

# LORD, extend YOUR KINGDOM.

*MISSIONS CONFERENCE*

**FEBRUARY 26 - MARCH 5**



**FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH**  
*Jackson, Mississippi*



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF JACKSON  
EXISTS TO GLORIFY GOD BY MAKING DISCIPLES  
IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD, OUR COMMUNITIES,  
AND THE WORLD.**

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# Extending God's Kingdom by His Grace and for His Glory

As we think about the great work of global missions, we need to answer two questions: why do we engage in it, and how shall we engage in it. Our church-wide teaching theme this year - Grace and Glory: The Power and Prospect of the Christian Life - points to the answer to both questions. First, we engage in missions for the glory of God, with a view to gathering many people from all over the world into his kingdom, so that they might one day enter the glory that is to come. To paraphrase the first question and answer from the Westminster Shorter Catechism, the goal of global missions is to bring the world to ascribe glory to God and lead others enjoy the glory of God forever, through the preaching of the gospel and the planting of churches. That is why we engage in missions.

But how are we to engage in missions? By what power shall we accomplish so vast an undertaking as the evangelization of the world? In Ephesians 3:8 the apostle Paul explains by what power he fulfills his missionary calling: "To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ." By the gift of grace, he preached Christ to the nations. Grace empowered and propelled Paul's every effort to bring the gospel to the ends of the earth. And by that same grace we carry on that great project. We ought not to go out in missions and evangelism driven by guilt, nor by an arid sense of mere duty alone. Not even a sense of compassion and love for the lost (which should always fill the believer's heart) can sustain the church in the demanding task of global evangelization. Only the supernatural grace of God in Jesus Christ can uphold and equip and propel us on to bring the good news to the world. And only grace can make that message effective for the salvation of sinners. So, we go to the world with the message of salvation the same way we come to Christ ourselves for salvation: by grace alone. We engage in missions by grace.

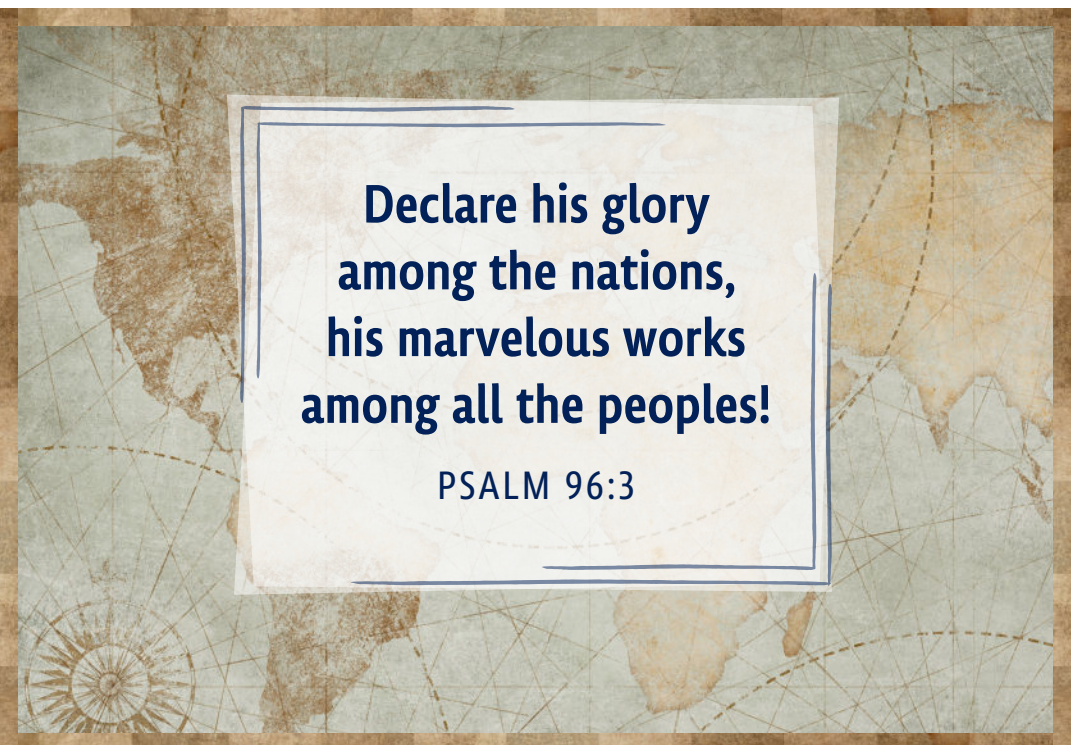
As they are for the Christian life as a whole, "grace and glory" are also the "power and prospect" of global missions. Please join me in praying for our Missions Conference this year, that our gaze might be filled with a renewed vision for God's glory in the salvation of sinners around the world, and that we would be gripped afresh by the power of his grace to both animate and sustain us in the work.

Your pastor,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "David Strain", with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

David Strain





**Declare his glory  
among the nations,  
his marvelous works  
among all the peoples!**

PSALM 96:3

## CONFERENCE HYMN

### Mighty Lord, Extend Your Kingdom

Mighty Lord, extend Your kingdom; be the truth with triumph crowned.  
Let the lands that sit in darkness hear the glorious Gospel sound!  
From our borders, from our borders, to the world's remotest bound!

By Your arm, eternal Father, scatter far the shades of night.  
Let the great Immanuel's kingdom open like the morning light!  
Let all barriers, let all barriers yield before Your heavenly might.

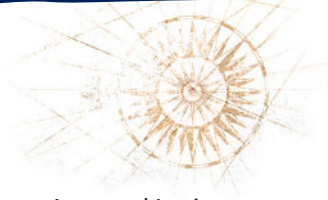
Come in all Your Spirit's power; come, Your reign on earth restore.  
In Your strength ride forth and conquer, still advancing more and more!  
Till all people, Till all people shall Your holy name adore!



## Cory Brock

Cory and Heather Brock, along with Ethan, Juliette, Ames, and Lewis, live in Edinburgh, Scotland. Cory is a minister at St Columbas Free Church of Scotland and teaches at Edinburgh Theological Seminary. The ministry is at the very center of the capital city of Scotland, on the Royal Mile, next to Edinburgh Castle. The city is beautiful but spiritually impoverished. There are few Christians in its post-Christendom culture and the need for evangelism and healthy church practice is vital. The Brock family love being there and serving in a place that needs more Christians and more ministers in the historic site of the origins of Presbyterianism.

Cory is a native of Natchez, MS and previously served at FPC Jackson as an assistant minister.



## Dr. Derek W. H. Thomas

Derek Thomas is Senior Minister at First Presbyterian Church, Columbia, SC. Prior to living in Columbia, Dr. Thomas was Chairman of the Theology Department at Reformed Theological Seminary RTS-Jackson and Minister of Teaching at First Presbyterian Church Jackson. He is originally from Wales and is a graduate of the University of Wales (B.Sc.), Reformed Theological Seminary (M.Div), and University of Wales/Lampeter (Ph.D.). He was ordained in the Evangelical Church of Ireland, where he served Stranmillis Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Belfast for 17 years before moving to Jackson. Currently, Dr. Thomas is a Chancellor's Professor at RTS and a Teaching Fellow with Ligonier Ministries. He is also a well-published author.

He and his wife, Rosemary, have two grown children and two grandchildren, two dogs named Luther and Gracie-Spangles, and a somewhat dysfunctional cat named Chloe. He is passionate about classical music and opera.

# CONFERENCE *SCHEDULE*

## SUNDAY, FEBRUARY

8:30am & 11:00am | Morning Worship ..... Cory Brock  
6:00pm | Evening Worship ..... Cory Brock

## WEDNESDAY, MARCH

5:00pm | Midweek Welcome Dinner  
6:00pm | Lord, Extend Your Kingdom – Opening Session  
6:00pm | Children's Mission Time

## THURSDAY, MARCH

11:30am | Ladies' Missions Lunch ..... Mary Baldwin  
6:00pm | Men's Steak Supper ..... Aaron Halbert

## FRIDAY, MARCH

10:00am - 1:00pm | Crates for Ukraine Packing Party (Come & Go)  
6:00pm | Sunday School Classes Host Missionaries

## SATURDAY, MARCH

8:30am | Breakfast  
9:00am - 11:30am | Saturday Morning Session ..... Derek Thomas

## SUNDAY, MARCH

8:30am & 11:00am | Morning Worship ..... Derek Thomas  
9:45am | Sunday School Classes ..... various Guest Speakers  
5:00pm | Evening Worship ..... Derek Thomas  
6:00pm | Dinner on the Grounds with foods from around the world

# LADIES' MISSIONS LUNCH

Thursday, March 2

11:30am

with guest speaker

*Mary Baldwin*

*"Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and the needy." - Proverbs 31:8-9*



**Mary Baldwin** is with Nea Zoi and the Greek Bible College. She has always had a love for broken people and the outsiders. Mary's bold and feisty personality made it easy for her to be on the dark streets of Athens with more broken people. Mary also helps at the Greek Bible College as a dean of girls, organizing events and activities.

# MEN'S STEAK DINNER

Thursday, March 2

6:00pm

with guest speaker

*Aaron Halbert*



**Aaron Halbert** and his wife Rachel serve as missionaries in Honduras with Mission to the World. Aaron is originally from Honduras, and he spent the early part of his life there. After marrying a Mississippi girl and finishing seminary, God called them to plant a church in Tagucigalpa, Honduras.

# SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

Saturday, March 4  
9:00am - 11:30am  
*with guest speaker*  
*Derek Thomas*



**Dr. Derek W. H. Thomas**

Senior Minister at First Presbyterian Church, Columbia, SC

## EXTENDING THE KINGDOM: Lessons from the Early Church

*morning schedule:*

8:30am | breakfast

9:00am

### SESSION 1

**Acts 13:1-12**

**Paul's First Missionary in Cyprus**

10:00am | break

10:30am

### SESSION 2

**Acts 16:1-15**

**Paul's Hearing the Macedonian**

*Childcare available upon request.*



Each year at our Missions Conference, FPC is honored to welcome some of our supported missionaries to Jackson.

The list of missionaries joining us this year is found on the next few pages.

## CONFERENCE GUEST MISSIONARIES

### INTERNATIONAL



#### Mary Baldwin – Greece

Mary serves with Greater Europe Mission in Athens, Greece. She is the dean of women at the Greek Bible College and serves with Nea Zoi (New Life) as the outreach team leader. Mary is the mother of three grown children, William, Paul, and Danae. Twelve years ago, Mary became involved with Nea Zoi (new life) a ministry that reaches out to people in prostitution. She felt right away that this is what she was called to do. Mary has always had a love for broken people and outsiders. Mary's bold and feisty personality made it easy for her to open the door to a brothel and walk in. She didn't fear being on the dark streets of Athens with more broken people. Mary continues to help at the Greek Bible College as a dean of girls, organizing events and activities.



#### Kevin & Maria Bidwell – England

Kevin serves with the Evangelical Presbyterian Church in England and Wales as a minister of Sheffield Evangelical Presbyterian Church and helps with church planting. World missions is a passion for Kevin, having preached in over 40 countries over the years. Uganda in East Africa, Northern Germany and, of course, England are foremost in his desire to see Confessional Christianity and Presbyterianism flourish there. Kevin and Maria have two grown daughters.

# INTERNATIONAL



## Abigail Conroy – El Salvador

Abigail grew up as an MTW and Wycliffe missionary kid in the Philippines and has had a passion for international missions from a young age. The Lord used not only her childhood as a missionary kid but also her degree in community development and her internship with MTW, to draw her to the mission field. After a vision trip to El Salvador, Abigail accepted an invitation to join the new church-planting team going to San Salvador. Abigail will spend the first part of her two-year term focusing on learning Spanish and networking with locals. She also hopes to serve with Mission to El Salvador, a local mercy ministry, as a way to get to know and serve the community. Abigail is a daughter of FPC Jackson and volunteers with our Internationals Class.



## Aaron & Rachel Halbert – Honduras

Aaron and Rachel Halbert serve in Tegucigalpa, Honduras with Mission to the World. Aaron was born in Honduras and spent the early part of his life there. Rachel is a Mississippi Delta girl who fell in love with missions through short term trips to Haiti. After seminary, God, in His kindness, opened the door for them to do church planting in Tegucigalpa. In 2017, Aaron, planted Iglesia Presbiteriana Gracia Soberana. Rachel and the kids enjoy serving alongside Aaron while opening their home through hospitality and finding ways to build relationships in the church, the kids' school, and with neighbors. The hope and prayer for the coming years is to continue church planting, establish a seminary, develop an internship program for potential church planters, start campus ministry, and open a publishing house.



## **Rick & Terri Herr – USA/ Wycliffe Bible Translators**

Terri joined Wycliffe Bible Translators in 1979 and Rick joined in 1981. Both were single missionaries assigned to Colombia, South America. They met in Colombia and married in 1985, continuing to serve there until 2000. They were both assigned to Wycliffe/SIL's International Training and Logistic Center (JAARS). Terri has served in various roles from children's education to training new missionaries for cross cultural ministry. Rick has served as the Facilities Director and Field Services Customer Relations to meet the electrical power and communications needs of Bible Translators working in remote locations of the world.

## **Andrew Johnson – Middle East**

Andrew and his wife, Sumbal live in Europe with their 3 children Emma, Eddie, and Ashlay. He has worked in ministry since 1999. Andrew has founded two ministry organizations in Pakistan: one focused on reaching the lost through sports and other through relief and development. Both of these organizations continue to serve in different regions of Pakistan and Afghanistan.



## **Jackie & Paul McCleary - Kyrgyzstan**

Jackie grew up on the mission field in Kazakhstan, the child of church-planting missionaries but she never fully understood the gospel until college. During that time, she fell more deeply in love with Jesus and watched how His love transformed others. She felt committed to spending her life overseas, working to plant churches among the unreached. Jackie served in Jakarta for six years helping to plant churches. Paul grew up in Iowa and attended a Methodist church until he was 11 years old. His mother did not feel as if they were being "fed" spiritually so they changed to an Evangelical Free church that was deeply rooted in the Bible. There he learned how to follow God. He read about the work of missionaries like Jim and Elizabeth Elliott and wondered if God might use him in reaching the lost. Paul served in Kazakhstan from 2018-2020. Paul and Jackie were married in 2022 and are now being called to plant churches in Kyrgyzstan.

# INTERNATIONAL



## **Paul & Elizabeth Sanduleac - Moldova**

Paul and Elizabeth are missionaries in Moldova, which is also Paul's home country. Paul is a dual graduate of Reformed Theological Seminary. They are working through the auspices of the International Presbyterian Church to plant the first confessional Reformed church in Chisinau, Moldova. To learn more about their work, visit [reformationmoldova.org](http://reformationmoldova.org).



## **Mike & Stacy Wiebe – Lebanon**

Mike and Stacy presently serve with a church plant in Beirut, Lebanon. They help with preaching and teaching, as well as small groups, pastoral care, and children's ministry.

Stacy still serves the women of their home church in Phoenix, AZ remotely by recording expository teaching videos. In addition, she is a trainer with Parakaleo, a ministry that comes alongside women around the world who serve in church planting. Previously, Mike and Stacy lived in South Asia for ten years, where they helped start a new church. That church continues to thrive under local leadership. Mike and Stacy have two children, Liam and Anna, both of whom are graduating this year from Grand Canyon University in Phoenix.



# MISSION TO NORTH AMERICA - Church Planters



## Wright & Elizabeth Busching - Tampa, FL

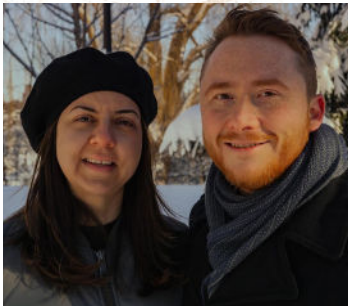
Wright Busching serves as the church planter of University Presbyterian Church (PCA) in Tampa, FL. Wright was born and raised in Jackson, MS. He came to faith through the ministry of RUF at Ole Miss and Christ Presbyterian Church in Oxford, MS in 2004. After college, Wright spent 9 years coaching basketball at Jackson State University and Jackson Academy before serving as the Director of Youth Ministries at Redeemer Church (PCA) in Jackson for 5 years. Wright graduated from RTS-Jackson in May of 2022 with a Master of Divinity and was ordained in June 2022 in the Southwest Florida Presbytery of the PCA.

Wright is married to Elizabeth, who is originally from Dallas, TX and is also a graduate of RTS-Jackson (2010). They have two daughters - Caroline (8) and Marian (5).

The Buschings moved to Tampa in August of 2022 and began the work of building a core group to launch a new church. Their hope is that the Lord would use them to raise up a confessionally reformed church that reaches the lost in the increasingly secular area immediately surrounding the University of South Florida.

## Franky & Alaina Garcia Gatineau, Quebec, Canada

Franky and Alaina Garcia are missionaries in Québec, Canada. Franky is a Mississippi native and PCA minister and felt called to Québec after he met Alaina (from Montreal, Québec) while studying at RTS-Jackson. They are church planting in Gatineau, Québec, a bilingual city that is adjacent to Canada's capital, Ottawa, Ontario. Less than 1% of the population claim to be evangelical Christians in Québec.



## MISSION TO NORTH AMERICA - Church Planters



### **Mark & Stephanie Horn – Ocean Springs, MS**

Pastor Mark Horn has been in ministry for over twenty-five years. He started out in student ministry and has served as senior pastor for the past twenty years to two churches in Tennessee and Alabama. He and his wife, Stephanie, have four children, ages twenty-two and twenty, who are all students in college.

Mark and Stephanie are excited about the new call as missionary church planters in Ocean Springs. They have been coming to the town for years and have a deep love for the people who live on the coast. Their prayer, as they come to Ocean Springs, is to see God build a gospel community whose DNA is not afraid of messes and woundedness, where the lost and their questions are safe, and where the good news of Jesus is brought to bear at the point of people's greatest need.

## REFORMED UNIVERSITY FELLOWSHIP



### **Ro & Anna Taylor Delta State University RUF**

Ro Taylor is in his 12th year with RUF and 6th serving as the RUF Campus Minister at Delta State University. He and his wife Anna have three children (Bo 11, Griff 9, and Mack 6). Anna is from Hattiesburg, and Ro grew up in Jackson, where he attended FPDS and FPC Jackson as a child. He later graduated from Mississippi State and RTS-Jackson.

# REFORMED UNIVERSITY FELLOWSHIP



## Martin & Elizabeth Antoon - SCAD RUF

Martin began working with RUF at SCAD in 2018 after finishing his MDiv at RTS-Jackson and working with the Students and Families Ministry at FPC Jackson. Martin and his wife, Elizabeth, are both from Jackson, grew up at FPC, and are graduates of Jackson Preparatory School. Martin then went to Loyola University New Orleans, where he majored in Music Industries Studies, but while he and his twin brother (Farris) were preparing to commit full time to music and their band, God led them in another direction. Martin's passion for music and creativity sparked a desire to see these communities and individuals reached for the sake of the gospel. After getting a Masters of Business Administration at the University of Mississippi and interning at Christ Presbyterian Church Oxford, God called Martin into full-time vocational ministry.

In addition to ministering to students, Martin enjoys producing and recording his own music, taking home cooking way too seriously, and enjoying Savannah with his family. Martin and Elizabeth have one son, Wade, who was born June 2021.



## Way & Amy Rutherford – Baylor University RUF

Way was born and raised in Meridian and attended Ole Miss from '96-'00. After graduation, he worked for three years at Christ Presbyterian Church in Oxford with Junior and Senior High students. Way and Amy married in 2002 and moved to Jackson, MS, to attend RTS and work with Senior High students at FPC Jackson. After graduation in May of 2007, Way and Amy moved to Louisville, KY, to begin RUF at the University of Louisville. They have three children, Miles Davis and Lucy. The Rutherfords moved to Waco, TX, to do RUF at Baylor University in June of 2014.



# INTERNATIONALS CLASS

## A Foreign Mission Field at FPC

The Tuesday night Internationals Class at FPC continues to reach out to an international group who is not “over there” but is a subculture right here in our city. Most just walk in our doors, having been invited by an International Partner. Relationships with others develop on class trips like this year’s trips to Twin Lakes, Natchez, Vicksburg, and Laurel. More are introduced to us through socials like cookouts, the FPC Thanksgiving dinner, and the pre-Music of Christmas Pizza Party.

Despite COVID issues, visa issues, and even wars, God keeps on blessing the class with folks from over 13 countries, many of which are not missionary friendly. Several International Partner conversions have been extremely encouraging. However they are drawn to the class, each International Partner is considered a gift from God to love and share the life changing Good News of the Gospel.

Please pray that this class will be sensitive to the individual needs of our International Partners who may know nothing about our loving God and who are hungry to grow in their ability to speak English and enjoy fellowship. Pray for each International Partner as they read God’s Word with us during our devotional time, that Christ will draw them to Himself and equip them to share with their own people.



For more information, visit [www.internationalsclass.org](http://www.internationalsclass.org) or contact the Mission and Outreach Department at FPC.



# 2023 MISSION TRIPS

We are excited to offer several short-term mission trips over the coming year. Right now, planning is underway for trips to

- Peru
- Scotland
- Honduras
- Ocean Springs, MS

If you are interested in joining us on one of these trips, please contact Jo Lynn Mayfield in the Mission Department at [jolynnm@fpcjackson.org](mailto:jolynnm@fpcjackson.org).

## PERU MISSION TRIP June 23 - July 1

The team will focus on medical and dental service and Vacation Bible School planning. If you are interested in joining this group, contact Danny Story at 601-953-1427.



**Let the lands that  
sit in darkness  
hear the glorious  
Gospel sound!**



**1 Afghanistan  
2 Belgium  
3 China  
4 Egypt  
5 El Salvador  
6 England**

**7 Germany  
8 Greece  
9 Honduras  
10 India  
11 Indonesia  
12 Iraq**

**13 Japan  
14 Kyrgyzstan  
15 Lebanon  
16 Malawi  
17 Malaysia  
18 Mexico**



**19** Moldova  
**20** Myanmar  
**21** Pakistan  
**22** Peru  
**23** Poland  
**24** Scotland

**25** South Africa  
**26** Taiwan  
**27** Thailand  
**28** Tunisia  
**29** Uganda  
**30** Ukraine



## SERVING UNREACHED PEOPLE GROUPS

Andrew – A & P  
 Apam & Pamleiphy – India  
 Becky – Taiwan  
 Carter & Caroline – Thailand  
 Fred & Sheila – Japan  
 Greg & Becca – Malaysia  
 Jackie & Paul – Kyrgyzstan  
 Jake & Courtney – Thailand  
 Jeff & Katie – Japan  
 Jill – China  
 John & Kelley Beth – SE Asia  
 John & Yvonne – Iraq  
 Jonathan & Maggie – Japan  
 Judith – China  
 Kurt & Jill – England  
 Mark & Jane – Taiwan  
 Michael & Maria – Indonesia  
 Miguel & Hannah – Japan  
 Mike & Stacy – Lebanon  
 Nicole – Indonesia  
 O-Chan & Asami – Japan  
 Tial & Annie – Myanmar  
 Trey & Kiki – Thailand  
 Ty & Ginna – Thailand  
 Virginia – China



## AFRICA

Thomas & Erna Dreyer – South Africa  
 William & Charisa – Tunisia  
 Coby & Pamela McGinty – South Africa  
 Bruce & Pam Sinclair – Uganda



## EUROPE

Mary Baldwin – Greece  
 Daniel & Katie Brink – Belgium  
 Virginia Crews – Ukraine  
 Adair Evans – Germany  
 Lenden & Gemma – Belgium  
 Sebastian & Isabel Heck – Germany  
 Clarke & Khrysty Norton – Ukraine  
 Mel & Martha Pike – Ukraine  
 Jon & Olya Powell – Ukraine  
 Paul & Lizzie Sanduleac – Moldova  
 Moner & Stenia Shaded – Poland  
 Doug & Masha Shepherd – Ukraine  
 Andrew Sheppard – Ukraine  
 Joel Spence – Ukraine





## LATIN AMERICA

Abigail Conroy – El Salvador  
Aaron & Rachel Halbert – Honduras  
Ricky & Arely Kroeger - Mexico  
Alonzo & Esther Rameriz – Peru



## UNITED KINGDOM

Kevin & Maria Bidwell - England  
Cory & Heather Brock – Scotland  
Will & Judi Traub - Scotland

## INTERNATIONAL SUPPORTED MINISTRIES SERVING FROM THE US

Laura Chinchén – African Bible College  
Nell Chinchén – African Bible College  
Rick & Terri Herr – Wycliffe



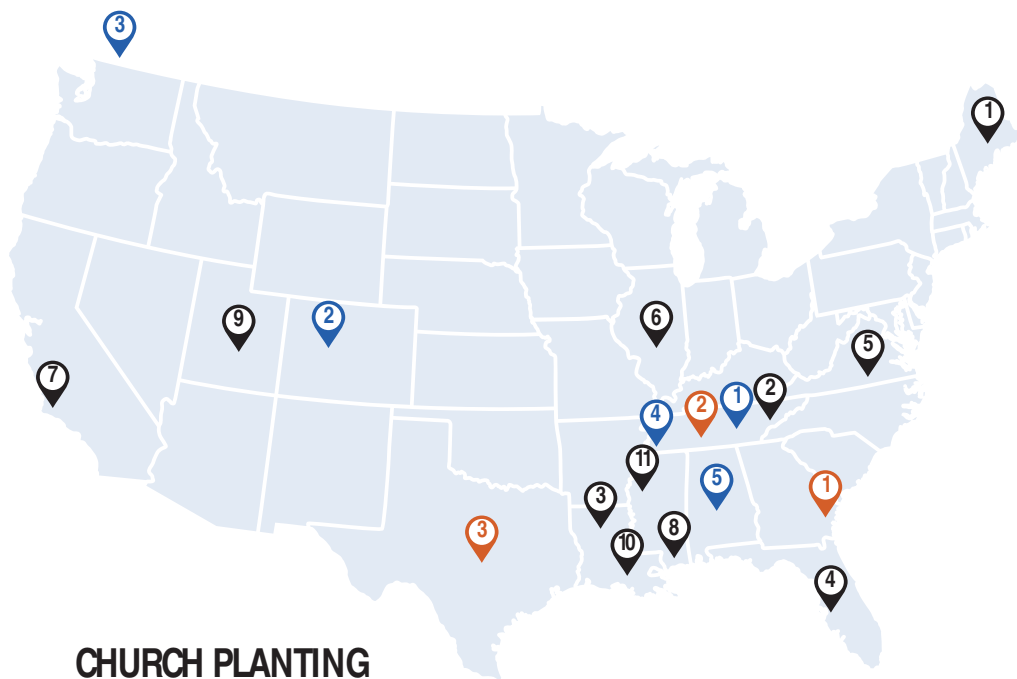
## PARTNERSHIPS

China Partnership  
Equipping Leaders International  
Great Commission Church Planting Project – Egypt  
Indonesia Partnership  
Third Millennium



INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE  
equipping leaders. spreading the gospel.





## CHURCH PLANTING

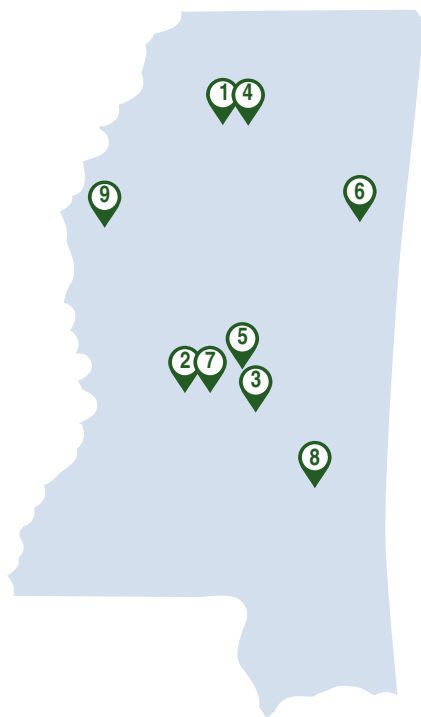
- 1 Per and Beth Almquist - Free Grace PC, Lewiston, Maine
- 2 John & Taylor Blevins - Christ Church, Knoxville, TN
- 3 Harris & Laura Beth Bond - Ouachita Presbyterian Church, Monroe, LA
- 4 Wright & Elizabeth Busching - University Presbyterian Church, Tampa, FL
- 5 Jegar Chinnavan and Jemima Jegar - First Asian Indian Presbyterian Church, Herndon, VA
- 6 Joe & Kristiana Cristman - Redeemer Presbyterian Church, Lombard, IL
- 7 Michael & Beth Gregory - The Way, Los Angeles, CA
- 8 Mark & Stephanie Horn - Hope PCA, Ocean Springs, MS
- 9 Ben & Melanie Kappers - All Saints, St. George, UT
- 10 Ben & Marianna Shaw - Christ Community Church, St. Francisville, LA
- 11 Mike and Roxanne Winebrenner - Christ Fellowship, Horn Lake, MS

## EVANGELISM & DISCIPLESHIP

- 1 Mark & Raylene Casson - Metanoia Prison Ministry - Chattanooga, TN
- 2 Bassam & Connie Chedid - Children of Abraham - Colorado Springs, CO
- 3 Tim & Lana Higginbotham - North American Indigenous Ministries - Canada
- 4 Sam & Sarah Tyson Husband - New City Memphis - Memphis, TN
- 5 Joel & Holly Wallace - MNA Special Needs Ministry - Birmingham, AL

## CAMPUS MINISTRY (outside of Mississippi)

- 1 Martin & Elizabeth Antoon - SCAD RUF Campus Minister
- 2 Richie Sessions - RUF Mid-South Administration (Nashville, TN)
- 3 Way & Amy Rutherford - Baylor RUF Campus Minister



## **CAMPUS MINISTRY (Mississippi Schools)**

- 1 Austin & Kristen Braasch – Ole Miss RUF Campus Minister
- 2 Anne Michal & Grant Carter – Mississippi College RUF Staff
- 3 Bentley & Sarah Love Crawford – Belhaven RUF Campus Minister
- 4 Kaylee & Bobby Epps - Ole Miss RUF Staff
- 5 Anthony & Felicia Forrest - Jackson State RUF Campus Minister
- 6 Joe & April Johnson - Mississippi State RUF Campus Minister
- 7 Jeff & Dominique Jordan - Mississippi College RUF Campus Minister
- 8 Davis & Ashleigh Morgan - University of Southern Miss RUF Campus Minister
- 9 Ro & Anna Taylor - Delta State RUF Campus Minister

# Trusting God.

## Overflowing with Prayer.

It was this time last year, on February 24th, that the Russian Federation launched its attack on Ukraine. It is hard to believe that a whole year has gone by. It is also hard to believe how the events on that dark morning, taking place in a European country that many might have struggled to locate on the map, triggered a cascading series of events that would have a profound impact on our church.

**It is hard to believe that  
a whole year has gone by.**

From the very first hours, our church's Mission to the World committee mobilized to provide emergency funds to the missionaries whom we support that were actively serving in Ukraine. There is no special missionary training that teaches one how to minister in these circumstances, but your gifts to missions through First Presbyterian Church helped to free missionaries from the financial anxiety that accompanied the waves of displaced Ukrainians in need of support.

There were constant calls to see how people could help and how they could pray. Our church set aside a day of prayer and held a special worship service focused specifically on calling out to God in this time of need. The impact that your prayers had for our missionaries, and for our brothers and sisters in Ukraine, is not possible to measure. A full arsenal of every conceivable weapon was unleashed on Ukraine, and even still, not one of them had the power of your prayers flying heavenward.

Despite major hurdles, our very own ruling elder Bo Bowen continued traveling to Ukraine for training and evangelism. Missionaries who we have supported each month and who are based in the western part of Ukraine mobilized to help Ukrainians evacuate into Europe through Poland. They also organized the purchase of humanitarian aid that could be brought back into Ukraine. Over the summer, our missionaries launched a program called Crates for Ukraine that allowed people in the States to more directly participate in this process.

Perhaps the most encouraging part of this past year was the way in which First Presbyterian Church embraced the Crates for Ukraine project. You all filled these crates with lifesaving aid and made them overflow with love for another branch of Christ's Church. At no small expense of time and treasure, you exceeded all of the goals and expectations that were set for our participation. Every age and stage was involved. Families, d-groups, Sunday school classes, kids, grandparents, schools, and even other churches participated through FPC. Our missionaries, sister churches in Ukraine, and brothers and sisters in Christ were all touched by your kindness and Christian love.





# MISSIONS GIVING AT FPC JACKSON

At FPC Jackson, our missions budget is completely separate from all other parts of our operating budget. When you give to missions at FPC, your offering is used specifically to spread the gospel around our country and to the ends of the earth.

## Does a portion of my regular tithe/offering go to missions?

No. Regular tithes and offerings go to the general budget and help fund the work that we do at our church, in our city, at First Presbyterian Day School, and at Twin Lakes Camp and Conference Center. When you give through our annual stewardship campaign or designate your gift as a “tithe/offering” you are supporting all work of the church apart from global missions and Mission to North America.

## How do I give to missions at FPC Jackson?

In order to support global missions and missions in North America, a donation must be designated a “missions” gift. This can be done by making a note on your check or by choosing “missions” when you give online or through our app.

To give to the 2023-2024 fiscal year, please go to [www.fpcjackson.org/missions-giving](http://www.fpcjackson.org/missions-giving).

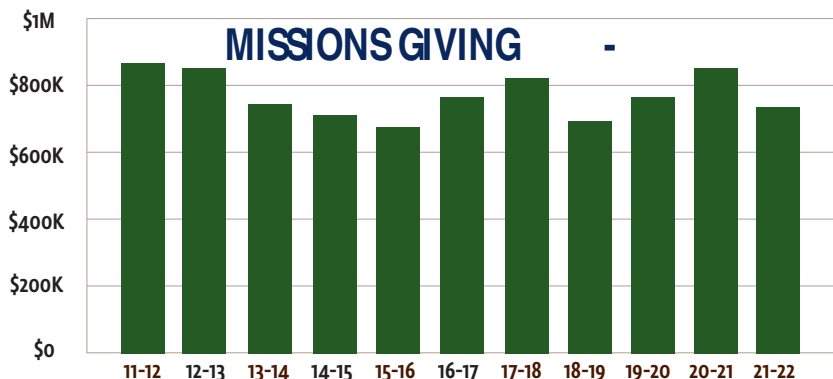


Scan this QR code to give online to missions.

To let us know how much you plan to give in the coming fiscal year (April 2023-March 2024), please complete our pledge page at [www.fpcjackson.org/missions-pledge](http://www.fpcjackson.org/missions-pledge) or fill out the pledge form included in this booklet and place it in the offering plate or mail it to the church.



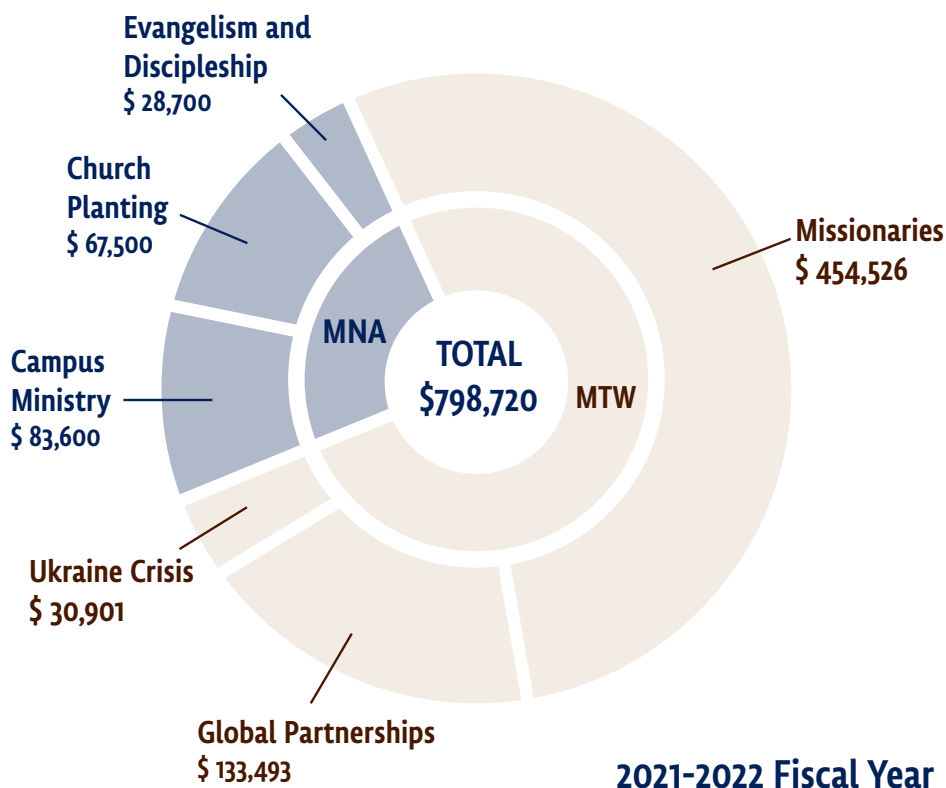
Scan this QR code for the online pledge form.



# MISSIONS GIVING AT FPC JACKSON

## How is my gift to missions used?

Our Mission to the World and Mission to North America committees and our Missions Department appropriate our funds to missionaries and missions organizations that have applied for support and been approved by the session of our church. In 2022, we supported 91 missionaries in 31 countries. We also sent support to 5 global missions organizations.



## How do I support mercy ministries and local missions in the Jackson area?

We support local mercy ministry and missions through our church's Benevolence account, which is part of the general budget. So, when you give tithes and offerings, a portion of that money goes to local missions and ministries of the church such as First Presbyterian Day School and Twin Lakes Camp and Conference Center.

Additionally, our general budget now includes the Mercy Fund, which is dedicated to helping the needy in our community.



# CONFERENCE *SCHEDULE*

## SUNDAY, FEBRUARY

8:30am & 11:00am | Morning Worship ..... Cory Brock  
6:00pm | Evening Worship ..... Cory Brock

## WEDNESDAY, MARCH

5:00pm | Midweek Welcome Dinner  
6:00pm | Lord, Extend Your Kingdom – Opening Session  
6:00pm | Children's Mission Time

## THURSDAY, MARCH

11:30am | Ladies' Missions Lunch ..... Mary Baldwin  
6:00pm | Men's Steak Supper ..... Aaron Halbert

## FRIDAY, MARCH

10:00am - 1:00pm | Crates for Ukraine Packing Party (Come & Go)  
6:00pm | Sunday School Classes Host Missionaries

## SATURDAY, MARCH

8:30am | Breakfast  
9:00am - 11:30am | Saturday Morning Session ..... Derek Thomas

## SUNDAY, MARCH

8:30am & 11:00am | Morning Worship ..... Derek Thomas  
9:45am | Sunday School Classes ..... various Guest Speakers  
5:00pm | Evening Worship ..... Derek Thomas  
6:00pm | Dinner on the Grounds with foods from around the world