

Ukraine Through Missionary Eyes

**The Mallay Family:
Faithfulness in the
Face of Death**

**A Day in the
Life of a Medical
Missionary**

**The Quechua People:
Modern-Day Incas**



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WHO IS ABWE?

ABWE was founded in 1927 as an independent Baptist mission. Supported by a network of 400 like-minded churches, we are a global family of ministries, dedicated to fulfilling the Great Commission by multiplying leaders, churches, and missions movements among every people. Currently, more than 1,000 ABWE missionaries are reaching the lost in 84 countries through evangelism, discipleship, church planting, leadership development, and national partnerships.

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EDITORIAL

FROM THE PRESIDENT



A Season of Faithful Fruitfulness

BY PAUL L. DAVIS | ABWE PRESIDENT

As a pastor, I usually know what to say—a Scripture, an encouragement, a bit of advice. Ministry does that to you.

Yet when people ask how things are going at ABWE, I'm speechless—because I don't know how to describe the Lord's unbelievable kindness.

Our mission family is continually growing. Our missionaries are reaching new people groups. Our supporters are being radically and sacrificially generous during economically challenging times. And I haven't even mentioned the stories of salvation from around the world.

Of course, missionaries still face challenges—hostile governments, illness, and even a child's death. Yet God's faithfulness has been simply indescribable.

Our goal right now, in this season of blessing, is to be both fruitful and faithful. We don't want to take God's blessing for granted. Instead, we're using what God has given us—like the tree of Psalm 1, with roots deep enough to draw water even during drought.

We don't know the future, but we know God's plans are good (Jeremiah 29:11, Romans 8:28).

As you explore this issue of Message, marvel with me at these stories of fruitful faithfulness, and join us in planting our roots deep in Christ. Time is short, and eternity matters.

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Like many Ukrainians, Caleb Suko was startled awake by the distant echo of bombs and the disturbing news that Russia had attacked Ukraine—starting yet another global refugee crisis.

The Mallay Family: Faithfulness in the Face of Death

When missionary kid Arwen Mallay passed away in February, she fulfilled her wish: to pass into eternity on the mission field in Togo, where she knew she belonged.



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ON THE COVER
Meet Lenuta—
read her story
on p. 11

Photo by
Cody G.

Connections



Thailand

DANIEL AND KATIE LAMB

“On March 11, 2022, we celebrated the one year anniversary of a church plant in Bangkok, Thailand. The church was started from a cell group that had been running for about four years.”



Papua New Guinea

PHIL & JAN SMITH

“After COVID hit our area hard last year, many of our ministries, including our Awana program, were put on hold. This year, we were finally able to host Awana again and had 78 children and leaders attend! We are very thankful for each clubber and leader and especially the new leaders that came out to help this year.”



A Boy Named ‘Joseph-God-Saved’

LOCATION: SOUTHEAST ASIA

Alone in the dark. Waiting for the old woman to come home. The only sound echoing in the one-room hut was the growling of his stomach.

The boy had been alone for years. His father had abandoned him when he was a few months old, and his mother soon after. The only person who offered to take him in was an elderly woman in the village.

For two years, the elderly woman did her best to care for him. But to feed him, she had to leave him alone for hours every day when she worked at the tea plantation.

Unable to walk and barely able to crawl, the little boy spent his days alone, locked in the hut, surrounded by silence. No one heard his cry. No one

held him. No one comforted him or even touched him.

For two years, this continued. Until the boy was little more than skin and bones. One day the older woman looked at him and knew she couldn't keep him alive. So, she began to walk around saying, “Anyone who wants a boy come get him.”

But no one wanted him—until Kway, a local missionary, visited this town.

The people living there were unreached and dear to his heart because his wife had grown up among them. When he heard the woman, he decided to follow her to the hut.

Hand shaking from age, the woman turned the key in the lock and opened the door, revealing a small child sitting on the floor.

Radiating joy, the boy smiled up at Kway, welcoming him to the space. In that moment, Kway knew he couldn't leave him alone anymore. Quickly closing the distance between the two, Kway picked him up and began the journey home.

A few months before, Kway's wife had given birth to their first child, so they couldn't take the boy in themselves. But their ministry partners welcomed him into their home and named him “Joseph-God-Saved” in his native language. ■

**Name has been changed for security reasons*



A New Start for New Life

LOCATION: PERU

Located in Peru, New Life Prenatal Center has flourished this year. In 2021, gifts from our generous Global Gospel Fund partners saved the center and will allow its doors to remain open for all of 2022. Because of this, New Life Prenatal Center has seen a year of physical and spiritual growth, celebrating its 23rd anniversary in February.

At the beginning of the year, missionaries Evelyn and David Stone and Director Marlen Talledo decided to expand the center's ministry, adding on the Life and Hope Biblical Counseling Center for both men and women and New Life Publications. At the same time, the center launched an updated

version of their website with an online system to make appointments. In just three months, 35 pregnant women requested appointments through the online portal and 52 people scheduled counseling visits with Life and Hope. From a year of uncertainty came growth and blessing. ■



SPAIN

ADAM AND EMILY BYERLY

“ We have met and connected with more Spaniards than we ever have over these last 8-10 years! ”

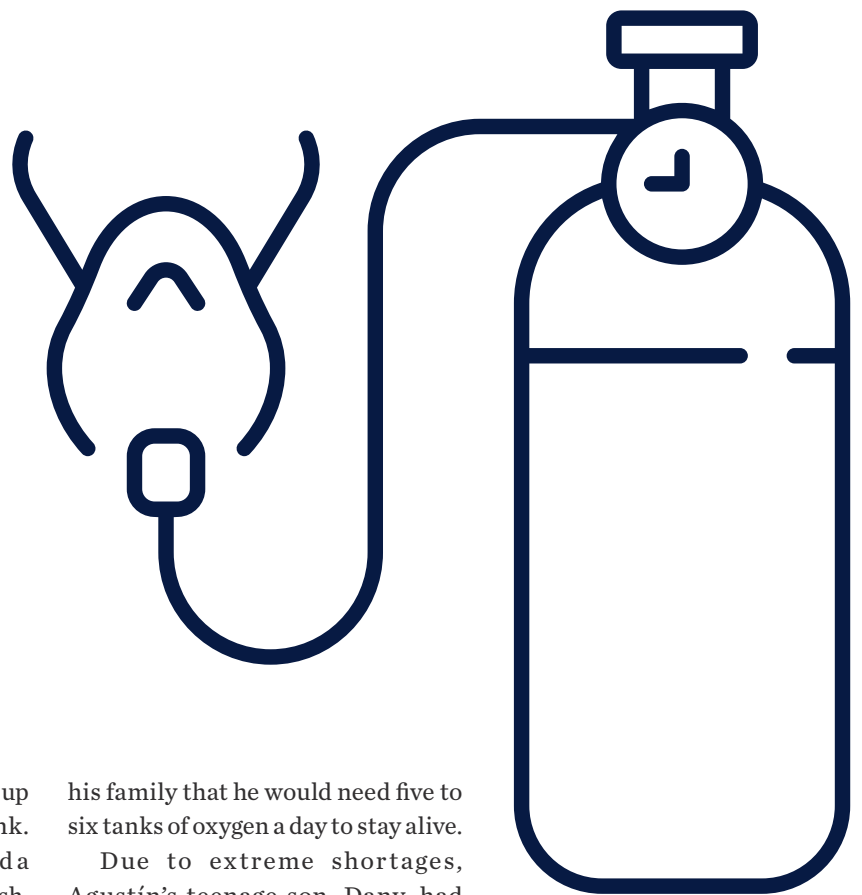
Adam and Emily Byerly prayed for creative ways to build relationships with the Spanish community. God provided the funds, permits, and building needs for a coffee shop and they recently opened Brilla Café. You can learn more about Brilla Café online at brillacafe.com and follow them on Instagram @brillacafe.

Trusting God for Breath

BY LINDSAY

LOCATION: PERU

A Peruvian pastor and his family celebrate God's provision during the COVID-19 crisis.



Tessy wiped away tears as she hooked up her father to the empty oxygen tank. “God,” she pleaded, “if you could feed a multitude with five loaves and two fish, please multiply this oxygen to save my father’s life!”

Tessy’s father, Agustín Sandoval, a veteran pastor and church planter, had fallen ill with COVID-19 when the pandemic swept through their hometown of Iquitos, Peru.

The sick and dying flooded the only hospital designated for COVID patients in the region. Finding no hospital rooms available, the Sandovals set up a bed and chair in the first-floor hallway.

Agustín’s oxygen level quickly fell to 60 percent, as his condition deteriorated. The doctors informed

his family that he would need five to six tanks of oxygen a day to stay alive.

Due to extreme shortages, Agustín’s teenage son, Dany, had to wait in line for nine hours at the oxygen plant to refill an empty tank. Each tank cost 4,000-5,000 soles (\$1,000-\$1,300 USD). In desperation, Dany began volunteering at the oxygen plant in exchange for one full tank each day. But even working around the clock could not provide enough.

By the second day of Agustín’s hospitalization, he had lain without oxygen for eight hours. Tessy stood beside her father, crying to God for a miracle as she reconnected his oxygen mask to the empty



tank. Her frantic prayers were interrupted as a TV news crew crowded into the hallway. Reporting on the COVID deaths in Iquitos, a reporter approached Tessy for an interview. Tessy tearfully described their desperate need for oxygen.

As Agustín's breath faded, a miracle happened. A woman had seen Tessy's interview on TV and immediately left for the hospital with half a tank of oxygen. Over the next few weeks, the Sandoval family continuously witnessed God's provision. Oxygen tanks would suddenly appear at Agustín's bedside, dropped off while he slept.

Even while immersed in grief and stress, the Sandovals ministered to those around them. No additional visitors were allowed to enter or leave the hospital. Tessy saw this as a divine opportunity. She prayed with patients and their families throughout the hospital. And in the midst of death, Tessy led multiple people to the Lord.

She prayed with patients and their families throughout the hospital. And in the midst of death, Tessy led multiple people to the Lord.

Dany also demonstrated Christ's sacrificial care, once giving his full tank of oxygen to a young woman struggling to provide for her hospitalized parents.

After fifteen days in the hospital, Agustín took a turn for the worse. Tessy, exhausted and discouraged, surrendered her father to the Lord.

Throughout the night, local believers prayed with Tessy over the phone. When morning dawned, the hospital staff informed her that Agustín needed to be transferred to the second floor. Although initially alarmed, Tessy soon realized the transfer to a private room would greatly aid his recovery.

After twenty-eight days in the hospital, the doctors released Agustín to his home, where he made a full recovery. God's hand was clearly upon the Sandovals: of the 45 patients in the hospital when he was admitted, Agustín was one of only two who survived. ■



LEAVE AN ETERNAL IMPACT THROUGH LEGACY GIVING.

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What is Stewardship?

stew·ard·ship
/'st(y)ooərd,SHip/

Stewardship is the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one's care. Peter describes a biblical view of stewardship as he instructs that "As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God . . ." (1 Peter 4:10-11, ESV).

That's a high calling.

As followers of Christ, we have a responsibility to steward what God has provided for us—and do so with excellence. The Bible describes a good steward as diligent, hardworking, and willing to take reasonable risks. A good steward works wisely to build up and increase what God has graciously given.

One of the best ways to demonstrate godly stewardship in our finances and future planning is by preparing an up-to-date will. Unfortunately, many are missing this opportunity. Statistics indicate that 70 percent of adults have not written a will. As we plan for the future, each of us has an open invitation to consider how we can best use God's resources and see our will as something even greater—an act of worship—to further God's work out of gratitude for how he has blessed us.

Why is it important to create or update a will?

- You will have peace of mind knowing that your house is in order and your loved ones will be provided for, without incurring unnecessary costs or hassle.
- You get to decide who will be the next steward of the resources God has entrusted to you.
- You will ensure that your estate plan accurately represents what is most important to you.
- You can help your favorite charitable organizations, like ABWE, create eternal impact and ensure that this work will continue for years to come!

Legacies

Honoring Faithfulness

Carl & Lois Sexton

Missionaries to Argentina

35
YEARS OF
SERVICE



Q: How did your journey to missions begin?

Carl: I was on my knees calling out to God in prayer during a missions conference in my first semester of Bible College, when God made it clear to me that he wanted me to be a missionary.

Seven years later, I met Lois. We were amazed to discover how God had been preparing both of our paths to intersect at just the right moment, in dedication to missions.

We married and soon began our missionary service as church planters in Argentina, where we served for the next 15 years.

Q: What is a highlight from your ministry in South America?

Lois: When our two boys were young, we were buying fruit at the market and began to pass out flyers for a Children's Day event at the church. A few weeks later, Children's Day arrived and there was Miguel from the fruit market. That day, we began a relationship with him, and he later accepted Christ, was disciplined, and baptized.

Several years ago, we returned to Argentina and spent time with Miguel. As we reminisced, I realized that the boy who had received the flyer to come to church 30 years ago was now a man serving God with his family, winning

others to Christ and training to be a pastor.

Q: More recently, you've served in North America as missionaries. How did your time as missionaries in South America shape your ministry here?

Carl: When we returned to the United States, our love for Hispanic people led us to build several ministries around that passion. We began by planting a Spanish-speaking church in Florida. Then, we became a part of EveryEthne, helping churches to cross cultures without crossing borders. We also began leading Hispanic Ministry Summits and Good Soil Evangelism and Discipleship trainings, inspiring churches to renew their passion for evangelism and discipleship.

Q: What is something you experienced as a missionary that you never imagined?

Carl: I had the privilege of serving for 13 years as a Spanish chaplain for the Miami Marlins. In this role, I had many amazing opportunities to share the gospel and disciple players, umpires, and staff through chapels and personal conversations often right in the baseball stadium locker room, where few people are allowed to enter.

I'll never forget when one player put his hand on my shoulder, looked me

straight in the eyes, and said, "I want you to know that my wife and I have decided to trust in Jesus Christ as our one and only Savior and Lord."

I had been waiting for more than two years to hear those words.

Q: After serving as missionaries for more than 35 years, you now serve as coaches to missionaries just starting out. What is that like?

Carl: Just the other day a missionary told us, "If it weren't for your help, I don't even know if I'd be a missionary right now!" In this role, we are privileged to come alongside missionaries, encouraging them and sharing practical ideas for success in their fundraising journey. This allows them to quickly begin serving full-time in the ministries where God has called them.

Q: How have you recently seen God at work?

Lois: I serve as a presenter and the scheduler for ABWE's Heart, Mind & Soul: LGBTQ seminar.

God is using the seminar to change lives! After a recent seminar, one attendee shared, "I have many LGBTQ students. I want to stop avoiding interactions and deep conversations with them. I want to start listening to their stories."



‘God Hasn’t Forgotten’:

Ukraine Through Missionary Eyes

BY LEXI ELDER

For missionaries like Caleb Suko, saying goodbye to a country under attack wasn’t easy—but God is with them. The global church is proof of that.

Pastor Caleb Suko stared at the news rolling across the screen and felt a shiver go up his spine. That night felt different—as if the world was holding its breath.

Suko had ministered in churches in Odesa, Ukraine for the past 15 years. He’d seen a lot during his time, and he’d already lived through one war.

Following an agonizing few weeks of decision-making, most of his teammates, who had lived in Ukraine for years, decided to leave their home. But after hours of difficult and emotional conversations, the ABWE leadership team and Sukos decided on a different course of action for their family. Exercising great caution, they decided to stay.

While Suko didn’t regret his decision, a sense of unease had worked its way through him this evening, and he couldn’t shake it.

Keeping his eyes trained on the flashing news, Suko picked up his phone and called his parents. *Something’s going to happen tonight*, he told them. For the first time, he really believed Russia may invade Ukraine.

“Up to this point, everything Russia did was public, but suddenly, on Wednesday, the troop movements became quiet and secretive. And you could tell they were preparing for an invasion,” Suko said.

An abrupt, loud ringing jolted Suko awake at 5 o’clock the next morning. Fumbling for his phone, he squinted at the caller I.D.

Poland? Who in Poland would be calling me? he wondered. An untimely glitch stopped Suko from finding out.

Within 30 seconds, his phone rang again. This time, a familiar voice greeted

Suko as soon as he accepted the call.

“Ukraine is under attack,” revealed his regional director.

Suko turned to his wife, who was fully awake now, and the two ran to their living room.

A quick glance out the window revealed the truth.

“We saw the streak of an anti-aircraft rocket going up, and that was alarming. And then 30 seconds later, we heard this loud boom that just rocked the city. That was the first rocket that hit our city.”

The nightmare had begun.

For the next few hours, the Sukos huddled inside their home with their kids, fielding phone calls from worried family, friends, and colleagues, urging them to leave. But surrounded by darkness and the sounds of falling bombs, they made the difficult decision to stay.



Lenuta lost her husband 11 years ago. After he passed away, she raised their children on her own. Now, she lives by herself in Romania, spending most of her time with her best friend and neighbor, who is also a widow. She relies on the generosity of ABWE national partner Alexe's congregation to survive. To Alexe's children, she has become a second grandmother and a valued community and church member.

Watch Live Global partner Cody Glodfelter's video to witness Alexe's ministry and the impact he's making in Romania. abwe.org/Alexe

Photo by Cody G.

“The problem was it was dark outside. There’s missiles landing everywhere, and we have no idea what’s going on outside. I didn’t feel safe taking my family outside in the car.”

As they waited for sunrise to assess the damage, the Sukos continued to check the news. Reports of ballistic missiles exploding throughout Ukraine lit up the screen. Hearts sinking, the two looked at each other, stunned into silence.

“The last missile hit just before 11 a.m. It was actually pretty near to our house. It was close enough that all the car alarms went off in our parking lot and shook our windows,” Suko said.

It was time to leave.

By 4 p.m., the family had their belongings loaded into the car and had met up with a coworker. Together, the group made the decision to head to the nearest border, only 40 miles away.

Armed with two-thirds of a tank of gas and a couple of sandwiches, the group began their journey. Meanwhile, Rich D., a teammate in Moldova, packed lunches for the weary travelers and began the drive to the border to pick them up. Rich ended up waiting 15 hours for the Sukos at the border.

Stomachs growling and heads aching, the group finally crossed the border safely. A trip that normally took one hour had taken 22. After another two-hour drive, they made it to Rich’s home for the night.

For the first time in a couple of days, the group was able to sleep.

“For those who decided to leave—and that was mainly our Africans, our Asians—we did whatever we could to help them,” Suko explained. “I knew I had to take care of my family and our teammates that were there, but once I got them to safety, then I could concentrate on getting other people to safety.”

Suko’s work had just begun.



Photo by Nathan Jones

Biserica Crestina Baptist Church is close to the Ukraine-Romania border. It houses numerous refugees seeking asylum from the Russian onslaught. Many members of the church volunteer to help transfer food to the refugees passing through.

A Pastor’s Ministry in Times of Crisis

Soon after arriving in Moldova, the Sukos joined Pastor Mihai and Rich’s church ministry for refugees.

“We began working primarily with Africans, trying to coordinate them to get across the border. They could get transportation here, and then once they got here, I would take them to the church to use the bathroom and rest up or take them to the house. I had about 30 Africans who went through the house in the first few days or so,” Suko said.

Using funds provided by ABWE donors, the team bought 55 air mattresses for the church’s sanctuary and fellowship hall, groceries for daily meals, a nine-passenger van to transport refugees, and train tickets for those trying to go somewhere else in Europe.



Photo by Cody G.

Since the start of Russia’s invasion, over 5,050 buildings have been destroyed, devastating Ukraine’s infrastructure and its people, according to a Reuters report in April.



Ukrainian refugees receive food and supplies as they cross into the Romanian border, greeted by non-government workers and Christian workers alike.

Photo by Cody G.



Photo by Cody G.

Days passed and members of Suko's church in Ukraine continued to call him, asking for help and a place to stay.

Soon, the church was overflowing. That week, a local church member opened his house to as many refugees as possible. In a day, over 20 refugees moved in.

Within days, the church was overcrowded, again, and more were still coming. One of Suko's students from Ukraine, an Indian exchange student, called. He had filled three buses with 150 people. But God provided. Welcomed at a local army barrack, the men were able to rest and relax on their journey home, and Suko was able to visit them, pray with them, and encourage them.

Exhausted and busy, Suko and his team cared for hundreds of refugees. Each person, whether Hindu, Muslim, Catholic, or Evangelical Christian, was

prayed over, cared for, and encouraged. Through their refugee ministry, they reached people from Belarus, Nigeria, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Greece, Turkmenistan, Azerbaijan, Iran, China, Nepal, India, and more.

"The internationals are just astounded by the care the people show for them, and it's primarily coming from the church. It's a powerful testimony, and I believe it's much more powerful when it's coupled with a previous relationship and a continuing relationship," Suko explained.

One by one, the team connected refugees to churches across Europe to help them safely travel to their next destination. And, as people passed through the church, their lives were changed by the kindness and care shown to them during some of the hardest, most vulnerable moments of their lives.



Photo by Cody G.



Photo by Nathan Jones

Alexander & Maria Broyko

Alexander and Maria Broyko, along with their son and his family, are from the Odesa area. When they arrived in Bucharest, after Russia's initial invasion, the refugee center at Sfanta Treime church was overflowing and had nowhere to put them. So, the family has been staying with ABWE missionaries Cristi and Michelle Harlea, along with four other Ukrainian refugees.

Thankfully, unlike many refugees, the Broykos speak Romanian because their town was close to the Ukraine-Romania border. Maria, who is a believer, accidentally left her Bible in Ukraine when they fled. Russian Bibles are very hard to find in Romania, but Michelle was able to find two in a church's basement in Moldova through her network of friends. One for Maria and one for Alexander if he was interested.

Before the war, Alexander was a vegetable farmer with very little extra time in the day. Now, he has a lot of extra time and has read through the four gospels seven times. He recently said to Michelle, "Now I finally understand, and I can't believe that it's taken me so long."



PRAYER MEETING

The church has been holding daily prayer meetings with the refugees. Usually, the pastor will give a short message and lead some worship songs. Many of the church volunteers pray with the refugees afterwards, sharing Christ's love with the hurting and lost.



DIGNITY IN THE SMALL THINGS

During tragedies like this, dignity can be found in even the smallest things. A church in Romania runs a coffee cart in the building. Here, an elderly woman staying at the church enjoys a hot cup of coffee.

“Churches around the world have opened their doors to let Ukrainians stay there. God hasn’t forgotten his people.”

Duane Early, Vice President for Strategic Partnerships

“I’m getting calls from parents in Nigeria. I’m getting calls from Egypt. I’m getting calls from Iraq. I’m getting calls from Germany of parents and family and aunts and uncles, saying ‘Thank you! Thank you so much for taking care of my child. Thank you for making sure they got out safely!’ Through this all, we just see God’s mighty, mighty hand that’s mightier than any army,” Suko explained.

The Foundation of Faithfulness

The faithfulness of the Ukrainian church did not come out of nothing. Years of laying a solid foundation led to these life-changing, gospel moments.

After the Iron Curtain fell, many Americans sensed God calling them to serve Ukraine and the surrounding countries. One of them was Duane Early.

“We went where we were called in that moment,” Duane Early, now ABWE’s vice president for strategic partnerships, said.

But the missionaries who went to Ukraine didn’t go in blind. They remained slightly suspicious, suspecting that communism wasn’t truly gone.

“We asked, ‘Is the Soviet Union gone? Is it going to come back? Is it a political trick?’” Early recalled.

Rather than planting roots, they focused on planting churches and making disciples—multiplying their impact. If the Soviet Union managed to resurrect itself, the Ukrainian church must be able to survive without the missionaries’ presence.

“When you leave behind a church, you leave behind a legacy,” Early stated.

So, the missionaries prepared Ukrainian believers for the day they couldn’t be there anymore. And God blessed their ministry. Across the country, people gave their lives to Christ, finding new hope in him. It was a tidal wave of revival.

“Ukraine was the center of evangelism in Europe. What God did with the Soviet Union falling was a sign of the truth of the gospel. Some of the things we saw God do were truly miraculous,” Early said.

With the arrival of the gospel came greater freedom than the people of Ukraine had ever experienced. Already having shaken the rule of the Soviet Union, they were finding true freedom and lasting joy, influenced by their growing faith in Christ.

In 2014, Russia invaded Ukraine for the first time since its annexation to the Soviet Union. And the eight-year war began, culminating in Putin’s aggressive attack on February 24.

“Putin didn’t just attack Ukraine because of NATO . . . the civil liberties and enjoyments and freedom of the people in Ukraine was a threat to Putin’s reign,” Early stated.

Because of Putin’s invasion, missionaries left, families fled, and loved ones were separated.

But the church pressed on. And missionaries are eager to return to their home—even as they serve refugees around the world.

“Churches around the world have opened their doors to let Ukrainians stay there,” Early said. “God hasn’t forgotten his people.” ■



Photo by Cody G.

Annual Report

January 2021 - December 2021

abwe



A GLOBAL FAMILY OF MINISTRIES

Overflowing in Thanksgiving

Dear valued co-laborer in the gospel,

I have a confession: I love statistics and data.

In fact, recently, right after getting back from an exhausting overseas trip, I logged onto my computer and spent hours poring over reports, analyzing ABWE's missionary family, global impact, and financial stewardship. Perhaps I should have been resting, but I'm always fascinated by the way numbers can tell a story.

Of course, numbers don't always paint the entire picture. It's faithfulness, not just measurable fruit, that our Lord wants from us.

But the story our numbers do tell is nothing short of astonishing. And it fills me with immense gratitude.

Every salvation, baptism, church planted, or initiative undertaken is a reason to rejoice. How much more, then, should we glorify God for all he has done—hundreds and thousands of times over, all across the globe?

The Apostle Paul said this about ministry and those who financially support it:

"He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way to

be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God. For the ministry of this service is not only supplying the needs of the saints but is also overflowing in many thanksgivings to God." (2 Corinthians 12 ESV-9:10)

We must overflow in many thanksgivings.

So, I'm asking that, before you put this report down, bow your head for a moment, and thank God for a few of the things you've read about. He deserves all of our praise for what he's doing in the world.

One last note: our gratitude should lead us to service. Consider these words from the father of modern missions, William Carey:

"I was once young and now I am old, but not once have I been witness to God's failure to supply my need when first I had given for the furtherance of his work. He has never failed in his promise, so I cannot fail in my service to him."

On behalf of ABWE's missionary family, headquarters team, and board: may the Lord richly encourage you as you give thanks for all he has done. ■



Paul Davis | ABWE President

Paul and his wife Martha have served in ministry since 1989 and at ABWE since 2017. In their lifetime of ministry, they have led church plants, Christian schools, and dynamic ministry teams. Additionally, they have given oversight to children's, youth, and college/career ministries. They enjoy pace-setting leadership, as well as serving as educators, conference speakers, and ministry trip facilitators. Learn more at PaulDavis.com.



Global Impact

With eased COVID restrictions and fields opening up, we saw God produce a great harvest through our teams around the globe as they diligently worked to spread the gospel and lead others to Christ.



593

Churches Planted
or Revitalized



897

Baptisms
Celebrated



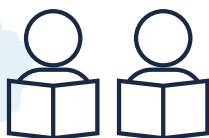
119,993

Patients Received
Healthcare



325

Translation
Projects Completed



4,516

Students
Trained or Mentored



24

New Sending Churches
added in 2021

New Ministries Launched



LAUNCHPOINT

Short-term trips. Long-term impact.

Launch Point reignited the short-term missions ministry of ABWE in 2021. As a ministry of ABWE, Launch Point leverages resources and ministry partnerships built over the last 94 years ministering in 84 countries to provide long-term opportunities through short-term trips.

Launch Point maximizes short-term missions trips to ensure the greatest long-term impact on ministry and participants.

Learn more at launchpointmissions.org.

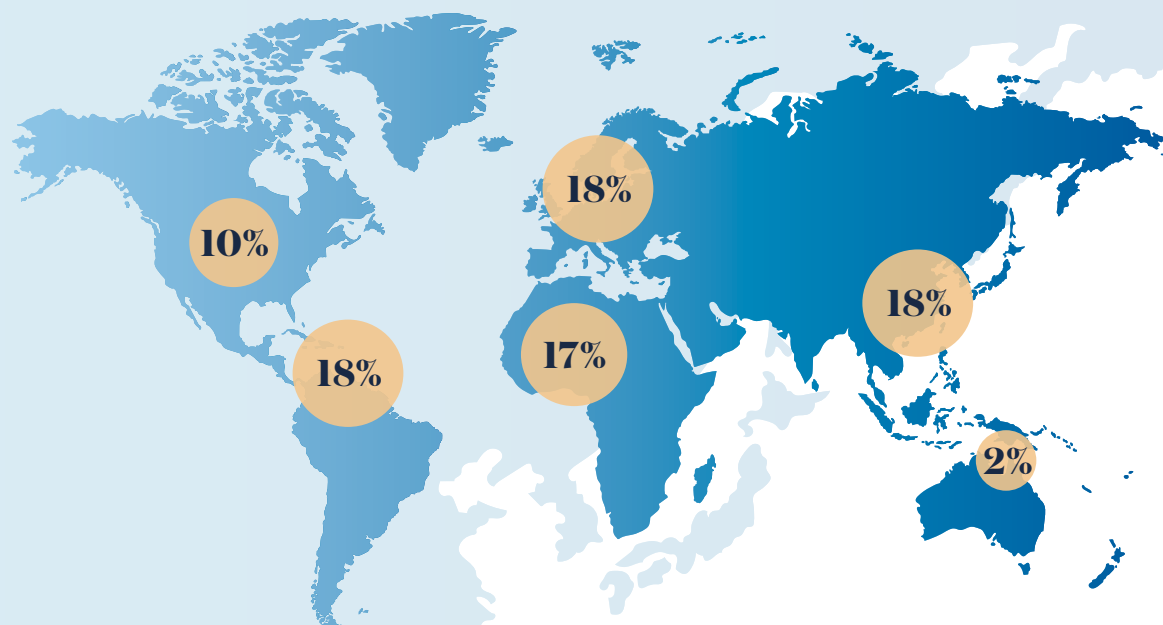


**Opening Closed Countries.
Reaching Unreached People Groups.**

We believe God is calling a generation to go to the hard-to-reach areas of the globe and reach the unreached with the gospel. Started in 2021, the Open Initiative is working to deploy new workers to closed countries and unreached, minimally-engaged peoples in each major region of ABWE ministry worldwide.

Learn more at abwe.org/open.

Where Are ABWE Missionaries Making an Impact?



**Percentage of ABWE Missionaries serving in each region of the globe.*



17%

teammates serving international ministries and missionaries (Live Global, Member Care, etc.)

Major Project Fund Raising

(Money raised from 01/01/21 - 05/02/22)

Hôpital Baptiste Biblique (HBB)



\$1,719,683.27 (Phase 1 Complete)

Ukraine Crisis Fund



\$1,237,760.62

Global Gospel Fund



\$685,812.47

PACT Romania Ministry Center



\$189,759.12

Nicaragua Ministry Center



\$106,125.00

Kosovo Leadership Academy



\$67,300.30 (Phase 3A Complete)

Who is Serving With ABWE?

ABWE Has 933 Active Missionaries

796

Long-Term



85

Short-Term



52

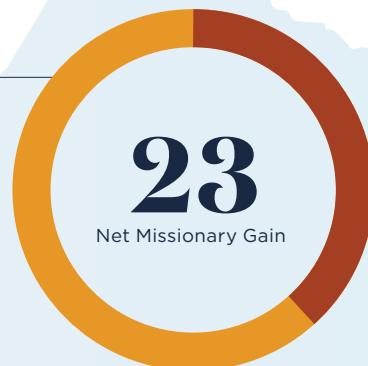
Mid-Term



**Each icon represents ten (10) missionaries.*

Net Missionary Changes

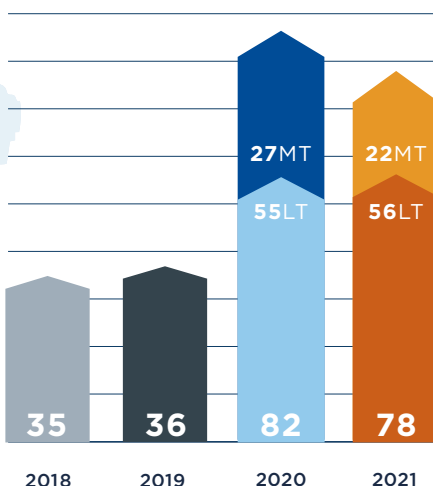
88 total missionaries added in 2021. This includes long-term and mid-term.



23
Net Missionary Gain

65 missionaries lost in 2021. This includes those who resigned, are deceased, retired, terminated, or concluded their time of service.

New Missionaries by Year



56 missionaries committed to serving four years or more on their appointed field, while **22** missionaries committed to serving 1 to 4 years.

We doubled the number of short-term missionaries from 18 last year to **37**. Short-termers serve 2 months to 1 year.

Financial Report

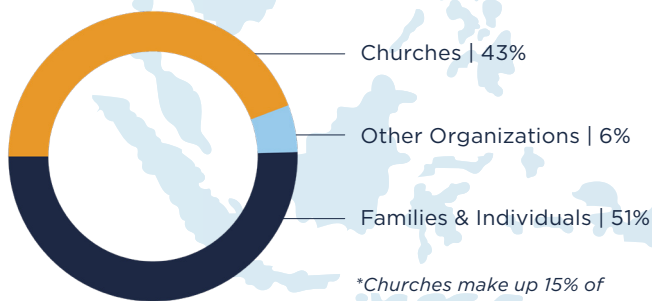


	2019	2020	2021
FUNDING SOURCES			
Contributions	\$44,113,123	\$45,715,776	\$48,175,996
Investment Income	\$5,283,777	\$5,860,507	\$5,564,704
Other Sources	\$1,192,687	\$2,962,615	\$1,295,247
TOTAL FUNDING SOURCES	\$50,589,587	\$54,538,898	\$55,035,947
EXPENSES			
Program	\$43,175,884	\$40,637,774	\$44,944,410
Management and General	\$5,810,487	\$5,773,490	\$5,792,436
Fundraising	\$3,225,225	\$3,442,692	\$4,269,123
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$52,211,596	\$49,853,956	\$55,005,969

Complete and audited financial statements are available at abwe.org/abwe-annual-financial-statements.

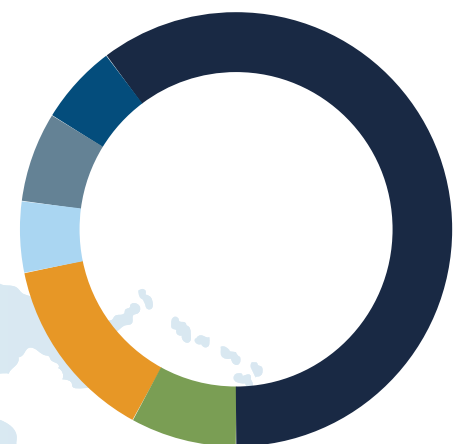
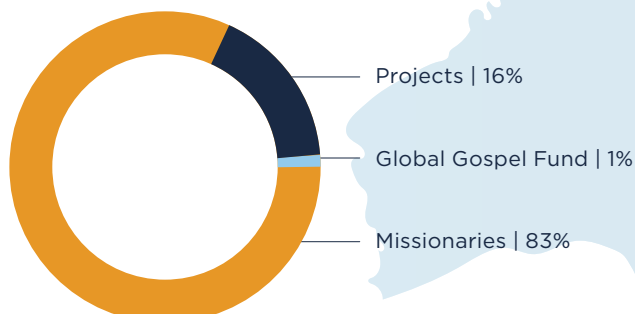
Where Does Our Support Come From?

(% of total giving)

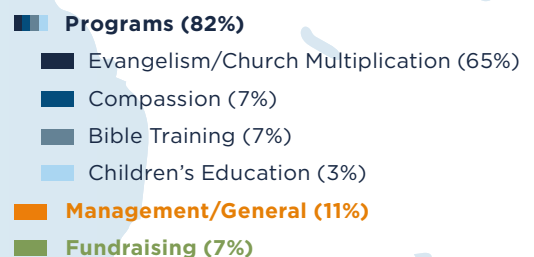


**Churches make up 15% of our donor base, but they give 43% of all gifts.*

What Did They Support?



How Was The Money Used?



*Complete and audited financial statements are available at abwe.org/abwe-annual-financial-statements.

ABWE.ORG



Arwen Mallay (2007-2022) loved Jesus—so much so that, after she was diagnosed with cancer, she asked her parents for the privilege of finishing her life on the mission field in Togo. Now, as the Mallay family continues to serve, their faith is anything but finished.

The Mallay Family: Faithfulness in the Face of Death

BY HANNAH STRAYER

“How can you take your children to such a dangerous place?”

Seth and Rebecca Mallay heard the question from skeptics often as they raised support as missionaries to Togo in 2017.

The thirty-somethings considered the critique. Togo was, after all, home to a variety of diseases, dangers, and discomforts. As a medical doctor, Seth was certainly aware of his young family’s physical needs. Yet he and Rebecca, determined as they were, always answered the question the same way.

“As much as we love our children, they are not ours. We are to shepherd them temporarily, and they aren’t more important than the kingdom.”

But it wasn’t any danger native to the African soil that threatened the family. It was something lurking inside of their eldest daughter.

Arwen, the radiant 10-year-old who captured everyone with her infectious smile and joyful outlook, had often seemed to

be a bit weak, even from early childhood. In Togo, she seemed healthy—until a routine checkup revealed a mass in her abdomen. After only a year in Togo, the Mallay family returned to the US to seek answers.

Arwen was diagnosed with stage-four neuroblastoma, a cancer that begins in the nerve cells. It had already spread into her bones.

“I felt really disappointed, because I thought we would only be in the US a month and then go back to Togo” Arwen wrote in 2018. “Then my parents told me that this cancer is very serious, and even with all the treatments, I still

might not get better. I was very sad, and I could tell my parents were also very sad. But I believe in Jesus, and I know if I die, I will go to heaven. So, I told them, ‘God will heal me either way. Either here, or in heaven, I will be healed.’”

“As sorrowful, yet always rejoicing, as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything.”

2 Corinthians 6:10 ESV

Back ‘Home’

Home in the US, the treatments began. Chemotherapy, immunotherapy, surgeries, internal radiation, even experimental trials. Each treatment took its toll. From some, Arwen bounced back quickly. Others depleted her. Still others made her scared and came with intense pain. None worked.

Meanwhile, hundreds of supporters around the world mobilized to pray for Arwen.

Seth and Rebecca were also driven to prayer in a whole new way—a painfully straightforward way.

“In the nitty gritty, prayer can become very simple—‘Lord help us,’ ‘Be with us,’ ‘Jesus,’” Seth recounted.

While in the US, the Mallays’ other children, totaling four at the time, remarked how much they missed “home”—not rural Vestaburg, Michigan, but tropical Tsiko, Togo. The field was where they belonged; life in the US was an interruption.

Arwen agreed, and continually asked her family to return home. Her wish, she explained, was to be a light in Togo while her parents served the Lord.

Like her elvish namesake from J.R.R. Tolkien’s *The Lord of the Rings*, Arwen embraced the “gift of men”—mortality—out of love for her King.

If she was to die, it would have to be in Togo, as a testimony to Christ—and from there, she’d go to her true home.

‘Our Daughter Is Dying’

Back in the West African tropics, Arwen’s condition remained stable for a season. But in late 2021, she became fatigued and her pain increased. She began to deteriorate.

“Our daughter is dying,” Seth shared in a December Facebook post. The next month, a similarly stark update followed: “Arwen is suffering tonight . . . her prayer this evening has been, ‘Lord, just take me’ which is hard for us to hear.”

Yet for the teammates and neighbors who observed the family, the Malla family seemed anything but dour. Laughter could be heard from outside their house on the mission campus. Friends visited to play games, swap stories, draw pictures, and tell jokes. On good days, Arwen could get out—to attend, for example, the team’s New Year’s Eve party.

That same month, Seth and Rebecca scheduled a family photoshoot, knowing time was short. The band of eight took

turns hopping on and off a couch positioned outside on the red Togolese clay in bright sunlight, posing for portraits and grabbing a few candids along the way. Arwen, who had been exhausted leading up to the shoot, refreshed everyone else with her natural energy.

The Lord had been kind. And even so, Seth and Rebecca knew what would come.

“Death cannot ruin Christmas because Christmas has already ruined death,” Seth wrote over the holidays.

He continued: “[W]e find peace and assurance in praying,

‘Your will rather than our will be done’ to the one in whom we know we can trust. His will is good because he is good. Always good.”

“We find peace and assurance in praying, ‘Your will rather than our will be done’ to the One in whom we know we can trust. His will is good because he is good. Always good.”

Safely Home

February 1, 2022 was Arwen’s last day fully awake and alert. Then, a week later, Seth and Rebecca shared another update with their ministry partners:

“Arwen is safely home . . . Arwen’s light and momentary affliction is over forever, and I trust that it already pales in

comparison to the glory that she can see with new eyes opened for the first time as her faith is made sight. Eternal glory. If Arwen had recovered from cancer, we would have praised the Lord. Yet we praise him in all things. Praise the Lord! He is good. Always good.”

Seth and Rebecca had been at Arwen’s side that morning listening to hymns and praying. It was during a playing of “Blessed Assurance” that Arwen took her last breath on earth and entered the presence of her Lord.

That weekend, the family held two funeral services for both French and English-speaking friends. In Togolese culture, a child’s funeral is rarely large or well-attended. Yet mourners in the hundreds gathered for the two-hour French service in Arwen’s honor.

At the English service two days later, team members from all across Togo gathered for singing, Scripture reading, testimonies, and prayer. Four teenage, MK pallbearers carried her casket to the grave performing a Ghanaian funeral dance—one of Arwen’s last wishes.

Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee, rang the refrain before the casket was lowered into the ground. Members of the Malla family each shoveled a scoop of dirt into the grave.



Photos by Judy Bowen

In the weeks following Arwen's funeral, Seth and Rebecca reflected on how inglorious their first year of ministry back in Togo appeared on the outside. As he recounts, there were no stories of revival. There was nothing incredible to report. Seth had performed his duties as a father and a doctor; Rebecca, her duties as a mother. They had wanted to do more in ministry, but they had been at home spending the days and nights caring for their precious daughter.

Yet for Seth, "the point isn't to accomplish something glorious. The point is obedience," he explains. And obedience always comes with a sacrifice.

And it turns out that their sacrifice—as with William Carey, Hudson Taylor, and a long line of missionary saints who lost children in pursuit of a greater reward—was itself what sped the gospel forward.

"Arwen's life, diagnosis, hope, and testimony have dramatically changed the willingness of some people to give us and others their undivided attention," Seth said.

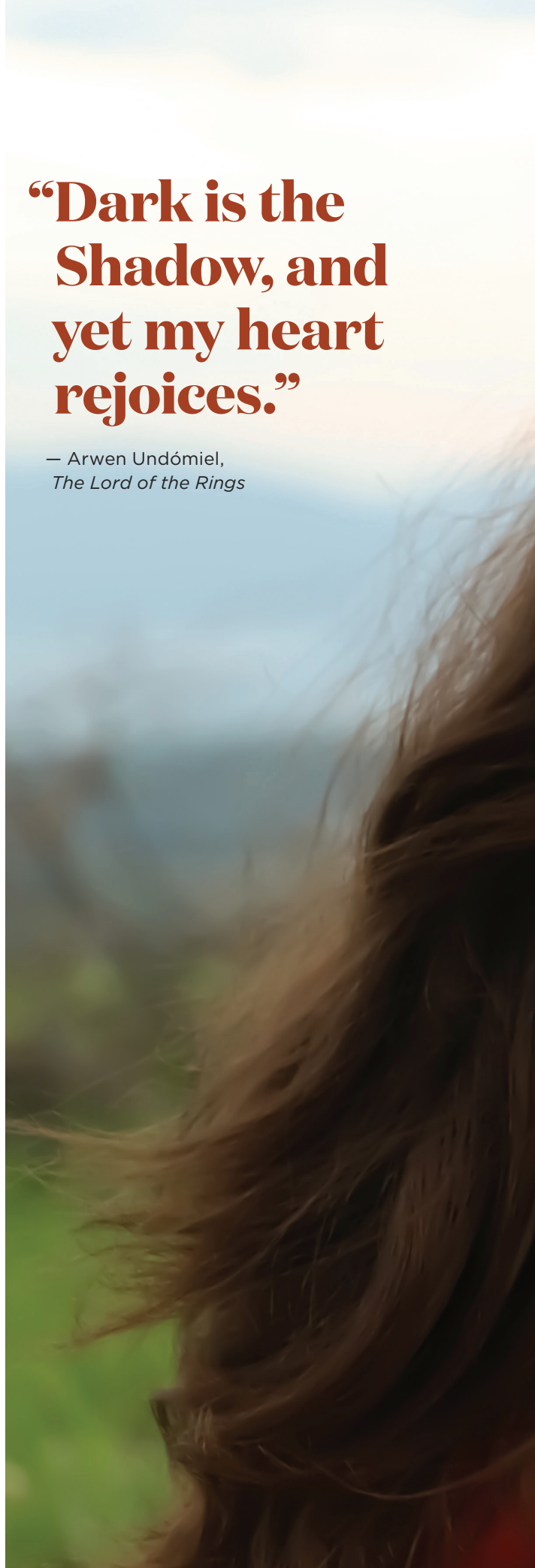
"People are paying attention very closely when they are shocked by the contrast between the way Arwen was entitled to act, or the way we are expected to behave, and the grace that God was working in her and us. This has been an open door for the gospel. This was true in the US and has held true here in Togo." ■

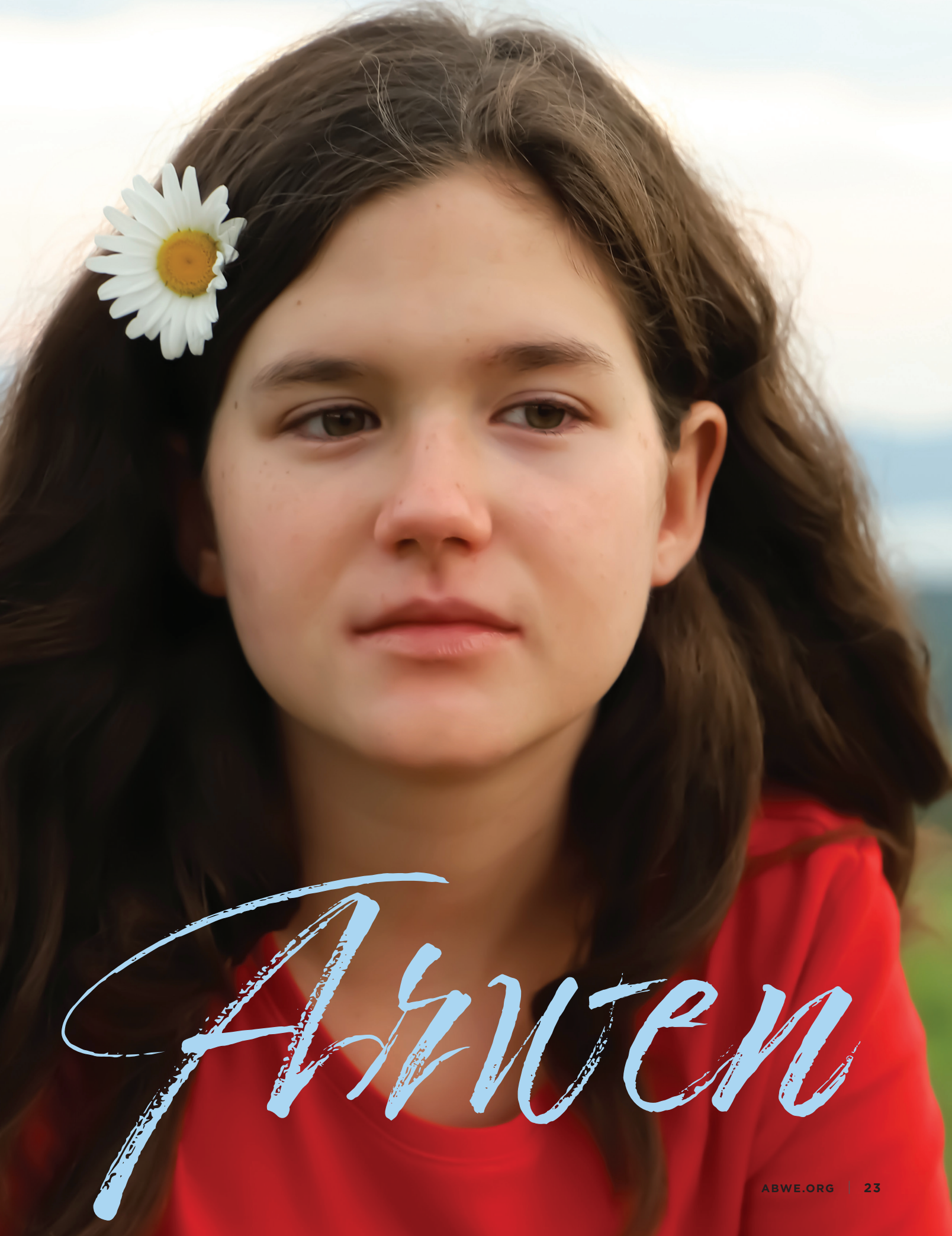
**"This has been an open door
for the gospel."**



**"Dark is the
Shadow, and
yet my heart
rejoices."**

— Arwen Undómiel,
The Lord of the Rings





Answers



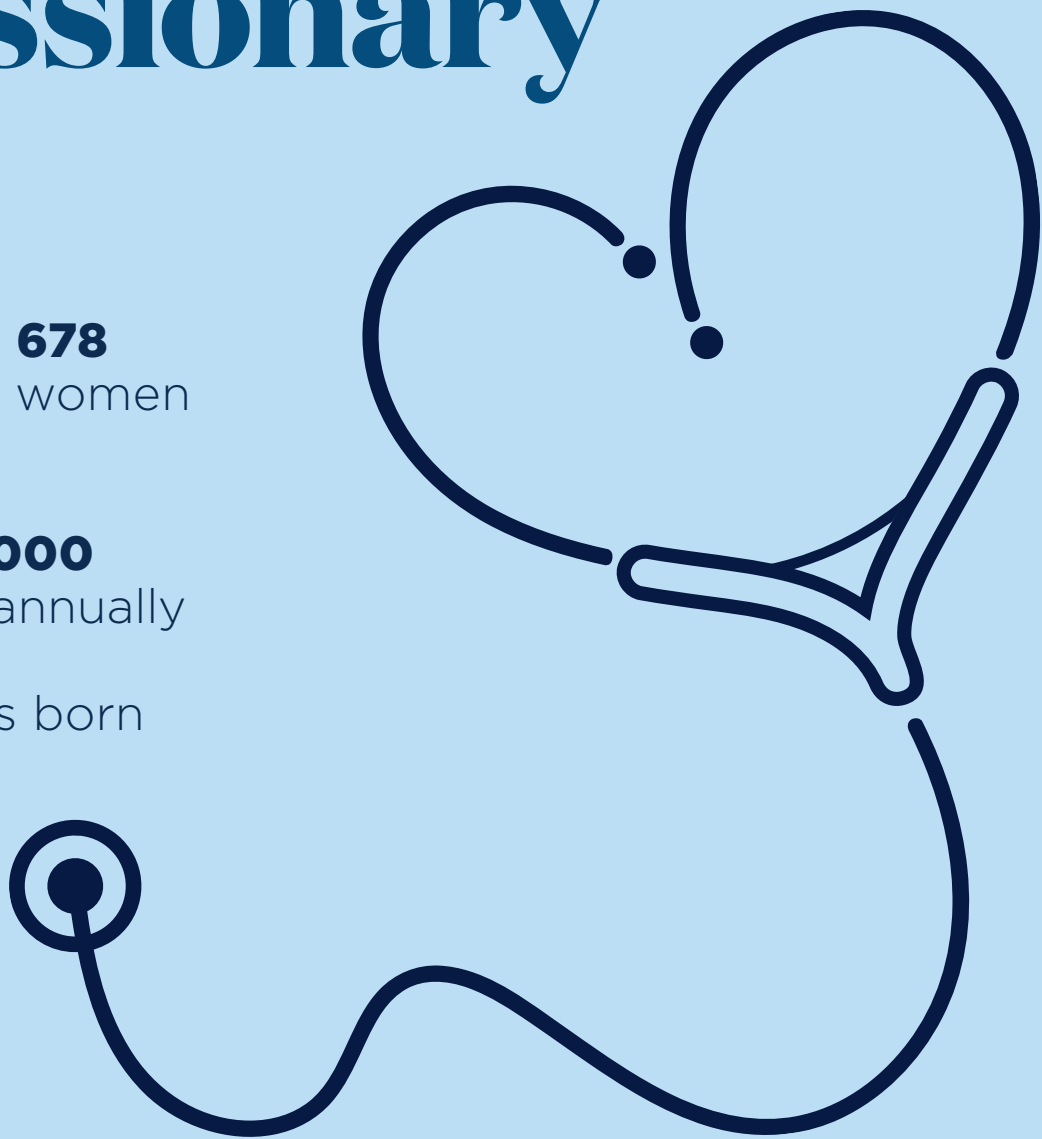
A Day in the Life of a Medical Missionary

BY LORI SMITH

Cares for **678**
pregnant women
annually

Sees **22,000**
patients annually

68 babies born
annually





I held a woman, who has had breast cancer since 2019. Her medical record is filled with referral notes and broken promises of biopsies and surgeries. Now,

You can support gospel-centered, life-saving ministry in Papua New Guinea. Learn More: abwe.org/seigu-clinic ■



Defining the Missionary Task in 4 Steps

BY ALEX KOCMAN

When I speak at churches, people are shocked when I tell them I'm not a missionary. Predictably, they begin to wonder, *Isn't every Christian a missionary?*

We all have a responsibility to share Christ. But there is more to being a called, qualified, and sent missionary than that. The missionary task exists in four dimensions.

1. A missionary is an evangelist. The New Testament uses the word meaning “to proclaim the gospel” at least 54 times. It also uses the related words *reasoning*, *persuading*, and *preaching*.

This doesn't need to happen on a soapbox in public. It often can't. It can happen in a home or over coffee. But the good news must be *told*—not just suggested.

2. A missionary is a church planter. Not all missionaries personally plant or pastor new churches, but all missionaries should devote themselves to serving local churches. God's glory is revealed through the church (Ephesians 3:10).

What is a church? A gathering of believers where the Word is preached, baptism and communion are observed, and some form of membership and discipline are practiced. Unfortunately, many churches lack these distinguishing marks. If more missionaries understood their calling to help plant churches, we would see healthier congregations worldwide.

3. A missionary is a disciple maker. Jesus' parting command was to teach the nations to obey all his commands—not merely secure a profession of faith.

Paul was a “father” to his disciples (1 Corinthians 4:15) and was anxious for their welfare (2 Corinthians 11:28). When he left them, he made sure they could still be disciplined by others—which happened in the context of local churches.

4. A missionary is a trainer of leaders. Paul appointed elders everywhere he planted a church (Acts 14:23). He told his protégé, Timothy, to train men who would train others (four generations of leadership development). On the mission field, this means that national believers must be empowered to lead when missionaries are gone.

This does not only apply to men discipling future pastors. Female missionaries training other women and teaching children are vital too. Every investment in another believer is a potential investment in a Christian leader.



Alex Kocman is the Director of Advancement and Communications for ABWE. He serves as general editor for Message Magazine and co-hosts The Missions Podcast. He lives in Pennsylvania with his wife and three children.



The Quechua People: Modern-Day Incas

The ancient Inca people have long been lost to the sands of time, but they live on through much of the language and culture of the Quechua people of modern-day Peru.

A part of the Andes Mountains, Rainbow Mountain can be found a few hours outside of Cusco. The remote area is home to the Quechua people, descendants of the Incas, many of whom have never heard the gospel. Most days, the locals bring their horses to the trailhead, often with some of their small children running along. Hoping to make some

money, they offer tourists rides. Because the elevation is around 15,000 ft., several tourists usually take them up on their offer. After dropping the first group off, the locals run back down the mountain with their horses in hopes of catching another ride and making more money for their families.

Today, there are more than 10 million Quechua people living throughout South America. Several Quechua subgroups have been near-totally evangelized, while others remain minimally-reached with the gospel. ■



Allison Bayse is storyteller who served in South America as a media missionary. Her work in missions continues through various media projects and as part of the leadership team of Storytellers Abroad: Missions Multimedia Workshops. Allison lives in Columbus, OH where she enjoys spending time with her horse, Maddie.



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