

March 2024

MISSIONS

Zambia A Hub for Spiritual Transformation

Furloughs What They Mean to Missionaries

Germany Helping MKs Thrive Spiritually and Academically

Interview Meet CMML's New President





THINKING IT THROUGH

BY KEITH R. KEYSER

Almost Famous

Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him.¹ Believers' identification with Christ joins us to God's family but also lays us open to the world's antipathy. Unbelieving humankind hated Christ and correspondingly hates His people.² The epitaph of the translator and missionary John Nelson Darby similarly expresses the believer's obscurity in this age; it reads, "As unknown, and yet well known."³ Christians possess a dual identity: they are neglected by the world, yet they are notable to the Lord and His saints. According to Darby, "To whatever degree we enjoy the position of Jesus in heaven, we must also share His position here below, to be hated: it is the practical position of the Christian."⁴ Nevertheless, at His coming, the church will be displayed before the universe as the Lord's brothers and sisters.⁵

Incognito influencers

Contemporary believers internationally labor in building the church. They perform many different tasks for the Almighty's glory, depending on the divinely given gifts they possess. Some pray for ministries around the world; others give material gifts for the support of God's missionaries. Some evangelize, some teach, some write, and others print what is written. Some work as educators, and some use their medical abilities to help others. Some employ mechanical skills in far-flung areas, while others serve as digital messengers, sending forth God's Word on the internet. Translators, pilots, and construction workers all contribute to the Great Commission's fulfillment.

The unbelieving world is largely ignorant of these philanthropic efforts. If it considers such labor, it often responds with criticism or even outright persecution. The message of the cross remains an offense to the lost, and they willfully ignore the believers' positive salt-and-light influence.⁶

Some known, more unknown

Even within the church, many of God's choice servants—of the past and present—have toiled in the shadows. John Wesley is justly famed for his preaching, but what of his friend Silas Todd, whose field was the notorious Newgate Prison in London? George Müller left a legacy of serving the Lord by faith, but few people recall his scholarly friend Henry Craik, who collaborated with him at Bethesda Chapel in Bristol, England.⁷

D. L. Moody is celebrated as one of the greatest evangelists ever. But few people recognize the names of the men who influenced him: Edward Kimball (who led him to Christ), Henry Varley (who challenged him to greater consecration to the Lord), and Henry Moorhouse (who revolutionized his preaching).⁸

The Lord does not promise His servants recognition on earth; instead, His judgment seat is where "each one's praise will come from God."⁹ Currently, the unbelieving world ignores Christ, unaware of His present glorified position. When He returns to physically establish His millennial kingdom, we will accompany Him as members of God's royal family. Though formerly regarded as inconsequential nobodies, we will then be transformed into Christlike administrators of God's kingdom. As Darby's great hymn "And Is It So, I Shall Be Like Thy Son?" says: "All like Thee, for Thy glory like Thee, Lord; object supreme of all, by all adored."

Work for the night comes

In light of God's plan for us, continue serving Him. Remember that "nothing you do for the Lord is ever useless."¹⁰ As C. H. Spurgeon said, "Go on serving God year after year, though you be altogether unknown, feeling it quite sufficient that you have, by the grace of God, served your generation and honored your Redeemer."¹¹ ■

Keith Keyser is a commended worker based in Pennsylvania.

¹ 1 John 3:1. ² John 15:18–25. ³ 2 Corinthians 6:9. ⁴ J. N. Darby, "The Heart of Christ about His Own, Poured Forth into the Heart of the Father," in *The Collected Writings of J. N. Darby: Practical* (Kingston-on-Thames, UK: Stowe Hill Bible & Tract Depot, 1961), 16:113. ⁵ Hebrews 2:11–13; Ephesians 3:10–11. ⁶ 1 Corinthians 1:18–24; Matthew 5:13–16. ⁷ See John Bennett's article in *Precious Seed*, August 2016 (PreciousSeed.org/articles/henry-craik-1805-1866/). ⁸ See John Bjorlie's article in *Uplook*, April 1999 (Uplook.org/1999/04/henry-moorhouse/). ⁹ 1 Corinthians 4:5. ¹⁰ 1 Corinthians 15:58, NLT. ¹¹ C. H. Spurgeon, "On Humbling Ourselves Before God" (sermon no. 1733, Metropolitan Tabernacle, London, UK), in *Metropolitan Tabernacle Pulpit* (London: Passmore & Alabaster, 1883), 29:425.

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COVER PHOTO: Woman in a library—©AdobeStock/Gorodenkoff



Born FROM A Prayer

A CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CENTER
BECOMES A HUB FOR TRANSFORMATION

BY DR. PATRICK & SHERRY COLEMAN



Upon uniting our families and ministries in 1997, Sherry and I established the Christian Resource Center (CRC) in downtown Luanshya, Zambia. We prayed the prayer of Jabez together as a family to determine the direction in which we believed the Lord would take us: "Now Jabez was more honorable than his brothers, and his mother called his name Jabez, saying, 'Because I bore him in pain.' And Jabez called on the God of Israel saying, 'Oh, that You would bless me indeed, and enlarge my territory, that your hand would be with me, and that You would keep me from evil, that I may not cause pain!' So God granted him what he requested." (1 Chronicles 4:9–10)

One of our goals in this joint ministry is to equip local believers for service in the Lord's work, as 2 Timothy 2:2 instructs us: "And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also." Zambian church leaders have told us repeatedly of their frustration over not having the skills and tools to train young believers, encourage them, and prepare them for a life of service in their daily activities.

Comprising what we call the Reading Room, Counseling Center, and Youth Center, as well as a seminar room, the CRC has become a vital resource to a diverse clientele, spanning believers, sincere seekers, and casual inquirers. Our passion for reading, study, and personal application underscores the CRC's role as a hub for church activities, counseling, discipleship, and youth ministry. Emphasizing that books are

tools for serving the Lord, we aim to make these resources accessible to those who might otherwise lack the means. The CRC not only provides a space for learning but also hosts discipleship courses, community Bible studies, marriage seminars, Sunday school teacher education, and Child Evangelism Fellowship programs.

From teeming bookshelves to audible offerings

Books are our primary tool. Our extensive library of more than 4,000 books covers various genres, including Christian fiction, children's books, and Bible commentaries. Many of the books we have acquired over the years are unavailable locally or are too expensive for national believers to purchase. With the help of Everyday Publications, not only does the CRC have books for believers to read and understand, but we have helped Christian leaders create personal libraries at home so they can have the tools required to study, learn, and disciple new believers.

Additionally, we offer Christian films, training videos, and sermons, enhancing the breadth of resources available at the CRC. In partnership with Growing Christians Ministries, we received recordings of "Talks for Growing Christians," a radio program covering the entire Bible with Dr. David Reid (author, radio presenter, and professor at Emmaus Bible College who went home to be with the Lord in 2012). These contributions expanded our audible offerings and have reached into the local Christian radio station.

Left: Sherry and Patrick Coleman serve the Lord at the Christian Resource Center. **Below (from top):** Books are a vital tool for reaching all ages; The CRC's extensive library and long wooden tables create a fitting environment for Bible studies.



A listening ear and prayerful support

For more than 25 years, the CRC has served as a haven for church leaders, youth leaders, theology students, and the broader community. Despite inquiries about relocating to larger cities, we remain committed to Luanshya, where we have been called to minister for God's kingdom. The CRC's accessibility, visibility (it is literally in the center of town), and unique addition of Sherry's therapy dog, Bear, make it a welcoming space for biblical learning, spiritual development, and counsel.

Regarding the latter, Sherry and I are qualified counselors. We offer formal and informal counseling, depending on the person's needs. Some simply walk in the door because, on a banner outside the building, we let people know we offer counseling. Others phone in to make appointments. Some are in college or work outside of Luanshya and, due to the distance, speak with one of us using WhatsApp videoconferencing.

Topics range from dating, premarital counseling, and marriage issues to parental matters and interpersonal relationships. Those who come know we will keep our conversation confidential. This is key, for many will not go to their local church leaders for fear that their issues will be made public. A third party like us alleviates that concern.

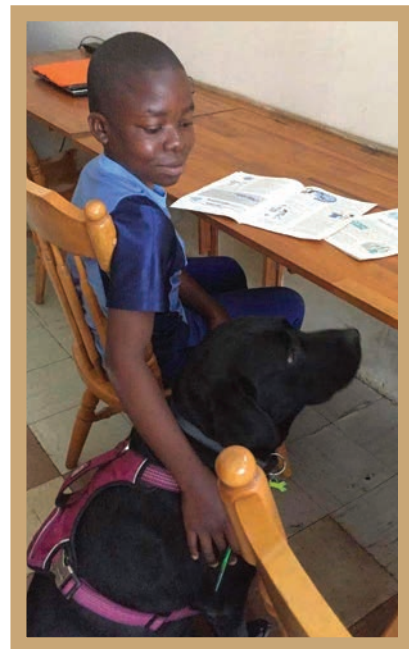
The power of silent comfort

Where does Bear the Therapy Dog come in? Bear helps in the comfort aspect; he calms the distraught. Often, he is lying on his bed in Sherry's soundproofed office when clients come in weeping. They sit on the chair, and Bear comes alongside them and puts his head on their lap. The next thing they know, they are either petting him or crying into his fur. Recently, a mother brought in her 10-year-old daughter, whose grandma had passed away. The girl already knew Bear, and he became part of the grieving process as she told him her story of how lonely she was now that her grandma had gone to Jesus.

Most Zambians are frightened of large black dogs, which are often used here as guard dogs. But, as Sherry walks down

the street with Bear on his leash, children know that he is safe. They will run up to pet him and then hold a conversation with Sherry. Others will stop Sherry and Bear along the roadside and request a picture.

What does this do? It offers silent comfort to those in distress. We didn't plan to have a therapy dog, but God knew what we needed when we acquired Bear eight years ago. Sherry has worked diligently to train him to serve alongside us.



A positive environment

Role models are an important part of a person's spiritual development. All too often, young people emulate high-profile actors, musicians, and athletes whose lifestyles have a negative influence on their fans. After one of the high school students from our assembly commented that he had no place to relax with his friends except the local bars, the Youth Center came into existence. In the Youth Center, designed for high school and college-aged youth, we offer recreational activities and spiritual development—board games, music, and sports in a safe environment free from negative influences.

Sherry herself is a prime example of this method of evangelism. When Sherry was a young person, a friend invited her

Top: Bear, Sherry's therapy dog, silently but lovingly supports visitors. **Below (L-R):** Students enjoy reading books in the CRC library; Patrick trains believers; This believer, Mutuma, recently graduated from the discipleship program.



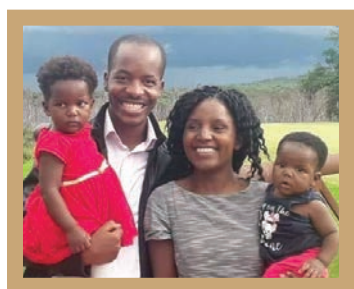
to play volleyball. During those activities, a short Bible study was conducted. Unbeknownst to Sherry, the seed was planted, and the lifestyle of the other young people contributed to her coming to faith and recognizing Jesus as her Messiah.

Our interaction with the youth follows the same format: the young people come to the Youth Center, enjoy the activities, and before leaving, hear a devotional followed by contemporary Christian music and singing. This intentional approach has seen many young individuals grow in spiritual strength and establish a firm foundation for life.



Next door or 200 miles away

The CRC's impact extends beyond Luanshya, notably through the Source of Light Bible correspondence courses. This program, which has nearly 3,900 participants in Luanshya, has influenced sermon preparation and community Bible studies and has even prompted individuals to enter full-time ministry.



While in high school, a young man, Benjamin, walked by the CRC. He came in and inquired about what was going on and what was available for him as a new believer. On the spot, he enrolled in Source of Light. This program became the catalyst

for his future calling. The correspondence lessons transformed Benjamin's life, and he began developing his personal ministry. His local church recognized his gift and sent him to a new church in Kalumbila—a mining town more than 200 miles away. There, he introduced the courses as an evangelistic learning tool.

Today, he is one of the key leaders in this church, which ministers in areas beyond our physical reach. When Benjamin visits Luanshya, we fill a suitcase with books, lessons, and other resources for him to use in his congregation. Sherry gave him the grading keys so he can mark the completed courses where he serves and build up the ministry locally.

Another example is Happy. He also completed Source of Light's entire catalog of lessons. He then



Above (from top): At the Youth Center, teens and young adults enjoy activities such as table tennis; The CRC influenced Benjamin, who now serves in Kalumbila with his family; Happy and his family use the Source of Light program in their growing church.

began serving the Lord through his local church's youth ministry, and the believers noticed his gift of serving among the young. The local church commended him to the grace of God and sent him to plant a church in a rural farming community called Nampamba, about an hour and a half from Luanshya's town center. Today, the local church is thriving, using the same lessons Happy grew up with at the CRC. Happy is now married and has a family, and he continues to serve the Lord faithfully.

Beyond what we could ask or think

Currently, the Christian Resource Center is open Monday through Thursday for three hours in the morning and two hours in the afternoon. Sometimes, we are open on Saturdays for various seminars. As for discipleship, that is a one-to-one program conducted by either of us, depending on the student's gender and their schedule.

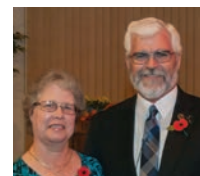
The Lord's blessings have been evident in the CRC's transformative impact on our community and ourselves. As we express gratitude for God's provision, we acknowledge the thousands of lives touched through the CRC's diverse ministries, reflecting the broader significance of our journey beyond the borders we initially envisioned.

Recently, Sherry received this note from a young person she counseled:

Not everyone recognizes the CRC and its significance. However, those who do are led there by God's Spirit because there is someone and something He wants them to discover. Firstly, His Son, and secondly, you. God has been using you in our lives. Your nonjudgmental approach, attentive listening, genuine care, and prayerful support make a difference. I can't imagine what I would have done if the CRC hadn't been there. I walked through that door, and my life changed forever.

That is why we stay! Your prayers and support make this work possible. ■

Dr. Patrick and Sherry Coleman are commended from Bethany Bible Chapel in Toms River, New Jersey.



Please pray for . . .

- the continued security of the CRC facility,
- the maintenance of the equipment,
- wisdom in addressing pertinent topics,
- the expansion of the correspondence ministry,
- those whom we disciple,
- and future seminars.



A MINISTRY IN GERMANY

Helping MKs Understand their Role in the Body of Christ

BY HANNAH MACKENZIE

Growing up, I was blessed to have adults in my life who embodied the presence of Christ. I embraced this blessing, and in high school, I began to take a similar role in the lives of youth. They have an essential role in the body of Christ, and God has consistently led me into spaces that help youth discover their identity in Him and place within the church body. Early on, I saw a vision for my life: through relationship building, I can be an adult who walks alongside youth as they pursue Christ.

I had planned to work as a math teacher after graduating from college. During my senior year, however, I went on a mission trip to Uruguay. There, I met and served missionaries and their children when our team hosted a vacation Bible school. I began to see the beauty and challenges missionary kids experience. They have a global approach to life and faith, but they also face challenges, such as understanding their identity. I longed to be involved in the missions community to work with MKs.

As I pursued the Lord and the longing He had placed in my heart, He led me to Black Forest Academy (BFA), an international Christian boarding school in southwestern Germany

that serves missionaries by caring for their children. When I arrived in 2018, my role was to serve as a resident assistant in the girls' dorm. As a member of residence life, I worked with the other staff in my dorm to care for the students. The responsibilities ranged from supervising students, preparing food, doing laundry, chauffeuring students, helping with homework (especially math), and simply being present. I was directly involved in the students' daily life and served as a role model and parenting figure, all while supporting and encouraging them spiritually.

Today, I continue serving as a dorm helper, and I work in the classroom as a math teacher. I love working with the students and being involved in BFA's many components, from the classroom and extracurriculars to dorm life and spiritual discipleship.

LOCATED IN GERMANY BUT SERVING THE WORLD

About 10 years after World War II, a missionary family from Canada moved to Kandern, Germany, to work in music and radio ministry. In 1956, the family started home-schooling six children. Soon, a school formed and began developing into what BFA is today.

BFA enables missionaries to minister well in their countries of service because they know their children are being cared for. The teachers and staff commonly say, "We serve here so they can serve there." Currently, BFA works with international missionaries from 30 nationalities who represent 60 countries of service. More than 85 percent of BFA's student population comprises the children of Christian workers who serve in Central Asia, the Middle East, northern Africa, and Europe.

There are 265 students in 5th through 12th grade. Middle school is solely for day students and the children of local missionaries or BFA staff, whereas the boarding program is open to 9th- to 12th-grade students.



Black Forest
Academy

Students come to BFA for various reasons. Some desire a North American education system, a safe environment, or educational or social opportunities. For others, the school they attended in their country of service does not offer education up to the age of 18. For one family, unforeseen circumstances caused them to relocate to a new country with a different culture and language. They decided it was best to have their children attend BFA for the remainder of their secondary education. Whatever the reason, the families must decide whether BFA is their best option.

A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO STUDENT GROWTH

BFA has three main programs: residence life, student learning, and student life. In each one, we work with and care for the students so they can thrive socially, intellectually, and spiritually.

Residence life

Six dorms are scattered throughout the town of Kandern. BFA has one girls' dorm, two boys' dorms, and three integrated dorms. The latter allows siblings of different genders to live in the same building. Each dorm has about 20 students, so the residence life program has roughly 120 students in it.

About five staff members serve in each dorm, and their role is to bridge the gap between the students and their parents, who are parenting from afar. The staff create and maintain a place of safety where the students can grow and be healthy—physically, spiritually, mentally, and emotionally. In this life-on-life ministry, the dorm staff come alongside students in their celebrations and grievances by encouraging and challenging them and connecting with their parents about decisions and accomplishments. Creating these spaces is pivotal for the students' growth at school, for it is a natural time for them to make their faith their own.

Student learning

Our mission is to provide quality Christian education that enables students to transform their lives for Christ. BFA receives students from various educational backgrounds and prepares them for their postsecondary plans. Some students had been home-schooled or had done online school, and they came to us because they planned to go to university after graduation.

Some had formerly attended a national school and learned in their country's language. BFA works with students who have changed schooling systems: with their different experiences, they all come together to learn.

For example, math is a subject that is already difficult for some students. The layers of different curriculums and languages may bring them extra challenges. BFA builds off what they know to bridge the gap and get them on the right trajectory for their future.

Student life

Most students haven't had extracurriculars before. Many parents and students are grateful for these opportunities to take on leadership roles or participate in team activities. We offer ministry opportunities, musical theater, team sports, and educational clubs. Students can participate in volleyball, cross-country running, basketball, track and field, and soccer. BFA is part of an athletics league, so our students can be Christ's representatives on the field or court, like many young people in the US.

Some parents visit during major events, such as our high school drama productions. After one parent watched her daughter's first play, she commented that she had always known her daughter would make a great actor but she had never had the opportunity to try until now. With many emotions involved, the mother was grateful to see her daughter with friends and adults who had invested in her.

WITH THE LORD'S HELP

Serving MKs and their parents at Black Forest Academy is a privilege. Stories like the one above encourage us teachers to continue "serving here so they can serve there." We pray that BFA students will understand their role in the body of Christ and, with a firm foundation, glorify Him with their lives. ■



Hannah MacKenzie is commended from Kenilworth Gospel Chapel in Kenilworth, New Jersey.



Opposite page (from top): The student body comprises youth of about 30 nationalities from 60 countries of service; Although the dorms are scattered throughout Kandern, BFA's main buildings are clustered together.

This page (from left): Students sing in their languages; Volleyball is just one of the extracurriculars BFA offers; Parents enjoy seeing their children's talents, whether on the stage or court.



Meet the Sullivans

An interview with CMML's president, Rob Sullivan, and his wife, Susie

Besides the start of a new year, January 1 ushered in another change for CMML: Rob Sullivan stepped into the role of president. Rob is no stranger to CMML. He has long been involved in assembly ministry, leading organizations that share the mission of supporting and furthering the Lord's work, and he has served on CMML's board since 2019. As we welcomed Rob into his new role, *Missions* chatted with him and Susie to learn about their backgrounds and their heart for missions and the Brethren movement.

What part of the US do you consider home?

Rob and Susie: We live in Yonkers, New York, in the same house that I (Rob) grew up in. Just a short walk down the hill is Bethany Chapel, our home fellowship. Susie was raised in Dover, Pennsylvania, and lived in Dubuque, Iowa, for 13 years before our marriage, in 2019.

How were you saved?

Rob: My family attended a church that held a works-based view of salvation. The defining event of my early life was the death of my father when I was five years old. As a result, I thought about death and what happens to a person much earlier than most. When I was 11, I was invited to go to vacation Bible school at Bethany Chapel in Yonkers. There, a dear believer shared the Gospel and led me to Christ.

Susie: My parents shared the Gospel with me as far back as I can remember, and I came to know the Lord as my Savior at an early age. Because I was saved while young, a key understanding for me in the years following was the wonderful reality that my salvation is secure in Him.

What is your background with the Brethren assemblies?

Rob: Colleen Citarella, a dear believer in the Yonkers assembly, led me to Christ. Lyman Gordon, an elder in the assembly, took on the role of father and mentor to me during my teen years. Dr. Dave Reid, a professor at Emmaus Bible College, gave me a love for apologetics and taught me the Scriptures. Ed Drost, another elder at Bethany Chapel, discipled me on what it means to follow Christ. My wife, Susie, and my in-laws, Donald and Connie Henderson, are assembly through and through. The biggest influences in my life have all been people from New Testament-patterned churches. They have modeled for me a love for the Lord and have been tangible demonstrations of His love for me.

Susie: I jokingly say that I have been in the assemblies since I was a week old, and it's true. My parents took my brother and me to all the meetings but, more importantly, lived out a great love for the New Testament principles of gathering. Spending summers at camp, where I met people from across the country, and later, teaching at the assembly-run Emmaus Bible College expanded the breadth of my assembly background, for which I am thankful.

What was your profession before entering full-time ministry?

Rob: From 1996 through 2014, I worked at a financial institution named Morgan Stanley. My main responsibilities were assisting with the launch and running of the firm's information security and information risk departments. In 2015, I joined the staff of Believers Stewardship Services (now known as Legacy Ministry Services). We help Christians with estate planning and

planned giving and assist assemblies and assembly-related ministries with governance matters.

Susie: I spent 10 years as an elementary teacher in Christian and public schools. Later, as the elementary education program director at Emmaus, I trained teachers.

Did that work influence your missions perspective? If so, how?

Rob: I traveled often for Morgan Stanley. Each country I visited had different challenges, needs, and problems. The answer to all of them, though, was found in the person and work of Christ. No matter where I traveled, I sought out other believers. They were my home away from home.

Susie: Working with children creates many natural opportunities to share about the Lord, and my classroom was my mission field. Likewise, teaching is an open door into many countries. I had minored in Spanish and ESL and had planned to teach overseas. I was pursuing a request to teach at Sakeji Mission School in Zambia when the Lord closed the door and directed me to Emmaus. What I didn't expect was the way the Lord brought these two things together: many of my students at Emmaus had a heart for missions and are on the field today, while others faithfully share about Him in their classrooms here at home.

Do you have experience with missions?

Rob: Shortly before Susie and I married, we went to Río Blanco, Mexico, on a mission trip. The team's evangelistic efforts focused on the Nahua people. Numbering nearly 1.5 million Nahuatl speakers, this group was once a majority ethnic group within the Aztec culture. Each day, we and the national believers traveled winding roads into the mountains and went door to door, sharing the Gospel. It was thrilling to see the eager responses and to experience the generous hospitality and sacrificial giving of complete strangers. It was as if the book of Acts were playing out before our eyes.

Susie: Both of us grew up in assemblies with an evangelistic heart and missions focus. While at Emmaus, I drove 87 miles south to Oak Ridge Bible Chapel in Milan, Illinois. The Lord brought the mission field right into this chapel when a large group of Karen people from Myanmar settled in the area. It was exciting to see the amazing things the Lord would do each week—right here! Many have trusted Christ, been richly disciplined, and are now a vital part of the work.

What is your background with CMML?

Rob: The Yonkers assembly was founded in 1904. Since then, we have commended 25 people to the Lord's work. More than half went overseas with the help of CMML. Also, I joined CMML's board in 2019.

Susie: For most of the 1990s, I worked at Greenwood Hills Camp and Conference Center, where CMML was a big part of every summer. The camp would host a missions-focused conference and a week just for missionaries, at which Bill MacDonald would speak. CMML began holding the Missions Orientation Program there in 1993. The *Missionary Prayer Handbook* came to life for me during those summers.

What is your heart for CMML and assembly missions?

Rob and Susie: Bill MacDonald, a former president of Emmaus Bible College, was fond of saying the college was meant to be the handmaiden to the assemblies. In essence, it existed to serve the Brethren meetings. The same can be said of CMML. This ministry serves the meetings as they send forth workers to evangelize the world. We love the assemblies because they are patterned after the New Testament model of gathering and are the way God has chosen to take care of His Son's bride, the church. We love CMML and what it stands for because it serves those precious meetings. And we believe in faith-based missions since it is the New Testament pattern and a wonderful opportunity to see the Lord's hand at work.

Right (L–R): This team, which includes Rob and Susie, witnesses in the mountains of Río Blanco, Mexico; Oak Ridge Bible Chapel reaches the Karen community in its area.



Do you have a favorite missions memory?

Rob: Back in 1988, Dr. Dave Reid led a Bible study tour of Israel for a dozen or so people. Two of those who participated were Bert and Colleen Elliot, CMML missionaries who had been serving in Peru since 1949. Wow, can you imagine having those two all to yourselves for a weeklong trip to the Holy Land? During the day, Dr. Dave would show us where the Savior had walked, and during the evening, Bert and Colleen would tell us how the Savior had worked in their lives. I will never forget those stories—they helped shape my life!

Susie: When I was young, my home assembly, North York Gospel Chapel, along with the meetings in Harrisburg and Lancaster, held monthly missionary meetings, and I have delightful memories of slideshows and missionary reports. This early exposure to missionaries shaped my heart for missions as an adult. Over the years, I became close to David and Grace Croudace. They faithfully served the Lord in Zambia. (David, found on Day 5 of the *Missionary Prayer Handbook*, still serves in Africa; Grace went home to be with the Lord in 2016.) The genuineness and sweetness of their walk with Him were evident in every interaction I had with them. Their influence continues to have a tremendous impact on me.



How can we pray for you?

Rob and Susie: We would be grateful for prayer in two key areas: First, the role of CMML president has always been one of service. It means ministering to the assemblies, CMML's missionaries, its staff, and the board. Each of my predecessors did this task so well. We would appreciate the prayers of the saints as I take on this responsibility—that I, too, might do it well.

Second, please pray for us as we seek to balance the busyness of life and ministry. We desire to be faithful in our love and care for our local assembly, in Rob's work, and in other responsibilities the Lord has blessed us with. Yet, as we serve Him, we want to always keep as our priority "the one thing that is needed." (Luke 10:42) ■



Above (L-R): Grace Croudace and Susie spend time together; The Sullivans explore Jerusalem.



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Visit www.CMML.us/mop for more information and to register.