

Missionary Updates ... George & Kathy Schultz



In late November the Center for Intercultural Training (CIT) hosted the annual partner meeting of the 17 mission agencies who have partnered together with us to provide excellent cross-cultural training. We celebrated our 20th year of partnering together! 847 years of faithful organizational missionary service were represented by the agencies attending the meeting.

Together we dialogued and prayed about the current trends and needs in missionary training. Flowing out of this discussion a survey questionnaire has been distributed to stateside staff and field leaders seeking their input that will help shape future development of our program.

Kathy led the Teen Debrief program in December for missionary teens who have returned from the field for a short time or permanently. She had seven and we purposefully keep this group small for the sake of sharing their stories.

Kathy spent quite a bit of time in tears and prayer for these wonderful young people whose families have followed the Lord to foreign countries. It is a very emotional time to hear their stories and help them process all that they have experienced. Most of all, to help them see God in all of it.

Prayer Requests:

1. A new Third Culture Kid's Director to replace Kathy.
2. For a CIT Executive Director who resigned in December.
3. A good response to the survey questionnaire.

The ABC's of Becoming a Christian

A — **Admit** to God that you are a sinner. Repent, turning away from your sin.

"For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." Romans 3:23

B — **Believe** that Jesus is God's Son and accept God's gift of forgiveness from sin.

"While we were sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:8

C — **Confess** your faith in Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord.

"If you will confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved." Romans 10:9

Prayer: Dear God, I am sorry for my sins. I believe Jesus died on the cross for my sins. Please forgive me. I ask Jesus to come into my life to be my Savior and Lord. Thank you for loving me and saving me from my sins. In Jesus name, Amen.

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Welcome to Worship!—We're so glad you have joined us this morning. If you are a guest today, please fill out a Covenant Connect card and place it in the offering. **Children's Church** (10:30am service) is for 3-year olds—2nd grade. The children gather in the Cubbies Room downstairs after the announcements are given.

Faith Promises — received are \$58,638; the goal is \$75,000. You can continue to turn in your faith promise cards through the end of March. The Missions Committee will then use that total to set the budget for the upcoming year.



Easter Flowers — We would love to decorate our worship center with spring flowers! If you would like to participate, either in honor or memory of an individual, you can purchase an Easter Lily, Tulip, or Begonia plant for \$15. How? Pick up an envelope in the lobby, fill out the information, insert the money and give to an usher, place in the offering plate, or bring to the office by April 15.

Updating Our Records — If you have recently moved or gotten a new cell phone number, please fill out a Covenant Connect card with the updated information and drop it in the offering.



Congratulations — to Matt & Jess Ruffing on the arrival of Miss Winona Elise on Monday, March 18.

Bluewater Covenant Bible Camp — has a matching gift available to them until the end of 2019 to pay down the principle on a loan. If you would like to donate, please send a gift to BCBC, 38400 Bluewater Rd., Grand Rapids, MN 55744.

Visitation — If you would like a visit from Pastor Ed, please contact him at 417.0653.

Men's Breakfast — Tuesday, March 26 at 8:30am at Voyageur's Restaurant.

Community Opportunities ...

Community Café—will be held on Tuesday, March 26, at 5pm at Backus Community Center. If you would like to volunteer to help serve, please sign-up on the table in the lobby.

Psalm FM — newsletter mailing will be on Thursday, March 28 at 7am. All help is greatly appreciated!

Encountering Fruit

John 15:1-5

I am the vine; you are the branches. John 15:5 (NIV)

1. _____

You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will last. John 15:16 (NIV)

If ... you, though a wild olive shoot, have been grafted in among the others and now share in the nourishing sap from the olive root, do not boast over those branches. Romans 11:17, 18 (NIV)

2. _____

Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. John 15:4, 5

Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. Mark 12:30 (NIV)

3. _____

He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. John 15: 2 (NIV)

4. _____

I have told you these things that My joy and delight may be in you, and that your joy and gladness may be of full measure and complete and overflowing. John 15:11 (Amp)

Love, joy peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Galatians 5:22, 23 (NIV)

You can identify them by their fruit, that is, by the way they act. Matthew 7:16 (NLT)