

SPRING | SUMMER 2023

MTW.ORG

# network



1973

The first PCA  
General Assembly

**MTW & The Presbyterian  
Church in America:  
*Celebrating 50 Years of Grace***

**mtw**  
Mission to the World

# 50

# YEARS



# OF GRACE



**MTW FORMED:**

**11**  
FOUNDED  
MISSIONARIES

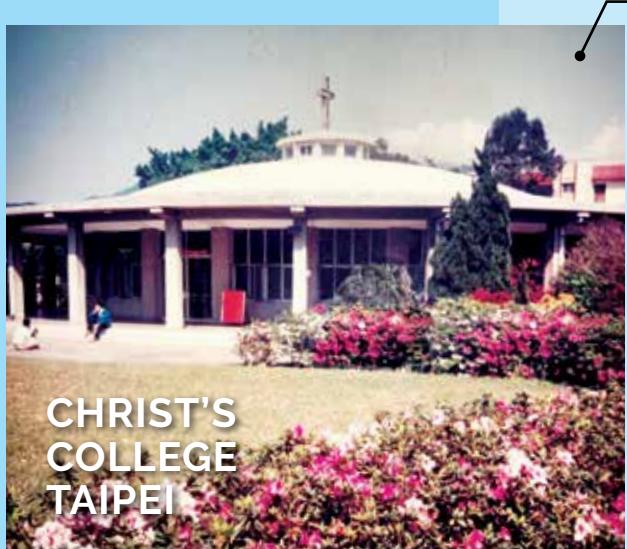
**FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY**  
**BRIARWOOD PCA,**  
**BIRMINGHAM, AL**

**1973**

**SINCE 1973:**  
**National Partners**

From MTW's earliest days, we have seen partnerships with national pastors and denominations as vital to carrying out the Great Commission. In fact, it has been a key philosophical commitment in our church-planting methodology.

As we in the U.S. have become more aware of the colonial nature of some historical missions efforts, the importance of "doing with" rather than "doing for" has been a hot topic, especially as books like "When Helping Hurts" have circulated within the PCA and beyond. Our own national partners have shown us where MTW has needed to grow and adapt, and so we have doubled down on our commitment to things like discovering national leaders, working alongside or coming underneath them, training if we're asked, and supporting national leadership in every way we are able.



**CHRIST'S COLLEGE  
TAIPEI**

While there are still places in the world where God had not yet raised up believers, let alone leaders, our first priority is still to partner with local leaders when possible. Together, we carry out the mission of the Church, to make disciples of all nations.



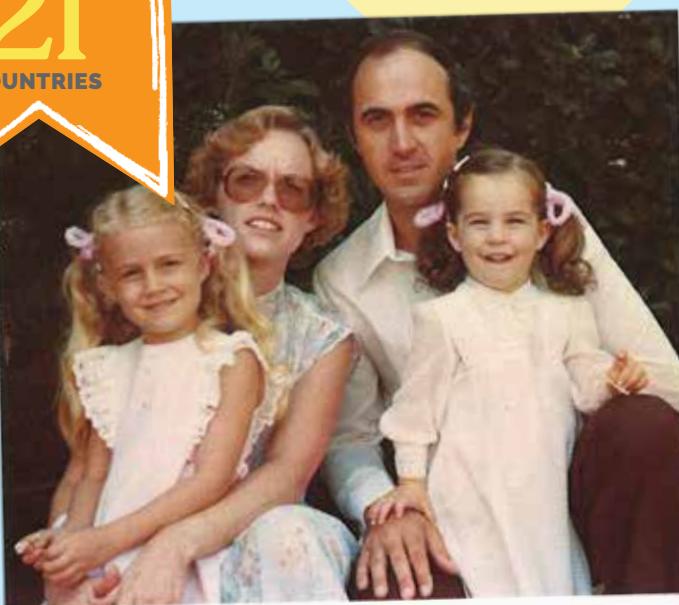
CO-OP  
ESTABLISHED  
WITH  
WYCLIFFE

**Wycliffe**  
BibleTranslators

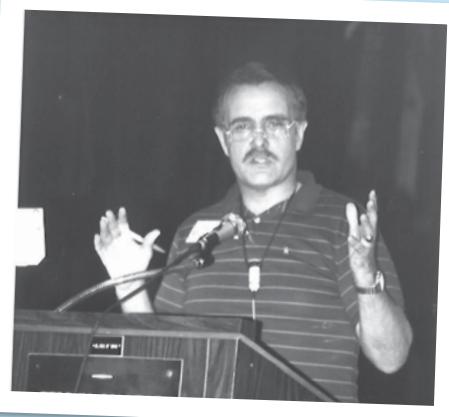
**1975**

John Kyle  
approved as  
coordinator

MORE THAN  
**100**  
MISSIONARIES IN  
**21**  
COUNTRIES



JOHN and CLAUDIA ROLLO  
Tracy and Jessica



Paul McKaughan  
becomes  
coordinator

**1977**

**1979**

MISSIONARY  
ORIENTATION  
PROGRAM  
LAUNCHED

**1980** **MTW IN**  
**23**  
**COUNTRIES**

**Mission  
to the  
World**

in the Philippines



Presbyterian Church  
in America  
P.O. Box 1744  
Decatur, GA 30031

**1981**

Short-Term Missions & Trips

Missions lore recounts stories of missionaries packing their coffins when they moved overseas, leaving all behind to never return. As travel became cheaper and cultural trends changed, more and more people wanted to serve in missions shorter-term—sans coffin.

In 1981, MTW established Servants in Missions Abroad, a "short term" way of serving which, by today's measure, was pretty long: two years. The next year, we started a three-month summer internship program. Since then, we've sent thousands on the most common entry point into serving globally: mission trips.

A lot has changed from the bustling years of the 80s and

**SIMA**  
(2-YEAR)  
STARTED

**1981**

Trips &  
internships  
commenced

**1983**

MTW merges with World Presbyterian Missions ...

SIMA adds summer 3-month program

**36 people go** ...

First combined summer conference with MNA at Covenant College

**MINUTEMAN  
DISASTER RELIEF  
ESTABLISHED**

Minuteman for Missions  
**MISSION TO THE**  
P.O. Box 1744  
Decatur, GA 30031  
USA



*"I am ready..."*  
Romans 1:15

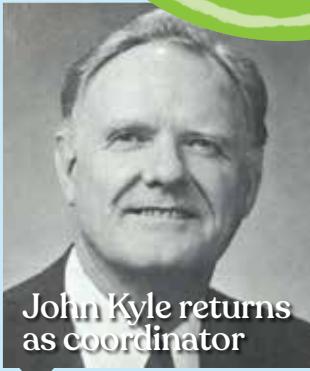
90s, to the now post-COVID complexities of international travel. There isn't a person in missions who hasn't seen the perspective and purpose of mission trips shift significantly.

The purpose of mission trips at MTW has always been to connect the global Church. We are a family, and we need each other.

Mission trips help us taste and see the kingdom of God. They can be rich soil for equipping our members and identifying new leaders and missionaries.

When done right, mission trips can be a catalyst for impact both overseas and back home.

**1990** MTW IN  
**59**  
COUNTRIES



John Kyle returns as coordinator

FIRST NATIVE AMERICAN WORK IN CHEROKEE



GLOBAL MUSLIM MINISTRY BEGINS



1988 1989



MTW MISSIONARIES SERVING  
**24,000 PEOPLE** IN MORE THAN  
**900 CHURCHES**



FIRST MISSIONARIES IN UKRAINE: THE COMISSION

### 1993 The CoMission

MTW sent its first three church-planting families to Ukraine in 1993. Under this team's leadership and coordination efforts, 100 PCA volunteers went to live a full year in Ukraine, going into the atheistic schools, sharing their testimonies, and showing Bible study videos. Many of the first interpreters were themselves converted. Some became pastors and active servants.

This was the CoMission project, where MTW joined 70 other churches and missions in a unique opportunity as the former U.S.S.R. dissolved. After 70 years of atheism, God opened wide the door for the gospel.



Many of these "CoMissioners" went on to become long-term missionaries. Twenty-two other CoMissioners returned to serve various ways in Ukraine, helping the churches in many ministries, including a Christian clinic, work with orphans, a crisis pregnancy center, a counseling center, and Christian schools.

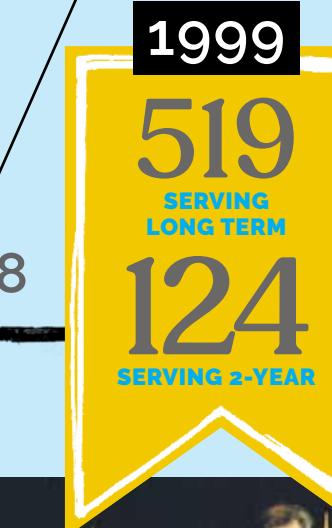
Today there is a national Presbyterian denomination of 15 churches across Ukraine. Some of the greatest fruit has been seen during the last year of war with Russia, as these national churches have ministered heroically to their own people.



Paul Kooistra becomes 4th coordinator

1992 1993

1994 1998



1ST GLOBAL MISSIONS CONFERENCE

### 1993 Global Muslim Ministry



In the early 1990s, the eye of the Christian missions world turned toward the "10/40 window," a huge swath of the globe that is unreached by the gospel—2 billion of whom are Muslim. People joined in this effort through cooperative agreements with MTW, forming teams in the early 90s in North Africa and the Middle East. In 2001 MTW announced the establishment of its youngest "region," which became known as Enterprise for Christian-Muslim Relations, or Enterprise for short. It was just in time for the Church to respond, despite the shattering of a sense of security and challenges of serving in the Muslim World in light of 9/11.

MEDICAL + HEALTH



MEDICAL DEPARTMENT FORMALLY LAUNCHED

NATIONAL  
**204**  
PARTNERS



STREETCHILD MINISTRY DEVELOPED

2001 2002 2003



FIRST PCA-WIDE GMC IN ATLANTA

Ethiopia ACT started

Rapid growth followed in those early years because of key partnerships between PCA churches, MTW leadership, and local partners. This model focused on the development of, and support for, national leadership, with a renewed emphasis on church planting in recent years.

Today 93 MTW missionaries serve in this division—now called Global Muslim Ministry. We are seeing a movement of the Spirit in the Muslim world, but recruitment is difficult. Pray with us for eight new missionary units to join GMM every year for the next 10 years!

**7500**  
PARTICIPATED IN  
**TRIPS**

Disaster response effort to tsunami in Indonesia



2004

2006

2009

**mtw**  
Mission to the World

BUSINESS AS MISSION FOUNDED

**610**  
SERVING LONG TERM  
**132**  
SERVING 2-YEAR

**371**  
INTERNS SERVE

## 2006 Business as Mission

Tentmaking has been around since Paul's time, but by the late 20th century missional thought had coalesced around the idea of "business as mission;" gaining access to closed countries by starting or serving in business. Around 2006, MTW donors began asking MTW's John Tubbesing, who had extensive experience in the business world, how they could use their business skills in missions; at the same time, MTW fields were exploring BAM opportunities. Soon Business as Mission launched as a coordinated effort under John's leadership.

Now called Work+Place Ministries and led by a team of people from across the country, the ministry has expanded beyond starting new businesses.

Aspects include:

- Work+Place Resource Network, a gathering of U.S.-based businesspeople interested in opportunities to use business to serve internationally
- Training men and women from local churches to start small businesses in West Africa and South Asia
- U.S. businesspeople serving as consultants with church planters

**work+place**  
MINISTRIES

JAPAN EARTHQUAKE & TSUNAMI OPEN DOORS TO GOSPEL



2012

**MTW IN  
86  
COUNTRIES**



**MTW DEVELOPS  
MINISTRY IN GREECE**

- Sending people who find secular jobs and do ministry in partnership with existing missionaries through the 18.26 Network

Ministry in Greece looks different than ministry in Senegal, but there are workplaces in both countries, and we praise God for the many ways to engage people in their workplace for the purpose of ministry.

**diversifi**

MTW launches diversity initiative



Lloyd Kim becomes 5th coordinator



**10 CHURCHES  
IN 10 YEARS  
(2010-2020)**

In just 10 years Tokyo Grace Church Planting Network ballooned from a core team of 12 individuals to a network of 10 churches with a combined membership of 500-600.



MUSLIM REFUGEES FLOOD INTO EUROPE FROM CLOSED COUNTRIES



2020



MTW Launches El Salvador Team



WAR IN UKRAINE

**570**  
SERVING LONG TERM  
**66**  
SERVING 2-YEAR

2021 2022

**NATIONAL  
1063  
PARTNERS IN  
105+  
COUNTRIES**

2023

2023  
MTW Celebrates  
**50  
YEARS  
OF  
Grace**

2002-2024  
PCA Global Missions Conference

Since the first PCA Global Missions Conference in Atlanta in 2002, the GMC has played an important role in fanning to flame a sense of urgency to plant and nurture Reformed and Presbyterian churches across the globe. While MTW is the agency that oversees the work of our missionaries, it is churches and presbyteries that recruit, examine, train, support, commission, and care for our missionaries. At the GMC, MTW and the Church come together to worship and celebrate all that God is doing in the world.

- Many from our churches carry home a renewed vision for world missions
- International partners carry this passion back to their churches
- This gathering point helps launch and strengthen partnerships between churches, missionaries, and national partners, as well as the committees and agencies of the PCA
- God has used GMC to mobilize missionaries

We thank our gracious God that those involved in the Global Missions Conference experience a church unified around one mission: making disciples of all nations.

# An Original MTW Missionary Family Serves 50 Years in Europe

BY: CHELSEA ROLLMAN

DEEP DIVE:  
ONE  
FAMILY

One day in 1972, amid the honking horns and biting Chicago wind, an American and Frenchman step to the edge of the sidewalk and hail the same cab. >>



>> Back in New Jersey, a young Peter Jones is eagerly applying for seminary professor jobs while finishing his Ph.D. at Princeton Theological Seminary.

Meanwhile, a group of Presbyterian churches in the South are forming a new denomination with global missions as a foundational tenet.

The thing no one knows yet is that God is about to braid the threads of these three events together and catapult the Jones family into a combined 50 years of MTW missions work in Europe.

## A SHARED TAXI ENDS WITH A PLAN TO GO TO FRANCE

The Frenchman opened the yellow taxi door for the older American gentleman. They realized they were headed to the same Christian conference and struck up a conversation.

The Frenchman explained he was recruiting Reformed professors to teach at a seminary in Aix-en-Provence. France needed seminary professors but pastors and seminary staff didn't know where to find them. They figured this conference was a good place to start.

The American smiled and introduced himself as Ed Clowney, president of Westminster Theological Seminary in Philadelphia. He said he could help. The first people Ed approached with this job opportunity were his daughter, Rebecca, and his new British son-in-law, Peter Jones.

While the list of places the Joneses were willing to go to serve the Lord wasn't short, France was not on it.

"I had no desire to go to France. Being English, I did not consider France to be a wonderful place," Peter laughed.

"My wife faced me with this question, 'Where would you be most useful? Where do the people really need you? Let's make a list.' I discovered, of course, that France didn't have serious Reformed training and I could not avoid the fact that that's where I needed to be."

Once they made that decision, they had to figure out how they were going to get there. Ed told them about a new Reformed denomination beginning in the

South that was excited to support and send missionaries. Peter and Rebecca traveled to these churches in Alabama and Mississippi, presenting the need for Reformed teaching in France.

They raised their support in just five weeks.

They returned to the Northeast and joined a church in Delaware intent on joining the new denomination. Then at the Presbyterian Church in America's first General Assembly at Briarwood Church in Birmingham, Alabama, in December 1973, the



Peter and Rebecca Jones with Gabrielle and Eowyn

newly formed Committee on Mission to the World commissioned the Joneses with four others as part of the first group of missionaries.\*

The next year Peter and a very pregnant Rebecca boarded a one-way plane to France.

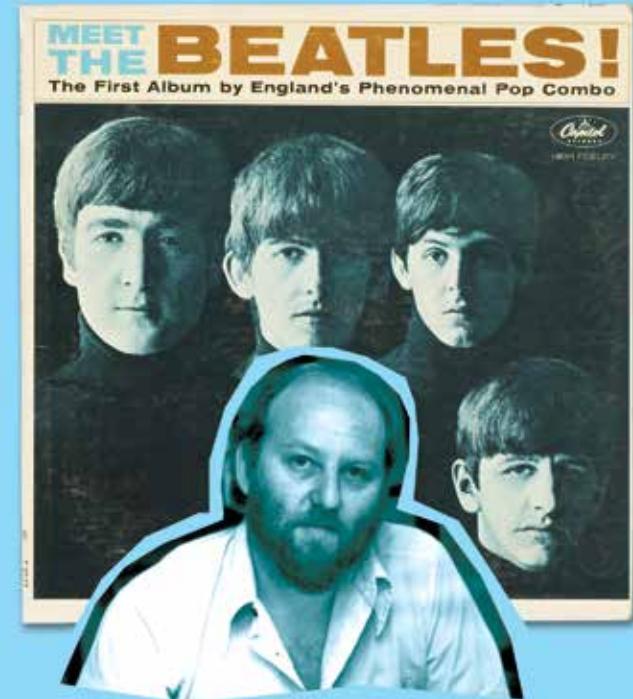
## GETTING STARTED

Peter remembers facing his classical Greek class his first day on the job. He was an English speaker tasked with teaching Greek to a group of French speakers. He had an idea.

Peter assigned one student in each of his classes to write down every mistake he made with the French language during his lectures. They went over the list at the end of each class until Peter became fluent.

Rebecca and their two young daughters were also busy learning the language and culture. Slowly the family settled into life in Provence and the ministry God had for them. >>

## FAB FACTS:



**He Could Have Been the 5th.** Peter Jones grew up in Liverpool, England, and regularly bought fish and chips on Penny Lane with his high school friend John Lennon. (Peter's parents didn't let him go to clubs, squashing his chance to become a Beatle.)



**Missionary Intersection.** The Frenchman Ed Clowney shared a cab with future MTW missionary Gene Boyer, who adopted France as his homeland in his early 20s and served with MTW until he retired in France in 2017.

**Professor to the Future of Missions.** Peter taught several current MTW leaders at Westminster Seminary California including his daughter and son-in-law,

Eowyn and David Stoddard, MTW Coordinator Lloyd Kim, and likely many others.



Growing up on the mission field gave Eowyn a love of Scripture and a passion for sharing it with others. She and her new husband, David Stoddard, had recently graduated from Westminster Seminary California. They were excited to work overseas but confused as to where God was calling them.

They had just gotten back from an MTW vision trip to Berlin, Germany, and the Czech Republic. Neither field seemed quite right. A blanket of spiritual darkness covered Berlin, and they weren't sure the Czech Republic was the right fit.

Then Eowyn's email pinged with a message from her father. All Peter sent was, "Don't forget what Martin Luther said: 'Go where the battle is raging.'"



David and Eowyn (Jones) Stoddard

"It all just fell into place," said Eowyn. "The reason we didn't like Berlin was because it's such a needy place. The reason we should go there is because it's so dark and there is a battle going for it."

David and Eowyn have served with MTW in Berlin for 22 years and God has used them in powerful ways. MTW's Berlin team has been involved in planting five churches and a campus of Martin Bucer Seminary. David currently serves as MTW international director for Europe, and Eowyn assists David in his role and supports church-planting through evangelism, teaching, and outreach to refugees.

Peter and Rebecca returned to the U.S. in 1991 after nearly 18 years of work in France, and continued their ministry at Westminster Seminary California in Escondido, where Peter taught New Testament. In 2003 they established a ministry called *truthXchange*, which equips churches to effectively preach the gospel in a neo-pagan culture.

They have lived their lives with open hands, joyfully serving the Lord wherever He leads, knowing God uses something as simple as small talk between strangers in the back of a Chicago taxi to steer people in the direction He desires them to go. [n](#)

*\*Our records show that at the first General Assembly in 1973, the PCA had 11 missionaries. Four were on the mission field, one spouse was absent, and six missionaries attended.*



## "Don't forget what Martin Luther said: 'Go where the battle is raging.'"

Rebecca especially cherishes the story of a young mother who had been learning Cued Speech for her deaf son and asked Rebecca for help. She was only supposed to spend an afternoon at the Joneses' house but a train strike turned her stay into three days.

While they taught the mother Cued Speech, Rebecca and Peter also shared the gospel and gave her a Bible. As she sat with the Bible in her lap on the train ride home, a woman approached her and said, "God told me there's somebody in here I need to talk to, and I think it's you." The two talked about Jesus, prayed, and the young mother became a Christian on the train.

"The Lord turned something that was a great problem into a wonderful source of ministry," said Peter.

Peter and Rebecca would go on to help plant a church in France, start a Christian school, have five more children, and welcome countless people into their home for fellowship. They praise the Lord the seminary continues to thrive with a number of French Reformed scholars, maintaining the seminary's faithful witness—in perfect French.

## A SECOND GENERATION OF MISSIONS

Thirty years after God first called Peter and Rebecca to France, the Joneses' oldest child, Eowyn, found herself in a similar spot as her parents.



10 Peter and Rebecca Jones (center) gather for a Jones Family Reunion in 2020.

# 30 Years of Grace in Ukraine: The Backstory on a Country That's on Every Front Page

BY: ANDREW HESS



Members of the Kharkiv church plant in 2000

In late February 2022, just prior to Russia's full-scale invasion, MTW Ukraine leadership met to assess the threat, form a crisis team, and establish a support account, which providentially opened for donations on the day of the invasion.

Because of their unity as one country team serving Ukraine, they were able to respond in a united way, "with one common response to the war" as Country Director Jon Eide said. Over time this team had been refined together, having already survived the Russian invasion of Crimea, persecution in its early days, and rooted in its founding in 1993 after the fall of the Berlin Wall.

## THE WALL COMES DOWN

During the latter half of the 20th century, communism in the former Soviet Union limited the work of gospel ministers. For many Christians who were praying for gospel witness to spread there, these were times of waiting and praying, when circumstances offered little hope that missionaries and churches would be allowed to work or grow in the region.

In 1989, communism's hold began to loosen. Years of suppression began to subside as the Berlin Wall was torn down. Mission to the World missionary Dave Smith recalled those days: "It was an amazing thing to witness the Soviet Union becoming unglued." The prayers of Dave and many other Christians were beginning to be answered as the Soviet Union became open to the Christian witness for the first time in almost 70 years.

## AN ASTONISHING OFFER

On November 5, 1992, Campus Crusade for Christ was offered a meeting with Olga Litsenko, the former Soviet Union's assistant

## DEEP DIVE: ONE FIELD

minister of education. Unexpectedly, at that meeting Christian leaders were invited to teach Christian ethics and morals in schools across the Soviet Union. The "CoMission," a collaborative effort of 70 parachurch and missions organizations, was founded to step into this unprecedented opportunity.

MTW was one of the first organizations to join the CoMission. On August 18, 1993, MTW sent two teams to Odesa, Ukraine, beginning a year-long work in the public schools teaching the Bible and discipling students. By 1994, MTW had 12 CoMission teams serving in southern Ukraine. Eager to join this work, over 100 Americans volunteered to live there for a year at a time, many at their own expense. Many of the first interpreters were themselves converted. Some became pastors and active servants, such as Ivan Bespalov, Sergei Nakul, and Sergei and Lyuda Betin.

## A VISION TO PLANT CHURCHES

Clay and Darlene Quarterman had served as MTW missionaries in Portugal for 14 years when they were asked to consider moving to Ukraine to help plant churches for the people who were becoming Christians in response to the CoMission. The Quartermans joined Dave and Dee Smith and Dal and Beth Stanton to form a team whose primary goal would be to establish churches. While the CoMission had opened a window of opportunity, it was the team's vision to draw together bodies of believers which became the preeminent work. Dave was serving as team leader at the time and recalled that by the time the missionary team formally launched, people were already asking how to start a church.

By 1996, the open door the CoMission had enjoyed allowing them to teach in schools was beginning to close. Many organizations eventually lost their opportunity and their work in the region declined.

Clay recalled being called into the official office of the Ukraine Ministry of Interior with an interpreter and told, "We know what you are doing. You are preaching. If you preach this Sunday, we are going to deport you and shut down the whole group." Clay said, "The interpreter told me she thought this felt like the KGB." The MTW leadership team gathered to pray as they decided what to do. One of the Ukrainian men who was being discipled said, "They can't do this. I'll preach." He did preach, and the church continued to grow despite governmental pressure.

## RAISING UP A GENERATION OF MISSIONARIES

One of the significant impacts of the CoMission was the people who came to serve the CoMission and then became MTW missionaries. Clay said, "Doug Shepherd came out to serve in the CoMission and Dal Stanton spent a lot of time with him. Dal is a good discipler and likes to set up programs of discipleship." Eventually Doug and Dal set up the Odesa Project, a discipleship program pairing Ukrainian disciples with American disciples for summer internships.

**For the Ukrainian Church, the war has been a time of walking through a severe trial together, serving one another, and remembering the hope they have as God's people.**

This program led to ongoing work. Clay said, "Doug caught a taste for what God was doing in Ukraine and went back to the U.S. for seminary training." Doug returned as part of the MTW team and has continued to set up training projects in Lviv. Doug's story was like that of the many who came short term and found a way to serve long term in Ukraine.

Today, 15 Reformed churches in Ukraine make up the Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Ukraine denomination. As the denomination formed, MTW Ukraine leaders knew it needed to be independent from MTW. Jon said, "We desired to partner with and work under our Ukrainian brothers and sisters in Christ." This vision to create churches that would grow into an independent denomination with its own seminary reflected the values of MTW and the leadership team from the beginning of the work.

## HOPE EVEN IN WARTIME

As the war started in Western Ukraine, MTW leaders in Ukraine immediately looked to meet the needs of the Ukrainian people.

Some opened their homes to those fleeing from the cities under threat. Others helped those displaced from their homes travel to safety. Some pastors decided to stay in cities like Kyiv, preaching and ministering to those who couldn't flee.

In addition, Doug Shepherd recognized a need to coordinate the supplies being sent to Ukraine. Crates for Ukraine was a coordinated effort to get the right amounts of the most needed supplies to the right places with the greatest efficiency. Churches across the U.S. worked together to fund, pack, and ship hundreds of crates to Ukraine where they were received in the hardest-hit places.

For the Ukrainian Church, the war has been a time of walking through a severe trial together, serving one another, and remem-



(Above) The MTW Ukraine team gathers for a retreat in 2001.



bering the hope they have as God's people. Such eternal hope fuels sacrificial ministry. MTW missionary Kirk Norris said, "The church has this beautiful, unique moment to minister right at the point people are feeling vulnerable and feel the pain and trauma." Ukrainian Christians even now gather to worship together each week in gratitude for God's marvelous work in opening a door that no one expected would ever be opened.

The story of MTW Ukraine is a story of how Christ continues to build His Church through many successes and setbacks. Clay said, "We must remember God is doing a work that will not fail. Our own history is a part of this glorious and eternal story, glorifying God for His work in our midst, in our time, and in our place." ■

# Save the Date!

The 2024 Global Missions Conference is coming to Atlanta, Georgia, November 1-3. More details to follow at [mtw.org/gmc](http://mtw.org/gmc)



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# network

SPRING | SUMMER 2023  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA  
[MTW.ORG](http://MTW.ORG)



Mission to the World

**Our vision:** The gospel of the kingdom advancing throughout the world

**Our mission:** Making disciples among all nations

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*A higher standard.  
A higher purpose.*

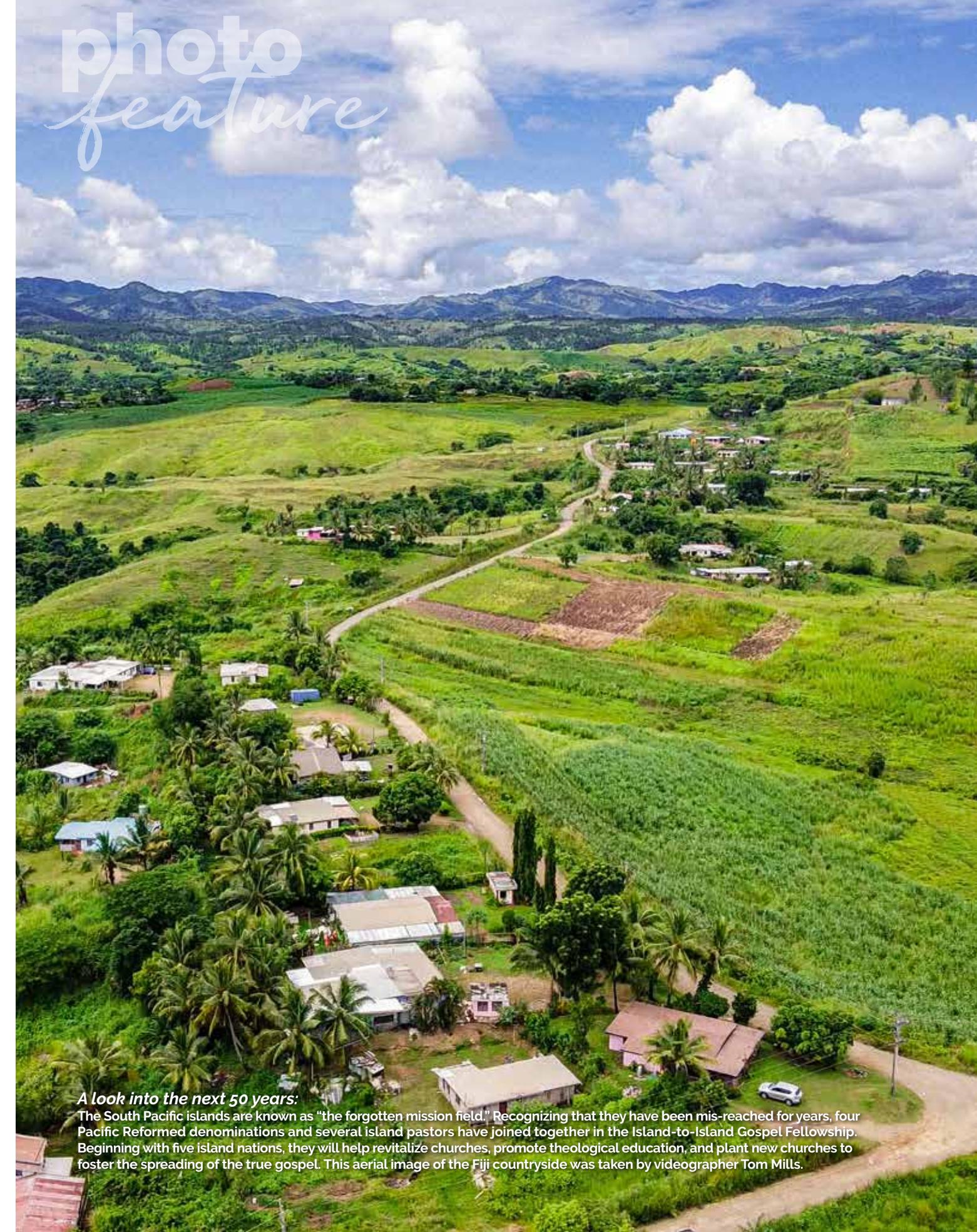
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# photo feature



## *A look into the next 50 years:*

The South Pacific islands are known as "the forgotten mission field." Recognizing that they have been mis-reached for years, four Pacific Reformed denominations and several island pastors have joined together in the Island-to-Island Gospel Fellowship. Beginning with five island nations, they will help revitalize churches, promote theological education, and plant new churches to foster the spreading of the true gospel. This aerial image of the Fiji countryside was taken by videographer Tom Mills.

**FROM THE COORDINATOR**

## 50 Years of Missions: Looking Back, Looking Forward

As MTW turns 50, we look back and give thanks to God for His great faithfulness and grace to our beloved missions community. When my wife, Eda, and I joined MTW as missionaries about 20 years ago, we met people who were passionate about the gospel, God's grace, and the glory of Jesus filling the world. We thought, "Wow, these are our people. We are not alone."

The more time we spent in this community, the more grateful we were to be colleagues with some of the best people on the planet. Many of the people who have gone before us are like the men and women the author of Hebrews describes as those, "of whom the world was not worthy" (Hebrews 11:38). Indeed, we give thanks to God for those who have served faithfully over these past 50 years.

I recently spoke with a Kenyan PCA pastor who came to the U.S. as a young adult. He told me how his grandfather planted the first Presbyterian church in Kenya with the help of some Presbyterian missionaries. In fact, his father had worked closely with MTW missionaries, and he grew up calling many of them Uncle and Auntie. Now he is serving in the PCA, mobilizing many for global

gospel ministry. I'm simply amazed at God's perfect providence and plans.

*As we look ahead to the next 50 years, our prayer is that God would raise up a new generation of saints who will take the baton and engage in global missions—those from many different backgrounds and experiences.* We are praying not only for the 1%, who will go and make disciples among the nations, but the 99% who will stay, pray, and give generously to the cause of Christ for the nations.

But as grateful as we are of those who have served in the past and present, and as hopeful as we are of those who will take the reins in the future, our ultimate confidence rests solidly in the author and perfecter of our faith (Hebrews 12:2), Jesus Christ. He has been, is, and will be the center of MTW and all our global mission efforts. His grace for us has been, is, and will be the fuel that ignites missions fire in our hearts as we labor in building up His Church all over the world to the praise and glory of His name! **n**




Dr. Lloyd Kim



CELEBRATING  
50 YEARS  
OF GRACE



ONE FAMILY:  
PETER &  
REBECCA JONES



ONE FIELD:  
30 YEARS  
IN UKRAINE