began to pray, then asked Global Servants Amanda and Jon Good if they might help the church create a community for these students, through which to share the love of Jesus.

The Goods and their four children arrived in Debrecen, the second largest city in Hungary, in 2017 to partner with Hungarian Baptists. Amanda teaches conversational English at the Talentum Baptist Elementary School, and Jon assists the Debrecen Baptist Church with outreach, church planting, church development ministries, and the training of Christian leaders. Their children attend the local public schools, and the whole family is learning Hungarian.

“Over half the population of Debrecen does not claim any form of Christianity,” Amanda says. “The people are searching for hope, and we are thankful to be able to partner with Christians here who are actively pointing to the living hope of Jesus.”

The 500-year-old University of Debrecen has 30,000 students and this year a record 7,000 international students. In May 2019, Amanda and Jon began an English Bible study for these students, buying coffee and snacks and hosting meetings every other Monday night. “By the end of the summer, we were a little discouraged by the low attendance, and we even thought about ending the outreach. But then we met a young couple who came to the Bible study and brought some friends. They wanted to know if we could meet more often. We moved to weekly meetings, and soon attendance was booming, with new people coming every week.”

Today, half of the group's members are Hungarians of all ages, and half are international students. Most, but not all, are not Christians. In the past year, the group has welcomed attendees from Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Ecuador, Egypt, Germany, Hungary, India, Israel, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Korea, Mexico, Nigeria, Palestine, Romania, Rwanda, South Africa, Syria, Thailand, Tunisia, the USA, and Zimbabwe.

When coronavirus reached Hungary early in the spring of 2020, the English Bible study shifted to virtual meetings. Despite the new physical distancing, during the lockdown the Goods saw relationships within the group actually deepen from friendships into a spiritual family. “This time

70 **GROUP GATHERINGS**
IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS

6 **IN-PERSON SMALL GROUPS** AND ONE
VIRTUAL SMALL GROUP MEET WEEKLY

42 **AVERAGE WEEKLY ATTENDANCE**

100+ **ONGOING PARTICIPANTS**

24 **DIFFERENT COUNTRIES** REPRESENTED
IN THE BIBLE STUDY GROUP

provided an opportunity to build our leadership team and small group ministry. Now that we can meet in person again, we have noticed an amazing sense of unity.”

The opportunity to find a spiritual family can be particularly meaningful for international students while living away from home. When some students’ families couldn’t travel to graduation, they gave the Bible study members their tickets and invited them to attend as their family. When another student was recently married and the groom’s family could not travel because of the pandemic, the Bible study was again asked to act as family. Jon and Amanda stood in for the groom’s parents, a humbling and beautiful testimony to the bond created by the Holy Spirit.

The group was able to meet outdoors throughout the summer, but as the weather turns colder and darker, they have been looking for a new space in which to meet physically, where they can continue to study the Bible and worship together while maintaining safe distancing. The Goods pray that even more people will come and experience the hope of Jesus through this community.

“Many of those attending aren’t content just to show up,” Jon says. “They seek deeper ways to connect and serve. Volunteers from the group serve alongside us, helping to teach English. Some teach and disciple others, many look for ways to meet physical needs of those who are less fortunate, and still others lead worship ministries. Tonight, one of our students took some flyers and said, ‘I want to tell others about this group, not so we can get a bigger group, but because I don’t want anyone to miss the opportunity to be part of something so special.’”



The English Bible study meets in small groups in Debrecen, pre-pandemic.

Providing PANDEMIC RELIEF

In times of crisis, IM's five area directors consult with partners to understand how we may best assist in their relief efforts. Our responses, including financial assistance, are determined by our partners' expressed needs.

As early as January, IM Area Director for East and South Asia Ben Chan began fundraising for COVID relief in China in partnership with the Asia Pacific Forum and the Amity Foundation, China. By March, alongside our partners, IM helped provide 8,082 medical-use coveralls and 148,840 face masks. Emergency relief funds also provided meal coupons for the homeless and financial assistance to the Hong Kong Christian Institute.

By April 2020, IM established the International COVID-19 Appeal to respond to needs in the countries where our global servants and partners live and serve. As of September 30, 2020, IM had raised and released \$115,800 to help meet these needs. We've shared emergency grants for food, housing, and healthcare, and worked to ensure that partners at risk of suspending vital services can continue in their ministries. These relief grants have reached 53 partner organizations in China, India, Nepal, Mongolia, the Philippines, Japan, Malaysia,

Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam, Myanmar, Panama, Uganda, Zambia, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Cambodia, Serbia, Angola, Burundi, Togo, the Dominican Republic, Nicaragua, Mexico, Chile, El Salvador, Lebanon, Ethiopia, and Zimbabwe. Funds from White Cross projects have also had a tremendous impact.

Your gifts to IM throughout the year equip us to respond to situations of sudden need, and your additional giving through the One Great Hour of Sharing COVID appeal meant that our ministry partners around the world had food and other much-needed supplies amid shortages. While it is impossible in this space to show all the ways in which we have seen God at work through our global servants and partners in pandemic relief efforts, these photos illustrate a few examples.



All of IM's partners in Africa are engaged in ministries related to COVID-19 relief and support. Highlights include making and distributing cloth masks and other personal protective equipment, and the provision of food to people who have lost their jobs and their income. Pictured here: the food distribution ministry of the United Baptist Church in **Zimbabwe**.



IM partner Multipurpose Community Development Service provided COVID education, personal protective equipment, and food supplies of rice, lentils, oil, and salt in the rural parts of the Rukum, Lalipur, and Bara districts of **Nepal**.





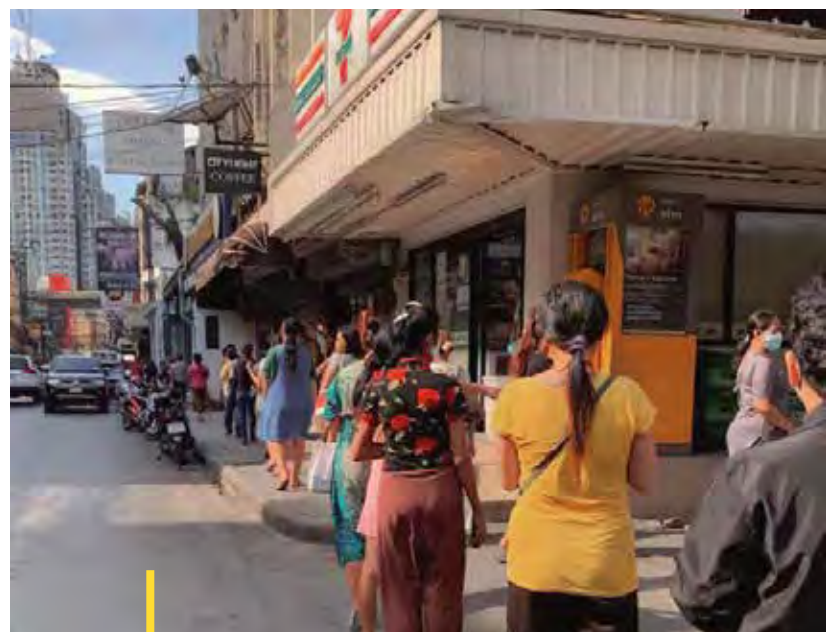
Through White Cross funds, the **Myanmar** Baptist Convention distributed 140 bags of rice, as well as beans, oil, canned fish, and other supplies, to feed hundreds of people displaced by military unrest who face heightened difficulties during the pandemic.



IM provided 43,810 common-use masks to the grassroots community in **Hong Kong**. The masks were distributed through a service with twelve Hong Kong churches and nongovernmental organizations.



In the **Dominican Republic**, through White Cross and other local partners, Global Servant Madeline Flores fed more than fifty families in March, then provided food and medicine for more than a hundred families from April to June.



Through IM's COVID-19 grant, IM Global Servants Annie and Jeff Dieselberg and the Nightlight ministry staff in **Thailand** prepared daily food packs for women living on the streets; by the end of June 2020, they had distributed 4,533 packs of food and 700 hygiene packs.

Global SERVANTS



Dr. Adalia Gutiérrez Lee, MD, MDiv
Area Director for Iberoamerica and the Caribbean

Denise & Juan Aragón | Mexico
Barbara & Dwight Bolick | Chile
Carlos Bonilla & Mayra Giovanetti | Colombia
Deliris & Moise Carrión-Joseph | Mexico
Madeline Flores-López | Dominican Republic
Mercy González-Barnes | Regional Consultant
Sue Hegarty | Costa Rica
Waleska Febres Hernandez | Colombia
Eliberto & Molly Juárez | El Salvador
Patti & Tim Long | Mexico
Kihomi Ngwemi & Nzunga Mabudiga | Haiti
Sarah Matos | Bolivia
Ricardo Mayol-Bracero | Regional Consultant
Peter & Sarah McCurdy | Mexico
Debbie & Keith Myers | Mexico
David Parajón | Nicaragua
Ketly & Vital Pierre | Dominican Republic
J.D. & Rhonda Reed | Regional Consultant & Bolivia
Stacy & Tim Reese | Dominican Republic
Ingrid Roldán-Román | Panama
Brian & Lynette Smith | Dominican Republic
Corenne & Phil Smith | Brazil
Jae Stockton | Mexico
Ruth Vindas | Costa Rica
Dilia Zelaya | Honduras



Karen R. Smith, MA, MS
Area Director for Africa

Glen & Rita Chapman | DR Congo
Ann & Bill Clemmer | Regional Consultants & DR Congo
Anita & Rick Gutierrez | South Africa
Boaz Keibarak | Kenya
Jill & Mike Lowery | DR Congo
Christina & Lance Muteyo | Zimbabwe
Katherine & Wayne Niles | DR Congo
Kathy & Tim Rice | DR Congo
Rovaughna Richardson | Ghana
Faye Carol Yarbrough | South Africa



Charles Jones, MDiv, MACE, DDiv
Senior Area Director and Area Director for Europe, the Middle East, and Liberia

Melanie Baggao | Middle East
Dan & Sarah Chetti | Middle East
Hermelinda & Jorge Damasceno | United Kingdom
Laura & Rich Freeman | Middle East
Amanda & Jon Good | Hungary
Carmella Jones | Hungary
Nora & Pieter Kalkman | Regional Consultants
Becky & Larry Stanton | Hungary

MINISTRY TRANSITIONS



Benjamin S.L. Chan, MDiv, STM, DMin
*Area Director for East
and South Asia*

B. Lanutemjen & Onenlemla Ao | India

Wati Longchar | Regional Consultant

Katie & Taku Longkumer | India

David Sagar | India

Emerson & Ivy Wu | Regional Consultants

Global Consultants

My linda Baits | Restorative Arts

Lauran Bethell | Abolishing Global Slavery

Ann & Bruce Borquist | Economic Development,
Everywhere to Everyone, Capacity Building

Kristy Engel | Health & Wellness

Mike Mann | Economic Development

Ray Schellinger | Immigrants & Refugees

Stan Slade | Theological Education

Jeanine & Walt White | Health & Wellness,
Capacity Building

Global Coordinators

Ruth Fox | Education

David & Joyce Reed | Spiritual Care



Leslie Turley, MA, MAGL
*Area Director for Southeast Asia
and Japan*

Jihee Ahn | Japan

Ryan Baumgart | Japan

Kim Brown | Thailand

Aphiwan & Scott Coats | Myanmar & Thailand

Annie & Jeff Dieselberg | Thailand

Joel Hoefle & Trish Magal | Thailand

Gordon & Lee Ann Hwang | Japan

Alise & Mark Juanes | Thailand

Eric & Yuree Lembke | Thailand

Becky Mann | Thailand

Lori & Matt Mann | Southeast Asia

Jonathan & Thelma Nambu | Philippines

Aaron & Valerie Osterbrock | Malaysia

Jeni Pedzinski | Thailand

Mark & Ngoc | Indochina

Marlene Po | Serving Myanmar Diaspora
in the U.S.

Kit Ripley | Thailand

Paul Rollet | Philippines

Aaron & AmyEstelle Trout | Philippines

Shigemi Tomita | Japan

Amy & Joseph Vo | Vietnam

Katrina & Kyle Williams | Thailand

Debby & Kyle Witmer | Thailand



Debbie Mulneix
Retired | Regional Consultant



Carole Sydnor
Retired | Nepal



Nancy & Stephen James
Retired | Haiti



Dan & Sharon Buttry
Retired | Global Consultants



David Parajón
*Reappointed International
Associate | Nicaragua*



Laura Parajón
*Resigned, continuing as
Special Assistant | Nicaragua*

meet Board President

JORGE MEDERO-ROLDÁN

At daybreak, Jesus went out to a solitary place. The people were looking for him and when they came to where he was, they tried to keep him from leaving them. But he said, “I must proclaim the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns also, because that is why I was sent.”

Luke 4:42-43

Right from the start of Jesus' teachings about the good news of the kingdom of God, Jesus expressed that his message was not only for the Jews, but for all nations. This good news was laid out when he read from the scroll of the prophet Isaiah:

The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.

(LUKE 4:18-19)

Jesus knows the struggles that people experience when living outside of his kingdom. These struggles are experienced as individuals and as societies regardless of where and when we live. For that reason, he invited people from other towns to hear the good news about the values and fruits of his kingdom as expressed by the Apostle Paul in Galatians 5:22: “love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.”

IM has sought to carry on Jesus' mission to proclaim this message, inviting people from all nations to become disciples of Jesus Christ and equipping the body of Christ in God's mission. For more than two centuries, through both word and deed, IM global servants from different nations and backgrounds have professed the good news about discipleship, peace, and abundant life.

In 2019, I was invited to become the president of the Board of Directors of IM from 2020 to 2023. This invitation took me by surprise, especially because I am from a small island in the Caribbean, Puerto Rico. Like Jesus, I went out to a solitary place to seek his voice and meditate on this call. In these meditations, I followed a daily devotion series titled “Who Christ Calls You to Be.” This series focuses on different areas that, to my surprise, aligned with several of IM's Focused Impact Areas (FIAs) as laid out in our strategic plan:

1. Christ calls you to be a light in a dark world (FIA 1: Inviting People to Be Disciples of Jesus Christ)
2. Christ calls you to be a champion of the poor and needy (FIA 2: Proclaiming God's Reign of Justice, Peace, and Abundant Life)
3. Christ calls you to unity and fellowship (FIA 3: Equipping the Body of Christ to Engage in God's Mission, From Everywhere to Everyone)
4. Christ calls you to be a generous giver (FIA 4: Pursuing Organizational Excellence through Financial Health and Accountability)

Finally, through this devotion series, I read God's invitation to me. God could have used angels or miracles or numerous other means to announce his message. Instead, he has chosen everyday people to be his mouthpiece in the world. Working through ordinary people facing the ordinary issues of day-to-day life, God intends to let the world know that there is hope beyond the problems and frustrations of the here and now.

The board also called Jenny Quey to become the vice president of the Board of Directors of IM from 2020 to 2023. She responded with a deep commitment and passion to serve God in IM. We are both humbled and conscious that this invitation comes from God; we bring open hearts to hear his word and seek wisdom in the difficult times the world now faces.

We are also very grateful for donors like you who sustain the IM global servants who are working in seventy countries and many different ministries—ministries that are now touching communities in the midst of a pandemic, practicing faith with deeds.

On behalf of the entire Board of Directors, I would like to express deep gratitude for your valued commitment to enable IM to continue proclaiming the good news of Christ.



Jorge Medero-Roldán, CPA, MBA
President of the Board of Directors



JENNY QUEY, DMin
Vice President



PAUL VICK, MDiv, JD
Treasurer

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A message *from* GLOBAL MISSION

ASSOCIATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR JIM BELL

"The dumbest thing I've ever done is purchase a 2020 planner!" Though my notebook-like daily planners gave way to Microsoft Outlook and an iPhone years ago, reading that meme still brought a smile to my face. We expected 2020 to be a year of clear vision and long-range achievement; instead, it's been a time of uncertainty and disruption in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, of renewed awareness of and response to racism, and of both natural and unnatural disasters. Circumstances have compelled us like never before to adopt a humble posture of dependence on God, recognizing that "if it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that" (James 4:15). These indeed have been long months of challenge and struggle, but God has been faithful, and marvelous ministry has continued around the world through IM's global servants and partners.

The COVID-19 pandemic has been met with extraordinary responsiveness by IM's global servants and partners. You can see a few examples of this on pages 12-13 of this report. As the first reports of an outbreak were reaching the U.S. from China, Area Director Benjamin Chan was mobilizing the provision of personal protection gear and medical supplies to our partners in China, a gesture that was returned by our Chinese partners when the pandemic surged in the United States months later!

IM personnel and partners have also demonstrated great resilience in the face of the challenges and dangers posed by the pandemic. Most global servants remained in their host countries and continued ministry in new ways, adapting to the constraints of

quarantines and travel restrictions. A few were away from their countries of service when travel restrictions closed borders and continued to serve from a distance as well as finding new mission opportunities in their unanticipated relocation. Global servant candidates have not been deterred from following God's call—we celebrated our first virtual commission service recognizing God's call of Faye Yarbrough to mission in South Africa, celebrated as Alise and Mark Juanes landed and launched into ministry in Thailand, and welcomed several new global servants who have been endorsed to begin preparation for mission service. Baptists in India, in a movement facilitated by IM global servants and partners, are coming together for the first time in a nationwide fellowship and coordinating significant COVID prevention and relief efforts.

And, as has been true throughout the history of the American Baptist mission movement, IM's global servants have proven marvelously resourceful as they respond to God's call in the face of difficult circumstances. Global Consultant Lauran Bethell has continued to link, network, and support ministries addressing human trafficking through Zoom meetings and conferences. Stan Slade, Aaron Osterbrock, and other IM theological educators have taught seminary classes from afar using online platforms and chat groups. In areas of Kenya where people have little access to television or the internet, IM Associate Boaz Keibarak launched the "Radio Peace Talk Show" to share the gospel and teach peacebuilding to persons confined to their homes by COVID quarantines. And in months where short-term mission trips have been



Sharon T. Koh, MDiv, MAT
Executive Director / CEO of International Ministries

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S COUNCIL



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Chief Strategy Officer



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Associate Executive Director for Global Mission



Patti Glasser, MBA
*Associate Executive
 Director for Operations*



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



Ray Schooler, DMin
*Sr. Director for Development
 and Church Relations*

grounded, IM's Short-Term Mission office enabled volunteer Kadie Henry to work virtually with Brazilian missionaries in Spain, began to offer virtual short-term mission trips, and launched the "Bridges 4 Mission" podcast series.

These examples are representative of the responsiveness, resilience, and resourcefulness that has characterized the ministry of IM's global servants, partners, volunteers, and staff in 2020. More accounts of God's faithfulness and continuing ministry may be found by perusing global servants' news and journals on IM's website. Even as responding to God's call takes directions and dimensions we never anticipated in our plans, we faithfully continue, knowing that "the LORD's plans stand firm forever; his intentions can never be shaken" (Psalm 33:11).



Global Servants J.D. and Rhonda Reed sent 10,000 masks to Wheaton College to raise \$10,000 for the Project of Hope Foundation (see page 8) in Bolivia.

Directors' HIGHLIGHTS



Benjamin S.L. Chan
*Area Director for East
and South Asia*

Starting in January, we provided protective masks and coveralls, COVID relief, and education. During the crisis, we have been using chat groups and virtual worship to encourage mutual spiritual support and the sharing of resources in congregations and communities.



Joe Gonzalez
Director of Information Technology

As we direct all IT operations to meet ministry requirements and develop new technical solutions, we thank God that 100% of IM's systems are accessible at any time, from anywhere in the world.



Sandra Dorsainvil
*Director of Short-Term
Mission (STM)*

Since June 2020, STM has had a strong digital presence, offering many virtual visits hosted by our global servants and partners, starting virtual short-term experiences with volunteers, publishing a new leader's guide for STM teams, and launching the "Bridges for Mission" podcast.



Adalia Gutiérrez Lee
*Area Director for Iberoamerica
and the Caribbean*

During this year of pandemic, IM has continued its ministries with partners and global servants alike who have reached out to each other and to the communities they serve to offer emergency aid, distributing masks, hand sanitizer, food, and vitamins.



Kathleen Geer
Director of Donor Services

Though we are a small team, we provide customer service to over 9,000 supporting churches and donors and process over 3,000 contributions per month. Throughout the pandemic we were able to continue assisting, communicating with, and receiving generous gifts from our committed donors!



Charles Jones
*Senior Area Director and Area
Director for Europe, the Middle
East, and Liberia*

It has been a blessing to stand in solidarity with our partners during the pandemic and to assist with their relief efforts—doing awareness training, providing sanitation supplies, and addressing food insecurity.



Mary Kate Kuchar
Human Resources Director

During the pandemic, we quickly transitioned to remote work, creating and updating policies to support staff and comply with changing laws and guidelines while providing member care opportunities to support community. We were thrilled to maintain our current healthcare coverage without a cost increase!



Rodney Ragwan
Director of Mission Mobilization

During the pandemic, Mission Mobilization has remained available to respond to prospective candidates who sense God's call to serve overseas. You can expect a listening ear and a commitment to journey with you prayerfully through the discernment and application process.



Karen Mason
Director of Events

This year, we have successfully moved our events online, resulting in a 300% increase in attendance with participants from 37 countries.



Lisa Rothenberger
World Relief Officer / Scholarships

This year, the international COVID-19 relief you provided through gifts to IM brought much-needed relief to sustain the ministries of international partners. One Great Hour of Sharing emergency funds supported disaster relief, development projects, and refugee ministries.



Tom Myers
Director of Global Personnel Services

During the past year, as we administered human resources for our global servants, I have seen these services growing as we worked collaboratively to focus more intently on providing emotional and spiritual support.



Karen R. Smith
Area Director for Africa

Over the past year, I have been deeply blessed to bear witness to the faith, hope, and perseverance of our global servants and partners as they press forward in ministry—sharing the gospel and meeting human need—despite COVID-19 challenges and restrictions.



Eileen O'Donnell
Controller

During the pandemic, our staff continued to perform fiduciary and banking functions efficiently without interruptions and to process international partner grants and disburse global servant support to sustain the ministries where IM is involved.



Leslie Turley
Area Director for Southeast Asia and Japan

Through his people, God is working in new ways to ensure his kingdom continues “on earth as it is in heaven.” These words take on new meaning through new ways of relating, new initiatives to meet human need, and the simple and biblical idea of people helping people.

Financial DATA



Patti Glasser
Associate Executive
Director for Operations

This past fiscal year was like no other in recent memory. Yet we continue to “hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm, for God can be trusted to keep his promise” (Hebrews 10:23).

While the events of the fiscal year 2019-2020 were certainly unprecedented, God’s grace was not. “From the fullness of his grace we have all received one blessing after another” (John 1:16). Despite the year’s challenges, God’s grace and blessings were clearly evident in the sacrificial giving of IM’s faithful donors, churches, and regions.

As reflected in this financial summary, we ended the year with revenue almost one million dollars greater than our expenses. While this was largely due to limited travel and in-person attendance at major worldwide events, our global servants and staff made great use of our extensive information technology platforms to continue God’s ministry throughout the world. Many of those ministry stories are shared on these pages and could not have been possible without continued support from our partners in ministry. In addition, through wise resource stewardship, our total net assets grew by almost three million dollars this past year. Praise God!

We move forward into 2021, confident in God’s promise and thankful for the steadfast love that endures forever!

STATEMENT OF MISSION MINISTRY

For fiscal years ending September 30, 2020 and 2019

Revenue, Gains, and Other Support	2020	2019
Contributions	11,803,649	12,783,753
Contributions to Endowment Fund	800,128	413,725
Realized Planned Gifts	129,360	103,235
Other Income	302,973	366,598
Endowment Income for Current Ops.	2,635,281	2,339,505
Other Investment Income/Misc.	96,993	66,079
Total Revenues	\$ 15,768,384	\$ 16,072,895

Expenses

Missionary Ministry & Global Partners	9,716,839	10,433,861
Ministry Support & Education	2,753,316	3,226,089
Total Program Expenses	12,470,155	13,659,950
Administrative Support & Fees	1,517,411	1,583,930
Development & Fundraising	783,792	876,043
Total Supporting Expenses	2,301,203	2,459,973
Total Expenses	\$ 14,771,358	\$ 16,119,923



Through White Cross, Kwai River Christian Hospital in Thailand received personal protective equipment and medical supplies.



This year, Global Servants Drs. Laura and David Parajón's ministry in Nicaragua through AMOS Health and Hope offered 2,862 community clinic consultations to children under five.



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

- Missionary Income
- Medical/Retirement Plan
- Missionary Support Services
- Ministry Expense

Mission ADVANCEMENT



Zofia Dripps
Associate Executive Director
for Mission Advancement

So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

(2 CORINTHIANS 4:18)

In this verse in 2 Corinthians, Paul challenges the followers of Jesus to change their perspective. When, with the help of the Holy Spirit, we can look at our situation and the world around us through God's eternal perspective, we can find greater clarity, greater purpose, and greater faith—regardless of circumstance.

Sometimes God disrupts us from our comfortable routines so that we can better see those factors that keep us from serving God. This change in perspective—from what is immediately around us to that which is eternally significant—can bring us to re-imagine the ways in which we might be used by God.

Rather than becoming overwhelmed, we can ask God how we can serve in our current situation. How might Jesus work in and through each one of us to accomplish God's kingdom purposes?

IM's work is only possible through our partnership with you. Thank you for coming alongside IM global servants and our international partners with generous hearts. Your faithfulness today is an incredible encouragement not only to us, but also to God's people around the world.

It is not possible to convey here all of the ways God is using you for kingdom impact, but we pray that through this report you will see God at work—improving health and

wellness, providing education and loving care for children with disabilities, enlarging the family of believers, and discipling a new generation of Christian leaders.

I pray that God will reignite your passion for global mission as you reflect on how your gifts directly change the lives of others.

For over two hundred years, God has worked through IM, and we have continued to keep evangelism and discipleship at the core of all we do. What might the church look like in the years to come if we could reach the 7,000 unreached nations (2.7 billion people) with the transformative love of Jesus Christ?

I hope God will use these stories of impact to inspire you to participate in what is unseen and eternal—and to ask yourself how God might use your life and gifts for God's good purposes.

How can you and your church equip and support global mission through IM?

- Personalized support for a global servant
- Gifts to the World Mission Offering and the IM General Fund
- Gifts toward a specific mission project
- A legacy gift for the future as we enter into our third century of mission

Together, we can come alongside our global servants and partners as we enter into God's extraordinary mission!

In Thailand, Global Servants Jeni Pedzinski and Kit Ripley minister through the New Life Center to promote education for girls and women.



YOU CAN GIVE THROUGH

One time or recurring gifts

Stock gifts

Employer matching gifts

Gifts as part of your will

Honor and memorial gifts

IRA charitable rollover gifts

AmazonSmile gifts

Charitable annuity gifts that provide life income for you

ASK OUR TEAM

Please don't hesitate to contact mission advancement at 610-768-2311 with any questions you may have.



Ray Schooler, DMin
Senior Director of Development and Church Relations



Marc Kirchoff, DMin
Donor Advisor



Joyce Bagiraneza, MTHM
Donor Advisor

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