



RCA
**Global
Mission**



Field Guide

RCA Missionaries and Partners

For the safety of our missionaries serving in difficult mission fields, they have been removed from this booklet. For the full list of missionaries, please contact us at mission@rca.org.

Up to date as of January 2021

Working together to share God's love with the world

The Reformed Church in America has a rich history of global missions, spanning more than 350 years. Through the RCA, millions of lives have been transformed because of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

RCA Global Mission exists to strengthen and grow the global church by supporting ministries of compassion, developing leaders, and sharing the good news. Our goal is to provide opportunities for RCA churches to partner with global churches in ways that are collaborative and mutually meaningful, helping us all live and love like Jesus.

I believe that sharing God's good work through stories is one of the ways we can truly inspire and invite churches and individuals, like you, into a closer walk with us. And, we do not want to be only on the receiving end of this relationship. We want to be telling great stories, always striving for greater relevance and to serve our congregations and supporters well.

This booklet gives a very brief overview of the current chapter of our story, and I hope you see glimpses of God's good work around the world that will inspire you in your own faith walk and ministry. Come join us in the beautiful story God is crafting in RCA Global Mission!



JP Sundararajan
Director of RCA Global Mission

To support missionaries who are currently fundraising,
visit www.rca.org/missionaries-raising.

Africa

Cheryl Barnes

Cheryl serves as education facilitator for the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian (CCAP). She works with the education secretaries and department personnel to improve the quality of education in CCAP primary schools in Malawi, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

Jeremy and Susan Beebout

Jeremy and Susan work with the Evangelical Church of the Republic of Niger to build ministry programs, empowering Nigerien Christians to share Christ's love with the people of Niger by addressing their health and agricultural needs. Jeremy, an agronomist, works with agricultural development efforts. Susan, a doctor, helps develop the church's health ministries.

David Ford

David serves as a linguistics specialist and archivist, developing writing systems for languages in Ethiopia. His work gives more Ethiopians access to God's Word in their own language. David serves in partnership with Wycliffe and SIL International.

John and Lynne Hubers

John serves in partnership with the Mekane Yesus Seminary in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, helping equip church leaders for sensitive, Christ-centered witness and dialogue with their Muslim neighbors.

Denise Kingdom Grier

Denise serves as a bridge between North American churches and the Setshabelo Family and Child Services (SFCS) in Botshabelo, South Africa, to provide loving families to orphans and vulnerable children. SFCS provides crisis intervention, family counseling and preservation, foster care, and adoption services.

Amos Limo Liang'or

Amos, who grew up among the Pokot people, works as a nurse at the Pokot Health Centre in Alale, Kenya. He says, "As a nurse, I am concerned with more than just my patients' physical well-being." The Pokot people rely on the clinic for health services. Amos works in partnership with the Africa Inland Church.



John Lokeno

John coordinates a process that helps the churches among the Pokot people in Kenya implement viable community development projects. The goal of these projects is to inspire and equip the local people to help their communities with their own resources. John works in partnership with the Africa Inland Church.

Maasai Outreach Mission

Bishop Simon Muntolol, a Maasai leader who became a Christian more than 30 years ago, trains evangelists who reach out to the Maasai with the gospel. The Reformed Church in America has partnered with MOM to lead a church planting movement through digging wells, supporting education, training teachers, developing church leadership, and providing healthcare for underserved, remote Maasai communities.

Shelvis and Nancy Smith-Mather

Shelvis and Nancy serve with RECONCILE, an indigenous Christian organization in South Sudan that trains church community leaders in trauma healing, conflict transformation, and civic education. Shelvis also leads RECONCILE's Peace Institute. He and Nancy participate in training events that nurture the fragile peace in South Sudan by addressing interethnic conflict.

Abdi Tadesse-Mulat

Abdi directs the Christian-Muslim Relations program of Mekane Yesus Seminary in Ethiopia. Graduates of the program have been instrumental in preparing Ethiopian Christians to responsibly witness to and peacefully coexist with their Muslim neighbors. Abdi serves in partnership with the Ethiopian Evangelical Church of Mekane Yesus.

Rowland Jr. and Jane Van Es

Rowland and Jane teach at St. Paul's University in Kenya, an ecumenical school that has trained pastors, evangelists, and Christian leaders in service to God since 1903.

Chad and Dara Vanden Bosch

Chad serves in partnership with Audio Scripture Ministries, recording and distributing the Bible in audio form so people in Mozambique can hear God's Word. Chad also runs New Harvest Farm, teaching resilient farming practices so farmers can better provide for their families. Dara runs a compassionate care ministry, bringing hospice or palliative care to people with incurable diseases. She trains Mozambicans to make home visits to those who are dying to bring physical relief, counseling, and spiritual encouragement.

Asia

Nathan and Nozomi Brownell

Nathan and Nozomi are working with the church in Japan to renew youth ministry. Nathan shares the hope of Christ with Japan's next generation through the GreenHouse youth center by identifying, encouraging, and raising up youth leaders. Nozomi reaches out to Japan's youth through the Children and Worship International program.

Rawee Bunupuradah

Rawee serves alongside Thai pastors and other church leaders, helping them train members of their congregations to share the gospel in their communities and equip the next generation of Christian leaders in Thailand. Rawee serves in partnership with United World Mission.

Craig and Christa Hollander

As a pilot and mechanic for Mission Aviation Fellowship in Kalimantan, Indonesia, Craig uses aviation to bring the news of Christ to hard-to-reach areas. He flies pastors, missionaries, doctors, sick and injured people, Bibles, educational materials, and even building supplies in and out of otherwise isolated areas.

Wayne and Miho Jansen

Wayne provides theological and practical training for church leaders in Japan. Students are challenged to deal with issues that could manifest themselves in ministry while serving in a church.

Sayuri and Abraham Kist-Okazaki

99 percent of Japan's population is non-Christian. Sayuri and Abraham offer training to Japanese churches in evangelism and leadership so they can more effectively reach non-Christians. Sayuri and Abraham engage in local mission as associate pastors at Kugahara Church. Sayuri also works with the National Federation of Kyodan Women's Societies in the United Church of Christ in Japan to empower women who serve churches.

Sidewalk Sunday School

Sidewalk Sunday School is a street ministry for hundreds of children living in Davao City, Philippines. Through skits, singing, and games Melody Joy Milloren shares the love and truth of Christ with often impoverished children. The ministry has also seen how raising up the younger generation in the faith is reaching their parents and communities as well.

Mark and Deb Wilson

Mark works with Cambodian church leaders to design and implement curriculum that equips people for missional ministry. He works in partnership with Phnom Penh Bible School, The Theological Education by Extension Association of Cambodia, and Food for the Hungry. Deb provides coaching and leadership development at the Phnom Penh Bible School and at the Evangelical Fellowship of Cambodia.

Europe

Hannah Kummer

Hannah serves as a case manager for Mediterranean Hope, a ministry program of the Federation of Protestant Churches in Italy that mobilizes the church and community to welcome sojourners in their midst. Hannah helps with safe travel, legal avenues of entry, and successful integration of refugees who are settling in Italy. She also coordinates legal aid and resources for displaced asylum seekers in Rome.

Doug McClintic

Doug provides support, strategic coordination, and expertise to congregations, classes, and regional synods, and other agencies in European church planting efforts. He partners North American congregations with the next generation of European churches to develop a strategy of local empowerment, collaboration, and evaluation.

Paolo Naso

Paolo builds bridges between members of the Italian Waldensian Church and African immigrant Christians. His goal is to facilitate evangelism and church planting among African immigrants in Italy. Paolo trains ministry leaders and laypeople to serve in multicultural contexts and use theological language, liturgies, and pastoral approaches that appeal to people of diverse cultural backgrounds.

Felipe and Janelle deWaard-Silva

Felipe and Janelle's ministry, a climbing gym and afterschool program, provides Roma youth in the Jiu Valley of Romania with a safe environment where they can experience respect, develop life skills and character, pursue education, and come to know the love of Christ. They work in partnership with the New Horizons Foundation.



Gretchen Schoon-Tanis  

Gretchen pastors RELISH, the Reformed English Language International Service of Hannover. Gretchen leads a community of English-speaking international students and ex-pat working individuals and families in worship, in addition to a weekly Bible study for young adults.

Latin America and the Caribbean



Ahuas Clinic 

The Ahuas Clinic serves the indigenous Miskito people in Honduras via an active outpatient service and a public health program focused on prenatal care, midwife education, nutrition, vaccination, and HIV detection and prevention. The hospital averages 10-20 inpatients per day and provides obstetrics care and general surgery.

Jaime and Martha Amaro 

The Amaros help the Presbyterian Church in Mexico train leaders for the Children and Worship program. They also do translation work and have been translating the “Growing in the Faith” discipleship materials into Spanish, which will be used to train church leaders. They are involved in forming children’s clubs in neighborhoods to share the gospel.

Pat and Kara Bloemendaal  

Pat and Kara do counseling and pastoral work with the Caribbean Christian Centre for the Deaf (CCCD). CCCD provides the Deaf with accessible education, authentic community, and knowledge of the gospel through the operation of one Deaf village and three residential schools for children who are Deaf.

Adrián and Bernardeth Bobb-Kelly

Adrián and Bernardeth train health workers, pastors, and others; work with churches to establish foster homes, feeding programs, and scholarships for children from poor neighborhoods in Bluefields, Nicaragua; and provide pastoral and health care to people in remote villages.

Chris and Ren Briggs

Chris serves as the campus manager of the Jamaica Deaf Village, a ministry of the Caribbean Christian Centre for the Deaf. The center provides the deaf community in Jamaica with a language, education, mentoring, and an opportunity to encounter the gospel. Worldwide, 99 percent of the deaf population has never been exposed to the gospel, making it one of the largest unreached people groups.

Rev. Dr. Brigido Cabrera

Rev. Dr. Brigido Cabrera works with the leadership of the Dominican Reformed Church (IRD) in theological formation to equip pastors and church leaders to impact their community through church planting and evangelism.

Isaías Colop-Xec

Isaías, a native Guatemalan from the Quiché tribe, founded a ministry called Rutzij Tijonic (a Quiché phrase that means “teaching his Word”). He enables pastors of the Quiché tribe to learn the Scriptures in their own language so they can lead the Quiché church.

Thiago and Lia Dantas

Thiago and Lia serve as missionary liaisons between churches in the U.S. and communities in Brazil to plant churches, train Brazilian missionaries, and reach people along the Amazon River with Christ’s love and hope through medical mission boats.

Amy and Andrew Fields

Andrew and Amy work alongside Colombian partners at Colombian Biblical Seminary to raise up the next generation of church leaders in Latin America. They teach theology, mentor students, and develop the seminary library. They also work with local congregations to foster mutual mission opportunities.



Olivia and Phil Iekel

Olivia facilitates church partnerships and volunteer opportunities for the Council of Protestant Churches of Nicaragua (CEPAD). Through faith-based leadership development, pastoral training, and food security programs, CEPAD ministers to the marginalized and helps communities break the cycle of hunger and poverty.

Phil serves as an associate structural engineer for Engineering Ministries International Nicaragua (EMI). He designs for Christian projects and disciples young professionals. EMI desires to see people restored by God and the world restored through design.

Tom Johnson

Tom serves as the spiritual development manager and staff missiologist for Many Hands for Haiti (MH4H). MH4H aides several Haitian communities through programs in agriculture, church leadership, education, evangelism, and health. Tom advises MH4H administration, staff, supporters, and volunteers. He also manages all aspects of spiritual and leadership development training.

Juan Kempers Seminary

Dr. Juan R. Kempers Seminary was developed to serve the Ch'ol, Tzeltal, Tzotzil, and Spanish-speaking areas to prepare pastors, teachers, evangelists, and missionaries for ministry in the National Presbyterian Church in Chiapas and in the Republic of Mexico. The RCA support provides scholarships for new students completing a master's- or bachelor's-level seminary program.

Samuel Olson

Samuel is the president of the Seminario Evangélico de Caracas (Evangelical Seminary of Caracas) in Venezuela. As the evangelical church in Latin America grows, so does the need for sound biblical and theological training. The seminary addresses this need, serving approximately 12 Venezuelan denominations.

Nicole Opgenorth

Nicole works in partnership with the Council of Protestant Churches of Nicaragua (CEPAD). She visits homes, farmlands, and churches to listen to what God is doing. In turn, she shares with RCA supporters how their gifts are empowering rural communities to lift themselves out of poverty through pastoral training, leadership development, economic empowerment, food security, and environmental care. Nicole also serves as a cultural and language translator for visiting groups.

Paramedic Training in Chiapas

Licensed physicians are not usually available in Chiapan villages, so health workers assist at births. Most of the health workers have been taught to give injections and utilize intravenous techniques. The trainers utilize the Bible Schools as their training center, but also teach in village settings to better provide on-site practical training through its 40 one-week courses.

Albino and Sandy Rodriguez

Albino serves as executive director and Sandy as administrator of La Casa del Maestro, which focuses on the spiritual, physical, mental, and emotional growth of indigenous youth in southern Peru. Both Albino and Sandy spend time with the youth and host workshops and seminars that focus on biblical discipleship and vocational training. They also provide a community home for vulnerable Quechua youth migrating to the city of Cusco.



Middle East



Joshua and Erica Bode

Josh will be serving the Protestant Church in Oman (PCO) as the lead pastor, providing pastoral care, preaching, and teaching in the English-speaking congregation of this diverse, multicultural church. He will also represent the RCA and the PCO in relationship with the Omani Ministry of Religious Affairs.

Peter and Patty Ford

Peter teaches Christian and Muslim relations and Islam at the Near East School of Theology in Lebanon, one of the only accredited Protestant theological seminaries in the Arab world. These classes help students, mostly Christian, better understand Islam and develop positive relations with Muslims.

Keith and Denise Krebs

Keith is a chaplain at American Mission Hospital in Bahrain where he provides spiritual encouragement to patients and staff.

Blaine and Kathleen Newhouse

Blaine serves as the senior pastor of the ELC of the National Evangelical Church of the Kingdom of Bahrain, a church planted by the RCA in 1893. His wife, Kathleen, teaches at Al Raja School.

North America / Worldwide



Apache Reformed Church

RCA ministry in Apache, Oklahoma, has roots in mission work at nearby Fort Sill dating back to 1895. When the tribe, who was prisoner of the U.S. Army, was released, they moved to Apache, where they began their own congregation. Apache Reformed Church is a congregation mostly comprised of Comanche, Kiowa, and Apache Indians.

Bob and Amy Abel

Bob serves with Remember Nhu, an organization that works to end child sex slavery in 13 countries. As the director of staff care, Bob provides pastoral care, discipleship support, and leadership development to its international and indigenous missionary staff. Bob's initial focus is developing a global care strategy for all missionaries in Remember Nhu.

Barry and Terryl Bruce

Through The Way Out Ministries, Barry and Terryl coordinate weekly youth clubs, support groups, Bible studies, and a referral network of service agencies. Terryl is principal of a private mission school for low-income high school students. Barry pastors a church that was planted by The Way Out Ministries.

Brian and Beth Bruxvoort

As a pilot, mechanic, and flight scheduler for the Mission Aviation Repair Center, Brian helps make evangelization and church ministry possible in Alaska's remote villages. He also connects people with the goods or services they need and helps Alaskan Christians feel connected to the rest of the body of Christ.

Center of Hope

The Center of Hope provides spiritual and social service to those who find themselves in difficult life situations in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. As Sioux Falls has a large Native American population, nearly 40 percent of Center of Hope visitors are Native Americans, many who are deeply involved in the center's ministries. Calvin Ver Mulm serves as the pastor and director.

Elisha House Pregnancy and Family Support Centre

Elisha House offers pregnancy counseling and support as well as parent groups, mentoring programs, and a marketplace for baby clothes, diapers, and other essentials for young families.



Grace Covenant Ministries

Grace Covenant Ministries (GCM), formally Jackson Country Ministries, in Annville, Kentucky, administers summer Bible camps, afterschool programs, marriage seminars, gym ministries, and the Barnabas Home shelter for boys. GCM also operates a retreat center for local churches and works closely with a horse outreach ministry, a community outreach center for youth, and Teen Challenge. Additionally, they provide home repairs, veterans outreach, and thrift stores. Tommy Miracle serves as the executive director at GCM.

Jicarilla Apache Reformed Church

Jicarilla Apache Reformed Church is located on the Jicarilla Apache Reservation in Dulce, New Mexico. Many in Dulce struggle with family situations that lead to behavioral problems, unhealthy life choice, and difficulty committing to God. Brad Kautz serves as a pastor.

Jennifer and Mark Lucking

Jennifer oversees the work of Restorations Second Stage Homes in Canada, an organization providing specialized long-term care for survivors of commercial sexual exploitation. She partners with other organizations to serve the needs of victims and survivors of trafficking and continues to equip RCA constituents across North America to take action against slavery and sexual exploitation. Restorations is currently establishing a residential care program.

Mescalero Reformed Church

Mescalero Reformed Church in Mescalero, New Mexico, ministers to the community in a way that honors their Native American heritage and demonstrates how that heritage shapes their faith.

Ministry to Japanese People in Southwest Michigan

This organization administers worship services, Bible studies, language classes and tutoring, and pastoral care for Japanese-speaking people in the western Michigan cities of Holland, Grand Rapids, Battle Creek, and Kalamazoo.

Project Hospitality

Project Hospitality offers an emergency overnight shelter, transitional housing for formerly homeless people, housing for homeless women and children, an HIV/AIDS legal advocacy program, and a center for HIV/AIDS care. Terry Troia serves as the president and chief executive officer of Project Hospitality, which serves more than 5,000 people each year in Staten Island, New York.

Brian and Donna Renes

Brian serves with United Bible Societies as a computer consultant for Bible translation projects. He trains workers in the use of quicker and more accurate translation software.

JJ and Tim TenClay

JJ is the coordinator for RCA Global Mission's Refugee Ministries. She educates and empowers RCA congregations to respond to the refugee crisis locally and globally. She also works with congregations to assist in their efforts to come alongside refugees in their communities. Her goal is to raise awareness and advocate with congregations, missionaries, and partners around the world to help alleviate the refugee crisis.

Chuck and Jean Van Engen

Chuck helped launch the Latin American Leadership Development Program (LALDP) and now serves as its president. LALDP is a multinational, multid denominational community of Latin American scholars, churches, and educational institutions. It provides advanced theological education in Spanish and Portuguese.



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Learn more and support Global Mission missionaries
and projects at www.rca.org/mission

RCA Global Mission principles

The world has changed dramatically since the early days of the modern missionary movement. Today, more than 70 percent of all Christians live in the southern hemisphere. North America is increasingly a secular society and a mission field in need of the good news of Jesus Christ. Though our strategies and tools may change, the mission principles that have served the Reformed Church in America so well over the past 350+ years continue to do so today.



Respectful witness:

We believe we are a global covenant family united in Christ and living as incarnational Christian witnesses who are called to exist in harmony with diverse societies, traditions, and cultures.



Long-term mutual relationships:

We believe in a purposeful and undeviating focus on mission collaboration and interdependency that matures into deep-rooted cooperation and significant partnership.



Holistic engagement:

We believe in a global, reformational vision of God's kingdom in which we engage a fallen creation through the power and nature of Christ.



Sustainable empowerment:

We believe in breaking the cycle of foreign dependency and paternalism by promoting interdependent, Christ-centered cooperatives that culminate in locally sufficient, locally supported, and locally sustainable, faithful transformation.



