

TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH



# On Mission

WITH BELLEVUE 2023



# The Global Need

AS FOLLOWERS of Jesus Christ, our mandate is clear: We are to take the Gospel to the ends of the Earth. Matthew 28:18–20 and Acts 1:8 proclaim the words of Jesus to His disciples as He commands them to go to all the world. This command is as relevant to us today as it was when Jesus first spoke it.

The world desperately needs to hear the truth of the Gospel—that Jesus died and rose again to bring us from darkness to light. And the Lord has chosen to use His children to be ambassadors of that Good News. Lostness is truly the greatest need our world faces today, and we must be willing to help meet that need. There are more people alive today that do not know Christ than at any other time in history (joshuaproject.net).

In a world of 8 billion people, over half (4.7 billion) are lost and have little to no access to the Gospel (peoplegroups.org). That number is overwhelming and difficult to comprehend, and, when faced with that reality, we are tempted to believe the lie that we cannot make a difference. However, we must never underestimate the power of the Holy Spirit and what He can do through His people.

As you continue reading, you will learn how Bellevue is reaching the ends of the Earth with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and how you can begin obeying the command of Jesus to “Go and make disciples of all the Earth” (Matthew 28:19 summarized). How will you obey that command? How will you engage in the Missionary Task?



Ben Taylor  
Minister of Missions



# Missions Strategy

BELLEVUE Missions has adopted the term “Missionary Task” to help our members view their lives through the lens of the Great Commission. No matter where you are or what you do, you can live as a missionary for the Kingdom of God. The Missionary Task is the

six-step process of the International Mission Board (IMB) by which people groups are engaged and churches are planted. The six components are entry, evangelism, disciple-making, healthy church formation, leadership development, and exit to partnership.

## SOUTHERN BAPTIST PARTNERSHIPS



**Southern Baptist Convention (SBC)** [sbc.net](http://sbc.net)

As a Southern Baptist church, Bellevue partners with over 47,000 other Southern Baptist churches to support missions around the world. These partnerships allow Bellevue to be a part of mobilizing thousands of people each year for the Kingdom of God.



**North American Mission Board (NAMB)** [namb.net](http://namb.net)

NAMB helps equip churches on mission in their communities and across the continent. Through compassion ministry, church planting, chaplaincy, and disaster relief, NAMB helps congregations go to the lost and hurting.



**International Mission Board (IMB)** [imb.org](http://imb.org)

The IMB partners with local churches to empower missionary teams who are making disciples and multiplying churches among unreached people groups around the world for the glory of God.

## LOCAL MISSIONS EFFORTS

**Bellevue Loves Memphis** [bellevuelovesmemphis.org](http://bellevuelovesmemphis.org)

Bellevue members intentionally step outside the walls of our church and embrace Bellevue Loves Memphis as a way of life. Consider getting involved in this local ministry opportunity to love God, love people, share Jesus, and make disciples.

**Serve Out Pathways** [bellevue.org/pathways](http://bellevue.org/pathways)

God has called each of us to be on mission to reach our city with the Gospel. Through Bellevue’s Serve Out Pathways, you can find areas of service you’re passionate about and use your gifts to minister to the people of Memphis.

### Local Missions Highlight

**Refugee Pathway** [bellevue.org/pathways](http://bellevue.org/pathways)

God is bringing the nations to Memphis through refugee resettlement. The families you will have the opportunity to serve have undergone unimaginable circumstances. They have left their homes due to threatening conditions and have sought refuge in our country. Through this Pathway, you can come alongside these families, supporting them as they adjust to their new lives here in Memphis. Learn more online.

# To the Ends of the Earth

SCAN THIS CODE TO LEARN HOW YOU CAN ENGAGE IN PRAYER FOR EACH AREA.



## ENGAGE THE AMERICAS

**T**HOUGH the Americas are often associated with Catholicism, the majority of the people in these countries are living without a personal relationship with Jesus.

**POPULATION:** 669 million

**THE NEED:**

10,297 people dying daily without Christ<sup>1</sup>

**WHERE BELLEVUE SERVES:**

- ◆ Mexico
- ◆ Honduras
- ◆ Peru
- ◆ Nicaragua
- ◆ Brazil
- ◆ Chile

**OUR MISSIONS STRATEGY:**

As the Church continues to grow and mature in the Americas, there is a significant need for entry, evangelism, and leadership development throughout Central and South America. We serve our partners in the Americas by sending short-term, mid-term, and long-term missionaries to engage in the Missionary Task.

## ENGAGE CENTRAL ASIA

**I**SLAM is the primary religion among the people groups of Central Asia. They have very little knowledge of biblical Christianity or the true message of the Gospel.<sup>1</sup>

**POPULATION:** 385 million

**THE NEED:**

6,619 people dying daily without Christ<sup>1</sup>

**WHERE BELLEVUE SERVES:**

This location has been omitted for security purposes.

**OUR MISSIONS STRATEGY:**

Central Asia represents some of the most unreached parts of our world. Some countries in this region are considered 99 percent lost with little to no Gospel presence. As we consider how God is calling us to respond to this need, we are engaging in prayer for the lost and seeking to develop partners and strategies to pierce the darkness of this region.

## ENGAGE EAST AFRICA

**D**ESPITE the advances of the Gospel we have seen in recent years, there is still tremendous lostness in this area of the world.

**POPULATION:** 621 million **UNREACHED PEOPLE:** 122 million<sup>2</sup>

**WHERE BELLEVUE SERVES:**

- ◆ Kenya
- ◆ Burundi
- ◆ Uganda
- ◆ Rwanda
- ◆ Tanzania
- ◆ Mozambique

**OUR MISSIONS STRATEGY:**

Bellevue has actively served in this region for over 10 years through compassion ministry, healthy church formation, and leadership development. We plan to continue our efforts in this region by working with our partners to meet the needs of East African communities, develop national leaders, and mobilize African missionaries for evangelism in Africa and beyond.

## ENGAGE SOUTHEAST ASIA

**W**ITH influences of Hinduism, Buddhism, Sikhism, Jainism, and Islam, Southeast Asia is surrounded by darkness with little access to the light of the Gospel.

**POPULATION:** 679 million **UNREACHED PEOPLE:** 355 million<sup>2</sup>

**WHERE BELLEVUE SERVES:**

- ◆ Cambodia
- ◆ Vietnam

**OUR MISSIONS STRATEGY:**

Church planting is one of God's greatest tools to combat the lostness of our world. In Southeast Asia, Bellevue has been a part of planting thousands of churches through a tool known as Pioneer Evangelism. Pioneer Evangelists train indigenous church leaders and members in how to start new churches. This discipleship tool continues to bear great fruit in the remotest parts of the world, and we continue to employ this strategy in addition to others to reach Southeast Asia.

# We Can All Pray

DEAR BELLEVUE FAMILY,

*"...Pray on my behalf, that utterance may be given to me in the opening of my mouth..." (Ephesians 6:19). "Devote yourselves to prayer...that God will open up to us a door for the word..." (Colossians 4:2-3). "Finally, brethren, pray for us that the word of the Lord will spread rapidly..." 2 Thessalonians 3:1*

Paul was arguably the greatest missionary who has ever lived. Yet, even he knew that he needed the prayers of the Church as he took the Gospel to the lost. This is one way we care for our brothers and sisters who are serving as missionaries today—we intercede for them and pray fervently, like it matters. We pray for them the way we would want someone to pray for us.

Below, you will see the names of missionaries who have been sent out by Bellevue. Some are not pictured because they have chosen to serve in areas that are closed to the Gospel. I'm asking you to commit to pray for each one of them by name on a regular basis. For a complete prayer list, pick up a copy of our 2023 Missions Prayer Guide in any of Bellevue's lobbies.

You may not all be able to give. You may not all be able to go. But we can all pray.

3 John 2,

*Bw. Steve*

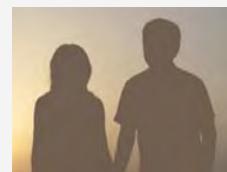


# Missionaries

SENT BY BELLEVUE



Kyle & Valeria Roy  
Sent 2013



Nick & Kelly\*  
Sent 2008



Baron & Jacqueline Muga  
Sent 2017



Peter & Tia\*  
Sent 2016



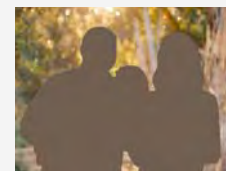
Lauren Milewski  
Sent 2021



M & M\*  
Sent 2012



Brandy & Shelton Johnson  
Sent 2019



E Family\*  
Sent 2018



David & Laura\*  
Sent 2011



Christian Castellano  
Sent 2022



David & Laurie Bledsoe  
Sent 1998



Scan the QR code to see a full list of ministry partners and missionaries in our prayer guide.

\*Photos and names withheld for security purposes.

# Advocacy Teams

CARING FOR THOSE ON MISSION AROUND THE WORLD

**A**TTENTION is a term most people do not use on a regular basis, but for those engaged in missions, it is all too familiar. Attrition is the gradual reduction of strength or effectiveness in someone or something through sustained attack or pressure. When it occurs on the mission field, its consequences are a matter of spiritual life and death. "The IMB lost 2,159 field personnel from 2008 to 2017 due to unexpected reasons".\* With sustained attacks from the enemy, many missionaries find themselves in a place where they see no other option but to return home from the field.

To help alleviate the pressures our missionaries face, we have begun a new area of ministry called

When times have been hard or lonely, knowing I have a group of people who get me and will drop what they're doing to pray for an 'emergency request' has encouraged me to keep on living out the Great Commission.  
— LAUREN MILEWSKI, KENYA (pictured below)

Advocacy Teams. Following the example of the Church of Antioch in Acts 13, this missionary care ministry provides an avenue in which anyone and everyone can serve our long-term missionaries. Advocacy Teams play a vital role in maintaining a strong connection between the missionary and their friends, family, and church. Amid all the stresses our missionaries endure, we do not want them to suffer from a sense of isolation and abandonment from those who love them most. We pray you will consider partnering with one of our missionaries by joining an Advocacy Team! To learn more, email [missions@bellevue.org](mailto:missions@bellevue.org).

\*A Study of Missionary Attrition Among International Mission Board Missionaries for the Years 2008-2017 by Richard White

## Pray.

[bellevue.org/pray](http://bellevue.org/pray)

One of the most powerful tools we can use to further the Kingdom of God is prayer. Just like Paul encouraged the first believers to pray for him on his missionary journeys, God exhorts us to pray fervently for those carrying the Good News to the lost in the Americas, East Africa, Central Asia, Southeast Asia, and beyond.

## Give.

[bellevue.org/give](http://bellevue.org/give)

Did you know that your tithe reaches the ends of the Earth? Each year, Bellevue allocates approximately 1.7 million dollars from our general budget and special offerings to support missions, ministries, and missionaries serving in the darkest corners of our planet. Your faithfulness to give changes lives.

## Go.

[bellevue.org/go](http://bellevue.org/go)

Engaging in missions looks different from person to person, and everyone should consider what step God is calling them to take. Opportunities range from short-term to long-term and can be local, national, or international. Seek the Lord's call for your life! Bellevue is here to help you get equipped for life on mission.

## SEND OUT TRAINING

[bellevue.org/missions](http://bellevue.org/missions)

**S**INCE 2020, Bellevue has created a pathway called Send Out Training. This course is designed to equip and send out those who sense a call to missions. If God is stirring this call in your heart, take the next step by filling out the interest form online.





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