

# FBC CONNECTION

CONNECTING THE LIFE AND PEOPLE OF FOOTHILL BIBLE CHURCH



## Short Term Missions: Romania & PNG

BY KATHLEEN HETZEL

Romania

Kenny and Rebecca Allison and Mark and Kathleen Hetzel were privileged to participate in a “Wheels for the World” wheelchair distribution in Romania through the Joni and Friends organization this past August. This distribution was carefully prayed for, planned and carried out by several churches in the central part of Romania. The churches there have quite a large year-round ministry to families affected by disability. Joni and Friends comes alongside and provides wheelchairs and other mobility aids as well as a team of people from all over the United States to work with the Christians there for one week. Three people on the team were physical therapists, five were in a mechanics role, three were in a support role, one was the photojournalist, and two were the team leaders. The churches had been advertising the five day distribution and making appointments for each day. By the time the team arrived in the city on Sunday afternoon, each day was booked.

## WHAT'S INSIDE

### Ministry Focus

SHORT TERM  
MISSIONS

### Marriages

BRENT & ARLENE  
DEBORD

JAMES & KARINA  
MILLS

### Retreats

CROSSROADS

ONE 28

### FBC Moment

*Continued from pg. 1*

Sunday afternoon was filled with organizing the middle school gymnasium, sorting the wheelchairs into sizes and types, unpacking about  $\frac{1}{4}$  of them. Monday morning began with devotions and prayer before people started arriving. Each individual with a disability was assigned to a group. Each group had an interpreter that worked with them throughout the week. These interpreters were mostly college age Christians from the local churches. They were fantastic! They loved the Lord, they were personable and caring, and several were in university pursuing some type of medical career. The physical therapist would ask the individual's diagnosis, then figure out what kind of wheelchair or aid would be best for them, including the modifications needed.



Then the mechanics (Kenny or Mark) would go to work! The support person (Rebecca or Kathleen) would talk with the families and individuals with the disability. Their aim was to make them feel comfortable, to find out what their needs might be, to show them love and care, and, after the wheelchair was ready, to pray with them. An official picture would be taken and then the family would meet in a separate room with a pastor or evangelist from one of the local churches. They would share the Gospel and invite them to turn to Christ. They would also be given an opportunity to take home a Bible and invited to visit a good local church. 68 people prayed to receive Christ over the course of five days! Some of these were people the local Christians have known and ministered to for years. Approximately 250 people heard the Gospel and 73 non-Christian families were invited to church!

The Allison and Hetzels praise God for the way He worked in people's hearts and lives

throughout the week. They each have certain people that they interacted with, were impacted by, and that they pray for still. The Lord worked in their hearts as well! Going to Europe, traveling many miles, dealing with very different schedules, circumstances and food; they saw God work in their own attitudes and relationships with the other team members from different states and church backgrounds. They each saw God give them grace to keep going so that these people could hear the precious Gospel and receive a wheelchair or other mobility aid. As they witnessed the joy and tears on the faces of the family members and individuals receiving the wheelchairs they got a glimpse of what a difference the mobility aids would make in the daily life of each family.

One lady would be able to go out in her backyard and garden again as her old wheelchair only worked on pavement. Now, with the new tires, she could be outside, amongst her flowers and trees. One young girl would be a little more independent, as well as helpful to her mom, by being able to move from room to room. A young boy could eventually learn to walk in the gait trainer he received! In one case, a 20 yr old wheelchair was exchanged for a new one with updated customizations. And one little boy's wheelchair was fitted with a foam cradle so he could sit up. All the parents were so grateful! The team gave out 107 wheelchairs, 5 standers, 8 rolling walkers, and various crutches, regular walkers and canes.

Even just one person being transferred from Satan's kingdom to God's kingdom would have been so satisfying. These people accepting Christ is quite an encouragement to all involved. Kenny, Rebecca, Mark, and Kathleen want to go

*Continued from pg. 2*

again, and possibly to other countries Joni and Friends ministers in, to help local Christians be able to serve others and gain an opportunity to share the Gospel. If you are interested in joining, please feel free to ask any one of us questions.

## Madang, Papua New Guinea

In 2018, before Zack and Dani were married, Zack had the opportunity to go to Papua New Guinea for 2 weeks. He went with four other men from Foothill Bible Church, to work on a house in the jungle for Promise Vaughan, our ministry partner there. While in Madang, waiting to travel to where Promise lives, the FBC guys met the Housleys, missionaries who are also translating the Bible in PNG. Shortly after that, the Housleys started a school for kids in the local villages in the Ramu Valley. They asked FBC in 2021 if there was anyone willing to come and build a library from the ground up for their school. Zack and Dani felt the Lord leading them to go and on Sept.

23 of this year, they arrived in Madang! The next day they started learning Tok Pisin (the local language) and all about the culture. The plans for the library also arrived that day and now they are using those plans to apply for a grant to build it. In the meantime, Zack and his crew of local men have built a boys' dorm, helped with a bush house for other missionaries, and started building a house for a soon to arrive co-worker. Tim Bohler and Kenny Allison also traveled to PNG from November 30 to December 14, 2022 to help with that house, enabling it to be finished by the time the co-worker gets there in January.



There are currently grades 7-9 and she teaches Personal Development to the 7th and 9th graders. This class covers a range of topics such as family structure, personal relationships, physical activity and social interactions. It is all PNG curriculum but she is looking forward to giving Biblical context to the topics covered. Dani stated in a recent email, "Most of the students in the school, Ramu Valley Academy, come from villages where churches have already been planted and, through God's grace, the investment in these students will lead to the continued growth of those churches. And beyond that, we are praying that it would lead to the furthering of the Gospel and Church for future generations in Papua New Guinea."

Zack is learning how to build Papua New Guinea style. It is different than anything he is used to but he is enjoying the challenge, and he is enjoying getting to know the men he works with. He also gets to substitute teach a Bible class to the 8th and 9th graders sometimes. In the recent email he said, "I feel blessed to be involved in that part of their school day and look

forward to the other opportunities that may arise to dive more into the Word with them! I even built a meeting spot under our house that I am hoping to use for some Bible study and fellowship time." Both Zack and Dani say that their new 'busy' here has left them feeling so encouraged at the end of each day. "Our work feels so purposeful and through Christ, we get to witness lives changed! The more we get to know the students, the more we get to hear about how the Gospel has transformed their lives. They have a true joy in Christ and are passionate about sharing that with their communities as they continue to grow."

*Continued from pg. 3*

The Bohlers say that God has provided them with the most wonderful coworkers that already feel like family, locals who have graciously welcomed them into their community, and the students who have affirmed that being there is 100 percent worth it. They very much appreciate the prayer and financial support they receive from their family and friends back in the States! They want us to know it is a joy to be able to share this opportunity with us and they hope we can feel their gratitude and love all the way from PNG.



Prayer requests include:

- Continued diligence in learning Tok Pisin even in the midst of their busy schedules
- That their team would continue to trust in God's timing as unexpected things arise
- Flexibility and readiness for whatever and wherever the Lord needs them
- And more missionaries to come join the Ramu Valley Team who are equipped and passionate about teaching!

## Marriage Announcement: James & Karina Mills



James Mills and Karina Martinez exchanged wedding vows with family and friends witnessing on the afternoon of November 27, 2022. Micah Lugg officiated the ceremony with a reception following at McCoy Equestrian Center in Chino Hills.

The two met at a high school Biology class in 2017. Even though both were quiet and shy, God had a plan for their friendship which deepened over time while attending FBC with their parents. Karina saw in James a hardworking demeanor and thoughtfulness, and he appreciated her genuine and sincere attitude with a willingness to serve.

James and Karina are grateful for FBC and the influence that helped them grow over the years. They have both been active in ONE28 and Crossroads ministries. They served in the

*Continued from page 4*

Children's Ministry and share a love of connecting with the seniors. Currently, James leads a group of greeters where he and Karina enjoy serving together. The members of their current small group led by the Plakakis that meet at the Badiola's have been an anchor for them during their dating, engagement and wedding.

James is the son of Eric and Rachel Mills, and Karina is the daughter of Tony and Sabrina Martinez. Both are employed in the family owned dental lab. Their desire is to glorify God in their marriage.

**Marriage Announcement:  
Brent & Arlene DeBord**



On September 10, 2022 Brent DeBord and Arlene Rodriguez were united in marriage at Foothill Bible Church with Pastor Micah Lugg officiating the ceremony.

Brent shares, "Our journey began seven years ago when we met at a Bible Study. While attending Cal Baptist University we found ourselves crossing paths at the common gathering area on campus called "The Break". We met up to play soccer and rock climb at the gym, realizing we enjoyed spending time together. We remained the best of friends for the next three years.

We then dated a few years, followed by some time apart where God worked on both of our hearts to draw us to himself. This was time well-spent and prepared us to meet back up with renewed love of the Lord and for each other! I decided to check in on Arlene after the passing of her dad, and that phone call proved to be God's perfect timing for pursuing the next step in our relationship. We didn't need much time to reconnect before we realized it was time. I asked for her hand and she said yes!"

Brent works as a Speech and Language Pathology Assistant at Jurupa Unified School District, and Arlene as a Speech and Language Pathologist at Alvord Unified School District. They are part of the Plakakis small group, and Arlene has served in Children's Ministry for the past two years.

*Photo by Laurie Vander Eyk*

"Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things."

- 2 CORINTHIANS 13:4-7

## Crossroads Retreat

BY NATHAN BUGBEE



Over the past couple of years, there's been an increased fixation on physical vital signs: body temperature, blood oxygen levels, blood pressure, etc. Even beyond that, there's also a preoccupation with "wellness". Yet, even with all this attention on physical well-being, it's easy for people to neglect their spiritual health. We fail to take the time to "see whether [we] are in the faith" (2 Corinthians 13:5).

This year's Crossroads retreat theme was "Vital Signs of the Christian Life". Morgan Maitland, Teaching Pastor of Summit Bible Church, joined Crossroads in Arrowhead the last weekend in October to give a series of lessons to provide diagnostic tools for taking one's own spiritual vitals. To do this he preached on the essential place of love, holiness, and fellowship in the Christian life.

Students and leaders alike were encouraged as they sat under great teaching, played games, ate delicious food, and had great conversations.

*Photo by Lucas Roybal*

"Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Or do you not realize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?- unless indeed you fail to meet the test!"

- 2 CORINTHIANS 13:5

## ONE 28 Retreat

BY SHELLY COSTELLO

On October 21st-23rd the ONE28 Student Ministry held our annual retreat at Ironwood Christian Camp in Newberry Springs, California. Our theme was “The Whole Armor of God” taken from Ephesians 6:10-18. Pastor Taylor Sinclair’s message focused on the call to stand firm in the midst of spiritual warfare by God’s power, with God’s armor, and in constant prayer.

ing them, worked through questions the topic brought up, and prayed for each other. Students commented: “We had a really good discussion in our small group about heaven and the importance of the armor of God.” “I really enjoyed our small group at the retreat. I like how everyone opened up and prayed for each other’s needs. It was really encouraging.”

In addition to great teaching, there was plenty of time for fun. Underground Church is a



Listen to the awesome truths students learned, “I learned the importance of constantly reading and meditating on God’s word because our hearts are like leaky jugs. I want to be in the Word so my relationship with God will grow.” “One thing that stood out to me was the point Pastor Taylor made about knowing our enemy. We learned that our enemy is Satan and he has a plan. It was interesting to learn different characteristics of our enemy and how we can fight him with the different pieces of armor.”

The retreat also included small group discussions and one-on-one meetings with leaders. Students discussed what God was teach-

ing them, worked through questions the topic brought up, and prayed for each other. Students commented: “We had a really good discussion in our small group about heaven and the importance of the armor of God.” “I really enjoyed our small group at the retreat. I like how everyone opened up and prayed for each other’s needs. It was really encouraging.”

In addition to great teaching, there was plenty of time for fun. Underground Church is a

ONE28 tradition looked forward to all year! The students simulate a hidden church as they run around the camp in the darkness trying to avoid being caught while they locate the “pastor”. Other activities included canoes, a hayride, archery, sandboarding, paintball, and many more. As we wrapped up the last evening with testimonies, students shared how God worked in their hearts individually. God used this retreat to show the students everything God has provided Christians to fight this life’s spiritual battles. The leadership of ONE28 would love your continued prayers as we seek to see students come to know Christ in a deeper way and grow in maturity.

*Photo by Kim Nakamura*

**FBC Moment:  
Christmas Morning 2022**



*Miriam Hsieh directs the Children's Choir on Christmas morning singing Jesus, Joy of the Highest Heaven.*

*Photo by Raul Moreno*

**Editor In Chief**  
TAYLOR SINCLAIR  
**Editor**  
JULIA BUEHL

**Design**  
LUCAS ROYBAL  
**Layout**  
ALLISON VEGA