



Future Training Expansion



I have been working this year to expand our training to 5 nations where our training is not being taught at present and where there is a great opportunity to reach many more pastors and church leaders. Here is a brief run-down on these nations:

South Africa

Barry, along with Kevin Elseroad, conducted an MCL training in **Cape Town** for 64 pastors and church leaders in September. It was our first official MCL training in this nation. We also met with 8 pastors and leaders from the host church who will be teaching this training to others here in the future.

Brazil

Our training has not been taught in Brazil for several years. Barry recruited **Pastor Roberto Gomes** to restart our training in this large Christian nation. He held an introductory meeting with 50 pastors and leaders on September 7th. The training was well received, and he now plans to conduct an MCL training in 2025 for them.

China

Barry traveled to **Shanghai, Nanking, and Beijing** in October to attend a conference with representatives of the registered church in China to learn their training needs. He also met with contacts for potential MCL training. He plans to go back to China in 2025 to conduct an MCL training where most needed or where there is opportunity.

Romania

Barry has been invited to teach our MCL training course for **Leader Formation Institute** in Romania next March - May. See the details to the right (—>).

Mexico

A **Pastor Samuel Rios** from Santa Catarina, Mexico recently requested our MCL self-training book and is interested in becoming one of our MCL Trainers for this nation.

New Training Opportunities



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

2 Timothy 3:16-17

We have confirmed two new training opportunities for Barry in 2025.

The first training will be for pastors and leaders in the **LCMS - Texas District** to be held on **March 8th, 2025, in Irving, TX**. This group of pastors and leaders have been going through our **Management for Church Leaders** training on their own this year and have invited Barry to come and teach on a few of the key chapters that are important to them. The training is being hosted by **Pastor Ben Gonzales, the Area B Mission Strategist** for the TX District. This will be Barry's first training in the USA!

The second training will take place online for the **Leader Formation Institute in Romania**. Barry will teach a course on Church Management using 8 chapters from our MCL training. He will teach 2 chapters per week on alternating Fridays between March and May, and the students will use self-study materials that include our MCL video training and self-training book to go deeper between each teaching. Barry will have a Romanian interpreter for the online training and the MCL self-training book will be modified to include only those 8 chapters on people and resource management for LFI and translated into Romanian. We were one of 5 ministries invited to teach a course for this new 10-month training curriculum.

Please pray that God uses these two opportunities to train and equip these pastors and leaders to help them to more effectively manage their churches.

Global Training Summary



Over the past three months our global trainer network has been very active in teaching our various training courses. Here are the summaries for each of the past 3 months:

Our global trainer network was hard at work in September. There were a total of 22 conferences conducted in September in 16 nations, including **Bangladesh, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Cameroon, Kenya, Lebanon, Burundi, Liberia, Ivory Coast, Tanzania, Congo, Senegal, Nigeria, Philippines, and Indonesia.** They trained a total of 1,100 pastors and church leaders! *(The photo above is from a training in Gouna, Cameroon.)* This is the most training conferences held in one month this year!



Our global training slowed down a bit in October, but there was significant progress. Our global trainer network conducted 12 MCL training conferences in October. They trained a total of 529 pastors and church leaders in the nations of **Tanzania, Nigeria, Uganda, Angola, Colombia, Peru, India and Pakistan.** *(The photo above is from a training in Jagannathpur, India taught by Gideon Nair.)* There was also a first ever training conference in the nation of Angola by our newest global trainer, **Filipe Pessela from Huambo, Angola.**



Our global trainer network is conducting 19 training conferences this month, the second highest number of conferences in any one month this year! Of those, 17 have been completed in the nations of **Bangladesh, India, Cuba, DRC, Tanzania, Uganda, Kenya, Ethiopia, Burundi, Ivory Coast and Malawi.** *(The photo above is from a training in Ethiopia by Daniel Chaemebo. It was his first training of our MCL too!)* In total they trained 598 pastors and church leaders in these 17 conferences, bringing our total trained for this year to 7,751! The remaining 2 conferences are being held this week in the nations of **Malawi and Zimbabwe.**



Cape Town MCL Training Report



Barry, along with **Pastor Kevin Elseroad**, conducted an MCL training in Cape Town, South Africa September 5-7th. The training was hosted by **Pastor Tosomba Lokombekombe** of the **Embassy of Christ Kingdom for all Nations Church.** It was attended by 64 pastors and church leaders from several churches in Cape Town. Our training was well received and included some great discussion from our question and answer time. We are grateful that 8 of them have indicated that they will teach this training to others in this town and nation.

We will be providing them with the training resources they need to do this and are looking forward to them training others!

China Trip Report



Barry traveled to **Shanghai, China** as part of a group of 37 Americans to attend a **China-US Christian Fellowship Symposium** on October 15-16th hosted by the Chinese Christian Council. Also attending were 40 Christian leaders from China *(see photo)*. The purpose was to reconnect with US ministries after Covid and how to work more effectively together going forward. The US group also visited seminaries in Nanjing and Beijing as well as the Amity Printing Company in Nanjing, the largest printer of Bibles in the world (30 million per year)! It was a great opportunity for Barry to learn about working with the registered Church in China that will help us explore opportunities for our training in China in the years ahead.

Annual Board of Directors Meeting Highlights



We held our annual board of directors meeting on Saturday, November 2nd, via Zoom. Here are the highlights from our meeting:

1. Through October we had trained a total of 7,031 pastors and church leaders in 2024. This was a 26% increase over 2023.
2. We added 4 new nations with active MCL training in 2024 - **Botswana, Zambia, Zimbabwe, and Ivory Coast.**
3. We added 13 new MCL Trainers to our global trainer network this year. We now have 108 MCL trainers.
4. Our training has now reached 125 nations as we reached the nation of **Jordan** this year!
5. We added 5 new translations of our training courses this year. and recorded our MCL #2 training on video.
6. We approved our Strategic Plan and Budget for 2025.

Choosing Our Leaders



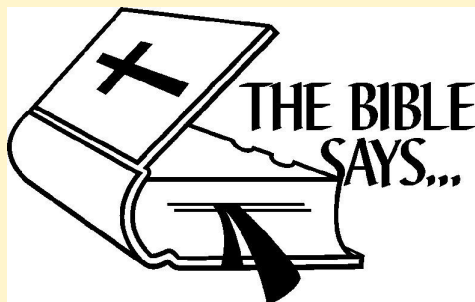
As Christians, we know who our leader is - it's Jesus! We did not choose Him. Instead, He chose us (**John 15:16**)!

But as Americans, we have the privilege every 2, 4, or 6 years to choose our leaders for our President and Congress. We are a nation that governs itself. We the people get to decide who it is that we want to lead our nation. There have been many close elections in the past and this year was another relatively close one. And our two candidates and political parties had very different views on how to lead our nation as well.

But there are three things we must remind ourselves of regardless of the outcome of this or any election. First, whoever wins is never as good as we think they will be. Second, whoever wins, it's never as bad as we think it will be. And third, whoever wins, God is still sovereign, and Jesus still sits on the throne!

So, while we should do our civic duty and choose who we want to lead our nation, let us not put our faith in men but only in God.

"Do not put your trust in princes, in human beings, who cannot save." (Psalm 146:3)



"Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life."

Galatians 6:7-8

Our 2025 Schedule

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Purpose/Host</u>
Feb 13-15	Phoenix, AZ	Attend Best Practices Conference
Mar 8	Dallas, TX	MCL Training— LCMS-TX District
Mar—May	Online	MCL Training— Leader Formation Institute (Romania)
Nov 8	TBD	Annual FLM Board of Directors Meeting

Prayer Requests



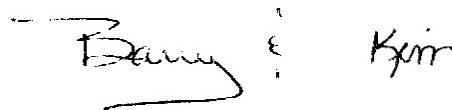
- For Barry's training course with **Leader Formation Institute** in **Romania** in 2025.
- For **Ed Udell** and his recording of our MCL training for the **Faith2Life Television Network**.
- God's healing for **Yusu-fu**, son of MCL Trainer **Suveni Rubaduka** from the **DRC**, from heart illness.
- God's peace and comfort for Barry's family at the **death** of his **brother Brian** from cancer in September.
- God's will and purpose through our **2025 strategic plan and budget**.
- God's wisdom and guidance for our **future training** in **China**.
- God's provision and safety for the people of the **Philippines** experiencing severe **flooding**.
- The **US election produces leaders** who will seek God's wisdom and govern according to His will.
- God's healing for **Pastor Vinod David**, an MCL Trainer in **India**, from typhoid fever.
- God's provision of food and other necessities for the people of **Cuba**, ravaged by hurricanes, earthquakes, and electrical outages.
- Thankfulness to God for the **new training opportunities** for us in 2025.

Other News

- Our **annual board of directors meeting** was held on Saturday, November 2nd, via Zoom.
- Barry ministered to a group of 16 homeless men at the **Stepping Stone Mission Retreat** on November 9th. He taught on the subject of Abraham's Faith and also led the men in a time of worship with his guitar.
- Our **fundraising appeal letter** for end of year donors will be mailed out in the next few days.
- We added a new global MCL Trainer in November. His name is **Pastor Mukwanga Rogatien** from the **DRC**.
- We reached the the nation of **Jordan** with our MCL Self-Training Book in September, making it the **125th nation** to receive our MCL training!



Thank you for your prayers & support!



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