

THE MESSENGER

Weeldreyers Serving on Two Fronts in Rwanda

by Brendan Kimbrough

Pastors are the backbone of the global church, and the churches they serve in the Global South are growing the fastest. With this growth comes the obvious need for discipleship, yet only 20% of these Global South pastors have received some level of theological training.

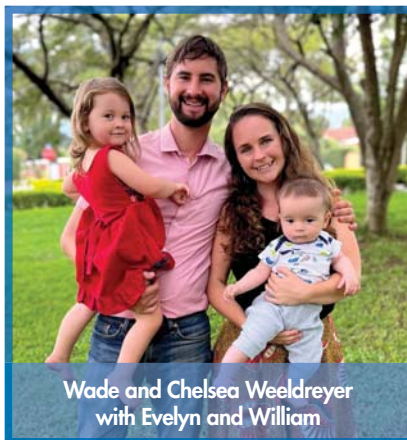
SAMS Missionary Wade Weeldreyer is acutely aware of this challenge. He has been teaching pastors in Kigali, Rwanda, for the last two years. He teaches Hebrew and systematic theology in the Department of Religion at East African Christian College (EACC).

“Our own statistics confirm that over 80% of the clergy in the Anglican Church of Rwanda have only the equivalent of an elementary education,” says Wade. “This becomes a significant challenge in the context of the growing church here, experiencing growth that is a mile wide, but only an inch deep. The Anglican Church here has responded to that need, prompted as well by a 2018 Rwandan law outlining theological training for clergy.”

For Wade, seeds were planted at the age of 12 when he began earnestly reading the Bible for himself. By the time he reached high school, he was leading a study for his school, opening students’ eyes to the Scriptures and helping them connect the Gospel to their own questions. That drove him to pursue biblical studies and languages in college and seminary.

During college, Wade spent time abroad studying at Jerusalem University College (JUC). That is where he met Chelsea, who was working for the JUC at the time, and shared his passion for language, biblical studies, and living in a cross-cultural context.

“It snowed four inches in Jerusalem when we were there. A group of us wanted to walk to the Mount of Olives to look out over the Judean wilderness at sunrise the next morning. But when morning arrived, it was just Chelsea and I. That was the start of it,” says Wade.



Wade and Chelsea Weeldreyer with Evelyn and William



Wade at EACC graduation with a student

And if you ask Wade, it was meeting and eventually marrying Chelsea during seminary, (along with her consistent encouragement to consider serving in the mission field together) that opened him up to the possibility of taking this step in mission.

“I am grateful for the role I have in training pastors. There is such an ongoing need for well-equipped pastors and I love the relationships I am building with them,” says Wade. “As overall education rises in Africa, theological education must rise with it. Bad theology is an issue here as in other parts of the world, but especially the prosperity gospel. My students in the classroom recognize it as an issue along with other kinds of false teaching.”

“The other dynamic is that both laypeople and pastors are eager to learn. They want to study and know more. And even though they are under-resourced, they have pressing questions in the classroom that they want to discuss, so I facilitate these discussions. They are learning to become more of a reading culture. When you do put books in their hands, they still have to learn the discipline of reading and thinking critically.”

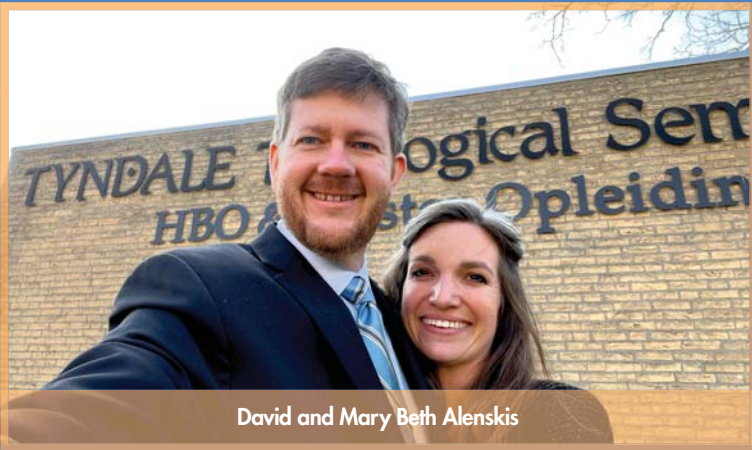
Chelsea’s developing faith propelled her early on to pursue mission, but she didn’t have examples of women leading in robust, meaningful roles except for women missionaries. “I think God really used that because it opened up the category of ‘missionary’ for me,” recalls Chelsea. “Once we were in Rwanda the Lord directed me to a ministry I had known previously. A professor in college had recognized in me a desire to help underprivileged



Chelsea making paper beads with Word Made Flesh artisans

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David Alenskis to join Faculty at Tyndale Seminary in the Netherlands



David and Mary Beth Alenskis

SAMS Missionaries David and Mary Beth Alenskis are responding to a call to go to Europe. David will join Tyndale Theological Seminary to teach Systematic and Historical Theology. Tyndale, located near Amsterdam, offers graduate degrees in Christian ministry and practical theology, with a special focus on training

students coming from the Global South, particularly Africa and Asia. While David focuses on teaching, Mary Beth is looking forward to ministering with their three young children in the community, especially through her gifts in music. Their family's vision is to train and equip leaders for ministry in the global church, particularly in marginalized regions.

Secondly, they seek to be faithful, compelling Christian witnesses in Western Europe, a region wrestling with fundamental questions in the wake of the scourge of secularism. Their family will join in ministry with four SAMS Collaborative Missionaries already serving at Tyndale (primarily sent through SAMS mission sending partners in Australia and Canada) and four SAMS Missionaries serving nearby. As they seek additional Senders in the coming year, David will be finishing his Ph.D. They are overjoyed that God has led them on this path from the USA to Belize to Canada and now to the Netherlands.

Omars to serve at Holy Cross Cathedral in Georgia for Refugee outreach

Dan and Cesiah Omar will be sharing the good news of the Gospel with refugees and other immigrants in the region of Clarkston, Georgia. Known as the "the most diverse square mile in America" and "the Ellis Island of the South," this small town has been identified by refugee resettlement programs as a good fit for displaced persons coming from war-torn or otherwise unstable regions around the world. Dan and Cesiah will serve as SAMS Missionaries-in-Residence at Holy Cross Cathedral, Loganville, Georgia, in the Anglican Diocese of the South, coming alongside and seeking to grow the ministry team already working with refugees. This call is an answer to prayer and seems to fit the unique ways in which God has formed Dan and Cesiah.

Dan grew up in a multi-ethnic and multi-faith region of northern Kenya, his father having converted to Christianity from Islam as a young man. Dan has also experienced diverse cultures as he pursued training for ministry in Uganda and the U.S. Cesiah has also experienced many cultures through her parents Stewart and Laura Wicker, who are serving with SAMS, as well as in cross-cultural



Dan and Cesiah Omar with their daughter Lily

missions and work experience with students from other countries. Cesiah is caring for their daughter Lily and is discerning how she might best minister among internationals in their new community. As Dan and Cesiah raise up Senders to join in this call of evangelism and outreach among those at our doorstep, they will be mentored by Daniel and Rebekah Behrens, SAMS Missionaries-in-Residence, engaged in refugee ministry in Pittsburgh.



Roger & Joanne



Meredith

September 1-7: Missionary Bridgers (One to twelve-month missionary interns):

Give thanks for the ministries of: **Catherine Annand** (Uganda), **David & Sarah Anderson** (Southeast Asia and Europe), **Deb Carr** (Kenya), and **Patrick Lutalo** (Uganda). Pray that God's grace would lead them into fruitful service.

September 8-14: NORTH AMERICA: Mexico

Lift up **Roger & Joanne** as they minister, asking that the continuing witness of the Gospel would be present in their lives and within the life of ACNA churches in Mexico. Pray for safe, "invisible" passages in their travels and for wisdom and good health as they serve. Pray that the cult of violence and darkness in Mexico would be vanquished, that Mexican Christians would have safety and peace, and that economic stability would become a reality for Mexicans.

Join **Meredith** in praying for the children and youth who attended VBS in July, that they would continue to grow in the Lord, and that their families would come to know Jesus as well. Please also pray that the Lord would work in the hearts and lives of the church's leaders, so that they would have a deeper relationship with Him, feeding on solid spiritual food and not just milk.



McCall Family

September 15-21: CENTRAL AMERICA: Honduras

Join **Suzy McCall, Cate Waddell, Amanda Scott, Steve & Debbie Buckner** in giving thanks for the summer teams at LAMB Institute who brought joy and encouragement, and painted and freshened up the children's cabins. They ask for prayers for Hondurans with dengue fever and COVID. The Honduran medical system and the social services hospitals are inadequate for the demand, and most people cannot afford private options. The McCall Family requests prayers for the older children (Lety, Ethan, Lucy) who are discerning future educational and work options, and continued prayers for the advancement of Sammy and Joel's adoptions.



Cate Waddell



Amanda Scott

September 22-28: CENTRAL AMERICA: Honduras

Pray for **Jack Melvin's** ministry of presence as he works with young Honduran students. Pray especially for Johana (18 years-old), as she finishes nursing school this year. Please pray for children with health problems, especially Estefany (17 years-old) who is still undergoing chemotherapy for cancer, and for Nicolita (11 years-old), who has a congenital twisted leg, which is very painful for her. Lift up all the marginalized children in Honduras, for their education and health, and especially for those who have dengue fever.



Steve & Debbie Buckner



Jack Melvin

September 29 – October 5: SOUTH AMERICA: Ecuador

Pray with **Roberto & Cameron, Graham, Liam, and Francis Vivanco** for the new school year and for the 959 students whose education is supported through Education Equals Hope. Also pray for the International Church, English Fellowship, that Roberto helps to pastor. Praise God for healing and peace in a difficult season, and for a good summer connecting with Senders and churches in the U.S.



Vivanco Family



Russ & Heidi Smith

October 6-12: SOUTH AMERICA: Chile

Pray with **Russ & Heidi Smith** in thanksgiving for the rebirth of the Sunday school there at Kingdom of God Church. Pray about the possibility of beginning a class for young teens. In October, pray for the Smiths as they attend the leadership meeting of Equipping Saints International in Cartagena, Colombia. Also pray for the visit of SAMS Associate Missionary, Susan Park, who will be holding a practical workshop for Temuco women church leaders in November. Also pray for a good finish for the Rural Bible Institute students' ten months of studies in December.

October 13-19: OCEANIA: New Zealand

Pray that **Guy & Summer, Isaac, Quinn, Norah, and Addison Benton** may live with boldness and confidence, shining Christ's light in Wellington, as they serve in parish revitalization and the discipleship of the congregation at All Saints Church.

October 20-26: ASIA: Indonesia

Pray with **James & Nanci, Anna, George, Mary, and Della Long** in praising God for raising up Pastor Aan to love and lead the little flock of Providence Anglican Church (PAC), Jakarta, Indonesia. Pray especially for the church's ministry to families that live under a bridge, service to special needs children along with their parents, and outreach to refugee groups in Jakarta. Ask the Lord to demonstrate His power through PAC, that all may be drawn to him and enter the service of His kingdom. Pray that they would continue to be faithful to His call.



Benton Family



Long Family



Pelloni Family

October 27-November 2: ASIA: Cambodia

Join **Anthony & Anna, Laurel, Bethel, Priel, and Isobel Pelloni** in prayer for the English church plant as they enter their second year of church life. May it be a welcome place to all who come through the doors. Pray for the Khmer dorm ministry and the weekly discipleship and worship service for the young Cambodian men who live in the dorms. Pray also for the Pelloni family as they continue to grow into new seasons of life.



Whitaker Family

Join in prayer with **Gregory & Heidi, Saeeda, Brynne, Aubrey, Ivy, and Madeleine Whitaker** in Phnom Penh for the continued growth of the English congregation they lead, as well as their church plant and their sister Cambodian and Chinese congregations. Ask the Lord to find a priest to cover for Gregory so he can take a sabbatical. Thank God that the Whitaker's two older daughters are spending time back in Phnom Penh with them, working and volunteering there.

November 3-9: AFRICA: Kenya

Join **David & Lucy, Joshua, Paul, Zuri, and Mark Chaves** in thanksgiving for a chance to visit family, friends and ministry partners in Kenya this summer. Please pray for wisdom as they minister to the hurting youth in Kenya. Pray for this transitional period in the life of the Chaves family. Give thanks for the partnership with the C.S. Lewis Institute to produce a teaching series, for Right Now Media's film on marriage as God designed it, and for the parents' program on the responsibility of raising children in the Lord.



Chaves Family

November 10-16: AFRICA: Malawi

Pray for **Robert & Traci, Andrew, Peter, Daniel, and June Gresser** as they adjust to daily life in Malawi and establishing a home there. Pray for Leonard Kamungu Theological College leadership as they seek to hire an accountant and earn accreditation. Pray for Bob as teaches under a heavy workload, and for Traci, as she cares for their family, tackling multiple projects to make their new house a home.



Gresser Family



Weeldreyer Family

November 17-23: AFRICA: Rwanda

Pray for **Wade & Chelsea, Evelyn, and William Weeldreyer** as they serve in Kigali, Rwanda. Pray for Wade as he revises his Hebrew and theology courses, seeking creative ways to structure his courses for maximum engagement. Pray that the women with whom Chelsea works at Word Made Flesh would experience transformed lives through Jesus. Pray that the Weeldreyer children, Evelyn and William, would grow in the knowledge and love of the Lord, and that Evelyn would experience courage and great joy as she begins preschool.



Weber Family

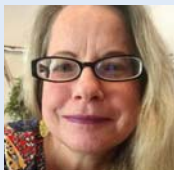
Ben & Cherie, Mae, Conor, Abigail, Jonathan, Michaela, and Shiloh Weber in Rwanda, who are starting a scholarship fund for the Diocese of Gahini. Pray about how to integrate a good Bible curriculum into the church-run schools. As their work takes them more and more into the villages, pray with them for the provision of a new vehicle they can use for ministry.

November 24-November 30: AFRICA: Uganda

Pray for **Janine LeGrand**, serving the Diocese of Masindi-Kitara, that she would have good health and safety in Uganda, and for the development and roll-out of a new variation of a health education program. Pray also for effective and mutually beneficial relations with partner organizations. Give praise for all the prayers and the loving care that all of her supporters have shown her.



Janine LeGrand



Cathy Clevenger

Lift up **Cathy Clevenger** in Masindi as she brings mental health education to the diocese. Join Cathy and her team of lay readers and pastors in praising God for blessing their work in the Refugee Camp, with many receiving training. Please pray for Special Missions Project funds to continue to do this work of addressing trauma and bringing reconciliation through the Gospel. Each training costs about \$500 for food, printed handouts, and transportation.

Lift up **Richard & Martha Menees** in Kabale. Pray for progress in language study and that Martha would find a female skillful in helping her acquire the language. Pray that Richard be given patience and wisdom to join the teaching staff at Bishop Barham College. Pray for contributions to the Menees Special Missions Project, to increase the funding of school fees and scholarship grants to promising but needy students. Pray for God's provision for training leaders for the Anglican Church in southwest Uganda.



Richard & Martha Menees



Jessica Hughes



Richard & Catherine Ranger

December 1-7: AFRICA: Uganda

Please pray for continued healing for **Jessica Hughes**, and for the Lord's continued blessing and provision on her spiritual direction studies program and internship.

Lift up **Richard & Catherine Ranger** in Mukono, who await renewal of work permits to begin a new term serving as missionary faculty at Uganda Christian University. Pray for additional senders to support their ministries of teaching, administration, mentoring, and fellowship, and for discernment and grace to support those in need of assistance with school fees or medical care. Pray for equipping to continue to share the story of their work in Uganda, not simply to inspire support, but to unfold the story of our missionary God.

December 8-14: AFRICA: Northern Africa

Pray with **J&K** as they plan their next steps to transition to a new ministry. Pray for clear discernment and to move forward in the next opportunity in step with the Lord. Pray for the health of their baby girl who was just born, and that as they step away from the current ministry, they would pass the baton well to faithful people.

December 15-21: EUROPE

Pray that **Steve V.** would receive wisdom from the Lord to impact the people of his country with the Gospel. Pray that he would have divine encounters with non-Christians in situations where he can answer questions about philosophy, theology, and share his personal experience in communicating that God exists. Pray that his activities such as riding his bicycle and leaving the New Testament or bible verses hidden in a plastic cover around the bicycle paths might be used by God. Pray for Steve's mother who has now received Christ and has moved to a senior home about 20 minutes away.

December 22-28: EUROPE: The Netherlands

Pray that **Kerry & Cynthia Buttram** continue to see new people coming to Christ Church Amsterdam, thirsting for living water. Praise God that Cynthia has now completed her training as a Spiritual Director. Please pray for a fruitful season ahead. Ask the Lord to raise up new leaders who can co-labor with them in ministry to the children and youth, as families find a new home at Christ Church.

Pray for **Johann & Louise Vanderbijl's** many encounters with their neighbors and the people they meet while walking their dog, Mr. Pips. Pray for the meaningful conversations they've had thus far, as people begin to open up to them. Pray especially for their immediate neighbors and for seeds sown to germinate, grow, and produce abundant fruit. Pray for the continued learning of the Dutch language. Please pray for the renewal of their visas, and for travel mercies for Louise. Pray for spiritual growth at Christ Church, Heiloo.

December 29-January 4: NORTH AMERICA: United States of America

Pray with **Mary & Jack McDonald** in Blacksburg, VA, that Farm Animal Refresher for Missions and the Christian Veterinary Mission teaching would result in vets, spouses, and techs coming to faith and getting involved in mission veterinary work, evangelism, and safety for farm animals. Pray that their holiday outreach to international students would bear fruit. Pray for the McDonald family, including Rosey, Jack, Ashby, and Nick, to draw ever closer to the Lord, number their days aright, and glorify Christ. Pray for wisdom to discern new projects in Burundi or Uganda.

Join **Daniel & Rebekah, Sabal, Darcy, and Mary Behrens** in praying for the refugee program in Pittsburgh, in conjunction with the Church of the Ascension. Please lift up the Latino ministry, cross-cultural discipleship, ESL preparation for employment, their work with the Sudanese congregation, and the refugee welcome circles ministries. Please pray that their one-on-one relationships with young refugee couples would bear much fruit and multiply.

January 5-11: NORTH AMERICA: United States of America

Pray for **Todd & Patsy McGregor** in Stuart, FL, as Todd serves as SAMS Mission Coach. Grant Todd missional discernment concerning his work in the Diocese of Mahajanga, Madagascar. Pray also for his ministry as Bishop in Residence at St. David's in the Pines. Intercede for Patsy as she leads in her parish, and that God would give her energy and creativity in her writing projects.

Lift up **Anne Schaffer** in Charleston, SC, and ask the Lord to give her energy, perseverance, and insight as a SAMS Language and Culture Coach. Pray for SAMS missionaries who are learning new languages and gaining insight in how to live and interact in their new cultural contexts.



Kerry & Cynthia Buttram



Johann & Louise Vanderbijl



Jack & Mary McDonald



Behrens Family



Todd & Patsy McGregor



Anne Schaffer



Miller Family



Alenskis Family



Larson Family



Omar Family

January 12-18: NORTH AMERICA: United States of America

Pray with **Mike & Kim, Liliana, and Katherine Miller** in St. Petersburg, Florida, as they continue to serve SAMS missionaries through the Third Culture Kid (TCK) Care Program by connecting them with helpful resources, leading workshops, and conducting TCK debriefs. Pray for their wider work with missionary families from various sending agencies in partnership with Compass Ministries, where they provide missionary peer support and debriefings.

Lift up Candidates **Eric & Liz, Zeke, and Elias Larson** as they discern their next steps for missionary service. May God be with them as they serve their community and prepare for future ministry.

Lift up Candidates **Dan & Cesiah, and Lily Omar** as they seek to raise up Senders and prepare to minister to refugees in the Atlanta area. Pray that refugees and other immigrants who have not yet heard the Gospel will be given the opportunity to hear the good news of Jesus Christ.

January 19-25: NORTH AMERICA: Canada

Lift up **David & Mary Beth, Austin, James, and Lily Alenskis** in Toronto. Pray for new partners for their long-term theological training ministry in the Netherlands. Pray for good and rapid progress toward the submission and defense of David's thesis. Ask the Lord to grant health and safety for their family, and a good transition in the interim.

January 26-February 1: Associate Missionaries (USA-based, globally-focused volunteers)

Lift up to the Lord **David and Patricia Ayres** (church planting in Germany), **Jesse and Sarah Blaine** (missionary coaching and church planting), **Chuck & Beth Bradshaw** (theological and musical education in Uganda), **Mary Chowenhill** (entrepreneurial development in Uganda), **Mike & Linda Chapman** (ministry among Hispanics in the USA), **Steve and Veronica Chisholm** (church planting in Portugal), **Matt & Sora Colvin** (theological education and health ministry), **Bunny Cowan** (teaching in Honduras), **Wayne & Nicole Curtis** (youth ministry in South Africa), and **Kathy Decker** (communications in Peru).

February 2-8: Associate Missionaries (USA-based, globally-focused volunteers)

Lift up to the Lord **John & Ninfa Dixon** (outreach on the Mexican border), **Cathy Donahoe** (health ministry in the Dominican Republic), **Chris Feuillade** (education in Chile), **Rusty & Tammy Firestone** (church development in Bolivia), **Tom & Maryjane Furrer** (health ministry in Nigeria), **Margarita Grachen** (children's ministry in Honduras), **Allen & Rachel Hill** (theological education), **Mike & Betty Kaszer** (education ministry in Honduras), **Grant & Wendy LeMarquand** (diocesan development in Ethiopia), **Jacky Lowe** (women's ministry in Madagascar).

February 9-15: Associate Missionaries (USA-based, globally-focused volunteers)

Lift up to the Lord **Ian & Polly Montgomery** (diocesan ministry in Peru), **Abraham and Daruka Nhial** (diocesan ministry in South Sudan), **John & Susan Park** (leadership development in Latin America), and **Trent Pettit** (Ethiopia/global Anglican mission partnerships), **Ana Reid** (social ministries in Honduras), **Maunette Tait** (education in Honduras), **Hunter & Stephe Van Wagenen** (evangelism in Spain), and **Jared & Abbi Wensyel** (church planting in Germany), **Jeannie Loving** (social outreach in Honduras), and **Frank & Shawnee Lyons** (youth ministry).

February 16-22: SAMS Family

Pray for SAMS home staff: **Denise Cox, Nita Dempsey, Brendan Kimbrough, Julie Kirik, Howard McClellan, Dana Priest, Dale Schartner and Stewart Wicker**, as they support, encourage, and help equip missionaries and mobilize the church here in the USA and globally.

Pray that the Lord would raise up new **inquirers and applicants** discerning next steps in the mission field to which they are being called whether in the USA or abroad. Pray that the Lord would raise up short-term **Bridgers** as well.

February 23-28: Senders

Give thanks to the Lord for all **Senders** and their Gospel-focused commitment to pray, financially support, and encourage Missionaries in a partnership focused on "making disciples of all nations."

continued from page 1

Given by:

Mr. David S. Pierson
Mr. James and Mrs. Elizabeth Schaffer
Mrs. Carla Castle
Mr. James and Mrs. Elizabeth Schaffer
Mr. Stewart & The Rev. Laura Wicker
Mr. Kurt Hartley
Dr. Gillian Comyn Hope
Mrs. Leslie James
Mr. Sean Jennett
Mr. James and Mrs. Elizabeth Schaffer
Mr. James and Mrs. Elizabeth Schaffer
Mr. Dana A. Priest
Dr. Fraser and Mrs. Pamela Fleming
Mrs. Mary Pat Moore
Ms. Francesca Onyejuruwa
Mr. Lewis Hoch
Mr. Paul Langland
Mr. Robert Young
Ms. Robbin Rawlings
Mrs. Katrina Reynolds
Mrs. Kathleen Glen
Ms. Barbara Johnston
Ms. Virginia Anne Lydick
Mrs. Frances and The Rev. Canon David Roseberry
Mr. Johnny and Mrs. Melinda Rudder
Sunstone Village Monday Bible Study
Mr. Stewart & The Rev. Laura Wicker
Miss Ashley Schaffer
Mr. Danny and Mrs. Charlotte R. Maxwell
Mr. Paul and Ms. Frances Fernald
Mr. James and Mrs. Elizabeth Schaffer
Mrs. Julie Hoogshagen
Mr. James and Mrs. Elizabeth Schaffer
Mrs. Mary E. Chowenhill

Given by:

Ms. Elizabeth Cannizzaro
Mr. F. Worth and Mrs. Elizabeth Hobbs
Mr. Seth Holler
Mr. James and Mrs. Elizabeth Schaffer
Ms. Sandra Griffin
Ms. Betsy Johnson
Ms. Ann Thomas
Ms. Betsy Johnson
Mr. Robert Harris
Mr. & Mrs. Terry Dempsey
Mrs. Molly Brindle
Mr. Johnnie and Mrs. Jean Corbett
Mr. James and Mrs. Elizabeth Schaffer
Mr. Thomas and Mrs. Carolyn Hash
Ms. Sharon Sides
Mr. F. Worth and Mrs. Elizabeth Hobbs

IN MEMORY OF:

Fr. David and Mrs. Alice Agnew
Mr. Kevin Danner Buckheister
The Rev Donald E Castle
Ms. Minnie Walker Dew
Mr. Richard A. Englander
Dr. Robert C. Hartley, DVM
Dr. Cherry Hooper
Mr. Mick James
Ms. Lynda Jennett
Antoinette; Toni, and Balzano Kirby
Ms. Anne LeFevre
Mr. Will Levesque and Ms. Erin McCarty
Ms. Ruth and Mr. Reuben Lowe
Mr. Paul Moore (beloved husband)
Chidiebere Onyejuruwa
Ms. Carol Roland Ranger
Ms. Carol Roland Ranger
Ms. Carol Roland Ranger
Ms. Kay Rawlings
Ms. Louisa Reynolds
Mrs. Vicki Robertson
Mrs. Vicki Robertson
Mrs. Vicki Robertson
Mrs. Vicki Robertson
Mrs. Vicki Robertson
Mrs. Vicki Robertson
Mrs. Vicki Robertson
Mr. Bradley Hayes Schaffer
Mr. Douglas Lee Schaffer
Mrs. Elizabeth Ann Glover Schaffer
Mrs. Elizabeth Ann Glover Schaffer
Mr. Jerry Schmidt
Ms. Ann Goodyear Smith
The Rev. Robert O. Weeks

IN HONOR OF:

Miss Zuri Chaves
Mrs. Denise Cox
Ms. Deanna Godemann
Ms. Mildred Goodyear
Hylan
Elizabeth and Jenna Johnson
Ms. Jacqueline A. Lowe
Mr. Ross Neagley (beloved father)
Col. John Novikoff
Mr. Caleb Porto
Mr. Richard and Mrs. Catherine Ranger
Miss Anne Schaffer
Miss Anne Schaffer
Ms. Amanda Scott
Marley Sides
Mr. Stewart & The Rev. Laura Wicker

people and those facing challenges with poverty, and recommended I connect with an organization called Word Made Flesh, which serves those in poverty through sustainable development. They are highly relational, viewing a person struggling with poverty holistically, ministering to their physical, emotional, and spiritual needs, without downplaying any of them.”

Chelsea arrived at a key time for the Word Made Flesh team, and she sees her work as both meaningful and humbling. “I don’t do a lot of the direct ministry. My role is staff support and communications.” The staff needs time to disengage and rest. She coordinates and leads their staff retreats so they can rest and recharge, and Chelsea sees the trickle-down effect from the staff to the people they serve. She also produces the newsletter and handles other communications needs for the organization.

Wade sums up their experience having now been in Rwanda for two years. “Growing up in the U.S. we were taught to value productivity, efficiency, and self-responsibility. As a missionary, in a sense, you become a child again. You lose a sense of self-sufficiency because that’s not valued here. What is valued here in Rwanda is personal presence through relationships; that’s what we’re learning. It’s like a mirror reflecting back what God wants us to learn. It poses the question to us of what really matters in this world.”

Equipping the Global Church

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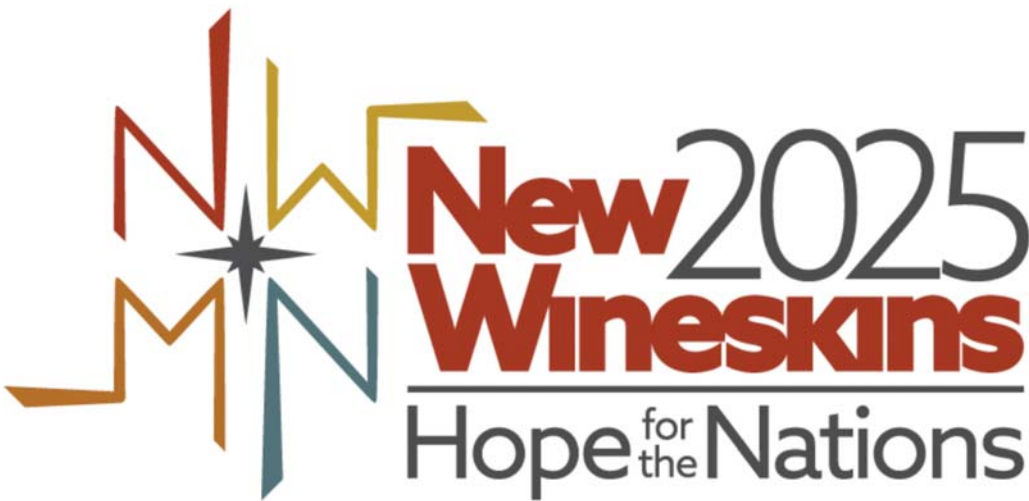
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