

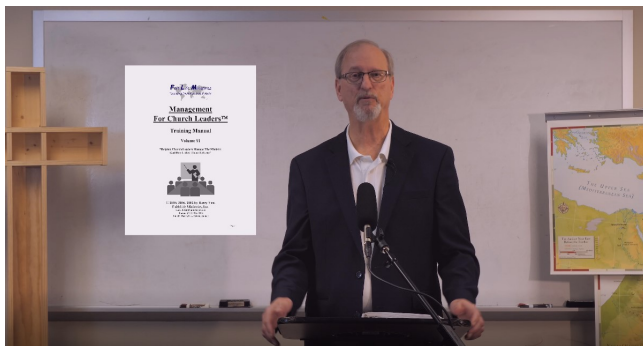


FaithLife Ministries

"Equipping Church Leaders Globally for 22 Years"

May, 2023
Newsletter

Management for Church Leaders Online Video Training Launched!



We are pleased to announce that our **Management For Church Leaders™** training course is now available to take online via video! This course is FREE but requires registration to access the course videos.

This course was initially developed in 2001 and has reached 121 nations since it was first taught in 2002. Over 70,000 pastors and church leaders have been trained in that time through our personal training, our 88 member global trainer network, and our self-training book!

We are thankful to God to be able to add this new training format to our training curriculum for those who prefer to take our course online and at their own pace and convenience.

To learn about this free online training course and how to register, please visit the webpage below:

www.faithlifeministries.net/online-video-training

To see our other training resources, please visit our website at:

www.faithlifeministries.net

"Neither do men pour new wine into old wineskins. If they do, the skins will burst, and wine will run out and the wineskins will be ruined. No, they pour new wine into new wineskins, and both are preserved." - Matthew 9:17

Training Firsts!



We are also excited to announce several firsts for our ministry.

At the end of March, we had our first ever MCL training in the **United States!** There was a pastor in Churchville, NY, **Nathan Gautam**, who requested our MCL Self-Training Book a few months ago and proceeded to teach it to his 13 church leaders. He ministers to a community of Nepali people.

In early April, we had the first ever training in **Senegal** by our new MCL Trainer there, **Thomas Mendy**.

Also in early April we had the first ever in person training of our MCL in **Taiwan** by a local pastor, **Juara Alado**, who had also previously requested our MCL Self-Training Book. I am hoping to add Nathan and Juara to our global trainer network!

We continue to be amazed at how God works through our ministry to spread His teaching!

Global Training Summary

The past three months have seen a tremendous growth in the training of pastors and church leaders by our global trainer network. Here are the summaries for each of the past 3 months:

In March, our global trainer network conducted 9 Management for Church Leaders training conferences. Those conferences were held in **Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Liberia, Argentina, and Bangladesh**. We also had our first ever MCL training in the **USA** by a pastor who is not part of our global trainer network! In March a total of 509 pastors and church leaders were trained (*The photo here is from a training in Satkhira, Bangladesh by Pastor Swadhin Biswas.*)



Our global trainers were very active in the month of April conducting 20 training conferences in 12 nations including **Uganda, Kenya, Burundi, the DRC, Senegal, Liberia, Cameroon, Ghana, Mala-**

wi, Nepal, Taiwan, and France. Our global trainers trained a total of 1,060 pastors and church leaders! Two of the conferences taught our MCL #2 training. (*The photo here is from a training April 1-4 in Thies, Senegal by Thomas Mendy. It was his first MCL training as a member of our global trainer network!*)

There were 13 training conferences scheduled in May in the nations of **Egypt, France, Bangladesh, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Cameroon and India**. (*The photo here is from the training in Mleba Bukoba, Tanzania by Pastor Hassan Rangi.*) Ten of them have been completed with 3 others to be conducted this week and next. Through these 10 conferences, 321 pastors and church leaders were trained on our Management for Church Leaders training.



Thus far in 2023 our network has trained a total of 3,191 pastors, church leaders, and Bible students via 72 conferences in 23 nations! God is on the move, Hallelujah!

Leadership International Partnership



I recently met with **Caleb Davison** and **Josh Warren** with **Leadership International** when they were here in Atlanta. Caleb is their International Director and Josh is their Director of Engagement. We discussed their use of our training manuals in their curriculum for their African and Asian Bible training centers. They currently use our translated MCL & DCL manuals and sometimes translate that training into the languages that they need which they then provide to us. They provide the training to their network of trainers, and I assist them on how to teach our training. They are also interested in using the video training of our courses when they are completed as well. We have also referred them to our contacts in Latin America to help them in their global expansion in that region.

Our Newest MCL Trainer



We are excited to announce the addition of another MCL global trainer in **India**. His name is **Dr. Bankit Marpna** and he is a Bible College professor in the city of **Shillong** in Northeast India. Dr. Marpna was referred to our ministry

through another MCL trainer in Northeast India, Pastor Amos Humtsoe, who joined our global trainer network in 2021. After visiting our website, he registered to take our MCL video training course online. He completed the online course and then requested to join our global trainer network!

Our Strategic Partnerships

"Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work." - Ecclesiastes 4:9

Over the past several years we have been developing several important strategic partnerships for this ministry. These are intended to extend our training to nations and locations where our training might be helpful, and where we either have no presence or a limited ability to enter these nations on our own.

One of our strategic partners is **Leadership International** out of Nashville, TN. They establish Bible training centers in Africa and Asia and provide curriculum for their global network of trainers. Our MCL & DCL courses are part of that curriculum (*see article on page 2*). This partnership enables us to train more pastors and church leaders with our training throughout Asia and Africa, multiplying our reach there.

A second strategic partner that we have is **China Partner**. They are a ministry based in Denver, CO that has a network of registered churches and seminaries throughout China. I had planned to travel with them to introduce our training to their network until Covid prevented that. So, I have recorded our MCL #1 training and am now recording our MCL #2 training for them with a Chinese translator on Zoom. They then make those recordings available to their network in a secure fashion to avoid government interference. While China may be only one country, it has about 1.5 billion people, of which about 100 million are estimated to be Christians. This partnership enables us to provide our training in China and expand our global reach throughout this nation.

A third strategic partner we are working with is the **Middle East Leadership Training Institute**, or MELTI. This is a Cairo based ministry led by **Dr. Wahid Wahba**, one of our board of directors. They provide a wide variety of training throughout the Middle East which now includes our MCL training. They have the ability to take our training into nations that we cannot access on our own and in a manner that is far more effective. Again, this enables us to expand our training into nations that are hard to access and that can also benefit from our training.

We have also developed partnerships with two online Bible Schools who provide our training on video. **Lucent University** (global) has included our MCL training in their degree programs since 2021 and **Leader Formation Institute** (Europe) will be adding our MCL training on video for their students later this year. Our MCL & DCL training manuals are also provided as a resource through **GPRO**, a global pastoral training ministry.

Training in Nations Hostile to Christianity

Open Doors (www.opendoors.org) is a ministry that annually publishes a list of nations where there is a high level of Christian persecution. They call it the **World Watch List** and it shows the top 50 nations where Christians are being most persecuted.

I have taught our Management for Church Leaders training in 13 of these 50 nations, among them were the nations of **Nigeria, India, Myanmar, China, Egypt** and the **Democratic Republic of Congo**. I did not experience persecution in these nations myself when I was there, but I was still uncomfortable in those environments. And today, the situation has gotten much worse in nations like the DRC, Myanmar and India where the persecution has escalated even more for political reasons.

We also have global trainers who have taught our MCL in 22 of the 50 nations, and some of them continue to do so even today. They often face many dangers in taking our training to these nations as well as the nations of **Sudan, Bangladesh, and Cuba**. I am humbled and grateful for their willingness and sacrifice to do so.

The world does not always welcome the message of the gospel and the truth of the Bible. But we can't back down and we must continue to do what God has called us to do. We should follow Paul's instruction to Timothy when he said, "**But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.**" (2 Timothy 4:5)

Please pray for this ministry and for our global trainers who do this training on our behalf and at great personal risk, sacrifice, and cost.

Our 2023 Schedule

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Purpose/Host</u>
TBD	Armenia	MCL #1 - <i>Pastor Arman Davtyan</i>
TBD	Honduras	MCL #1 - <i>Pastor Peter Hearne</i>
TBD	Madagascar	MCL #1 - <i>Young Ohm, Leadership International</i>
July 9	La Fox, IL	Ministry Update Presentation - <i>Lord of Life Lutheran Church</i>
Nov 4	Cumming, GA	Annual FLM Board of Directors Meeting (via Zoom)
Nov 12-17	Panama City, Panama	GPRO II - Global Congress for Pastoral Trainers

Prayer Requests



- God's peace and provision for the people of the **Ukraine** as the war against Russia continues, and God's wisdom for the leaders of both nations to find a way to end this conflict.
- God's provision and protection for the people of **Malawi** as they suffered both a cholera outbreak followed by devastating flooding from cyclone Freddy.
- Healing for **Irantabaye Sylvestre**, the 4 year old young son of Pastor Ciza Sylvestre, our MCL Trainer in **Burundi**, who was hit by a motorcycle.
- Healing for **Pastor Hassan Rangi**, our MCL trainer in Tanzania, from high blood pressure and heart problems.
- Thankfulness to God for our first ever trainings in the **USA, Senegal, and Taiwan**.
- God's protection for **Esther Wahogo**, daughter of Kenyan MCL Trainer John Wahogo, currently residing in war-torn **Sudan**.
- God's healing for **Patience Wheigar**, daughter of MCL Trainer Moses Wheigar in **Liberia**, from heart problems.
- God's peace and comfort for **Pastor Kiyingi Emmy**, our MCL Trainer in **Uganda**, at the death of his sister.
- God's provision and protection for all of our global trainers.

Other News & Notes



- We have added 2 new MCL Trainers to our global trainer network. They are **Pastor Peter Kangara** from **Dar es Salaam, Tanzania** and **Dr. Bankit Marpna** from **Shillong, India**.
- We began recording our **MCL #2** training with a **Chinese translator** in March for China Partner. We have recorded 6 chapters so far and will complete all 12 by August.
- We have completed all of the training videos of our **MCL #1** and have provided them to **Leader Formation Institute in Romania** for their online Bible School. This course will begin in August after they add Romanian subtitle translations to the videos.
- If you are a Thrivent member, the first quarter **Thrivent Choice dollars** are now available for designation. We would be grateful if you would designate them to our ministry!
- Barry taught on the topic of "**Trusting in God**" to an online Bible study group in **Brazil** that was hosted by **Roberto Gomes**, a translator he met in Fortaleza, Brazil in 2011.

Thank you for your prayers & support!

Barry & Kim

"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?"

Romans 8:35

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