



Jim and Alice Vanderhoof

ID: 09480 Country: [Kenya](#)

Biography

Jim and Alice's WGM story is unconventional—and a reminder that God can call us to serve Him anytime and anywhere, despite our own reservations. When then-Vice President of WGM Jim Hosey came to speak at the Vanderhoofs' home church in Pennsylvania in the early 80s, Jim and Alice were struck by his message about serving overseas, but they were hesitant to commit. Hosey convinced them that Kenya Highlands Bible College could desperately use their musical abilities, so they went on a one-year mission trip that evolved into a long career of servanthood, teaching, and leadership.

"We always say that we were both called after we went," Jim admits. "Within four or five months of that initial year, we had such peace and fulfillment in our ministries at Kenya Highlands Bible College. We felt that we were really making a difference." Jim and Alice truly found their niche as teachers and worked at KHBC for the next twenty-two years—Alice teaching Bible, Christian Education, missions, and theology courses, while Jim taught music and served as an administrator and school nurse.

A common theme for Jim and Alice was "learn as you go." If the Vanderhoofs learned anything from their journey as missionaries, it was that God is able to create new strengths and passions. "We learned a lot about listening, organizing, and developing teams, which we are using now in the church we are attending," Alice says. Through many position changes, learning experiences, and culture shock, Jim and Alice found that their experience redefined their perceptions of God and what it meant to have faith.

Jim and Alice officially retired 2018 and 2019, respectively, after thirty-seven total years of service. In retirement, they are excited to spend more time with their children and grandchildren, host guests at their home, and enjoy time outdoors—though they have found that there is more work to be done. They plan on helping at their local church in New York by playing music, engaging with unbelievers, and doing what they do best—leading with humility and love. Ultimately, they are resting in the fact that God has sustained them thus far and will continue to carry them into the future, because as Alice says, "He has prepared us for what He will lead us to do."

[Read more about Jim and Alice's story here.](#)