

November, 2021
Newsletter

FaithLife Ministries
"Equipping Church Leaders Globally for 20 Years"



New Logo Introduced!



We have created a new, more modern logo for our ministry as shown above. This began at the request of Carlos Oliveira, President of Lucent University. He suggested that we create a more modern looking logo for the introduction of our course on their University website. The course, Organizational Management, was recorded by Barry on video back in June. That course is now available online for their students. It is currently a part of their theological and other degree programs.

This new logo has already been introduced on our website and other on-line communications, such as our website, FaceBook page, blog and newsletter. We will continue to use our current logo as well in order to retain some continuity with our existing training materials and documents, such as this printed newsletter.

We are thankful to Carlos for his suggestion as well as donating his time to create this new logo for us. While we do not know the exact future of this ministry, we do anticipate that more of our training will likely take place via on-line content through organizations like Lucent University. We believe that this new logo will give us a simpler, more recognizable presence on-line. Your feedback and comments are always appreciated!

Our MCL Training Reaches Romania!



Our Management for Church Leaders™ training recently reached the nation of **Romania** via an online Zoom training on November 15th. Romania is the 104th nation to receive our MCL training! Barry taught 5 pastors and 3 Bible students on three of the key chapters of our training manual during a 90 minute session. This training had been delayed for a couple of years due to the pandemic.

Barry was hosted by **Daniel Fodorean**, a Pastor and Bible Teacher in Romania, and the students were from one of his seminary classes. Also joining them were 4 other pastors from Romania, Austria, Cypress, and the UK who were invited by Daniel to participate. Daniel translated for Barry as he taught and was actually doing that from Spain where he was on that particular day. We are thankful to the Lord for the technology He created that enabled us to do the training in this way!

The training was well received and we are hopeful that this may lead to more training in Romania, potentially in person as well!



Global Training Summary



Our global trainer network conducted 35 training conferences in September, October & November. They trained a total of 1,725 pastors and leaders in these conferences. MCL or DCL training was held in 16 different nations, including **India** (see photo above), **Nepal, Bangladesh, Kenya, Uganda, Burundi, Ghana, Nigeria, DRC, Liberia, South Sudan, Jamaica, Costa Rica, Colombia, Peru, and Estonia.**

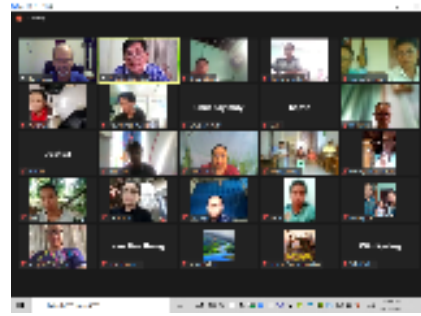
Our network passed the 5,000 mark in terms of the total number of pastors and leaders trained this year. As of today, they have trained a total of 5,296 pastors and church leaders towards our goal of 6,000 for the year! They have conducted a total of 109 conferences in 2021, a wonderful achievement considering the existence of restrictions in many nations still from the Covid virus.

We also held our 4th quarter regional Zoom meetings in November for our MCL Trainers in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. There was limited attendance but some good suggestions were received for additional resources and translations for our global trainers.

We also added 2 new global trainers to our network in the past three months. They are **Pastor Amos Humtsoe** in **India** and **Pastor Steve Saintus** from **Marietta, GA USA** (*Steve does training in several Caribbean nations*). This brings our total number of global trainers to 81 in 63 nations!

We thank God for our global trainers and the efforts they make to teach our material to others. They are both a blessing to us and a blessing to the Body of Christ in their countries!

Myanmar Zoom Training



Barry conducted a three day Zoom training on our Management for Church Leaders™ Volume #1 training for 50 pastors and church leaders in Myanmar October 20-22nd. He taught for 90 minutes each day and was able to cover 9 of the 12 chapters overall. He summarized the key points of each chapter and was also translated live into Burmese by our host and MCL Trainer in Mandalay, **Pastor Andrew Ceu**. The training was well received and the general feedback was very positive. (This was our second Zoom training in Myanmar this year, having taught our Discipleship for Church Leaders training back in April & May).

We hope to begin another Zoom training soon on our MCL #2 training material. We are also looking at training other trainers in Myanmar via Zoom to go and train even more pastors and leaders there.

Trainer Resource Webpage



We completed the development of a website page for our global trainer network that only they can access to view or download any of our available training resources. This new section of our website

contains all of our training manuals and their various translations, as well as our training videos and other resources. This was requested in a recent round of regional Zoom meetings that were held in August. We hope that this new webpage will simplify and speed up the process of obtaining any of our training materials that they may need. We will continue to update these pages as additional training resources are made available.

An MCL Training Testimony

“All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.”

2 Timothy 3:16-17

One of our global MCL Trainers, **Hanna Karam** from Lebanon, conducted a training on our **Management for Church Leaders** training material at a Bible College in Vinetsia, Ukraine back in May. He recently shared this testimony with me that he received from one of his students named Nastia. I believe that this testimony represents and affirms why God has called us into this ministry:

“Dear Hanna, I'm glad to write you now after several months since our last meeting. When we started the course of Management in the seminary I couldn't even imagine how much information I would use during this summer. For the last month our church (which is in my village, not in Vinetsia) has organized a mini-camp every Wednesday till today. I believe God will help us to continue it. But that was not easy. The Covid-19 canceled a lot of projects. Last year we didn't do any camps. I think the main problem was to START after such a big pause.

*As you know, I am only 18, but I had great friends in church who encouraged me to take responsibility for that project. And I took it. So there I could use everything I received at the course of Management this spring. The most important thing I understood was that I couldn't do ANYTHING without God. You know that verse in John 15:5 **"I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit; for without me you can do nothing"**. That was my "credo" for the last months. I can do nothing without Him. But what can I do WITH Him? **"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me"** (Phil. 4:13). These 2 verses encouraged me a lot!*

When we had our first planning, I knew we should divide all things into "priority" and "minor". Just as we prayed, somebody from our team started to list that we should clean the territory, buy sugar, bags of corn, create invitation cards... I said: "Wait... I know, it is IMPORTANT. But it is not PRIORITY". I remember that during the course we wrote the sequence of proper planning. So first of all we chose the programme, decided it would be camp for non-Christians, agreed to date, time and place, discussed finances, the quantity of children and the responsibilities of each leader. The role of coordinator is not easy, but... God blessed me with our wonderful team and showed He would always be with me. Every Wednesday for the last month 25-36 children could listen to Gospel and spend time with a great pleasure.

It is so difficult for me now to go back to Vinetsia as the school year starts in a few days. Even though there were some unpleasant moments (during the mini-camp), they taught me to trust God more. One day our teenagers, who are from Christian families but non-believers yet, had a big argument after camp. They are not leaders, but they help a lot with equipment, sport games, popcorn, etc. After that incident I had prayed for the whole day saying: "Lord, I can't change them, but YOU can!" Yes, He is truly almighty! That was a great experience and I'm so glad that I had had a good preparing for it. I think it's a good chance to thank you one more time! I believe God will use me and other students in a miraculous way. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you!" - Nastia

Nastia's testimony refers to some of the principles that are taught in our MCL training manual concerning leadership and planning. It is gratifying to see and hear how our training is being used and applied where it is taught, especially by young leaders with a zeal for serving the Lord like Nastia. It demonstrates how God is continually at work in the hearts of those who seek Him! While we don't always get to hear these testimonies, we know they exist and truly enjoy receiving them so that we can share them with you.

We give all the glory to God! **"For it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose."** (Philippians 2:13)

Prayer Requests



- For God's provision and protection from the Covid virus for the nation of Grenada.
- Thankfulness to God for Kim's successful surgery and removal of all breast cancer cells.
- For peace and order to be restored in Haiti.
- For additional training opportunities in Romania.
- For God's provision through our December fundraising appeal.
- Thankfulness to God that our course on Organizational Management for Lucent University is now live and available.
- For God's provision and protection for all of our global trainers.
- For God's wisdom and discernment on additional online training for pastors and leaders in Myanmar.
- For God's healing and recovery from a stroke for Pastor Ed Udell.
- For God's healing and recovery from surgery for Radhika Sundas, wife of Rajendra Sundas, our MCL Trainer in Nepal.
- For our plans and activities for 2022 to be in God's will and purposes for this ministry.

Annual Board Meeting Held

We held our annual board of directors meeting via Zoom on November 6th. The board reviewed our activities and financial results for this year, and then discussed our strategies, plans and budget for 2022. We have had a very successful 2021 despite the pandemic. We added 7 nations with active trainers, 14 new MCL Trainers to our network, and trained over 5,000 pastors and leaders this year so far. Our donations have also continued to hold steady while our expenses dropped as a result of the inability to travel and the use of on-line training opportunities. Our vision remains the same going forward and we discussed and approved our strategic plan and budget for 2022. We increased our budget for global training and will develop Train the Trainer videos for our MCL #2 and DCL in 2022.



News & Notes

- We received completed translations of our MCL #2 and DCL in Lugandan.
- We now have an Arabic MCL #1 Trainer's manual to go along with our regular MCL #1 training manual.
- We also now have a Latvian translation of our MCL #2 training manual.
- Barry continues to teach the Bible to Atlanta homeless men through Stepping Stone Mission once a month this year via on-line technology.
- Barry introduced our MCL training to a group of pastors in Kenya via Zoom on November 5th in concert with Pastor Gordon Onyango, our MCL Trainer in Nakuru, Kenya.



Lucent University Course Now Active!

The course, Organizational Management that is based on our Management for Church Leaders training material and is taught by Barry, is now up and running and part of the curriculum at Lucent University.



Thank you for your prayers & support!

Barry & Kim

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