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..... Horizons International Newsletter - April 2022

FROM
GENERATION
TO **GENERATION**

A LEGACY OF FRUITFULNESS ENDURES



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MEC INTERNS SHARE
CHRIST THROUGH
HOUSE VISITS

HORIZONS
COMMEMORATES
STAFF SERVICE

LEGACY CONFERENCE
IS COMING SOON:
REGISTER TODAY!


Horizons
INTERNATIONAL
proclaim. disciple. equip.

MARCUS REGAN

HOW LEGACY CONFERENCE IMPACTED MY MINISTRY

My family attends Springwells Church in Dearborn, MI, and we are involved in several initiatives to reach Muslims. My wife Jennifer helps teach English and Bible lessons to Arabic-speaking women through an ESL ministry, while we also serve on outreaches conducted by our local church. This past summer, we joined other local Christians for weekly outreaches in the local parks, distributing Bibles and gospel literature, engaging people in conversation, and showing gospel movies such as "The Chosen."

In 2010 I attended my first Legacy Conference, after hearing about it from our good friend Barbara Yandell. **I have attended every conference since**, encountering people with years of faithful experience, labor, and sacrifice in ministry in general, and specifically to Muslims. **Gleaning insight from these people is something special**; it calls to mind Proverbs 13:20, "He who walks with the wise will become wise."

The Legacy Conference has helped me in two key ways. First, **it has given me a good Biblical foundation for missions to Muslims**, countering the syncretism promoted in key areas such as missions and Bible translation for Muslims. Second, **the Legacy Conference has been a great encouragement as I hear stories of others' success and gain ideas about how I can change and grow in ministry**. Like the apostle John said, I think our joy is "made complete" when we share the things we have seen and heard of Jesus (1 John 1:4). There is a great opportunity and call for everyone in the local Church to share Jesus with people, including Muslims. I say that as one who is not intrinsically bold at witnessing to people and starting conversations, **I have found that the Legacy Conference motivates me toward confident witness**.

Legacy is an excellent conference for those who are ministering to Muslims because Islam is such a unique challenge to the Church today—clearly and passionately positioning itself in defiance against the core tenets of the gospel. **It's important for all kinds of people in the Church, whether engaging Muslims or not, to understand the challenge of Islam and how God's kingdom is advancing in response; the Legacy Conference provides a great opportunity for that.**

Marcus Regan

Indiana

Afghan Refugees receive Christian outreach

Horizons staff member Dan Maley led a local volunteer team to help serve among over **7,500 Afghan refugees** temporarily based at Camp Atterbury, Indiana. These local church volunteers helped staff an activity center, supporting refugees as they prepared for their new lives in the US.



Zia, one of the Afghan refugees, standing on the road to Camp Atterbury

On base, the team shared food, played games, listened to refugees' stories and concerns, and advised them on how to adjust to life in the US. They also shared testimonies and engaged in gospel conversations, which **led several refugees to respond positively to the message of God's love**, receive Bibles, and take part in online Bible studies. The team also counseled and prayed with several refugees struggling with anxiety and depression due to the restrictions of refugee camp life, adapting to a new culture, finding jobs, and being separated from families.

After the relocation program ended in mid-January, **the team has continued to connect through messages, calls, and visits**, to offer practical help such as writing resumes, budgeting, and language lessons. The team has also connected a number of refugees to believers and churches in their new cities, including former missionaries to Afghanistan and other Horizons staff members!



Muslim children listening to the story of Jesus' birth

Kosovo

A Horizons partner church lifts up its community and country

In Muslim-majority Kosovo, God is orchestrating a revival of its once-Christian heritage. Thirty years ago, there was only one evangelical church in Kosovo—but **today, 20 out of the 38 municipalities in Kosovo have at least one evangelical church**, and that number is only increasing!

Horizons' church partner Messiah Evangelical Fellowship (MEF) has been at the forefront of this growth, actively participating in the nation's spiritual transformation through church planting and gospel outreach. In four years, **they have accepted 119 new converts from Islam, and they have planted 6 new churches**. As the spiritual landscape in Kosovo changes, MEF is positioned to serve the nation for Christ.



Register now for April's Digital Roundtable on Kosovo & MEF!

Join Pastor Femi Cakolli of Messiah Evangelical Fellowship to learn firsthand about the state of Christianity in Kosovo, as well as MEF's growth and thriving ministry initiatives. Hear encouraging stories and statistics, ask questions and share thoughts, and pray together for God's continued work in Kosovo.

horizonsinternational.org/roundtables

HOUSE VISITS IN LEBANON

MEC INTERNSHIPS TRANSFORM LIVES

Horizons Lebanon's house visitation and discipleship ministry has grown rapidly since 2012, when the Nabaa Center was first established. Over the last 2-3 years, the project grew even faster due to increased despair and desperation caused by Lebanon's compounding economic and health crises. Today, roughly 20 staff members and Middle East Center interns conduct house visits in regions throughout Lebanon, including areas that were hard to reach prior to the 2020 explosion in Beirut. **Since the blast, over 50 people have committed their lives to Jesus, and 10 have already started attending churches!**



From Eve, new intern with Horizons:

During Lebanon's COVID lockdowns, I prayed for God to open up a way for me to serve in the field. He answered my prayers by sending me on discipleship house visits with brother Charbel Chamoun. In my first 6 weeks, we visited many amazing people, both Christians and Muslims. I have served in street evangelism before, but **I have never seen such hunger and thirst for God as I do now**, in my country and so close to my neighborhood. I have learned that you don't need to travel far away to share the gospel; opportunities can be as close as your own town!

We met a Muslim woman whose husband had thrown her and their two children out of her house. She cried and poured her heart out to us. We listened, prayed for her, and shared the gospel. On our third visit, she said her husband had taken her and the kids back! She said, **"I knew when you prayed that God would probably do something one day, but I did not expect it this quickly!"** A few visits later, we asked her if she would accept Jesus as Lord—and **she gave her life to Jesus that day!** We still visit and study the Bible with her every week, and she testifies that she is at peace after coming to Christ.

At the same time, **we also visited a divorced woman, physically abused by her husband, who had spent many nights in the streets** because she had nowhere else to stay. She was separated from her son and wanted him to return to live with her. We prayed together for his return. The third week we visited, her son had returned to stay! She was overjoyed, as were we. **We have been visiting every week to study the Bible with her**—and she's a fast learner. In the last weeks of 2021, we asked her if she would accept Jesus as Lord and Savior. She said, "I would love to, and I wish all of my children would also!" **So we prayed for her and she gave her life to Jesus!**

These are only two experiences out of the many miracles and stories of redemption I have gotten to see in this ministry. **People are enduring many heartbreaking and unbearable situations**, but I am so grateful for how God is working, in every time and place. In crisis and in calm, God stays unshakeable and faithful: He will come through and He will save His children.



From Rita Khreish, staff member and former intern:

I have always wanted to serve God in my professional life, so I was excited to be accepted for Horizons' MEC Internship in graphic design. After months of training, I was hired as a staff member. **In addition to graphic design, I serve through conducting house visits.** Jesus said, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men" (Matt 4:19)—and my experience in these visits is very rewarding, because **I feel like I get to plant seeds that the Lord will grow in people's lives.** The Lord so clearly prepares the ground for the meetings even before we arrive, and the Holy Spirit has opened the hearts of the people we preach to.

At the first house we visited, I felt the presence of the Lord filling the small home. The woman who lived there was Christian, and she suffers from leg problems. However, she believed that the Lord was with her, and His mighty hand was taking care of her. **She was deeply touched that the two Americans in our group had left their country to come serve here in Lebanon.** We all prayed for her, and gave her medicine and food portions.

One visit was to a Christian lady from a Muslim background who was afraid to declare her faith publicly. We discussed the story of Nicodemus with her and prayed—and before we left, **she promised to read the Bible more often and meditate on the Word, even if she had to conceal it.** We also comforted and prayed for a Christian widow whose husband had died 40 days earlier. As we prayed, an American on our team felt the Lord saying that this woman is an influencer whose faith will transform the lives of the people around her.

Through these visits, I have learned that it doesn't matter how much we give, but rather how we give it. Love makes all the difference. I have seen people hungry for the Word and thirsty for the Truth that is Jesus. It takes humility to be able to serve those people and be Jesus' hands, feet, and mouth. They might need an encouraging word, a tender hug, or maybe simply someone to listen. **What an honor it is for our Lord and King to minister to them through us.** His Love never fails. (1 Corinthians 13:8)

Learn more about our interns:






horizonsinternational.org/MECinterns

COMMEMORATING YEARS OF SERVICE

WE PRAISE GOD FOR LONG-STANDING MEMBERS OF THE HORIZONS FAMILY

At both a recent online global staff meeting and at Horizons Lebanon's annual Christmas breakfast, Horizons honored team members who have reached milestone years of service. God has used their dedication over the years to bring Christ to hundreds of thousands of Muslims. In Lebanon in particular, the last decade has been marked by tremendous growth. Just ten years ago, Pierre and Gigi Houssey were the only staff serving in Lebanon; today, they serve alongside 130 staff members and interns! As Horizons continues to grow, we praise God that these dedicated servants continue to pass on a legacy of fruitfulness to future generations.





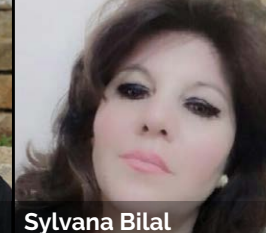


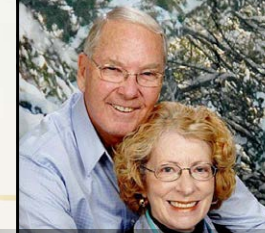


10+ YEARS

 Annie Liss Foreign Staff Coordinator	 Louis Liss Director of Foreign Staff	 Pierre Houssey Executive Director	 Rich Duke ISM Staff, Colorado	 David John ISM Staff, Ohio
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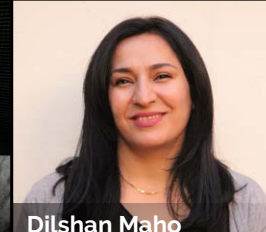
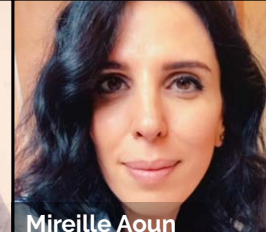


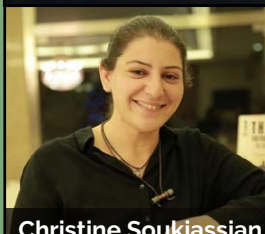



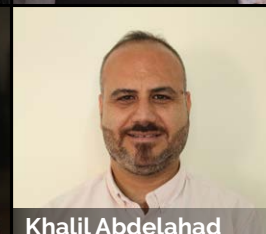



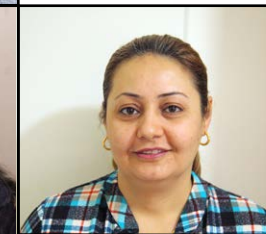
7 YEARS

 Edward Chau and Sandy Kwan Field Staff, Hong Kong	 Fatima Mustafa School of Hope Lead Teacher	 Ibrahim Ibrahim Director of Discipleship	 Bill Jordan Media Specialist	 Linda Raymond Marketing Director
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6 YEARS

 Amar Mohamma School of Hope Teacher	 Patil Kazanjian MEC Training Coordinator	 Charbel Msallem MEC Media Production Director	 Bedig Torossian MEC Reception Staff Coordinator	 Sylvana Bilal Women's Discipleship Leader	 Rezan Bilal International Teams Assistant	 Lena Donoyan Field Staff, Beirut	 Kraig and Susan Meyers ISM Staff, Colorado	 Joe Adwan MEC Video Editor	 Hanna and Jocelyn Karam Field Staff, Lebanon
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5 YEARS

 Nada Jahshane Field Staff, North Lebanon	 Lina Antabi School of Hope Teacher	 Rania Khoury Women's Discipleship Leader	 Avo Kazazian Communications Coordinator	 Dilshan Maho Children's Ministry Staff	 Mireille Aoun MEC Education Coordinator	 Juliana Atoian MEC Reception Staff	 Samir Ghantous Field Staff, Beirut	
 Christine Soukiasian MEC International Teams Coordinator	 Annie Ostrander Mobilizer and Missionary to the Middle East	 Fadia Kababeh School of Hope Teacher	 Maria Antabi School of Hope Teacher	 Khalil Abdelahad Director of Church Relations	 Sako Demerjian Field Staff, Beirut	 Adam Atein IT Coordinator	 Berihan Juno Field Staff, Beirut	 Yeldiz Hamo Field Staff, Beirut



UNASHAMED

2022 Legacy Conference

LEARN TO SHARE THE GOSPEL WITH MUSLIMS AT HOME AND ABROAD!

Known and respected internationally, the Legacy Conference brings together global believers ministering to Muslims. Attendees enjoy three days of practical training, apologetics, networking, and more. This year's conference will feature distinguished speakers such as Josh McDowell, Fred Farrokh, Işik Abła, Abdu Murray, Georges Houssney, and other experienced ministry leaders. Perfect for churches, individuals, and ministry organizations, the Legacy Conference helps believers come together and learn about **"Missions, Muslims, and the Heart of God."**

Attendees will connect with effective ministers to Muslims, and learn about different facets of faithful gospel interaction with Islamic beliefs, culture, and experience. Legacy Conference is a unique opportunity to strengthen your witness and ministry to Muslims—don't miss out!

Legacy 2022 will be hosted in-person at Calvary Church in Grand Rapids, MI, and it will also be available via livestream. In addition, talks will be recorded for later viewing on a flexible schedule.



June 8-11 | Livestream the Event: \$90
In-Person in Grand Rapids, MI: \$185

Register today:
legacyconference.org

Legacy2022

Display tables will be available on a first-come, first-served basis for those who wish to promote their organization or ministry. All exhibitors will receive a discounted rate upon registration.

YES! I WANT TO REACH THE WORLD FOR CHRIST!

Enclosed is my one-time monthly gift of \$ _____ to support missionary/project: _____

Plus a one-time

monthly gift to the Lebanon Crisis Fund:



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