

Free Methodist World Missions
PO Box 57710
Indianapolis, IN 46251
800-342-5531

To opt out of the print version of HEARTBEAT and receive an email prompt for the mobile-friendly version, go to fmchr.ch/FMWM-Subscribe

Or visit the web version at www.fmwm.org and select the Heartbeat link.



HEARTBEAT

SEPTEMBER 2024

PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID AT INDIANAPOLIS, IN, AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES.

PUBLICATIONS AGREEMENT NO. 4-0716549
STATION A, P.O. BOX 54
WINDSOR, ON N9A 6J5 CANADA
EMAIL: CPCRETURNS@WDSMAIL.COM

Free Methodist World Missions makes disciples by mobilizing the global church and empowering international leaders to establish transformational churches.



Crossing the Globe

Resourcing the African Diaspora

Friends With a Cause

Photo: Larry Winckles

HEARTBEAT

SEPTEMBER 2024

Crossing the Globe – Spreading the *Gospel*



By Paulo Bettiol, International Missionary

Nearly a century ago, in 1928, Massayoshi “Daniel” Nishizumi, a Free Methodist pastor from Japan, embarked on a remarkable mission. He moved to the other side of the world as a missionary to Brazil, preaching to Japanese people who had immigrated to Brazil. But he was not alone. A Korean lay brother named Shokoh Mita went to Brazil with him. Shokoh worked to support them both while Nishizumi preached the gospel. As the years passed, more missionaries joined their ranks. A Brazilian brother, fluent in Japanese, stepped forward, bridging cultures and languages, and the Free Methodist Church (FMC) began among the Portuguese-speaking community.



My name is Paulo Bettiol, and I am a fruit of these brothers’ work. Growing up in a Brazilian church with a Japanese heritage, I have seen God’s transformative work firsthand. Our congregation has changed from being all Japanese into a beautiful mosaic of Japanese, Brazilians, Syrians,

Palestinians, Afghans, Venezuelans and Haitians – all seeking God’s presence and wholeheartedly serving Him.

Next year, my family and I will move to Europe as missionaries, supporting local leaders and other missionaries and helping advance the gospel throughout this diverse continent. Europe, too, is a mosaic – a rich tapestry of cultures, nationalities and histories. Immigrants and refugees converge there, seeking hope and belonging. As we step onto European soil, we will continue this movement of spreading the gospel.

So, whether in bustling cities or remote villages, among skyscrapers or ancient ruins, God is calling all Christians, young and old, to become carriers of hope, bearers of grace and builders of transformational churches. The mission statement of the Free Methodist Church comes alive in our stories – the stories of ordinary people stepping into extraordinary roles fueled by love and compelled by faith. Together, we mobilize the global church, one life at a time, until every heart knows Christ’s redeeming love.

For many years, we have witnessed missionaries from Europe and the United States crisscrossing the globe, spreading the gospel. But today, we see something different happening: God raising people from every corner of the earth to fulfill the Great Commission, becoming witnesses – taking the gospel and love of Christ to the ends of the earth.



Resourcing the *African* Diaspora

By Albert Delali-Yevunya, African European Church Network

"When a foreigner resides among you in your land, do not mistreat them. The foreigner residing among you must be treated as your native-born. Love them as yourself, for you were foreigners in Egypt. I am the Lord your God" (Leviticus 19:33-34, NIV).

These verses drive the mission of the African European Church Network (AECN), which was established to help equip and engage diaspora church leaders in Europe. This network plays a significant role in reaching out to millions of African and Caribbean immigrants in Europe.

As the African European Church Network helps connect and resource the diaspora leaders in Europe, these leaders develop churches and put Christ at the center of their communities. These African diaspora leaders are grateful for our partnership and relationship because of the Free Methodist Church's (FMC) theology and missional values.

God has given FMWM Europe a wonderful opportunity to minister to His scattered people across Europe who are looking for a home. Through the AECN, we have been able to train diaspora leaders and establish a Free Methodist church in Malta. This church has become a home for immigrants – especially refugees from Sub-Saharan Africa, who crossed the Mediterranean Sea to reach the island of Malta.

We praise the Lord for Pastor Williams James Tigani, who leads this new church. Pastor Williams was a Christian

and a church leader in Ghana. His journey took him to Libya before he crossed the Mediterranean Sea to reach Malta. God answered his prayers and helped him safely and successfully cross the sea. When he arrived in Malta, he found there was no church where the refugees could "fit in and worship God in their own way." Then, when I (Albert) traveled to Malta last year for a mission conference, I met Pastor Williams. God led me to share the gospel with the refugees. Pastor Williams shares:

We were very happy to see him since he is also from Ghana. He kept coming every evening to share the gospel, and we decided to start a house church. I quickly made my living room available for the house fellowship. Many of the refugees from Ghana and Nigeria joined the fellowship. Today, I can confidently say that I am better equipped to lead this new church plant through the training I received and continue to receive from the African European Church Network.

Every month, many Africans arrive on European soil; I believe we have been called for such a time as this – to reach the diaspora people in Europe for the Kingdom.

Friends With a Cause



By Larry Winckles, Europe Area Associate Director

For over two decades, we have watched Gabi and Zsuzsi blossom from young girls into remarkable women. Gabi, a social worker in Szeged, Hungary, and Zsuzsi, coordinator for the Set Free Movement living in Ács, Hungary, share a common bond – a former connection to the Free Methodist fellowship in Győr and a passion to serve vulnerable children and teenagers.

They recently reconnected when Gabi, presented with an opportunity to educate high school students about human trafficking, realized she needed specialized knowledge. Aware of Zsuzsi's extensive experience with the Set Free Movement, Gabi reached out for assistance.

Thrilled by the prospect of expanding the movement's preventive efforts, Zsuzsi saw an opportunity in Gabi's request. She organized online training sessions for Gabi and another interested social worker, equipping them with the resources to address this critical issue.

Using her knowledge and under Zsuzsi's guidance, Gabi began offering introductory sessions on human trafficking in high schools, receiving positive feedback.

The story continues. Through our connections with the European Freedom Network and the Lona Project, rights were obtained to translate a series of four educational modules into Hungarian:

- Identify and Prevent Human Trafficking
- Prostitution: What's It all about?
- My Body Belongs to Me!
- Longing for Love and Recognition

Once the translations are complete, advanced training sessions will be offered, allowing Gabi, Zsuzsi, and others to prepare to use these modules in high schools, youth groups and other settings as opportunities arise. The aim is to empower young people to recognize the signs of exploitation and abuse and equip them with the skills and knowledge to establish healthy boundaries and safeguard themselves.

Join us in praising the Lord for these two friends with a cause and pray for this fantastic opportunity!

Vol. 6 No. 9 SEPTEMBER 2024

Publisher: Gerald Coates
Editor: Jan Coates
Copy Editor: Matt Schnepf
Graphic Designer: Beth Winchell
Subscription Manager: Matt Alte

Free Methodist World Missions Heartbeat (ISSN 2380-0283) (Print) is published monthly by Free Methodist World Missions, PO Box 51710, Indianapolis, IN 46251. Periodical postage paid at Indianapolis, IN, and additional mailing offices.

Postmaster: Send address changes to Free Methodist World Missions Heartbeat, PO Box 51710, Indianapolis, IN 46251. Canadian Publication Mail Agreement #40716549 Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to: Station A, P.O. Box 54, Windsor ON N9A6J5

Email: cpcreturns@wdsmail.com

To be added or removed from the mailing list, or give notifications of address change, contact Matt Alte, (800) 342-5531.

Printed in the USA – Copyright 2024

All Scripture quotations take from the New International Version unless otherwise indicated.





SEPTEMBER PRAYER GUIDE

01 > Sunday | Cameroon

Praise the Lord! After moving locations several times over the last six years, the FMC in Edea has finally been able to purchase a piece of land in a developing residential area. Pray for this group of believers as they seek the Lord's provision to begin the construction of a building.

02 > Monday | Hungary

Pray the existing church fellowships will have a positive witness and develop trust in their communities. Ask the Holy Spirit to go before them preparing hearts and minds to be receptive to the gospel.

03 > Tuesday | Southeast Asia

Praise the Lord for the ministry of In Better Hands. Pray the Father will be glorified through this ministry led by missionary Seth Van Tifflin. **Birthday: Seth Van Tifflin**

04 > Wednesday | El Salvador

FM work is growing in San Salvador. Pray for development of healthy leaders in El Salvador as missionary teams from Nicaragua come regularly to train and encourage them.

05 > Thursday | Iraq

The harvest is plentiful. Pray the Lord will send more workers for the harvest, workers who will have understanding and be able to serve effectively with people from unique backgrounds and cultural contexts.

06 > Friday | Asia

Pray for Jason as he balances time between the needs of his family and the many great ministry opportunities he has. Ask the Father to help him say "yes" to the right things. **Birthday: Jason**

07 > Saturday | Burkina Faso

The Free Methodist work in Burkina Faso is new in 2024. There are currently four fellowships. Pray for the leader Rebecca Zidouwemba, the start-up of new churches, and the discipleship of believers.

08 > Sunday | Latin America

Across the area, there are now 169 established churches, 71 church plants and 1,036 houses of peace. God is moving! Please pray for the continued multiplication of each of these groups.

09 > Monday | Taiwan

Pray for the Rev. Daniel Chen as he assumes responsibilities as the new superintendent of the Taiwan Annual Conference.

10 > Tuesday | Jordan

Pray the thousands of refugees who have crossed into Jordan will hear the gospel and put their faith in Jesus Christ, Who gives true hope and peace.

11 > Wednesday | Europe

New international missionary Paulo Bettiol will support the Europe Area in administration, finance, leadership training and community development. Pray for him as he begins his role this month.

Birthday: Paulo Bettiol (International Missionary)

12 > Thursday | São Tóme and Príncipe

Praise the Lord for this growing work with a vibrant ministry to women, children and young people. Pray for those being disciplined, developed and trained for pastoral ministry.

Birthday: Moisés Souza (International Missionary)

13 > Friday | Brazil

Praise the Lord for how His Spirit speaks to students even as they complete their coursework and assignments. Pray the Holy Spirit will continue to be free to do His transforming work in the lives of students and teachers at the Free Methodist Seminary in São Paulo. **Birthday: Hope Owsley**

14 > Saturday | Nicaragua

Pray God will direct and encourage Mission District Leader Jenny Orozco and the pastors in Nicaragua as they gather for the annual meeting of the mission district.

15 > Sunday | Ukraine

As the war in Ukraine continues, pray parents, widows and war veterans will find peace in Christ. Pray the children who suffer from the conflict will experience the love of Jesus and grow in Him.

16 > Monday | ICCM

ICCM opened work in Liberia in 2016. This nation struggles with an unstable government, limited infrastructure, and a lack of resources. Pray that ICCM children will reap physical, emotional, economic, educational and spiritual benefits from their sponsorship.

17 > Tuesday | South Sudan

Pray for the discernment of the Holy Spirit as the Mid-America Conference and the FMC in Uganda interact with new and existing connections amid the instability within this country.

18 > Wednesday | Bulgaria

Pray for the area directors and director of global engagement as they gather in Bulgaria from September 20 to 25 for meetings and ministry exposure. Ask the Lord to give them a renewed sense of unity and purpose as they learn from one another.

19 > Thursday | Southeast Asia

This region still has 685 unreached people groups, representing over 350 million people who have yet to hear the gospel. Pray for open doors and new workers who will be called to go.

20 > Friday | Argentina

Pray for missionary Tanya Rosado as she works on leadership development at The Harbor in Buenos Aires and among the Latin America transformational initiatives.

Birthday: Tanya Rosado

21 > Saturday | Middle East

A social-media ministry in this region is reaching into new places and people groups. Last year, this ministry saw more than 400 new believers from one ethnic group. Praise the Lord! Pray these new believers will be disciplined well.

22 > Sunday | Europe

Pray for Todd and Deann Miller, our pastoral care couple for Europe, as they encourage and support the Europe missionary team through visits, prayer, messages, and online calls. **Birthday: Deann Miller**

23 > Monday | Cambodia

International missionaries Helri and Phuong are preparing to move to Phnom Penh to serve. Pray for them as they look for a home to rent and plan toward setting up a baking business to support their ministry.

24 > Tuesday | Haiti

Reports indicate Haiti's health system is on the verge of collapse. Pray for the leadership and staff of the Dessalines Rural Health Program as they struggle to provide care despite the current challenges. **Birthday: Dee Ann Snyder (U.S.-Based Partner)**

25 > Wednesday | Sierra Leone

Pray for our seven groups in Sierra Leone. Ask the Lord to continue shaping their Christian worldview and giving them courage in the face of spiritual intimidation.

26 > Thursday | Set Free Movement

Pray for the Set Free Movement leaders in Creative Access-IN as they continue the work of reuniting children with their families, supporting survivors of exploitation, and ensuring the safety and education of at-risk children.

27 > Friday | FMWM

Praise the Lord for the FMWM team worldwide. Pray specifically for those who support and encourage the missionary team and national leaders worldwide. Ask God to give them wisdom and strength for their responsibilities. **Birthday: Gerry Coates (Director of Global Engagement); Todd Miller (Europe-Missionary Care); Ken Myers (VISA Short-Term Teams Coordinator)**

28 > Saturday | Bahamas

Pastor Leann Roberts is part of the Southeast Region Conference and leads Nassau's Grace and Peace Church. Pray God will help identify additional leaders willing to be trained to engage the community and share the gospel.

29 > Sunday | Creative Access-MY

FM work is developing in the capital city. Pray the Holy Spirit will help identify leaders willing to open their homes for house churches.

30 > Monday | Creative Access Europe

Pray for the restraining of spiritual and political forces that oppress kingdom work and ask God to go before workers in these areas, preparing hearts to be receptive to the gospel. **Birthday: Michael (Affiliate Missionary)**

"Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message. ..."

– Colossians 4:2–3a (NIV)