



THE CALL

Farming God's Way

THE CALL

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IN THIS ISSUE

ONE OF MY favorite things about my job is spending time with missionaries. They're some of the most unique people you'll ever meet—entrepreneurial, faith-filled, talented, and, most importantly, they love Jesus and long for everyone in the whole world to love Him also. (If you have a missionary in your life, you know this!)

I had the chance to spend some time with John and Beth Muehleisen when I worked on stories about Farming God's Way (page 8) and Women's Cycle of Life (page 14). Thanks to technology, we were able to talk face-to-face, and I heard their hearts for the people they have the privilege of teaching God's truths to in Uganda.

Afterward, we emailed back and forth, and Beth passed on a (paraphrased) quote she often uses in teaching women: "African women carry the weight of the world on their shoulders, but it doesn't seem so heavy because they stand shoulder to shoulder and help each other bear the loads."

I love this! What a beautiful image of women supporting each other and the impact that many people can have when they work together.

Most great movements begin small with one or two people or a small team—committed people who believe deeply in what they are doing and in what God is calling them to do.

I hope the stories in this issue of *The Call* inspire you to continue in your own missions activities—no matter how small. Need ideas on where to start? Check out the action steps at the end of each article. And remember, you're never alone in this; we're always here to talk with you about how you can move forward in your missions journey.

Be blessed,



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A Small Step of Obedience

FRUSTRATING!

There is no other way to describe it. The aggravation created by the circumstances was so intense it almost felt like a fog rolling in off the lake. The workday, or night in this case, had been a complete loss.

What made it worse was they had done everything right but now had absolutely nothing to show for their 12-plus hours of labor. They finally threw in the towel and were cleaning their work equipment just before heading home to get some rest. They were exhausted.

Then came the inconvenient request: “Put out a little way from the land” (Luke 5:3 NASB). Their bodies were exhausted. Their nets were clean. Their efforts throughout the night had been wasted. Have you ever noticed that Jesus’ requests are seldom convenient?

It wasn’t as though He was making a huge demand; He was only asking them to put the boat out into the water a little ways. This small step of obedience required only a limited commitment. If Peter decided that it wasn’t working out for him, all he had to do was get out of the boat and walk to shore.

But then the other shoe fell! “Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch” (Luke 5:4). “But master,” came the reply. This request made no sense!

How many of us have missed the fruit of harvest because we allowed our reason to overrule our obedience? All it took was another small step of obedience. Granted, the commitment was greater; there was no easy turning back this time. But all that was required was a small step of obedience.

The result was exponential! The largest catch of fish they had ever experienced. In fact, it was the largest catch they had ever heard about! Both boats began to sink as the harvest of fish was brought aboard.

Small steps of obedience in and to ministry can result in an exponential harvest. God blesses obedience in one individual—small steps of obedience—and brings about an incredible harvest in the lives of many others.



GIVE: Do you want to take a small step of faith that will have a significant impact in God’s harvest field? The Global Impact Fund provides support services to missionaries and volunteers around the world. Give securely online at wgm.org/global-impact-fund.

Make a Global Impact:
Support Services for Missionaries

“My coach encourages me to push on when things don’t seem to go as planned. Communications helps me communicate with my ministry partners. Financial Services processes support. IT helps me stay up-to-date. Member Health blesses me with a concerned ear to listen and bring light to some dark moments. Each department is a beautiful stitch needed to bring God’s work together, and without them, I would come unraveled!”
Chrissy Greenwell, Mexico

“How many of us have missed the fruit of harvest because we allowed our reason to overrule our obedience?”



“They are a support and resource for the joys and challenges of ministry. They share in both the laughter and the tears of life.”
Jennifer Bennett, Kenya



Who Is Your Crowd?

TITUS ROMDENH | *Missionary, Cambodia*

MY NAME IS Chamnol, and my Christian name is Titus. I am originally from Cambodia—one of WGM’s newest ministry locations—in Southeast Asia. I was born in a family with two religions. My father is Catholic, and my mother is Buddhist. Since I was young, I went to both the Catholic church and the Buddhist temple. One day in 1999, one of my friends invited me to go to the Protestant church; I agreed to go with him. The pastor preached from Romans 3:23 (NIV): “for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” Immediately, the Holy Spirit spoke to my heart and convicted me that I was a sinner and that only the blood of Jesus Christ can redeem my soul and make my heart new again. There is no salvation and forgiveness in the Buddhist religion!

Matthew 9:36 (NIV) reads (emphasis added): “When he [Jesus] saw the **crowds**, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.”

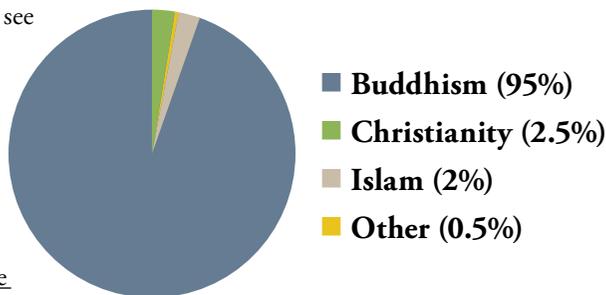
The word “crowds” refers to the unbelievers or those who do not have a deep, real relationship with Jesus Christ yet.

The Cambodian people are living in darkness, hopeless and helpless. The country is 95 percent Buddhist and less than 3 percent Christian. Every time I see this chart, I know deep inside my heart that they are my “crowd.”

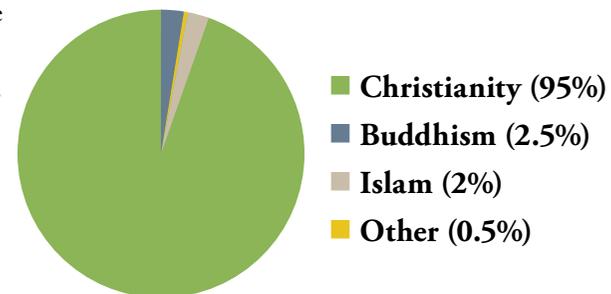
It is my heart and prayer to bring the light of Jesus Christ to the lightless in every corner of Cambodia. I want the Cambodian people to know that in Jesus Christ there is hope and that in that hope is salvation and forgiveness. That hope is still open wide for them to accept it and know Him as Lord and Savior personally.

In 2011, after I passed the visa interview to come to the United States and marry my wife, Jewel, my relatives and friends told me, “Your future will be bright in America!” I responded, “My life is already bright when I have Jesus in my heart! My life is already bright when my sins are forgiven.”

When I informed them that we would be moving back to Cambodia after almost six years in the U.S., they were shocked, wondering: “What is he thinking?” Cambodia is a third-world country, corrupt and unsafe. It’s true; I can’t do this without Christ’s love in me. Christ’s love compels and convicts me to love my own people! The Cambodian people are my “crowd.”



Our hope and prayer is that 20 years from now, 30 years from now, or 40 years from now—with the power of the Holy Spirit—these statistics will be flip-flopped, and 95 percent of Cambodians will be Christian! I believe it with all my heart that this can happen, because our God is a Mighty God! His power is limitless and timeless. He can change the hearts of stubborn sinners. Yes, He can!



Matthew 9:38 (NIV) reads: “Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.”

We are the workers, you and I! We are prayer warriors, and we are also soldiers who fight for the Lord’s kingdom, who proclaim the good news of Christ to those who have not heard it yet!

God has called me back to my home country to reach influential people with the living Word. In Cambodia, there is a saying: “The saliva of influential people is saltier.” In this context, salt refers to a critical need, like food. There is a reason why Jesus said, “We are the salt of the earth.” It’s more than just a flavoring agent; it’s food itself! We have the living Word of God in our hearts and in our mouths. The Word that transforms lives!

For the past couple months, the Lord has been faithful in leading us to people who He wants us to minister to and with. We have witnessed the transformation of lives and the presence of the Holy Spirit in our work here in Cambodia.

My question for you is: do you have a “crowd” in your life? Where are they?

We—all of us Christians—must be engaged in missions, answering the Lord’s call and reaching out to the “crowds” around us. It doesn’t have to be an overseas “crowd”; your “crowd” might be your neighbors, friends, relatives, family, or even your spouse. Get started today!

GO: Where is your “crowd?” How can you be engaged in missions right where you are? Take some time this month to consider your community and church, and ask God to show you where He wants you to serve. Not sure where to start? We are ready to guide you. Let’s start the conversation at wgm.org/serve.

PRAY: Pray for Titus and Jewel as they reach out to Cambodians, seeking to share God’s truths in love.





Farming God's Way in Uganda

RACHEL ELWOOD | *Staff Writer*

“YOU'RE DOING IT wrong, boy. If your family is starving next year because this hairbrained scheme doesn't work, don't come crying to me.” Simon watched as his elderly father, a subsistence farmer all his life, shook his head and strode off. He looked back at his small garden. It did, admittedly, look very different from the gardens his father had worked on for 50-plus years. A heavy layer of mulch surrounded the mounded holes where his seeds were carefully planted.

Simon had heard of a farming method called Farming God's Way. After several years of growing barely enough food to feed his family—with little or nothing to generate any kind of income—he was ready to take a step of faith. Farming God's Way seemed to speak deeper into the human condition; it seemed like more than just lessons on gardening.

However, as insurance—and on the recommendation of the men who trained him—Simon planted another garden plot using traditional methods, planting with a plow—as his father had taught him—and no mulch.

Simon took a deep breath. The rainy season would start any day, and all he could do now was wait.

A Continent in Crisis

Africa should be the richest continent on earth. The land is vast, filled with natural resources and fertile soil that rival any other. But it's been labeled “the world's begging bowl,” earning only 5 percent of the world's GDP. Hundreds of billions of dollars of aid have poured into the continent over the last 50 years, yet the number of people trapped in poverty continues to rise.

The causes for this dire situation are myriad and interconnected—government corruption, tribal conflicts, scars from colonialism, and lack of education, to name a few. One reason that rises to the top is poor use of the land itself by subsistence farmers. Over 750 million people in Africa are subsistence farmers, growing enough to feed their families with little leftover to sell. Traditional techniques like plowing, slash and burn agriculture, and monocropping (not rotating crops) have eroded the soil, drained the land of nutrients, and stunted crops.

Although the soil is naturally rich, many areas in Africa regularly experience extreme weather through floods or draught. This requires farming methods that are focused on soil and water conservation. (Ironically, in some places it was missionaries in the 1800s who introduced the plow and other Western-style farming techniques that don't necessarily work in Africa's ecosystems.)

In 1984, a farmer in Zimbabwe named Brian began what is now the Farming God's Way movement. As the same suggests, Farming God's Way has a solidly biblical foundation. Brian's crop was failing, and he cried out to God for help. In that moment of desperation, Brian felt like God had been waiting to share something with him for quite some time; God led Brian to the truths of farming *His* way.

WGM missionaries and Ugandan church leaders were trained by the Farming God's Way team in 2015. They slowly began to offer to train Ugandan subsistence farmers in the scriptural basis, technology, and management techniques of Farming God's Way. Today, Ugandans are the primary trainers of the movement.

Based on the Bible

Farming God's Way began by examining “how God farms,” looking at how plants grow in the wild. Natural mulch protects soil from erosion and holds in moisture. If the soil is stripped of all vegetation with no mulch layer, soil and seeds are washed away and the soil is leached of valuable nutrients.

“God has provided us with two great gifts: rainfall and soil,” shared John Muehleisen, missionary in Uganda who has been working to grow the Farming God's Way movement. “Farming God's Way is all about stewarding these two gifts.”

In the training sessions, one of the most powerful moments for farmers is seeing the demonstration of the effect of rainfall on soil samples set at a 15-degree angle. One has a layer of mulch—called “God's Blanket”—and the other is bare soil. A two-liter bottle of water is poured over each, and the runoff of water and soil from each sample is compared.

In addition to training on the technology and management of farming in this way, a strong component of biblical knowledge and discipleship is woven throughout. Coaches do site visits to farmers after the training to provide additional mentorship during the planting process.

One of the key verses used by trainers is Hosea 4:6 (NIV): “My people are destroyed from lack of knowledge. ‘Because you have rejected knowledge, I also reject you as my priests; because you have ignored the law of your God, I also will ignore your children.’” Through better knowledge and understanding of the consequences of traditional agricultural methods, farmers can put into practice methods that enrich the soil rather than deplete it.

Harvesttime: The Moment of Truth

At harvesttime, Simon—despite his father's dire warnings—reaped six times more than he had ever yielded before on the section of the garden planted with Farming God's Way methods.

“Even by Farming God's Way standards, that was a huge increase!” said John. “Most farmers see approximately a three-fold increase, which is still significant.”

Simon's father was amazed by his son's crop, and he humbly asked for advice on how he could implement the same techniques at his own garden—the one he'd been working on for over 50 years.

Soon after his harvest, Simon received an interesting phone call from the palace of his

tribe's king, the King of Busoga (Uganda has five tribal constitutional monarchies). "We hear you're doing some interesting things in agriculture and getting good results," the aide said. "We want to see what you've done."

They came to Simon's garden and verified the process he undertook with neighbors who had witnessed the entire planting and harvesting process. Impressed, the aides said to Simon, "If the kingdom puts on training seminars in different communities about this, would you come and train? We'd pay you."

"Yes!" said Simon.

Lifted Out of Poverty

When a subsistence farmer's yields generate income, an entire extended family can be lifted out of poverty.

Godfrey is a pastor and peanut farmer. He gave this testimony to John about the difference Farming God's Way has made in his life:

"Before I did Farming God's Way, I was always struggling to pay my children's school fees. Sometimes, I didn't have enough food to feed my family. I had a mud hut with a grass roof with no electricity. My kids did their homework by candlelight. Since Farming God's Way, I have put a steel roof on my house and put solar panels on my roof. Now, my kids do their homework by clean solar LED lights. I even put a steel roof and solar panels on my dad's house. My kids are in a better school, and I pay their school fees *in full* at the beginning of the term. I bought two new acres of land, and I paid cash. I have money in the bank. My friend, never before have I had money in the bank."

"My friend, never before have I had money in the bank."

Once one farmer in a community is trained in Farming God's Way, he or she—regardless of their education level—can train others because they know how to do it.

George and Celina's Story: From One Farmer to a Whole Community

Rev. George Naliti—with his wife, Celina—pastors a church, oversees 18 other churches, and works as an elementary school teacher in the small village of Patete. They have a small garden of plantain bananas.

George learned how to use Farming God's Way and planted a trial garden to see what the results might be. Like Simon, George planted two gardens side by side: one was planted the traditional way, and the other used the Farming God's Way approach.

When he harvested his bananas and took them to the market to sell, his "traditional" bananas sold for about \$1.50 per stalk—the same price as everyone else's bananas at the market. His Farming God's Way bananas were of a quality so high above the rest that they sold for \$9 per stalk!

After two seasons of working with Farming God's Way in his own garden, George approached the principal of his school. He asked for permission to do a Farming God's Way garden with corn, using it to teach the children. (Most rural Ugandan schools have a small farm where students learn agriculture by growing food for school lunches.) The principal allocated a small plot in the worst part of the field, a section that had yielded 165 pounds of corn the year before. This was now a drought year, and no one had high hopes that anything could grow.





But George was determined, and the kids were enthusiastic about the project. At the harvest, they reaped an astounding 1,300 pounds of corn. Kids were urging their parents to come and see the corn as it was growing. People remarked, “We have never seen corn like this before in this area.”

George continues to teach Farming God’s Way to others in his community, always proclaiming the message of God’s provision and wisdom. Celina said, “Farming God’s Way is the gospel with boots.”

More Than Farming

Farming God’s Way is not just about farming; it’s about living all areas of life rooted in Christ. This potent combination of technologically appropriate farming methods and discipleship and evangelism is based in solid science. It provides churches with a very practical way of demonstrating God’s love in their communities in word and deed.

Farming God’s Way is one of a four-part initiative in WGM Uganda called Community Health Empowerment. CHE is a set of programs created to help people be restored to physical, spiritual, and relational health. In essence, CHE enables reconciliation with God, community, and the environment. The other three components are:

- **Community health workers**, who serve their communities by providing health training
- **Women’s Cycle of Life training** (page 14), focused on health and relationships
- **The 4/14 Window Movement**, which reaches out to children

World Gospel Mission believes that missions is reaching out to the whole person—physically, spiritually, mentally, and socially. Whole-person transformation results in whole families and whole communities being changed, mobilized, and equipped to follow God’s teachings.

“Farming God’s Way is a tool we use to help churches be more effective in their communities,” explained John. “When people see the connection between their relationship with God and the resources He’s given us on earth, the light goes on in their eyes. And the results speak for themselves.”

 **GIVE:** Do you want to cover the cost for a farmer to be trained and equipped in Farming God’s Way? For just \$20, you can provide a farmer with these valuable principles and tools for success. Donate online at wgm.org/project/uganda-che.

 **GO:** If helping farmers get better crop yields while growing closer to the Lord excites you, come join the team! Visit wgm.org/serve to start the conversation.

 **PRAY:** Pray that Farming God’s Way will continue to help lift families out of poverty in Uganda and throughout Africa. Pray for diligence and strength for the farmers. Pray that the churches will use this tool to bring the message of God’s love to their communities. Pray for trainers as they impart biblical truths and methodology to new participants.



Women's Cycle of Life in Uganda

RACHEL ELWOOD | *Staff Writer*

WE IDENTIFY AND challenge the lies that our culture tells us about women. We replace those lies with biblical truth, and then we live in the light of that truth.” Winnie, a middle-aged woman in Uganda, didn’t always live with that kind of hope. Six years ago, her husband died and she was left to raise four children alone. She began working with missionaries John and Beth Muehleisen, who invested in her spiritual and emotional health.

She grew up in the church—her husband had been the general secretary of Africa Gospel Church Uganda. However, each culture has its own set of values that run counter to the Bible, and Winnie was in bondage, trapped in fear and darkness. As time went on, God revealed truths about her worth in His eyes, His plan for relationships, and much more.

In 2015, the Women’s Cycle of Life program was added to WGM Uganda’s focus on whole-person community development (page 13). This program began in Haiti and focused on lessons about women’s health and childbirth. The Uganda team added components on marriage, relationships with children and in-laws, and other challenges Ugandan women face.

Winnie has become one of the best facilitators on the team.

Ugandan culture tells women that they only have value if they produce children. Winnie and her teammate Maria have a passion to help women see that they have immense value in God’s eyes. When a woman believes that she is created in the image of God, it makes a difference in every part of her life. It affects her relationships with her husband, children, and others in the community.

“It wasn’t until I started this training that I have grown to know the sweetness that’s inside of being born again,” Winnie shared.

Today, the second phase of training facilitators is underway, seeking to multiply the number of facilitators and increase the number of women reached. The goal is to have three or four women in each district able to teach the course.

“Technically, we don’t teach,” said Beth. “We facilitate learning. Everyone learns from each other as they share their experiences.”

A big part of the training is simply starting the conversation about sometimes taboo topics like pregnancy, family planning, nutrition during pregnancy and breastfeeding, childbirth, menopause, menstrual difficulties, and other health-related issues.

“There is a lot of misinformation out there, and we think the Church needs to be proactive in teaching about biblical sexuality,” explained Beth.

Culturally, African men are not expected to be faithful to their spouses. Men often travel to cities for work, leaving their families in villages. When husbands return to the family home, women have a real fear that their husbands may be HIV-positive or have other STDs.

Repentance in a Refugee Camp

Recently, the Women’s Cycle of Life team visited a refugee camp for a three-day seminar in northern Uganda, where most refugees are from either South Sudan or Congo.

After the first day, as the teachings about value in Christ’s eyes and finding wholeness in Him unfolded, the women said, “Our husbands need to hear this.”

The second day focused on building healthy families and relationships, and they said, “Our husbands REALLY need to hear this.”

That night, the women asked their husbands to come the following day. The next morning, to the surprise of the seminar facilitators, the women’s husbands came! (This is not a culturally normal thing—for a wife to tell her husband what to do AND for the husband to go along with it!) However, an even greater surprise came next.

As the training came to an end, the husbands publicly apologized to their wives. “We haven’t been treating you right,” the men told the women. “We didn’t know what we needed to do. Please forgive us.”

That level of humility—so publicly demonstrated—was a powerful example of what can happen when God’s truths are infused into all aspects of life, even in the private home.

“It’s not only about teaching the lessons,” shared Beth. “It’s also about sharing the love of Jesus through a hug, a listening ear, and praying for them. I want to always point them to Jesus and help them to understand more deeply the message of God’s Word.

“Through this ministry, my hope is that women will discover and begin to understand how much their heavenly Father loves each of them and desires to have a close relationship with them. I want them to know He sees them; they are not invisible.”

For Winnie, people who have known her for years will tell you that she walks differently now. She exudes joy and confidence in faith. She’s committed to helping her sisters in Uganda find that same confidence in Christ.

 **GIVE:** Be a part of helping women and girls in Uganda by donating to The Dignity Project (wgm.org/project/donate-dignity-project), which provides reusable menstruation products for those who can’t afford them. You’ll also be helping women learn sewing and small business skills as they make and sell the products in Uganda.



AN INTERSECTION ALONG THE JOURNEY

DARIN AND LAURA ARNOTT | *Missionaries, American Indian Field*

YOU KNOW YOU'RE heading in the right direction if you're facing spiritual attack, because the devil doesn't want you to be obedient to the Lord." A mature Christian mentor gave us these words many years ago. Today, we find ourselves passing on these same words and other nuggets of wisdom that have been shared with us.

During an extended season in our lives when our journey had strayed away from the Lord, God intersected our path with two mature Christian couples who joined us in our mess and invested deeply in our lives. They helped us see God's best for us and taught us how to apply His truth to our lives. They encouraged and empowered us to live abundant lives that were honoring to the Lord. We didn't recognize it at the time, but they modeled the Great Commission to us. Because of their—and countless others from our home church—investment in our lives, we are now able to disciple many Native American brothers and sisters in the same way.

When we first met Dan and Maria (*names have been changed*) nearly two years ago, we felt so much compassion for them. At the time, they were much like we once were, a long way from God's perfect plan. We began walking with them through some tough trials they were dealing with as a result of sin in their lives. That outreach has since turned into studying the Bible together, discussing healthy family and marriage life, and recently, church leadership! While Dan and Maria are still navigating some lasting consequences from their past, they have committed their lives to the Lord and are faithfully trusting and watching Him bring victory through tragedy. It is a joy to watch the way God is using their story of victory to touch others' lives. He is helping them use their gifts and abilities to serve in their village and church.

We have been missionaries on the American Indian Field for two years, and we have enjoyed every area of ministry the Lord has given us. Recently, He led us to expand our ministry in an area we are passionate about: adult discipleship! The Lord has given us a simple desire: to encourage, empower, and equip our Native American friends to walk with Jesus abundantly and eternally. As we consider this great privilege, the Apostle Paul's words in 2 Corinthians 1:3–4 (NIV) spur us on:

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God."



Walking Together

We liken our ministry to going on a journey. As the Lord arranges, we intersect paths with a hurting heart. If they are open to our company, we join them on their journey. It is through walking together that we have the great privilege to love and disciple them.

The individuals whom the Lord brings us in contact with are often facing very difficult circumstances: addiction, broken families, and destructive behavioral patterns. As we continue to depend on the Lord, He is faithful to equip us with all we need to love and encourage them. We are continually reminded that we must be quick to pray for His wisdom, seek wise counsel, and dive deep into Scripture every day, hiding His truth in our hearts to be used in all situations.

Following God's Model for Discipleship

Our desire is that all followers of Christ will be open to letting the Lord lead them on a journey of discipleship. Discipleship truly is a life of learning and growing.



Nearly 10 years ago, the Lord gave us a model for discipleship through the investment others made in our lives. And no special equipment is needed! It is simple, really: a willing heart, a listening ear, a Bible, and often a meal. Ask yourself two questions: "Who is discipling me?" and "Who am I discipling?" When we meet with individuals who are facing a specific trial, we spend the first hour listening. If we want to know what road we are on, we must first listen to the road-worn traveler. We must always keep an open line of communication

going with the Lord as we listen. Then we share as the Lord leads (another nugget of wisdom gleaned from our mentors).

We must meet people where they are physically, emotionally, and spiritually. We must be willing to join them on their journey, sharing and seeking wisdom with them and for them. It shouldn't be surprising that we have suffered heartaches along the way. We have experienced disappointments, but the Lord is always faithful to comfort us, mature us, and call us to a deeper dependence on Him.

Through this ministry, we have been blessed with wonderful friendships. It is a joy to see more and more people living in freedom with Jesus, and it is a privilege to walk this "journey with Jesus" with our Native American brothers and sisters.



PRAY: Pray for Darin and Laura as they love and disciple Native Americans in Christ's name.

A Time for Joy

TRACY DUBOIS | Copyeditor



The LORD has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy. (Psalm 126:3 NIV)

25 years

Uganda

1992: Larry and Joy McPherson arrive from Kenya as WGM's first missionaries to Uganda. Ministries focus on church planting, discipleship training, and community-based healthcare.

1994: Heritage International School opens its doors to prepare students to achieve lives of faith and service. *Today, roughly 300 students from more than 20 countries attend HIS.*

1993: The first worship service is held at Africa Gospel Church Kisugu in Kampala. *AGC Uganda is now comprised of more than 150 congregations across the country.*



1999: Ministry begins on the Buvuma Islands in Lake Victoria. Outreach includes church planting, pastoral training, community health and development, and orphan assistance and education. *Since then, 14 AGC Uganda churches have been planted on Buvuma Island.*



2000: The Pastoral Training program is created in partnership with AGC Uganda to provide national pastors and church leaders with the practical ministry skills and Bible knowledge they need to minister effectively. *Now, more than 300 pastors and church leaders attend 13 training centers throughout Uganda.*

2009: Community Health Empowerment trainings transform churches, homes, and communities. *Offshoot ministries include Women's Cycle of Life, Farming God's Way, and Children's CHE.*

2002: The University Discipleship Movement begins with three students at Kampala International University meeting for Bible study, fellowship, and prayer. *Currently, discipleship ministries are held on 22 university campuses in East Africa with the potential of more universities being reached as financial and personnel needs are met.*

65 years

American Indian Field

1952: Ministry among American Indians starts in Arizona as an educational outreach through Southwest Indian School.



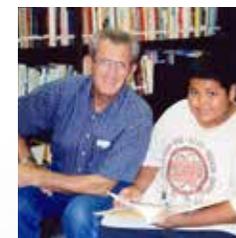
1984: Carol Conway opens Living Word Academy on the Tohono O'odham Nation. WGM accepts responsibility of the school in 1999, making it part of the field's overall strategy to increase missionary presence on the reservations.



Summer 2017: A total of 129 campers attend Summer Bible Camps with 16 kids making new commitments for Christ and 68 new Bibles being distributed!

Early 1970s: Ministries focusing on church planting, jail outreach, and Bible studies begin on the reservations.

1998: SIS closes its doors as a boarding school after providing education to over 300 Native American students throughout the years. *The campus becomes Southwest Indian Ministries Center, hosting Summer Bible Camps, retreats, and other events.*



2018: The Bible-based group SOAR (Servant-Overcomer Addiction Recovery) starts meeting to give people with all types of addictions the tools they need to support a healthy lifestyle.

December 2017: The Gathering, a weekly small group Bible study that meets at SIMC, multiplies into other communities when a church in Hickiwan requests a Sunday evening Bible study.

70 Years

Taylor Christian School

1948: Taylor Institute begins as a kindergarten in McAllen, Texas, for the children of migrant workers. The school is named in honor of pioneer WGM missionaries Rev. and Mrs. Woodford Taylor. It starts with 21 students but reaches 75 in its first year.



January 1949: The ministry expands into an elementary school.

1950: A family living in another town in the Rio Grande Valley hears about TCS from WGM missionaries. They want to enroll their children, so they buy land near the school and build a home. *Today, their granddaughter attends TCS. That's three generations of one family that have been impacted by TCS!*

1960: Taylor reaches its highest enrollment of 130 students.

1970: WGM missionaries are reassigned to Mexico. A local woman—who doesn't want to see TCS close—quits her job and begins teaching English classes, keeping the kindergarten open.

1981: WGM missionaries return to the border and reopen grades one through eight at TCS.



2001: A groundbreaking ceremony is held for the Community-Based Outreach Center (now known as Taylor Community Center), which will provide space for classrooms, a gymnasium, a kitchen and cafeteria, and an art and music room.



80 Years

South India Biblical Seminary

November 16, 1937: South India Bible Institute opens in Madras with the motto "Saved to Serve." The school is founded by Dr. James Bishop with the help of Dr. Anna McGhie and Annie Laurie Greiner. The first class had 12 boarding students and seven non-resident students.

1942: SIBI opens its doors to women students. *Currently, around 80 students attend SIBS. Graduates have become missionaries, pastors, bishops, teachers, evangelists, and Bible translators who have established missions organizations, churches, schools, hospitals, orphanages, and Bible translations.*

1952: SIBI moves to its current location outside Bangarapet on Anandagiri (the Hill of Joy).



1952: The Vacation Bible School movement in India is started as an outreach of the seminary. The first VBS is conducted in the village of Kovilpatti in one language and serves 75 children.

1960: The VBS program reaches 25,000 children. That number explodes to 40,000 in 1964 and 50,000 in 1970.



1976: Frank and Christine Dewey become the first WGM family to receive visas to enter India since 1960.

1971: South India Bible Institute changes its name to South India Biblical Seminary.

1990: A total of 300,000 children are reached through VBS. *Today, VBS materials are published in 13 languages, and over 2 million children and young people have been reached through the movement.*

 **GIVE:** Make a kingdom difference through these ministries. Give a gift at wgm.org/project/udm, wgm.org/project/aifcamps, wgm.org/project/tcc-expansion, and wgm.org/project/donate-sibs.



Listening to God

CHRISTINA MCBRIDE | *Missionary, Texas/Mexico Border Ministries*

I WAS TIRED. After teaching all day at Taylor Christian School, I was tempted to ask if someone else could do my part at my church's Wednesday night kids' program. (I love kids, but anyone who works with kids knows how exhausting it can be!)

Champs School is like one day of Vacation Bible School. We start out in the chapel with songs and prayer and then split into four groups by age, ranging from 3 to 13. These groups rotate between Bible story, crafts, games, and snack time. Church members now take the lead on teaching responsibilities, and I help wherever there is a need, like leading the youngest group to their activities.

Even though I was tired, God gave me the strength to go. As usual, I was planning to help with the youngest kids, but God had provided two teenagers to lead that group.

During story time, teacher Anna Perez was talking about how Jesus paid the price for our sins and how we can be made right in God's eyes through this gift. She explained that if the children asked Jesus to forgive them, He would come into their hearts. One child spoke up and said he wanted to accept Jesus into his heart.

Anna asked if I could pray with the child. I led him to the back of the room, and we prayed together as he accepted Christ! After the group went on to the next activity, I thought: "This is a great opportunity for me to be available to the other groups if any of the kids want to accept Jesus as well."

By the time the night was over, eight precious children had accepted Christ! I was so glad I listened to God and came to Champs School.

When you are discouraged and feel like your work for the Lord is in vain, keep persevering. It may take many years before you see the results, but know that you are planting seeds in those you are ministering to. If God has called you to a ministry, He has a plan.



PRAY: Pray for missionaries who work with children. Over 90 percent of adult Christians made their decisions of faith before age 18 (Barna Group). Ask God to give children's workers energy, creativity, and boundless love for His kids.



JUNE 1–9: Pray that God will renew your desire to be obedient to His calling, even in hard times. p. 4

JUNE 10–16: Pray for summer work team members as they serve as God's hands and feet around the world.

JUNE 17–23: Pray for the Farming God's Way training teams in Uganda as they disciple farmers to become good stewards of God's resources. p. 8

JUNE 24–30: Praise God for the work He has done in Winnie's life and for her desire to help other Ugandan women discover their worth in His eyes. p. 14

JULY 1–7: Praise God for our ability to worship Him freely in the United States, and pray for our brothers and sisters around the world who do not have that freedom.

JULY 8–14: Praise God for the thousands of men and women who have been equipped to reach India and beyond through the ministry of South India Biblical Seminary. p. 21

JULY 15–21: Pray that the students at Taylor Christian School in McAllen, Texas, will clearly see God's love through the TCS staff. p. 20

JULY 22–28: Pray for the missionary team in Uganda as they continue to grow and discover new opportunities to serve. p. 18

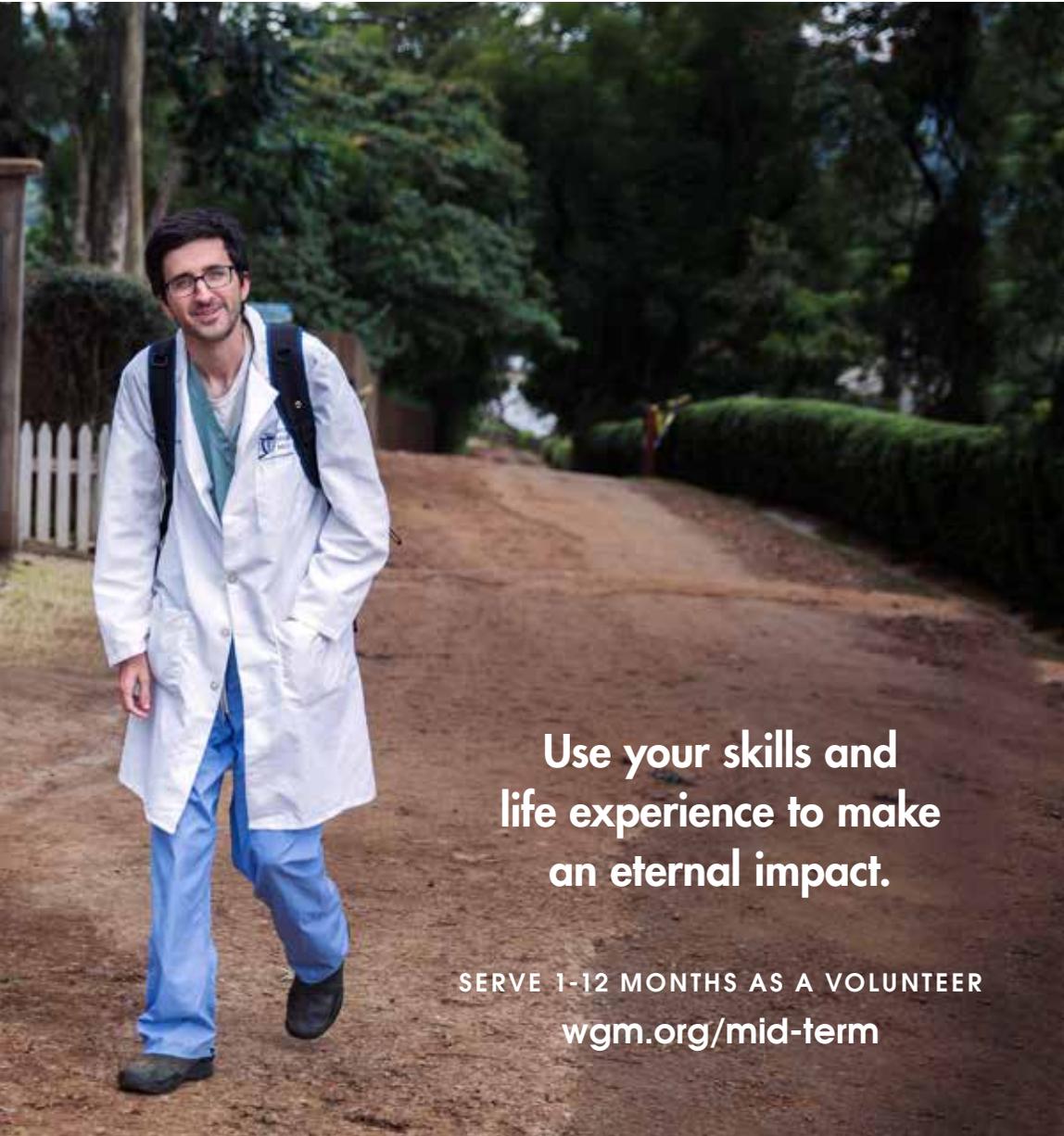
JULY 29–AUGUST 4: Lift up missionary Christian McBride and other church members as they reach out to children attending Champs School in McAllen, Texas. p. 22

AUGUST 5–11: Pray that farmers learning Farming God's Way techniques will be lights for Christ in their communities. p. 8

AUGUST 12–18: Pray for Darin and Laura Arnott as they seek to disciple people on the American Indian Field. p. 16

AUGUST 19–25: Ask God to help you see how you can speak His truth in the face of your culture's lies. p. 14

AUGUST 26–31: Pray for Titus and Jewel Romdenh as they share the life-transforming message of the gospel in Cambodia. p. 6



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