

Fall 2022

MissionsNews ♦ Views



Celebrate the Missionaries!



Dear Churches of the American Baptist Association,

Some years ago, when Josh Edwards and I served together at Olive Branch Missionary Baptist Church in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, he would come into my office and announce, "Brother Roger, I have this storm in my brain..." This was his clever way of introducing me to the brainstorming he had recently done on the particular subject consuming his thoughts at that moment. I have borrowed Brother Josh's coined phrase many times in more recent years, and I do so again today.

What follows in this edition of the *Missions New and Views* may appear, on the surface, to be nothing more than one man's brainstorming or the storm in his brain. It is, however, a collection of pictures and memories that underscore the incredible blessings of our Lord over the last several months. The Missions' Office of the American Baptist Association has received too many blessings to innumerate of late but the pages which follow will provide a glimpse into the great things God is doing through our churches. As such, please join me as we *Celebrate the Missionaries* of the American Baptist Association along with the many blessings our God has poured out on them and us in recent months!

Herein you will read about a recent trip to Mexico with Juan Gallegos and his brother, Ernesto; another trip to Mexico with Al Valladares; several churches organized; the recent Messenger Meeting of the Churches of the American Baptist Association in Orlando, Florida; and the International Missionary Retreat which occurred just prior to the ABA meeting. Furthermore, you will hear from a former Interstate Missionary who writes of his childhood memories in a Missionary Baptist Church.

Finally, our featured missionaries in this edition will be four newly endorsed missionaries and one veteran missionary helper who have found melting pots for the Gospel. Brother Matthew Thompson and his new wife, Sarah, will soon be in Indonesia reaching the Bibleless people of that country. Brother Kunihiro Oba, from Japan, is preparing to go to Brazil where countless Japanese have settled. Sister Holly Couch-Naimushina is starting a new ministry which includes the *Bible Basics Course* and Trans World Radio. Brother Jonas Louis-Jeune is preaching to the Haitian population in Fort Myers, Florida; and Brother Thang Sian is reaching the Burmese in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

This periodical takes me to a place much like where Paul was when he wrote to the Roman Christians, "*First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all, that your faith is spoken of throughout the whole world*" (Romans 1:8). The pages just beyond this one are full of memories and reminders that our faith is spoken of throughout the whole world.

Furthering the Gospel,
Dr. Roger Stewart
Philippians 1:12

Celebrate the Missionaries!

Would you liquidate most all of your earthly assets, load your remaining earthly possessions into a few boxes and suitcases and move across continents and oceans for the sake of the Gospel? Though their stories are unique to themselves, each of the following featured four missionaries did that.



Matthew Thompson - Indonesia

Matthew and his new wife, Sarah, are going to the Bibleless people of Indonesia.

Sent out by:
Sublett Road BC
Arlington, TX



Kunihiro Oba - Brazil

Kuni left Japan and came to Texas to get a Bible education and is now going to the Japanese speaking people living in Brazil.

Sent out by:
Johntown BC
Bogota, TX



Holly Couch Naimushina - Russia

Holly is working to reach the people of Russia via Bible Studies through Trans World Radio.

Sent out by:
Sublett Road BC
Arlington, TX



Jonas Louis-Jeune - Florida

Pastor Jeune is reaching the Haitian community in Fort Myers, FL.

Sent out by:
1st MBC
Fort Myers, FL



Thang Sian - Michigan

Pastor Sian is reaching the Burmese people of Grand Rapids, MI

Sent out by:
Madison Avenue MBC
Kentwood, MI

The Messengers of the Churches of the American Baptist Association endorsed the following for the 2022-2023 associational year:

Alaska, Arizona,
Arkansas, California,
Colorado, Florida,
Georgia, Indiana, Iowa,
Kansas, Kentucky,
Louisiana, Maine,
Maryland, Michigan,
Missouri, Nebraska,
Nevada, New Mexico,
New York, North Carolina,
Ohio, Pennsylvania,
Tennessee, Texas, Virginia,
Washington, West Virginia,
Argentina, Belize, Brazil,
Bulgaria, Cambodia,
China, Colombia,
Costa Rica, France, Haiti,
Honduras, India,
Indonesia, Japan,
Kenya, Latvia, Liberia,
Mexico, Peru, Philippines,
Romania, Russia,
South Korea, Spain,
Sweden, Thailand,
Uganda, Ukraine, Vanuatu

154 Missionaries in 28 States and
29 Foreign countries
including 13 newly Recommended
Missionaries

28 Interstate Missionaries on Salary

11 Interstate Missionaries on
Designated Funds

10 Foreign Missionaries on Salary

22 Foreign Missionaries on
Designated Funds

56 National Missionaries on Salary

11 National Missionaries on
Designated Funds

1 Missionary Helper

15 Mission Ministries

*Full salary for Interstate and Foreign Missionaries is now \$4075.00 per month.
The church portion of 20% is \$815.00.*

Photos of Standing Missionary Committeemen and Missionaries at the 96th Annual Messenger Assembly of the ABA in Orlando, Florida

Courtesy of
Grace
PHOTOGRAPHY BY JILL



Committeeman Justin Coburn, TX,
with Secretary-Treasurer of
Missions, Roger Stewart



Missionary Tony Hansen,
Ukraine



Brett Lane, Mission Ministry,
Macedonian Missionary
Service



Committeeman Bob Pogue, AZ



Committeeman and Missionary
Scott Bourland, IN



Missionary Matthew Thompson,
Indonesia



Missionary Walt Emry,
Vanuatu



Missionary Juan Gonzalez,
Mexico



Brandon Rutherford,
Mission Ministry, Ride for God



Petit Gonzalez received a plaque of
appreciation on behalf of her late
father, Bro. Victor Guzman, for his
many years of service on the
Standing Missionary Committee



Bro. Larry Allbritton received a
plaque of appreciation for his
many years of service on the
Standing Missionary Committee



Bro. Les Miller received a plaque
of appreciation for his many
years of service on the
Standing Missionary Committee



Missionary Danny Jones,
Westwood School of Missions



Committeeman H.H. Strickland, AL

For the 2021-2022 associational year,
ABA recommended missionaries reported:

5256 Professions of Faith
635 Baptisms
10 Church-Plants Opened
12 Churches Organized
in 27 States and
27 Foreign Countries

Central Baptist Seminary Acuna, Mexico

In March 2022, Bro. Roger Stewart and Gena had the privilege to go to the Central Baptist Seminary in Acuna, Mexico. Bro. Roger lectured on "Call to the Ministry, the Answer to the Call and the Ordination Process" and five men made their call to the ministry public.



On Friday night, two local pastors, Bro. Oscar Torres and Bro. Ruben Lopez, were ordained to the ministry. Brother Mike Roberts from Hughes Springs, TX and Brother John Bryant from Jacksonville, TX, as well as Brethren Ernesto Gallegos and Juan Flores assisted Brothers Juan Gallegos and Roger Stewart in the ordination service.



Also on Friday night, Branden Case was baptized. Branden is soon to be Bro. Juan Gallegos' son-in-law.



San Pedro, Nueva Rosita and Morelos

After everything was done on Friday night, 42 people boarded a bus and drove through the night to San Pedro. On Saturday evening before services, some of the men stood in the middle of the road and passed out evangelist tracts. Bro. Roger then preached to a good crowd and 2 people accepted Christ.



San Pedro



Nueva Rosita

Early Sunday morning we loaded the bus and went to Nueva Rosita for morning service where Bro. Roger preached to another good crowd and one lady accepted Christ. When the services in Nueva Rosita were completed, we loaded the bus again and continued to Morelos for another service and message preached by Bro. Roger. No souls were saved but many rededicated their lives to Christ.



Morelos



Bro. Juan and his lovely family were faithful to use their musical talent at every location.

Missions that Organized into Churches during the 2021-2022 Associational Year



Bride of Christ MBC, Philippines
June 2021
Pastor Romeo Tobias



Jerusalem MBC, Philippines
June 11, 2022
Pastor Isao Martin



Iglesia Bautista Misionera Fusa
Fusa, Colombia
August 22, 2021
Hno. Julio Mendoza, Pastor



Journey BC
Bloomington, IN
June 4, 2022
Pastor Kevin Pruit



Iglesia Bautista Misionera Monterrey
Monterrey, Colombia
August 15, 2021
Hno. Edgar Lopaz was ordained as
pastor along with two deacons



Westview MBC
Negros Island, Philippines
February 6, 2022
Pastor Roleven Bistis



Grace MBC, Philippines
April 10, 2022
Pastor Ruel Logrosa



Iglesia Bautista Misionera Bosa
Bogota, Colombia
August 20, 2021
Hno. Gilberto Pinzon, Pastor,
one deacon ordained



Journey MBC
Calera, Alabama
October 9, 2021
Pastor Paul Armstrong



Legacy BC
Sarasota, FL
July 2, 2022
Pastor Brett Bell



Ancient Landmark MBC, Philippines
May 15, 2022
Pastor Renald Paracueles

Memories from the Associational Meeting in Orlando, Florida



Missions Night



Missionary Breakfast



Booth Time



Colombia - August 2021



Baptismal service at Iglesia Bautista Misionera Monterrey conducted by Missionary Julio Mendoza



Bro. Edgar Lopez (center) was ordained as pastor along with two deacons at Iglesia Bautista Misionera Monterrey



Bro. Roger Stewart, Bro. Alberto Gelvez, Missionary Julio Mendoza, Bro. Robert Ledford (FL) and Bro. H.H. Strickland (AL)



Minsters wives present were blessed with a gift from the ladies of Iglesia Bautista Misionera Monterrey.



This couple accepted Christ as their Savior during services at Iglesia Misionera Anabaptista in Villavicencio.



This young man was asking questions, with the help of Bro. Gilberto Pinzon, about coming to the States to pursue a Bible education.



We all enjoyed fellowship in the home of Missionary Julio Mendoza and family.

Bogota has a population of 8 million souls that need to hear the Gospel!



IMR - International Missionary Retreat

Ten Missionary teams met together in Sarasota, FL prior to the ABA for the annual International Missionary Retreat. Retreat staff, youth and sponsors from Holland Chapel of Benton AR, and the Missionaries totaled 63 people. It was a great time of fellowship together in the Word and a true retreat. A special thanks to the churches, ladies groups and individuals who provided this time for our missionaries serving on the front lines.

If your church is interested in supporting IMR for 2023, please contact Chase Reynolds at chase_reynolds@wycliffe.org.



World Missions Focus

The World Missions Focus is a dedicated time of mission talks on Wednesday afternoon of the annual ABA Meeting. This year's theme was "Him of Whom They Have not Heard" from Romans 10:14. Rusty Teer, Missionary to Thailand; Eddie Williams, Missionary to Turkana, Kenya; and Doug Wiersema, Director of Westwood School of Missions, spoke passionately on reaching the lost with the news of Jesus. We were challenged to love unconditionally and bring God to people, teach people that "He of Whom" holds power, and get noisy because Jesus is in the house! (Mark 2:1)



Missionary Rusty Teer,
Thailand



Missionary Eddie Williams,
Kenya



Missionary Doug Wiersema,
Westwood School of Missions



Chase Reynolds, Mission Ministries,
World Missions Mobilization Ministry

Photos World Missions Focus speakers courtesy of Grace Photography by Jill

Lecture Week at Instituto Bautista Mexicano

March 2022



Bro. Al Valladares interpreting
for Bro. Roger Stewart

The room was full of
students and guests.



Praying over the students



Students of
Instituto Bautista Mexicano



Right hand of appreciation from
Missionary Daniel Rivas and
Bro. Al Valladares



Bro. Roger Stewart with Missionary
Daniel Rivas and the pastor of his
sending church Bro. Joshua Stacy

I was blessed to be brought up in Church,
To learn of God's love and pow'r and grace.
I'm glad it wasn't just any place,
But a Missionary Baptist Church!

Sometimes I'd just leave God in the lurch,
When this rebellious heart resisted.
But I'm glad Dad and Mom insisted,
"Get up! Get ready to go to Church!"

On the edge of my pew I would perch,
And listen and learn about God's grace,
And be raised to a heavenly place,
In a Missionary Baptist Church!

You can find out without much research,
It's not the building, it's the people.
But from the steps up to the steeple,
It's there for the ones who are the Church!

There's a lot to do, no need to search;
I've led the singing and taught a class.
I've painted walls and I've mowed the grass,
At a Missionary Baptist Church!

There are no finer people on Earth!
Than deacons and Sunday School teachers,
And singers and prayers, and preachers,
At a Missionary Baptist Church!

But I must make this one admission,
There aren't enough of these folks about.
So let's support what a Church sends out,
A missionary Baptist Mission!

by Daniel J. Rice
Interstate Missionary, 1980-1991

"Rubies" I've met along the way:

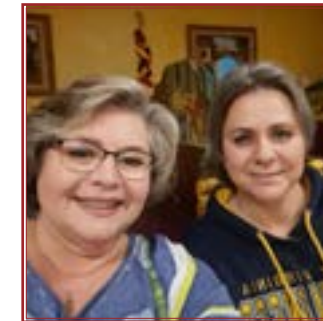
By Gena Stewart



Laura Rivas, Missionary wife
to Daniel Rivas, Mexico



Yolanda Gallegos,
Missionary wife to
Earnesto Gallagos, Mexico



Lily Schrock, Missionary wife
to Eric Schrock, Romania



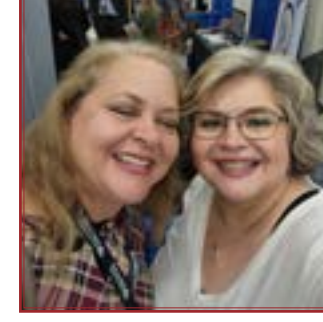
Julie Schoeff, Eyes on Christ
& Missionary wife to Alan
Schoeff, Virginia



Maggie Emry, Missionary
wife to Walt Emry, Vanuatu



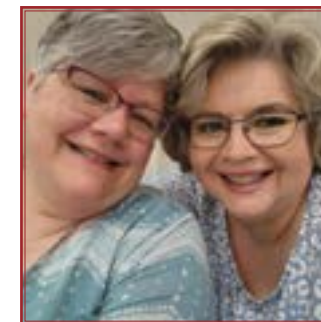
Lisa Crook, Missionary wife
to Freddy Crook, Belize



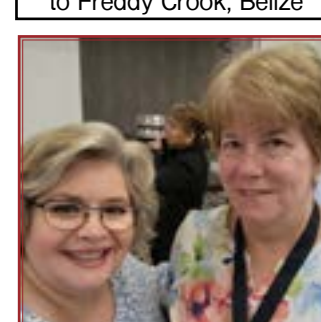
Cindy Gonzalez, Missionary
wife to Juan Gonzalez, Mexico



Yolanda Anzora, Missionary
wife to Julio Anzora,
El Salvador & Arkansas



Kim Wysocki, Missionary
wife to Philip Wysocki,
Michigan



Melanie Austin, Missionary
wife to Damien Austin,
Ukraine



Melissa Molden, Missionary
wife to Terry Molden,
Macedonia Missionary Service



Petit Gonzalez, Missionary
wife to Adolfo Gonzalez,
Mexico



Perlita Meek, Missionary
wife to Temple Meek,
Florida & India



Cissy Hopper, Missionary
wife to Ernie Hopper, Africa



Carla Stansell, Missionary
wife to Paul Stansell,
ABA Disaster Relief

*...her price is
far above
rubies.
Proverbs 31:10*

"Not because I desire a gift:

BUT I DESIRE FRUIT

that may abound to your account."

Philippians 4:17

THANKSGIVING *Missions Offering*

Join us in reaching our goal of

\$325,000

on or before

NOVEMBER 27, 2022

Please send offerings to:

Secretary-Treasurer of Missions, American Baptist Association

PO Box 1050, Texarkana, TX 75504-1050

Phone: 903.792.2312, Email: missions@abamissions.org

