## THECALL



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A CHRISTMAS GREETING

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Editor: Madeline Raglin

## A NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

'Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.'

#### HONORING THE MISSIONARY LEGACIES OF WILLARD AND YVONNE WAGNER

Rev. Willard and Yvonne Wagner recently notified the World Missions Ministries Council of their pending retirement as career missionaries at the end of 2019. The Wagners have been phenomenal missionaries and leave behind a ministry legacy that will forever be etched into the ministry and missionary fabric of World Missions and the region of West Africa in particular.

You will find a short biography that Willard wrote below:



**Bishop Talmadge Gardner** 

Yvonne Brown Wagner was raised in Pender County, North Carolina, and after finishing high school attended Holmes Bible College, where she earned her BSL degree. Willard came from Missoula, Montana, and after traveling as a youth evangelist for two years, also finished at Holmes with a Th.B. They married in 1958 and remained at the College for seven years servings as teachers.

In 1963, the Wagners moved to Great Falls, Montana, with their three children to manage a photography business and be an assistant pastor/evangelist. Five years later, they returned to Holmes, after which they were called to pastor a promising church in North Carolina. The five years they spent near Goldsboro, NC, were some of the best of their ministry and served as a launching pad to the Philippine Islands as the first IPHC Missionaries to those islands. (A few national churches had already been contacted by an airman from Clark Air Force Base, so there was a good beginning.) From that time, the ministry of the IPHC Philippines grew rapidly, and when the Wagners left Manila five years later, there were some 84 established churches and three thriving Bible colleges. During their tenure, other well-qualified missionaries and nationals joined them to continue the ministry after their departure. Today, they have five conferences, Bible colleges, and many preaching points, all under national leadership but supervised by the regional director.

Willard and Yvonne then moved to Denver, Colorado. Yvonne was the director of homes for abused, abandoned, and neglected children. Willard pastored Bethany Temple in Littleton. After eight years of successful ministry in Colorado, they felt led to return to the mission field and applied to go, "wherever they were most needed." During the 1989 General Conference in Oklahoma City, the World Missions Ministries Board approved the Wagners to go to Nigeria as resident missionaries and church planters in West Africa. "The lines had fallen to them in pleasant places" (Psalm 16:6), and soon they were traveling throughout Nigeria to build a student body for West Africa Bible College and establish churches for the IPHC.

Willard and Yvonne began to visit other countries, and the Lord opened the door with Eglise de Pentecote du Togo, a church which now has more than 175,000 members. The ministry in Ghana is also doing very well under the guidance of the Christ Revival Center. They then went into Liberia, Sierra Leone, Benin, and Cote d'Ivoire to start the work. Their goal was to reach out to all 18 nations in West Africa, but because of a lack of personnel and time, they had to settle for just seven countries.

#### A NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Wagners later moved to Abidjan, Ivory Coast, to reach back to all of West Africa to help grow and solidify this young ministry.

As a result of the many health issues - Gilliam-Barre, heart seizures, plasmodium falciparum malaria, and other maladies that accompany West African countries - that were taking a toll on them physically, they realized the absolute necessity of training the nationals through the Bible colleges and by example. God soon gave them extraordinarily gifted and spiritual leaders for each country, and today the IPHC ministry of West Africa has the best of leadership to care for the work.

They also owe a debt of gratitude to their three children, who stood behind them during their tenure as missionaries, even though Willard and Yvonne had to miss many of the special events in their lives. The Wagners' missionary children are doing well: their son is a pastor of a promising church near Raleigh; the eldest daughter is a music/drama teacher in North Carolina; the youngest daughter is married to a businessman in Alabama; the adopted Liberian daughter is a flight attendant for an airline. They are also proud of their eight grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.



Willard and Yvonne Wagner

I recently had the privilege of traveling with Willard to Benin in West Africa to officially recognize and organize the IPHC in Benin. This was such a special and memorable experience. The leaders and members of our faith family in West Africa love and revere Willard and Yvonne and have affectionally assigned them the title of Papa and Mama.

World Missions Ministries has been blessed to have many extra-ordinary missionaries serving globally in our cause to 'go and make disciples of all nations.' The Wagners must be recognized as some of our finest. They have served as modern-day 'Apostles' in the biblical sense of the term.

Willard and Yvonne are both in their mid-80's and in relatively good health, but age has slowed them down significantly, and they considered it not viable to continue

serving as missionaries. Through mutual consent, World Missions Ministries and the Wagners have agreed upon a retirement date. They now live in a modest, yet comfortable home in Hiawassee, Georgia, and will definitely enjoy the scenery and the mountain air in their productive senior years. Willard has written two chapters in his book, and when published, they trust it will encourage other young people to launch out into missions for the Lord, Jesus Christ, and our beloved Church.

World Missions Ministries is working on a date to publicly recognize and honor the Wagners and their family. We will share that news with you in The Call as soon as arrangements are finalized. In the meantime, I know they would enjoy hearing from their many friends and faithful ministry partners. Their contact information is as follows:

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 602, Hiawassee, GA 30546 Email: wagnerafrica@aol.com

#### **THANK YOU!**

As 2019 comes to a close, please know that we are so thankful for you and your ministry partnership. The IPHC has a remarkable ministry presence outside of the United States thanks to your passion and commitment to reach the lost.

- · Your support of our missionaries is extraordinary. As Dag Heyward Mills said at the recent Pentecostal World Conference in Calgary, Canada, "We need ground troops preaching the word of God." They are paramount to our commitment to spreading the gospel.
- · Your sacrificial giving through the Global Outreach Offering [GO] has empowered us to resource our regional directors [\$340,000] to advance their vision for their region. It has also allowed us to commit to 'brick and mortar' projects (as brother Moses King used to call them) through our annual Antioch Grants [\$200,000].
- People to People Ministries continues to enable us to serve, love, and care for the least of these all over the world.

#### A NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

- The Awakening stands as the vanguard connecting, equipping, and resourcing the next generation of leaders around the globe. They are also becoming a tributary for new and young missionaries.
- · For almost four decades, Coffee House Ministries has served as an oasis that provides the opportunity for an encounter with Christ during daily workplace challenges.
- · Our global church has responded to the challenge to have a ministry presence in 150 nations and birth 5,000 new congregations outside of the United States as we move forward with Arise 2033.

Our clearly defined strategies have provided our global church with vision, passion, and a track to run on.

#### THESE STRATEGIES ARE:

- 1. Prayer
- 2. Evangelism or winning the lost
- 3. Discipling believers
- 4. Planting churches
- 5. Targeting the 6,900 unreached or unengaged people groups in the world
- 6. Changing a paradigm by challenging nations to become sending as opposed to receiving nations

That 'New Thing' that Isaiah prophesies about in Isaiah 43:18-19 is beginning to break-out. You can see and discern it as you travel globally. The Arise 2033 vision and strategies of WMM are taking root and will begin to bear precious fruit.

- · I am also grateful for the men and women who faithfully serve WMM at the GMC. They are the best ministry team that I have ever had the privilege of serving and serving with. Their servant leadership has positioned WMM for greater effectiveness. Thank you Steve Cofer, Dr. Terry Tramel, Debra Lybrand, Max Barroso, Bryan Nix, Michelle Nisbett, Madeline Raglin, Kathryn Shepard, Taylor Dufrene, Rebekah Wiggins, Rebekah Lowder, Mandi Patterson, Madeline Nix, Seth Nix, Betsy Hope, Whitney Browning, and Javier Farias Vargas.
- · We would not be able to do what we do without the vision, partnership, passion, and guidance of the members of the World Missions Ministries Council, our conference missions directors, and our onfield missionary regional directors.

**WMM Council Members:** Doug Bartlett, Dr. Barbara Carter, Keith Gilliam, Larry Meadors, Dean Morgan, Stan Reynolds, David Roberson, Ray Willis, and Timothy Yoo.

Conference Mission Directors: In Kwon Ahn, Gordon Atwell, Terry Bailey, Doug Bartlett, Kent Bell, Garry Bryant, Drs. David & Barbara Carter, Hector Chavez, Tyler Clark, Jorge Estrada, Gene & Any Garcia, Keith Gilliam, Mike Gray, Jackie Hersh, Bill Kenedy, Gene Kennett, Barbara Kleffel, Terry Lowder, Gordon McDonald, Larry Meadors, Jane Moore, Dean Morgan, Jerry Morris, Manuel Pate, Samuel Ruiz, Wesley Russ, Ronnie Saldana, Jeff Thomas, and Benjamin Waldrum.

**Regional Directors:** Max Barroso (interim), Linwood Berry, Russell Board, Bob Cave, Dan Clowers, Steve Cofer (interim), Joe Delport, Harold Presley, Ron Roy, Tim Salley, Ernest Turner, Willard Wagner (emeritus), and Ron Wooten.

I am believing that 'the best is still to come'.

May the peace and joy of Christmas be with you today and throughout the New Year. ~ Bishop Gardner

#### Bishop Talmadge Gardner Executive Director

"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6 [ESV]

## MEET JENNIFER MOORE

Jennifer Moore has been with World Missions Ministries since 2011, spending a portion of those years in Wales with The ELI Project, ministering to families with children who have special needs. Recently, she had the opportunity to visit Antwerp, Belgium to work with the opening of Centraal Café, and her passion to get involved with Coffee House Ministries was cultivated.

While in Antwerp, she discovered an amazing city that is rich in history yet filled with people who are searching for something more, something meaningful. What could be more fulfilling and meaningful than the love of Jesus Christ?

Jennifer wishes to use her gifts in hospitality and service to build relationships and be a light and extension of God's love to the people of Belgium.



#### ITINERATING MISSIONARIES

Dan & Brenda Clowers
Ron & Phyllis Roy
Darrel & Bonnie Clowers
Mauricio & Lulu Salazar
Jason & Catrina Bicket
David & Michelle Riley
Jeff & Kimberly Oeder
Mitch & Jewel Nichols
Greg & Latoya McClerkin

TO LEARN ABOUT HAVING THESE MISSIONARIES COME TO YOUR HOME CHURCH, PLEASE CALL: (888)474-2966

#### EXCITING SUMMER -BELGIUM

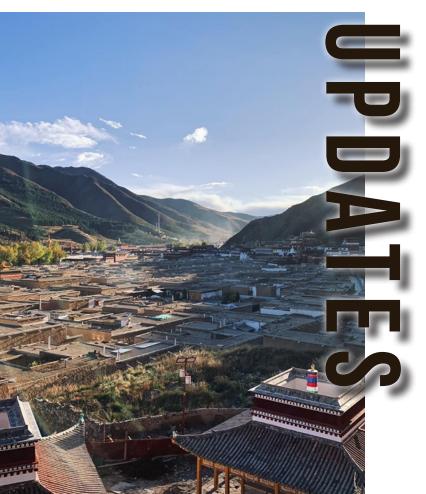
BY THE MCCLUNGS

Beauty for Ashes is the new outreach to the prostituted women in the Aachen red light district. Our team is regularly visiting the girls, sharing our love, and sharing Christ's love with them.

We would like to open a café in the red light district. We believe this will give us more opportunities to invite the ladies to "our place" to provide a safe meeting place to rest, offer a healthy meal, build relationships with them, counsel, and, most of all, share how Christ can give new life, hope, and beauty for ashes!

Please pray for Holy Spirit anointing on the team as we share Christ's love. Pray for team safety as we walk the district and talk to the girls, provision and opportunity to rent a small place for a café, and divine appointments. Thank you for sending us!





#### WAGING WAR -CHINA

BY THE WESTS

The Chinese Communist government continues to wage war on its own people. Police are systematically closing down church buildings, destroying Bibles, and imprisoning church leaders. However, the true church continues to stand strong, worship, and grow! As someone recently wrote (sarcastically): "Persecution of Christians is (Dictator) Xi Jinping's plan for China church planting." It's true! Historically, when believers scatter, the harvest increases as the gospel takes root in even more places!

Please help World Missions Ministries in our continued prayers for China and other countries with governments who make spreading the gospel difficult.

#### MINISTRY - PAKISTAN

BY THE SALLEYS

I (Tim) traveled to Pakistan in November. I was accompanied on this 12-day trip by Bishop Stan Reynolds and Evangelist Greg Terry. The believers we met and ministered to were generous, lovely, and very kind people. We visited them in their churches, their homes, their villages, and their cities. Thank you very much for your faithful prayers for us during this journey. Please pray for the believers in Pakistan. Many of them live in squalid conditions, and persecution against Christians is severe.

We also gave the first two motorcycles to Pastor John and Pastor Iqbal. Great thanks to Keith Gilliam and the Cornerstone Conference for helping us with these first motorcycles. A special thanks also to Dean Morgan and the South Carolina Conference for raising \$20,000 during the GO Rallies.





### EXCITING OPPORTUNITY - PHILIPPINES

BY AL ARGO

We are so excited to share that we have found great favor with the local police who are allowing us to use their premises each Saturday to minister to street children living around the police station.

Your continued prayers and monthly financial partnership are greatly appreciated as we end the year and continue to raise and release leaders here in Asia!

Please join World Missions Ministries in our continued prayers for the Lord's lasting favor over the Argo family, moving into 2020.

YESTERDAY IS GONE. TOMORROW HAS NOT YET COME. WE HAVE ONLY TODAY. LET US BEGIN.

Mother Teresa



### MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT

#### COFFEE HOUSE



Our mission through Coffee House Ministries is to serve as a bridge between the church and the community of non-believers. The communities we speak of can be filled with both those who are successful businessmen and businesswomen, and those who have lost hope or are perhaps looking for something to give their life meaning. Some of these communities are filled with drug addicts and alcoholics trying to fill the void within their hearts. Others have single parents who are in need of comfort, support, and a gentle reminder that they are enough.



IPHC Ukraine has a mission to reach these communities, sharing Christ's love with open arms through word and deed. Within this mission is a coffee house in Kiev: Coffee House Varnava, also known as Kiev Christian Hope. Coffee House Varnava was established in 2016 with the purpose of helping those in need. It is an inviting place where people can come to enjoy a free cup of coffee, meet and make new friends, receive support, and listen to the gospel message. Not only do they invite people in, but they also go out and search for those in need.

We connected with Dmitrii Loiuk with IPHC Ukraine, and she shared how Coffee House Varnava is impacting their local communities:

#### Overall purpose and mission of Coffee House Varnava:

"Our main mission is to bring hope, support, and acceptance to broken destinies through the manifestation of God's love, image, and likeness and through the building of relationships. Coffee House Varnava is a bridge between the WORLD and the CHURCH, an intermediate stage in which a person can feel needed and accepted."

#### Ministry opportunities:

"[Our ministry opportunities include] a weekly small group with specific programs, weekly street evangelism, feeding the needy, targeted women's and men's meetings, and weekly home groups by location. [So far, we have seen] about 50 individuals come to know Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior."

#### Why is Coffee House Ministries so important to your community?

"Because it is a transitional zone between the world and the church. It is weekly support for people in crisis situations, as well as systematic, practical preaching of the gospel."

We thank God for such a ministry that serves as His hands, feet, and mouthpiece, bringing men, women, and children unto Him.

Project Number: 41015P

Website: <a href="https://give.iphc.org/project/ukraine-varnava-coffee-house">https://give.iphc.org/project/ukraine-varnava-coffee-house</a>

## WHERE GRACE HAPPENS, GENEROSITY HAPPENS.

Max Lucado



## STORIES FROM THE FIELD

#### MATT HELLAND



Yamilet went through a season where she was paralyzed by fear, panic attacks, and was diagnosed with a series of mental disorders (OCD, PTSD, depression, etc.) Her husband recalls how there were moments when she would go into a grocery store and run out as quickly as possible because of a panic attack. She went from having a life where she felt like she had it all, to falling into a pit of deep darkness and fear. Psychologists gave her a wide range of treatments, yet none of them helped. Instead, she experienced that she was descending deeper into a pit of despair and depression. Dark thoughts plagued her to such an extent that she found herself contemplating suicide at moments. It was during this deep valley that she started calling out to Jesus Christ, and He brought around a complete change.

Yamilet found a testimony on YouTube of a man telling how Jesus delivered him from depression. She listened and prayed the prayer he told his listeners to pray. Nothing spectacular happened

at that moment, but the journey to healing did begin then. She asked Jesus to send two people to her home who could pray for her. Within a week, a Christian woman contacted her and asked if she could come with someone else to pray for her. This visit started bringing her closer to her restoration and healing.

For quite a while, she had been doing a Bible study with a group of Jehovah's Witnesses. Yet, she saw that they had absolutely no power nor faith to believe in healing prayer. She stopped attending their meetings and started studying the Bible and praying alone at home. God's Spirit began speaking to her through scripture, as well as through dreams and visions. God told her that she needed to find other believers who could help her, and He started telling her to contact Pastor Mateo (Matthew). She contacted me (Matthew) and the most amazing thing took place.

We (Matt and Femke) visited her at her home, and the moment we prayed for her, the Holy Spirit came down and baptized her with power. This Holy Spirit power encounter totally changed her vision of herself and her life. Within two weeks, she was baptized, and God continued doing a very profound work in her life. She is now free from all panic attacks, depression, and diagnoses which psychologists had given her.

Yamilet is also a faithful worker with Femke, helping people in Amsterdam's Red Light District. She and her husband have become leaders and pillars of our church, Iglesia Vida Nueva. Her testimony, and now her new ministry, are developing and helping many other people come from darkness into the light. Yamilet and her family are just one of the many families we are honored and privileged to serve here in Amsterdam. Thank you so much for enabling us to serve people like Yamilet to come from the kingdom of darkness into the wonderful kingdom of Jesus Christ. Your prayers and financial support allow us to invest our lives into the lives of Yamilet and so many more people like her. THANK YOU!!

"GOD PROSPERS ME NOT TO RAISE MY STANDARD OF LIVING, BUT TO RAISE MY STANDARD OF GIVING."

Randy Alcorn

# WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

#### MARGARET ROGERS



MARGARET ROGERS WITH THE MCCLERKIN CHILDREN

Margaret Rogers felt an initial call to the mission field in 1957 after marrying her late husband, Larry. However, the two were not able to go right away and decided to pursue other career paths in their waiting.

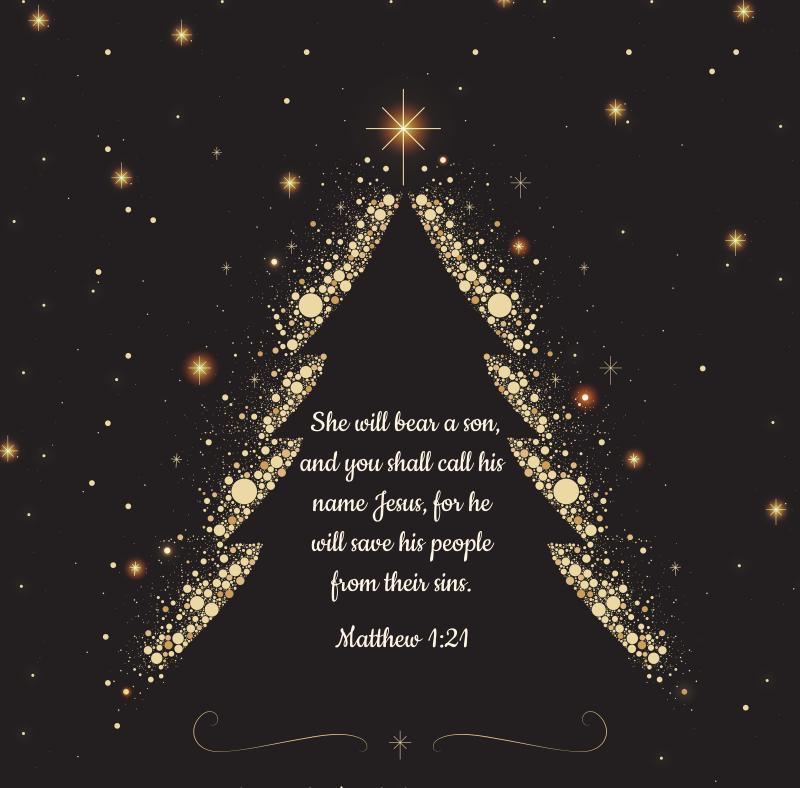
During their wait, Margaret served as a school teacher and later became eligible for early retirement. After retirement, Margaret knew the time to revisit their call to the mission field was on the horizon. After two more years, Margaret and Larry moved to Morocco.

Recently, Margaret stated that they were shown immense amounts of favor over the 17 years that they lived in this country. While on the field, Margaret

taught English and won women for Christ around the comfort of her dining room table. When asked how she won this favor from the natives in this country, Margaret replied, "Once you show them favor and love them, they respond."

After retiring from the mission field, Margaret shared that she was unable to keep in touch with the Moroccan people due to safety reasons. However, she keeps them in her heart and prays for them often. Currently, Margaret attends a Pentecostal Holiness church, where she helps with worship.

When asked what advice she would give to the coming generations of missionaries, Margaret said, "Don't accept the impossibilities. Ask God to show you the way. When God calls, He makes a way." Please join WMM in prayer that Margaret will receive good health as the Lord continues to use her to reach the people in the community around her.



Bishop & Mrs. J. Talmadge Gardner

The World Missions Council, team, and your missionary family wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!