Introducing

Baptist Mid-Missions’
Class of 2020

and

Our New President

Dr. Patrick Odle
On July 17, 2020, we bid farewell to the Candidate Class of 2020 following the completion of Candidate Seminar. Frankly, I am still basking in the afterglow of getting to know this group of vibrant and enthusiastic future missionaries. In this issue of Advance, you will have the opportunity to get to know these missionary appointees as well.

Not too long after you receive this magazine, we will be observing Baptist Mid-Missions’ 100th anniversary. The proximity of Candidate Seminar to our 100th anniversary causes me to reflect on the similarities of our new missionaries and the original team of six missionaries who left for Africa shortly after the formation of our Mission in 1920.

While a century separates these two groups, they possess several similarities. Both groups were surrendered to the will of God, passionate about reaching souls with the Gospel, dependent on the Lord to meet their needs, and eager to get to the field.

Unlike the original team that needed only a few hundred dollars of annual support for ministry in Africa a century ago, this group of new missionaries will begin prefield ministry needing to raise sufficient support to meet their needs in the 21st century. Would you join me in asking the Lord to supply their support in a timely manner? Would you also consider supporting one of them or inviting them to your church? In the months ahead, these appointees will trust God to raise up a team of supporters that will sustain them for years of faithful and fruitful ministry. Perhaps the Lord will lay it on your heart to join their support team.
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Introducing

Patrick Odle

Baptist Mid-Missions’ ninth president

The gospel is still the answer for every tribe and

[Image of Patrick Odle]
The high point of our 100th anniversary year has been the appointment of Baptist Mid-Missions’ ninth president, Dr. Patrick Odle. God has given us a new president who both rejoices in the accomplishments of our past and holds tightly to a vision advancing us into the future.

The world that Dr. Odle enters looks very different from the world of 100 years ago, yet strangely similar. In the 1920s, the world was recovering from the first global war humanity had ever encountered and the worst pandemic in modern history, the Spanish flu. The situation in many churches grew dire as mainline denominations rapidly receded from biblical authority and the importance of worldwide missions. Fast-forwarding to our day, 2020 already carries the scars of a global pandemic, civil unrest, national division, and a shrinking number of churches and surrendered servants.

Our hope in such times lies in the same confidence held by our original leaders in 1920: We serve a God who promises to build His church, and the gates of hell cannot prevail against the work of God. Patrick Odle is a man who firmly believes in these promises. And he firmly believes that the answer to the world’s problems is the gospel, the very reason Baptist Mid-Missions exists.

Speaking about the crises of 2020, Dr. Odle said, "Right now, people are so scared. The vast majority of Americans and people across the world don't have the confidence of a gospel foundation in their lives that causes them to say, 'God is in control, and I know where I'm going to spend eternity.' The answer is not medicine; the answer is not worldly attempts at reconciliation. The answer is the gospel, and churches living out the gospel, and individual Christians sharing Christ across the planet."

Dr. Odle gets energized by what can be accomplished through missions in our next century. He's thrilled by the solid work of generations of missionaries that continue to produce thriving churches, Bible institutes, media ministries, youth work, and much more. In an era of greater skepticism, Odle applauds our missionaries for understanding their changing cultural landscapes and adjusting their approaches to include more relational evangelism. It’s a method Odle taught when he was pastor of First Baptist

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Church of Elyria, Ohio: “We can no longer give the gospel one time and expect people to get saved. It’s essential that unsaved people see that the gospel has really changed us before they’re willing to listen to what we want to say to them.”

He also sees on the horizon new prospects in Creative Access ministries using nontraditional methods. “That’s been one of the positive things about COVID-19,” said Odle. “We found that we can still share the gospel, teach, and disciple. We have opportunities to use technology that didn’t exist 20 years ago.” Dr. Odle is excited by the potential for missionaries to develop new means for taking the Gospel to Creative Access Nations: “We can come alongside and equip and help a new generation to serve in a different capacity when it’s the only way.”

Seeking a new generation for missions
He’s convinced that it’s critical to capture the hearts of a new generation with the world’s needs. Odle says, “Shrinking Bible schools and churches are a reflection of fewer surrendered servants.” A book he has read multiple times is Woodrow Kroll’s The Vanishing Ministry in the 21st Century. One of Dr. Odle’s prayers is that God would use him to ignite churches, pastors, and parents to hear the clarion call of the world’s needs. He wants to challenge parents with a greater vision for their children’s future—to make their greatest prayer not that their children make a comfortable living but that they yearn to impact eternity through missions and other ministries.

Dr. Odle’s heart for youth developed long ago with a burden for his public high school classmates (see sidebar). He served as youth pastor of Ankeny Baptist Church under senior pastor Norm Hoag (also a BMM Council member). The experience not only gave Odle a heart for youth, but it also stoked his enthusiasm for missions. Rev. Hoag modeled such a love and support for missions that church members called his house the Hoag Hotel because of the many missionaries he and his wife hosted.

During his time in Ankeny, Dr. Odle led his first youth mission trip in 1997. While visiting BMM missionaries in Ecuador, Odle asked the Lord if He wanted him to be a missionary himself, since his role was to call his church’s teens to consider missions. The Lord said no, but the experience gave Dr. Odle a real heart for missions. He has since ministered on the fields of India, Brazil, Malta, Italy, Romania, Peru, and Guam, as well as in the US. Nearly all his trips have been with BMM missionaries, further knitting his heart to Baptist Mid-Missions.

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Growing up in rural Nebraska, Patrick’s life was forever changed when his mother came to faith through a Bible study. She was deeply burdened for her children to find Christ, and Patrick was the first to be saved. Later, his siblings and his father also received Christ.

After the family moved to Minnesota when Patrick was 14, they joined Calvary Baptist Church, a small church in Chatfield, Minnesota. Steady teaching of the Scriptures and seeing spiritual needs around him made an ever-deepening impression on Patrick.

He wrestled with fully surrendering his life until hearing BMM missionary Harold Dark speak on a Sunday night: “You will never be happy unless you’re totally surrendered to the will of God.” Patrick realized God wants to use ordinary people to do extraordinary things. He told God he would do whatever He wanted.

His call to youth ministry was forged at a public high school retreat. He saw his unsaved friends in a new way: he longed for them to find the same faith he had found. As Patrick grew in Christ, his vision widened into a longing to see all people come to faith and become like Christ.

In the year the Odle family moved to Minnesota, God brought a pivotal friend into Patrick’s life: Ruth Merrill. She was born when her parents were on deputation as BMM missionaries to Brazil.

continued
Introducing Patrick Odle, cont.

God led her family back to their Minnesota farm instead, but the Merrills never lost their heart for missions, something they passed on to their children. Ruth remembers giving up her bed for the missionaries who frequented their home.

Ruth, too, surrendered her life for whatever God wanted. She always sensed she would be either a pastor’s or missionary’s wife.

Patrick and Ruth were married in 1990, and God gave them four children:

Ellen and her husband, Eric Locker, live in Sterling, Alaska, where he is the director of Higher Ground Baptist Bible Camp (a ministry of BMM-planted churches). They have a daughter, Emery.

Tori and her husband, Temi Agbaje, live in Ankeny, Iowa. He works as a trucking company salesman and she is an assistant bank manager.

Julia is an administrative assistant at First Baptist Church of Elyria, where Patrick was pastor from 2011 to 2020.

Carson is a freshman at Faith Baptist Bible College in Ankeny, Iowa.

A breadth of qualifications
As our previous president, Dr. Vernon Rosenau, was approaching retirement, a prayer-filled search process sought God’s choice for our next leader. Patrick Odle rose to the top of our search committee’s list because his qualifications displayed a breadth not normally seen in a single candidate. He holds bachelor’s and master’s degrees in pastoral studies from Faith Baptist Bible College & Theological Seminary (FBBC&S). He also served as FBBC&S’s Vice President of Enrollment and Student Life, giving him valuable skills in administration, budget management, and donor relations. His 26 years of pastoral experience include Ankeny Baptist Church, Holmes Baptist Church (Clarion, Iowa), and First Baptist Church of Elyria, Ohio (the birthplace of BMM). While serving at First Baptist Church of Elyria, Odle served eight years as a BMM Council member, giving him greater insights about the needs and challenges of our organization.

His shepherd’s heart
As a former pastor, Odle understands the importance of serving and shepherding BMM: “Shepherding is a leadership term that’s filled with a heart of compassion and a ‘We’re in this together’ mindset. I don’t want to lead BMM as much as I want to shepherd it.” President Emeritus Gary Anderson spoke to Odle, “You know how to shepherd, and as president you will be shepherding God’s servants spread across the globe doing hard things for Christ and sharing the gospel in hard places.” The other half of Odle’s servant heart is for BMM to help churches: “We are an extension of the local church; we’re never independent from them. We want to do everything we possibly can to be that bridge from the local church to the foreign fields or the national fields in the States.”

2020 and beyond
Decades ago, when Odle was a teenager wrestling with God’s call to ministry, a turning point came when he realized God wants to use ordinary people to do extraordinary things. Throughout Baptist Mid-Missions’ history, God has drawn ordinary people to accomplish His remarkable purposes. Although missions faces significant headwinds, Odle sees a future as bright as the promises of God. What could God do with ordinary people committed to intercede for BMM in prayer? To support BMM with their resources? And to surrender to the high calling of missions? As the new president of Baptist Mid-Missions, Patrick Odle can’t wait to find out.

BMM’s Centennial Celebration and Installation for President Odle will take place at First Baptist Church of Elyria on October 16.
No other Baptist Mid-Missions president came to his position with more experience than Dr. Vernon Rosenau.

Having grown up as a BMM MK in the Central African Republic, he and his wife, Jan, served there for 22 years. In 1999, Dr. Rosenau began a 15-year tenure as BMM’s Field Administrator for Africa and Europe, a position he held until beginning his presidency in 2016.

Dr. Rosenau’s field administration successor, Steve Gault, has said, “It has been a blessing to have a former missionary in the office of president. Being that he has lived the missionary life, he is so capable of understanding missionaries’ needs.” That understanding was woven into every decision he made. The most familiar phrase missionaries heard in his video newsletters was, “Take care of yourself.” Vernon has long understood that missionary burnout and unresolved relational problems lead to missionary attrition. As field administrator, he instituted the European Enrichment conferences (later expanded to include Africa). BMM’s European Coordinator, Ken Houghton said, “He revealed his heart and concern for missionaries when he stated the conference’s purposes as spiritual enrichment, physical renewal, and cross-pollination of ministries.” As president, Dr. Rosenau established the groundbreaking Safe Haven Department within BMM. Dr. Jeff and Sherry Newman (see p. 15) will function as Safe Haven counselors to confidentially meet the BMM Family’s needs.

Prior to his presidency, Dr. Rosenau served as coordinator of BMM’s Strategic Planning Initiative. This experience gave him a big-picture perspective that served him well in his presidency. He understood the need for missionary teams to cast a greater vision for their fields and work together to do even more for the gospel. His foresight also brought necessary updates to the BMM Home Office that have given us improved internet and phone services for greater efficiency, and needed parking lot repairs and office remodeling to reflect a unified, forward-thinking direction for BMM.

President Emeritus Gary Anderson noted that, as a third-generation BMM servant, Dr. Rosenau represents an unbroken tie to BMM’s original six missionaries. He is the president who led us to our 100th anniversary year, and no other president could represent BMM’s legacy so well. His heart was not only to rejoice over God’s past accomplishments through BMM but also to strategize and move vigorously toward future missions frontiers.

Dr. Rosenau accomplished much in his tenure. Dr. Dan Dickerson, BMM Council member and longtime friend, summed up his legacy: “His life is an excellent example of a man who so abides in Christ that, according to John 15, he bears much fruit that remains to the glory of God the Father!”

A tribute to

Dr. Vernon Rosenau

"His insights into people, big-picture needs, building relationships, being creative to do things in fresh and effective ways for the cause of Christ has moved the Mission forward during the years of his excellent leadership."

—Dr. Dan Dickerson
This year’s class goes down in history as the first to complete our annual Candidate Seminar under COVID-19 restrictions. It wasn’t an ideal situation, but each member of the Class of 2020 demonstrated gracious flexibility and an eagerness to learn. Those are pretty good traits for missionaries! Not only that, but they all hold a strong passion for God and for lost souls.

On the coming pages, get to know the Class of 2020. Better yet, seek the Lord about how you or your church can help them fulfill their calling. The events of 2020 reveal so clearly that the world desperately needs the message they stand ready to bring.
Not everyone could serve in the world’s primitive locations, but the Pattersons are uniquely equipped for just this type of ministry. They’re driven to reach people who would never hear the gospel unless someone specifically went to them.

Both Zachary and Elaina grew up in the country, where they learned to love the simple life. Their early home lives emphasized living for God. So when they went off to college, they had already surrendered to God’s call to ministry. They married after graduation but didn’t have a clear picture of where God wanted them. A burden for the world’s remote locations was in their hearts, so they slipped out of their comfort zone and moved to the South Pacific islands to work among multicultural populations.

There, they became involved in a church plant. Many in the congregation came from islands even more distant, further exposing the Pattersons to the needs of remote peoples. The Pattersons’ experiences stretched their faith from the start. They went as Abraham did, not knowing God’s exact purposes but trusting Him day by day. While waiting on God to provide housing, they and their small children lived in a campground for several months. Living daily in dependency on God was the hardest experience of their lives—and the most beneficial. It taught them contentment in living on very little, and it was a season of their greatest spiritual growth.

Returning to the US after several years, the Pattersons had clearer direction: the South Pacific was a taste of what was yet to come. After researching remote people groups, they learned about a field that had a large potential of finding completely unreached people. Their plan is to gain experience working alongside a BMM couple already serving there while they seek God’s specific location to start churches within the field’s remote locations.

The Pattersons’ sending church has been a firm backer of them and a wonderful training ground for their future ministry. Their pastor strongly emphasizes missions and discipleship, and he encourages each church member to make unsaved friends. Zachary and Elaina each pursue “life-on-life” evangelism and discipleship with many people in their area. This, too, is a taste of what’s to come, when they’ll pursue disciples for Christ on their future mission field.

* Names have been changed
A turning point came in Tim’s life when he met his friend Neale at the high school they attended in Scotland. Tim, the son of BMM missionaries Glen and Tammy Galbraith, invited Neale to a church event, which led to Neale’s salvation. Until this time, Tim had laid aside his childhood dream of missions and planned to study computer programming instead. But seeing someone he cared about find Christ made missions real to him. Tim knew God was calling him to seek many more lives for Christ.

Although Autumn didn’t come from a missionary family, she grew up surrounded by missions. Her grandparents (Larry and Paula Beckman) and uncle and aunt (Nate and Maam Beckman) served with BMM. And her parents were in the pastorate. Autumn took several mission trips but never seriously considered serving full-time until challenged by BMM missionary Charles Ellis. After surrendering her life for missions, Autumn’s own turning point came: a mission trip to England to serve alongside Tim’s parents. Autumn fell in love with England and knew it was where God wanted her.

It wasn’t until she got back that she met Tim at college. United in their heart for England, they joined their lives together in 2013. As they raise their support, they continue to gain experience serving in church youth ministries, Sunday School, outreaches, and pulpit supply. Tim’s current job in sales and management has given valuable communications experience. Autumn’s position as their church’s secretary is sharpening her organizational skills and exposing her to member care.

Their experience and skills will serve them well as church planters in the United Kingdom. Tim and Autumn will focus heavily on relationship building. They want people to know they genuinely care about them, that it’s the reason they’re concerned about their souls, not just to build numbers. Yet Tim and Autumn also want to see more churches established in the United Kingdom. Tim says, “Where I grew up, I saw whole cities and huge areas where there isn’t a single gospel-preaching church. Where I grew up, I saw whole cities and huge areas where there isn’t a single gospel-preaching church.”

Tim & Autumn Galbraith
United Kingdom

Sending Church: North Point Baptist Church
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

Children: Lincoln–5, Oliver–4
expecting their third child in October

“Where I grew up, I saw whole cities and huge areas where there isn’t a single gospel-preaching church. Where I grew up, I saw whole cities and huge areas where there isn’t a single gospel-preaching church.”
Early in his Christian life, Marco sensed God wanted him serving beyond his home church in Lima, Peru. What “beyond” meant, he didn’t know, but all he needed was faithful obedience. God would make sure Marco’s future unfolded as He desired.

Around age 10, Marco had received Christ after his family began attending a Baptist church in Lima. He soon developed a heart to serve. By age 15, he was helping at a camp, working alongside Aaron Cochrell, a BMM missionary then serving with BMM’s Arriba internship program in Peru. Marco was to meet many more BMM missionaries in his adulthood. When his pastor’s daughter established a Spanish language school for new missionaries, Marco signed on as a teacher. Two of his students were then-BMM missionaries Bob and Becky Bass. Marco eagerly accepted their invitation to serve alongside them in jungle ministry and in the mountain town of Cusco. It looked like the opportunity he was waiting for, but after serving short-term, Marco found God closing the door. He returned to Lima and pursued a degree in software engineering.

In reality, God was preparing him for his “beyond” moment. While Marco was still in Cusco, he met new BMM missionary Lydia Whitelam. A relationship seemed impossible. She lived in Cusco, and he had moved back to Lima—a nearly a 24-hour distance apart. But nothing can stop God’s plans. Right after they decided to not pursue a dating relationship, the language school in Lima closed, and Lydia (who was completing a master’s degree in Spanish translation) was asked to move to Lima to teach the remaining school year.

Marco and Lydia married in 2019. As they sought ministries together, they found the perfect fit: Editorial Bautista Independiente (EBI), BMM’s Spanish publications’ ministry. Lydia had translated many materials in Peru and saw that churches and Bible school professors greatly need the materials EBI provides. After the Garibaldis move to Sebring, Florida, to serve at EBI’s headquarters, Lydia will help translate and edit materials. Marco’s computer skills are just what EBI needs to expand its ministry. Although Marco misses his homeland of Peru, he and Lydia are excited to have an impact for the gospel far beyond Peru—reaching into all of Latin America.

* Lydia joined BMM in 2013.
Missions immersion. That’s the environment Elizabeth grew up in—from her parents’ hosting of missionaries in their home, to her children’s ministry theme song of “Here Am I, Lord, Send Me,” to missionaries’ describing how the Great Commission was everyone’s work. Under these rich influences, Elizabeth saw that missionaries are people like you and me who are committed to trusting the Lord wherever He sends them. By age nine or ten Elizabeth prayed, “Lord, I’m ready to go; please show me a path.”

She felt burdened for a Creative Access Nation and asked her parents if she could learn the language. Her family was not only supportive, but they also learned the language alongside her and began attending a bilingual church to learn the culture. Her family desired to be in full-time ministry, and when they heard about an opportunity to serve in foreign missions, they were ready to go.

So at age 11, Elizabeth found herself immersed even deeper in missions. She was in awe at the gospel’s impact on the garment factory workers her family met. For most of these women, it was their first time hearing that God wanted a personal relationship with them. During communion, they overflowed with gratitude and wept tears of joy as they sang hymns to their newfound Lord.

Although her family’s missionary experience was brief, Elizabeth’s love for the people never left her. It only grew stronger. She has made five trips back to her country.

On her most recent trip, she found endless opportunities for relationship-building. She taught children’s Bible studies using the Wordless Book and engaged in English conversation classes at a university. Some of the most impactful times happened over cups of tea. Elizabeth gently shared the truths of Christ with women. She saw the need for counseling in a culture where abortion is rampant and where ancestor worship is more important than caring for the living.

Elizabeth is ready to go where the Lord leads her to reach the people group of her calling—and she can’t wait to see more people transformed by the power of the gospel.

* Name has been changed
Jeff and Sherry describe God’s plan that brought them to Safe Haven as “a 36-year process.” Missions has been the Newmans’ lifelong interest, starting when Jeff was a teenager and Sherry grew up in a pastor’s family. Her parents, Tom and Susan Wright, later served with BMM. When Jeff and Sherry married in 1984, they anticipated his becoming a pastor or a church-planting pastor. He completed a BA degree in pastoral studies in 1987 and added an MA in biblical studies in 1990, both from Faith Baptist Bible College & Theological Seminary.

As his studies continued with an MDiv (1994), Jeff and Sherry saw that God wanted to use Jeff in the classroom instead of the pastorate. In 1994, he joined the FBBC&TS faculty. As Jeff offered wise biblical counsel, his colleagues saw his compassionate care for others, and they encouraged him to develop this gift and use it at FBBC&TS. So in 2007, Jeff earned a DMin in counseling.

His counselees ranged from young children to seniors, and he also trained their pastors and their wives to counsel their own people. Likewise, Sherry had opportunities to disciple college women and young moms. Jeff’s ministry expanded with training opportunities in Peru, Brazil, India, and the US, with Sherry ministering alongside him in these settings for the last five years.

After a teaching assignment at BMM’s 2018 Family Conference, Jeff and Sherry were approached by Dr. Vernon Rosenau, then BMM’s president. To minimize missionary attrition, Dr. Rosenau wanted to offer enhanced member care to the BMM Family, who don’t always have appropriate skilled counseling options. So he invited the Newmans to lead a new BMM department called Safe Haven.

After much prayer and counsel, the Newmans accepted. During their support-raising, Jeff will offer couples’ retreats and family and relationship conferences for churches. After their support is completed, Jeff and Sherry look forward to a threefold role within Safe Haven: 1. Being a safe place with appropriate confidentiality for missionaries to be well-cared for, loved, and pointed anew to Christ; 2. Equipping missionaries to feel more capable, competent, and equipped to help fellow missionaries; and 3. Assisting pastors to grow in their ability and confidence to care for their churches’ missionaries. In providing this soul care, the Newmans will play a vital role in the Great Commission.
A journey of trust led Lauren to her mission field. From age 16, she felt that missions was in her future, but God revealed His plan only one step at a time. Looking back, Lauren understands more of God’s design to teach her to trust Him.

That trust germinated in Lauren’s childhood through the influences of her family, church, AWANA, and Sunday School. She grew to love God, but her dedication accelerated in her teen years. Lauren began hungering for God’s Word and a closer relationship with Him. In the fertile ground of her heart, God planted an interest for missions.

When the Lord led her to a nursing program, it was like light on her path. She took the next step in trust. A video on her future mission field during a sociology class caused the region to linger in her mind. Maybe this was the place? She hadn’t known Baptist Mid-Missions had a medical ministry there until BMM’s Medical Director, Dr. Joy Anglea, spoke at her church’s missions conference in 2017.

It seemed financially impossible to make a trip there, but Lauren kept the idea in her heart, praying and trusting for more light on her path. In the end, God provided the money. Her pastor, BMM Council member Troy Crain, was a big support in arranging the trip. A retired BMM missionary doctor agreed to accompany Lauren. Another help was a missionary nurse on the team, Ben Holdorf. He and Lauren began corresponding to prepare for her trip in 2018. During Lauren’s three week mission trip, Ben was Lauren’s guide as he showed her all aspects of BMM’s hospital ministry.

Lauren loved the country and felt completely at home there. But how could she be sure God was really calling her back there? As she and Ben continued to correspond, the Lord cast more light on their paths. God wanted them to serve together. They married on May 8, 2020.

This husband-and-wife nursing team will care for BMM hospital patients as well as teach and disciple Christian men and women. As they continue trusting in God’s leading, they will work to see Christ’s light shine more brightly in their mission field.
A common thread runs through Caleb and Rebekah’s lives: the impact of God’s Word. In Rebekah’s family, Bible reading came before breakfast. Her parents, a pastor and wife, made sure their children memorized passages during their school work. Caleb’s parents and his teachers faithfully encouraged studying God’s Word. In college, biblical interpretation classes made the Bible come alive. Every time Caleb found a good Bible study resource, he couldn’t wait to share it with others.

Rebekah loved missionary stories during summer VBS. She dreamed of being a Bible smuggler like Brother Andrew. Although Caleb relished missionaries’ visits to his church, he never thought seriously of missions until a college trip to Asia. Seeing the world’s spiritual needs gave him a thirst for missions he’d never before had. On a second trip to Asia in his senior year, he visited a remote mountain village. In the entire seven-day trip, he never met a Christian or saw a single church. He also saw how little access the mountain people had to God’s Word.

Caleb and Rebekah married after college, but God’s specific plans weren’t defined until Caleb’s last year of seminary in 2019. Caleb’s brother and sister-in-law, Joel and Sarah Wagner, serve with BMM’s Bible translation ministry, Bibles International (BI), and often told Caleb about the needs. Rebekah had seen their ministry firsthand while she and Caleb were dating. After Caleb and Rebekah’s marriage, they visited BI’s overseas ministries and saw how they could fill a need with BI’s newest ministry department, Scripture Use.

Scripture Use will help people groups get the most from the Bibles that BI is translating. The Wagners’ goal is to identify cultural and social factors that could hinder people from accepting a translation’s wording. They’ll also develop resources such as study Bibles, Bible dictionaries, and audio Bibles. The Wagners will ease the load of BI translators, who don’t have time to fill these roles. In so doing, the process of getting the Bible into people’s hands—and hearts—can be accelerated even further.

“Bibles International has been focusing on getting God’s Word into people’s hands. Our desire is to get it from their hands into their hearts.”

Sending Church: Grace Baptist Church
Birmingham, Michigan

Children: Caleb Jr. (Timothy)—2, Charity—1, expecting their third child in January
Stewardship involves managing all the resources one has for the glory of God and the furtherance of His work. In a recent video address to the entire Mission Family, Dr. Patrick Odle shared from his heart a vision of 20-year goals. As you ponder these prayer points of Dr. Odle’s “2020 Vision,” ask the Lord of the Harvest how you might steward your life and resources to serve in His harvest, and join us as we serve the Lord together!

Wouldn’t it be wonderful if, in the next 20 years, the Lord provided:

20,200
Prayer Partners
Praying daily for the Lord to send missionaries from our churches through Baptist Mid-Missions into His harvest!

2,020
Monthly Donors Giving $20/month
A corps of new monthly donors giving to the Global Impact Fund to help support the cause of Christ around the globe. “For where your treasure is ....”

202
Monthly Donors Giving $200/month
Serving the entire BMM Family by giving to the Global Impact Fund.

220
New Missionaries
Over the next 20 years, new missionaries bringing the Good News to those who need Jesus Christ! It is our joy to serve His servants, whether they are young or called in the middle of a career to a life of service.

20
New Fields & Ministries
Creating new ministries to take advantage of unanticipated opportunities to make Jesus Christ known to those who wait in darkness.

Please prayerfully consider your role in the “2020 Vision.”
Memorial Gifts

As we look back over our first 100 years, we also look forward to the work that remains undone. This is a good year in which to remember a loved one by making a gift in his or her honor to BMM Foundation’s Memorial Fund. The Memorial Fund helps provide for the ongoing work of the Great Commission.

In Memory Of

Kenneth Armstrong, Sr.
Mrs. Dixie Armstrong
Miss Kathy Armstrong
Rev. and Mrs. James Jamison
Mr. and Mrs. Earl Mansfield
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Redka
Mr. and Mrs. Albert Stoddard

Margot Webb Clark
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Young

Frank & Lillian Crumb
Kinsman Crumb Charitable Trust

Helen Kirby
Mr. and Mrs. Robin Madren

Bonnie Madren
Mr. and Mrs. Robin Madren

Rosemary McNamara
Ms. Clarissa Ertel
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Harman
Mr. and Mrs. Joe Lee
Mr. and Mrs. Leroy McNamara
Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Strevel

Valerie Grace Shepherd
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Young

Doris Smallman
Dr. William Smallman

Anna M. Wivell
Mr. and Mrs. Philip Gehman
Mount Zion Baptist Church, Denver, PA

Barbara Young
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Young

Check Out Our Gift Planning Website

Many ways are available to make a gift of cash. Discover a variety of tax-advantaged ways to support Baptist Mid-Missions’ ministries at https://giftplanning.bmm.org.

Current Gift Annuity Rates for a Single Life

For a brochure or a specific illustration, call, write, or complete the Gift Annuity Coupon.

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<td>7.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
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<td>78</td>
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<td>90</td>
<td>8.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Gift annuities are available to residents of most US states.

Gift annuity coupon

Name ____________________________
Address __________________________
City __________ State __ Zip ________
Phone number (_______) __________
If deferred, age when payments begin: ________
Name of first annuitant
Date of birth __________ male/female ________
Amount to be illustrated $ __________
Name of second annuitant
Date of birth __________ male/female ________
Amount to be illustrated $ __________
Celebrating 100 years of ministry in 2020!