



FaithLife Ministries

"Equipping Church Leaders Globally for 22 Years"

November, 2023
Newsletter

FaithLife Ministries: How We Operate

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight."

Proverbs 3:5-6

When Barry made the decision to go full-time with this ministry in 2006, he began to receive a salary for this work as our only employee. We then began to fundraise to cover his salary as well as our mission trip and training expenses. We also made the decision that we would never borrow money and would rely solely on God's provision. We only raise money from people and churches we know, and we only ask once per year for donations. We believe in God for our finances and trust that He will provide for this ministry according to His will and purpose. He does that by directing those He has chosen and called to support us. Since we began fundraising, He has always provided sufficient funds to support the work of this ministry that He has called us to! We believe in the adage that *"God's work done in God's way will never lack God's supply."* (Hudson Taylor).

Additionally, God gave us the vision to reach 100 nations with our training back in 2007, which we achieved in 2020 through His power and guidance. We acknowledge that it is God alone who has made this possible! We also have never charged fees for our training or training materials, and endeavor to make our training available to anyone who wants it. It is God's training, not ours. He owns it and we manage it! (**1 Corinthians 3:7**)

In summation, we operate on the belief that this is God's ministry, and that we are only stewards of what He has given to us. We trust in Him for guidance and provision, and we seek to honor Him with our lives and abilities. That's how we operate!

FaithLife Ministries: The Road Ahead

"Many are the plans in a man's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails."

Proverbs 19:21

Kim and I started this ministry almost 23 years ago with nothing more than a desire to train pastors and church leaders in the majority world. God gave us a vision to reach 100 nations with our training, which we reached back in 2020. We are now working to have active global trainers in more nations and to partner with other ministries to spread our training to more pastors and church leaders in the years ahead.

But we are also aging and thinking about the day when we will no longer be able to lead and manage this ministry effectively. But until that time, we continue to expand our global trainer network and ministry partnerships to reach more pastors and church leaders with our training. We are also planning to record our two other training courses (MCL #2 and DCL training) next year to make them available online. It is our goal to have all 3 of our training courses available in video format for online training, in self-training format for individual self-paced training, and in training manual format for in person training.

At the same time, we are currently considering how and when to best transfer our training courses (as well as the management of our global trainer network) to another ministry over the next 5-10 years so that our training will continue into the future. Barry will be developing a Ministry Succession Plan in the coming year for that purpose.

Please pray for us as we seek God's will and purpose for this ministry in the years ahead when we are ready to step down from leading it.

GPro II Conference Report



Barry attended the **Global Proclamation Congress for Pastoral Trainers II (GPro II)** conference in **Panama City, Panama** November 12-17th. This conference was attended by over 700 pastor-trainers and trainers of pastors from 80 nations around the world. It was a working conference to collaborate on ways to train more under-trained pastors and to raise up more trainers of pastors globally. The goals are to train 1 million pastors and raise up 100,000 pastor-trainers by 2030 so as to reduce the shortage of trained pastors and better equip them to plant and grow more churches.

At the conference Barry was able to make new contacts for our training and gain greater insight into the training needs of pastors worldwide. He also recognized our need to find more undertrained pastors and church leaders who could benefit from our Management for Church Leaders training and train them on it. To do that, we will need to better "market" our training to make them aware of it, connect with other Bible Colleges and Schools who would teach our MCL training as part of their curriculum, and pursue other ministries we can partner with to reach more pastors who need it.

As a result of the conference, we are also considering a new vision and strategic plan for the next 7 years to train another 74,000 pastors and church leaders (we will have trained 76,000 since 2002 by the end of this year). That is a 67% increase per year over how many we are training this year (6,300 est.).

Please pray for God's revelation to us about this proposed vision and His will and plans on how to achieve it.

Global Training Summary

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



There were 10 training conferences held in September by our global network trainers after a summer slowdown. MCL training conferences were held in 8 nations including **Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Malawi, Nepal, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and India.** (*The photo at left was from a training in Damauli, Nepal by MCL Trainer **Rajendra Sundas.***) A total of 479 pastors and church leaders were trained in these conferences.

In October our global trainer network conducted 10 more training conferences. They trained 499 pastors and church leaders in those conferences that took place in the 5 nations of **Kenya, Uganda, Burundi, Malawi, and India.** (*The photo at right is from the training in Delhi, India by **Gideon Nair & Vinod David.***)



November ended up with 16 training conferences, more than we originally thought we would have. The conferences took place in the 9 nations of **Burundi, Liberia, Uganda, Tanzania, Malawi, India, Nepal, Indonesia and Bangladesh.** (*The photo at left is from a training in Lilongwe, Malawi November 5-9th by **Rabson Chilewa.***) So far, all but one of those conferences has taken place where another 512 pastors and church leaders were trained this month. The final conference is being held this week.

Our annual total for the number of pastors and church leaders our global network has trained through November has now reached **6,173!** There are also 11 training conferences scheduled for December. We have already exceeded our goal of 6,000 leaders trained for 2023! We thank God for our global trainers and their efforts this year to train more pastors and church leaders where needed!

Annual Board Meeting Report



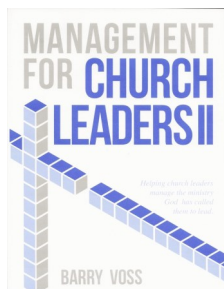
We held our annual **board of directors meeting** on November 4th via Zoom. As usual, we first reviewed our operations reports for the current year through October. They included our training of 5,613 pastors and church leaders via 126 conferences in 25 nations through October, including the first ever training in the United States! We met the majority of our plans & goals for 2023 and are financially stable. We also discussed our plans and strategies for next year and approved our 2024 strategic plan and budget. Our 2024 plans include recording our MCL #2 & DCL courses on video and developing a succession plan for this ministry. We are also reviewing our website for possible improvements and will soon be sending out a new Ministry Prayer Guide for 2024.

Leadership International Partnership



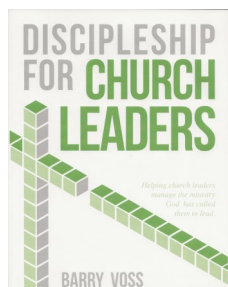
Barry traveled to Nashville, TN on October 3rd to meet with **Larry Warren**, President of **Leadership International (LI)**, one of our ministry partners. Barry was also there to meet with **Pastor Wilson Esambe**, our MCL Trainer in **Cameroon** (Wilson is LI's training coordinator for Cameroon and was in Nashville for meetings with LI). Also with us was Mary Warren, Larry's wife and partner in their ministry. LI uses all 3 of our training courses in their Bible Training Centers in Africa and Asia. We discussed our partnership going forward and helping them to expand into Latin America through our contacts. Barry also spent time catching up with Pastor Wilson as they had not been together since 2014.

New Training Resources



We completed the development and publication of our **Management for Church Leaders II™** Self-Training Book a few months ago. It is now available on our website.

We also completed the development and publication of our **Discipleship for Church Leaders™** Self-Training Book in early November. This book is also now available through our website.



We are also in the process of translating our MCL #2 training into Arabic for our upcoming conference in Egypt and translating our MCL #1 training into Khasi for use in India.

Heading Back to Egypt



Barry will be headed back to **Cairo, Egypt** from **February 18-26, 2024**, to train two groups of leaders. Joining him to assist in the training will be our MCL Trainer from **Lebanon, Hanna Karam** (photo above is of Barry teaching and Hanna translating in 2019). The first training will be on our MCL #1 course to leaders from several North African nations that our host, **Middle East Leadership Training Institute (MELTI)**, has recently connected with that desire our training. The second training will be on our MCL #2 course which we will teach to the same MELTI trainers that Barry taught our MCL #1 to last year.

Our 2024 Schedule

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Purpose/Host</u>
Feb 18-26	Cairo, Egypt	MCL & MCL #2 training— <i>MELTI</i>
June	Istanbul, Turkey	MCL Training— <i>MELTI</i>
TBD	Madagascar	MCL Training— <i>Leadership International</i>
Nov 2	Cumming, GA	Annual FLM Board of Directors Meeting

Prayer Requests



- Safe travel and good health for **Pastor Wilson Esambe** from **Cameroon** as he travels in the USA.
- Restoration or replacement of stolen church video, computers and sound equipment for **Pastor Gordon Onyango** in **Nakuru, Kenya**.
- For the national elections in

the **DRC** in December and for them to be peaceful.

- For God's wisdom and guidance as we develop a new vision and strategy for this ministry for the next 5-10 years.
- God's will and direction as we develop a succession plan for this ministry in 2024.
- God's provision and protection for all of our global trainers.
- God's provision of finances for this ministry through our end of year appeal.
- God's wisdom and guidance for Barry as he evaluates additional travel and training opportunities in 2024.
- Thanksgiving to God for a successful trip to Panama for Barry to attend the GPro II conference in November.

Other News



- If you are a Thrivent member, the third quarter **Thrivent Choice dollars** are now available for designation. We would be grateful if you would designate them to our ministry!
- We added 4 new MCL Trainers in the past 3 months - **Pastor Silas Omolo** from **Nairobi, Kenya**; **Andrews Sepako** from **Gaborone, Botswana**; **Juara Alado** from **Taiwan**; and **Pastor Vinod David** from **Delhi, India**.
- **Erik Burklin** of **China Partner** has invited Barry to come with him to China in 2025 to teach our MCL in several locations.
- Barry will begin his online Zoom training for the **Leader Formation Institute** in Romania in March of 2024.
- We have started work on a new **ministry prayer guide** that will help others pray for this ministry. When done it will be made available to our prayer team, donors, and ministry partners.
- We updated our **FLM ministry video** that introduces our ministry and it is now on our website.

Year End Charitable Donations

If you are thinking about making a year end charitable donation to receive a tax deduction, would you consider making a donation to our ministry to help us fund our training for next year? Your gift would be deeply appreciated and would enable us to train more leaders and establish more global trainers as well. All donations are tax deductible. Simply mail us a check made payable to **FaithLife Ministries** to the address on the right by December 31st. You can also donate online on our website if you prefer!



Thank you for your prayers & support!

Barry & Kim

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