



HEARTBEAT

FEBRUARY 2026

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



Meet Claude

Apple Selling to Church Planting

A Legacy of Faith

Photo: Glenn Lorenz (Buchanan from Liberia)

MEET *Claude*



By Jordan Kaufmann, missionary to Togo

Claude started out as just our taxi driver. Nothing more — at least that's what we thought. But as we rode with him through the streets of Lomé, Togo, we noticed something different. His English was excellent, his manner unfailingly kind and polite. Trip after trip, we relied on him while we were without a car, never imagining that this quiet, courteous driver would become one of the most influential people in our ministry. We had no idea God was writing a bigger story — through a taxi driver.

As he was driving us around the city each day, we learned a lot about Claude. We learned about his childhood, the churches he attended, his family and how they had all moved to Benin. Claude shared that he was in college studying English when his father passed away, and he could not continue his education.

A few weeks later, Claude suddenly stopped driving for us because his car was in the shop. His boss didn't want to pay for the costly repairs. Claude had nowhere to stay, so he slept in the car at the shop, holding on to the hope that it would be fixed so he could continue providing for himself.

Audrey and I had just found the house where we planned to stay long term, and the Lord gave us peace about an important decision. Attached to the inside of our property wall was a small room with its own bathroom,

designed to serve as the maid's quarters. We both felt clearly led to invite Claude to stay there for a few months in exchange for helping with small projects, running errands and teaching us French a couple times a week.

God provided us with a trustworthy communicator, teacher, helper and cultural guide in a world we knew very little about. And God also provided something for Claude. He began attending one of our Free Methodist churches every week and developed a growing desire to see God raise up healthy congregations that model real stewardship and genuine love for all people.

Eventually, Claude found his own apartment just a few blocks away, but he continues to help us almost daily. God placed someone in our lives who has done everything he can to help us feel welcome. His cultural insight and translation skills have been invaluable in our work.

I am deeply grateful for the relationship God provided, one where we rely on each other and grow together. I believe God has greater things ahead for Claude in the years to come.

Please join us in praying for Claude. Pray the Lord will use him for His purposes and for the advancement of God's kingdom.



FROM SELLING APPLES TO PLANTING Churches

By Superintendent Wilson Esambe, Cameroon

When Brother Elvis set out to sell apples on a street in Edea, he never imagined that day would change his life forever. It was November 2023 when Pastor Walters and his evangelism team met Elvis during an outreach. Someone handed Elvis a gospel tract, and Pastor Walters engaged him in a conversation about his spiritual life — a topic Elvis had long neglected and forgotten.

At that time, Elvis was struggling. The sociopolitical crisis in Cameroon's Northwest region had forced him to relocate to Edea. Elvis thought all he needed was a way to provide for himself. His only concern was survival — finding food, shelter and a way to earn a living. His life was broken, and he didn't know Jesus Christ.

His meeting with Pastor Walters gave him hope and became a turning point. Elvis accepted Christ, and his spirit came alive again. He immediately started attending church and joined membership classes within two weeks. His passion for God grew quickly, as did his desire to serve God. Soon, he became the leader of the

men's group at Edea Free Methodist Church (FMC). His commitment caught the attention of the Rev. Wilson Esambe during a visit to the Edea FMC, and after discussions with Pastor Walters, Elvis was encouraged to assume greater responsibilities.

Today, Brother Elvis has completed two pastoral courses and two church-planting programs. He now serves as assistant pastor alongside Pastor Walters at Edea FMC.

This year, the leaders of the Cameroon Free Methodist churches set a bold goal: Each local church should plant two new churches in areas without a Free Methodist presence. When Brother Parker relocated to Carrefour Bongo, Pastor Walters saw an opportunity. After speaking with Parker, they agreed to start a new work there — beginning in Brother Parker's home. Plans were made, and the Edea FMC church-planting team

visited the site. Praise God, today there is a thriving church in Carrefour Bongo, led by none other than Brother Elvis.



One Vision Turned to a *Legacy* of Faith

By Mike Reynen, Africa Area Director

Dorothy Ndovie never imagined her life would change with a single vision — until the day she saw Jesus on the cross.

In that moment, everything shifted. For 10 years, Dorothy had worked as a government-employed homecraft worker trainer, teaching women how to clean, cook, sew and knit until she had the vision. On the day she had the vision, she knelt and prayed, sensing a call that would take her far beyond the skills she had taught.

An intuitive missionary urged Dorothy to attend the Bible school in Malawi, now known as Great Commission Bible School. Back in 1998, Henry and Bonnie Church were running the school, and part of the program required students to plant a church before graduation. Dorothy accepted the challenge.

From 1998 to 2002, Dorothy studied and planted her first church in Kalonga. She began with door-to-door evangelism, sharing with one household at a time. Within eight months, a congregation of about 25 people gathered. With the help of her husband and children, a church building was constructed. Out of that first congregation, a man named Kayange felt called into ministry and today serves as a Free Methodist pastor.

Dorothy didn't stop there. She started a second church in Chilumba, again going door to door. The



congregation began in her home while they molded bricks for a new building. Today, that church has grown to about 100 members — and Dorothy has faithfully served there for 25 years.

Her family has been part of this journey. One of her sons now pastors the Kalonga church. Three other sons are teachers, and her daughter works in South Africa. Through all these years, Dorothy says, lay leaders have been a great help, and her greatest joy has been her husband's encouragement: "Don't give up."

What began as a vision, turned into a calling that has impacted multiple communities and generations.

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FEBRUARY PRAYER GUIDE

01 > Sunday | Cameroon

In December, the FMC in Cameroon commissioned five new church planters to be sent out to plant churches in the Northwest region of the country. Pray for these church planters and fruit from their labors.

02 > Monday | ICCM

Pray for the new ICCM director, Tricia Mason. Ask the Father to guide her as she listens, learns, connects with staff and develops plans for the future.

03 > Tuesday | Thailand

The annual meeting of the FMC in Thailand begins today. Pray these leaders and churches will have a growing passion for the lost people all around them.

04 > Wednesday | FMWM

The Great Commission to go into all the world and make disciples of all nations is for everyone, not just a few. God's mission is eternal, global, and involves us all. Today, pray and ask the Father to reveal your part in the mission. Are you a goer or a sender, and what is your next step?

05 > Thursday | Africa

The Africa Area Fellowship will take place in Lome, Togo, from February 5 to 10. As African leaders come together for this meeting, pray they will be resourced, encouraged and renewed for God's work.

06 > Friday | Egypt

God is moving powerfully in Egypt! Praise the Lord for His blessings and the openness of the culture to the message of Jesus Christ. Pray our leaders will continue to boldly share the good news.

07 > Saturday | Mexico

Please join us in prayer for the family of Superintendent Uriel Garcia and the Pacific Conference in Mexico. In December, Uriel tragically passed away following a fall that caused a severe head injury. Pray for continuing comfort, strength and peace for his loved ones, and for the conference as they navigate this difficult season without his leadership.

08 > Sunday | Creative Access-PN

During a village outreach in late 2025, 270 of the 600 people who attended responded to a clear presentation of the gospel and made decisions to follow Jesus. Pray for the leaders who are now discipling them and helping these new believers become connected with local fellowships.

09 > Monday | Sweden

Pray that African refugees in Sweden will continue learning the language and culture, enabling them to integrate well into the community and have greater opportunities to share Christ with the Swedish people.

10 > Tuesday | Middle East

Ask the Father to give Hany wisdom and help him keep a healthy balance in caring for his young family and leading various teams across the Middle East. **Birthday: Hany**

11 > Wednesday | Latin America

Pray for key Latin American leaders as they gather in San Rafael, Colombia, for the annual leaders' summit. Ask the Father to prepare their hearts to receive what the Holy Spirit wants to reveal to each as together they seek the restoration of Latin America.

12 > Thursday | Asia

The Asia missionaries gather for a retreat February 12-16. Pray this will be a rich time of fellowship and renewal for all.

13 > Friday | Africa

The Africa missionary team will be together February 12-14 for a time of fellowship and encouragement. As you pray for the current missionary team, pray God will call others to join them in kingdom work across this continent.

14 > Saturday | Middle East

Dale and Dawn serve the Middle East Area. Join them in praying that their 3-year-old adopted grandson will be scheduled for his citizenship appointment soon. Until this is scheduled, their grandson cannot enter the U.S. with his parents. **Birthday: Dawn**

15 ➤ Sunday | Brazil

Dan and Hope Owsley will lead the pastoral team for a conference-wide children's camp, February 15-18. Pray for conversions and the deepening of the children's faith.

Birthday: Dan Owsley

16 ➤ Monday | Creative Access-NP

There are now more than 350 churches and over 80 leaders faithfully serving in some of the most remote and spiritually hungry places on earth. Please pray for God's provision of people and resources to continue advancing the gospel in Creative Access-NP.

17 ➤ Tuesday | Colombia

Pray for Shelli Selby, who is serving a five-month VISA assignment in Apartado, Colombia, assisting Pastora Esperanza with worship, youth and English classes.

18 ➤ Wednesday | Spain

Pray for teachers and volunteers for the Mosaico Center. Ask the Lord to send workers for this harvest field — committed and skilled people to join the team and strengthen the capacity of the center.

19 ➤ Thursday | South Africa

This general conference continues to invest in ministry to children and youth. Pray these developing young disciples will be deeply devoted to Christ.

20 ➤ Friday | Japan

The Japan General Conference is February 21-22. Pray for Bishop Baba and other leaders as they consider God's direction for the future and seek to see His kingdom expand in Japan.

21 ➤ Saturday | Honduras

As the annual meeting takes place February 20-23, pray for a spiritual awakening in pastors, leaders and churches, bringing a new dependence on the Lord.

22 ➤ Sunday | Haiti/Portugal

Haiti: Despite ongoing difficulties in Haiti, Claire Heureuse Hospital continues to see patients 24/7. Pray they will be able to find the medical supplies needed and that the funds will be available to pay the employees who have gone several months without pay.

Birthday: Dan Snyer (U.S.-Based Partner)

Portugal: Pray for Eduardo and Cindi Angelo as they move forward with a vision to train and equip pastors and church planters in Portugal and across Europe.

Birthday: Eduardo Angelo (International Missionary)

23 ➤ Monday | Set Free

Praise the Lord! In November, Lillian Nyangasi, Set Free leader in Kenya and former ICCM graduate, made history by winning Kenya's first human-trafficking case. Her landmark victory sets a precedent for prosecuting traffickers and protecting victims exploited across East Africa and Southeast Asia. Pray for continued effectiveness in all her efforts.

24 ➤ Tuesday | Iraq

Please lift up the refugees in Northern Iraq who have endured deep losses — homes, jobs, relationships and cherished memories. Pray they will experience healing and restoration, and will come to know their true identity as beloved children of God.

25 ➤ Wednesday | Rwanda

Thank the Lord for the ministry of Kibogora Polytechnic, a university-level institution in the Western Province owned by the Rwanda FMC. Pray for the expansion of the school through a new location, new programs and an e-learning platform.

26 ➤ Thursday | Creative Access-BG

Pray for the country leader, Pastor David, and the evangelistic outreach of the church. Ask the Father to raise new leaders for house churches.

27 ➤ Friday | Paraguay

The annual conference takes place from February 27 to March 1. Pray the pastors and leaders will walk together in unity as they seek the Holy Spirit for renewed vision and passion moving forward.

28 ➤ Saturday | Zambia

Zambia became a general conference in 2023, and work steadily expands throughout the country. Pray for spiritual health, financial provision and wisdom from the Holy Spirit for all the pastors and leadership.

*"In the vast plain to the north
I have sometimes seen, in the
morning sun, the smoke of a
thousand villages where no
missionary has ever been."*

— Robert Moffat