

THE MESSENGER

Replicating Trauma Treatment through the Gospel

by Brendan Kimbrough

It's a dusty, jaw-rattling, two-hour drive over rough Ugandan roads to get to the Kiryandongo Refugee Camp in northern Uganda. SAMS Missionary Cathy Clevenger and her team make the drive once or twice a month to minister to groups of refugees living there, but wisely, not during the weekly food distribution. The camp is a city in its own right. A sprawling sea of homes spread out for miles, which include schools, churches, make-shift shops, U.N. health clinics, and the requisite food distribution points. It's comprised of nearly 100,000 people, who represent just a portion of the fallout in terms of the real human cost caused by the carnage of civil war and continuing tribal conflict in South Sudan and Sudan.

One of the stark realities, besides the sheer size of the humanitarian dilemma here, is the excruciating trauma. "The majority of the population in the camp is women and children" says Cathy. "Most of the Sudanese men have either been killed or remained behind in their tribal areas to fight. The stories are real, yet always heartbreaking. So much violence, displacement, killing, and loss of loved ones has taken place."

It could be overwhelming to confront such a human tragedy, but Cathy's well-trained team faces it head-on in the hope and the power of the Gospel. Cathy draws on decades of experience treating trauma as a licensed social worker in the U.S. before the Lord called her to East Africa. In her current role as Counseling Coordinator for the Diocese of Masindi-Kitara, Cathy had been treating Ugandan teenagers at a local remand home for incarcerated young boys awaiting court dates. Cathy still carries



out that important work, while ministering to the burgeoning refugee population and their dilemma that God had placed in front of her in late 2023.

With the scale of suffering that exists at the Kiryandongo Camp, one question arises: How can this many people possibly be treated who have experienced such terrible things? Much of the answer lies in the power of the Gospel, not only to open up people to understand their own response to trauma and begin to heal, but then to also trust that those same people will take what they've learned to others. It's a replicative model of treatment that by God's grace makes use of Scripture, small groups and guided teaching.

Cathy and her team typically speak to an assembled group from churches within the camp about trauma and teach them what trauma looks like, what the responses to it typically are, and why people respond the way they do. They use the story of Elijah and the dramatic showdown on Mount Carmel where Elijah successfully demonstrates the power of God over Baal, which prompts Queen Jezebel to threaten to kill him, creating intense fear and a desperate flight for his life (one of the four main responses to trauma). God intervenes with the appearance of an angel who provides for him. Elijah reaches Horeb where he encounters the still small voice of God which reassures him of his purpose and gives him new instructions.

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New Director to Orient Camp's Focus on Church Planting in Europe

New SAMS Missionary Candidates Lee and Ela Nelson are responding to a call to contribute to the re-evangelization of Europe through the Knüll Camp and Conference Center in Schwarzenborn, Germany. Two ACNA jurisdictions will come alongside Lee and Ela and their children for a collaborative sending effort. Both the Reformed Episcopal Church (REC) Board of Foreign Missions and the Diocese of the Fort Worth are engaged in directly supporting and encouraging others to join this ministry as Senders of the Nelson family.

For five decades REC Bishop Gerhard Meyer with his wife Grace led the Camp, where many have been blessed in the Lord. As the new director, Lee will be developing a training center to encourage the planting of healthy, multiplying churches throughout Europe.

While work needs to be done to upgrade the camp, Lee and Ela envision it as a strategic place to launch



Lee and Ela Nelson

initiatives like the training center. A second focus will be to make the camp a hospitable refuge for beleaguered Christians, lay and clergy alike. Please pray for the Nelson family as they seek Senders and then transition from Texas to Germany to equip and refresh the church.

SAMS Offers 'Complete Package' of Short-term Missions



Jennifer Ruben

Jennifer Ruben is a Jesus-follower and an Anglican committed to help other Anglicans engage in mission. As the founder of One 8 Go Global, her main aim is to summon others to take the Gospel to all nations. Her ministry takes its name from Acts 1:8, "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Throughout its history, SAMS has invited churches to enhance their global outreach through short-term missions that contribute to the long-term ministry of missionaries and the global Anglican church. SAMS is now promoting one more way for both churches and individuals to participate in a short-term mission by commending One 8 Go Global. This option will provide teams and individuals with a complete package, starting with preparation and concluding with debriefing!

Leading short-term missions takes experience, training, logistical and spiritual support on the field, and global partners. Jennifer has fostered relationships in Latin America, Africa, Asia, Europe, and the USA with several different denominations.

In 2025, One 8 Go Global is planning six missions. Jennifer will completely prepare the team, accompany the team, and debrief the team. She is currently working to fill-out the Malawi team in July, who will conduct village evangelism, discipleship, food relief, and a children's program. Email Nita at info@sams-usa.org to connect directly with One 8 Go Global.



Month	Location	Focus	Dates
2 JUL	MALAWI	FOOD INSECURITY/CHILD	July 2 - 12
3 AUG	AUSTRALIA	MENTAL HEALTH - CLOSED	August 3 - 25
11 SEP	USA/NC	BUILDING/TRAUMA	Sept 11 - 15
1 NOV	NICARAGUA	CHILDREN/FAMILY	Nov. TBA



McCall Family

March 1-8: 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). Ask God's Spirit to fill them with boldness to proclaim the Gospel wherever they serve.

March 9-15: NORTH AMERICA: Mexico

Pray for **Roger & Joanne**, asking for renewed strength for the work in Mexico. Pray against the forces of darkness and death that seek to destroy this city's status as a haven from violence. Pray for the health of the Rev. Elías Rosales and for the formation of an outreach team ministry in Aguascalientes with Elías, Rayito, and others.

Please pray for wisdom and the Lord's guidance in **Meredith's** personal life, as well as in the life of her church in Fresnillo. Pray that the Lord would continue to mature the congregation and raise up leaders capable of leading and guiding His people in His ways, especially in the ministries of children and youth. Pray that the Lord would intervene as the congregation continues to faithfully wait on a new rector to arrive according to God's perfect timing.

March 16-22: CENTRAL AMERICA: Honduras

Join **Suzy McCall, Cate Waddell, Amanda Scott, Steve & Debbie Buckner** in praying for the students of Joy Christian Academy, that they may believe in themselves and, by God's grace, look forward to a bright future. Pray for **Suzy McCall** and her family for provision and blessing as they complete their move to a new sending organization.

March 23-29: CENTRAL AMERICA: Honduras

Pray for **Jack Melvin's** ministry of presence as he works with young Honduran students. Pray for the many children with health problems, and especially for those who have dengue fever, as well as for all the marginalized children in Honduras.

March 30 – April 5: SOUTH AMERICA: Ecuador

Join **Roberto & Cameron, Graham, Liam, and Francis Vivanco** in thanking God for a wonderful team that they get to work with in ministry. Pray for the English Fellowship Church and Roberto's leadership there, as well as for the non-profit they serve called Education Equals Hope. Please also pray for discernment and wisdom as they look to the future of their children's education.

April 6-12: SOUTH AMERICA: Chile

Pray with **Russ & Heidi Smith** in thanksgiving for the recent diocesan youth camp and the many 10 to 15-year-olds who participated. Pray for fruit to grow in their young lives. Lift up the students of the Rural Bible Institute which will begin soon. Pray for Juan Esteban Saravia, newly consecrated Bishop of the Diocese of Santiago, and former bishop Tito Zavala, beginning retirement after 27 years of service as Bishop in Chile.

April 13-19: EUROPE: The Netherlands

Pray with **Kerry & Cynthia Buttram** that God's works and ways continue to be manifest. Amsterdam is celebrating its 750th Anniversary this year, but over 50% of the residents there say they have no faith. "Lord, nothing is too hard for you. Continue to draw the people of Amsterdam to Yourself." Give thanks that God is at work among the younger members through Children's Church and two different youth groups. Pray that our Good Shepherd would guide, protect, and strengthen the youth in this secular space. "Show parents, youth workers, and friends how to bless and nurture them in following you, Lord Jesus."

Pray with **Johann & Louis Vanderbijl** in Heiloo, asking the Lord to bless the various small groups and Bible Studies at Christ Church. Pray for Men's Day in April with Phil Knox teaching on friendship, and the Women's Retreat in May with Jo Frost as the speaker. Pray for edification as Johann and Louise go on a study tour of Turkey and Cyprus from May 27-June 9. Pray for spiritual growth at Christ Church, Heiloo.

April 20-26: ASIA: Cambodia

Join **Gregory & Heidi, Saeeda, Brynne, Aubrey, Ivy, and Madeleine Whitaker** in praising the Lord for growth and for new ministries at Church of Christ Our Peace in all of their congregations - Khmer, Mandarin Chinese, English, and the new English church plant. Pray that the Lord will raise up more leaders and more laborers for the harvest, of all nationalities, as well as for all of these congregations, and the provincial churches in the Anglican Church of Cambodia.

Pray for **Anthony & Anna, Laurel, Bethel, Priel, Isobel, and Noel Pelloni** and for the new roles that Anna and Anthony have taken this year in the church. Anna is now the Head of Kid's Ministry at the English Church Plant and Anthony has taken a new role as Head of Khmer Dorm Ministries. Pray for them as they begin ministry in these roles discipling children, dorm leaders, and students in the dorms - that they may all know the love of Christ. Pray in particular for the Lord to raise up new dorm leaders out of the current dorms in order to plant more dorm groups in 2025.



Cate Waddell



Amanda Scott



Steve & Debbie Buckner



Jack Melvin



Vivanco Family



Russ & Heidi Smith



Kerry & Cynthia Buttram



Johann & Louise Vanderbijl



Whitaker Family



Pelloni Family



Long Family

April 27-May 3: ASIA: Indonesia

Join **James & Nanci, Anna, George, Mary, and Della Long** as they praise the Lord for his continued provision for Providence Anglican Church (PAC), Jakarta. Pray for the new pastor, Aan Hermawan, as Priest in Charge. 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.



Chaves Family

May 4-10: AFRICA: Kenya

Join **David & Lucy, Joshua, Paul, Zuri, and Mark Chaves** in giving thanks for the great performance by their high school candidates who sat for the 2024 National Exams. Eight students were from the village and they did amazingly well. Pray for the continued growth of the school in Chakama Kilifi. They received new students this January, and students registrations have really increased. Pray for a smooth registration process of the school with the NGO Board in Kenya. This approval will allow for the recruitment and employment of quality teachers. Pray that their hope to set up a small clinic in the school will happen, as it will address the need for a dispensary closer to them. Pray that God will provide for the facility as well as workers who will see the clinic as an opportunity to minister. Pray for Lucy as she serves in the position of SAMS Bridger Coordinator. Pray for a spirit of humility and pray that the Spirit of God will guide her as she steps into this role.



Gresser Family



Weeldreyer Family

May 11-17: AFRICA: Malawi

Pray for **Robert & Traci, Andrew, Peter, Daniel, and June Gresser** as they minister in Malawi. Pray for the Leonard Kamungu Theological College and its future as an institution. Please pray for wisdom for the Gressers as a result of the school's financial situation. The school received no tuition for this term and has not opened. Pray for the future of clergy education in Malawi, and intercede for the Gressers as they discern what their next steps will be in Malawi or elsewhere.

May 18-24: AFRICA: Rwanda

Join **Wade & Chelsea, Evelyn, and William Weeldreyer** in praise to God that Chelsea had the opportunity to assist with a missionary care retreat earlier this year, and that many Christian global workers were encouraged together. Pray for Wade and his students in the spring term at East African Christian College. Pray for their children, Evie (4-years-old) and William (1-year-old) to grow in the knowledge and love of the Lord.



Weber Family

Lift up **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. Pray for the launch of their new School Partnership Program through their church partnerships. Pray that the details will come together so they can start well. Pray for the three teams that are coming to visit in 2025. Pray for the churches in Rwanda that are still closed, and lift up Rwandan brothers and sisters in Christ who are not able to worship or be together.



Janine LeGrand



Cathy Clevenger

May 25-31: AFRICA: Uganda

Pray for **Janine LeGrand**, serving the Diocese of Masindi and thank God for all those who pray and give financially to her and her health ministry. Give thanks for good co-workers in the field. Pray for Janine's teaching on health, her public health messages, and for her working well with other health organizations active in Uganda.

Give thanks to God for **Cathy Clevenger** and her ministry in the Diocese of Masindi Kitara as she brought mental health and trauma counseling and training to the diocese. Pray especially for the ongoing ministry to the Kiryandongo Refugee Camp to address the trauma present in the refugees living there. Please pray for Cathy as she transitions to an Associate Missionary status so that she may minister to family in the USA.

Lift up **Richard & Martha Menees** ministering in Kabale. Give thanks to God for their Senders who help support their Uganda ministry. Thank God for delivering them from some of their recent health problems.



Richard & Martha Menees

June 1-7: AFRICA: Uganda

Please give thanks on behalf of **Jessica Hughes** for the healing and recovery of brain cancer that the Lord has provided her so far, and please pray that He continues it to completion. Please also pray that Jessica finishes her coursework for her spiritual direction program well.

Intercede for **Richard & Catherine Ranger** in Mukono, for openness and the Lord's guidance to the new roles they are occasionally offered (like preaching at the medical school campus in Kampala) that their work might bring value to the students they meet. Pray for their weekly cell group fellowship, that it may be a way to open the hearts of all who come from different roles at the University to the presence of the Holy Spirit in God's Word. Pray that God would equip them with the skill and insight to continue to share the story of their life and work in Uganda in effective ways, not simply to inspire support but to unfold the story of our missionary God.



Jessica Hughes



Richard & Catherine Ranger



Lee & Ela Nelson

June 8-14: AFRICA: Northern Africa

Lift up **J&K** and their children as they continue to serve in North Africa. Pray for clarity as they plan their next step in ministry and as they seek the Lord and move as He moves.

June 15-21: EUROPE

Pray for **Lee & Ela, Moira, Oliver, Emmelia, Margaret, Beatrix, Joseph, and Catherine Nelson**, who are new SAMS Missionary Candidates and are preparing to move to Germany in 2025 to lead the Knüll Camp Retreat Center. Pray for provision as they work to raise support for their ministry in Germany. Ask the Lord to raise up German laborers for the harvest. Pray for an increase of faith, hope and love in the Nelson family, for God's perfect timing in all things, for their minds to absorb the German language efficiently, and for God's hand in all the details that are utterly beyond them as they prepare to move.



Chisholm Family

Lift up **Steve, Veronica, Ayla, and Zelia Chisholm** and pray for discernment and wisdom as Steve leads Christ the King Church. Pray that the small groups and Alpha Course will be well attended and reach more young people. Pray that the church finds a permanent place to meet and that new council members will help the church move forward in its vision. Intercede for Veronica asking the Lord to grant direction and wisdom in her position at the school and for how to best serve the church. Pray that the Chisholms would raise up additional Senders this year to provide for their ministry.



Benton Family

Pray that **Steve V.** would have opportunities to impact the people of his country with the Gospel. Pray for wisdom in sharing the Lord with friends who don't know Him. Pray that informal spiritual direction meetings with local Christians would positively affect them in their life. Pray that people who need to learn English will contact Steve. Pray that his Senders may experience God's unconditional love.

June 22-28: OCEANIA: New Zealand

Pray that **Guy & Summer, Isaac, Quinn, Norah, and Addison Benton** may live with boldness and confidence in God, being salt and light in Wellington, as they serve and work toward parish revitalization and the discipleship of the congregation at All Saints Church.



Jack & Mary McDonald

June 29-July 5: NORTH AMERICA: United States of America

Pray with **Mary and Jack McDonald** in Blacksburg, VA, that FARM (Farm Animal Refresher for Missions) and the Christian Veterinary Mission teaching would result in vets, spouses, and techs coming to faith, and learning how to get involved in mission veterinary work, evangelism, and safety for farm animals. Pray for the McDonald family, including Rosey, Jack, Ashby, and Nick, to draw ever closer to the Lord, grow in righteousness, number their days aright, and glorify Christ. Pray for Mary's wisdom to discern new projects with Christian Veterinary Mission, and that all who come to their farm would be drawn to Christ.



Behrens Family

Join **Daniel & Rebekah, Sabal, Darcy, and Mary Behrens** in praying for wisdom, faith, and endurance as they navigate new challenges to serving vulnerable populations in Pittsburgh, PA, particularly recently-arrived refugees and asylum seekers. Pray that the Church will rise up and extend the love and truth of Christ during this uncertain time and that the steadfast love of the Lord will be their foundation in this ever-changing world.

July 6-12: NORTH AMERICA: United States of America

Pray for **Todd & Patsy McGregor** in Stuart, FL, as Todd serves as SAMS Mission Coach and life coach. Grant Todd missional discernment concerning his work in the Diocese of Mahajanga, Madagascar. Intercede for Patsy as she leads in her parish, and that God would give her energy and creativity in her writing projects.



Todd & Patsy McGregor

Lift up **Dan, Cesiah, and Lily Omar**, in Loganville, Georgia, who are reaching out to refugees and other immigrants as Missionaries-in-Residence at Holy Cross Cathedral. Please pray that the Lord would go ahead of them and soften people's hearts to the Gospel. Pray that they would be filled with confidence in the Lord's faithfulness and provision as they reach out to those who have not heard the Good News of the Gospel.

Lift up **Anne Schaffer** in Charleston, SC, and give thanks for all who support Anne's ministry to enable language and culture coaching among missionaries. Please pray for wisdom and sensitivity to the Holy Spirit as she coaches missionaries across the world. Ask for God's grace and guidance for the missionaries learning various languages and cultures as they bring the Gospel to lost and unreached people groups. Please pray that more Senders will come alongside her.



Omar Family



Anne Schaffer



Larson Family



Miller Family



Alenskis Family

July 13-19: NORTH AMERICA: United States of America

Lift up Missionary 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.

Pray for **Mike & Kim, Liliana, and Katherine Miller** in St. Petersburg, Florida, as they serve and support missionaries and families around the world by providing debriefs and peer support. Pray especially for Third Culture Kids to be nurtured and supported.

July 20-26: NORTH AMERICA: Canada

Lift up **David & Mary Beth, Austin, James, and Lily Alenskis** in Toronto. Please pray for David as he works on finishing his dissertation as they prepare to transition from Toronto to the Netherlands, where David will join the faculty at Tyndale Theological Seminary. Please pray for their time of support raising in the U.S. as they seek out new partners in ministry. Pray especially for their children, that they weather the many transitions in the next year well, seeing God's hand in all the details.

July 27-August 2: Associate Missionaries (USA-based, globally-focused volunteers)

Lift up to the Lord **David & Patricia Ayres** (church planting in Germany), **Jesse & Sarah Blaine** (church planting), **Chuck & Beth Bradshaw** (theological and musical education in Uganda), **Mary Chowenhill** (entrepreneurial development in Uganda), **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).

August 3-9: 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), **Jeannie Loving** (social outreach in Honduras) and **Frank & Shawnee Lyons** (youth ministry).

August 10-16: Associate Missionaries (USA-based, globally-focused volunteers)

Lift up to the Lord **Ian & Polly Montgomery** (diocesan ministry in Peru), **John & Susan Park** (leadership development in Latin America), **Trent Pettit** (Ethiopia/global Anglican mission partnerships), **Ana Reid** (social ministries in Honduras), **Maunette Tait** (education in Honduras), **Hunter & Stephanie Van Wagenen** (evangelism in Spain), and **Jared & Abbi Wensyel** (church planting in Germany).

August 17-23: SAMS Family

Pray for the 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.

August 24-31: 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 Jesus' Great Commission to "make disciples of all nations."



Equipping the Global Church

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SAMS is a non-profit voluntary missionary society dedicated to serving Jesus Christ through the Anglican church globally. Legally incorporated as South American Missionary Society. Also known as the Society for Anglican Missionaries and Senders.



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HOPE FOR THE NATIONS THROUGH RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE GLOBAL CHURCH

Wednesday September 17, 8:30 AM
(concludes with the SAMS Reception and Dinner)

Discover how you or your church may encourage the church around the world in making disciples of Jesus across cultures through this interactive round-table with global Anglican leaders and SAMS missionaries.

Scan the QR code to get more information and sign up, or email info@sams-usa.org



YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO JOIN US

SAMS-USA CELEBRATION RECEPTION AND DINNER

Wednesday, 4 PM, September 17, 2025
(before the opening plenary)

Ridgecrest Conference Center,
Johnson Springs Building, Level 2

Connect with missionaries and Anglicans from around the world and hear testimonies followed by prayer.



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