

MISSIONARY ALUMNI

International Ministries News Update

Edition –January, 2026

Produced by **Ruben Schwieger** especially for Missionary Alumni to help keep us up-to-date on events and people in activities connected to **International Ministries of the Church of God**.

(If you are aware of material you'd like to see included in future issues, please let us know and we will work on it.)

Check out this website:

chogglobal.org (Global Strategy)

Home Assignments

Mark and Kathy Fulton - Haiti

(Still waiting to return for things to clear up and become safe for travel and work at the hospital.)

Larry and LeAnn Sellers in the States, for further chemo treatment following the removal of the kidney back in the Spring. Insurance requires this additional treatment.

Christy and Dan Kihm are preparing for a six-month home assignment to start around the beginning of the new year.

Corey and Abby Stocksdales - Botswana

From the **Tatmans**

3WLN 6.0 Was A Success!

Our Three Worlds (3W) team recently hosted the sixth

Conference in Wilderswil, Switzerland. We had a record number of participants, with over 100 adults and children in attendance!

Beth Wolff, pastor at Clarksburg Church in Virginia, did a fantastic job, leading attendees through the conference theme: *Move. Toward God. Together.*

This conference is a life-giving event designed to encourage, train, and support leaders around the region who serve in a variety of roles.

One related ministry, *AtHome*, is a faith community that welcomes and engages refugees and immigrants in Paris, France.

Nate recently visited the *AtHome* community for bi-annual advisory board meetings. Leaders in this ministry have recently begun visiting an additional location in Paris, where many women and children gather while they navigate the long process of being received in-country and given legal status in order to live and work in the country.

From **Colleen Stevenson**

Core Discipleship continues to grow as an important pathway for leadership development and a biblically grounded understanding of serving Christ. Through this program, candidates are being equipped with solid doctrine and practical ministry skills that strengthen their local churches and communities.

We are grateful for our dedicated coaches who serve alongside a strong Ugandan

leadership team. Reverends **Greg Smith, Julie Wiseman, Roy Ferguson, Bill Greiner**, and Coordinator **Judith Wandera** along with a German work team including Pastor **Andreas** teaching in cohorts 3 and 4 – a cohort graduates every two years.

A Note from **Steve and Peggy Beverly** in Sri Lanka.

Our evening walk through our neighborhood usually begins as a quiet opportunity for reflection on our day. We pass a group of Sri Lankan Muslim women, heads covered and laughing together walking in the opposite direction. We smile and wave. They wave back. A young family from Sweden recently moved in, and the mother, pony-tail bouncing, runs by us with an energy we find ourselves wishing that we still had. The Pakistani Muslim family's children are out riding bicycles and are too absorbed in each other to pay much attention to us. Our Catholic neighbor waves as we round past her house for the third time. She is having a conversation over the fence with the Hindu woman across the street. Incense burning in front of the Hindu woman's home is honoring a shrine to Ganesha. But most of our neighbors are Buddhist, and very few seem to enjoy cool evening walks. As the sun begins to fall over the Indian Ocean, the church bells from nearby Our Lady of the Snows (an ironic name for Sri Lanka) Catholic church begin to peal. Soon, those bells are joined by the discordant

chanting from the Ahmadiyya Muslim Mosque a few blocks in the other direction. And on full moon evenings, the Abayasekararamaya Buddhist Temple adds its own chants to the multi-religious cacophony. I am always amazed at the diversity of religions in Sri Lanka that live harmoniously together on a daily basis—until they don't.

Most of our pastors live and work in small communities that do not want Christians or churches among them. Recently, one of our pastors has been facing intense opposition from a group of Buddhist monks. His son was attacked. His wife and daughter were attacked and hospitalized and imprisoned. Yet they continue to love and to serve those around them—even those who persecute them. We have prayed for them, and, yes, we have prayed for her attackers, who hate them because they love Jesus. Matthew 5:44–48 tells us to love our enemies, to pray for those who persecute us, that to love only those who love us is the way that non-Christians love. God expects more from us, but it is difficult!

Cyclonic Storm Ditwah made landfall in Sri Lanka on November 28, 2025, leaving a major humanitarian crisis in its wake. More than 1.8 million people have been affected by landslides and floods, and more than 639 deaths have been reported, with 203 people missing.

More than 90,000 homes were damaged or destroyed. Through assistance from Church of God Ministries Disaster Relief & Restoration fund, the Church of God in Sri Lanka was able to provide prayer, food, medical resources, and emergency equipment across the island



A Note from the **Ayalas** in Belize

**No air-conditioning, no carpet,
no comfortable chairs, no lights &
smoke, no banners, no flex, no
advertising, but there is JESUS.**



So, I will be leaving December 31 and should get to the campus sometime on the 2nd of January – scheduled to be there for a little more than 4 months.



Please pray with me for this venture.
Thanks. **Ruben**

I will likely have the ability to use email to keep everyone here posted on what is happening at Trelliss, but I am not sure about maintaining this newsletter. I will let you know what works in that regard.

