

# Missions

## The Netherlands A Seminary's Practical Model

**Spain**  
A Ministry Team Magnifies  
Christ

**Ireland**  
A Miraculous Recovery  
from COVID-19

**Bolivia**  
Medical Essentials  
for 3 Towns



# THINKING IT THROUGH

BY SCOTT DUNKERTON

## A Devotion to Seeing Him

The Word of God is simply beautiful. Any obedient-minded child of God who will give himself or herself to the daily reading of and meditating on it will no doubt come to see it as so and find it pure pleasure, saying, as Jeremiah did, “Your words were found, and I ate them, and Your Word was to me the joy and rejoicing of my heart.”<sup>1</sup> It must also be a pleasure for our heavenly Father, for He loves us and desires to feed us in this way, thus making us rejoice, “filling our hearts with food and gladness.”<sup>2</sup>

Do we know anything about that joy? Do we know anything about that gladness? Have we yet to gain the perspective of the psalmist who wrote, “How sweet are Your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth,” and “I rejoice at Your Word as one who finds great treasure”?<sup>3</sup>

Many of us have already “tasted that the Lord is gracious,” and thus, we “desire the pure milk of the Word” and are steadily growing, even onto solid food.<sup>4</sup> However, others may go days, perhaps longer, without being “nourished in the words of faith.”<sup>5</sup> And this simply should not be. The children of God must be in the Word of God. It is elementary. It is fundamental. How the Father’s heart must grieve for every one of His children who fails to believe this and, with His help, develop the disciplines necessary to ensure a daily devotion to the Scriptures.

How he wants to speak to us, and it is heartbreaking that His children consistently prevent Him from doing so simply because they will not spend time in His Word. How He wants to teach, guide, comfort, and correct us. How He wants to acquaint and reacquaint us with all that He did, is doing, and will do so that our hearts are filled with confidence, hope, and joy!

He will be more beautiful and lovely than we experienced or imagined Him to be.

Certainly, one of the most wonderful blessings that the child of God receives is that, by means of the Word of God, faith grows. Would we not say, even for the Christian, that “faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God”?<sup>6</sup> Faith is a most precious possession, for it is the way through which we look upon those things we cannot see.<sup>7</sup> And, of all the things we cannot see yet want to see, nothing could be as desirable to see as our Lord. A growing faith continuously sees Him more clearly, and who could possibly measure the blessing of that?

Oh, think of actually seeing our Savior for the first time in that future day!<sup>8</sup> He will exceed every expectation. He will

be more beautiful and lovely than we experienced or imagined Him to be, and the surprise of it will thrill our souls. How could He be otherwise? How captivated we will be by Him—and eternally so! But we must understand that our Lord does not intend to make us wait till then to see Him and be captivated

by Him. The gaze of faith finds Him now and makes the heart glad. But where do the eyes of faith look to see Him now? They look to the Word of God. Oh, what a remarkable thing this is! By being in the Word of God, our faith can grow, and as our faith grows, we can see our Lord more clearly in the Word of God. What a wonderfully rewarding arrangement!

In some areas, the school year has started, and students will spend much time reading and learning. May each of us, as Christians, be stirred, either initially or afresh, to the reading of and meditating on the Word of God so that we might be nourished; that we might flourish; and especially, that we might learn more about our lovely Savior, looking with the eyes of faith upon the beauty of the One Whom we shall soon see actually. ■

*Scott Dunkerton is a commended worker based in New Jersey.*

<sup>1</sup> Jeremiah 15:16. <sup>2</sup> Acts 14:17. <sup>3</sup> Psalm 119:103, 162. <sup>4</sup> 1 Peter 2:2–3; 1 Corinthians 3:2; Hebrews 5:12–14. <sup>5</sup> 1 Timothy 4:6. <sup>6</sup> Romans 10:17. <sup>7</sup> 2 Corinthians 4:18. <sup>8</sup> 1 John 3:2.

Vol. 49, No. 9. Christian Missions in Many Lands (ISSN 0744-4052) is published eleven times a year by Christian Missions in Many Lands, Inc., Belmar, New Jersey. Periodical postage paid at Belmar, New Jersey, and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send United States address changes to Christian Missions in Many Lands, Inc., PO Box 13, Spring Lake, NJ 07762. Send Canadian address changes to MSC Canada, 101 Amber Street, Suite 16, Markham, Ontario L3R 3B2. MSC Canada publication agreement Number 40026478. All correspondence, including address changes, gifts for missionary work, and for expenses should be sent by Canadian readers to MSC Canada, 101 Amber Street, Suite 16, Markham, Ontario L3R 3B2 and by United States readers to Christian Missions in Many Lands, Inc., PO Box 13, Spring Lake, NJ 07762. Copyright © CMML. All rights reserved.

FRONT COVER: Windmills in the Netherlands—T. J. Marinello BACK COVER: Tuscany—©iStockPhoto.com/mammuth





# Teamwork in Spain

## Magnifying Christ Together

BY CAROLYN VARGAS & RANDALL BINNIE

Located in southwestern Europe, Spain is a member of the European Union and borders four nations—Portugal, France, Andorra, and Morocco (through the autonomous cities Ceuta and Melilla)—and the British Overseas Territory Gibraltar. Spain’s population is approximately 47 million people, and Madrid represents about 14 percent of that total. Other highly populated cities include Barcelona, Seville, and Valencia—some of tourists’ favorite Spanish destinations. The country is multicultural with citizens from many people groups, heritages, and worldviews. The official language is Spanish (Castilian). Certain Spanish communities and territories have their own official languages: Catalan, Basque, and Galician. The Spanish mainland has one time zone; however, the Canary Islands, a Spanish autonomous community located near Africa, are one hour behind.

Politically, Spain is a constitutional monarchy, meaning it has a constitution that states its values and a king (Philip VI) who is the head of state, but a national government runs the country’s daily operations. Currently, Pedro Sanchez is Spain’s president, and his political party is the Spanish Workers Socialist Party. Other political parties participate in parliamentary sessions, endorsing differing viewpoints to ensure a balance of power and represent Spain’s diverse population. Much like the US’s states and Canada’s provinces and territories, Spain has 17 autonomous communities and two autonomous cities. Each one has a president to whom the Spanish government delegates specific responsibilities. In the late 20th century, after transitioning from a dictatorship to a democracy, Spain rejected Roman Catholicism as its official religion and, today, declares itself a secular nation.<sup>1</sup>

### Spain’s assemblies

Beginning more than 150 years ago, assembly work is one of Spain’s oldest evangelical ministries. During the Franco dictatorship, many of the assemblies flew foreign flags on their buildings, which enabled them to remain open. When the Franco regime ended in 1975 and the country reopened to foreign missionaries, many existing evangelical works accepted help from different missions boards, resulting in a variety of practices and beliefs today. The meetings that would identify as Brethren assemblies are grouped together and coordinated by various organizations.

### Our team

Our team is a close-knit group of volunteers who seek to teach others to walk with God daily, wherever they are and in whatever denomination they fellowship. Most of our team members work full-time jobs apart from their ministry responsibilities, and we desire to see people saved as we serve the Lord.



**Top:** Spain is known for its stunning castles and monuments, including the Castle of Loarre in Huesca Province. **Above:** Team members from the central office gather weekly for a Thursday-night Bible study.

Our ministry comprises three offices: the northern office, the central office, and the southern office. A woman who fellowships in a local assembly runs the northern office; the southern office successfully planted a church; and the central office (where we work) helps a struggling assembly in a neighboring town while, for a time, both couples on the team cared for aging parents. This spring, the parent of our coworkers, Javi and Eva, went home to be with the Lord, and Randall joined the work. For the last few years, I (Carolyn) periodically traveled to the US to care for my mom. In July, I assumed her full-time care indefinitely.

### Our literature work

As distributors of sound Christian literature in Spain, we serve many people from our print shop. In the past, Emmaus correspondence courses trained many Spanish Christians, and we continue to serve them through the book tables we run at assembly conferences. Today, our primary audiences include people in prisons and drug rehabilitation centers and the Gypsy community. Our three offices distribute and grade correspondence courses in the mainland, and a faithful couple leads the work in the Canary Islands.

From the print shop in our (the Vargases') home, our team publishes and distributes *La Voz*, the publication that Editorial DIME creates, for churches and mission workers. It is a quarterly publication that we can distribute consecutively or as a one-time tract. From our location, Editorial DIME enables us to provide the Spanish-speaking world with other publications.

Our team translated and developed the Spanish version of the "Bibletime" ("Mibiblia") booklets, created by Bible Educational Services (BES). Through the BES website and Postal Bible School, believers in Northern Ireland distribute the booklets free of charge to schools, churches, and individuals. We are in the process of translating the teacher guidelines into Spanish.

### Unique opportunities

The COVID-19 pandemic hit Spain hard, and many people passed away during the outbreak's first weeks. We are looking forward to the future as Spain reopens. In the coming months, Gil, Javi, Paco, and Randall will resume our local church-plant with several people who were saved recently or are interested in the Gospel.

Two positive outcomes of the lockdown are the shifting of my (Carolyn's) ministries to an online platform and the forming of a Zoom group for people who do not experience regular Christian fellowship. I can teach English classes and Bible studies from the US while I care for my mom. To provide fellowship for those who can't meet in person, we will continue our Zoom group after our local assembly reopens. I can regularly join this group from the States too.

However, the lockdown brought some negative consequences. We had to stop the Bible study in the prison and the ministry in the drug rehabilitation center. We miss personal contact with other believers, but since we spend so much time at home, we reach some of our neighbors in practical ways. The Lord has His plans!



**Above (L-R):** The Vargases and Randall serve in Salamanca, a university town on Spain's western side; With some preparation, the Vargases can use their garden for ministry events; In La Rinconada, Seville, the southern-office team members share a meal.



Above (clockwise from top left): Before the lockdown, Gil helped Randall arrange his treatments for Crohn's disease at the local hospital; Gil, Carolyn, and Randall promote correspondence courses at a Bible conference in Galicia, Spain; Randall, Gil, Carolyn, and northern-office team members fellowship together.

## The newest member

I (Randall) am a newly commended worker from Downtown Outreach Bible Chapel in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. In January 2020, I joined Gil and Carolyn and the team after an eight-week orientation visit in the spring of 2019. Although I recently relocated to Spain, I have already seen the Lord's timely provision and providential leading. Upon my arrival, God enabled me to rent an apartment in Salamanca from Javi and Eva. Before the COVID-19 pandemic and mandatory confinement, I arranged my internet and phone service and opened a Spanish bank account. During the lockdown, these details became important because I regularly contacted believers in Spain, through online meetings, and friends and family in Canada. Additionally, I completed a 10-week Spanish language and culture training course via Zoom. I obtained my Spanish residency card shortly before the government offices closed on March 14, so I did not have to leave Spain before my 90-day visa expired.

Before the lockdown, I became established, with Gil's assistance, at the local hospital. I have Crohn's disease and require infliximab biologic medication (Remicade) every eight weeks. Amazingly, after my insurance company rejected my first medication-expense claim in February, the Lord answered prayer, and in June, the insurance company reversed its decision. Now, my insurance reimburses up to 80 percent of the treatment's cost.

In March, the Lord challenged my faith by giving me a choice: I could return to Canada and receive my treatments there, or I could trust Him to provide for the treatments in Spain. By His grace, I am happy that I trusted Him and stayed. I have so much

I am thankful for—the Lord is faithful! My ongoing desire is to help the team advance the Lord's kingdom and work in Spain.

## Prayer requests

In August, we hoped to hold a young people's retreat at our (the Vargases') home in Casas de Monleón. However, due to the resurgence of COVID-19 cases, we had to cancel it. Please pray that the Lord will enable us to hold the retreat at a later time.

Pray for Carolyn's transition to caring for her mom in the US and her virtual involvement in the ministry in Spain. Randall's next hurdle is acquiring his Spanish driver's license. Pray for him as he learns to drive a manual transmission and takes theoretical and practical tests. ■



Carolyn Vargas and her husband, Gil, are commended from Arbor Oaks Bible Chapel in Dubuque, Iowa, and Northgate Chapel in Durham, North Carolina.



Randall Binnie is commended from Downtown Outreach Bible Chapel in Ottawa, Ontario.



<sup>1</sup>This and preceding facts obtained from Instituto Cervantes, *Manual para la Preparación de la Prueba de Conocimientos Constitucionales y Socioculturales de España*, 2020. <https://exámenes.cervantes.es/es/manual-ccse-2020>.





# TAKING UP THE CHARGE

## TYNDALE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY MODELS 2 TIMOTHY 2:2



BY T. J. MARINELLO

One of the apostle Paul’s final charges to Timothy is found in 2 Timothy 2:2: “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.” This verse summarizes the dynamic ministry of Tyndale Theological Seminary in the Netherlands, just outside of Amsterdam (Tyndale-Europe.edu).

Since its inception in 1985, Tyndale has had the joy of teaching and mentoring students from more than 80 countries and a variety of Christian denominations. Tyndale’s multinational staff and self-supporting missionary faculty serve the students during their two- or three-year master’s degree programs.

### A COMMON BOND

How can such a diverse group gather in one community? Because all who attend classes or work at Tyndale have a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ! Moreover, the faculty are theologically conservative Christians who are active in the local church and committed to building up the body of Christ by investing in the students’ lives.

Tyndale offers a focused, Bible-centered curriculum in three primary departments: biblical languages, systematic and historical



theology, and intercultural studies and practical ministries. Comprehensive study of Greek, Hebrew, and the Bible’s doctrines and their outworking in church history forms the firm foundation on which instruction in missions, the local church, and parachurch ministry is built. Working in support of these three departments is a fourth whose faculty help Tyndale’s students improve their English, research, and writing skills.

At Tyndale, teaching is done formally and informally in several settings. The classroom is the primary means of formal education. Periodically, faculty hold smaller, tutorial-style classes in their offices. Informally, lessons are “taught” via the faculty’s custom of spending time with the students over lunch or in their homes through hospitality.

Often, my wife, Patti, and other faculty spouses prepare meals or bake treats for the students to enjoy between classes, and they gather for prayer times. Staff members who live near the seminary frequently open their living rooms for get-togethers and their backyards for cookouts. Whether in the classroom, dining hall, or home, Tyndale faculty and staff strive to teach and model what it means to be followers of Jesus Christ.

### AN EDIFYING GOAL

For the last 20 years, Patti and I have been privileged to be associated with Tyndale’s work. Our move to the Netherlands in 2000 followed seven years in Dubuque, Iowa, committed to Emmaus Bible College’s ministry. Since we arrived at Tyndale,

**Top (L–R):** Tyndale Theological Seminary prepares its students to teach others; Students Sokol, from Albania, and Vandyck, from Ghana, enjoy a meal together; Tom chats with Artur, a Tyndale graduate, at the 2019 commencement. **Above:** Tyndale’s community comprises believers from many backgrounds and countries. **Right:** Near Tyndale, flower fields create beautiful scenery.



I have taught courses in the three primary departments, especially during my early years when resident faculty numbered about five. Since my start as an instructor, the Lord has graciously sustained us, and now, I serve as the professor of systematic and historical theology.

Over the decades, I have served in various senior administrative posts. While I serve primarily as a classroom professor and mentor, charged with making 2 Timothy 2:2 a reality, my present administrative responsibilities are serving as editor of the seminary's book series and as director of spiritual formation (mentoring).

It is a privilege to stand before the students and consider together the Lord's hand in building His church or examine God's self-revelation regarding His church, sin, and salvation in the Bible—the areas of doctrine I teach. Another privilege is mentoring a small group of men each year. We gather in my office or meet one-to-one during our lunch hour. These activities are great privileges because, besides imparting knowledge, Tyndale exists to challenge the students to be conformed more to Christ's image, whether they possess years of ministry experience or seek formal study as they await how and where the Lord will use them. Some will serve in or return to full-time ministry, and others will minister in bivocational settings. One

2020 graduate, Patrick, hopes to become the mayor of his city in Ghana, a position from which he can live out his biblical convictions with integrity.

### GLOBAL MINISTRIES

How has Tyndale's ministry made a difference and helped further the Lord's work? The answer is evident in the ministries and locations of Tyndale's graduates. While less than 400 students have graduated from Tyndale over its 35-year history, the Lord has brought through its doors men and women who go on to serve Him in a variety of ministries, impacting the world with the Gospel.

Mang, a recent graduate, is from the assemblies in Myanmar, and he returned home to teach at Southeast Asia Bible College in Yangon—but not only there. He desires to share the Gospel with Myanmar's children and to raise up the next generation as Christ's disciples. Myanmar's best schools are Buddhist, and most families try to send their children to them, even if they are not Buddhist. So Mang started a school with a Christian perspective. He teaches at the Bible college and runs the school in addition to his ongoing assembly ministry.

Ivan and Žana, from Serbia, completed their degrees at Tyndale and, for several years, served in Cyprus, where Ivan helped lead a local church. Last year, they moved to Padua, Italy, to plant a church. Although their city is in one of Italy's COVID-19 hot spots, they continue to evangelize via personal contacts and will restart home Bible studies soon.

Another graduate, Fares Marzone is from Italy and its assemblies and serves there primarily. For years, he was the president



**TYNDALE FACULTY AND STAFF STRIVE TO TEACH AND MODEL WHAT IT MEANS TO BE FOLLOWERS OF JESUS CHRIST.**

## PRAY FOR TYNDALE'S GRADUATES AS THEY SERVE THE LORD IN THE FOUR CORNERS OF THE WORLD.



of Istituto Biblico Evangelico Italiano (IBEI) in Rome and helped found Opera Missionaria Evangelica dei Fratelli Italiana (OMEFI), the Italian equivalent of CMML.

Vladimir, from Ukraine, is another graduate. He serves as the academic dean of Zaporozhye Bible College and Seminary. One of my Tyndale colleagues keeps in contact with the Bible college and recruits people to teach modular courses there for a week or two. In the fall of 2021, I will teach on the doctrines of sin and salvation at Zaporozhye. My translator will be one of Tyndale's graduates: either Olga, who works with orphans, or Nadiya.

In recent years, Tyndale has welcomed many Anglican students from Rwanda. Jean-Pierre, an Anglican minister, completed his degree with distinction a few years ago. Since he finished his degree, the seminary published his master's thesis, which poses a model of biblical peacemaking in Rwanda—quite significant since he endured the horrors of the country's 1994 genocide. Recently, the Anglican Church of Rwanda, a biblically conservative part of the worldwide Anglican church, selected Jean-Pierre to be a bishop. Thus, he is well placed "to teach others also"—many others—from where the Lord has placed him.

Other Tyndale alumni include Timothy, a believer in Cameroon who pastors in a war-torn area. He serves faithfully, even though his family members were murdered in the conflict, the churches and homes of people in his care were burned, and many children lost their parents.

Dave, an American student who completed his degree in June 2020, serves in a similar setting. He is receiving specialized training in the US for a few months before he returns to

his work as a member of the Free Burma Rangers. This Christian nongovernmental organization and its members minister to the physical needs of people in conflict zones, like Myanmar, Syria, and Iraq, and share the Gospel with them. Soon, Dave will serve once again in some of the world's most dangerous areas. We are humbled to teach and mentor students like Timothy and Dave.

### PRAYER REQUESTS

First, please pray for Tyndale's graduates as they serve the Lord in the four corners of the world. Pray for God's hand of grace and provision as they minister. Second, please pray for the seminary as students, staff, and faculty make the same adjustments that all schools and local churches are making due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Finally, please pray for me as I minister at the seminary in addition to other work: writing and editing, helping with conferences, and preaching at the local Dutch assembly where Patti and I fellowship. Pray for me as I prepare to teach at Zaporozhye in 2021. Pray for strength and wisdom for these tasks—especially as I teach, mentor, and counsel Tyndale students, practicing the charge of 2 Timothy 2:2. ■



*Dr. Tom and Patti Marinello are commended from Garland Bible Chapel in Garland, Texas.*



**Top:** Windmills dot the landscape outside the Marinellos' front door. **Above (L-R):** Three Tyndale students celebrate their graduation; A student takes an exam; In 2019, Tyndale welcomed 100 students and staff from around the world.



**M**y greatest joy in life is serving God. My husband, Colin, and I are full-time workers in Dublin, Ireland. Colin is an elder in our assembly, and for the past 22 years, he has taught Bible Explorer to children, ages 10 to 12, in primary schools. I help with the women's ministry in our assembly, and for the past 17 years, I have been involved in ladies' Bible studies in the assembly and with a local group of women.

### A TROUBLING DIAGNOSIS

For many years, I have suffered from chronic lung disease. I must be careful not to get sick. If I do, I need an antibiotic, extra steroids, a nebulizer, and more than likely, a five-day stay in the hospital because it affects my lungs. Near the end of 2019, Colin and I praised the Lord that I had not been in the hospital that year. But, on December 28, 2019, an ambulance rushed me to the hospital because I had trouble breathing. After five days, the hospital sent me home, and I didn't start to recover until the end of January.

By early March, the COVID-19 pandemic reached Ireland, so I decided to self-isolate. On March 23, I didn't feel well, and the doctor prescribed antibiotics. I didn't improve, and on March 26, the doctor suggested I go to the emergency room. After a few tests, the doctor felt I didn't need to stay, so I went home. That night, my condition deteriorated, and I showed COVID-19 symptoms.

The next morning, the doctor sent me back to the ER, and I tested positive for COVID-19. I sent Colin a message telling him not to worry because I was in God's hands.

### A WORSENING CONDITION

The diabetic consultant told me how serious my condition was. I remember responding, "If I recover from COVID-19, it is all

for God's glory, and should God decide to call me home, I have a place ready and waiting for me to be with Him."

On Sunday, I watched a televised church service, and the preacher spoke on the revived dry bones in Ezekiel 37 and Christ's raising Lazarus from the dead in John 11. As I thought through the message, it was as if God said, "I will bring you through this." By Tuesday, March 31, my condition deteriorated more, and the medical staff put me on a five-day drug program. The doctor phoned Colin to explain my situation.

### A HEALED WOMAN

Colin called Echoes International (UK) and MSC Canada for urgent prayer. People called, sent emails and texts, and posted messages on social media. On Tuesday, April 7, I worsened, but I didn't realize the medication was working. At 3:00 a.m., I awoke with the realization that something had changed. I sent Colin a message immediately. Prayers were answered; God was working. Finally, on Colin's birthday, I came home from the hospital healed.

Colin and I were spectators of God's work through people like you because you prayed. And today, I am a healed woman. It will take time to be fully restored, but I like what God is doing in my life. We are conscious that, for some people, the outcome is different. Our prayers are with their families. Psalm 126:3 is a fitting tribute to what God has done in my life: "The Lord has done great things for us, and we are glad." ■



*Rosemary and Colin Sheldon are commended from Salway Evangelical Church in England, Bethany Chapel in Toronto, Ontario, and Hilltop Chapel in Toronto, Ontario.*

# RESPONDING TO COVID-19 IN BOLIVIA

Medical Essentials for 3 Towns

BY ENOEL & LEISA SUAREZ

We express our gratitude to God, our friends, and fellow believers for their contributions to purchasing essential medical equipment and medications for Guayara, San Ramón, and Baures—towns in Bolivia’s Beni Department—in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Guayara

After purchasing the medications, we sorted, bagged, and loaded them into our truck to take to the airport the next day. Pilot John Bremer and SAM mission partnered with us to deliver the medication to those in need, and we are thankful for their assistance. The medications were safely delivered to Dr. Adela Freitas, the woman in charge of the committee that the Christian leaders in Guayara formed. At the back of a local church, they set up a clinic where a medical team cares for COVID-19 patients free of charge. The doctors work hard. From 6:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m., after working their regular jobs, they care for patients with COVID-19. We sent biosecurity equipment to protect the doctors while they attend to the patients. Also, we distributed monetary gifts to the workers. We are thankful for all who are giving to and praying for us and the ministry. Through your support, we delivered the medications, paid the transportation fees, and supplied the medical team with protective equipment.



**Above:** The church in Guayara runs a small clinic at the back of its building.



**Right:** The Christian doctors in Guayara wear new biosecurity suits.

## San Ramón

As people heard about this ministry, they offered to help with the shipment of supplies to San Ramón. The medication was delivered to the village via land, and the doctors at the hospital received it. When the medications arrived, eight Christian doctors from other cities offered to help the doctors in San Ramón treat the COVID-19 patients. The Christian church in the town is verifying that the hospital uses the medications for those who need it most. Please keep this town, the doctors, and patients in your prayers.



**Left:** A pastor and a nurse from San Ramón give the medications to local Christian doctors.

## Baures

Again, people heard and assisted with the dispatch of pharmaceuticals—this time to Baures. We were able to send IV therapy equipment, biosecurity suits for the doctors and lab technicians, and an oxygen generator to the local hospital. After covering the flight cost to deliver the medicine, we still have funds to work with. We plan to help the villages of Santo Corazón and San Fernando. Thank you for your support and prayers for this ministry. ■



**Above (from left):** Enoel prepares the medication for air transportation to Baures; Pilot John Bremer is ready to fly the shipment to Baures. (Photo courtesy of John Bremer.)



*Enoel and Leisa Suarez are commended from Southdale Bible Chapel in London, Ontario.*

# Ask a Missionary

Missions work around the world is often very different from what friends and family at home encounter day to day. So, to learn about life on the field while getting to know our missionaries better, we asked them to share their firsthand experience or advice.

## QUESTION: What are some ways you are involved in your local community? Has helping with practical matters opened the door for spiritual discussions?

### BRAZIL

Jeanne Lipsi



With the COVID-19 pandemic's onset, many doors have opened since people are more sensitive to the Gospel. I am unable to teach the Bible in the schools right now, but I keep in touch with a few students and their parents and help them with practical needs, such as food or utility expenses. With the practical help, I always offer a tract, Bible, or New Testament. The chapel helps the community through food baskets that we all contribute to. We also visit the elderly in the chapel, taking their medications to them or stopping by to chat with them since they are lonely.

### ZAMBIA

Tim & Joy Beer



First, the mission hospital is a great channel for spiritual discussions. When people are sick, they come to the hospital for help, and they have an open ear for the Gospel. Everyone in this area knows about the hospital, so our acceptance during village outreaches is based on the medical work. Second, we run a village for the elderly, which opens doors for people to know whom we are and why we are here. Third, we operate a nursery school that provides early education from a spiritual foundation. Fourth, the boarding school in Kayombo is a practical way to reach young people with the Gospel. Finally, many people in this area are in need, so every day, we receive practical requests from people who come to our home. When they visit us, we have opportunities to show them God's love, share the Gospel, and give them gospel literature.

### URUGUAY

Dirk & Milca Hinnenthal



Over the years, we have learned that many people in our area receive visits out of respect, without real interest, so it cannot be called an open door yet. But, when special circumstances arise in people's lives, they are opportunities to step in with practical help. For example, the mother of three children who come to our Sunday school lost her husband while she was very sick herself. As an underprivileged family, they did not have a washing machine, so we provided one. The woman was so happy that she made a protective fabric cover for it! And yes, the door to their home is open to us. Sometimes, we take a food basket to them. Certainly, practical help opens doors, and discussions about spiritual things are possible. Another positive aspect is that, in the transparent Latino culture, neighbors are always watching. We may get their attention too.

### CROSS-CULTURAL MINISTRIES

Dan & Cyndi Williams



One of the doors that opened for us in Freedom and Watsonville, California, is helping farmworker families with repairs to their homes, which their landlords often neglect. Our team painted a couple of bedrooms for one family, and then, they invited us for dinner a few days later. At dinner, the middle son, Rudy, asked how much we would charge him to paint his room. I (Dan) told him we don't charge our friends for help and asked if he would help me paint, which he agreed to. A few days later, I talked with him and his younger brother Jonas while we painted the room. We talked about the Lord for several hours, and when we finished painting, Rudy was proud of his new bright orange and yellow room. Meeting practical needs gave us an open door to minister in this home and gives us opportunities to reach other homes.

**ASK YOUR QUESTIONS!** Visit [CMML.us/askamissionary](https://www.cmml.us/askamissionary) to submit your question—it might be selected for a future issue!