

Mount Vernon
BAPTIST CHURCH

SENDING

2023



WHY SEND?

“He is no fool who gives up what he cannot keep in order to gain what he cannot lose.”

JIM ELLIOT

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

MATTHEW 28:19-20

Jesus gave us these commands before he ascended to heaven. It remains our mission until he returns.

We Send Because...

1. God will make his glory known among all the peoples of the earth
2. All peoples of the earth are under God’s righteous judgment. To be saved God must reconcile them to himself through his powerful, life-giving Word, the gospel.
3. The Good News of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ is the only hope for all the peoples of the earth.
4. God’s promises are for the nations (Gen. 12:3; Acts 1:8). We believe people from every nation, tribe, people, and language will respond to the gospel (Rev. 7:9).



How to use this booklet

Be informed!

Good stewardship is supporting work among unreached and unengaged people groups. There are approximately 7,100 unreached people groups and over 3,000 are unengaged. Much of our missions budget supports work among these people groups.

Be engaged!

Go on a mission trip. Serve a local ministry. Adopt a partner as part of the Missionary Care Team. Inform the Elder Mission Team of good works and ministry to consider for partnership. Talk to the Assistant Pastor/Missions or Deacons of Missions.

Be prayerful!

Use this booklet as a prayer guide for supported workers. Consider praying for a different partner each day.

How do we decide whom to support?

The Elders prayerfully answer the following questions when considering a potential partner:

1. How unreached or unengaged is the target group?
2. What is the target group's current access to the gospel?
3. Does MVBC or a member have a unique relationship with the potential partner?
4. Is the potential partner theologically like-minded?
5. Does the work empower indigenous Christians to take the gospel to their neighbors?
6. Does MVBC offer any unique resources that would be critical to the partnership?
7. What level of engagement does this opportunity afford MVBC?

INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS



Access Partner

access1040.com

Access Partners works to foster healthy churches among unreached people by working with local churches to create business-as-mission opportunities for the gospel. This ministry is focused on closed-access countries and connecting Christians with specific skills with church planters overseas.

Pray for gospel opportunities with staff and clients. Pray their businesses would help churches be financially self-sustaining. Pray for the right partnerships as they expand existing businesses into new countries in Asia and explore new opportunities in the Middle East.

North Africa Church Pastor

MVBC partners with a refugee pastor from North Africa. His church and leadership has national influence that spreads the gospel and plants churches throughout North Africa. For the last few years, the government has increased its persecution of Christians by shutting down churches, forcing them to meet in hiding, and by arresting pastors.

Pray this congregation flourishes in the face of persecution, the church building would be allowed to reopen, God will raise up more leaders, and that pastors and other churches would be well served by this church.

East-West Ministries

eastwest.org



The goal of East-West Ministries, under the leadership of Kurt Nelson (son of MVBC member Alice Nelson), is to glorify God by evangelizing and planting churches in the spiritually darkest areas of the world. East-West is a missions-sending agency that targets unreached peoples and restricted access communities.

Pray the Lord would use East-West to penetrate spiritually dark parts of the world to bring glory to himself.

Central Mennonite Church

Central Mennonite Church (CMC) in San Juan de la Maguana, Dominican Republic, takes the gospel to the unreached region of La Florida. MVBC partners in that work both financially and by sending members on short-term trips. MVBC also partners with CMC to host a conference for pastors in San Juan and the surrounding region.

Pray CMC would be faithful stewards and witnesses of the gospel in San Juan de la Maguana. Pray for their efforts to evangelize unreached communities and plant churches. Pray their elders would have wisdom in shepherding members and in training young men for pastoral ministry.

FOCUS in UAE

FOCUS is a student ministry in the United Arab Emirates. Nisin Mathew was one of the first students to come to Christ through this ministry and now serves as its Executive Director. MVBC partners with Nisin in his leadership of this strategic ministry.

Pray for Nisin's leadership in discipling and training his team. Pray for the team to walk in holiness, to teach God's word clearly, to train student leaders well, and to serve their churches faithfully. Pray for God to convert students (more than 120 countries represented in the universities). Pray for Nisin as he elders at Covenant Hope Church, for the elders to shepherd with the Word and prayer, and that God would raise up more elders. Pray for Nisin's care of his family, him teaching his daughter the Bible, and that the Lord will give his wife and him more children.

Evangelical Christian Church of Dubai (ECCD)

eccdubai.org

Pastored by John Folmar, ECCD has been a faithful gospel presence in Dubai for many years. They have helped plant several churches in the UAE. MVBC partners with ECCD to support John & Keri Folmar and the church's internship that trains men from all parts of the Middle East for pastoral ministry.

Pray that incoming interns from Morocco, Egypt, Lebanon, and France would be equipped for future ministry. Pray for ECCD's example as a congregation, that they would be a faithful model of biblical Christianity. Pray for continuing openness by the government, that ECCD can bring in qualified pastoral intern candidates and for good connections from the Middle East.



Central Asia and Middle East Partnership

MVBC partners with families and individuals serving with the International Missions Board in Central Asia and the Middle East.

- Corey and Kristy focus on reaching Caucasus immigrants in Central Asia.

Pray this couple will be faithful and encouraged in their ministry, they would invest well in a small group of indigenous church planters from the Caucasus, they would quickly attain fluency in a new language, and that they would train missionaries from other countries to go to places inaccessible to Americans.

- Michael and Ally labor in evangelism and pastoral training.

Pray Michael and Ally will abide in Christ daily, will grow in their ability to share God's Word in the local language, and for God to give them children. Pray God would save many locals and for a healthy indigenous church to be established in their city.

- Melissa is a former MVBC member and serves in the Middle East taking the gospel to women from an unreached people group.

Pray for the three known believers from an unreached people group in her city, for God to sanctify them and that more will come to faith. Pray God would enable new team members to learn the language and establish relationships among the unreached people group. Pray God would direct their team and continue to send workers so they might reach more among this people group.

East Asia Pastoral Training

MVBC is investing in the ministry of Timothy and Philemon from East Asia by providing financial support to study at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Timothy has returned and Philemon plans to return to East Asia to pastor and train pastors.

Pray for Timothy as he studies and serves as a pastoral assistant at his sending church. Pray the Lord would give Philemon grace as he studies and considers which church to pastor in the future. Pray the Lord would use Timothy and Philemon to train pastors for ministry in their country.



Emmanuel Baptist Church (Nairobi, Kenya)

Ken Mbugua is the lead pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church. The Lord has used this church to train many men from Kenya for pastoral ministry. Men serve as pastoral assistants for three years to observe a healthy church, help with administrative needs, and take seminary classes. Afterward, they are sent to plant or revitalize churches in Kenya and neighboring countries.

Pray EBC will find the right men for their pastoral residency and they would have enough resources for the program. Pray for EBC's church plants in different parts of Nairobi and Kenya. Pray for EBC's gospel witness in their neighborhood and Nairobi.

Çankaya Baptist Church

Andy and Rebecca moved three years ago to Central Asia where Andy serves as the lead pastor for a new international church plant, Çankaya Baptist Church.

Pray for Andy and Rebecca's family to persevere and thrive in Turkey, especially their kids. Pray for Çankaya Baptist Church to grow in unity and in fruitfulness and for their efforts to reach other English-speaking expats and Turks through being good neighbors and outreach efforts like English language clubs. Pray for their internship program and that other churches would be planted around Turkey within a couple of years.



FEG Munich-Mitte

feg-mm.de

Matthias Lohman is the lead pastor of FEG Munich-Mitte, a church revitalization in a culture that is less than 1% evangelical. MVBC partners with FEG for their pastoral internship, which trains men to plant healthy, evangelical churches in Germany.

Pray for their efforts to raise up a new generation of faithful pastors for Germany. Pray for FEG as they start a new church plant in a newly developed part of Munich. Pray for an ever-growing love for and joy in the Lord and for unity in their diverse congregation with people from 40+ nations. Pray for Matthias' love for and contentment in the Lord and for strength to steward responsibilities as husband, father, pastor, and leader of other regional and national ministries.



Immanuel Church of Fujairah In UAE

immanuelfujairah.com

Fujairah is in the United Arab Emirates, and Immanuel was started in 2013 as an international, English-speaking, evangelical church. MVBC sent Jesse Brannen, former Assistant Pastor/Missions, to become lead pastor of this church in early 2021.

Pray for Jesse, Delaine, and their children as they continue to transition to life and friendships in the UAE. Pray Immanuel will be a faithful gospel presence for conversions, that God will raise up elders in the church, for favor with the government to provide a building, and that other believers would move to Fujairah to join the church and assist in the ministry. Pray for Jesse and Delaine to have wisdom in parenting and to steward their time well.



Ras al Khaimah Evangelical Church in UAE

rakchurch.com

Ras al Khaimah Evangelical Church (RAK Church) in the UAE is pastored by Josh Manley and was planted in 2013. The church has a pastoral internship program training new young pastors from all different parts of the world.

Pray the Lord would grow the Manley family in love for God and one another. Pray the Lord would guard and grow the witness of RAK Evangelical and that they would see conversions. Pray the Lord would open doors for the gospel in Ras al Khaimah and in the region, especially where former interns are ministering.



Reaching & Teaching International Ministries

reachingandteaching.org

Reaching & Teaching aims to make mature disciples, establish healthy churches, and train local leaders. Their mission is to advance the gospel worldwide through sending missionaries, short-term mission trips, internships, and strategic church partnerships. MVBC financially partners with RTIM to support their general budget and two staff:

- Chad Ireland, an elder at MVBC, serves as the Director of Operations.

Pray that Chad would have wisdom to best serve those under his care, for his aging parents, and for his family as he travels a lot. Pray for RTIM's president, Ryan Robertson, and that God would raise up long-term workers to invest in theological training.

- Chris Phillips serves as the Regional Director for Asia.

Pray Chris and Lisa would help missionaries pursuing faithful ministry throughout Asia. Pray for clarity about where they should settle their family and ministry after being displaced from East Asia. Pray they would be content in God's good plans and trust him.

Tibetan Bible Translation

The Tibetan Bible Translation project consists of individuals translating the Bible into the language of a major Tibetan people group. This project also provides digital access to Scripture. MVBC has supported this work since 2004.

Pray that the avenues for Scripture and literature distribution would remain open as persecution increases. Pray the Holy Spirit would work in the hearts of those who are able to read, listen to, or watch the titles produced.

LOCAL & OTHER PARTNERS



Atlanta Urban Ministry

After retirement from pastoral ministry, Bob and Cathi Selph relocated to southwest Atlanta and have committed their lives to full-time evangelism. They lead evangelistic Bible studies and help care spiritually and physically for their neighbors.

Pray the Selphs would pursue holiness and be filled with the Spirit. Pray they would zealously pursue those whom God brings across their paths with the saving love of Jesus Christ and that they would have meaningful gospel conversations. Pray for their Bible studies to grow and for conversions. Pray for Bob's writing of gospel tracts and for more co-laborers with the Selphs in their evangelistic ministry.



Emmaus Church Plant

emmausgtx.org

Marshall Canales was sent out from High Point Baptist Church (Austin, TX) with other members, including former MVBC members BJ & Meg King, to plant Emmaus Church in Georgetown. Georgetown is a suburb of Austin and the seventh fastest growing city in the U.S. with a population over 50,000.

Pray the Lord would bless this new gathering and for Marshall to faithfully proclaim God's word and lead the elders to shepherd faithfully.

The Gideons International

gideons.org

Founded in 1899, The Gideons International serves as a missionary arm of local churches in 200 countries to see the Word of God spread through Scripture distribution. Members Anthony Blalock, Joe Drexler, Dennis Mosby, John Turner, and Roy Payne are active Gideons. A Gideon Card display is available at Connections Corner. Proceeds from the cards support the distribution of Bibles.

Pray God will use his Word to lead many to repentance and faith and that the Gideons would boldly share the gospel and distribute Bibles at Georgia Tech and University of Georgia. Pray that more Christian businessmen and their wives would join this ministry.



Campus Outreach

campusoutreachdc.org

Sara Beightol is a former MVBC member who became a Christian in college through the evangelistic ministry of Campus Outreach. Her husband, Owen, serves on staff with CO at American

University and as the Director of other CO staff in the Washington D.C. area. Owen helps manage CO's efforts at several universities in the Washington D.C. area.

Pray God would produce fruit in the students to whom they are ministering and grant Owen and Sarah wisdom as they parent.



Sandy Springs Mission

sandyspringsmission.org

Led by Executive Director Felix Lora, the Sandy Springs Mission (SSM) seeks to reach Hispanic children and families for Jesus Christ. The mission offers an after-school program and summer camp. Volunteers provide academic tutoring. SSM staff and programs are hosted weekly on MVBC's campus.

Pray for God to raise up volunteers for this ministry, that these volunteers would regularly share the gospel, and that God would save children and their parents and lead them to join healthy churches.

Capitol Commission

capitolcom.org

Directed by Ron Bigalke, Capitol Commission is a ministry focused on the evangelism and discipleship of elected representatives at the Georgia State Capitol. Ron leads Bible studies and shares the gospel with Georgia leaders and staff. He also serves as the chaplain for the State Senate.

Pray God would bless the ministry of his Word, for boldness in evangelism, wisdom in ministry, and sufficient financial support. Pray God would lead as several ministry expansion opportunities are explored. Pray for favor with an unprecedented, upcoming freshmen class.

Lifeline Children's Services

lifelinechild.org

Lifeline aims to equip the church to and care for vulnerable children. It partners with and provides resources to churches and Christian families through adoption, foster care, orphan care, education, and counseling.

Pray the Lord would give their counselors wisdom and strength in counseling those with unplanned pregnancies. Pray that godly families would have a desire to adopt children. Pray Lifeline would develop deeper relationships with local churches to herald the gospel to vulnerable children.



Wears Valley Ranch

wvr.org

Former MVBC pastor Jim Wood founded this ranch in Wears Valley, TN in 1991. He and his team provide a Christian home, education, church, and biblical counseling to children in crisis situations.

Pray the children at the ranch would embrace the gospel by faith and grow deeply in grace and godliness despite the difficulty of their situations and past.

Pregnancy and Women's Resource Centers

supportatlantacare.com | humancoalition.org | cpsfriends.org

MVBC supports three ministries that exist to counsel women and men with unexpected pregnancies about the alternatives to an abortion—Atlanta Care, Cobb Pregnancy Services (First Care Women's Clinic), and Human Coalition. MVBC members volunteer their time in service to these ministries.

Pray that many mothers choose life for their children and come to a saving knowledge of Christ. Pray for respect for the sanctity of life in our city.



Good Samaritan Health Center

goodsamatlanta.org

The Good Samaritan Health Center of Atlanta is a Christ-centered ministry founded by MVBC member, Bill Warren. It offers a comprehensive range of quality healthcare services for individuals and families who have the least access to healthcare and are at the highest risk of having serious health issues remain undiagnosed and untreated.

Pray God would provide Good Sam Christ-centered staff when openings arise. Pray that the staff would be faithful witnesses to God's love and mercy in their community and would depend on God's provision for all their needs.

SERVING OTHER CHURCHES



9Marks

9marks.org

9Marks exists to equip church leaders with a biblical vision and practical resources for displaying God's glory to the nations through healthy churches. Many resources published by 9Marks are translated into other languages giving the ministry a global reach.

Pray that God would use this ministry to establish and encourage healthy churches and that he would give Christians a passion for the local church.

Feed My Sheep Conference

mvbchurch.org/feed-my-sheep

Feed My Sheep is an annual one-day conference for pastors and church leaders hosted by MVBC. It seeks to encourage pastors and church leaders in faithful gospel ministry through teaching and fellowship.

Pray for the MVBC staff and volunteers as they prepare for the conference, and that God would use the conference to encourage local churches in our region.





Feed My Sheep Pastors Wives Conference

mvbchurch.org/FMSPW

FMS Pastors Wives is a two-day conference to help women connect with one another and equip and encourage them to support their husbands, care for their families, and serve their churches. FMS-PW is an extension of Feed My Sheep and MVBC's efforts to serve pastors wives.

Pray the Lord would use FMS for Pastors Wives to encourage women in ministry through fellowship and teaching.

Seminary Support

We regularly support church members pursuing formal pastoral and theological education. In addition to prayer, training, and personal encouragement, we invest in their future ministry by financially supporting their seminary tuition.

Pray God would sustain these individuals in their studies and use their time in seminary to mature and prepare them for ministry.

MVBC Internship

Mount Vernon offers a 5-month, full-time pastoral internship. The goal is to assist men pursuing full-time pastoral ministry by equipping them to be faithful leaders, missionaries, and church members. We aim to help them develop a vision for local church and pastoral ministry.

Pray for wisdom in selecting future interns, God's provision for members Soonhyong Kwon and Tyler Ziemer who are participating in the program, and that God would bless the investment MVBC makes in these interns.

Past Interns:

Patrick Hearn — currently a faithful member and Sunday School teacher at First Baptist Lawrenceville

Jeffrey Timmons (2014-2015) — currently the Assistant Pastor/ Missions at MVBC and a PhD student in Old Testament at Southern Seminary

Jesse Brannen (2019) — currently the Senior Pastor of Immanuel Church of Fujairah in the United Arab Emirates

Ronnie Herrera (2019) — currently an elder at Central Mennonite Church in San Juan, Dominican Republic

Bill Barnes (2019) — currently the Senior Pastor of Byron Baptist Church in Byron, GA

Darius Tucker (2020) — currently a Pastoral Assistant at MVBC

Daniel Sanderson (2020) — currently Operations & Facility Director and a lay elder at MVBC

Zack DiPrima (2022) — currently an Assistant Pastor at MVBC and a PhD student in Church History at Southern Seminary

Cooperation

The ACME Fellowship

The ACME Fellowship is a new cooperation of likeminded, baptistic churches. It exists to mobilize ecclesiologically likeminded churches to work together for the furtherance of the gospel and the interest of Christ in the world. As a fellowship of churches, it seeks to know, encourage, and strengthen one another to confidently unite to multiply Great Commission efforts.

Pray the Lord would use this fellowship to support highly qualified missionaries, church revitalizers, church planters, and other ministries to advance the gospel. Pray that the churches in this fellowship would be encouraged through their cooperation together.

Southern Baptist Convention Causes

gabaptist.org | sbc.net | imb.org | namb.net | erlc.com

Churches in the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC), the denomination with which Mount Vernon cooperates, work together and share resources with “a vision to present the Gospel of Jesus Christ to every person in the world and to make disciples of all nations.” Mount Vernon gives locally to the Georgia Baptist Mission Board and nationally to the SBC’s entities.

Pray that God would be glorified as thousands of local churches cooperate for the sake of the Great Commission.

Greater Atlanta Baptist Network (GABN)

atlantabaptist.org

The Greater Atlanta Baptist Network is a theologically-driven network of local churches committed to the protection and proclamation of the gospel. It exists to encourage pastoral fellowship and faithful ministry and to fund church plants and revitalizations in metro Atlanta.

Pray for Clint Watson, pastor of First Baptist Chattahoochee, as he leads GABN this year and that the pastors in the network will encourage one another in Christ. Pray for Aaron as he leads the monthly pastors fellowships.



Pillar Network

thepillarnetwork.com

The Pillar Network connects SBC and International Baptist churches that are evangelistic, doctrinally aligned, and committed to equipping, planting, and revitalizing churches.

Pray connections between local churches would be strengthened and healthy churches would be planted and flourish. Pray the Pillar Network would encourage pastoral fellowship at the local level throughout the nation.

How to engage?

Members of MVBC are encouraged to use their gifts, resources, and relationships for the spread of the gospel. Every Christian should think of his or her neighborhood, workplace, and city as being in need of Christ. During our Sunday evening services, we regularly pray for specific opportunities to share the gospel.

Over the course of the year, we will have information and training sessions focused on opportunities to engage in international and local missions. Keep an eye for church announcements to make sure you don't miss out!

Mount Vernon's Missions ministry is organized through our Elder Missions Team and facilitated by our Deacons of Local and International Missions. The elders and ultimately the congregation provide the final local authority over the missions vision and engagement in the Great Commission.

In addition to the partnerships listed in this booklet, members are at work in other ministries, both internationally and locally. If you would like to know more about ways you can partner with any of these ministries, please contact an elder.

Missions Structure



Missions Engagement

Mount Vernon engages in four types of short-term trips overseas:



Exploratory

Digging deep to discern what a long-term partnership might look like



Encouragement

Using our presence and resources to bless workers on the field



Equipping

Providing training and resources to support strategic work



Evangelistic

Engaging in cross-cultural, personal evangelism

Why go on a short-term trip?

1. Encourage the work of believers and churches overseas
2. Realize God's work is global
3. See spiritual darkness
4. Experience humility
5. Be part of a long-term work
6. Make global missions part of your daily life
7. Test your own aspiration and qualification

Short-term Trips in 2023*

United Arab Emirates | January 26 - February 5, 2023

The team will support and encourage missions partners in the UAE.

Dominican Republic | March 1-6, 2023

The team will support and encourage our partner church of Central Mennonite by assisting with a pastors' conference hosted by Central Mennonite.

Central Asia | March 4-11, 2023

The team will spend time primarily building relationships with university students, seeking to share the gospel, and beginning a Bible study with the hopes of connecting them to our local church partner.

Location TBD | June 15-21, 2023*

The team will encourage IMB missionaries and assist with an IMB conference for teams supervised by a supported worker and provide childcare for those missionaries.

Dominican Republic | July 15-22, 2023

The team will support and encourage our partner church of Central Mennonite by spending several days partnering with church members to share the gospel in the unreached villages of La Florida.

*These dates are approximate.

If you are interested in participating,
here are the steps to follow:

Pray

Pray for wisdom and discernment as to whether God would have you go.

Seek Counsel

Seek counsel from brothers and sisters, teachers and elders about potentially taking a trip.

Understand

Understand that every member of a short-term missions team is a representative of Jesus Christ and of this local body of Christ, MVBC. All team members must be faithfully and regularly involved in the life of the church.

Apply

Contact any elder for more information and for an application. All applications must be approved by the elders.

Train

Be on the lookout for evangelism and cultural training studies offered at MVBC.

Go

Go boldly and prayerfully into the world with the gospel of Jesus Christ.



Mount Vernon
BAPTIST CHURCH

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