



# GLOBAL OUTREACH

## MCLEAN BIBLE CHURCH

### **MBC MISSIONARIES**

*(UPDATED DECEMBER 2022)*

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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 MBC in 2002. He joined the church and served in Kid's Quest and the Rock. Though he desired to serve as a cross-cultural missionary, he wanted to be debt-free first.

Once his finances became stable, he looked for ministry opportunities overseas. In 2010, a pastor asked him to pray about going to Haiti to assist with the earthquake relief effort. He arrived in Haiti in March 2010 and has served there ever since!

John attends Rendez-Vous Christ Church, which is led by godly Haitian leaders. They encourage rising generations of Haitians to know and follow Jesus Christ. John spends his time making disciples and teaching classes about Jesus.

Haiti is by no means a "closed country." And yet, recent natural disasters, political

assassinations, and widespread poverty and violence have crippled the country. Some estimates say 90% of Haitians grow up without a father. This lack of family structure is debilitating. John and his fellow church workers have given their lives to see young Haitian men and women come to Christ and become the voices of hope and truth their communities so desperately need.

## ENCOURAGEMENTS FROM 2022:

God faithfully provided for the financial needs of John's ministry and others in times of crisis in 2022. They have been able to feed people and provide medical care and shelter for the most vulnerable. With each discouraged and often hopeless person along the way, John was able to share the gospel message of hope. God is raising up believers with great faith in the midst of turmoil in Haiti!

## PLEASE PRAY:

- That God would bring peace to Haiti.
- That God would protect His people and give grace for His church to grow.
- That God would give Haitian Christians wisdom so that others would see their love for Jesus and come to know the peace only He can give amid chaos.
- That God would provide funds for a new ministry location.

Visit [Joshua Project](#) to learn more about the unreached in this country.

## JOSEPH & JENNIFER

### SERVING IN THE MIDDLE EAST SINCE 2012

Joseph first attended MBC in the 1990s after graduating from college. He gained a vision for cross-cultural work while on an MBC short-term trip to Peru. Later, he completed his theological studies, earning a ThM and PhD.

As a teenager, Jennifer taught backyard Bible clubs and Sunday School classes. She met Joseph in seminary. She then served for five years in East Asia where she researched languages and studied minority-group cultures.

Joseph and Jennifer's current work in the Middle East centers on providing theological education and leadership training to believers, especially those from a Muslim background. Though their country is home to over ten million people, less than 30,000 are evangelicals

(0.27%). Joseph teaches at an evangelical seminary and leads a discipleship group for men off-campus. Jennifer loves being a mom, and she also leads a Bible study for local women. She often visits her neighbors with the goal of sharing Christ.

## ENCOURAGEMENTS FROM 2022:

Joseph and Jennifer were encouraged by a fruitful and positive transition to a new missionary team, and the intentionality of their new leaders. God sustained them through major trials and allowed them to remain in the same city for ongoing service. They see hunger for the Word and are working to equip others for discipleship. A key local believer understands the need for training local leaders, so they seek to further develop him.

## PLEASE PRAY:

- That God would bring continued unity to their missionary team.
- That God would foster fruitful development of theological education and leadership skills in the lives of Muslim-background believers.
- That God would provide more like-minded co-workers who are spiritually vibrant, holistically resilient, and marked by complementary gifts.
- That God would guide leaders at their church in decisions about the future.
- That God would help them maintain resilience and find balance in caring for their personal health while serving others.
- That God would help their children grow deep spiritual roots, make trustworthy friends at school, and joyfully learn the local language.

Visit [Joshua Project](#) to learn more about the unreached in this country.

## **BEN & ERIN**

### SERVING IN GERMANY SINCE 2017

Ben began attending MBC when he was just two years old! He joined the church when he was fourteen and eventually served on the worship staff for over 20 years. Erin began attending MBC in 1991. She was on staff for seven years. Throughout their time at MBC, their daughters Elise and Emily were involved in many ministries.

Ben and Erin had an interest in Germany for many years. In 2016, Ben began to lead Eurobrass, an evangelistic Christian ensemble that tours Germany each summer. The next year, 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 also provided a special-needs school where Emily could excel (she has CHARGE Syndrome). Thankfully, both daughters learned German quickly.

Germany's historic appreciation for brass music opens many ministry doors. But sadly, despite centuries of rich spiritual heritage, Germans today are quite secular. Most do not personally know a single evangelical Christian. Technically, of the eighty million people in Germany, roughly half "belong" to either the Protestant or Catholic church. But only 9% of Catholics and 3% of Protestants attend church on a regular basis.

## ENCOURAGEMENTS FROM 2022:

The summer of 2022 saw the first "normal" Eurobass tour since 2019. The audiences appreciated the combination of excellent music and the clear gospel message. With the invasion of Ukraine in February of 2022, six Ukrainian families with special needs sought refuge in Germany. The Roundtrees and their church helped these families with their various needs as they settled into their town, and it has been a blessing to serve them!

## PLEASE PRAY:

- That God would allow their new concept for handbell performances during Christmas and beyond to reach more people with the gospel.
- That God would enable them to build meaningful relationships and offer spiritual encouragement to the Ukrainian families with special needs children in their village.
- That God would bless their eldest daughter's time at university in the US and provide a deep Christian community for her.

Visit [Joshua Project](#) to learn more about the unreached in this country.

## MIRIAM

### SERVING IN EGYPT SINCE 2018

Miriam became a member of MBC in 2016 when her family moved to Northern Virginia. She served as a small group leader and Global Outreach intern. She is glad to call MBC her spiritual family!

As a middle schooler, Miriam fell deeply in love with Jesus. She then read and was captivated by missionary biographies. In high school, Miriam traveled on several short-term mission trips

and her love for the nations grew. After graduation, she learned a shocking statistic: only 3% of Christian missionaries are among the world's nearly two billion unreached people. Those numbers lit a fire in her, and from that day she prepared to spend her life making Christ's name known among the unreached.

In 2018, Miriam moved to Egypt. While Egypt has a moderate amount of gospel infrastructure, there's still a lot of work to be done! Many Egyptians will likely never meet a Christian. Miriam studied the language and culture full-time for two years. She and her husband, who is Egyptian, look forward to all that the Lord has in store for them as they continue to make Christ known.

## ENCOURAGEMENTS FROM 2022:

In 2022, Miriam married a local believer. Their marriage has given Miriam insight into the values and nuances of Egyptian culture. They are excited to welcome a baby boy to their family in 2023! Miriam's language studies have gone well, and she has learned most of a second dialect. She also formed several relationships with women who want to know more about Jesus, and often hosts them in her living room where they study the Word together.

## PLEASE PRAY:

- That God provides access to the gospel for Muslims who seek it and then connects them to healthy local churches.
- That God would incite government leaders to remove "religion" from national ID cards, so those who follow Christ can live boldly and freely.
- That God would bless local fellowships. That local churches would grow in maturity to be salt and light in their neighborhoods without fear.
- That God would give Miriam a mentor to help her amid all the transition as a new wife and mother.

Visit [Joshua Project](#) to learn more about the unreached in this country.

## EDWARD & AVA

### SERVING IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA SINCE 2022

While in college, Edward and Ava were active with CRU. Once married, Edward began a 25-year career working internationally. He and Ava primarily raised their four children outside the US.

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

In 2018, Edward, Ava, and their youngest two children moved to Malaysia to work with Bible translation and Scripture engagement initiatives in a region where more than 1,000 languages still need the Scriptures!

In 2022, they transitioned from Malaysia to Papua New Guinea. Now in the Pacific region, they work closely with local churches and organizations in Bible translation, Scripture engagement, and language development.

## ENCOURAGEMENTS FROM 2022:

In 2022, Edward and Ava were encouraged to see God raise up local believers to lead translation projects that were formerly led by expatriate missionaries. They have also seen increased unity between local churches and other organizations as they work together on Bible translation projects.

## PLEASE PRAY:

- That God would provide a smooth transition both personally and professionally as they settle into daily life in Papua New Guinea.
- That God would direct translation projects and bring them to completion.
- That God would give them joy in this new season as “empty nesters” after their fourth child recently began university. Please pray that their children would flourish while they are so far away.

Visit [Joshua Project](#) to learn more about the unreached in this country.

## **JAMES & LYRIC** SERVING IN KAZAKHSTAN SINCE 2018

James and Lyric were born and raised in Southeast Asia. They later emigrated to the United States to raise their children and are now blessed with grandchildren. As MBC members they 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 retiring, they began to wonder if God wanted them to use their time to live among unreached peoples. They searched the Scriptures, sought counsel, and prayed for God's confirmation. Throughout this process, they received much affirmation.

It was clear that their thirty years of international development experience had unknowingly prepared them for life overseas. They now live in the Muslim-majority country of Kazakhstan. In this context, it is hard to establish deep relationships with other Christians. That's why James and Lyric spend time training local pastors and leaders in Transformational Development (TD). They equip local churches to meet their communities' material needs. By meeting these needs, they can build relationships, which in turn opens the door for gospel proclamation.

## ENCOURAGEMENTS FROM 2022:

James and Lyric were recently discouraged by how long some necessary organizational paperwork was taking. So, as they waited, they decided to visit a partner in a different city. During that visit, they were able to mutually encourage each other. What's more, their Muslim interpreter, who belongs to the Tartar people group, came to know the Lord! What a joy to see God's hand working even in the midst of perceived "delays."

## PLEASE PRAY:

- That God would allow them to begin four pilot TD projects in 2023 to lay the foundation for long-term development ministry in local communities.
- That God would cause the authorities to approve their application for longer-term, multiple-entry visas into the country.
- That God would bless and increase a Bible study started recently by a local partner. That new believers in this group would grow in maturity and share Christ with others.
- That God would give them overall safety and health.

Visit [Joshua Project](#) to learn more about the unreached in this country.

## STEPHANY

### SERVING IN GERMANY SINCE 2018

As a child, Stephany saw many cultures firsthand. Over time, God planted in her a desire to live abroad. At eighteen, she aspired to be a missionary, but didn't know how or when God would open the door. 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. She 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. As it turns out, God did open the door shortly after college. She supports and trains missionaries in over twenty countries. In addition to her work with church planters, Stephany has plugged into a local church plant. In December 2022, she married her fiancé Andy in his home country of Norway. He is also a missionary who serves church planters in Europe. They enjoy working for separate organizations that partner with one another.

## ENCOURAGEMENTS FROM 2022:

Stephany was most encouraged to see different countries, people groups, denominations, networks, organizations, and generations working together to see God's Kingdom expand in Europe and beyond. What unity Christians find in their Savior! She has also seen churches planted and people saved. During the summer of 2022, Stephany's church celebrated twenty-five baptisms throughout various church campuses, and it is exciting to see the Lord move in these ways.

## PLEASE PRAY:

- That God would grow Stephany's local church in both number and maturity.
- That God would erase apathy toward the gospel and that the hearts of the people would be ready to receive the truth of the gospel.
- That God would cause local believers in Europe to recognize their place in the body of Christ and be bold in evangelizing, discipling, and serving their churches. Pray that more churches would be planted by local believers.
- That God would care for Ukrainians, Russians, and all Europeans. Pray for the war to come to an end; pray for peace, forgiveness, and reconciliation.

Visit [Joshua Project](#) to learn more about the unreached in this country.

## **BROOK** SERVING IN THE MIDDLE EAST SINCE 2019

Brook grew up in Vienna, Virginia, and attended MBC as a child. When she was sixteen, 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 never forgot this.

After college, she served on MBC staff. During those years, the Lord began to lay a foundation for her to serve overseas. Brook began to sense that she would be disobeying the Lord if she stayed in the US, and after much prayer and counsel, she actively began to pursue being sent by MBC as a missionary.

In 2019, Brook moved to a region in the Middle East where the evangelical population is just 0.27%, and where everything is in some way 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.”

## ENCOURAGEMENTS FROM 2022:

Over the previous year, Brook built a deeper relationship with a local friend. They have had many fruitful spiritual conversations and have even begun to read the book of Matthew together! Also, another local man came to faith in Jesus, but his wife has still yet to believe. It’s exciting to see the Lord working in many Muslims’ hearts!

## PLEASE PRAY:

- That God would form healthy, thriving churches. Pray against disunity.
- That God would give Brook health; that Jesus would be her satisfaction; and that she would be bold and at the same time humble in her work.
- That God would change and soften hearts; that Jesus would show himself to refugees as the ultimate sustainer and provider; and that many Muslims would open the Bible and discover Jesus for themselves.

Visit [Joshua Project](#) to learn more about the unreached in this country.

## ZOE SERVING IN THE MIDDLE EAST SINCE 2020

Even as a young child, Zoe could see how God was preparing 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 in that region.

Several years later, Zoe traveled to the Middle East as part of a short-term team. During the trip, she sensed that she should return to this country—and stay there. Zoe worked at a local special needs school from 2015–2017.

In 2017, she returned to the United States and began attending 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, and in 2022 transitioned into a new leadership role!

## ENCOURAGEMENTS FROM 2022:

One thing that encouraged Zoe over the last year was seeing various Muslim friends share her desire to serve the special needs community. She is praying that this will become a bridge to share the gospel with them. She also appreciated the way the local government responded to the victims of a tragic church fire.

## PLEASE PRAY:

- That God would open discipleship opportunities for special needs families; that these individuals and families would know the great love God has for them.
- That God would 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.
- That God would allow her school to be a light for the gospel in their community.

Visit [Joshua Project](#) to learn more about the unreached in this country.

## HEATHER SERVING IN INDIA SINCE 2021

Heather grew up in 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, her marriage ended.

Heather enjoyed a career as a diplomat. She reflects, “I had traveled to more than fifty-five 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. Instead, I just became focused internally and even though I prayed and read my Bible, I was not connected significantly to a local church and thus did not grow during this period.”

In 2018, while on a new assignment to DC, Heather began attending MBC and became a member. It changed her life. 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 move overseas. She was equipped through MBC’s Missionary Sending Pipeline and is now serving in India as she pursues marketplace opportunities for gospel advancement.

## ENCOURAGEMENTS FROM 2022:

For Heather, one joyous event in 2022 was helping establish a new church. Her church’s pastoral internship program is fruitful and flourishing, as new leaders are trained up. Heather has also been encouraged by a weekly Bible study she started at her job, where she meets with women from other faith backgrounds to study the Gospel of John.

## PLEASE PRAY:

- That God would eradicate all false gospels plaguing India.
- That God would repeal the Anti-Conversion Act in Indian states, thus ending religious extremism in the Indian education system.
- That God would continue producing fruitful work from a recent pastor’s conference. Those events sought to equip Indian pastors to preach the pure gospel and plant healthy, Christ-centered churches.
- That God would draw Heather’s teenage son closer to Him; and that other close relatives would come to know Jesus as Lord.

Visit [Joshua Project](#) to learn more about the unreached in this country.

## TAMI SERVING IN ETHIOPIA SINCE 2022

Although Tami grew up in a Christian home, it was not until a trip to Europe in 1999 that she

fully surrendered her life to Christ. She moved to Northern Virginia in 2006 and became a member of MBC around 2009. Over the years, Tami was a faithful church member, serving as a Kid's Quest volunteer, a small group leader, and a small group leader coach.

In 2019, she went with MBC to Ethiopia to engage local churches in caring for orphans and the most vulnerable. During that trip, the Lord grew her heart for global missions, and she began to wonder if she could return to Ethiopia long term. She eventually learned of a Christian Missionary School in need of teachers. After being trained through Global Outreach's sending pipeline, Tami began the 2022-2023 school year in Addis Ababa serving at the local Missionary School.

In Ethiopia, the Orthodox Church is the primary "religion"; this tradition remains very intertwined with Ethiopian culture. Additionally, Islam is on the rise as many Muslims come from surrounding countries to find refuge. In this context, Tami is leveraging her career for the gospel as she serves children and families, participates in a local church, and continues to learn the local language and culture.

## PLEASE PRAY:

- That God would bless Tami's students as they learn about Christ; that her life, like Paul's, would be worth imitating as she imitates Christ.
- That God would help her grow deep roots in Christ and His Word, and that her faith would sustain her.
- That God would end the war in the northern Tigrayan region and provide survival resources to those who have been cut off.

Visit [Joshua Project](#) to learn more about the unreached in this country.

## **THOMAS AND TESS** SERVING IN SOUTHEAST ASIA SINCE 2022

Thomas and Tess both grew up in Christian homes, and each made the decision to obey Christ while in grade school. The Lord is still showing them how to grow in Christlikeness as they pursue Him and His Word.

Thomas started attending MBC Arlington in 2017 and became a member soon after. He served in the Prince William location's prison ministry, and as a patient companion in the chaplain's

office of a local hospital. Tess started attending MBC Tysons in 2018, and faithfully served with Kid's Quest, specifically with preschoolers. She has always loved teaching children about the love of God and hopes to continue doing so in the future.

As a young married couple, Thomas and Tess have been spurred on by God's desire for all people to be saved, and by His perfect plan that all tongues will sing His praises. This ignited a desire in them to be part of making the gospel known where it is not. Because of that conviction, Thomas and Tess entered Global Outreach's missionary pipeline to be trained and equipped to serve internationally. They were able to leverage their jobs and relocate to Southeast Asia in the summer of 2022. They are now striving to be witnesses for Christ in a context that's surrounded by the false gospels of Islam, Hinduism, and even tribal religions.

### PLEASE PRAY:

- That God would help their local church to grow in maturity and health.
- That God would provide deep and meaningful friendships with fellow believers.
- That God would cause Muslims who hear the gospel to understand it and accept it.
- That God would give courage and boldness to local Muslim-background believers to share Christ with others, even when the worldly consequences are severe.

Visit [Joshua Project](#) to learn more about the unreached in this country.