

February, 2022
Newsletter

FaithLife Ministries
"Equipping Church Leaders Globally for 21 Years"



**FaithLife Ministries
Celebrates its 21st Anniversary!**

"But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumphal procession in Christ and through us spreads everywhere the fragrance of the knowledge of Him."

2 Corinthians 2:14

January 22nd was our 21st anniversary! We began this ministry on that date in 2001 and we are so thankful to God for all that HE has produced through this ministry.

Since our beginning we have trained over 60,000 pastors, church leaders and Bible students in 104 nations with our **Management for Church Leaders™** and **Discipleship for Church Leaders™** training. We have established a global trainer network that now has 84 trainers in 48 nations. And our training has also been translated into 27 languages.

We are also thankful for our many donors and supporters that have prayed for us and supported us financially to accomplish what God has done through all of us.

To God alone belongs the glory!! We are only His instruments to accomplish His purposes.

**FaithLife Ministries
2022 Ministry Plans**



At our last board meeting in November, we approved our strategic plan and budget for 2022. Here are some of the goals we have set forth for this ministry next year:

1. Establish active global trainers in 6 more nations
2. Add 4 new MCL Trainers to our global network
3. Train 6,000 pastors and church leaders
4. Reach 2 new nations with our MCL training
5. Develop new training resources

God has given us our direction and goals for 2022, and our focus is to do our best to achieve them according to His will and plan. We are here simply to be obedient and trusting in His purpose & plan!

Global Training Summary



Our network trained a total of 5,752 pastors and leaders in 2021. This was very close to our goal of 6,000 for the year! They conducted a total of 117 conferences in 2021, a wonderful achievement considering the existence of restrictions in many nations from the Covid virus.

Even better than that, global restrictions seem to be easing now. As a result, our global trainer network has already conducted 26 training conferences in January & February of this year! They have trained a total of 1,051 pastors and leaders in these conferences in 13 different nations, including **Kenya, Uganda, Burundi** (*see photo above*), **Ghana, Nigeria, Liberia, Cameroon, Tanzania, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Jamaica, and Peru**. There are already an additional 26 conferences planned for March and April as well. So, we are off to a great start in 2022!

We also added 3 new global trainers to our network in the past three months. They are **Pastor Japheth Eroman** in **Benin City, Nigeria**, **Dr. Theophilus Bekoe** in **Accra, Ghana**, and **Pastor Ed Udell** in **College Station, TX** in the **USA**. This brings our total number of global trainers to 84 in 49 nations!

We are also hoping to add 3 more global trainers soon. This will add two more nations that will now have an active MCL trainer - **Papua New Guinea** and **Senegal**! This will bring our total of nations with active Trainers to 36!

Due to my travel restrictions, our global trainer network has become the primary vehicle for training pastors and church leaders around the world. We are so thankful to God for these trainers and the efforts they put forth on behalf of this ministry. To God alone be the glory!

Meet Our Newest MCL Trainers

We added two new global MCL Trainers in February. Meet the newest members of our global trainer network:

Dr. Theophilus Bekoe



Dr. Theophilus Bekoe is from Accra, Ghana, and attended my training there in 2011. He reconnected with us about 4 years ago and has taught our MCL & DCL since then. Recently I encouraged him to join our network of trainers and to officially become part of what we are doing. He gladly accepted and has already conducted a training earlier this month.

Pastor Ed Udell



Pastor Ed Udell pastors a church in College Station, TX in the USA. He found us on the internet last year and was interested in our training material. He also has contacts in Uganda & Kenya whom he wanted to help. He has gone through our MCL Self-Training Book and hopes to do training both in his church and community as well as Uganda and other parts of Africa. He hopes to start training soon.

We thank the Lord for bringing these two men to serve alongside of us in training pastors and church leaders!

Believe the Unbelievable!



"The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us."

John 1:14

Many people use the word 'unbelievable' to describe something amazing that happened or that they witnessed. In my opinion, most people mean incredible instead of unbelievable, as whatever happened was actually quite believable.

For example, years ago, Pittsburgh Steelers running back Franco Harris made an amazing catch during an NFL playoff game, now known as the "immaculate reception". A forward pass took an unusual bounce off the intended receiver, and he caught the ball before it hit the ground and ran for a touchdown to help the Steelers win the game.

That catch was incredible, but not unbelievable, because we all saw it and knew that it was possible, though quite improbable. The fact that the ball bounced in his direction was not a miracle, nor was it hard to believe given the nature of sports and all the crazy things that happen. It happened because of the unique circumstances brought about by natural causes (a pass, a bounce off one player, and a catch by another player running nearby).

I don't use the word unbelievable very often because most things that happen are not miracles or incredible enough to warrant that description.

But there was one event in history that was *unbelievable* - the birth of Jesus Christ, the savior of the world! His birth was brought about by an act of God who wanted His Son to become a man, to live among us and to eventually die for us. The physical birth was a miracle. It was so hard to believe that many people of that time rejected Him and would not believe in Him (**Luke 4:24-30**). Sadly, the same is true of many people today.

But to those who are willing to believe the unbelievable, they shall be saved and live eternally with God their Creator (**John 3:16**). We do not deserve it, nor can we earn it. It's God's free gift to us if we simply believe and put our faith in Jesus, the baby born of God in Bethlehem! Isn't that the message we want to share this Christmas with everyone?

I believe it is!

Prayer Requests



- Thankfulness to God for Kim's successful surgery and radiation treatment.
- God's healing for Pastor Ed Udell from heart issues
- God's healing of Pastor Kingi Emmy, our MCL Trainer in Uganda, from malaria and typhoid.
- God's healing of Pastor Hassan Rangi, our MCL Trainer in Tanzania, from malaria.
- God's healing for the wife of Ciza Sylvestre, our MCL Trainer in Burundi, who has been hospitalized with an illness.
- God's protection and peace for the people of the Ukraine.
- God's provision of finances for our global network trainers and their ministry needs.
- God's will and provision for our 2022 ministry plans and goals.
- Thankfulness to God that more nations are lifting their virus restrictions so that our global trainers have been able to resume training.

News & Notes



- Tax receipts were mailed out in January for any donations above \$250 that were received in the final quarter of 2021. If you did not receive one, or would like a receipt, contact us and we will send you one.
- If you are a Thrivent member, remember to check your 4th quarter Thrivent Choice dollars. If you have any available, we would be grateful if you would consider designating them to our ministry
- Barry did an on-line training on Discipling Children (chapter 5 of our DCL manual) for Bible College students in Mandalay, Myanmar on February 7th.
- Our MCL Self-Training Book will soon be translated into Arabic!
- Our website has been updated with Barry's podcast and our current training schedule. Check it out!

Training Videos Update



We have recorded 13 videos for our global trainers teaching them how to train our Management for Church Leaders Volume #2 training. The videos for all 12 chapters and the manual overview were shot on February 9th in Barry's office (*see photo*). The videos are currently being edited and finalized for posting on our website resource page for all of our global trainers. We anticipate that these will be ready in a few weeks. Once completed, we will shoot 13 more videos on how to teach our Discipleship for Church Leaders training manual. These will also be posted on our website for our global trainers to view and access.

Resource Development



We are currently waiting for the completion of new translations of our MCL #2 and DCL training manuals in Swahili and our MCL #1 training in Latvian. We expect them to be finished in the next few weeks. We also just completed an MCL #2 translation into Kirundi for the nation of Burundi.

Thank you for your prayers & support!

Barry & Kim

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