

# **DECATUR BIBLE CHAPEL MISSIONS NEWSLETTER**



**Sharing the Gospel**

**“Run with It”**

**JULY 2025**

**DBC MISSIONS COMMITTEE**

**Vinus Alscott – Rosalee Burnett – Hilma Corrie**

**Kurt Lee – Hugh Wilkinson**

**Sam Sixto (Emeritus)**

## Allan Knowles, South Africa

- Thank you for the prayer support for my ministry in West Africa
- The Lord answered and intervened for my prayer requests for this trip
- The heat was excessive with thunderstorms and lots of heavy down pours
- There were dietary challenges, I learnt that man does not live by bread alone (they also eat monkey there) the Lord sustained me in this regard
- The Lord kept me healthy to do the daily 4 hours of teaching in difficult circumstances
- The need to teach the Bible & theology remains huge in the Countries I visit
- There were 32 brothers who attended the conference (this number was limited due to financial constraints)
- There were at least 5 men former Muslims, who now Pastor churches and are gospel preachers
- They were enriched, edified and taught essential Bible principles as shepherds of the flock
- Thank you for standing with me in this ministry

Sincerely

Allan Knowles

## AL SHANNON - QUECHUA WORK, PERU

### AUDIOVISUAL BIBLE PROMOTION REPORT – JUNE 2025

Dear Allan, First of all, please accept our greetings from the family. We are on the mend thanks to the love of our Lord. This time I'm sending a report on our activities during the month of June, including the video about Jesus and visits to the promoters, to whom we also provided Bible study training. It was very important to visit them, to be with the promoters in the field. Now I'll describe the activities.

- Last week we went out and showed the Genesis video to some children who were playing outside. Roxana explained to them that God created the world and how we should care for it. The children said, "I didn't know God created the world." One child said, "Now I know there is a God."



- My wife and I went out on the street to find people who needed Jesus, to see who we could find. Along the way, we met a woman sitting on a bench. We asked if she could give us a few minutes of her time and she agreed. We talked about a man who died on the cross, whom she could know. She saw Jesus and was amazed. She said, "How have I lived so long without seeing him? Now I have to accept him." Then she took us to her family home, to introduce them to Jesus, and her whole family give their lives to God.



- On one of our outings, we met an elderly woman who told us that she would be a Catholic until her death. She thought being Catholic was better, but she saw that Jesus wasn't like that. As she watched the [video](#) he heart was pierced by Jesus' words. "Now I understand," she said, "I need Jesus in my life. What can I do?" We told her to accept Jesus as her Lord and Savior, that he loves us.

- The children said they didn't know how to thank God for the things he had done. We taught them that we should pray for God's forgiveness for how we have not cared for his creation, and that they can also pray for their parents.



- It was a night of ministry. Those who were suffering from illnesses, pain and other problems were also present. I spent three days with them and it was a great blessing to be with them because the fruit of biblical promotion is being seen after a long time. Although they had been at doing Bible promotion, they just needed to make contact, because they had gone to other places.



These men are continuing the work. Their names are Gregorio and Cesario.

- I also visited the church of some promoters who had started in audiovisual Bible promotion in 2012 with one family in their community. After a time, they called me and said, "We need you to visit our church. This is the result of Bible promotion. It's been 13 years and now there are more than 30 brothers and sisters and they have built a brick church." They were happy to have us visit and we spent two days encouraging them to continue the work. This church is in the jungle area. We spent time in Bible training with the Book of Luke.



- I visited two nearby communities where two promoters had formed two churches and on that day the two churches met together. There were about 70 church members and another guest.



- We also conducted training for the promoters. We conducted a Bible study, but also provided teaching on restoration for their wives, families and marriages. Many were restored.



There were two women and a man whose home we had visited a few days earlier and shown them the video of Jesus. They asked us, "How can we get this video? We need our relatives to come over and see it. These days children are on their phones all the time rather than reading the Bible." They had a better quality phone than mine. I saw it had a lot of memory, so I downloaded some of the video to their phone. They were amazed. They were happy. They now have a portion of the video of Jesus on their cellphone to show to their family members as well."



## Anthony Warner – Atlanta – InterVarsity



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### *JUNE 2025*

We have come to the end of another year of ministry, and we are grateful for the overall growth in the numbers of students we have served in our region. We do not have our final figures yet, but I understand that we did grow this past year, though we wanted to grow faster.

We will be meeting together as a region in mid -July, and I am looking forward to being more of a participant as Veronica's condition has improved significantly since the last time our team met. Please pray for our gathering as we are facing the challenge of improving in the area of staff recruitment. There will be a major session on that topic.

Our family plans to take our grandkids to Cedine Bible Camp as we have done in the past. This will be a significant trip for Veronica, but we believe that it will be good for her and that she is ready for it. We also plan to travel to Valdosta, Georgia for a Youth Conference with a group of churches with which we are associated. We will take two of our grandkids with us.

We continue to work with a committee which is making plans for the support of the work among students at HBCUs and PBIs in Georgia and Alabama. Keep this project in your prayers.

Thanks so much for your prayers and financial support. We are a little behind as we face our June 30 deadline, but you can give online by using the link below. Many thanks.

[https://givetoiv.org/Tony\\_Warner](https://givetoiv.org/Tony_Warner)

Blessings,

Tony Warner



## DAVID NORTH – GLOBAL

Dear Ones,

So many troubling things are going on in the world today! There's **relief** in admitting we just don't know the answers and there's **rest** in wholeheartedly trusting the only ONE who does...

**Psalms 147:5** - "Great is our Lord and mighty in power; His understanding has no limit."

**Hebrews 4:13** - "Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account."

In less than 2 weeks we will be in the air again! This time we are heading to Manila, Philippines for David to teach "Principles of Church Planting" for one semester at IGSL (International Graduate School of Leadership). We are planning to be gone from our home until mid-January 2026, so once again we are getting it ready to be put on Airbnb for that time. Lots of work involved, but much better than leaving it empty for 6 months!

We have some **KNOWNs** about our time there:

- 1 - We will live on campus in a 2-bedroom apartment and will have air-conditioning in the two bedrooms, but none in the living room and kitchen area.
- 2 - We will not have a vehicle, so we'll depend on public transportation - GRAB Cars (similar to Uber) and taxi's mostly.
- 3 - We will not have an oven, but will buy a toaster oven that would work for baking small batches.
- 4 - David will be teaching 30 times, one and a half hours each time. His classes are on Wednesday and Friday mornings.

But we also still have some **UNKNOWN**s:

- 1 - Who are each of the students in the class? How will what they learn be used in the future in planting churches wherever they are from?
- 2 - What church will we be a part of while we are living in the huge city of Manila?
- 3 - How will we do in the heat now that we are significantly older than when we lived there before?
- 4 - Will opportunities open up for us to visit and minister in other parts of the Philippines on the weekends?
- 5 - Will there be any big typhoons that come through Manila while we are there?

Since our last newsletter, my Mom passed away. I absolutely love how a friend wrote to comfort us shortly afterwards. She said, "Just recently we learned of your Mom's new address. The new home is gorgeous (so I've been told) and she is with Jesus plus reunited with loved ones. I know that you will really miss her presence at the old address..."



The two memorial gatherings in Michigan and then in Missouri were very meaningful times of remembering my Mom and celebrating her unusual life and her uncompromising trust in the Lord through it all. The hardest thing for me now is the times when I want to pick up my phone to call her and realize I can't do that anymore... I know we'll have plenty of time to talk when I join her in her "gorgeous new home" someday!

This time of heading out for 6 months feels quite different than our short little stints of a month or two. We will miss our church and our close friends in South Carolina. It has taken us over 5 years to feel that way, but we're so thankful for the strong connections and true friendships that we have here!

**THANK YOU** to each of you who are praying for us, encouraging us, and following along as we once again step into the **UNKNOWN**, holding onto the ONE who **KNOWS** everything...

You are loved and appreciated!

Kathy (for the Norths)

## Bishop MOSES ODHIAMBO – KENYA



### The Transformational Journey of Bishop Moses Omondi Odhiambo

The life of Bishop Moses Omondi Odhiambo mirrors this path drawn from hardship, raised in purpose, and called to lead the vulnerable from suffering into hope.

In 2009, this vision gave birth to Echoes of Mercy Mission (EOM) a faith-driven organization rooted in the belief that true ministry must go beyond the pulpit. EOM was founded to offer both spiritual nourishment and tangible support to widows, orphans, vulnerable children, and struggling youth across Kenya. It quickly became a sanctuary where brokenness meets healing, and despair gives way to dignity.

Just a year later, in 2010, Bishop Odhiambo expanded this mission by founding the Echoes of Mercy Christian Primary and Junior High School, a charitable institution providing quality education and holistic care. The school has flourished, now serving a diverse student body that includes 147 orphan children once left behind, now thriving in an environment of learning, mentorship, and belonging.

Even before EOM, Bishop Odhiambo's heart was stirring for Kenya's youth. In 2005, he launched Teens for Christ Kenya, a nationwide movement that now reaches over 250,000 teenagers with faith-based mentorship and leadership development. This vibrant initiative empowers young people to embrace their identity, build character, and step into their God-given purpose.

As the orphan crisis deepened, Bishop Odhiambo responded once again this time through the construction of a modern orphanage designed to house up to 550 boys and girls. This facility is more than a refuge—it is a home. A place of safety, healing, and transformation. Today, 135 former residents are pursuing higher education in universities and vocational institutions, breaking generational cycles of poverty and despair.

But his mission does not stop at schools and shelters. In the remote, arid region of Ileret, where clean water, food, and healthcare are scarce, Bishop Odhiambo has committed to building lasting solutions and

educating the first 15 orphans from Dasanach Community airlifted to EOM School. His presence there is not simply charitable it is a lifeline. His vision is a Kenya where no child is deprived of basic rights, no matter where they are born.

To expand this reach, he founded the Hope and Mercy Foundation, currently supporting 523 children in three villages in Lodwar, Turkana County. These children receive educational sponsorship, medical care, access to clean water, and emergency relief. In these harsh environments, Bishop Odhiambo brings not only resources, but hope.

His work is as strategic as it is compassionate. As a Commissioner at the Evangelical Alliance of Kenya, he contributes to shaping national church policy and unity. As Chairman of Hope A Life International, he leads efforts to empower over 60,000 widows across the country restoring dignity, purpose, and independence to women who have long been overlooked. This mission remains one of the most personal and heartfelt aspects of his service.

At the heart of all this is a family grounded in love and faith. Bishop Moses shares his journey with his beloved wife, Emily Akinyi, and together they are blessed with five children. Their home reflects the same values that guide his ministry faith, compassion, integrity, and service.

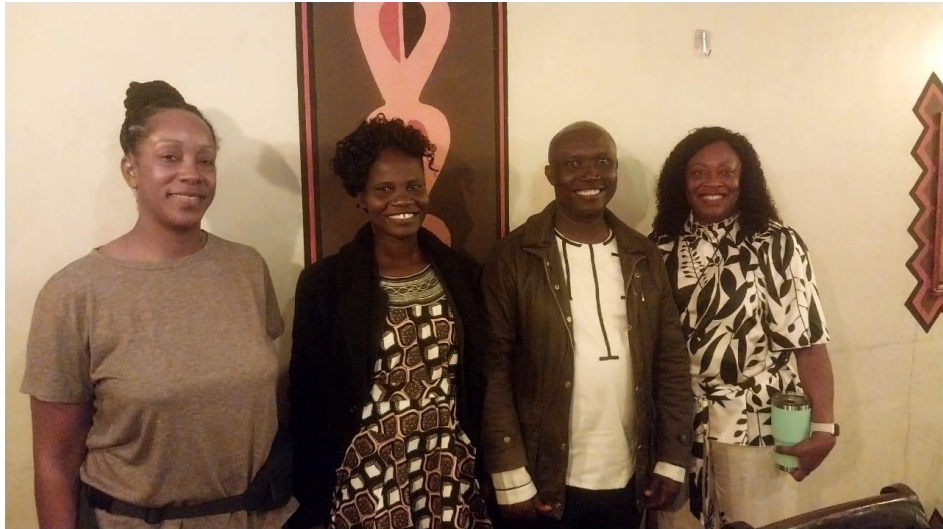
Through every orphan given a home, every widow restored to dignity, and every youth awakened to purpose, Bishop Moses O. Odhiambo continues to echo one unwavering truth:

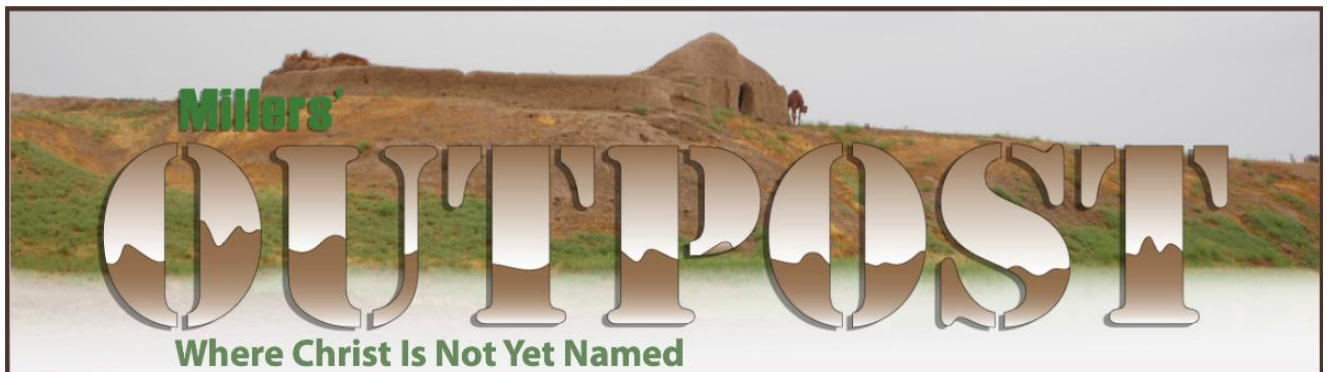
That mercy when moved by compassion and action can transform lives and change a nation.

## Beatrice Rumbe – KENYA

Praise The Lord my dear brother Kurt and Mama Althea...This is the day The Lord has made we will rejoice and be glad in it... So much happy to report to you that Sis Beatrice has this afternoon distributed another set of quality sanitary towels, underwear and hygienic materials for this month of June to the Girls from poor families so they can manage their menstrual cycle with dignity and without shame, stigma, and discrimination....What a huge blessing and Big relief to these Girls...The girls are very happy and grateful and please kindly receive their warm greetings and a word of thank you from them and extend the same to all DBC WOMEN and the entire DBC family..., This program is really helping these girls as period poverty remain to be a major challenge to the education of girls from poor families...Lack of access to sanitary products, inadequate information on Menstrual Hygiene and cultural stigma cause many girls to miss three to four days of school every month...And so what you have done to these girls from poor families is huge and will forever remain inscribed in their hearts and may The Good Lord continue to bless you my dear brother Kurt, Sis Althea, DBC Missions Committee and all the DBC WOMEN AND THE ENTIRE ASSEMBLY for your continued love, prayers and practical support...Thanks a lot again for Caring!!!!







**Our labor in the Lord is not in vain.**

### **Weekly Praise & Prayer**

Of course, it's difficult to keep plugging ahead at something when you don't see the results that you expect or hope for. All the while, the Lord sustains us with His precious and magnificent promises (See 2 Peter 1:4). Even if we don't get to see groups of people coming to Christ and worshipping together, we know for certain that God's Word is accomplishing the purpose for which He sent it out.

Absalom continues to read through the stories about Jesus. Yesterday, he told me the story in which Jesus talks with Martha, the sister of Mary and Lazarus. In that story, Jesus says, "I am the source of life; I am the becoming alive after death; those who believe in me will come back to life from death; everyone who believes in me will be near to God and will come to own forever life." As Absalom told me this story, I was again struck with how amazing it is that Absalom is hearing and telling this story over and over again to other people. Please continue praying that the Spirit of God will use these words to bring Absalom to a place of believing fully in Jesus.

The renovation of the house that we bought in South Carolina was scheduled to be completed on June 28. Instead, it may take another month or more. Pray that we will respond in positive, peace-filled ways that will grow our faith.

Pray for resolution to the ongoing crisis in Central Asia.



### **Hand-Carved Walnut Wood Chest**

### **Weekly Praise & Prayer**

Absalom has been reading and telling stories about Jesus over the past week. Pray that the Lord will move in his heart and life in such a way that he will trust, follow, and obey Jesus fully. The ongoing crisis in Central Asia is preventing our colleagues from returning there or continuing their work. Ask God to settle things in favor of His kingdom purposes.

## Every Box Has A Name

**The goal of our Boxes of Love outreach is to meet two needs: physical and spiritual.**

Two years ago we started encouraging all our affiliate staff to plan in advance which families were going to receive Boxes of Love. In many cases families were contacted well before Thanksgiving and relationships began. This in turn made the follow-up after the outreach more effective. At least that was the theory. Did it work?

Our director, Bryant Lee, received this report from an affiliate staff in Houston. It illustrates what can happen when each box has a name.

*Hello Pastor Lee. I wanted to share with you that yesterday we celebrated our 13th anniversary as a church, and I think it's quite important to tell you something else. I don't know if you remember that last November, we received 25 boxes of Love, and with the extra boxes you gave us, we ended up with 36. Well, let me tell you that this year was much more successful than previous years. I can confirm that of the 36 boxes we distributed, 16 families are now active members of our church. It has been a great blessing for us, and I didn't want to forget to thank you for your support.*

*I share this with you because it's a joy for us to be able to say that through Boxes of Love, we reach souls for Christ. I know this isn't about who does more or who does less, but rather so that the name of Jesus Christ continues to be glorified.*

*May peace and blessings always be with you. Pastor Mario Valle Jr.*

After years of doing Boxes of Love outreach I am still amazed at what God can do with a box of food.

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I just ordered 5,073 school backpacks and supplies for 10 affiliate cities. Please pray for the children to have open hearts to hear the message of Jesus.

### Prayer Requests for me.

Almost three weeks ago I started losing sight in my right eye. My retina had detached and my doctor quickly got me an appointment at Georgia Retina Center. To repair it a gas bubble was inserted in the eye to push the retina back into place. It worked and I had a follow up procedure a week later to laser glue the retina solidly in place. This procedure has a 60% chance of success long-term. I would appreciate prayer for it to be successful, that the bubble would dissolve and that my sight would return.

I also have three MRI's on my head and neck area requested by my neurologist relating to the dizziness. Two and a half hours in the MRI. Pray for calmness as I am in the machine.

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Thank you very much for praying.

*Jim*