

# LINKING former Wesleyan missionaries to each other and to Global Partners

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## Relief for Ukrainian Refugees

We have all been watching with interest mixed with horror at Russia's attacks on Ukraine. Christians across the globe are praying and seeking to bring relief and hope to the refugees. General Superintendent Wayne Schmidt immediately activated the Wesleyan Emergency Relief Fund (WERF), to provide \$5,000 in aid to Ukrainian refugees. By April 4 just over **\$191,000** had been donated through Wesleyans and others. Global Partners (GP) has set the next goal at **\$250,000**.



A refugee family in Czech



Train bringing refugees to Czech. Volunteers in orange vests give assistance.

GP is working with Wesleyan pastors in Eastern Europe; Rev. Tomas Mojzis of the Czech Republic is heading up the WERF efforts. Rev. Mojzis shared that connections were being made to provide temporary or permanent housing for families in various cities, but the need is great; refugees wait in lines at the border of neighboring countries, standing "for days in the cold with no food."

In Poland, Wesleyan pastor, Rev. Przemek Bogdan, stated, "We succeeded to pick up six kids with mothers from the train with 2,000 people. They were 24 hours in the train ..." and remained "behind bars on the platform for three hours ... until they were able to cross." Polish

Wesleyans are working in shifts to transport people from the border to their next destination and donated goods back to Ukraine.

Kevin and Cindy Austin, missionaries in Czech, have temporarily housed twenty-three Ukrainians who head out, not knowing "where they will end up, or for how long." They have eight living in their apartment. Kevin comments: "It is impossible to understand the impact of the war on these refugees. We have heard so many stories. One Ukrainian lady who speaks English very well is helping us with language barriers. But she, too, shared how she had nightmares last night. She dreamed she was back home, hearing bombs go off, and is homesick. Another women was planning to board a bus in Pragu with her six-year-old son to return to Ukraine because she misses her family and friends. Every morning our guests spend time online trying to learn if their families and property are okay. Then they face the new day with broken hearts, and minds that are filled with so many decisions. Our hearts break for each one; we best to



Young people in Czech prepare needed items for refugees.

love and encourage them. The gifts from so many people back home have enabled us to offer financial assistance, to buy food and goods for them as needed. It has allowed us to transport them to various places (some quite a distance away) and to send supplies back into Ukraine.“ **Please pray for Ukrainian refugees and those helping them. Donations can be made [online here](#), or sent to WERF, The Wesleyan Church.**

Article compiled with news from GP personnel and overseas workers.

## What's New in Global Partners?

### Multiplying Movements



The Wesleyan Church of Mongolia is planning to send a family as missionaries to another Asian country after receiving a nine-month training and coaching experience. They learned how to prepare and care for missionaries in the long-term and how to go about fund-raising.

The Mongolian National Leader, Pastor Naraa Baatar, commented, “This training has given us wisdom, strategy and networks to continue this work. ... Our church’s desire is to plant new local churches... ‘beacons that will shine on the nations.’ “

**Pastor Naraa asks us to pray for the establishment of the Mongolian Mission Sending Organization and for building a unified team with God’s wisdom, guided by the Holy Spirit.**

*Adapted from an article in “The Amplifier.”*

### GMMs

A new strategy in GP is Global Marketplace Multipliers (GMMs). This new program seeks to mobilize professionals and equip them to share their faith cross culturally. “While these individuals may not be ‘traditional, main-stream missionaries,’ they still participate in necessary training, and pursue the support which will fit their unique needs. They are expected to build and maintain relationships with other GMMs, international mission workers, and nationals in their region.” To learn more, visit: [gponline.org/GMM](http://gponline.org/GMM).

### Manga

People in Japan love manga, or comics. Thus an organization known as Drawbridge Creations has started the project “Waypoints” as a way to reach the unchurched in Japan. Robin White and his wife Yoko, with others, have produced a series of short stories taken from the Gospels, each told from the perspective of someone whose life was changed by an encounter with Jesus.

Robin comments, “What stands out to me is how many of these stories involve ‘outsiders’ – people that would have been discriminated against because of their race, jobs, backgrounds, past sins, sickness, or gender. Jesus has ‘a place at the table’ for everyone!”

**Robin asks for prayer that God will expand their team, and that the word will get out in the missionary and church community in Japan.** All of the Waypoints manga stories can be read online in both Japanese ([www.waypoints.jp](http://www.waypoints.jp)) and English ([www.waypoints.jp/english](http://www.waypoints.jp/english)).



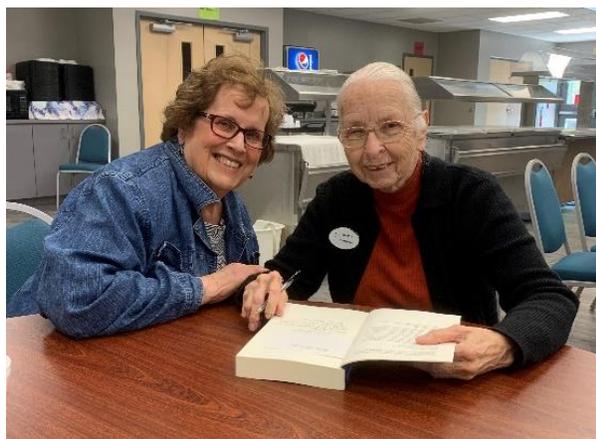
## NEXT

A fourth new movement in GP is an internship by a cross-cultural immersion experience led by seasoned GP missionaries. NEXT developer and founder, Dina Horne says, “Whether their future is in ministry or other professions, [the young people involved] will have a life-changing experience. There isn’t enough time to learn an entire language, pick up on all cultural trends, or change the world in 2-4 months. But there’s room to make an impact and to be impacted.” Volunteers will go through pre-field training, emphasizing the practice of spiritual endurance.

This spring, two NEXT volunteers have been serving in the UK, and there are around twenty preparing for summer internships in Europe, Asia, or Dearborn, MI. To keep current with NEXT, sign up for the newsletter @ <https://mailchi.mp/822227f373f6/next>.

*Adapted from an article by Heather Auker in “The Amplifier.”*

## Missionary Bio: Can a Writer Hate Reading?



*Eleanor with Jeanette Vermilya*

Eleanor Hunsinger grew up with an aversion to reading. Her teacher’s books were covered in brown paper, and Eleanor somehow began to feel afraid of books, cringing every time the teacher reached for one.

She read biographies of missionaries during YMWB (Young Missionary Workers Band) in her little church, but not much else except school assignments.

Attending Miltonvale Wesleyan College in joined the staff of the school’s newspaper, *The Mirror*, and served as editor her senior year. After studying receiving her degree in theological education at MWC, Eleanor studied nursing and eventually went to Zambia as a missionary nurse 1970. During her

service there, she developed a love for writing and served as Field Correspondent, writing and encouraging others to write for the Church magazines.

Back home in 1992, Eleanor began writing biblical fiction. She was privileged to use the library of Calvary Bible College, where many books contained detailed descriptions of the landscape of the Holy Land.

Upon retiring and moving to Florida, Eleanor was busy with church and community activities until Covid-19 and the Lockdown ended these responsibilities. Then there was time to refine a previously started manuscript. She submitted *Mark of the Covenant: The Story of Jonathan, Prince of Israel*, to Kindle Direct Self-Publishing, and it was released in 2021. The book is available on Amazon.com. Eleanor expects her next book, *Sarah of Sychar*, to be ready for sale by July 2022. Then she plans to tackle a 4-book series.

*Editor’s note : “Mark of the Covenant” is highly recommended. I was amazed at the detailed descriptions, especially of locations in Israel. It seems to stick very closely to the biblical account in 1 Samuel. Other facts were gleaned from Eleanor’s extensive research, and the story is filled in from her imagination. Excellent reading!*

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## General Conference is Finally Happening

After being delayed two years because of the pandemic, General Conference is now scheduled for May 22-25 in St. Louis, MO. There is no registration fee. Registration will be accepted online at [wes.life/14<sup>th</sup>GCRegister](http://wes.life/14thGCRegister) or onsite.

## Prayer Opportunity

The WMAF is holding a monthly Zoom prayer meeting with the mobilization team of GP on the first Monday of each month at 10 a.m. (unless the first Monday follows a holiday weekend). Anyone interested in participating, please contact Jim Vermilya at [jimver44@gmail.com](mailto:jimver44@gmail.com).

## Walking with the Persecuted

Todd Nettleton has released a new book, *When Faith is Forbidden, 40 Days on the Frontlines with Persecuted Christians*. In the acknowledgments, he writes, “My parents, Phil and Lucille Nettleton, have modeled a life of service to Christ and His Body. I consider my first step toward working at VOM to be the day in 1982 when our family left the US to serve as missionaries in Papua New Guinea. Since then my parents have served in numerous places and roles, and been on lots of airplanes! Their faithful hearts to serve both God and people continues to be an inspiration. Anyone in the US can get the book in return for a donation of any amount to VOM by going to <https://www.persecution.com/forbidden>.

