



Interview With Dr. Chuck Paine

When and how did you receive God's call to missionary service?

When I was 8 years old, I came close to death three different times. And my girlfriend, who was in 5th grade died of appendicitis. First funeral I had ever been to. That fall at the district camp meeting in Houghton, NY, I sat in the back of the auditorium and felt the call to go forward and give my heart to the Lord. Later that fall, a missionary came through and spoke at Houghton College Church. He served in India and visited Africa on his way home. I was nine years old, and I went home and told my mother I was going to be a missionary doctor. And I didn't vary from that, since that time.



You lived and served in three overseas countries. How did these transitions come about?

We served for five years serving the leprosy hospital in the middle of India. At the end of that time, I felt the Lord didn't need us there any longer and was not calling us to go back. When I came home, I felt led to go into pathology. I called up one of the most prestigious places in America, the University of Chicago. Somebody had dropped out of their program, and they gave me that spot. So, that was of the Lord. He opened the door. After several years of training and hospital service in Chicago, Wesleyan World Missions contacted me and said that they needed me in Sierra Leone in West Africa at Kamakwe. Grace and I prayed about it. We had wanted to go to that hospital back in 1959. But when we applied to go there, they already had 3 doctors. Now there was one doctor, and he was overdue for furlough. It was Chuck and Ruth Pierson. So, we agreed to go over and replace them and served several terms. When the war caused our mission to pull all the missionaries out of Sierra Leone, we were asked to go back to the leprosy hospital in India. But we could not get a visa. Dr. Storer Emmett was then in Zambia all by himself and he begged me to come out and help him out. After two years we got the visa and went back to India from 1998-2000. This time I was there not as a doctor but as a builder. Rebecca Bibbee was building a school for 2000 students. So, we handled the funds for that and oversaw the project (three big 3-story buildings).

Could you share some blessings or high points in your missionary ministry?

The high points in my life were the fact that God helped me learn surgery with the help of Dr. Pierson. I did over 400 C-sections, while I was in Africa, and other surgeries that you would never think of here in America. It was very different. And that was sort of the high point. Hundreds of

lives were saved. The other high point was that my children got to go to boarding school first in Sierra Leone and then in Ivory Coast. And God helped them in that, so they came out with a positive, God-fearing attitude. So those are probably the highest points. There are more.

Was missionary life in the places you served a positive experience for your children or was it difficult for them?

Well, praise the Lord, He helped. The Lord blessed them. They all came out of it with a positive approach and that is not true of all the missionary kids that we saw, unfortunately.

How has your life in Third World countries affected your values or worldview?

I started out in the original Wesleyan Methodist Church, very conservative, and very restricted in thinking. When I got to India, I discovered there will be some people in heaven I did not expect. I can remember sitting in the third-class coach from Bombay to Rajnandgaon and there were three postulants preparing to be nuns. They were youngsters. I was sitting next to them in this compartment, and I got to talking with them. They loved Jesus. And I said, you know something – they may be in heaven, too! And I would never have thought that due to the way I was brought up.

Could you share about the importance of prayer in your life as a missionary and now in retirement years?

There were times when I really cried out to God, occasionally in tears, at two in the morning in a situation that's not in the books. Things I'd never seen before, and I cried out to God. What am I going to do? This lady is going to die on the table. And God, "boom" – what I did might not meet protocol in the States, but it ended up saving that woman's life. I praise the Lord! When I retired and came to Wesleyan Village, one of the things I made a priority in my life was that, whenever people met for prayer, I wanted to be there. I pray when I walk around the village every day. I talk with God as I go. When I go by a house and I know there is a problem there, I'll pray for that person. That's important.

As far as you know, were you ever used of God to influence someone else to consider serving on the mission field?

When we got back from India in 1965, one of the places we were asked to speak was at a missionary weekend in Michigan. Don Bray and his wife, Joy, were pastoring that church. That was their first missionary conference. And they had been praying that out of that conference, someone would be called to go to the mission field. It turned out on Sunday that the ones that God called out of that church were Don and Joy! They felt called to go and ended up going to Papua New Guinea.

Do you have a "life verse" or promise in God's Word that has been special to you? The one that was impressed on me coming home from Africa probably or maybe India, was Philippians 3:10, "that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His suffering, being made conformable unto His death." That has stuck with me since those days.

Condolences

Freda Farmer

Freda passed away on Feb. 13, 2023, at Country Club Rehabilitation in Mount Vernon at the age of 99. She was born on Aug. 17, 1923, in Knox County to the late Clarence and Grace (Bell) Farmer. Freda graduated from Utica High School in 1940. Later she graduated from Cleveland Bible College (now Malone), Indiana Wesleyan University and Ball State Teachers College in Indiana. She was a member of the Community Wesleyan Church in Newark, Ohio for many years. In 1942, God gave her new spiritual life. This resulted in missionary service in Taiwan and Indonesia for 36 years. She worked several years in Taiwan with the Friends Mission, and 12 years in Indonesia with Wesleyan World Missions. She retired in 1990. See website for full obituary.



Dr. William “Bill” Peed

Dr. Rev. William (Bill) Franklin Peed, age 68, passed away in his home (Woodstock, GA) surrounded by the love of family and friends on March 23, 2023. At the age of 17, Bill began a



personal relationship with God as his Lord and Savior. His mission in life was to “declare [God’s] glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples” (Psalm 96:3). Bill loved people from all nations, cultures, and walks of life. Bill’s love for God and people defined his ministry. He first served as pastor at Cobbtown (GA) United Methodist Church and Collins (GA) United Methodist Church. Then, he became an ordained minister in The Wesleyan Church and pastor of Cateechee (SC) Wesleyan Church. In 1982, he and his wife, Marilee, were appointed as missionaries to Zambia, Africa, where for 15 years they had the privilege to serve as a pastor and church development leader in Chipata, Zambia and as mission director in Lusaka, Zambia. While pursuing a Ph.D in education, he wrote and edited training materials for missionaries as he himself aimed to be an effective communicator of God’s word cross-culturally. In 2003, he became the Program Director and professor of Global Ministry at Kingswood University in Sussex, New Brunswick, Canada, where for 13 years he passionately taught and mentored young adults, instilling his passion for God and people. He is survived by his wife, Marilee, three children: Andrew, Rebecca and Christina, six grandchildren, five siblings and other extended family. The full obituary is posted at www.globalpartneronline.org/alumni.

Patricia “Pat” Estes

Pat Estes passed away on April 1, 2023, at the age of 77, in Indianapolis, Indiana. She was born March 8, 1946, in Rochester, New York to the late Curtis and I. Shirley Margeson. Pat was a graduate of John Marshall High School, Rochester, New York. She received her bachelor’s degree in education from Houghton College, Houghton, New York. Pat married Joseph R. Estes in 1969 and was a teacher for Eastlawn Christian Academy for four years. She devoted time to



teaching, raising her children and mission work. Pat was a former member of Eastlawn Wesleyan Church and a current member of Trinity Wesleyan Church. She was active in youth ministry, prison ministry, Teen Challenge Ministry, Sierra Leone Wesleyan Mission and the Croatia Afghans for Newborns Mission for many years. She was also a published author writing a book titled "Unexpected Destiny." Pat faithfully served as Editor of the WMAF LINK since 2021 and will be greatly missed by all her missionary alumni family. Pat is survived by her loving husband of 54 years, Joe Estes; children, Suzanne E. Kamara and Peter J. Estes; grandchildren, Lillian Rae Estes, William Alan Michael Estes, Joseph Humara, Kamara and Jackson Raymond Edward Estes, and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her sisters, Sharon Baumbarger and Joy DeAngelo.

Florida Regional Gathering



After a three-year Covid interruption, the Florida WMAF chapter met again on March 21, 2023, in Brooksville, Florida. Fifty mission-minded believers enjoyed the day of sharing blessings and challenges (not all were present for this photo). Dr. Jim Blackburn, former missionary to Haiti, brought a devotional from Psalm 100 and testified of God's goodness throughout his life.

Carl and Maya Gilles, former Global Partners missionaries to Haiti now assigned to Francophone countries of the world, spoke to the group via Zoom. They reported on their history in missions, their present ministry based in Montreal, Quebec, and their plans and goals for the future. Quebec is 1% evangelical Christian. They are involved in a church plant with over 700 attenders, prison fellowship, suicide prevention, outreach to Muslims, and in meeting

needs through “I Love My City” outreach. They minister to seven French-speaking countries, providing leadership training and encouraging the School of Missionaries in DRC. They network with Haitian congregations in the North America. They requested prayer that God will provide leaders to help with their ministries.

Jim and Jeanette Vermilya, former missionaries to Jamaica, Haiti and pastors to missionaries, shared about their work. Jim leads WMAF and gave an encouraging report on the various chapters in the US and Canada. They meet over Zoom monthly with a missionary alumni prayer group. They serve as host and hostess of Shunem Ministries, providing a guest house to missionaries and Christian groups. It was a privilege to have their daughter Joy Alcock with us. She originally responded to God’s nudge about a vacant house and shared this vision with her parents. Today many are blessed by this hospitality.

Lydia Hines, former missionary to Latin America, closed the session with a devotional on praise, and small groups rejoiced together in prayer. We left better informed and blessed by God’s working around the World. (Reported by Eleanor Hunsinger, GP Alumna)

Note

It was my privilege to recently interview Dr. Paine, while spending time in Brooksville, Florida. I believe you will enjoy reading this glimpse of his life experiences in his own words on pages 1-2. What you see are excerpts of that discussion. You will find the full interview at our WMAF website: www.globalpartnersonline.org/alumni. It is found in the History section, along with other biographies you might enjoy reading. As you can see, I have filled in as editor for this edition. Please join me in prayer as we seek God’s direction for our next LINK Editor.
(Jim Vermilya)

GLOBAL PARTNERS

www.globalpartnersonline.org/alumni

Dr. Jim Vermilya – President- WMAF

**Acting LINK Editor – Jim Vermilya
313 Hall Court, Noblesville, IN
46060**

**To receive the digital LINK, please send
your email to: jimver44@gmail.com**