



# ANNUAL MINISTRY & BUSINESS MEETING

JUNE 8, 2025  
6:00 PM

PROCLAIMING THE GOSPEL SINCE 1980  
PRAISE THE LORD!

**Thank you** for your interest and part in what God is doing at Discovery! Please review and pray over this information. In the interest of efficiency and thoroughness, if you have a motion, questions, or comments regarding any proposals/voting matters, please speak to leadership well in advance of the annual meeting. The primary purpose of the meeting is to vote on matters (versus take time to discuss and debate them in their entirety). If no concerns are expressed on various proposals, the votes will be held by voice. Thank you!

## Senior Pastor's Report (Chris Rogers)

2024-25 has once again proved and reminded me that God's Word and ways are better than anything this world has to offer! Countless times, His Truth has prevailed, guided, corrected, comforted, inspired, and given great joy! Experiencing the Lord's good and perfect plan day after day with this church family is a privilege and a delight. And what a joy to welcome many new faces to Discovery this past year. We hope you've found a church *home* and a genuine spiritual *family*. And of equal value are the many faithful who've been here "for ages." As the years go by, we share the common joy of seeing the wonderful, extended work of God in this special place. His glory is our blessing.

I thank God more than ever for Pastor Enriko and the men on the Board (and their faithful, godly wives). Thank you also to our whole church family for your faithful prayers, encouragement, and participation as our leadership team shepherds and serves God's dear people and as we strive to steward well His abundant resources.

My personal efforts this past year continue to focus primarily on spiritual and administrative shepherding/oversight of the church with my fellow elders, 75% of the preaching (Gospel of Luke and Revelation series, holiday focuses, special events), support of our Governing Board, family and marriage counseling, premarital counseling, baptisms, weddings, celebration of life services, Monday night and Saturday morning men/boys groups, attendance at multiple church leadership conferences, serving on the Baptist Network Northwest Council of 15,

and my first trip to Israel. My focuses for 2025-26 will largely consist of the same, in addition to supporting Ernie Zarra as we host our church's first *Christian apologetics conference* on October 17-19!

On the family front, my dear Ruth and I enjoy sweeter and deeper friendship than ever, and we're thoroughly enjoying this season of life with our precious kids, ages 3-17. Our church very much holds to biblical family values, and I praise God for that.

Looking ahead, let us live humbly, passionately, and courageously for the sake of Christ's kingdom. Our days are numbered, and He IS coming soon! May we be less and less entertained by the things of this world, and increasingly delighted in the Word and will of our heavenly Father.

## Associate Pastor's Report (Enriko Stigter)

The past year has been a whirlwind of God's goodness and grace, in the youth ministry as well as in many other areas.

With the youth group we studied through the book of James and did a study on discipleship. We also took seven highschoolers to the Teen Leadership Conference, where Alisa taught a workshop to over 200 teens about forgiveness. I'm now officially part of the organizing team of this conference, which ministers to over 450 teenagers every year. It is put on by Northwest Youth Ministries, which is part of the BNN.

The 2024 Living Nativity attracted almost 3,800 people. Thanks again to all the volunteers who make this event happen, and to Harbor Covenant for taking care of the visitor parking and hospitality.

One of our family highlights was visiting the Creation Museum and Ark Encounter in Kentucky last summer. We were inspired by seeing biblical truth explained, defended, and applied to everyday life in an outstanding setting. I highly recommend seeing this for yourself.

For this next year, one big focus will be finishing the update to the church constitution and bylaws. Please pray for this effort as these documents will guide the practices of the church for years to come.

# Music Leader's Report (Paul Hayes)

Thanks to my faithful musicians, both instrumental and vocal. The Band and Choir have been an encouragement to me. The Ladies' Ensemble and Children's Choir have been a great blessing to the congregation under the able leadership of Jen Frizzell and Cheryl Rogers, respectively.

Soli Deo Gloria!

## Stepping Down as Sukos' Sending Church

The Elders will provide clarification regarding the following:

- The Elders' role in this situation
- Why this decision was made at the board level
- Why we stepped down as sending church, and what it means
- False statements made about the church leadership and this situation
- Prayerful goals going forward

## Membership

### *New Members*

The following have applied to be members. They have attended our Discovery Class and submitted satisfactory membership applications, and one or more elders have personally interviewed each individual.

- |                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| • Bethany Hodges | • Marlene Rayl    |
| • David Kish     | • John Sheridan   |
| • Lani Kish      | • Corinn Sheridan |
| • Jordan Mckenna | • Maria Zepeda    |

**Proposal: The Board unanimously proposes we accept these individuals into membership.**

**Note: We added 4 new members in February 2025 (Arlo Hamel, Morgan Hutchins, Kaylie Hutchins, Anna Lauer)**

### *Removal of Members*

The following individuals no longer attend DBC and have either requested to be removed from membership or no longer qualify:

- Jerry Cudney
- Joe Cudney
- Gloria Eynon
- Todd Groothuis
- Graham Marshall
- Sharon Marshall
- David Mayer
- Jane Mayer
- Ryan Schantz
- Nathan Young

**Proposal: The Board unanimously proposes we remove these individuals from the membership roll.**

## Leadership

### *Elders*

Elders are the “under-shepherds” of the local church under Jesus Christ, the Chief Shepherd, and are servant leaders who will give an account for the flock (Heb. 13:17). They are called primarily to pray and teach (Acts 6:4), guard and lead (Acts 20:28), and be an example (1 Pet. 5:3).

An elder must meet the qualifications outlined in 1 Tim. 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9 and must be a member of the church. The number of elders chosen is determined by the needs of the church and those God calls to serve in this way.

The elders serve as overseers in the areas of preaching, teaching, small groups, counseling, receiving new members, church discipline, administration of ordinances, music, and general spiritual care.

Candidates who aspire to serve in this noble task are observed by the board and interviewed by the elders and attend at least one board meeting prior to nomination.

### *Deacons*

Deacons are godly servants of the local church and help oversee the physical matters of the church. A Deacon must meet the requirements as outlined in Acts 6:3 and 1 Tim. 3:8-13 and must be a church member.

The number of deacons chosen is determined by the needs of the church and those God calls to serve in this way.

Deacons serve to free the elders to concentrate on their roles, assisting in the areas of ushering, building and property maintenance, finances, physical care of the flock, serving the Lord's Supper, and other areas of both physical and spiritual need. Candidates who aspire to serve in this noble task are observed by the board and interviewed by the elders and attend at least one board meeting prior to nomination.

### *Nominations*

Our current board of thirteen consists of four elders (Chris Rogers, Enriko Stigter, Paul Hayes, Bob Renckly) and nine deacons (Michael Helland, Loren Beckner, Willie Clark, Mac Davis, Aaron Frizzell, Christian Guidry, Daniel Hunt, David Mayer, Eric Rogers, and Zachary Travis).

The board would like to express their sincere gratitude to David Mayer for his faithful service as a deacon and as Awana Commander. David stepped down from these ministries at the start of the calendar year.

The following men are up for re-election. Our board finds them to satisfy the Biblical criteria for leaders and are hereby nominated:

- Loren Beckner (deacon, re-elect)
- Christian Guidry (deacon, re-elect)

**Proposal: The Board unanimously proposes we elect these men to a 3-year term of service.**

## Appointments

The Board approved the following appointments for the coming year and is grateful for the faithful service of those who minister to our church in these areas:

- Treasurer: Loren Beckner
- Financial Secretary: TBD

- Sunday School Superintendent: Christian Guidry
- Church Clerk: Sally Helland
- Audit Committee: Brian Peterson & Ryka Rogers

## Financial Report (Loren Beckner)

God's provision towards our congregation continues to be sufficient for our needs. We praise the Lord for the many individuals who have given sacrificially for the glory of God. Approaching the end of the current fiscal year, general fund giving is running approximately \$7,000 under our \$693,000 budget (only a 1% budget-to-actual difference).

General fund reserves remain at a healthy \$150,000 figure. This has accumulated over decades of financial stewardship and is reserved to weather economic or financial hardships.

The following pages contain the proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year. The board monitors the budget year-round and can make adjustments if needed.

## Proposed Church Budget

### Fiscal Year: July 2025 – June 2026

	<b>Annual</b>	<b>Per Month</b>
<b>Revenue</b>		
Contributions Income	\$ 750,049.13	\$ 62,504.09
<b>Expenditures</b>		
<b>Pastoral</b>		
Assistant to the Elders Salary	36,000.00	3,000.00
Associate Pastor Salary	68,042.19	5,670.18
Associate Pastor Housing Allowance	40,000.00	3,333.33
Conferences	3,000.00	250.00
Employer Retirement Contributions	7,732.00	644.33
Payroll Taxes	6,438.00	536.50
Professional Reimbursement	2,500.00	208.33
Retired Pastor Gift	37,272.10	3,106.01
Retreats	1,000.00	83.33
Senior Pastor Salary	73,698.36	6,141.53
Senior Pastor Housing Allowance	40,000.00	3,333.33
Total Pastoral	315,682.65	26,306.89
<b>Church Office</b>		
Accounting Software	845.00	70.42
Copier & Printing Expenses	5,350.00	445.83
IT Support	6,360.00	530.00
Office Expense	1,000.00	83.33
Payment Processing Fees	6,400.00	533.33
Telephone & Internet	4,200.00	350.00
Website & App	4,780.00	398.33
Total Church Office	28,935.00	2,411.25



	<b>Annual</b>	<b>Per Month</b>
<b>Expenditures (Continued)</b>		
<b>Ministries</b>		
<b>Internal Ministries</b>		
A/V Technology	2,000.00	166.67
Conference Hosting	1,500.00	125.00
Honorariums, Special Speaker	1,800.00	150.00
Ladies Ministry	250.00	20.83
Music and Song Licensing	1,200.00	100.00
Seasoned Saints	250.00	20.83
Sunday School Material	1,850.00	154.17
Youth Group	200.00	16.67
<b>Compassion Ministries</b>		
Baby Welcome	150.00	12.50
Compassion WA	2,000.00	166.67
Embracing Life	150.00	12.50
Grief Share	250.00	20.83
<b>Fellowship</b>		
Church Fellowships	250.00	20.83
Family Camp	750.00	62.50
<b>Outreach Ministries</b>		
AWANA Club	3,000.00	250.00
Evangelism Literature	100.00	8.33
Living Nativity	2,000.00	166.67
Vacation Bible School	1,500.00	125.00
<b>Total Ministries</b>	<b>19,200.00</b>	<b>1,600.00</b>

	<b>Annual</b>	<b>Per Month</b>
<b>Expenditures (Continued)</b>		
<b>Church Facility</b>		
Cleaning Supplies	1,875.00	156.25
Decorating Expenses	750.00	62.50
Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment	4,000.00	333.33
Insurance	6,500.00	541.67
Kitchen Supplies	500.00	41.67
Mortgage Repayments	269,064.48	22,422.04
Property Taxes	10.00	0.83
Repairs & Maintenance	6,500.00	541.67
Utilities, Security, Fire Mon	13,000.00	1,083.33
<b>Total Church Facility</b>	<b>302,199.48</b>	<b>25,183.29</b>
<b>Missions</b>		
Amesbury, Mary	2,976.00	248.00
BNN	1,236.00	103.00
Boris Pol	1,560.00	130.00
Cooper, Dave & Aleece	5,952.00	496.00
Franklin, Tim & Martia	14,880.00	1,240.00
Gustafson, Mike & Rachel	14,880.00	1,240.00
Local Church	500.00	41.67
Magallanes, Juan Carlos & Angelica	4,464.00	372.00
Myers, Stephen & Courtney	14,880.00	1,240.00
Neuman, Lydia	2,976.00	248.00
Novak, Alex & Hannah	5,952.00	496.00
Sagadeyev, Vladimir & Maria	4,464.00	372.00
Suko, Caleb & Christina	7,360.00	613.33
Waldock, Nathan & Rachel	5,952.00	496.00
<b>Total Missions</b>	<b>88,032.00</b>	<b>7,336.00</b>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>754,049.13</b>	<b>62,837.43</b>
<b>Other Revenue / Expenditure</b>		
Interest Income	4,000.00	333.33
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

## Budget Notes:

1. The proposed budget is an 8.2% increase from the previous budget.
2. Following his retirement, a monthly gift is given to Pastor Mark Suko. The amount of this gift is determined periodically. No expectation of ongoing ministry is attached to this gift which is voluntarily given in accordance with IRS rules governing gifts to retired pastors.
3. The new line item for “Assistant to the Elders” is regarding Mac’s part-time staff position.
4. Pastoral compensation increased by 5%.
5. Financial support for Caleb & Christina Suko is maintained for the full fiscal year. Since DBC has stepped down as sending church, monthly support will be decreased to match support levels of our other missionaries of similar status. This reduction will not take effect until September 2025. Payments up until then will be based on their full sent-from-DBC missionary status.

**Proposal: The Board unanimously proposes the adoption of the fiscal year July 2025 – June 2026 budget as presented.**



# Missionary Reports

All our missionaries expressed profound thanks to Discovery Baptist Church, its leadership, and all who support them financially and through prayer. This support is seen as crucial to the work of our missionaries.

*Dave & Aleece Cooper – Lima, Peru.* The Coopers recently visited DBC. You can watch their detailed report online.

*Alex & Hannah Novak – Central Asia.*

Over the past year God has been at work here in Central Asia. Not everything has gone according to our plan, but our Father has sustained his children. Last summer & fall we had a wonderful visit with you and several of our other partners. It's always a blessing to reconnect in-person and share.

Last fall Alex had the privilege of seeing Misha, a young man he disciplined for about a year, baptized into membership of a local Gospel-preaching church. We praise the Lord that the latest reports on him have been positive. He continues to grow in the faith and deepen his relationships with his new church family.

We are now at the stage in language learning where our formal education has tapered off. Hannah still meets with her friend and language helper once or twice a week, but since the hire of a new local employee in our work office, Alex no longer uses a professional tutor. Of course language and culture learning never really end, but we are thankful to have the bulk of this task behind us.

Perhaps the most exciting development in the past year has been the unexpected opportunity to start attending a local church. The transition has not been without its challenges, but we are thankful the Lord has opened this door. Pray that our relationships in this small church would deepen and that we would love them well. Also pray for safety.

Starting this fall our local company will sponsor a visa for another like-minded expat worker and his family. We are hopeful this new worker will take on some of the responsibilities Alex now carries in the company and free him up for other focused ministry tasks. Pray for a good transition and sustainable workload.

We've rented our current home since we first arrived. It has become increasingly clear we should look for a better, more centrally located residence in our city. Lord willing, that move will happen this summer. Pray for a good location, reasonable rent, and conditions that are just right - not in disrepair but also not too fancy.

**Here are a few of our ministry goals over the next year.** For Hannah:

- Finish her study through Proverbs with local sisters.
- Grow her engagement with women & children in our new place of worship.
- Grow her hospitality ministry to believers & unbelievers alike within the community.

For Alex:

- Finish proofreading the new Colossians commentary with our local brother. This brother & pastor is using these study sessions to develop his first full expositional sermon series.
- Write & publish online the first short article on a select topic in Christian life & ministry in our local language. Several popular American preachers have had some of their articles & sermons translated into the local language, but they often include ill-fitting illustrations and lack important nuance to this people & place.
- Prepare his first short sermon series. Alex has been receiving requests to preach & teach the Word in the local language, and this is the first step in that effort.

As always, do pray for us personally: that we would honor the Lord above all else, that our children too would repent & turn to Jesus, and that we would have the discernment we need to raise them in the path of wisdom.

*Tim and Martia Franklin – Natal, Brazil.*

### **Main areas of endeavor:**

We serve in teaching at Berean Baptist Seminary and Institute in Natal, Brazil. We also assist in a local church plant in the neighborhood of Jardins.

### **Ministry Highlights (items for praise)**

The seminary graduated 6 students in Nov. Our daughter Hannah is involved in ministry with us.

**Ministry problems (prayer needs):**

- That the LORD would save people and add them to His church, we think of especially the church plant in which we serve.
- For spiritual growth, ours and of the people among whom we minister.

**Family and domestic status:**

We thank the LORD for His merciful care upon our family, especially their spiritual growth and service to the LORD. Rebecca graduated from college. Rachel seeks to minister to her students. Ariel and Natalie are fully engaged in ministry in a local church.

**Goals for the coming year:**

- Teach assigned classes.
- Seek to promote spiritual growth—our, the seminarians, the believers at church.
- Continue regular Bible studies and evangelism.

*Lydia Neuman – Fortaleza, Brazil.*

It's been a blessing to be a part of God's plan for His Kingdom over the past year, and Discovery Bible Church has played a part in that through your support and prayers. At this time last year, much of Rio Grande do Sul was flooded, but by God's providence Dois Irmãos was spared. That began my online search for housing, and once again He provided—an ideal apartment, great airfare, and a smooth arrival for me and my things. Within days I was able to settle in and begin ministry.

In October, our church building was completed, and we quickly saw the fruit—in spiritual growth, ministry involvement, and new visitors.

My ministry continues to center around discipleship through children's and teen ministry. I coordinate the children's ministry, lead Bible studies with teen girls, organize and assist with outreach events (Life for Kids), and help train new leaders. A new initiative this year has been developing the Life Café—a space to foster community and discipleship while equipping youth.

**Ministry Highlights:** In 2024, we held four Life for Kids events centered on Joseph's story and God's sovereignty. This year, we launched a new curriculum: "Children of the Kingdom." Kids are learning who God is and what it means to live as part of His Kingdom through stories of

children in the Bible. We've seen steady growth in attendance and volunteer participation, with around 25 kids now involved.

Bible studies with teen girls have continued, and in April, we held our first teen retreat with 13 participants on the cost of following Christ. In March, the children's team hosted a gospel-sharing workshop for 21 parents and teachers to support family discipleship.

I've also started helping two nearby communities (Lomba Grande and Taquara) strengthen their children's outreach. The Life Café is set to open on May 26, and we plan to offer internships to two Venezuelan teens from our church.

**Ministry Challenges (Prayer Requests):** Our new building is already feeling small, especially for our growing children's ministry.

We need more volunteers and spiritually mature leaders.

Pray for the Life Café launch—for our interns, for gospel conversations, and for lasting impact.

**Family & Personal Life:** As a single missionary, I'm grateful for a strong local church and visiting friends. In March, I had a brief illness, but the Lord provided help through my friend Sintique, who is now praying about relocating to Dois Irmãos. Please pray for guidance and provision if God is leading her.

**Goals for the Coming Year:**

- Launch consistent rhythms of hospitality and discipleship at the Life Café
- Continue discipling teens and developing new study materials
- Support partner churches' children's ministries
- Expand the "Children of the Kingdom" curriculum

Thank you for walking with me through your prayers and support. It's a joy to share a glimpse of what God is doing here. Your partnership continues to be a vital encouragement.

*Stephen & Courtney Myers – Mindanao, Philippines.*

We just returned to the Philippines after a refreshing six months back in WA for our first furlough. We've begun to get back into the swing of things. Our rental house welcomed us back with some new critters (e.g. the bee's nest under the kitchen sink) and some needed repairs. It's been great seeing everyone again and running into friends around town.

Although we are finished with our formal culture and language learning for this area, we are not moving on to a remote location until our future coworkers are finished with their studies. We're praying that next year the Lord would allow us as a team to allocate together into a village.

We met with leadership last week about our role for the near future. We will continue training and learning to be language consultants for our field. This will be an important job to fill for the future of our field and its steady flow of incoming missionaries. Our new schedule will include sitting in on language sessions with our missionary coworkers and giving feedback for them as they plug away at learning the regional language here (Bisaya).

Our leaders also asked if we would be interested in helping come up with some strategies and activity ideas for our missionary kids to have more opportunities to learn language as well. Courtney is very excited about overseeing this and has already started brainstorming and researching different ideas.

Another way we will be filling our time during this season is visiting a village on our island that has a new team of missionary families gearing up to move in and begin their ministry there. We see a lot of wisdom in learning more about the process and steps it takes to transition into one of these least reached people groups. I (Stephen) plan on observing and gathering as much helpful information as I can from our coworkers that are just a few steps ahead of us.

### **Upcoming things to pray for:**

- Our roles during this next season. Pray for us as we humbly step into these new tasks and begin learning how to serve our coworkers in these areas.
- Team formation. Pray for us as we decide on who will partner with us to make up our team for ministry in the tribe.
- People group surveys. Pray for us as we narrow down which people group and village will be our future place of service and ministry as a family and team.

### **Praises:**

- God blessed with a wonderful furlough back home that we came out of feeling rejuvenated and renewed with a passion and excitement to continue towards the goal of seeing a thriving church planted in one of these untouched places.



- For the Lord's sovereign hand over the safety and smooth travels we had back to our life here in the Philippines.

*Mary Amesbury – Cleveland OH, USA.*

**Main areas of endeavor:** My main ministry is coordinating the campus ministry at Cleveland State University in Cleveland, OH. Pastor Bill Taylor teaches the main Bible study on Tuesdays. I work with the student officers, do outreach tables and events, prepare lunch for the Tuesday Bible studies and maintain the website, social media and video ministry. My side hustles include teaching a ladies Bible study at my church, participating and sometimes leading the prayer gathering on Wednesday nights and running a weekly church service at Cedarwood nursing home.

**Ministry highlights:** My diagnosis of ADHD last summer has given me “street cred” with a generation that struggles with neurodiversity and the medication that I am now on helps me function so much better. The 2024-25 academic year was far superior to the year prior! Students were much more open and engaged with the CBF staff and the teachings of Jesus. The student officers were somewhat more active. We had solid ministry outreaches with the Lawn Party in the fall and the Worship Night in the spring. One evidence of more robust ministry was that we were able to elect six student officers for next year (last year we struggled to have enough student officers to meet university requirements). Spring semester was further energized by having a BMM short-termer for 10 weeks. Twenty-five-year-old Kenzie Speas was a terrific informant for me in understanding how Generation Z understands the world. I learned a lot. The Cedarwood nursing home ministry developed markedly. We now have a team of 5 people from Cedar Hill Baptist Church who do the ministry. Attendance has grown from 6 to 8 residents to the high teens. The residents themselves invite people to Sunday afternoon gatherings, and they are very receptive to the short devotionals and hymns.

**Ministry problems:** My home church – Cedar Hill Baptist Church – is in crisis mode. Diminishing attendance since the pandemic and a large, old building in need of expensive repairs has prompted extended discussions of closure or merger. The congregants are not unified in what the Lord's will is. The faith to trust God through the difficulties seems lacking among the long-term members. Several women have

been particularly divisive and disrespectful. All this has grieved my heart. Should the church close, I would transfer my membership to CityView Church in downtown Cleveland where my ministry colleague, Bill Taylor, pastors along with a team of young pastors who are all dear to my heart. Two of the young pastors were part of the CBF ministry while in college and the third pastor is married to a former CBF student.

**Goals for the coming year:** I desire to further study the cultural shift between Generation Z and previous generations. (I am convinced that it is far more than a generational shift.) Gen Alpha is only five years away, so it is imperative to be as culturally aware as possible. I plan to develop a series of evangelistic videos based on how GenZ sees their world. I also want to develop materials for our weekly outreach tables that will engage Generation Z.

Bill Taylor and I will continue to do the Tuesday Bible studies. I'm not yet sure what books from the Bible we will tackle in the coming year. I desire to develop the six student officers' leadership skills.

#### *Juan Carlos Magallanes – Quincy WA, USA.*

The first three months of the year were dedicated to preparing our hearts for serving in the ministry throughout the rest of the seasons. We planned and made decisions, and although immigration laws are constantly changing, we have remained in contact with our brothers (temporary workers) who were getting ready to return in the first weeks of May.

**Ministry highlights:** Thank God we started the year with very good results. This past March, we baptized three brothers. We are currently preparing two adults for baptism in June. Another goal we were able to achieve was paying the full year of rent for the building we use, and we have accomplished it. We are now convinced that God is showing us the opportunity to open a small door for missions in Mexico. Yes, we have come to understand that a church that is not involved in missions is not a complete church, so we are in the process of fully embracing the missionary challenge. To be honest, we have already been involved in missions in some way, but this time we want to make a firm decision to support a missionary who shares our same goals. Please pray for this. My wife and other brothers and sisters have also continued helping new people through English classes, which allows us to share the gospel with

more people around us. I have continued helping individuals with citizenship classes.

**Detail ministry problems:** Summer is just around the corner with temperatures reaching 100 degrees, which takes a toll on people. This is a rural community, and planting in the fields has its own procedures and requirements. If you see a good apple on your table, or grapes, or eat a good potato, it means that from the company owner (the Farmer) to the last worker, they got up very early, barely slept, planted, watered, pruned, and hope to harvest the best fruit. This is definitely a pleasant but exhausting activity. So, often these are the people who come to the services, get involved, and serve. We look for ways to refresh and encourage them with the word of God so they can keep going. That is our challenge.

**Family life:** As you know, I will work until I can no longer speak or teach. My wife, however, must leave the job she had this year because she will no longer be able to continue teaching. God has always sustained us, and I am sure He will continue to do so. I will always thank God for you and your help, and if you know of other people or churches where we can present our ministry, we are eager to do so.

**Goals for the next six months:** The following six months involve summer and are the most difficult but also the most exciting times.

The second week of August we hope to have our clothing program

In the summer we will have new people to evangelize, and I must tell you that God has opened a new ministry for me (chaplain). For four hours during the week I will have permission to enter some fields and/or warehouses and packing plants to make friends, share the gospel, and give emotional care to the workers. I already have a place in Wenatchee and other possible locations in Ephrata and Moses Lake. This will help me invite people to my services and connect people with churches around the mentioned places.

Thank you for your help in this ministry, it is small, but we truly do it with much love and sincere sacrifice.

*Nathan & Rachel Waldock – Pursat, Cambodia.*

We currently serve in Pursat, Cambodia in a church planting ministry. Pursat is a small town of about 25,000 that has historically been very hardened to the gospel. Nathan is pastoring a small church that was

started back in 2006. They had had a national pastor for several years, but he eventually turned away from the Lord and the church asked missionaries to return and help. Our desire, Lord willing, is to continue working with this church until it is fully matured with a national pastor. This includes evangelism throughout our community as well as discipleship within the church.

We are thankful to have a small core group of faithful believers in the church who have remained faithful in the face of extreme difficulties. We are also thankful to have had two of our young teens make the decision to be baptized in the last couple of years.

We are praying that the Lord will continue to strengthen the church and provide it with a national pastor and 10 faithful families. We are praying that our faithful members would remain faithful (many others have fallen away in the face of persecution and life's challenges). We are also praying that the young people who have not yet made a profession of faith would come to know Christ personally and grow to be godly young men and women.

**Family life:** Our family remains close-knit. We just arrived in the States for an 8 month furlough during which time our oldest, Rebekah, will begin college, so we are helping her begin to make that transition. It will be a big change for our entire family as only four of us return to Cambodia in January.

**Goals for the coming year:** One big goal for the coming year as we visit our supporting churches here in the States is to challenge individuals to be open to missions, particularly missions in Asia as it is by far the most populous mission field in the world but has the fewest missionaries.

Another goal is to help Rebekah transition to life in the States, as well as help the younger two, Daniel and Hannah begin to adjust to life here as they will be making their transitions before long as well.

We greatly appreciate the ministry of Discovery Bible Church and your part in the ministry in Cambodia!

*Mike & Rachel Gustafson – Kiev, Ukraine.*

First, we thank Discovery for your faithful support and prayers. Knowing you are behind us at home is very precious to us.

Mike teaches 9th grade English at the Christian school our children attend. The students are mostly Ukrainian- from both believing and

non-believing homes. This is his second year teaching English - theoretically a temporary position.

Since so many Americans have left the country since the beginning of the war, there is a great need to fill these English-speaking positions. Our son, Daniel, is in his class. Mike is able to incorporate Christian worldview into the curriculum.

Mike is also director of the Church Ministries Institute, a Bible school which has its offices at Kyiv Theological Seminary. However, the school holds its classes in local churches.

Mike is the leader for our ABWE Ukraine team, and heads up the Ukraine Crisis Fund, which disperses help to Ukrainian ministries during wartime, especially to those churches feeding and reaching out to unbelievers near the front lines.

Mike teaches seminars at Kyiv Theological Seminary, and at other Bible schools in the country - on youth ministry, family ministry, and discipleship.

He also serves as one of three pastors in our church in Kyiv. He and our head pastor, Genia, work closely. Our third pastor, Vitaliy, has been absent during the war, as he ministers to soldiers on the front lines as chaplain. Our church will be celebrating its 25th anniversary this coming weekend.

I (Rachel) consider my prime ministry to be my family. The last two years I taught 5th grade Life Skills (Peacemaking) class and substituted at the children's school. As I'm able, I teach Sunday School and help with a moms' group and women's evangelistic events at our church.

Both Mike and I really enjoy guests - hosting our monthly young family group, along with other groups and visitors - whether believers or unbelievers.

Although we experience the challenges of the war, we are so thankful to God has entrusted us to serve Him during such a rewarding time, when Ukrainians' hearts are hurting and tender spiritually.

Personally, I (Rachel) will be coming home for 2 weeks to spend time with family, arriving in Gig Harbor June 25, so I look forward to seeing you all for a short time!

*Caleb & Christina Suko – Odessa, Ukraine.* Unavailable at the time of printing. Will be available as a handout.

*Vladimir & Maria Sagadeyev – Odessa, Ukraine.* Unavailable at the time of printing. Will be available as a handout.

*Jon & Suzanne Wright – Europe/Middle East*

**Main areas of endeavor:**

- During this season of our lives and ministries God has focused our calling on “training, equipping, mentoring and encouraging first generation believers coming out of Islam so they can reach their people groups for Christ.”
- This training takes place online and face to face in regions in Azerbaijan, Iraq, Iran, Turkey, Sudan, S. Sudan and Uganda.
- PRAY for us to wisely choose activities and opportunities which will best accomplish this!

**Ministry highlights (items for praise):**

- We PRAISE GOD that most students and church leaders, we work with; are actively involved in evangelism, disciple making, strengthening believers and churches and planting churches in their regions.
- Each week people are coming to Christ, being baptized and discipled.
- We are grateful for the faithful provision of resources needed for travel and training.
- The good online classes which are training and strengthening workers for the churches in each country.

**Ministry problems (prayer needs):**

- We are prayerfully searching for a Sports Outreach Director for the Sports Ministry Center which we built and is operating in Iraq. We need someone who is called to use soccer as outreach and discipleship.
- Ongoing funding for the face-to-face training venues in Azerbaijan, Baghdad and Sudan.
- Prayerfully exploring how to exit the ministry at the United Nations because of time needed for travel in the various countries plus the USA each year.
- Need to identify and train trainers in each country who can carry on the work without us.

**Family and domestic status:**

- Suzanne must have another surgical procedure done on her heart on June 27, 2025. She is having issues with AFIB since her bypass surgery in November 2022.
- Physical health and safety, especially for Suzanne, as we return to the USA for fall ministry in the churches.

**Goals for the coming year:**

- Work with our team in Iraq to lead the summer Leadership Camp in late June 2025.
- Return to Azerbaijan for the next step in training church workers and leaders for ministry.
- Begin the training in Baghdad in November 2025.
- Start the 1 year Bible Training Program at the Ministry Center in Uganda. The building is nearing completion and we will bring 15 men here for a 1 year intensive training. Jonathan will do the courses online with them while Pastor Ibrahim does the practical with them at the Ministry Center.
- Visit the ministries in Uganda, S. Sudan and Sudan by June of 2026 for face to face ministry and relationship building.
- Spend 3 months in the USA in fall of 2025 visiting churches and supporters we have not seen for several years.
- Spend time with Jonathan's father, our children and grandchildren in the USA.

My Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



4902 GUSTAFSON DR. NW, GIG HARBOR, WA 98335  
(253) 858-8990 | [discoverybible.church](https://discoverybible.church)  
*“Seeking first His kingdom”*