

DEPARTMENT OF COOPERATING MISSIONS



2021 Annual Ministry Report

Cameroon Baptist Convention
PO Box 1, Bamenda, NW Region
Cameroon

Department of Cooperating Missions

Annual Report 2021



Vision

Greater kingdom ministry through healthy global partnerships.

Mission

Engage with, equip and encourage the Cameroon Baptist Convention to shine the Gospel and fulfill her God given vision in Cameroon and beyond.

The Department of Cooperating Missions continues to champion the ministries of the Cameroon Baptist Convention by providing personnel, volunteers, expertise and resources. Following examples of partnership in Scripture and throughout Church history, we continue to serve the church in Cameroon because we believe that greater Kingdom influence can be realized by joining our efforts together.

The year 2021 presented continual challenges of movement and insecurity due to the on-going conflict, as well as challenges with the on-going global pandemic. While COVID-19 may still not seem very prevalent in Cameroon, it has drastically affected international travel and the countries where our missionaries and volunteers come from. Many of our needed volunteers have not been able to obtain visas to come as Cameroon's borders remain closed except to essential visitors.

With much gratitude for the continued generosity of Christians and churches abroad, we were able to continue relief efforts in partnership with the CBC Crisis Relief Committee. Since the establishment of the Cooperating Missions relief fund in November 2018, we have raised and distributed more than 147,000,000 FCFA. Assistance with medical bills of conflict victims and facilitating Trauma Healing and Resilience workshops were the primary focus of the Crisis Relief committee and fund in 2021. The church has an opportunity to play a significant role in bringing healing to communities and the nation. It is a privilege to partner with the Convention to see individuals not only find healing from their personal trauma, but also become healers and peacemakers in their communities. This, all while we cry to God for an end to the war.

The following pages provide brief reports of how the Good News is being spreading in various corners of Cameroon through the ministries of our Cooperating Missions missionaries. Whether mentoring national missionaries, medical personnel, and young church planters, translating scripture in order to place mother-tongue Bibles in people's hands or serving administratively, we are grateful for the opportunities to engaging with Christ's church in Cameroon. May you be encouraged by how God is growing His Kingdom in Cameroon through our partnerships.

Grace & peace,

Calvin J. Hohn

CBC Director of Cooperating Missions



2021 Ministry Highlights:

It was a pleasure to be able to connect with the CBC national missionaries at the Allat Missionary Conference and encourage them in the challenges they face.

We welcomed the Hanson family, Mimi Lawson, and Kenneth Scott as new missionaries to the Cameroon. We are also anticipating the arrival of four others by the end of January.

We brought almost all of our World Team missionaries together for “July Jungle Jam” – a big work project to prepare and renovate housing for Baka team members.

Missionary: **Dan and Lisa Friesen**

Ministry Focus: **World Team Field Leadership & National Missionary Mentoring**

Sending Mission: **World Team**



Some of the Jungle Jam work crew

2021 Ministry challenges:

Making plans and then changing or canceling them due to Covid or denied visas has been challenging. Very poor phone and internet service for many of our Baka team member has made communication very difficult.

2021 Kingdom Influence:

We have been especially blessed to mentor a small group of CBC national missionaries as they spread the gospel in various locations in Cameroon. It has been very enlightening to see how they face many of the same issues, even within their own country, as expatriate missionaries face: personal challenges with health, children’s education, keeping connected to the home family and culture, balance work and life. They also experience ministry challenges such as learning the local language and culture, finding strong, capable, godly local leaders, expectations of the local community for outside help, new believers finding ways to express their new faith within their culture, etc. It has been a privilege to talk every month with the missionaries to encourage and mentor them on these topics and more. It has been both humbling and rewarding to hear them say, “Thanks. You ask questions that make me think of alternatives.”

2021 Ministry Highlights:

The Baka women are meeting weekly for prayer, scripture memorization, savings group and sharing a meal. They have shown dedication, with some even taking on leadership roles. Their prayers, faith, and unity in Christ have deepened through this meeting.

We now have over 50 varieties of tropical fruit trees in our original orchard and at the new Baka Training Center orchard. Building this training center has been a slow process, but also a joy to see it develop. The Baka are also growing in their ability to lead and maintain this project.

2021 Ministry challenges:

In February, as several locals burned their fields, the fires got out of hand and spread into our fruit orchard, killing and scorching many of our trees. We were able to fight the fire and save many trees, but the loss was disheartening and frustrating.

This year, we lost yet another long-time friend. The young Baka lady pictured in last year's highlights recently died of AIDS. We have also seen many deaths because of malnutrition and poor hygiene among the Baka.

2021 Kingdom Influence:

Though 2021 started with a challenging fire, we see how our orchard is surviving and continuing to grow. In the same way, we've seen Satan's fires working their destruction in the lives and families around us. As God's grace abounds and the Holy Spirit continues to do His work, many are coming through these fires stronger in their faith. Recently, one of our long-time believers got very sick. He has struggled through the years with drug and alcohol addiction, which kept him from taking care of his family well. During this recent sickness he was faced with his own frailty and reminded of his great need for the Lord. Following he recovered, during one of our Wednesday evening Bible Studies, he told us that he was ready to *really* follow the Lord and "take up his cross."

Missionary: **Nathan & Laurel Conrod**

Ministry Focus: **Discipleship, Church Planting & Community Development amongst the Baka Forest People**

Sending Mission: **World Team**



2021 Ministry Highlights:

This past year Jeff was able to teach once more, and offered several Seminary courses in Bamenda and Bafoussam. He enjoyed good interaction with some very energetic and promising students. Meanwhile, Sonya has been helping with administrative duties and some teacher mentoring with a CBC Church run School in Banyo. She is looking forward to seeing fruit in the teachers, students and the community.

2021 Ministry Challenges:

Due to insecurity and persecution among our Least-Reached People Group Christian brothers and sisters in Nigeria, we were unable to visit them in 2021. Here in Cameroon we have been able to travel within most of the country, but National Highway #6 continues to be a challenge for us, especially in the rainy season.

2021 Kingdom Influence:

We have seen six young members of our Least-Reached People Group, in two communities, come to faith in and follow Christ, even in the midst of the persecution their communities are enduring. In fact, it is in part due to the strong faith of those begin persecuted that convinced them to trust Christ.

The CBC school in Banyo has a very promising start to the school year. We have some additional children with disabilities added to our enrolment, which is both a blessing and a great challenge.

Missionary: **Jeff & Sonya Kilmartin**

Ministry Focus: **Theological Education & Least-Reached People Group Ministry**

Sending Mission: **North American Baptist**



2021 Ministry Highlights:

This year we have completed ten Old Testament stories and a Kwakum Evangelism Guide. We have held literacy classes in six villages. We have had numerous Bible studies for: evangelism, new believers, and discipleship.

Missionary: **Dave & Stacey Hare**

Ministry Focus: **Bible Translation & Linguistics amongst the Bakoum People**

Sending Mission: **World Team**

2021 Ministry challenges:

There are still many Kwakum people who do not see the benefit of literacy and the Bible. Our literacy classes often begin well-attended, but then people stop attending. For our ongoing literacy class, there are usually only 4-5 adults in attendance. This has been discouraging. We also have seen a lot of difficulty in parenting.



2021 Kingdom Influence:

Stacey has been working with a “seeker” named Vanessa who has come several times for advice on marriage and life. Recently, she and her husband built a new home and asked us to come and pray for her. We ended up going to her home with our Bible translation team and had an extremely moving time of prayer. Vanessa herself poured out her heart to the Lord confessing very specific sins and begging God for mercy. “I see that the difficulties in my life are because of poor choices I have made,” she said. Members of our translation team exhorted her saying “God is a jealous God and whatever you have in this house that is part of African Traditional Religion needs to be thrown out. You need to



cut the protective cords off the waists of your children.” They have grown leaps and bounds in their knowledge of the Word this last year. Stacey shed a few tears for the broken and contrite heart in Vanessa and for how the Lord is progressively being worshipped in truth among these few Kwakum believers. Psalm 126:5 “Those who sow in tears shall reap with shouts of joy!”

2021 Ministry Highlights:

After many years of hard work by many people since 1988, we praise God for finally bringing us to the completion of the translation of the New Testament into the Esiambi language! In June the translation team finished the typesetting of the book with our ministry partner, CABTAL (Cameroon Association for Bible Translation and Literacy). On 2 July CABTAL hosted a pre-dedication ceremony, presenting rough copies of the book to two of the Esiambi translators. We are eagerly anticipating the arrival of the printed books from South Korea and the full dedication/launching celebration in 2022.

2021 Ministry challenges:

Most Esiambi people do not know how to read their mother-tongue language. The crisis in the NW region has hampered literacy efforts for the past three years. By God's grace three new literacy books are nearing publication. New strategies are being developed to increase the number of people who will be able to read the Esiambi New Testament. Church-based literacy classes in the villages will be the first priority. Many Esiambi people are scattered across the country, and reaching them with literacy training will be a greater challenge.

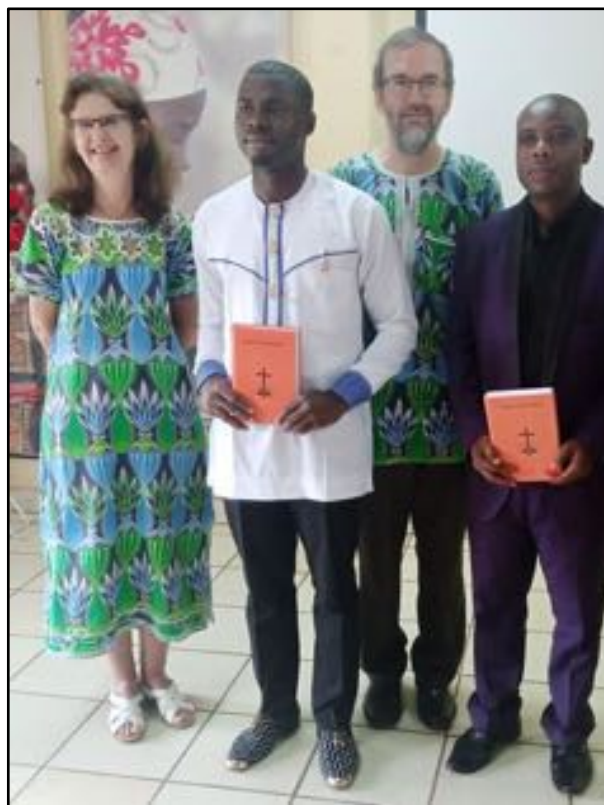
2021 Kingdom Influence:

Rev. Ihimbru David is the Esiambi project coordinator for translation and literacy. He also serves as the lead translator. Because of the crisis in the region, he has had to take his family outside of the region so that his children can attend school. Though it is not easy, he has remained in the village to pastor his church and teach a literacy class using the Esiambi Scriptures.

Missionary: **Brad & Kathy Koenig**

Ministry Focus: **Bible Translation - Esiambi**

Sending Mission: **World Team**



Esiambi New Testament Pre-dedication

2021 Ministry Highlights:

A new house has been built for me in the village of Bitsomam. I am slowly settling into this new community and finding ways I can be helpful. I am still a full-time language learner, but I have started some informal literacy classes. Attendance is varied for the adult class, but the class for the young people is well attended with close to twenty students, three times per week.

2021 Ministry challenges:

Learning the language always has its highs and lows, but I am making steady progress. My relationships with the women and others in the village are growing.

2021 Kingdom Influence:

Some of the Baka here have been wanting to start a Baka church. Now that I've arrived I've been able to take them to another village where there is a Baka church and prayer times. This small group is still struggling with what church should look like for them. Please pray that those who are called will have courage to contribute their gifts and that God will give them guidance.

Missionary: **Sky Bell**

Ministry Focus: **Linguistics & Literacy**

Sending Mission: **World Team**



2021 Ministry Highlights:

We continued to live in Banyo the first months of 2021. It was a joy being part of the Baptist Hospital Banyo community. One highlight was the send forth of Dr. and Mrs. James Smith after 18 years of work in Banyo.

Missionary: **Doug & Stephanie Lewis**

Ministry Focus: **Veterinary and Discipleship Ministry**

Sending Mission: **Converge**

Doug's work was that of helping animal owners through teaching, vaccinations, and advise so that they can better provide for their families through their animals. These relationships give open doors to share the love and Gospel of Jesus Christ. Work continues in Takui village in Bui Division despite the challenges of the conflict. We wish we could have returned to Takui, but our co-workers there are persevering and the church is proclaiming Christ in a difficult place.



2021 Ministry challenges:

We had planned to travel to the USA in May for a home assignment. We left in March due to Doug's mother's poor health, and spent six months with her before she died. We praise the Lord that we were present during the final months of her life on earth. We also visited fifteen supporting churches and shared about the situation and work in Cameroon.



2021 Kingdom Influence:

We traveled to meet many of our displaced neighbors from the Takui village area. As we met them, we listened to their stories, they listened to us, and we shared God's Word with them. We were sitting at a restaurant in Yaoundé with our friends, and one man asked "will we ever sit like this again in Takui?" The question reminded us that all of us are strangers and exiles on this earth. Displaced people teach us that we are not home. Until then we continue to sing: "Until I reach my home, I will never leave my journey half-way, until I reach my home."

2021 Ministry Highlights:

For years, tuberculosis has been the most common chronic disease among the Baka people. I have prodded, cajoled, assisted, and sometimes dragged sick people to get tested and enrolled in the government TB program. Recently, two sisters who have seen TB ravage several family members came to me about their aged father and uncle. They are seeking to get them tested and enrolled in the program, only asking me to preparing a carnet de santé. Praise God for a proactive approach in a Baka family!

Missionary: **Reda Anderton**

Ministry Focus: **Health Care amongst the Baka Forest People**

Sending Mission: **World Team**

2021 Ministry challenges:

I am seeing more evidence of kwashiorkor, a type of protein malnutrition, among the Baka. When I arrived 30 years ago, this was not seen among the hunter-gatherer Baka people, who always had a supply of meat. Due to continued logging, the game animals are scarce today, and I am seeing the sad effects among the young children.



2021 Kingdom Influence:

A Baka women's group has begun meeting weekly, praying and learning some Bible verses together (in the Baka language) as part of the gathering. Because of a very low literacy level, the Bible verse memorization is led by missionaries. The verse Psalm 70:5 particularly spoke to one of the women the week it was introduced. She told us that she was going immediately to share this verse with her sister who was in despair after her husband slashed her with a machete the night before. "Oh my God, I am poor and have nothing...come and help me Lord, do not delay." God's Word, even in the few verses we currently have translated, is meeting Baka people in their need and showing them that God loves and cares for them. What a joy to hear a Baka believer excited about sharing scripture to comfort and encourage her sister! Our team seeks to consistently direct people with whom we daily interact to God, the source of all comfort and provision. It is encouraging to hear the Baka women choosing to share needs for prayer among themselves.

2021 Ministry Highlights:

Despite continued challenges related to the ongoing conflict, the Pathology department remains busy. Even though the patient load at Mbingo has times of being quite low when the roads are not safe for travel, we receive specimens from all over Cameroon. Plans for further expansion of telepathology are proceeding well also. A matching fund-raising campaign sponsored by Southwestern Medical Clinic Foundation raised enough to purchase an automated slide scanner (cost of over 22 million FCFA). Now, with stable hydroelectric power, we are ready to proceed. We hope to have the scanner in Mbingo before the end of this year. This will be a great help, especially during the months of furlough when we are not in Cameroon.

Missionary: **Rick & Debbie Bardin**

Ministry Focus: **CIMS – Pathology/HIV Care & Treatment**

Sending Mission: **North American Baptist**



Automatic Slide Scanner

2021 Ministry challenges:

The continued flares of instability related to the ongoing conflict in Cameroon take their toll. There are times, sometimes for weeks, when the road to Mbingo is considered unsafe. This restricts access to the hospital, seriously affects hospital revenue and interferes with getting supplies. Patients are not able to come during times of road closure and blockades. It is more risky now to come in your private car, and taxi fares have doubled. Many patients have resorted to trekking, some for 2-3 hours, to reach Mbingo.

2021 Kingdom Influence:

Debbie consulted a new patient and provided her HIV meds. A few months later, this patient became very sick at home. There was a travel ban with no way to get transport to come to the hospital. Her family advised her to take medicine from the local medicine man. Debbie had counseled her not to take traditional medicine. She began praying and asked God to help her get to the hospital that day, even in her very weak state. She lived far from the hospital. She started trekking and on her way met a man who seemed to come out of nowhere. He gave her some money for transport and said God will provide. She soon came to a vehicle and the driver was willing to take her. We believe God provided those people, since there was no one else on the road. Perhaps they were angels! She arrived safely received the care she needed. She returned home in a few days with a great testimony as to how God provided a miraculous way for her to reach Mbingo Hospital and receive the care she needed.



Debbie Bardin and the Mbingo Care and Treatment Staff

2021 Ministry Highlights:

The PAACS surgical residency completed another academic year with nine surgical residents and two surgical house officers. The training also included highly specialized surgical care to many patients while investing in the professional and spiritual lives of young physicians. Nineteen nurses from across the CBC took a one year course in wound and ostomy care which included skills in how to train other nurses.

Missionary: **Jim & Carolyn Brown**

Ministry Focus: **PAACS – Surgical Training / Wound Care Training**

Sending Mission: **Reach Global**

2021 Ministry challenges:

Insecurity and lack of access to the hospital due to lockdowns and travel bans have severely hampered patient care and training. We also have not been able to recruit long-term faculty or as many volunteers as we need to sustain our surgical training program.



2021 Kingdom Influence:

It is difficult to choose one story out of hundreds, but there are several common conditions we see at Mbingo. We take care of many trauma patients, including road traffic accident victims, burns, work injuries, and violence from the crisis. Our oncology (cancer) department has expanded with many new chemotherapy protocols and more technically complicated surgeries. Many patients are surviving cancer that, in the past, would have died of their disease. One of the most common referrals we receive are patients who have suffered surgical injuries in other hospitals. Often these patients have been to multiple places, spent all their money, and arrive late with life-threatening complications. Also, many patients with chronic wounds, sometimes for years, come to Mbingo to get an accurate diagnosis and treatment plan that allows them to heal and restores their function and ability to work. Even in cases where we cannot heal, we see God work in the lives of the people He brings to us.



2021 Ministry Highlights:

The Pan-African Academy of Christian Surgeons (PAACS) program remains strong after restarting in 2020. We now have 9 residents, as we progress to what we call a mature program with residents at each of the five year levels. We will reach this maturity of the program in 2024. Pictured to the right are our three faculty surgeons praying over the three new residents that started in January of 2021. Mark also got to assist with the finalization of the hydroelectric project that is now running well. Yvonne added to her busy schedule with tutoring of what eventually grew from 3 to 20 students and had to hire an assistant to help with this.

Missionary: **Mark and Yvonne Snell**

Ministry Focus: **PAACS – Assistant Program Director**

Sending Mission: **Global Outreach**



2021 Ministry challenges:

COVID-19 continues to have an impact on what we do. We are now thankfully vaccinated, but the daily mask wearing all day at the hospital continues. We still encounter many patients who are unsuspectingly Covid positive.

The civil unrest took a turn for the worse again in September, severely limiting patient movement as travel was only allowed on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. This was challenging for the hospital, the training of our residents and the unfortunate patients who could not reach the care they needed.



Yvonne suspended her tutoring after an incident at the on compound school, that included kidnapping of teachers, which lead to a temporary suspension of school.

2021 Kingdom Influence:

Mark continues to pray with most of his pre-op patients on the ward the morning of their surgery. The weekly PAACS Bible study with the residents provides part of the discipleship that distinguishes the PAACS General Surgery residency from secular programs. Yvonne continues to lead a PAACS wives Bible study. She has also been leading a study on the book of Matthew for a Thursday evening Bible study. She has influence in the lives of the many students she tutors.

2021 Highlights & Challenges

Again this year the COVID Pandemic has upended our usual proceedings with regard to end-of-year examinations for residents enrolled in CIMS (Christian Internal Medicine Specialization). Our external examiner, who had been planning all-the-while to join us in mid-October, informed us in August that he would not be able to travel. The region of Canada where he resides was expecting its 4th wave of SARS CoV-2. After considerable effort, and by God's grace, CIMS faculty was able to complete the testing process by the end of October.

2021 Kingdom Influence

With testing completed, I had the opportunity to travel to Kumbo with Dr. Nina Lubeka – a senior Internal Medicine resident. This proved a very special visit as Dr. Lubeka had herself been a patient in BBH as a child. In 1999, at the age of 9 years, Nina was hospitalized following a road traffic accident. She had been traveling in a 30-seater public transport vehicle along with her mother and brother when a head-on collision with a large lorry resulted in the deaths of everyone in the bus except for herself and the driver. Nina was brought to Bango Baptist Hospital for treatment of multiple leg fractures and a head injury. While a patient in BBH she has vivid memories of being cared for by Dr. Peter McCormick – a volunteer pediatrician who eventually spearheaded the CBCHB's Child Cancer Program. She also recalls my coming to see her for a consultation requested by Dr. McCormick. During that time, Nina – even at her young age – discovered the chaplains to be instrumental in helping her understand more fully who Jesus is and what He has done for her.

Following a 3-month hospitalization, Nina was discharged home. Following her primary and secondary education she was accepted into medical school at the University of Buea – graduating in 2016. Thereafter, she joined the CIMS program where she is now a senior resident. Dr. Lubeka shared that visiting Bango had been one of her long-time aspirations. She spent the week mentoring house officers and offering lectures during morning didactic sessions. During the course of the week, she made some valuable suggestions for improving care in the hospital. It is gratifying to see how this physician's past experience as a patient in BBH instilled in her an interest in a medical career. It also helping to mold her into the kind and compassionate physician that she is. Following Dr. Lubeka's graduation early next year she will be posted to serve with the CBC Health Board as an Internal Medicine physician.

Missionary: Julie Stone

Ministry Focus: Director – Christian Internal Medicine Specialty (CIMS)

Sending Mission: North American Baptist



Nina Lubeka in 1999 – hospitalized in BBH following a serious road traffic accident which claimed the lives of her mother and brother.

Shown here flanked by her maternal grandmother and aunt.



Photo with BBH doctors taken on November 5th. CIMS Resident, Dr. Lubeka, is to my right with CMO, Dr. Divine Jam, to my left

2021 Ministry Highlights:

This year we have been creating a Perioperative Nursing Curriculum to bring the Periop Course under the umbrella of the Baptist Institute of Health Sciences. This process is more about codifying what we have already been doing for the past eight years. Our university level textbook and the Association of Operating Room Nurses (AORN) are the groundwork of all that is taught. Our classroom is full this year with 24 students! We have students from nine CBC hospitals representing six regions of Cameroon!

I am privileged to help develop a building plan to adapt and upgrade our operating rooms so that we can have a dedicated KIDS OR. KIDS OR.org helps to equip pediatric surgery rooms in developing countries around the world. The work is advancing, and our supplies have arrived. We hope to have our KIDS OR ready to go by the beginning of 2022! Growing the component of connecting what we do as professionals with our faith walk needs to be another step to accomplish. Understanding that God has called us into being and into service and that Jesus was both healer and teacher creates a springboard for the creation of a Spiritual & Biblical component that is still a vision and dream for the course.

2021 Ministry challenges:

This year brought significant electrical problems in our OR building. A rewiring project is currently going on to bring our wiring up to safe standards, but seven of nine theater lights are totally nonfunctional. For most of this year the surgeons are operating using headlights...we need seven new operating room lights!!!

2021 Kingdom Influence:

A Kingdom Influence story goes to the three instructors I have trained to teach the Perioperative Nursing Course, Jatong Joseph (left), Taassé Désiré (middle), Massaji Benfi Christopher (right). When I hear them teaching and telling their stories of how they were changed I can only give thanks and praise to God. They are the witnesses of God's love in real life situations in the operating rooms of CBC hospitals. Their passion and love for teaching the course is growing every year and they are true leaders as Christian Perioperative Nurses.

We thank God for the ongoing improvement in surgical care for CBC and for Cameroon!!!

Missionary: Jacalyn Griffin

Ministry Focus: PAACS – Perioperative Nursing Training & Operating Room Management



2021 Ministry Highlights:

This year we focused on two major areas of work: the development of the Baptist Institute of Health Sciences and the completion of the Mbingo hydroelectric project.

Planning for the hydro project began ten years. After years of fundraising and design work, the project took about 18 months to complete at a cost of close to 1.2 billion FCFA. The significance of this project cannot be underestimated in allowing the hospital to improve care for our patients. We are grateful for everyone who supported the project.

The Baptist Institute of Health Sciences was officially recognized in November 2017. In 2021 we made significant progress in expanding the courses that are offered. In addition to the existing residency programs, we introduced a three-year Master of Public Health degree program. In October, we started a bachelor's program in physiotherapy. Eleven students started the four-year program. We have developed an online teaching program to offer most of the didactic material. Each course also has weekly live discussion groups and/or laboratory/clinical sessions. We are working to make this physiotherapy program one of the best in Cameroon. It will be the model for other degree-level medical training programs that we intend to offer in the future.

Missionary: **Dennis & Nancy Palmer**

Ministry Focus: **Dean & Registrar – Baptist Institute of Health Sciences**

Sending Mission: **North American Baptist**



2021 Ministry challenges:

The most serious challenge to the work at Mbingo is the ongoing civil war in the Anglophone regions. This disrupts the work at the hospital in several ways, the most significant being insecurity around the hospital and along the road from Bamenda. There are frequent roadblocks and some days there is no travel allowed. This makes it difficult and dangerous for patients to reach the hospital, significantly reducing patient volume. All of this affects hospital revenue and staff morale. The insecurity, together with COVID, has drastically reduced the number of medical volunteers coming to assist with the residency training. We rely heavily on volunteer and visiting faculty. It is difficult to run training programs without adequate teaching staff. We are all praying for an end to the war and pandemic.

2021 Kingdom Influence:

It is still our greatest joy to be involved in the training and discipling of young physicians and students. We believe that following their training, they will go out and provide excellent medical care in the hospitals of the CBC and bring spiritual leadership to the churches near where they work. They have the potential to bring transformative change in medical work in Cameroon and far beyond.



2021 Ministry Highlights:

We look back on this year and praise God for his faithfulness through our many transitions. After handing over the leadership of the PT Department of Banyo Baptist Hospital (to Ngeh Gaius) and the radio station (to Céléstin Sendoya) in 2020, we left Cameroon in March 2021. It is our great joy to see followers grow and become leaders. We are thankful for the six years that we had in Banyo and for the good collaboration with the CBC and the different ministries in Banyo. As we look back, we are thankful for the growth of the ministries and the people that we worked with in Banyo.

Missionary: **Oliver & Karissa Haumann**

Ministry Focus: **Physical Therapy Training & Outreach / Radio Ministry Supervision**

Sending Mission: **Converge/Sahel Life**

2021 Ministry challenges:

We will be staying in Germany for a while and we are thankful that Karissa is working at a Christian university in Korntal, Germany. While in Germany we are and will continue to stay connected with the CBC and Cameroon. Oliver is the Program Director of the 4-year Bachelor of Science in Physiotherapy program that started under the Baptist Institute of Health Sciences in Mbingo in October 2021. He does most of his work from Germany with occasional trips to Cameroon to work with the team in Mbingo. We are thankful that the school was able to enroll the first cohort of students despite the many challenges that the North West is facing. These students will be a big blessing to the CBC Health Services and Cameroon as a whole.



2021 Kingdom influence:

Another joyous occasion is that the construction of the Physiotherapy block at Baptist Hospital Banyo was finished and that the hospital can thus better serve the population in this area.

On a personal note, we are thankful to God that we both were able to graduate with our Master's degrees in 2021.

2021 Ministry Highlights:

We focus on practical and technical projects like building projects and maintenance work, so that other missionaries can focus more of their time and energy on the local people they are working with in ministries like discipleship, Bible translation and literacy. We are based among the Baka people, in the East Region, and are involved in helping build up the infrastructure of the Baka Training Center

We have also enjoyed a few trips to bring practical help to teammates in other locations, including a recent journey to Banyo with a colleague, helping her get set up after returning from home assignment and language school.

We are encouraged by God's people, and to see what He is doing in the different places we go!

2021 Ministry challenges:

It can be difficult to prioritize and make time for all the different work and projects that need to be done, while trying to keep a healthy balance in life between work, rest and time with God. We have also felt isolated at times. Poor cell\internet signal in our village makes it difficult to communicate with partners, friends and family.

2021 Kingdom Influence:

This year we have been involved in helping another colleague, Sky B, build and set up a house in a new ministry location that has never hosted a missionary before. In the few months that she has been living there, the people in the village have already shown an eagerness to learn about God and start their own church gathering to worship and follow God together.

Missionary: **Zac & Hannah Coleman**

Ministry Focus: **Practical Missionary Support**

Sending Mission: **World Team**



2021 Ministry Highlights:

The Cameroon Baptist Convention's theme for 2021 is "Entering God's Rest". With the double crisis of political instability/violence and the COVID pandemic, getting rest has been elusive. Walter had no leave time in 2020. Finally being able to take a leave and visit family and friends in Canada in July/August 2021 was a welcome relief despite the awkwardness of pandemic-era travel. He returned to Cameroon refreshed.

Missionary: **Walter & Florence Grob**

Ministry Focus: **CBC Cooperating Missions
Accountant & Resource Mobilizer**

Sending Mission: **North American Baptist**

2021 Ministry challenges:

One of Walter's roles in the Finance & Development Department (FDD) is to provide training to the younger, less experienced staff. There has been a lot of opportunity to give training to the FDD staff. Yet he and the FDD staff are supposed to also give training on CBC financial regulations and policies to the staff of the many other departments and institutions of the CBC. Due to the on-going crisis and the pandemic, we have not held one of such trainings since 2018. The updated material is prepared for more training to be done, but so far it has not taken place. Travel restrictions due to political instability has been a hindrance. There is a very big need for these trainings to proceed.



On an audit trip with FDD staff

2021 Kingdom Influence:

One CBC church, after going through a leadership change that was unsettling, requested a CBC audit team to come and review their last four years of transactions. They wanted to determine if their financial statements were in proper order and their financial control system appropriate. Walter and three of his co-workers from the FDD spent five very long days pouring over financial records and evidences, and interviewing those entrusted with stewarding the church's financial resources. We found the current church leadership faithful in their stewarding. We also recommend to them more transparent and precise ways to carry out the church's business dealings. This exercise was very much appreciated by the church leadership.

2021 Ministry Highlights:

We are glad to have started the school year fully on campus without having to do any hybrid schooling this year. It has been refreshing to have campus-held class events and sporting events which allow for more community time. The school is doing an excellent job with COVID protocol to keep cases to a minimum and prevent an outbreak. Students appreciate being able to come back to the hostel after school and relax "mask free".

This year we have instituted some changes for gathering times in the evenings based on the students' suggestions. Gathering time is a time after dinner where we all sit down to share and talk with one another. Focusing the gathering time more of a discussion time around students' desires has helped open up communication and sharing.

We are enjoying having upper class men this year and see how these "kids" that we have had in the hostel between 2 to 4 years are maturing. The changes that have occurred in them show God's hand on their lives and how He is shaping them to be His light in the world.

2021 Ministry challenges:

It has been difficult balancing "parenting" these teenagers and giving them more freedoms as most of them will be on their own next year in college or university. We want to protect them and instill good behavior while helping them foster healthy decision making. At times we need to step back at times and let them fall or succeed on their own. We struggle to find that balance for them to feel confident and prepared for their future while still being under our supervision.

2021 Kingdom Influence:

It has been a blessing this year to have mostly seniors and be a part of the kids' journey as they decide their next steps after high school. It is an exciting and stressful time for them and we are fortunate as their hostel parents to help support, guide, and encourage them as they look to their next stage in life. The students have also expressed a desire to host community events for the families in our compound this year. We are proud that they see this need in our community for fellowship and together time. We already have a list of possible events and look forward to seeing them happen.

Missionary: **Ryan and Krista Ginn**

Ministry Focus: **Hostel Parents** (for missionary children attending Rain Forest International School).

Sending Mission: **World Team**



2021 Ministry Highlights:

In June, an amazing retirement and send forth celebration was held in my honour at the Nkwen Baptist Center. Even in the midst of COVID, many were able to attend and give glory to God for all He has done through my 26 years of service in Cameroon. It is such a blessing to see how God has moved and shaped people for His kingdom.

2021 Ministry challenges:

Dealing with the various schedule changes that COVID brought about in the school year made teaching at Rain Forest International School challenges. And discovering that I had cancer behind my right eye passed an even greater challenge. Praise God that the cancer has been removed but learning to live with one eye is its own new challenge.

2021 Kingdom Influence:

The story of my eye is one miracle after another. After a check-up at Ekounou Baptist Hospital, Yaoundé, I learned that something was pushing my eye out. I connected with Dr. Tambe, who had trained with my doctor in Canada, and he said it was OK to stay in Cameroon until the end of the school term. When I arrived in Canada I was seen immediately by a number of specialists. The second specialist is the BEST in Canada and was now living in my city. He was on leave but was willing to see me immediately! He took a biopsy and was amazed at how helpful it was. The doctor admitted that he was concerned about the surgery. It was a difficult one and he talked with his colleagues around the world for advice. The surgery was a GREAT success! I've never seen a doctor so excited. He got all the cancer tumor without it bursting or entering any other part of the brain. He stitched it up very well and it is healing well. He didn't want to use the word, "miracle" but he said, "We've had two very successful events." I know it was because people have been praying and praising God. My journey isn't finished yet. I still need radiation and an artificial eye. However, I know God will do it! He has called me to work in Romania and God will see me there. To Him be the glory.

Missionary: **Elsie Lewandowski**

Ministry Focus: **Teacher - Rain Forest International School (RFIS)**

Sending Mission: **North American Baptist**



Some of my students at RFIS

