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## GREETINGS FROM NORM STORY

**Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember that I am with you always, to the end of the age. (Matthew 28: 19-20 NRSV)**

In response to this call and commission from our Lord Jesus Christ, First Presbyterian Church of Las Cruces has always tried to be a strong and faithful mission-oriented congregation. The primary purpose of the Christian Church, the very reason for its existence, is for those outside the organization. Jesus has called and equipped us to reach out to others in His name, in outward expression of the love and grace we ourselves have received. The Mission Committee of First Presbyterian Church has prepared this mission booklet and directory as a guide for our prayer and correspondence, including information about the missionaries and ministries your faithful stewardship supports.

Please use this Directory in your daily prayers and meditation. It is a privilege to support these persons and ministries through our prayers, our finances, and our encouragement. Write to them, send them e-mail messages, or visit them as you travel. For more information, please contact any member of your Missions Committee, and let us be faithful to this Great Commission entrusted to us by our Lord.

## WHY USE THIS PRAYER GUIDE

The mission program of First Presbyterian Church tries to facilitate obedience on the part of every member to Christ's words, "As the Father has sent me, I also send you." John 20:21.

Some of our members and friends have been able to go beyond our walls, serving God in other countries or working as volunteers in local mission enterprises. Scripture teaches that all Christians are to respond to our lost and needy world and support the proclamation of the gospel by prayer and other forms of participation. Our field of harvest is the whole world, beginning in Las Cruces and reaching outward to all peoples.

The all peoples imperative comes from God's commitment to bless, without fail, all the people groups of the world through Abraham's descendants. The promise is the backbone of the Bible and the scriptural foundation for our worldwide outreach and support for Christian missions in many places. God is using us and others to fulfill his purpose. We invite you to read and meditate on some instances of the promise.

- The promise to Abraham: Genesis 12:1-3; Genesis 18:16-18; Genesis 22: 15-18.
- The promise to Isaac: Genesis 26; 2-4.
- The promise to Jacob: Genesis 28:10-14.
- David's recognition of the promise: Psalm 22:27-28.
- Isaiah's recognition of the promise: Isaiah 44:22, Isaiah 49:1. 5-6.
- Simeon's awareness of the promise: Luke 2:30-32.
- Jesus' proclamation of the promise: Matthew 28: 19; Mark 13:10, Luke 24:44-47; Acts 1:7-8.
- Paul's recognition of the promise: Galatians 3:6-9.
- Promise in John's revelation: Revelation 5:8-9; Revelation 7:9-10

Each member can participate in the world-wide ministry to which God, through Jesus Christ, has commissioned us. Informed prayers and financial support are basic. We can also encourage Christian workers through correspondence, visit outreach sites, and volunteer our services locally and elsewhere. Please use this guide to those ends.

## HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

### For correspondence

You may wish to encourage missionaries by contacting them.

Please avoid statements about sensitive areas such as religion, evangelism, and missionary work, when contacting those with two asterisks (\*\*) by their names.

### For prayer

You may wish to make this guide a part of a "prayer kit" for your daily devotions. Here are some of the things in the lives of missionaries you can pray about.

- Pray about their *relationship with God* - that they will be able to spend sufficient high quality time with the Bible, have a good prayer life, and experience the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.
- Pray about their *family relationships* - for those from whom they are separated, for open relationships and special times together, and for wisdom balancing family and ministry needs.
- Pray about their *emotional and physical needs* – their health, medical care, and adaptation to climate, food; safety during travel and danger; and relief from loneliness, depression, frustration and self-doubt.
- Pray for *effectiveness* – for adequate resources, open doors, courage, boldness, wisdom, perceptiveness, and listening ability; and responsiveness on the part of those to whom they minister.
- Pray for *good relationships with nationals and other missionaries* - for respect and peace among fellow believers, for unity of purpose to glorify God, and for language and cultural adaptation.
- Pray for the *country of service* -for political stability, liberal travel and visa regulations, opening of new areas of outreach, and effective national Christian leadership.

### For financial contributions, visitation and volunteering

You may want to contribute beyond what the church has budgeted, visit a mission site, or volunteer your services on a temporary or long term basis. Those who wish to may make financial contributions through the church.



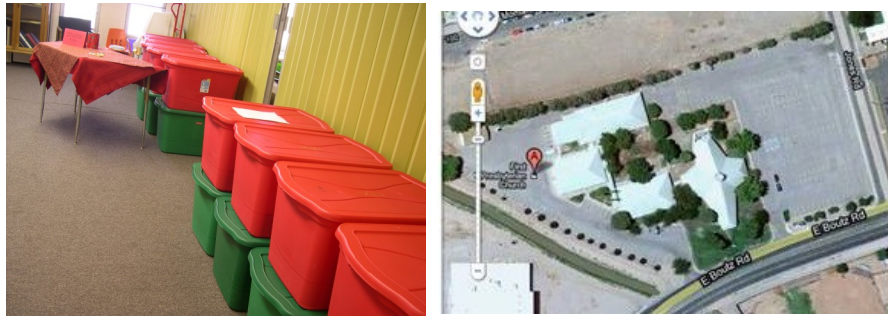
## Casa de Peregrinos

AGENCY: **Casa de Peregrinos**  
LOCATION: Las Cruces, New Mexico  
PEOPLE: The needy of Doña Ana County  
MINISTRY: Emergency food program  
ADDRESS: 999 W. Amador, Las Cruces, NM 88006  
PHONE: 575-523-5542  
E-MAIL: [casadepere@yahoo.com](mailto:casadepere@yahoo.com)  
INTERNET: [www.casadeperigrinos.org](http://www.casadeperigrinos.org)

Casa de Peregrinos ("House of the Pilgrims") is a local program which provides food on an emergency-only basis. First Presbyterian Church helps support this Christian service agency by donating money, food, and other needed items. The Deacons pick up donated items from baskets kept at each of the three entrances to the sanctuary for delivery to this agency. Items may also be left in the church office.

Those served include: out-of-work families with no unemployment benefits; welfare families whose checks have been lost, stolen or discontinued; new food stamp recipients waiting for their first stamps; destitute families suffering from recent death or illness; special cases where all possessions have been stolen or destroyed; and transients looking for jobs. Casa de Peregrinos averages about 1,400 requests for food each month and has distributed over a million pounds of food since it was founded in 1982.

Casa de Peregrinos accepts donations of all kinds of food, including salvageable products such as day-old items and those with damaged cases or packing. Lists of basic foods most needed and non-food items also accepted are available in our literature racks and from the agency office. Receiving hours are 8:30-12:00 a.m. and 1:00-5:00 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday.



## Deacons' Ministries

AGENCY: First Presbyterian Church Board of Deacons  
LOCATION: Las Cruces, New Mexico  
PEOPLE: Las Cruces residents and transients  
MINISTRY: Financial and other forms of assistance  
ADDRESS: 200 E. Boutz Road, Las Cruces, NM 88001  
PHONE: 575-526-5559  
E-MAIL: [fpcl@zianet.com](mailto:fpcl@zianet.com)

The First Presbyterian Church Board of Deacons consists of 19 members, one third of whom are elected annually by the congregation. The board also has one youth member who serves for one year. A major part of their outreach work is to minister to material, social, and psychological needs of members and friends of the congregation and to transients and other people in severe need. The Board is divided into 12 committees, nearly all of which are concerned in some measure with ministry to human need.

The Deacons render financial assistance to the needy, minister to shut-ins and the hospitalized, transport people to church, provide sack lunches for transients, minister to the bereaved, and help needy families at Christmas. One of their major ministries, in liaison with the Community of Hope, is El Caldito, providing soup kitchen teams for this meal service to those in need. One of the deacons is charged with overseeing this ministry. In addition, the Deacons are also in charge of the food items which the congregation donates each Sunday, taking them to Casa de Peregrinos for distribution. At the beginning of the school year, Deacons also organize a collection of socks and undies which they then take to the Gospel Rescue Mission.

The money for the Deacon outreach ministries comes from designated gifts, from purchases made by the congregation, and from their main fund raising event of the year, the Annual Hamburger Fry.



## Gospel Rescue Mission

AGENCY: Gospel Rescue Mission  
LOCATION: Las Cruces, New Mexico  
PEOPLE: All needy people  
MINISTRY: Evangelism, discipline, material assistance  
ADDRESS: 1050 West Amador  
P.O. Box 386, Las Cruces, NM 88004  
PHONE: 575-523-7727  
E-MAIL: [LCGRM@zianet.com](mailto:LCGRM@zianet.com)

The Gospel Rescue Mission helps all needy people, local or transient, although those who trouble others or have communicable diseases may be handled separately or asked to return later. Men, women and children may receive meals, lodging, clothing, medicine, counseling and spiritual guidance.

The number of meals served averages about 300 a day, which has doubled since 2005. The Mission provides free lodging for three nights, after which a person may request an unlimited number of two week extensions. The Mission also tries to help people obtain jobs and permanent housing. It also runs a thrift store. It uses the profits from the store's sales to buy medicines for the needy. Another example of the store's operations is its "back to school" drive for donations of backpacks for students, which it then provides to needy families.

The Mission's chief goal is to meet people at their level of physical, emotional and spiritual need, which may include support to rebuild troubled lives through its "New Life Program." The Mission educates and counsels for personal and spiritual growth, building a solid foundation on Jesus Christ. It offers daily chapel services at 7:00 p.m.



## **Iglesia del Pueblo**

AGENCY: Presbyterian Church (USA)  
LOCATION: Las Cruces, NM  
PEOPLE: Anyone, usually Spanish speaking  
MINISTRY: Spanish speakers from Las Cruces  
ADDRESS: 200 E. Boutz Rd. Las Cruces, NM 88005  
E-MAIL: [hawk.39@hotmail.com](mailto:hawk.39@hotmail.com)

Iglesia del Pueblo is a new church development project for Spanish speaking people which is located within the First Presbyterian Church of Las Cruces. The focus is on worship, pastoral care, and leadership development.

Sunday worship has attendance varying from 10 to 40 people. Midweek studies help the participants to be involved in solutions to immigration issues, assistance to the community in matters of hunger and family challenges, and parental orientation and training to enable families to achieve excellence in school. A highlight is the cooperative food distribution program every month in which some thirty volunteers from Iglesia del Pueblo serve from 90 to 125 families.

Leadership training is ongoing, Midweek Bible study is providing guidance for a number of the families. New efforts in family fellowship activities are supporting family relationships. Mission is at the heart of our church life.

The rough economic times impact the families disproportionately. For many, it is a major challenge to pay rent and utilities and provide adequate food for the family, even when working. For some, the trauma of deportations that divide families is an ongoing reality.

Pastoral care is provided for the congregation and for many other members of the community. English as a Second Language continues to be taught by the pastor, and a good percentage of the adult members avail themselves of both English and GED classes.





## **Kairos Prison Ministry**

**AGENCY:** Kairos Prison Ministry International, Inc  
**PEOPLE:** Prisoners  
**LOCATION:** Las Cruces  
**MINISTRY:** Prison ministry  
**PHONE:** (575) 523-1216

Kairos International serves 25,000 incarcerated men, women, and youth. Studies show that Kairos reduces the return rate to prison by 70%. Actually, we all know that it is God's work (through the Kairos volunteers) that accounts for the success of the program.

The Prison Ministry is interdenominational. Members of a number of Christ-focused churches serve this important mission effort. Volunteers show the prisoners how Jesus Christ has transformed their lives. They seek with a servant's heart to share their experience and faith with inmates.

Kairos is an outgrowth of the Cursillo and Walk to Emmaus. Kairos has active units in the US, Canada, Great Britain, South Africa, Australia, Ireland, Costa Rica, Honduras, and Nicaragua. Today, there are a total of 320 prisons around the world which have active Kairos communities. Kairos does all this with only 10 paid staff members, and over 30,000 Christian volunteers.

Locally, Kairos interacts with the Southern New Mexico Correctional Facility. Bruce and Peggy White, from our congregation, are involved with this prison ministry. They encourage anyone who wishes to participate to contact them.



## **NMSU Students**

**LOCATION:** New Mexico State University  
**PEOPLE:** NMSU Students and Faculty  
**MINISTRY:** Bible Study  
**ADDRESS:** First Presbyterian Church  
200 E Boutz RD Las Cruces, NM 88005

College Dinner Night at First Presbyterian Church was begun Fall 2013 in response to the need for “a place to call home” for college students and young adults who attend the church. The group meets once a month in the home of Steve and Janet Loman, where the students enjoy a home-cooked meal together, talk about their lives as working students, and form new friendships across several disciplines of study offered at New Mexico State University. The group has rapidly expanded to almost 20.

Most students at NMSU are commuter students, holding down jobs while working on degrees. One student expressed that he and his wife now have the opportunity to socialize with those who share the same goals and similar tight schedules. Another student stated that it would be great if the group met more often than once a month! During the November dinner the students were asked to express something for which they are thankful. One said he was thankful for having been led to our church. We are building relationships in Christ and hope to participate in a community project in the future.



## St. Luke's Health Care Clinic

AGENCY: St. Luke's Health Care Clinic  
LOCATION: Las Cruces, New Mexico  
PEOPLE: Destitute persons with no medical coverage  
MINISTRY: Health care  
ADDRESS: 999 W. Amador Ave., P.O. Box 6875  
Las Cruces, NM 88006  
PHONE: 575-527-5482

St. Luke's, named after Luke, the physician and author of the Gospel of Luke, offers limited health care. Those with neither insurance nor coverage by Medicare, Medicaid or other programs are referred to the Clinic for medical advice, testing, treatment and medication.

The Clinic is located at the City of Hope. It is ecumenical, governed by a Board of Directors and a Medical Advisory Board. It is licensed by the State of New Mexico as a limited treatment and diagnostic center and operates with an all-volunteer staff of physicians, nurses, interpreters, clerks, and an administrator. Funding comes from gifts and grants from individuals, churches, service clubs, and businesses. It receives no government funds.

Patients range from eight years of age and up. People of all races and ethnic groups come to St. Luke's because they have no other place to go. The Clinic provides many services, including testing diabetics for blood sugar levels, checking blood pressure, providing medication, and offering basic medical advice for young mothers. The patient load has increased steadily since the Clinic opened. More volunteers and increased funding are both needed.



## **Doug and Sherry Barron**

AGENCY: CRU (formerly Campus Crusade for Christ)  
LOCATION: San Diego  
MINISTRY: CRU-Military Ministry at Camp Pendleton  
ADDRESS: 1840 Via Allena, Oceanside, CA 92056  
PHONE 760-842-7689  
E-MAIL: [doug.barron@milinin.org](mailto:doug.barron@milinin.org)  
[sherry.barron@milinin.org](mailto:sherry.barron@milinin.org)

Doug is the son of the late Richard and Helen Barron of our congregation and grew up in Las Cruces. He met Sherry, who is originally from Minnesota, in 1975. They served separately as CCC missionaries before marrying in 1981.

In his own words: “In 2011 we began anew the Military Ministry work with CRU at Camp Pendleton working with Marines. It has been a challenge learning this new culture, but we are really growing to love these men and women and their families.”

There are many challenges facing these brave families. Multiple deployments and combat stress issues have produced an extremely high divorce rate. We work closely with Family Life, which is another part of CRU as marriage problems are a massive issue. I lead a small Bible study at the School of Infantry, and also co-lead a study at the Wounded Warrior Battalion. We also work with Battalion Chaplains and Family Readiness Officers to present a DVD format of the Family Life Weekend to Remember Marriage Seminar.

Sherry is also writing a series of books for children in families where PTSD is an issue. They are written to correspond with a book our ministry has called “When War Comes Home.” The children’s lessons correspond with what is being taught in the adult version but written at grade level. One book is for K-3<sup>rd</sup>, the next 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> and then 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades. Sherry is working on getting the books illustrated.



## **Bhangi Dalit Project \*\***

AGENCY: Witnessing Ministries of Christ  
PEOPLE: Bhangi (Lowest of Untouchables)  
LOCATION: India (State of Uttar Pradesh)  
MINISTRY: Development  
ADDRESS: 4747 N. Barton Avenue, Fresno, CA 93726  
PHONE: 559-226-7349  
E-MAIL: [wmc@presbymin.org](mailto:wmc@presbymin.org)  
INTERNET: [www.witnessingministries.com](http://www.witnessingministries.com)

We view our support of Philip and Elizabeth Prasad as mainly for evangelism. But when the most persecuted people in India come to Christ in such great numbers, the mission must also teach faith, leadership, vision, and discipline as vehicles of exodus from suffering. The Bhangi or Dalit (the lowest Untouchables) need to build a sense of self-worth, develop and nurture their minds, achieve equality, learn new occupations, improve their health, cope with crippling segregation and persecution, and develop better ways of relating to others for work, worship, and ministry.

To these ends, Witnessing Ministries of Christ and the Rural Presbyterian Church - India have been building and operating seminaries to train hundreds of pastor couples to serve several thousand village congregations. They are building schools and a college, instituting child support programs, teaching new occupations, providing jobs, and teaching people how to get employment. They have established a center for improving the lot of women and are teaching people to spend time in prayer, Bible study, and worship. They have built and encourage the use of a large library. They developed a garment center where people can obtain quality clothing. They are installing clean water systems and teaching nutrition. There is much more to do, so continuing outside support is needed.



## **Donna Evans\*\***

AGENCY: Wycliffe Bible Translators  
LOCATION: Indonesia and the Philippines  
PEOPLE: People of Central Sulawesi  
MINISTRY: Linguistics analysis, translation, training, education  
ADDRESS: P.O. Box 81439, Davao City, Philippines  
PHONE: 63(82)221-4596  
E-MAIL: [Donna.Evans@wycliffe.net](mailto:Donna.Evans@wycliffe.net)

Donna Evans has had a long connection to the congregation of First Presbyterian Church which helps support her work in Indonesia. A former public health nurse, Donna earned an M.A. in linguistics, learned the national language (Indonesian) and taught English and linguistics courses as well as doing research in one of the minority languages. After completing the New Testament in that language in 1999 much of her work shifted to training Indonesians to do linguistic research and translation. Donna currently lives in Davao City (Philippines) making frequent trips to Indonesia. As of fall 2013 Donna is preparing for four things:

- Developing reference materials in the national language to help national translators who are translating into their own languages.
- A series of workshops three times a year to train local people how to do translation. Six teams from different language groups are working on translating the Old Testament into their languages.
- Consulting with teams in other areas of Indonesia who are translating Scripture into their own languages.
- Working to get the Ledo dictionary and stories on line, and also to get the translated Scriptures recorded in audio format and eventually available digitally.



## **Tom and Judy Harvey**

AGENCY: Presbyterian Church USA  
LOCATION: Oxford, England  
PEOPLE: Students from over 40 nations  
MINISTRY: Global Christian Leadership and Mission Education  
ADDRESS 25 Hayfield Road  
Oxford UK OX2 6TX  
E-MAIL: [ttctharvey@yahoo.com](mailto:ttctharvey@yahoo.com)

Tom Harvey is Academic Dean of the Oxford Centre for Mission Studies (OCMS). OCMS is one of the leading research centers for training global Christian leaders, working in the underdeveloped nations of the world. This center has over 140 MPhil/PhD candidates from over 40 nations with over 80 Masters and Doctoral degrees conferred. With over 70 percent of their students hailing from undeveloped nations, OCMS is a critical nexus of Christian mission. Church leaders, and others, come to OCMS to enhance their work and ministry so as to holistically transform their world. Nearly all of their graduates return to serve in the country of their origin or work. OCMS has a degree completion rate well over the UK university average.

OCMS also serves as a hub where world mission leaders gather to discuss and develop their work. They come to OCMS because they share in the vision that mission involves holistic transformation. It is involved with all aspects of the good news of Jesus Christ whether that be more effectively preaching and spreading the gospel, meeting the real development and personal needs of Christians around the globe, or whatever else serves to help establish the Kingdom of God.

Tom oversees the academic work of OCMS and guides the faculty and students. Tom also helps in the supervision of students at OCMS. Judy is active in the local churches and teaches English.



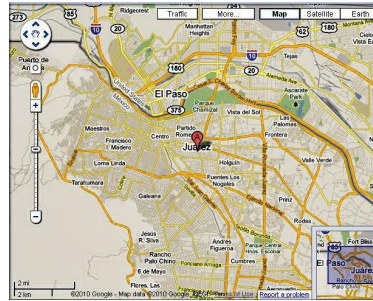
## John and Gwen Haspels

AGENCY: Presbyterian Church (USA)  
PEOPLE: Suri and Baale  
LOCATION: Southeastern Ethiopia  
MINISTRY: Evangelism, development  
ADDRESS: Box 1111, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia  
E-MAIL: [johnhaspels@hotmail.com](mailto:johnhaspels@hotmail.com)  
INTERNET: [www.presbyterianmissions.org/ministries/missionconnections/hapels-john-and-gwenyth/](http://www.presbyterianmissions.org/ministries/missionconnections/hapels-john-and-gwenyth/)

John and Gwen Haspels grew up in missionary families in Africa, and both attended school in Alexandria, Egypt. Gwen is a registered nurse, and John holds a Master of Divinity degree. They abandoned their initial work in Ethiopia when communists took control of the country, returned to the U.S. for a time, and then resumed mission work among the Merle people of Sudan. Since returning to Ethiopia several years ago to minister to the Suri, they have seen the birth of a Christian church in that tribe now numbering between 25,000 and 30,000. The neighboring Baale people then asked for a Christian presence, and the Haspels and the Suri Christians built a road over the mountains into Baale territory. In late 2008 and early 2009, after a period of minimal response to their witness, younger Baale began accepting Christ in larger numbers, and over 130 became Christians within a few months.

While John and Gwen are involved in relief and development work, they define missions basically as the outreach of the church beyond itself, to win people to Christ. They also believe indigenous churches should be self-supporting and able to carry out their own outreach programs.





## Pasos de Fe

**LOCATION:** Juarez, Mexico and El Paso, Texas  
**PEOPLE:** On both sides of the border at El Paso and Juarez  
**MINISTRY:** Evangelism, church growth and material assistance  
**ADDRESS:** Rev. W Hawkins, Iglesia del Pueblo  
 200 E, Boutz Rd. Las Cruces, NM 88011  
**PHONE:** (575) 526-5559  
**E-MAIL:** [hawk.39@hotmail.com](mailto:hawk.39@hotmail.com)

Pasos de Fe is our regional binational Presbyterian mission presence with a focus on Ciudad Juarez, Mexico and El Paso, Texas. The Mexican focus is in a very needy neighborhood called Colonia Guadalupe Izquierda. We maintain a community center there where classes in English, Computer Skills, Beautician Preparation take place for all ages. Pastors and Christian leaders from our seven Presbyterian Churches keep the center open six days each week. A seminary student conducts evangelism efforts from the center.

The Mexican churches also coordinate an immigration program for Presbyterians who come to the U.S. Consulate in Juarez to process legalization documents and facilitate family reunion through legal immigration.

Funding and formal ecclesial relationships across the border have created some uncertainties in all of the six Border Ministries along the four state international border. But pastors and leaders on both sides have stepped up and voluntarily led programs on both sides. A Mexican pastor and a lay leader come to the University Presbyterian Church in El Paso each week to conduct services in Spanish that will hopefully develop into a regularly worshipping community. Occasionally a Mexican pastor or elder come to Las Cruces to preach for Pastor Hawkins when he is gone.



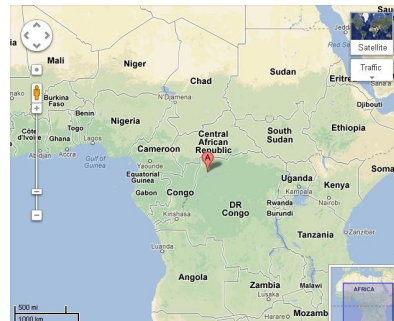
## Priscilla Presbyterian Bible School

AGENCY: Independent Governing Board  
PEOPLE: Mexican  
LOCATION: Mérida, Yucatán, Mexico  
MINISTRY: Christian education and music  
ADDRESS: Calle 74-A, No. 453 X 45 X 47, C.P. 97000, Mérida, Yucatán  
PHONE: 52-924-23-24  
E-MAIL: [ruth-ad@hotmail.com](mailto:ruth-ad@hotmail.com)  
INTERNET: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Escuela-Biblica-Presbiteriane-Priscila/>

In 1956, Presbyterian missionaries Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Matthews and Christian leaders in Yucatan founded a Bible school for female Christian workers in Mérida, the largest city of Yucatan. At first, all the staff and teachers were unpaid volunteers, and the classes met in private homes. The school now has its own building and professional staff and teachers, under the Director, Dora Martin Zapata.

The school offers courses in Bible, Christian education, theology and music, as well as a few utilitarian courses, such as cooking and hygiene. Until a few years ago, it served only young women, preparing them to become pastor's wives, aides, missionaries, Sunday School teachers, and other kinds of Christian workers. Now, however, it also teaches some male students as well.

The students are generally from poor rural areas in Mexico and Belize. In order to be admitted, they must have completed nine grades of school and be at least 16 years old. Before First Presbyterian began providing some financial assistance to the school, the students had to make and sell bread and tablecloths to support themselves. The school has a very small budget, and our donations provide a significant portion of its financial support.



## **Ron and Donna Pontier**

AGENCY: Africa Inland Mission  
LOCATION: Entebbe, Uganda  
PEOPLE: East and Central African tribes and missionaries  
MINISTRY: Air transportation, logistics, aid to churches  
ADDRESS: Pontier, AIM Air, Box 800, Entebbe, Uganda  
E-MAIL: [ron-donna.pontier@aimint.net](mailto:ron-donna.pontier@aimint.net)

Ron Pontier grew up as a "MK" (missionary kid) in Africa. While obtaining a degree in engineering and an associate degree in aviation maintenance at LeTourneau College, he worked on airplanes for two years with JAARS/Wycliffe. He attended Moody Bible Institute for a year and completed two years of flight training Tennessee. He has been serving Africa Inland Missions (AIM/AIR) since 1984.

Donna grew up in Michigan and studied foreign missions for three years at Moody Bible Institute, where she and Ron met. In 1984, she graduated from Oakland Union School of Nursing. She and Ron married and returned to Africa together that same year.

The Pontiers are in a time of transition. AIM AIR is also going through changes, and Ron and Donna may be doing something different than aviation when they return to Africa. They had first been assigned to help a team get established in the Central African Republic to reach the Mbororo people, a nomadic cattle tribe classified as an unreached people group that has been coming down from more northern parts of Africa. The team would also work with the existing Church in CAR to reach out as missionaries to the Mbororo tribe as well. Please pray for this project. Due to the escalating instability in the area, A.I.M. has decided to postpone this initiative. Ron and Donna will be doing similar work preparing infrastructure for teams in South Sudan. Please pray for the Pontiers' peace and trust in the Lord as He leads them into what He has for them to do this next term.



## **Philip and Elizabeth Prasad \*\***

AGENCY:        Witnessing Ministries of Christ  
PEOPLE:        Bhangi (Lowest of Untouchables)  
LOCATION:        India (State of Uttar Pradesh)  
MINISTRY:     Evangelism, development  
ADDRESS:       4747 N. Barton Avenue, Fresno, CA 93726  
PHONE:         559-216-7349  
E-MAIL:         [wmc@presbymin.org](mailto:wmc@presbymin.org)  
INTERNET:      [www.witnessingministries.com](http://www.witnessingministries.com)

As a Bhangi (untouchable) boy, Philip Prasad accepted the Biblical teaching that God, in the person of Jesus Christ, suffered, died, and rose again to redeem people from the sin that would keep them from knowing God. Philip got into a school, but he was accused of cheating and beaten severely for getting all the answers right on a test. It was later found that he had not cheated, so he stayed, but he always had to sit on a pile of fresh manure rather than with the other children.

A Presbyterian missionary helped Philip get to the United States for his further education. He married Elizabeth and became manager of the City of Fresno, Calif. Later, Philip visited his home country and decided to take the Gospel to his own people. Over 22 years, an average of more than 77,000 Bhanghi received Christ each year, and the Rural Presbyterian Church-India emerged. By 2009, it consisted of over 72 Presbyteries with over 1,700,000 believers in Christ in thousands of Bhanghi villages and congregations.

For the Bhangi, accepting Christ is the first step in escaping the humiliation and deprivation of being thought as lacking souls. It provides a foundation for escaping the degrading cleaning of toilets for only a hunk of stale bread or the filthy occupation of disposing of dead animals. A large part of the mission task is to build a sense of worth in all Bhangi and help them to achieve a better life.



## **Joel and Barbara Trudell**

AGENCY: SIL International  
LOCATION: Nairobi, Kenya  
PEOPLE: African churches, African linguists and educators  
MINISTRY: Literacy; education  
ADDRESS: P.O. Box 44456; 00100 Nairobi, Kenya  
PHONE: (+254-20) 230 8463/4  
E-MAIL: [barbara\\_trudell@sil.org](mailto:barbara_trudell@sil.org)

Joel and Barbara Trudell are a most unusual couple, each with great responsibilities for Bible translation in Africa. Starting in South America, the pair moved to Africa, then to Scotland where they both obtained doctor's degrees, and then back to Kenya where they are now engaged in creating an educational and relational infrastructure to support translation work on the Bible in an area where the need is great.

Joel is Senior Research Associate for SIL International in Africa. His main work is evaluating the use of the Bible in training for the ministry and its use in local churches. He is concerned with the practical results of the use of the Bible in the local language. Barbara is Director of Research and Advocacy for SIL Africa. She is particularly concerned with literacy and the use of the local language in schools. Both of them find that their work at the University of Edinburgh permits them to make many contacts which they use to promote literacy and the use of the Bible in the local language thusly greatly expanding its impact on the lives of people.

SIL International is a faith-based organization that studies, documents, and assists in developing the world's lesser-known languages. SIL's staff shares a Christian commitment to service, academic excellence, and professional engagement through literacy, linguistics, translation, and other academic disciplines. SIL works with host governments, NGOs, and academics organizations, as well as churches.



### **Bob and Donna Waguespack**

AGENCY: Latin American Mission

LOCATION: Mexico City

PEOPLE: Mexican Nationals

MINISTRY: Bob: training Mexican pastors and missionaries;  
Donna: illustrator for translations into sign language

ADDRESS: Bruno Traven # 90, Colonia Gen. Anaya 03340, Mexico  
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Bob and Donna engage in a variety of activities to prepare Mexican lay people, pastors, and Christian workers to be more effective in all aspects of evangelism, spiritual growth and church development.

Specifically, Bob teaches at the National Baptist Seminary and at Christ for the Nations Mexico. Mexican missionaries trained at Christ for the Nations Mexico are already serving in South America, Africa, the Middle East, India, and China. Bob also heads a separate program at the Baptist seminary to train Mexican missionaries to serve both in Mexico and in other countries. In addition, he counsels missionary students and former students to adjust and grow in fulltime ministry.

Donna has been working with Wycliffe Bible Translators to illustrate Bible stories into sign language for use with DVD's for deaf Mexicans. She is also active in a Bible study ministry for bilingual women in Mexico City.

During their 25 years in Mexico, the Waguespacks have contributed significantly to helping the Mexican churches to realize their desire to bring the Gospel to the unreached peoples in Mexico.

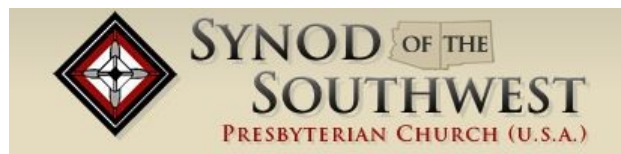
## **Additional Assisted Presbyterian Organizations**

### **Presbytery of Sierra Blanca**



Pasos de Fe  
Spanish– Speaking ministries  
Small church aid  
Campus ministries

### **Synod of the Southwest**



Conferences  
Native American ministries  
Immigration reform

## Some Pictures of Missionary Visits



John Haspels talking to some church members



The Trudells meeting with the Missions Committee



The Pontiers with an informative display



Donna Evans talking with a church member





First Presbyterian Church of Las Cruces

# Missions Directory

2014

Every Member Guide

For Prayer and Correspondence