

MBC MISSIONARIES

Updated October 2021



McLean Bible Church (MBC) Missionaries are sent out from MBC to cross geographic, cultural, and/or linguistic barriers as part of a missionary team focused on advancing the gospel, making disciples, and multiplying churches, primarily among unreached peoples and places.

MBC missionaries are current, active, MBC members in good standing when sent. They live outside the United States for the spread of the gospel. In addition, they have progressed through a process of evaluation, training, and affirmation by Global Outreach leaders and have been commissioned by MBC.

**For missionaries living in countries where being a Christian could compromise their security or the security of their fellow workers, pseudonyms and regions are used.*

JOHN

SERVING IN HAITI SINCE 2010

John grew up in Northern Virginia and began attending McLean Bible Church (MBC) in 2002. He served in Kid's Quest, the Rock, and became a member of MBC. He desired to serve as a cross-cultural missionary but felt he should be free of debt first.

Once his finances became stable, he began to actively look for ministry opportunities overseas. In 2010, a pastor asked him to pray about going to Haiti to assist with the earthquake relief effort through Score International. John arrived in Haiti in March of 2010 and has served there ever since!

John is making disciples and attends Rendez-Vous Christ Church, which is led by godly Haitian leaders who focus on youth and young adults. They encourage rising generations of Haitians to know and follow Jesus Christ. John also teaches classes about Jesus to those who are interested, so that they may repent and trust in Him.

Haiti has access to vast gospel resources. Yet, recent natural disasters, political assassinations, violence, and subsequent poverty have crippled the country. According to Pastor Julio Volcy, the Director of Haiti Teen Challenge, 90% of all Haitians grow up without a father. This lack of family structure is debilitating for local communities and affects the lives of young people in particular. John and his fellow church workers faithfully serve to disciple people to follow Jesus, so they can be the voice of hope and truth their communities so desperately need!

PLEASE PRAY:

- That God would bring peace to Haiti. Security in Haiti is volatile, and people live in daily fear. Crime, political unrest, kidnappings, and violence are at an ultimate high
- That God would protect His people and give grace for His church to grow. Pray John's staff and co-workers continue to grow in the grace and knowledge of Christ.

JOSEPH & JENNIFER

SERVING IN THE MIDDLE EAST SINCE 2012

Joseph first attended McLean Bible Church (MBC) in the 1990s, after graduating from college. He served on the worship team, with young adults, and disciplined other men. He gained a vision for cross-cultural work while on an MBC short-term trip to Peru. Later, he completed his theological studies at seminary, earning a ThM and PhD.

As a teenager, Jennifer taught backyard Bible clubs and Sunday school classes. She graduated with a bachelor's degree and later earned an M.A. from the same seminary Joseph attended, which is where they met. Jennifer then served for five years in East Asia. She researched languages and studied minority group cultures. Joseph and Jennifer eventually married, and now serve together in the Middle East.

Their current work in the Middle East centers on providing theological and leadership skills training to believers, especially those with Muslim backgrounds. The country they serve in is home to over 10 million people, yet with less than 30 thousand evangelicals (just 0.27%), it is considered unreached. Joseph teaches at an evangelical Seminary and leads a discipleship group for men off campus. Jennifer loves being a mom, and also leads a Bible study for local women. She is often visiting local homes and sharing Christ with other women. As a family, they are actively involved in a local church.

PLEASE PRAY:

- That God would unite their team together, as they recently joined a new missionary team in their city. Pray for successful recruiting of co-workers with common vision and complementary gifts
- That God would foster fruitful development of theological and leadership skills in the lives of the Muslim background believers they minister to.

LIV

SERVING IN CAMBODIA SINCE 2017

Liv began attending McLean Bible Church (MBC) in 1992 when her family moved to the D.C. area. It's there that she repented and placed her faith in Christ and began deeply studying the Bible. As a student, she was also an avid volunteer. While participating in her first international mission trip, she saw the dire need for the gospel on a global scale. Liv graduated from college with an engineering degree and began working for an organization that sends Christians around the world, via their unique professions, to serve the local church and make disciples. Liv helped mobilize interns, volunteers, and long-term staff to serve as disciple makers among the nations. After years of sending others, she co-led a mission trip with her local church, and concluded that God wanted her to serve overseas. Liv is now living out the Great Commission by faithfully serving in Cambodia.

96% of the population of Cambodia is unreached. But by God's grace, the gospel is spreading! As the second generation of national believers step into church leadership, the need for discipleship is growing. Using her engineering degree and driven by her passion for the local church, Liv is providing engineering and architectural services for infrastructure within her community. All of this gives her incredible opportunities to share Christ and make disciples!

PLEASE PRAY:

- That God would give grace to Liv's organization in the eyes of the government, as they have accepted their first government engineering project
- That God would increase the number of team members on Liv's team, and that they would grow in unity
- That God would allow tourism and other businesses to reopen, as COVID closures have negatively impacted the country financially
- That God would provide for the needs, especially of the most vulnerable, and that the local church can continue to be a light while religious gatherings continue to be restricted due to the pandemic.

BEN & ERIN

SERVING IN GERMANY SINCE 2017

Ben began attending McLean Bible Church (MBC) when he was just two years old! He grew up participating in the children's ministry at MBC and then the youth group. He joined the church when he was 14 and traveled to Africa on a short-term mission trip. Ben eventually served on the MBC worship staff for over 20 years, beginning part-time in high school and finishing as the Instrumental Music Pastor.

Erin began attending MBC in 1991. She worked on MBC Staff in Access Ministry for seven years. During their time at MBC, their daughters were involved as well. Both Elise and Emily were involved in many MBC children's ministries. Emily also has CHARGE Syndrome.

Ben and Erin have had an interest in Germany for many years. In 2000, Ben joined *Eurobrass*, a Christian evangelistic ensemble that tours Germany during the summer. In 2016, the Lord provided Ben a position to help lead *Eurobrass*, right when their daughters were looking for new schools!

Later, in 2017, the Roundtrees moved to the Black Forest region of Germany to serve with *Artists in Christian Testimony Intl.* God had clearly been preparing them for this path. He provided a special needs school where Emily could excel and gave both daughters the ability to learn the German language quickly as they made the transition to attending German schools.

Despite centuries of rich spiritual heritage, Germans today are quite secular, and most do not personally know any born again Christians. There are 80 million people in Germany and roughly half "belong" (as designated on their tax form) to either the Protestant or Catholic church, but of those only about 9% of Catholics and 3% of Protestants even attend church on a regular basis.

Germany has a great appreciation for brass music which opens many ministry doors for Ben and Erin, who also share the gospel through their handbell concerts. Ben is able to travel throughout the country sharing Christ and connecting people to local churches. Additionally, they support a growing ministry in Ukraine and have served there together as a family.

PLEASE PRAY:

- That God would allow them to resume the BellTree Duo concerts in December and for the Lord to prepare the way for an evangelistic concert tour in Ukraine after Christmas
- That God would maintain their overall health and for travel protection as they hope to be out for ministry more as pandemic restrictions continue to lift in Europe.

MIRIAM

SERVING IN EGYPT SINCE 2018

Miriam became a member of McLean Bible Church (MBC) in 2016, when she and her family moved to Northern Virginia. Miriam served with the Young Adults Ministry and led a women's Bible study in her home. From 2017-2018, she served as an MBC Global Outreach Intern. Miriam loved her time at MBC and is grateful to call MBC her spiritual family and her home church!

As a middle schooler, Miriam fell deeply in love with Jesus her Lord. She began reading missionary biographies and was captivated by their stories. In High School, Miriam served on several short-term mission trips, and during those trips God gave her his heart for the nations. After graduation, she learned that around 3% of all Christian workers go to the almost 2 billion unreached people of the world. Those numbers lit a fire in her, and she knew from that day that the Lord was inviting her to maybe spend the rest of her life making His name known among the unreached.

In 2018, Miriam moved to Egypt. While Egypt has a moderate amount of gospel infrastructure, there is still a lot of work to be done! With a total population of over 104 million people, 25 of the 42 people groups represented there are still unreached – they will likely live their entire lives and never meet a follower of Christ. Miriam studied the language and culture full-time for two years. Since then, she remains a part-time language student, but she can now participate in a variety of ministry activities! She is engaged to be married next year and looks forward to all that the Lord has in store for her next in life and ministry!

PLEASE PRAY:

- That God would give Miriam wisdom and grace as she evaluates different ministry opportunities and looks to a long-term future in the Middle East
- That God provides access to gospel truth for Muslims who seek it; that God will connect them to other believers and to His word
- That God would incite the government to remove “religion” from national ID cards, so that those who follow Christ can live more boldly/freely
- That God would bring the right people on the team to finish the translation projects that are in progress in local dialects.

EDWARD & AVA

SERVING IN MALAYSIA SINCE 2018

While in college, Edward and Ava were active with CRU and served internationally as short-term workers for a year. Once married, Edward began a 25-year career living and working internationally in Asia, Africa, Europe, and the Middle East, along with Ava and their four children.

Between international job postings, Edward and Ava lived in Northern Virginia from 2011-2016. During that time, they became members of McLean Bible Church (MBC) Loudoun. They faithfully taught Kids Quest, hosted a home group, and were AWANA leaders. They decided to retire early in order to apply their experience to full-time ministry, which led them to their current position in Asia.

In 2018, Edward, Ava, and their youngest two children moved to Malaysia to work with Bible translation and Scripture engagement initiatives across Asia and the Pacific. This region is particularly rich with languages that have no translation of the Scriptures (there are over 1,000 languages spoken by over 142 million people)! The Bible is currently being translated in over 2,500 languages (globally),

so there are many teams of local and international workers bringing God's Word to the world. Eva provides administrative support to the leadership team that manages many projects in one of the most difficult-to-reach areas in the world. Edward works with intercultural leaders to develop, plan, and carry out new translation and Scripture engagement projects. They are excited to be a part of this work!

PLEASE PRAY:

- That God would give endurance and peace to the many international workers who have been scattered by the pandemic and, in some areas, repressed by local governments. Pray that these workers would find comfort in God, and that God would raise up more local workers to lead projects
- That God would protect local believers. Pray that God protects them, blesses them, and show Edward and Ava how their organization can best support local churches and denominations. God is moving in Southeast Asia, calling local believers to reach out to their majority-religion neighbors through Bible translation
- That God would bless their youngest son, who is a Senior in High School. Pray that he will have a rewarding year and that God would guide Edward and Ava in preparing him for a transition back to the U.S. for college in 2022-2023.

JAMES & LYRIC

SERVING IN KAZAKHSTAN SINCE 2018

James and Lyric were born and raised in Southeast Asia, where they both came to know the Lord and committed their lives to Him. They later emigrated to the United States to raise their children and are now blessed with grandchildren!

James and Lyric are MBC members and have faithfully served for many years. They were involved in a home Bible study and various MBC Fellowships, where they helped with several MBC projects.

After recently retiring from successful careers, both James and Lyric felt that God wanted them to serve as missionaries to unreached peoples. To confirm God's calling, they searched the Scriptures and prayed for God's confirmation. They also sought prayer support from family, their community group, other church members, Christian friends, and counsel from MBC Pastors. The Lord showed them in very clear ways that He indeed wanted them to be missionaries. This gave them a deep sense of peace, joy, and excitement, and they wished they had made this missionary decision earlier in their lives!

Through their careers, the Lord gave them over 30 years of international development experience in 22 countries. They now serve in the Muslim-majority country of Kazakhstan where unreached peoples account for over 73% of the total population and where the evangelical presence is only 115,000 followers of Christ (0.61 %). In this context, Christian witness and establishing relationships are difficult. They train and equip local pastors and leaders in Transformational Development (TD). Using TD approaches, local churches are able to help people and communities at their point of need (like water, health, food production, livelihood, etc.). By helping and caring for people, relationships of trust, acceptance, and respect are established, and, through God's grace, doors then open for gospel proclamation!

PLEASE PRAY:

- That God would provide successful online TD training, which is currently being conducted for 9 local pastors and leaders from 4 cities. Pray that this training would bear much fruit for the Lord's harvest. Pray for the continued recovery of local pastors and leaders who were sick with COVID, and unable to attend the training
- That God would give TD course participants opportunities to care for their communities. Pray that they will bear much fruit as they implement what they've learned in helping the poor and needy in their communities. Pray for gospel proclamation in an otherwise restrictive and fearful environment
- That God would grant James and Lyric long-term visas and lift COVID travel restrictions.

STEPHANY

SERVING IN GERMANY SINCE 2018

As a child, Stephany was blessed with opportunities to travel and see other cultures firsthand. Through this, God planted in her a desire to live abroad. At eighteen, Stephany felt God wanted her to be a missionary, but didn't know how or when. After college and while working her first full-time job, God confirmed her desire to live abroad as a missionary.

Stephany first visited MBC Arlington in 2015, after moving into a house with a roommate who was an MBC member and who led a small group out of the home. Stephany soon became a member and began to serve as a small group co-leader and in other areas of the church, as needed.

Stephany now lives in Germany. She focuses on church planting training efforts across the European continent, where she gets to support and train missionaries in over 20 countries. In addition to her work with church planters, Stephany has plugged into a local church plant, and serves there as part of their church planting team.

PLEASE PRAY:

- That God would bless the leaders being trained in church planting through Stephany's ministry. Pray that they will receive guidance and wisdom from the Lord for the churches they are to plant. Pray for the individuals that they will be evangelizing, that they will come to know Jesus as Lord and
- That God would grow Stephany's local church plant; that monthly services will bless the community, that people come to know Jesus, and that the team of volunteers will be strengthened throughout the process
- That God provides additional missionaries and volunteers in Europe. They need more people as they continue to expand the countries, languages, and cultures where they are planting churches.

DAVID & LARK

SERVING IN SOUTHEAST ASIA SINCE 2019

David and Lark met during a CRU summer mission project. At that time, they believed God had called them to use their gifts and abilities to serve Him overseas, and they assumed He would send them abroad soon after getting married. However, the Lord had a slightly different timeline in mind. Once married, David and Lark instead felt called to the DC area, where they worked and served for fifteen years before moving to Southeast Asia.

In 2004, David and Lark became active volunteers in MBC Frontline and the Edge services at the Tysons campus. When MBC decided to launch Frontline Silver Spring, they were there to help! They later attended MBC Bethesda and were thrilled when the two locations combined into MBC Montgomery! As MBC members, David and Lark served as small group and discipleship group leaders, led Global Outreach trips, local outreach projects, and served on Sunday morning teams.

Today, David, Lark and their children live in Southeast Asia. Southeast Asia is a region where 630,660,930 people and 2,703 different people groups live. Of those people groups, 630 are unreached and 285 are both unengaged and unreached.

David and Lark help support the missionaries across their region through media and communications, specifically by telling the stories of the work that is being done and communicating the needs across Southeast Asia. They do this mainly through video, design, writing, and photography. They are also diligently learning the local language and serving through their local church which is located among an unreached people group.

PLEASE PRAY:

- That God would keep their eyes fixed on Christ and that they will worship Him as they walk through organizational changes that may impact their position
- That God would give them the ability to speak and understand the local language so that they can share His love and good news with neighbors, friends, and those they meet
- That God will open doors for them to creatively tell the stories here, serve in their community, and honor Him with their time.

BROOK

SERVING IN THE MIDDLE EAST SINCE 2019

Brook grew up in Vienna, Virginia, and attended McLean Bible Church (MBC) as a young child, participating in children and youth ministry. At age 16, while on an MBC mission trip to the Dominican Republic, a pastor said, "God will ask some of you to move cross-culturally for His glory." Brook felt this might be something God would want her to do. After college, she served on MBC staff, which she loved. During those years of serving the most vulnerable and living in biblical community, the Lord began to lay a foundation to "go" overseas. Brook began to sense that she would be disobeying the Lord if she stayed in the USA, and through hours of prayer on her knees, along with the confirmation of others around her, she began to actively pursue being sent by MBC as a missionary to the Middle East.

In 2019, Brook moved to the Middle East, to a region where the evangelical population is just 0.27%. The majority religion is Islam, and it is not hard to notice that all parts of life there are tied back to Islam. She says, *"We have all heard of unreached people groups before and their great need, but we must remember that behind each number is a face and a name. A family. Simply put, God led me to the Middle East to intentionally plant my life here to invest in these people; to see men, women, and communities come to know the radical love of Jesus - the one true God - and to see churches planted, thriving and healthy, in this part of the world. We all have a part to play! God is worthy of us spending our lives for the good news to be known in every nation and tongue. Time and time again, I have experienced the truth that this work will not be done without prayer. As Oswald Chambers says, 'Prayer does not equip us for greater works, prayer IS the greater work.'"*

PLEASE PRAY:

- That God would give continued perseverance to Brook and other workers in this region. Pray they would see God's heart
- That God would continue to form healthy churches. Pray for the churches that are there, that they would develop into healthy, thriving churches. Pray against disunity. Pray they would be outward focused
- That God would bless Brook's relationships. Pray that she would be quick to speak about Jesus and not fearful Pray God would open doors for more relationships.

ZOE

SERVING IN THE MIDDLE EAST SINCE 2020

Even as a young child, Zoe could see how God prepared her for overseas ministry. She especially enjoyed when missionaries visited her church to share about their work. Through her teaching career, the Lord continued giving her a specific love for certain parts of the world. Zoe got to know several students from the Middle East, which increased her interest for that region.

Several years later, Zoe got the opportunity to travel the Middle East as part of a short-term team. While there, she sensed that she should return to this country in a more permanent capacity. Zoe was able to use her profession as a Special Needs teacher and served at a local special needs school from 2015-2017.

In 2017, Zoe returned to the United States and began attending McLean Bible Church (MBC) Tysons. She faithfully served on Sundays and participated in all aspects of life at MBC, especially through Access Ministry and Local Outreach during the pandemic. In 2020, she returned overseas to rejoin the school she had previously served at and will soon transition into a new leadership role within the school.

PLEASE PRAY:

- That God would give wisdom to the school's leadership as they start next year and for God's provision of the right place for a new building, as the current building is too small
- That God would open discipleship opportunities special needs families; that these individuals and families would know the great love God has for them
- That God would convict and incite local communities to care for those with special needs; that they would accept them and allow them to be included in all areas of life.

HEATHER

SERVING IN INDIA SINCE 2021

Heather grew up with a loving Christian family who prioritized missions and attended a healthy local church. As a young graduate student in DC, she met and married a non-believer. A few years after the birth of her second son, the marriage ended. Meanwhile, Heather's love of culture and international relations led her to a career as a diplomat. About that time, Heather wrote, *"I had travelled to more than 55 countries and during my overseas postings I attended local churches. In these churches, I served as a Sunday school teacher and hospitality volunteer. Despite this, the hurt, pain, and stigma of my life choices held me back from being vulnerable to other Christians I encountered. Instead, I just became focused internally and even though I prayed and read my Bible, I wasn't connected significantly to a local church and thus did not grow in Christian maturity during this period."*

In 2018, while on a new assignment to DC, Heather began attending McLean Bible Church (MBC) and became a member. It was there that she repented of her lukewarm Christianity and began to serve God wholly in word and deed. She served through Access Ministry and as a Global Outreach leader. In a 2019 sermon, Pastor David asked the church, *“what if God is calling you for more than just the American dream?”* After prayer and counsel, Heather felt the Lord urging her to use her life and work to be on mission cross-culturally. She was equipped through MBC’s Missionary Sending Pipeline and is now serving in India as she pursues marketplace opportunities for gospel advancement. Her desire is to be obedient to the Lord’s call and to see new disciples and churches multiplied in the region she’s serving in.

PLEASE PRAY:

- That God would help Heather’s high-school aged son be a light at his school and do well
- That God would give Heather and her son continued health, as experts are predicting a third wave of COVID in their region. Pray for God’s mercy and that the government will take measures to decrease the spread of the virus and make vaccines available
- That God would give Heather an opportunity to start a Bible study at work
- That God would bless her local church; for their ministry to flourish as they begin new classes and a counseling ministry.

TODD & JESS

SERVING IN SENEGAL SINCE 2021

Todd and Jess each came to faith in Christ as young children. Todd knew that God was drawing him to overseas missions, specifically to Muslims. As a youth, Jess went on several short-term mission trips, but it wasn’t until serving the unreached in India, that God broke her heart to see all nations reached.

Todd and Jess began attending MBC in 2019 and became members shortly after. They served in the Adoption and Foster Care Ministry, Kid’s Quest, and Global Outreach. Most recently they enjoyed serving with their children to distribute food to surrounding communities as part of MBC’s COVID-19 response.

Todd and Jess were equipped through MBC’s Missionary Sending Pipeline and in 2021 relocated their family to Senegal for Todd’s job. With a total population of over 17 million people, this Muslim-majority country is considered unreached with just 0.19% evangelicals. For example, the Wolof people group have less than 100 known believers and no known church. Todd and Jess are excited to see how the Lord will use them next, as they continue to abide in Christ and be obedient to His calling.

PLEASE PRAY:

- That God would help Todd thrive in his new job and be a good steward of this opportunity
- That God would help their children acclimate to this new culture and excel in their new school
- That God would help them plug into a healthy local church
- That God would provide clear avenues for them to actively support and minister to the Wolof people, most specifically to help meet their greatest need, which is knowing Jesus as Lord.