

BCMWWorld

An Inside Look at BCM Global Ministries





STILL SPEAKING TRUTH in Ukraine



By: Lisa Biegert

On January 1, 2022, Tima Anokhin took office as BCM Ukraine's new field director, replacing outgoing director Igor Kotenko, who with his wife Oxana have served as BCM missionaries for twenty-nine years (read [Changing Ukraine One Heart at a Time](#), BCM World, 2009).

Newly appointed BCM Ukraine director and his wife Natasha are no strangers to challenge and conflict. They have served with BCM for eighteen years. Much of their ministry has been to Ukraine's youngest, most vulnerable citizens—its orphans. The principal orphanage in which they've served is located in Mariupol, a city of a half-million not far from the Russian border that was heavily impacted by the 2014 Crimea conflict (see [Good Samaritans Still Needed in Ukraine's War Zones](#), BCM World, 2015). Over twenty-five years, the orphanage has ministered to upwards of three thousand children and teenagers.

Now based in the capital city of Kiev, Tima and his family travel in ministry to Mariupol and other areas. Among the ministries of BCM Ukraine to which

Tima will now be giving leadership are church planting, refugees, army chaplaincy, youth outreach, and camping ministries, including some of the only resources for the handicapped and their families as well as war victims (see [BCM Ukraine: Speaking Unchanging Truth to an Ever-Changing Nation](#), BCM World, 2016). Among goals for the future of BCM Ukraine, Tima has a vision to expand care for orphaned children as well as camping ministry. Tima himself has been involved in Christian camping since 1995, when he was asked to fill in as counselor.

"I had the most difficult group that summer!" Tima recalls. "In fact, none of them made a profession of faith in Jesus. I ended the summer very discouraged, thinking there had been no real fruit. But I kept participating in camp every summer. About eight years later at a pastor's conference, a young man approached me. He looked familiar, but I couldn't place him. He explained that he had been one of my campers back in 1995. Not only did he get saved that summer I'd thought was such a waste, but he was now a pastor. I am so thankful I had the opportunity to plant a seed all those years ago. You just never know what God will do with that seed."

Testimonies like these keep Tima and the BCM Ukraine team encouraged to continue planning for the 2022 camping season even with the unknowns of political conflict, threats of war, Covid restrictions, and continued global instability. Current plans are to hold six camps in the summer of 2022 with more than three hundred children and teenagers expected to attend.

Pray for Tima Anokhin, his family, and the entire BCM Ukraine team. Above pray for safety, protection, and divine wisdom in the ongoing political crisis.

*Plans for BCM Ukraine ministry have changed greatly since the recent Russian invasion of Ukraine territory. To help the ongoing crisis in Ukraine, donations can be made at www.bcmintl.org/ukraine-crisis.



SHARING WHAT CHRISTMAS IS ABOUT IN PERU

By: Lisa Mavrides

Compartiendo, which means “sharing” in English, is the children’s outreach of BCM Peru that reaches a peak during the Christmas season when volunteer teams reach thousands of children across Peru. The goal is to help local Peruvian churches reach neighborhood children and their parents who may not know Jesus. The program includes games, songs, puppets, and skits with the ultimate purpose of sharing what the Christmas season is truly about—Jesus Christ and His Good News.

After almost two years of virtual children’s ministry due to Covid-19 quarantine and restrictions, BCM missionaries and volunteers were excited and thankful to be once again reaching children with the gospel in person. The 2021 *Compartiendo* outreach included BCM Peru missionaries and about forty volunteers divided into four teams, two in the capital city of Lima, one in Iquitos, an Amazon River port city in northern Peru, and one in Tarapoto, another northern jungle city. Each team held two programs each day for twelve consecutive days. In Peru, which is south of the equator, Christmas is the height of summer, so activities can be held outdoors. In total, 8670 children and 3048 adults were reached.

BCM Peru leaders Jonatan and Shantal Odicio sum up the importance of working with local churches in reaching the children of their communities. “We believe that children who hear the gospel [through *Compartiendo*] need to grow as Christ followers, learn more about God, and be loved, and each church in every location has the wonderful task of leading these little ones in this journey. We are grateful this year that the churches have gone out of their way to get ready for the children, decorate the location, and prepare a delicious Christmas snack, which includes Peru’s famous Christmas *panetones* (fruitcakes) and hot chocolate. We are thrilled to see them embracing the vision of rescuing children and helping them know, love and obey God!”

BCM Peru's four week summer camp season began on January 10th. Fifty campers had confirmed attendance for the first week, but with a new wave of Covid in Peru, only twenty-eight campers were able to attend. Out of those children, sixteen had already made decisions to follow Jesus. As theme for the week, campers were asked what they were choosing to put their trust in. Each person must make the decision whether to choose trusting Christ or something else. Praise God that by week's end, each of the remaining campers made the decision to place their trust in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

"It was wonderful to see children make great decisions for God," shares Shantal Odicio, "saying they wanted to serve Him, be better followers, commit to reading their Bibles more, or be more helpful at home. It was a great week!"

The BCM Peru camping program has been experiencing some definite spiritual warfare that is a sign of the times. Because of what they hear in the media and society, Peruvian children are facing problems they haven't dealt with before, including issues of identity and gender. BCM Peru's goal for their campers is for each child to see their true identity in Christ. The BCM Peru leadership is thankful for God's provision of young men and women to minister as counselors and camp staff.

One camp volunteer who helps out with games and recreation shared how he'd dedicated his life to Christ at nine years of age when he attended this same camp. Now twenty-four years old, he faithfully volunteers every summer because camp continues to hold such a special place in his heart. He

summarizes, "Who would have thought after trusting in God that night when I was nine that so many years later I would be standing here in this very same place serving God like this."

Despite many challenges, including an outbreak of Covid among camp staff, BCM Peru is very thankful for a great Compartiendo and camping season. The camp season ended with 111 children reached, of whom twenty-nine prayed to accept Jesus as Savior. Teen camp included 167 teens, of whom sixty decided to trust Jesus for salvation. The BCM Peru team asks for continued prayer for many more good seasons to come and that the ongoing pandemic will not interfere with the mission of reaching Peru's children and strengthening the Peruvian church.

1 2 3 4 5 6

1. BCM Peru volunteers 2. Children praying
3-6. BCM Peru Christmas Compartiendos





By: Lisa Biegert

In October 2021, BCM's newest ministry field of Uganda was opened with Joshua Anguyo named as director. In eastern Africa, Uganda is a country where seventy-five percent of the population is under thirty years of age and twenty million are under the age of fourteen. So BCM's focus on equipping children's ministry workers and challenging the local church to reach children is what initially drew Joshua's interest to BCM.

Joshua was born in northwest Uganda, the sixth child of Rev. Reuben and Yemima Avujoa. He spent his childhood in rural areas where his father pastored various churches. Growing up in church gave Joshua a false sense of spiritual security, accentuated by the lack of programs for children so that the Bible teaching he heard was directed primarily to adults. That faith needed to be personal wasn't something he understood.

While in high school in 1997, Joshua was challenged by a preacher to make a personal commitment to following Jesus. This became a turning point in his life. In college, Joshua served in Christian student leadership. After graduation, he joined an international charity organization. But he felt God calling him into full-time ministry work. In 2009, he was presented with the opportunity of joining Scripture Union, an international evangelical ministry organization that promotes using Scripture to inspire children, youth, and adults. Joshua accepted the position of children's ministry coordinator for northwestern Uganda and was later promoted to regional coordinator for both children and youth ministry.

In 2014, Joshua attended an *In Step with the Master Teacher* (ISMT) training course. This was his first exposure to BCM's unique multiplication process of training children's leaders who in turn return home to train more leaders. He soon became a Lead Trainer for Uganda. In 2019, Joshua attended *Mobilize Africa*, an event for top regional Lead Trainers to provide the additional training to be able to run the entire ISM program in their own regions. This event also gave Joshua more exposure to the ministry of BCM International and what God could do in Uganda through BCM.

“BCM gave me the concrete foundation I needed to serve children better,” Joshua expresses. “ISMT is the best curriculum I have ever experienced for training children’s workers. I became convinced that the transformation of the nations is possible by intentionally targeting and equipping children’s workers and challenging church leaders across the globe to do the same. BCM provides the best platform for this to happen.”

Upon returning from Mobilize Africa, Joshua began sharing this vision (see [Taking the Lead](#), BCM World, 2019), including within one diocese of the Church of Uganda with over seven hundred churches, a two-day training event with two hundred church leaders, and ongoing training with Scripture Union coordinators and other church leaders. In 2021, Joshua stepped down from his ministry with Scripture Union. In October 2021, he and his wife Nollah attended BCM Africa Candidate Orientation in South Africa and were commissioned as BCM Africa (BCM-A) missionaries. Joshua was also appointed director of BCM’s newest ministry field— Uganda.

Along with the Anguyos, the BCM Uganda team consists of a seven-member national board of directors, three-member board of trustees, as well as volunteers serving in the three ministry areas on which BCM Uganda focuses—discipling youth, strengthening local churches, and holistic ministries.



Discipling Ugandan Youth: Young people will in coming days hold the largest sphere of influence in their country. So BCM Uganda’s vision for discipling youth includes developing a leadership program for young people. Joshua describes this as raising up “leaders like the biblical characters of Daniel and Joseph, young men who were full of integrity, faith, and courage. Currently, we do not have God’s kingdom representatives in these spheres of influence. We need to disciple the children and youth of Uganda to be the kind of influential leaders our country needs.”



Strengthening Local Churches: Prioritizing children’s ministry within local churches happens best through the multiplication strategy, which Joshua and his team have already implemented. This involves a nine-month intensive course for children’s ministry leaders with in-person sessions lasting three weeks at a time. The first in-person course addresses the foundational topics of children’s ministry. The second is an intensive ISMT training that prepares participants as Lead Trainers who can take this course back home and continue training others. The third level puts training into practice through a two-week outreach to children spread across the country. All three levels must be completed to graduate.



“This approach has refueled the multiplication strategy,” Joshua explains. “For example, thirty-three children’s workers trained five hundred additional children’s workers over the course of two months.”

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

1 & 2. Joshua Anguyo leading youth outreach 3 & 4. BCM ISMT training 5. BCM Uganda youth outreach 6. Commissioning Anguyo family BCM Uganda director 7. ISMT training session

Holistic Ministries: Along with a large population of young people, Uganda has a strong Muslim minority (13%), and high levels of poverty. Uganda is also a refugee host nation. Refugees from Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), South Sudan, Somalia, and Rwanda have all made their home in Uganda over the last thirty years, creating sizeable refugee settlements.

Joshua explains: “Having these refugees in our country allows us to reach people who haven’t yet had access to God in their own nations. We intend to strengthen those in exile so that when they do return home, they will be stronger and able to bring the gospel back with them. But the challenges in refugee settlements are real, including tribal issues, teen pregnancies, and humanitarian needs.”

All this creates unique challenges that require a more holistic approach to ministry. For example, in majority Muslim regions, direct children’s ministry is not an option while ministering to family needs is. Where there is extreme poverty, physical demands like hunger must be met before addressing the spiritual. In refugee settlements, survival essentials need provided along with the gospel.

Such a varied field of ministry requires a base of operation. Currently, BCM Uganda has purchased seven acres of land in Arua, an eastern city near the DRC border of the Democratic Republic of Congo, with the goal of adding fifteen more acres. This base would host a Bible school, the training center for children’s ministry, a camping and retreat center, and holistic ministry site to the community with the goal of reaching not just Uganda but into the DRC and South Sudan.

Joshua Anguyo and the BCM Uganda team ask for prayer that God would raise up the necessary funds to complete this BCM ministry site. They also ask for prayer as they seek to partner with key Ugandan Christian universities to incorporate ISMT as a special course for training theology students and future church leaders.





BIG SKY BIBLE CAMP CELEBRATES 75 YEARS OF GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

By: Jamy Landis, BSBC Director

It was the year 1944 when two BCM missionaries by the names of Jean Clark and Hazel Simonton followed God's call from eastern United States to Big Sky country in western Montana. They journeyed first to Billings, then Bozeman, and finally to Missoula, starting after-school Bible clubs where they could teach God's Word to students of all ages. In 1947, God led these two ladies to start a Bible club camp that would allow their after-school clubbers to experience the joys of summer camp. The first camp was held in Swan River country in the Flathead Valley near Kalispell, MT. About fifty campers came to that first camp to learn more about the gospel of Jesus Christ.



Thus were the humble beginnings of what is now Big Sky Bible Camp in Bigfork, MT, less than twenty miles from Kalispell where the Swan River flows into Flathead Lake, overlooked by the majestic icy-white glaciers of the Rocky Mountain range. Seventy-five years after that first camp, BSBC now reaches over a thousand campers each summer along with a special needs camp called Camp Promise (see [Seventy Years in Big Sky Country](#), BCM World, 2017). With a background of Christian camp ministry in Alaska, I (Jamy) arrived in Bigfork with my wife Lisa and six children in 2008 to serve as director at Big Sky Bible Camp.

I am not a very sentimental individual. In fact, I depend on others to help in this area. But I believe there is biblical warrant for looking back, celebrating the faithfulness of God, and allowing this to propel us forward, especially during challenging times. So as we look back, let us also consider the next seventy-five years. The world has changed a lot since 1947. And I'm sure there will be even more dramatic changes by the year 2097. So let me use this opportunity of being encouraged through looking back to consider principles that are imperative as we move forward.

Foremost is faithfulness to the true gospel. At BSBC, the gospel drives everything we do from the songs we sing to the intentional relationships between permanent and summer staff to the conversations happening on porches and playhouses. We desire never to be belligerent with the gospel but rather to speak the truth in love (Ephesians 4:15). These are unprecedented times where every fiber of the culture is pressing against

what God's Word teaches. It is in this dark context that the opportunity of camp continues to shine through.

I have been in camping ministry for over twenty years now. As Miss Clark and Miss Simonton could verify were they still with us, I have seen God use the camp setting to bring countless dead hearts to life, to challenge believers in their doctrine and devotion, and to teach summer staff the value of serving others as Christ did. Rest assured, we at BSBC will continue holding to the true gospel, whatever the consequences for us as a ministry or as individuals. Our desire above all else as a ministry is to be faithful to God's Word and the work to which He has called us.

Please join us in thanking God for seventy-five years of profitable ministry and faithfulness to God's Word at Big Sky Bible Camp. Pray with us as well that God will continue using BSBC to accomplish His purposes over the next seventy-five years and more!

1 2 3 4 5

1. Big Sky Bible Camp historic photo
2. Camp chapel
3. Water fun at Big Sky Bible Camp
4. Camp chapel
5. Big Sky Bible Camp climbing wall



NO SMALL HARVEST FIELD

By: Jeanette Windle with Mado Fumunguya

Mado Fumunguna from Kinshasa, capital of the Democratic Republic of Congo, has never been one to sit idle. A pastor's wife with five adult children and four grandchildren, she has a graduate degree in English, taught French at the American School of Kinshasa (TASOK), and serves as secretary for the Église du Christ au Congo (ECC), or Church of Christ in Congo, a federation of ninety-five Protestant denominations in the DRC. But when Pat Govender, Africa director for In Step with the Master Teacher (ISMT), BCM's children's ministry training program, arrived in the DRC in April 2017 to hold training with ECC leadership, Mado took time from her busy schedule to be Pat's translator from English to French, the DRC's official language. Little did she know what all that would entail.

BCM's association with the ECC dates to 2014 when BCM president Martin Windle met with ECC leadership in Kinshasa to sign a partnership for training children's ministry leaders throughout the ECC's twenty-five million membership (see ["Please Come Back Again and We Are Waiting,"](#) BCM World, 2014). Pat's arrival in 2017 was the first major training planned in three regions of the DRC (see [Keeping a Promise,](#) BCM World, 2017). Mado spent eight days translating for Pat among different denominations in Kinshasa. Then came a setback. Pat's partners scheduled to teach and translate in Goma over a thousand miles from Kinshasa had not arrived. Mado agreed to accompany Pat as translator.

"What Pat didn't know was that she was raising a disciple through her translator," Mado expresses. "While I was translating, I started feeling the call to become an ISMT trainer and equip the church for children's ministry the way I saw her work. When Pat asked me to teach a portion of the training, that was a precious opportunity. Back in Kinshasa, I started doing ISMT training in local churches with Pat as my mentor."





Shortly after her return, one church leader invited Mado to his village about five hundred kilometers from Kinshasa. Accepting the invitation, Mado held an ISMT training for sixty-four Sunday School teachers in that area, including church leaders. This was only the beginning of many such trainings. Along with her secretarial work, Mado has served as a resource person for teens and children in the ECC. She works directly for the first Vice President of the ECC, Bishop Nyamuke, who oversees the departments of evangelism, missions, and church life, which includes children's ministry and Sunday school. Once Mado introduced ISMT to her boss, he immediately saw the value of this resource and appointed Mado to introduce ISMT to ECC leaders.

In 2019, BCM DRC director Dr. Djawotho Kisa appointed Mado as Lead Trainer for the DRC. Today she oversees ISMT training for 23 of the 26 provinces in which the ECC has churches. With ninety-five denominations encompassing twenty-five million members, multiplication of is vital. God has been raising up teammates for Mado. Kathy Shafto, a Baptist missionary, has provided transport and help with training in multiple ISMT events hundreds of kilometers from Kinshasa. Dalida, a Kinshasa-based children's ministry leader, helps with organization and logistics.

To date, Mado has trained hundreds of church leaders, Sunday School teachers, parents, orphanages workers, as well as university chaplainship programs, which function as evangelism and local churches on college campuses. Another ISMT Lead Trainer Stephanie Sudman (see [Taking the Lead](#), BCM World 2019), a missionary with Africa Inland Mission, oversees training for three eastern provinces, especially with CECA-20, the AIM-founded national church denomination that encompasses over two thousand churches, centralized in eastern DRC. CECA-20 ministry leaders Rilega Pierre and James D'Jadri are Lead Trainers who also spearhead training in eastern DRC.

In 2021, CECA-20 leadership formed a commission to train church leaders in children, youth, and chaplain ministries within the denomination's twelve districts, including the use of ISMT. In October 2021, Stephanie and her team completed a tour of the first six districts on the eastern side of DRC with a total of one hundred and eighty participants. This was a miracle as two of the districts were in red (no-go) zones dominated by rebel guerrilla groups.

"The Lord gave us the peace we needed long enough to hold the seminars," Stephanie expressed in her follow-up report. "Only today, the military has closed the highway and has started clear the area of rebels."



1 2 3 4

- 1 & 2. ISMT training in Eastern DRC
3. ISMT training graduates with certificates
4. Mado Fumunguna, right, with Kathy Shafto

Current plans are to complete training in the last six CECA-20 districts by mid-2022. This includes an in-depth Train The Trainer (TTT) event to prepare chosen ministry leaders from each district so that they can take over and continue ISMT training within their district. Mado explains why children's ministry training is so vital for churches in the DRC since within Congolese culture, children are often considered to have little value.

"In a Congolese family, parents may eat meat but feed their children greens or a bit of fish. They may sleep in nice beds in a bedroom, but children sleep on a mat in the living room. Fathers rarely speak to children except to give commands or discipline them. Even in churches, children are neglected. In March 2021, Dalida and I trained about fifty Sunday School teachers at a big, nice church with many offices. I asked if they had provided rooms for Sunday School children. Unfortunately, there weren't any. That was when the leaders recognized children weren't valued in their church despite having a Sunday School

program. Other trainees have shared that they hold Sunday school under the trees because church leaders value adult services while neglecting those for children."

Mado is seeing that attitude change through ISMT's emphasis on evangelizing and discipling children, who are the future of the church. One trainee who is a pastor had been told that children shouldn't be allowed to respond to an altar call as they weren't capable of such a response. Through the ISMT training, he came to realize that even young children could respond to God and made a decision to follow Jesus.

Another Sunday School teacher shared how she'd never bothered to plan her lessons since Sunday school was about keeping the children entertained during the adult service. On Sunday morning, she'd start thinking about what game or song to play with children. After participating in ISMT training, she wrote, "I am repenting because I have learned that I need to prepare my lessons, get prepared for my students, and pray for them. That is how I will definitely value children from now."

For all that has been accomplished, much remains. Mado asks for prayer as there are no funds to cover training, travel, or fulltime trainers. All trainings to date have been through the generous volunteered time, effort, and donations of transport and materials from members the ISMT team. Mado concludes: "BCM has a lot to do in DRC. Ninety-five Protestant denominations with very wide-open doors for children to work through ISMT is an incredible opportunity that should be capitalized upon!"

Images: Teaching practice and group activity at ISMT training session





SHARING GOD'S LOVE STORY

By: Gerlyn de Jesus

Reflecting on the time of COVID-19, some might think wrestling with the challenges outweighs moments of blessings. Others might instead think of taking a moment to touch lives with God's love story despite the challenges.

As the Philippines struggled to thrive economically during this pandemic, online purchasing led to increased demands for home delivery, giving rise to more job opportunities. With lockdowns and heightened restrictions, delivery riders have become a valued group of frontliners. Day and night through sunshine and rain, they have endured discomfort and risk of COVID-19 exposure to serve the Filipino people by delivering needed goods. Pay is typically minimum wage with no health or other employee benefits, working conditions are difficult, and many struggle to provide sufficiently for their families.

In October 2021, God placed a burden on the hearts of some BCM Philippine youth from Metro Manila to bless fifteen chosen riders when

they delivered orders to their homes by sharing God's love story, praying for them, and providing some groceries for their families. After many fervent prayers, planning, and preparations, God's plan for these riders was executed on October 24, 2021. The group of Christian young people waited in various home for fifteen different riders to deliver their orders. As each arrived, they were invited to participate in a moment of prayer and sharing God's love story.

Amazingly, not one rider declined. While God worked in each heart, the young people shared the gospel, prayed with the riders, then handed them a bag of groceries. One rider shared that he'd desperately needed this job because his daughter has been hospitalized for a week and his family had no money to pay the bills. When he heard God's story of love, he suddenly felt God's peace. Another rider disclosed that his pregnant girlfriend about to deliver their baby. He'd been feeling totally bewildered as to their future. After one BCM youth shared God's story and prayed for him, he expressed that there is indeed hope

in God and that he could feel God's amazing love.

Still another one said, "I've been running away from God during this pandemic as the challenges are overwhelming and God's presence seemed so far. But after your love for one rider like me through God's love story and prayer, I can't deny he's touching my life now. I will look for a Christian church so I can grow in faith again."

Fifteen riders heard God's love story that day. Fourteen surrendered their lives to Jesus, and one rededicated his life to Christ. God's love story continues to impact lives today. These young people who echoed His story had overflowing joy at the end of the day, and their lives have challenged other youth to do the same.

Yes, we all have our own stories to tell. But God's love story is what our world desperately needs to hear. It's time to share His story—not tomorrow but today!

Images: BCM Philippine youth delivering groceries

TAKING THE NEXT STEP TO REACH LATIN AMERICA

By: Shantal Artieda

In December 2021, BCM Peru served as host to Latin America's most recent BCM missionary candidate orientation, a vital step towards expanding BCM's mission of reaching children and vision for future ministry in the region. Ten candidates attended from Peru, Ecuador, and Bolivia. Guest speakers included BCM president Dr. Martin Windle, international children's ministry coordinator Sophia Wong, Latin America director Carlos Odicio, and Bolivia national director Roger Espinoza. Due to COVID restrictions, candidates from México, Ecuador, Venezuela, and some from Bolivia were not able to attend, but a second candidate school for those participants has been scheduled in Bolivia for August 2022.

Technological advances allowed other speakers to participate despite the distance. Pre-recorded and live online sessions allowed Marion Odicio to share from the United States about fund-raising and forming a support team as missionaries. The



candidate orientation also served as a platform for candidates and BCM missionaries to discuss important topics such as reaching the new generations, protection of children, understanding BCM values, maturity in the Christian life, finances, and administration.

Among the candidates were students from BCM Peru's Center for Ministry Training who had recently finished their studies and graduated, so this event was a great opportunity to receive God's direction and guidance to follow His will for their lives. One newly appointed BCM missionary is Sefora Arcentales, a young lady from the northern Peru Amazon River port city of Iquitos. Her testimony of overcoming sickness and other challenges has been a great inspiration. Her immediate goals include returning to her home city and church to be commissioned as a BCM missionary and serve as ambassador for the BCM Peru Center for Ministry Training, encouraging other young people to take the step forward to serve God.

A special commissioning welcomed BCM's first missionary in Ecuador. Jose Israel Quezada Portocarrero had successfully finished his studies at BCM Peru's Center for Ministry Training as well as completing candidate orientation. He continues his missionary training with BCM Peru with the goal of returning to his home country to build a missionary team and serve as

national director for BCM Ecuador. Sharing his testimony with other youth and young teens, he challenges them to take the next step in serving God:

"Six years ago when Jonatan Odicio came to Ecuador to teach, I was challenged by him to leave everything behind and go serve the Lord. I didn't want to believe it at first, but God held me tight and guided me to where I am now. One day I said, 'Lord, I will follow you.' God took me seriously, trained me, and now has made me a part of His great commission. He ruined my plans but gave me better ones! I'm a disciple of Jesus and will not surrender nor be quiet nor stop nor get tired but preach and pray and gain for the cause of Christ."

These two new candidates and others mark an exciting step towards the expansion of BCM missions in Latin America, including ministry in a brand-new South American nation. BCM Latin America director Carlos Odicio expresses passionately about his vision for Latin America: "We need to share the vision of seeing children as a mission field that needs to be reached!"

1 2 3 4

1. Carlos Odicio, right, commissioning first BCM Ecuador missionary
2. Carlos addressing the missionaries
3. Candidate orientation group photo
4. BCM President, Marty Windle, teaching





NEW LEADERSHIP FOR KINGDOM CONQUEST IN THE PHILIPPINES



By: Gerlyn de Jesus

As BCM International enters its eighty-fifth year of global ministry, new leadership continues to step forward around the world with newly-appointed missionaries and field directors in several countries (see [BCM World Magazine, Spring 2022](#)). On January 1, 2022, Rev. Ezbee Fuerte took office as BCM

Philippines national director. He replaces Gerlyn De Jesus, who served as national director for eight years after the passing of her husband, the late Rev. Vernon De Jesus, then national director. Rev. Fuerte combines this new office with his existing role as Bishop of BCFi (Bible Centered Fellowship), the BCM-affiliated association of more than a hundred churches throughout the Philippines.

Bishop Ezbee is the son of Bishop Mars Fuerte, founder of BCFi and national director of BCM until 2004, and his wife Fe (see [Making a Difference for Jesus, BCM World, 2009](#)). Ezbee came to know Christ as

Savior and Lord at age six and rededicated his life to Christ at age fourteen while responding to an evangelistic challenge given by his own father. In 2003, he graduated from Ebenezer Bible College and Seminary in Zamboanga City. Ezbee's passion to reach youth for Christ led him to start a student center near the seminary, which resulted into a youth church.

Ezbee, his wife Cee, and son eventually moved to General Santos City in the southern Philippine island of Mindanao to assist his father in BCM ministry such as national youth camps, pastoral ministry, and leadership conferences. Since then, General

Santos City has become a home for his family and the base for BCM Philippines since he took over the national leadership.

Over the past two years as the world faced the Covid-19 pandemic that altered people's lives and challenged the ministry, Bishop Ezbee has continued to seek God's direction for BCM Philippines, recognizing that in all this time God is still on the move (see [Beyond This Pandemic](#), BCM World, 2020). BCFi churches have seen God's power displayed in the conversion and baptism of new believers all across the country. Churches have been planted in tribal, rural, and urban communities. Properties for new churches were acquired and renovations completed in varied rural worship places. Despite the challenges that affected people's spiritual lives such as Covid restrictions on in-person worship, BCM Philippines has continued to minister to God's people, including through online ministries and streaming of worship services initiated by Bishop Ezbee.

Bishop Ezbee asks for ongoing prayer and wisdom from God as he moves God's people into the advancement of God's kingdom, recognizing the enabling power of the Holy Spirit in every way. Above all, for the urgent challenge of raising up new leaders as key older leadership retires. In 2013, BCM Philippines celebrated twenty-five years of "conquest" in God's kingdom. Rather than slowing down, the goal is now to look forward to continuing kingdom conquest for the next twenty-five years, an equation BCM Philippines terms KC-25 13/38=J-50. Meaning that as we celebrated twenty-five years in 2013, so in 2038 BCM Philippines looks forward to celebrating fifty years of kingdom conquest as our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ tarries.



1 2 3 4 5

1. Camp Espanola sign 2. Children's choir at the 25th celebration 3 & 4. BCM Philippines churches 5. Rev. Ezbee and his wife Cee



NEW MISSIONARIES FOR BCM AFRICA

By: Annie Viljoen with John Peter

The chaos of the world, including Covid-19, seemed very distant as BCM Africa personnel from all over Africa gathered at Skogheim Christian Conference Centre on the beautiful coastline of Kwa-Zulu Natal, South Africa, October 2021, for training, candidate orientation, and commissioning of new missionaries. The week-long event was co-hosted by BCM Africa director Dr. John Peter and his wife Vijay. In attendance were BCM missionaries from all over Africa along with BCM president Dr. Martin Windle, Vice President of Personnel Joe Dukes, and BCM Asia/Africa director Stephen King, who all arrived from the BCM International Ministry Center in the United States.

Those participating represented BCM Africa churches, hospital chaplain ministry, children's Ministries, the BCM council, and delegates from Uganda, Swaziland (Eswatini), Zambia, South Africa, and other nations. Due to renewed Covid-19 lockdown restrictions, the Madagascar delegation was not able to arrive. Core objectives for the conference included presenting the ethos, policies, and worldwide ministry of BCM and implementing practical plans for partnership amongst BCM personnel and departments.

Highlights during the week included presentations of BCM ministries around the world, brainstorming sessions on ministry and church planting, a guided prayer walk in the facility's ten-acre indigenous prayer garden, a trip to the beach, praise and worship, commissioning of new missionaries, and plenty of fellowship, good food, testimonies, and sharing the joy of the Lord. Missionary candidates included:

Joshua and Nollah Anguyo, Uganda: Joshua holds a bachelor's degree in human resources management and has a track record of successful ministry for many years as regional children's coordinator for Scripture Union in Uganda. He has been a BCM Lead Trainer since 2019 and was commissioned national director for BCM Uganda along with his wife Nollah (see [Uganda Joins BCM Africa](#), BCM World, 2022).

Mabel Ngoma, BCM Zambia: An educator, Mabel has been an active co-worker in children's ministry with BCM Africa children's ministry director Pat Govender. Originally from Zambia but currently based in East London, South Africa, she ministers in both countries. Now approaching retirement from teaching, she has committed to being a fulltime BCM missionary.



Images, left to right: BCM Africa candidate outing; Dr. John Peter addressing the candidates; BCM Africa orientation collage

Ingrid Kjonstad: Descended from Norwegian settlers in South Africa, Ingrid has been the manager of Skoegheim Conference Center and has for many years partnered in children's ministry and as an ISMT Lead Trainer with Pat Govender, both locally and in other African nations. Relocated recently to Cape Town, South Africa, Ingrid is presently setting up BCM ministry in the Cape through Bible studies, children's ministry, and outreach into local colleges and seminaries.

Lindiwe R. Simelane Mbhamali, Eswatini (Swaziland): A practicing attorney who attended the conference with her husband Joseph, Lindiwe has served for many years in BCM Bible club ministry with long-term BCM missionaries Assiena Maseko and Martha Tsabedze across Eswatini, formerly known as Swaziland (see [Raising Next Generation's Leaders](#), BCM World, 2008).

Rev. Cobie and Annie Viljoen, Durban, South Africa: Cobie founded BCM Africa's hospital chaplaincy program (see [Bringing the Church to Durban's Hospitals](#), BCM World, 2019) and has served tirelessly as a hospital chaplain throughout the Covid-19 pandemic. His wife Annie works alongside him in hospital ministry and coordinating BCM events, reports, and other ministry.

Pastor Mike and Sharm Ramiah, Phoenix, South Africa: Mike is the pastor of BCM's oldest established church in South Africa, known as Jeriel BCM Phoenix. Mike and his wife Sharm have an active children's ministry. Their three sons all support their father in church ministry.

Pastor Mervyn and Jane Appadu, Phoenix, South Africa: Pastor Mervyn pastors a BCM church, known as Caneside Fellowship BCM. Mervyn has a legal background while Jane's background is in medicine, so they keep busy caring people physically and with legal needs as well as in counselling, prayer, and the study of God's Word.

BCM Africa director John Peter sums up what the October 2021 candidate orientation has meant to the BCM Africa team: "Despite being confronted with various challenges, the greatest being the Covid-19 pandemic that brought the world to a standstill—and to some extent, ministry as well—we saw by faith the opportunity to move forward with this candidate orientation. It was my joy to welcome our guests, especially those from beyond our borders who had to contend with the discomfort of travel regulations. An atmosphere of great fellowship and ministry prevailed throughout those seven days, leaving the entire group encouraged, edified, and better equipped to be serving with BCM. Looking forward, we affirm and pledge to hold our BCM core values, mission statement, and in reaching children and strengthening the church."

BCM South Africa missionary Annie Viljoen adds, "We all came from different places, cultures, and backgrounds in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. We parted as a close-knit faith family on fire to carry the torch and continue the work of the Lord in the vineyard each of us are placed."

Get Involved!



PRAY

Consider praying for all the BCM International ministries, not just the few featured here! If you decide to make this commitment, let us know so we can send you regular updates from around the world.



GIVE

Our missionaries and ministries are supported through people like you. Please consider giving towards the ministries of BCM International. You can give online at www.BCMINTL.org. Just choose [Donate Now](#) on the menu.



GO

Maybe God has laid it on your heart to do more. Contact us for more information or about the possibility of joining our team! There is much left to be done. Contact us at reachndevelop@bcmintl.org

President
Dr. Martin D. Windle

Editor
Jeanette Windle

Graphic Designer
Brian Biegert

Contributors
Shantal Artieda
Lisa Biegert
Gerlyn de Jesus
Jamy Landis
Lisa Mavrides
John Peter
Annie Viljoen

BCM International is a global Bible-Centered Ministry dedicated to making disciples of all age groups for the Lord Jesus Christ through evangelism, teaching, and training so that churches are established and the Church strengthened.

BCM International
201 Granite Run Drive
Suite 260
Lancaster, PA 17601 USA
www.BCMINTL.org
1-888-BCM-INTL



© 2022 BCM International

To subscribe to future BCM World
Magazines go to:
www.bcmintl.org/subscribe

**MISSIO
NEXUS**



In good standing with the *Evangelical Council
for Financial Accountability*