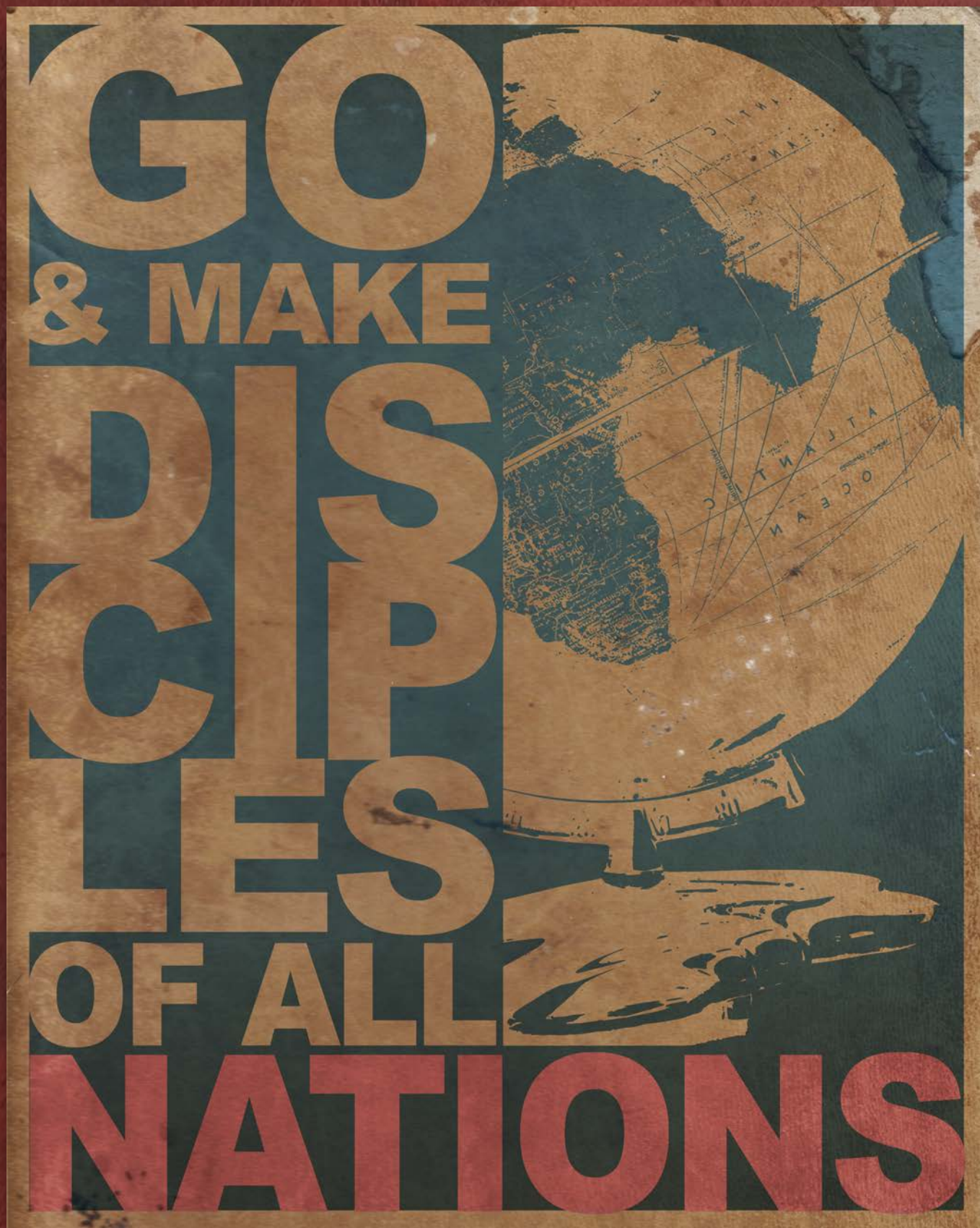


2024



By The Way Missions Special

# Dates to Remember

April -

14, 21, 28 Spiritual Formation class - Family Ministry

16 - Game Night in Fellowship Hall

28 - J.R. Bucklew, Chief Advancement Officer for PBT  
Baby Blessing Sunday

May -

5 - Missions Sunday. Rick Rusaw

8 - Ladies Event in Fellowship Hall

9-16 - Atlas Mission Trip

19 - Youth Senior Sunday

29 - Summer Kick-off

## Wednesday Morning Ladies Classes

Room 138 - Building

In Homes Class

April - 10	Betty Mullican	April - 10	Jeremy Smith @ Caren Watkins' - 9810 Toledo Ave.
17	Karl Ihfe	17	Christine Barham @ Marilyn Bartee's - 10210 Orlando
24	Tracey Horne	24	(To be Announced) @ Marilyn Bartee's - 10210 Orlando
May - 1	Camille Whitney	May - 1	Tim Mack @Verlene Avant's - 4503 89th
8	Eddie Harris	8	Laurie Doyle @Verlene Avant's - 4503 89th
15	Making Hygiene Bags	15	Luncheon
22	Planning Session		

# The Great Adventure

Karl Ihfe  
Preaching Minister

*Saddle up your horses, We've got a trail to blaze*

*Through the wild blue yonder of God's Amazing grace*

*Let's follow our leader into the glorious unknown*

*This is the life like no other, whoa, this is the Great Adventure.*



Heading into my senior year of high school, Steven Curtis Chapman's music career was just taking off. He'd been a popular Christian recording artist for a few years, but in 1992 he received his first Grammy and started making the shift into mainstream popular music. With the release of his first pop album, *The Great Adventure*, (along with 2 more Grammy wins) Chapman established himself firmly in the pop music scene.

It's also the year the lyrics to his title track intersected with my 17 year old life trajectory. Though this song won't be the reason he's inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame, it did connect with that longing I had to be a part of something bigger than myself. I was approaching graduation, about to launch into the real world, and I found myself wondering what might be in store for me in the next season of life? It's a question I've found myself wrestling with through the years as different seasons have come and gone: graduations, weddings, births, and deaths.

It's a question the Broadway Missions Committee has been wrestling with for the last 18 months as we've known about the retirement of our longest serving missionary family, the Trevinos in Peru., as well as the transitioning to a new overseeing church by the Jadons in Nazareth. This transition into a new season has been a mix of emotions, as is often the case. As we see one door close, we encounter some new doors about to open. We've begun dreaming and praying about new partnerships and possibilities — what might God have in store for us in the months and years to come?

Recently we've begun exploring potential partnerships where we can engage in God's ministry of reconciliation locally, regionally, and internationally. We're committed to seeing that any new connection will help support our mission to establish, strengthen, and multiply Christian ministries and churches here in Lubbock and around the world. The love for missions at Broadway runs deep, it's part of the legacy of amazing grace that God has so freely lavished on us. We want to be a part of continuing that legacy and we can't wait to see where God will lead us next. So we invite you to join us in praying and dreaming about the next Great Adventure God has in store for the Broadway Church!



By Michele Thomas

In 1967 a missionary to Peru studied and baptized a young man. As he grew and matured in his faith, he knew that he needed more knowledge and training in order to accomplish his goal of becoming a preacher. After what must have been much soul searching and prayer, the young man made the decision to uproot his young family and travel all the way to Lubbock, Texas to study the word of the Lord. As you probably guessed, this young man was Hipolito and his faithful wife Francisca. This family arrived in Lubbock with limited Spanish, and no English! But Hipolito was determined to attend Sunset School of Preaching and return to his home country with the best education he could possibly obtain.

After graduating from the School of Preaching, Hipolito was ready to return to his home in the mountains of Peru and begin his ministry to the Quechua people, descendants of the ancient Incan Empire. In 1977 Broadway Church of Christ agreed to begin supporting the Triveños family, and by doing so, have been partners in reaching some of the most remote peoples in South America. Being one of only a few preachers who could speak the Quechua language, Hipolito began teaching the gospel both by radio and trekking into the Andean mountains to preach in the tribal villages that were almost inaccessible.

This year, 2024 will be the 47th year of our partnership in God's work with Hipolito and Francisca Triveños. It is impossible here to list all the wonderful work this couple has done for the Lord's Church in Peru. They are responsible for starting: **ENBOC**. A training school for indigenous people to come and learn the word of the Lord and how to tell it to others. This program successfully trained vocational preachers to go into the mountains and the jungles of Peru and lead new and developing churches. Hipolito and Francisca would travel into the mountains and jungles to teach and preach, following up with young congregations and helping them to grow in their faith and knowledge. **The International Women's Conference**, which celebrated its 19th year last year! This wonderful program, started by Francisca, has blessed women all across South America, by allowing Spanish speaking Christian women to come together and learn from other women about the saving grace of Jesus Christ. From humble beginnings as the "Women of Cusco" week long meeting in the Tinta congregation, they now reach women across South and Central America, and hold the week long conference in different countries.

Broadway would like to honor this wonderful Christian couple in the best way possible. They will be retiring from full time ministry this spring. Do not worry, they have a very good retirement plan in place! We are still in the planning stages, but want you to know that later this year we will be announcing how we will thank them for the 47 years they have been spreading the Gospel in Peru.



# Missions Ministry Guest Speakers

April 21

Pioneer<sup>®</sup>  
Bible Translators



J.R. Bucklew

J.R.'s ministry has focused on serving Deaf communities around the world. He started a deaf church in Mekelle, Ethiopia, and, in 2015, founded Deaf Bible Society. J.R. came to Pioneer Bible Translators in 2020 and became the Chief Advancement Officer in 2022. He leads in mobilizing resources for Bible translation and church planting among unreached deaf and hearing people groups. He also serves as Chief Steward of Church Mobilization for illumiNations, a collective impact alliance of Bible translation partners.



See the progress of Bible Translation across the NATIONS

April 28



Rick Rusaw

Christian Leader, Entrepreneur, Pastor and Author -- Rick Rusaw continues to blend his talents and heart for service to influence corporate and faith-based leaders around the world.

Rick also serves on the executive team at Gloop, a Boulder, Colorado data and technology company that is connecting the non profit and faith based community globally. Rick also founded the Spire Network, a national digital engagement platform, conference and innovation community focused on equipping and inspiring Christian leaders.

For more than 28 years, Rick served as Lead Pastor at LifeBridge Christian Church in Longmont, Colorado. Rick has assisted churches and denominations worldwide in developing an external focus to ministry and has authored several books and resources including the best-selling missional-book *Externally Focused Church*, as well as *Life on Loan*, *Externally Focused Quest*, *60 Simple Secrets Every Pastor Needs to Know*, *The Neighboring Church* and *The Neighboring Life*.

Rick speaks at business and ministry conferences around the world, has consulted with, raised capital for and guided numerous start-ups, and shares his leadership on several corporate and nonprofit boards.

Rick and his wife Diane have three children and eight grandchildren who all call Colorado home.

# The Porters & Pioneer Bible Translators



We are so grateful to be working for Pioneer Bible Translators. Specifically our roles are as part of the Care Team, which means we get to walk and care for our missionaries around the world. Living in another country and learning to speak another language can often appear glamorous or exotic. Partnering with God to help create access to God's Scriptures for the Bibleless is a powerful mission. AND this choice carries a high personal and spiritual cost. Our PBT missionaries are in difficult and often remote places, with unstable governments and harsh environments. As part of the care team, we join with our fellow missionaries, be they in preparation or already on the field, to help walk through difficult spaces, process seasons of life, make transitions, and deal with ordinary and often extraordinary challenges. We join with people in the emotional and spiritual work they are doing to be ready to go, to take the Bible to the Bibleless. We come alongside our coworkers taking the Bible to the Bibleless to encourage and support them and their families so they can continue living Christformed lives in the countries God has placed them. We partner with our missionaries in their transitions back to the states when many times they would rather stay on the field but family, illness, or red tape no longer make that possible.



We wear several hats when it comes to our Missionary care including Counselor, Debriefing, Re-entry Coach, Mentor, Spiritual Director, and Trainer.



## The challenge of living as a missionary and why they need care

- Shockingly, or not so shockingly, serving the Lord doesn't give you a pass on the hard parts of life. People are still people and our world is broken. Sometimes the country you live in denies your visa. Many of our workers cannot be "missionaries" and live with a higher level of stress and worry that something they do or say will threaten their or their team's ability to stay. Just being associated with our team can sometimes put a national co-worker at risk and our teammates often absorb that stress. Food and clean running water are not always easily available. On top of these few things people are often isolated. Providing a safe space and counseling helps PBT workers continue to be available for what God is calling them to do.
- It is into these spaces that our family works to engage, whether that be through counseling, debriefing, or our specific attention to the care needs of a team in northern Africa.

## Re-entry/debriefing

- I feel God moving when I get to sit one on one with a Brother or Sister and hear how they see God working in their life or sit with them as they share about what is hard right now. Transitions are hard! Families are hard! Things beyond our control are hard! And change and growth are hard. (I'm sure you already know that). In my role at PBT I get to sit with our missionaries and help them process their current season, whether that is returning to the states, or continuing in the field. Much of my work centers around helping folks through transitional times like a couple forced to return from a closed country because their visa platform went away, or meeting with parents and 5 kids who are preparing to move to Africa, or debriefing a single woman moving from one mission field to another and into a new administrative role.
- I love that I still get a chance to hang out with kids. There are almost as many missionary kids on the field with PBT as adults. We call them Third Culture Kids or TCKs meaning they are not fully from their "home" culture and not fully like their "host" culture. They are a unique third culture! Our kids need time to process and work through hard stuff too and I get to be a part of that ministry too, which is so close to my heart.



## Counseling

- My official role is the Counseling Coordinator. That means I lead our counseling team (myself and three other part-time counselors), connect our people needing counseling with one of our counselors or a referral specific to their need or location, and see people for counseling. Last year we were able to meet for a little under 700 counseling sessions.
- Obviously, I do a lot of closed door meetings. The majority of my work is with people in other countries. Some begin at 6 in the morning to catch people in their afternoon or evening while others happen in my evening to catch someone in their morning the following day. Needless to say I have a website that helps me track time zones across the world.
- I also counsel with some who are living and serving in Dallas. Some are preparing to go overseas while others are working in support roles or with a language project with refugees or in another country.

- I get to partner with them in their struggles with anxiety, depression, grief, transitions, parenting, and relationships (marriages, friends, teams), struggles that show up in all of our lives no matter where we live. I also get to come alongside our fellow workers in spaces of trauma, significant loss, and unwanted transitions. While their worlds are hard and at times chaotic I am trying to offer a safe space for people to be real with their lives and their struggles.

## Off-site Care

- A special role we have is as Offsite Care for the MedAfrica area (MedAfrica is the part of Africa by the Mediterranean.) We meet with each family online every 4-6 weeks to check in, process and pray together. Most of them were actually in the states on home assignment at some point last year so we were able to even have them in our home. We also travel once a year to their annual retreat, which we just did at the beginning of April. At the retreat we help with a day of spiritual renewal, do extended Debriefs with each family and provide a VBS for the precious kiddos, ages toddler to middle school. We love these families that we get to pour into and make deep connections. Two more families will be joining this area in the next year and we have already begun to meet with them as well.



## Looking ahead

- We are looking forward to some more international travel in 2024/2025. Randy will be traveling to Brazil in August helping lead a renewal retreat and Jenn will head to Greece for a specialized two week training and hopefully to meet with one of our mission points. We will also head back to MedAfrica in the Spring.
- In February, Jennifer will complete her certification as a Spiritual Director through the Selah Center for Spiritual Formation and has already begun to see the fruits of this program as she walks with people as they seek to deepen their relationship with our great God.
- We have participated in much of the conversation within the Care team to refine our Debriefing process for PBT and Jennifer will also step into the role as our Debriefing Coordinator. Randy will continue leading our counseling team and hopes to expand our reach and effectiveness.

## Travels

- This past summer Jennifer and I were able to help with a PBT Brazil recruiting event in Goiania. We loved being back in Brazil together, using our Portuguese, and seeing how God is calling a whole new generation to create access to the Bible for the Bibleless. Sam was able to go and so after the Discovery Event, we grabbed Kelton from his work in the south and took the boys back to our city in the north, Salvador. It was our first time back since 2014 and we all loved seeing our friends and being back in our city.
- A month and a half after that trip Jennifer returned to Brazil to help with the bi-annual care renewal retreat for workers in Latin America (Connections). This year national Brazilians were also invited, adding a bilingual dimension.
- In September we visited and worked with a family who recently moved from one European country to another. We were able to debrief the parents and their children looking toward the start of their new adventure.



## Data numbers for this year

- Countries where the workers we meet with live.....17
- States where the workers we meet with live .....12
- Countries visited.....5
- People counseled.....30 individuals and 7 couples
- TCK families served .....25+
- Counseling hours.....700 (counseling team)
- Sam's rehearsal hours..... 1 Million (or at least it feels like that)
- Since PBT started in 1976 we have worked on
  - 123 translation projects
  - That affects 189 million language speakers
  - Has included the translation of 458,430 verses

## Family

- SAM: Our wonderful Sam is now a sophomore in high school. He is now taller than the rest of us (sorry Kelton) at 6'3". No matter how tall he gets he is still the same loving and joyful boy you know. His passion is musical theater and our house and car are continually filled with songs from the stage. In the last year he was Ned in School of Rock, part of the barbershop quartet in The Music Man, and SpongeBob in his school's production of SpongeBob the Musical. On top of this he just turned 16 and is learning to drive with his permit.
- KELTON: Kelton, our growing young adult, loves his life at college. He is in his sophomore year at Abilene Christian and already very involved around campus and in a local church. This past summer he spent 10 weeks in the south of Brazil working with a team focused on incarnational living and helping people break cycles of poverty and addiction. He leads worship at a church plant on Wednesday nights. In the coming summer he is going to serve as a youth intern with the local church he attends in Abilene. He is continuing to study missions and is looking forward to seeing how God continues to shape his future.
- ROSE: Rose, our creative niece, is back in the metroplex and is currently living with her step-mom. She moved back in the fall. She is developing quite a talent in graphic art and design. She is working and thinking through next steps.

## Prayer Request

- Travels Safety for Jenn's overseas training and Randy's Brazil trip
- For wisdom and discernment as Randy leads the counseling team
- Judy's (Jenn's mom) health and Cynthia and Jenn as they care for her
- The kids: transitions and continuing education as well as Kelton's summer internship
- Fundraising needs as we serve our missionaries worldwide
- Courage to meet with workers in hard places and humility to let the Lord work through us fully

# Uzima Christian Training Center

Malindi, Kenya

By Dr. Rodney Thomas

The Uzima Christian Training Center was started many years ago (1990) through the efforts of Tim and Rebecca Talley, and Jim and Phyllis Beck. They began this organization with the dream that it would support, train, and empower the churches and their leadership among the coastal region churches of primarily the Giriama people. The Talleys and the Becks worked for decades planting and developing these churches.

Today, churches continue to be planted and to mature under the leadership, support, and training provided by the staff of this training center.

At this center, and throughout the region, representatives and employees, of this now totally African run organization, conduct leadership training classes, preacher training classes, Bible Classes, Youth and Women's seminars as well as computer training, Fashion and Design training, and Agribusiness skill training.



They often work with church leaders in their home community, providing encouragement, wisdom, guidance, and whatever might be needed to further growth.

All of these efforts are conducted with the aim of strengthening and multiplying the churches and their membership. The people at Uzima conduct some of these activities at the main headquarters in Malindi, Kenya. They also travel, often by motorcycle, across the many rough and dusty miles of the roads of Kenya to the various churches and communities of the



Over the next five years the Uzima Christian Training Center has set the goal of planting ten new churches, that is two new churches each year. They trained four new preachers this past year and eight the year before. They plan to increase the number and variety of courses for those who will serve and live in the various church communities. Currently, they have training courses in Computer Technology and Tailoring. They are planning to develop further courses in welding, electrical wiring, catering, mechanical studies, carpentry and hairdressing. These courses provide income to the training center, but they also empower and improve the economic sustainability of the people living along the coast.



The property of the Uzima Christian training center also hosts the meeting house for the Malindi Church of Christ and a primary school that continues to grow and now boasts hundreds of students. The newly constructed Tim and Rebecca Talley Global Training Centre; as well as the facilities for the training classes in computers and tailoring and more to come.



This is a vibrant and exciting ministry that is supported through funds from the Broadway Church of Christ and also through funds generated by the various training courses offered by the center. Through this ministry, the word of God is preached and many souls are brought to Christ. God has honored Broadway with being able to be a part of this Spirit-filled work.

- These classes are accredited and run in conjunction with the Nairobi Great Commission school with Uzima Christian Training Center serving as a satellite school.

# UZIMA – BRINGS SPIRITUAL “LIFE” TO KENYAN CHURCHES

John 10:10b...

*I came that they may have life and have it abundantly*

Our hearts overflow with excitement as we share with you the latest updates from our mission work in Malindi, Kenya. Together, we continue to witness the transformative power of God's love in action. Here's a glimpse of what's been happening



Mass evangelism at Kombeni church of christ



## PASTOR MEETINGS »»

Every second week of the month, our dedicated pastors gather together to plan and strategize our mission work. During these meetings, we discuss upcoming evangelism initiatives, trainings, seminars, and church fundraising activities. By collaborating and working together as a team, we can achieve even greater success in spreading the message of God's love.

We recently partnered with pastors from our church to conduct an evangelism campaign at M'mangani. Our efforts included morning door-to-door visits and mass evangelism in the evenings. We are overjoyed to report that 41 souls were baptized through our evangelistic efforts, leading to the establishment of a new church.

## »» EVANGELISM



## CHURCH VISITS »»

Each month, we make it a priority to visit three different churches within our network. These visits serve as an opportunity to strengthen the bonds of fellowship and support our fellow believers. Since January, we have visited nine churches, creating a network of support and encouragement across our community.



## »» YOUTH SEMINAR AT GONGONI

On the 30th of March, we organized a youth seminar at Gongoni, inviting youth from all our churches within the Gongoni area. The seminar saw an impressive attendance of 71 youth, who actively participated and engaged in discussions focused on spiritual growth and transformation

## UZIMA PROGRAMS >>>

We are thrilled to update you on our ongoing educational programs at UZIMA. Our tailoring program currently has 14 students enrolled, while our computer program has attracted 25 students. These programs aim to provide practical skills that empower individuals to create a better future for themselves and their families



## TRAININGS >>>

At UZIMA Church, we believe in equipping our members with the necessary knowledge and skills to minister effectively. We offer block courses during April, August, and November holidays, where we currently have ten students enrolled. Additionally, we provide evening classes with eight students actively participating



## GRASSROOTS TEACHING POINTS >>>

We are proud to share that we have established two grassroots teaching points in Sosobora and Kombeni. In Sosobora, nine students have already completed eight lesson modules, while in Kombeni, 16 lessons have been covered by four students. These teaching points are crucial in reaching individuals who may not have easy access to our main church.



## PASTORS FELLOWSHIP >>>

We believe in the power of fellowship and nurturing strong relationships within our church family. Our pastors engage in a monthly pastors' fellowship, where they visit and worship with a different church each month. Additionally, our UZIMA staff members visit each other, offering prayers and support



## STAFF FELLOWSHIP >>>

Our UZIMA staff members visit each other, offering prayers and support. These fellowships strengthen our bond as a faith community.

## WINNING SOULS FOR CHRIST





# NORTH AFRICA

Bryan, Elizabeth,  
Annabelle, Mikat & Sabrine Harrison

In 2015, I found myself driving our little Polaris Ranger about 45 minutes down a dusty dirt road in North Africa to a refugee camp three days a week to meet with the Naas people. Three young Muslim Naas men had sought us out. They said that for years they had been searching for someone who could show them the way of the Messiah but with no success. Their friend met us during a linguistic workshop, and suggested we could help.

So, I gathered with seven men and women in a small grass and mud hut where we sat on rope beds and plastic mats. We prayed simple prayers, read the Bible, wrestled together to understand

the meaning, and searched our hearts for how we would obey what we had read. It was thrilling to witness God at work among people who were experiencing the Bible for the first time in their lives. The energy was palpable!

After the first week, the group suggested we meet at a nearby UN community center. They said there were dozens of others who would want to hear these stories of faith. I couldn't believe it when over 40 Muslims gathered to hear the story of creation from the Bible! But, the goal was to make and grow disciples, not simply to preach. So, instead of large gatherings, I met with the group of seven again and we made a plan. I would meet on Monday, Wednesday and Friday with this group (they insisted on at least 3 days a week). Then, they would pair off and start 3 other groups, on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. What we learned together on Monday, they would lead others to learn on Tuesday. What we learned on Wednesday, they would lead others to learn on Thursday. You get the idea.

Soon there were 4 groups, roughly 40 people, praying, reading the Bible, and wrestling with how to understand and obey it. Multiplication had begun, and we were still in the book of Genesis!

Within a few months there were churches in each of the three Naas refugee camps in the county, and roughly 400 people were gathering for Bible study, prayer and worship. God was multiplying his church and multiplying his workforce!



Fast forward to nine years later and you'll see that our day-to-day lives look pretty different. We're no longer driving an ATV across refugee camps in war-torn North Africa and making disciples in grass huts. But, we are still witnessing God multiplying his church and his workforce! Today, the ministry we are doing together with Broadway has expanded to include a team of 160 full-time servants of Christ working in 10 countries across Africa among 52 language communities.

**52 language communities!** And each one teeming with stories just like those of the Naas – people encountering scripture for the very first time, wrestling with what to do with it and finding life in the Messiah. The stories in these communities are terrible and beautiful – both for those hearing the Gospel for the first time and those who have left everything behind to share it. We walk with those who have lost children and homes and status because of the Kingdom, and with those who have gained deeper community and fuller life and richer blessings than they could have ever dreamed of. From countless Zoom meetings and Whatsapp calls to many weeks-worth of journeys to be in people's homes, we laugh and cry and pray with these brothers and sisters, pouring into leaders and teams who are bringing God's Word to life across the continent of Africa.

Broadway, we are moving toward the day - in our lifetime, God-willing - when there will be scripture in every viable language on earth. We are praying to see the day when the prophesy of Isaiah will be fulfilled and "the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea." (Isaiah 11:9).

Multiplication has always been the dream, and it has been the strategy we have been working on together for nearly 15 years now. God continues to grow and multiply his people, his work, his abundant life! From hut to hut, from refugee camp to refugee camp, from tribe to tribe, from nation to nation. Broadway, God is expanding your influence. The work we are doing together is impacting tens of millions of people today. Thank you, and may God be praised!







## ***As the Past and Present Collide*** by Holly Robbins

In August 2023, Randy and I had the honor of visiting the Dixon Family in Greece. As Christians, it is almost impossible to visit Greece without comparing the modern city and the tourist sites to the Biblical times when Paul was spreading the gospel and growing God's Kingdom. Along with other tourists, we walked the many ruins of all the temples of the ancient Greeks. The one of most interest to us was not on our map and remained unfound, was the alter to the "Unknown God" however, Mars Hill, home of the Areopagus, was quite visible, easily accessible, and free to any who wanted to climb the worn steps to reach the top. How amazing it was to read one of Paul's most significant gospel presentations from Acts 17: 16-34 as I sat on the same patch of soil as Paul.

Mars Hill and the passage of how God used Paul was so inspiring to us. But it failed in comparison to how God is currently using the Dixon's in the exact same place and in the exact same way! Obviously, all the characters and circumstances are different, but God using His people to help grow His Kingdom is the same.

The Dixons are working with refugees from the Middle East, mainly from Iran and Afghanistan. We were able to meet people who arrived in many different ways—

Walking over 100 miles, landing on the rocky shores of Greece in inflatable rafts

And my all time favorite—

Stowing away in the tank of a semi-truck that was transporting milk (and yes, he nearly drowned and has no desire to ever drink milk again).

As different as their mode of transportation, was the reasons for leaving including: Wanting a better life, leaving an oppressed culture, or fleeing for their very life because it was discovered that they were studying the Bible.

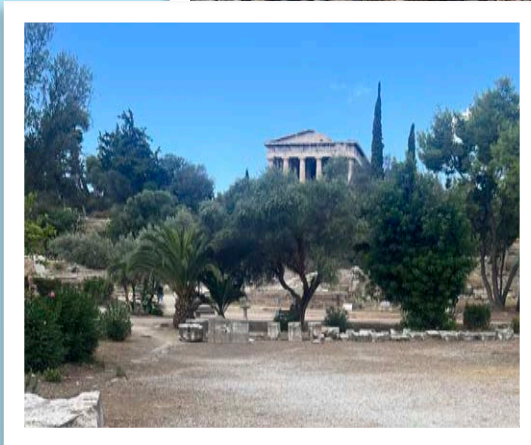
The Dixons are showing the love of the "Unknown God" to Muslims who are flocking to Greece. One has to be blind not to see all that our God is doing through them. To see the excitement in the faces of people who didn't know God existed, the yearning to learn more about the Scriptures, and the eagerness to share with people both back home and in the refugee camps is indescribable.

Unfortunately, when God is hard at work, Satan is working equally as hard. He has thrown many roadblocks at the Dixons' work. Greece is processing the refugee's paperwork faster. Some are only in the country 6-12 months. The language most refugees speak is Farsi. There are not schools in Greece that teach Farsi. One would have to find an individual who is fluent in English, willing to teach Farsi to an American, and able to teach English to Farsi. Many team members are also relocating to other areas (Germany, France, other Western European countries).

In spite of the roadblocks thrown in the way, we know that our God will not be stopped and is more than we can hope or imagine! Through HIM, countless numbers of Bible studies are happening through and because of the Dixons across Europe and there were over 100 baptisms in 2023. I fully believe that our God is alive and working in Greece.

**How can we at Broadway help you ask?? PRAY, PRAY, PRAY!!**

Pray:  
Roadblocks are overcome and that God's Kingdom continues to grow.  
God would remove human doubt, fear, and insecurities to let His power shine through.  
Broadway can be a source of comfort and emotional support for the Dixons.



# The Dixon Family

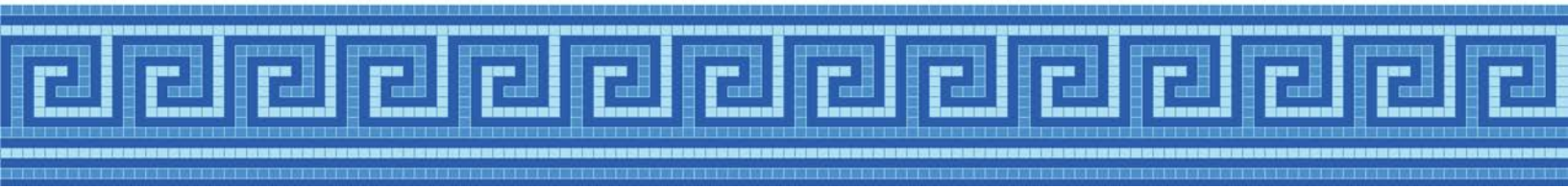
Brad, Cleria, Jeremiah, Isaiah & Sophia

Thessaloniki, Greece

In 2018, our family made the move from Fort Worth, Texas to Athens, Greece. We had a team of 3 families, a strong vision to see a movement of disciples making disciples among refugees in Greece, a good support system back home, and an eagerness to see God move and work in Greece and throughout all of Europe. Our background is in Social work. Cleria and I both studied at Lubbock Christian University and went on to DFW from there to work in the social work field.

Cleria got a job in refugee resettlement in Fort Worth and I worked in the mental health field prior to making our move to Greece. We both knew that we love the field of social work and felt our education and skills had equipped us well to serve God and others on the mission field. Our hearts were already geared towards service and helping others. So, when we arrived in Athens we knew that God was calling us to bridge the gap that we saw between making disciples and facilitating environments where emotional and mental healing could happen. We were trained in Discovery Bible Study and the philosophy of disciple making movements. Our strategy was and is focused on allowing the Spirit of God to speak louder than we do acknowledging that our background knowledge and experience is limited and that people need to hear the voice of God to lead and guide them. In the beginning we understood our role to be that of an observer and a learner. We understood our work to be rooted in prayer as our foundation.

So, we started by trying to meet people and hear their stories. We tried to build authentic relationships, mainly because we needed friends, but also because we knew our impact would be greater if we had authentic connections and not just a good message. However, the more people we met and the more stories we heard awakened us to the overwhelming need for trauma care and healing. It seemed like every refugee we met had a traumatic story to share and needed someone willing to listen. As we continued to pray, our hearts became more burdened to see God work in a way that would bring healing and restoration to these people who were so broken. This forced us to wrestle with suffering and healing from a biblical perspective. We had to ask ourselves, what we believe about suffering in the world and God's role in it? We were also hearing incredible stories of Jesus showing up in people's dreams. People who had never heard the name of Jesus were having visions of "a man dressed in white" speaking to them or saving them. We discovered that while these people have experienced incredible suffering and pain, they have not been left alone. God is actively pursuing them.



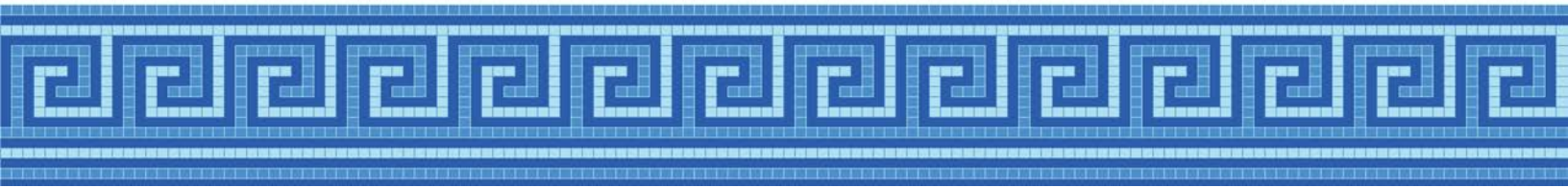
As we continued to pray and ask God how to engage these people and this work, we came across two missionary families from Finland who were nurse-social workers. They had also seen this enormous need for Christian mental health care among refugees in Greece. They had lived in Afghanistan for several years prior to moving to Greece and had arrived in Greece a few years before we did. They had done their research and discovered that the Greek government was very limited in their resources and approach to refugee mental health care. So, they saw an opportunity to develop something that would address the emotional and mental health care needs of refugees while also exposing them to a biblical worldview of suffering and healing. They developed a program called “Chaila”. Chaila is a Dauri word, the language spoken in Afghanistan, which translates to “trellis”, a support structure for a grapevine. The purpose of this program was to provide support for those suffering from trauma or intense stress. The Chaila curriculum was facilitated with groups of men or women that educated refugees on trauma and stress, teaching coping skills, as well as using scripture to prompt conversations about Jesus, suffering, and healing. Chaila groups also taught Christian practices for coping with trauma and stress such as meditation and prayer.



We started partnering with these families in leading the Chaila groups, knowing that soon they would be returning to Finland. As we did so, we began to see that their groups needed more development to meet the spiritual needs of the participants. As we worked to advance them, our progress was stifled by the COVID lockdown. This was incredibly discouraging and limiting. We wondered if our mission work was coming to an end! It was in the midst of struggles that the Lord met us in a 40 day prayer and fasting season we had entered. He led us to Joshua 1:3



*“I promise you what I promised Moses: Wherever you set foot, you will be on land I have given you”.*



As we read this word from the Lord, we realized that we had spent many times prayer walking in other parts of the city, but never in our own neighborhood. Before COVID, we spent every Tuesday with our team, prayer walking in the darkest neighborhoods of Athens, asking God to come to those places. We would drive to refugee camps and pray, but somehow we didn't think to pray on our neighborhood for the people that live right outside our door. We believed this promise for Joshua was a promise for us. We believed God had given us incredible authority in the spiritual realms, that we carry the power of the Holy Spirit within us wherever we go, and that God would give us the land. We began prayer walking our neighborhood daily as a family and individually. It was a great way to get out of the house during COVID and also gave us a strong sense of purpose. We discovered God is not only working in the darkest places, He is also working in the places we often overlook. We rediscovered our most powerful tool, PRAYER.

God began to open our eyes and ears to the needs in our community. There was a young man from Bangladesh who always stood on the street corner selling Kleenex to make a living. We struck up a friendship and started praying with him and for him. One day as we walked down the street, Cleria looked inside the restaurant he stood outside to sell his Kleenex, and prayed, "God help this young man get a job here. We pray they will hire him and give him meaningful work to do that will meet his needs." The next week we went to visit and pray with him, and he told us that the restaurant had offered him a job and he was starting work the next week! We began seeing God show up all around us, working and moving in that neighborhood, but not because we started praying. We believe that He was always working in that place. He just began to allow us to see it. We were so encouraged by His nearness to us and the way that our prayers were being answered.

Coming out of COVID we began a closer partnership with our friends living in Northern Greece, in a large city called Thessaloniki. We had been close friends for some time as both of our families were sent by the same church. We often had refugee friends transition between Athens and Thessaloniki so we would connect them with each other. As our partnership grew, we saw that their work of disciple making was more developed. They had identified several "People of peace", or leaders in the refugee community that had joined their team as ministry partners, helping them with translation and facilitating Bible study groups. These leaders were made up of 3 families who were from Iran, Syria, and Kurdistan who had become Christians. They still struggled with a lot of pain and brokenness that had yet to be surrendered to Jesus. Our friends expressed a need for someone with my gifting and calling to help lead these refugee leaders into moments of inner healing or counseling. So I began to travel to Thessaloniki several times a month.



When my translator who was helping me lead groups in Athens transitioned to Germany, my work there slowed down dramatically. The work in Thessaloniki was growing and expanding and demanding more of my time. We began to pray about transitioning our family to live and work with our partners there. Cleria and I do not make decisions quickly. We don't like change and we have a strong desire to hear from God and allow him to lead us at each step. So, we entered into another 40-day prayer and fasting season.

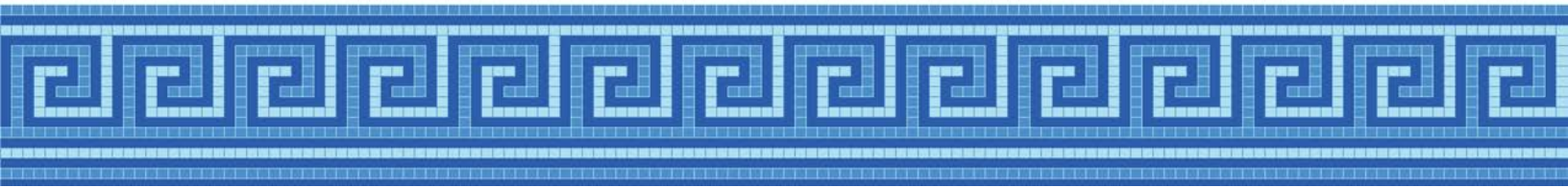
Soon after, God started speaking. We were asking God for signs and feeling the weight of another move, another neighborhood, and another school for our kids. We knew we wanted to be certain God was leading us into something new. He made it abundantly clear to us that he was calling us to join this team in Thessaloniki and the work they had built. We felt confirmation that the giftings and ministry vision he had given us was for this work in Thessaloniki with these refugee leaders. So, in December 2021 our family made the move from Athens to

Thessaloniki. We have now been in our new city for two and a half years, the work has changed, the team has changed, but the vision and calling remain the same. We continue to host spaces where people can experience God, hear from him and obey His commands. We believe that the disciple making movement is a movement of the spirit of God. As Greeks, refugees, and others around us are healed, set free and made whole, they are transformed into new creations and are sent out by God to be disciple makers among their own people. God has led us to a new scripture to guide our work in this season. It is Isaiah 61:1-3.



*“The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is upon me, for the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to comfort the brokenhearted and to proclaim that captives will be released and prisoners will be freed. He has sent me to tell those who mourn that the time of the Lord’s favor has come, and with it, the day of God’s anger against their enemies. To all who mourn in Israel, he will give a crown of beauty for ashes, a joyous blessing instead of mourning, festive praise instead of despair. In their righteousness they will be like great oaks that the Lord has planted for his own glory” NLT*

*Praise God for His work in Greece and our partnership with Him and The Broadway Church!*



# ECUADOR



Jason, Cathy, Raquel,  
Allison & Charlie Jones de Francis



## ***The benefits of being adopted by God***



Recently, Jason and I FINALLY finished our first daughter's adoption. It has been a long, tedious, expensive, process that at times, we wondered would it ever end. Even through the process, she never failed to be our daughter. We never failed to treat her like a daughter, love her unconditionally, and show no difference between her and our biological children (her siblings). However, deep down, we ALL knew that something was different and missing. She could not enjoy all the privileges of being a natural-born child, or even a legally adopted child. Mainly, she could never travel with us, as getting a passport and American citizenship is something only granted to natural-born, or legally adopted children, not those with legal custody.

This process has taught me so much, but one lesson is the truth about what being adopted into God's family really means. During the last 11 years, we have unconditionally loved Raquel, but we all knew that a piece was missing. I imagine that is how God feels about his children. Even those who have not chosen to be adopted into his family. He still loves them as a child, but they are missing out. They are missing out on the privileges that come with adoption. They aren't missing out on the love, care, and protection, but they are missing out on the bonuses- and with God, those bonuses are even better than a trip to the states or Costa Rica- it's eternal life, grace, and mercy- things we cannot fully understand.



For all of those who have walked this journey of adoption with us for almost 11 years, we thank you for the prayers, support, and encouragement during the frustrating times. We are so thankful that God allows us to be Raquel's parents and we are thankful for all that he has taught us through her life. We have said this from the beginning, God has blessed our family with her and we have definitely received more than we deserve!

So, as we are TOTALLY rejoicing that we've finished this HUGE step in our family's goals, it's also causing me to rejoice with an even deeper appreciation of what being adopted into God's family means- I've (and you too!), got some GREAT privileges waiting for me!

**Grupo Alpha**- the base of a good start with God.

Over the last couple of years, one of our ministries that has grown and is making a mark in our church is Grupo Alpha- our preteen group. This group of kids are HUNGRY for God's word. They have LOTS of good questions. They also love to play and serve!

Another cool thing about this age is their readiness to invite their friends to the group. Because of this, we usually have about 10 community kids that arrive each week. This group is growing not only in numbers, but it is so cool to watch them learn God's truths in a fun way. Plus, who doesn't love to do fun outdoor activities with Mr. Jason!?

*Raquel is in her last year of this group, and this is what she has to say about Grupo Alpha-*

*"I like Alpha because we can learn more about Jesus and we can spend time with each other. We also receive good advice from my dad, Mr. Jason, how to fix our mistakes and not fall into the same problems again. We also get to help other people, like when we go to the nursing home. I also like how we can invite people that have problems and help them overcome them."*





**Atlas**  
CAMPUS FELLOWSHIP

**Atlas is taking its first mission trip since COVID.**







In May, Atlas will be taking our group to Florida to volunteer with **Give Kids the World**. GKTW partners with the **Make-A-Wish Foundation** and provides free housing for Wish Families as they visit central Florida. Our goal is to spread the love and kindness of Jesus to children with potentially terminal illnesses.

## **What is Give Kids the World?** **“Where Happiness Inspires Hope”**

Rated four stars by Charity Navigator, Give Kids The World Village is an 89-acre, whimsical nonprofit resort in Kissimmee, Florida, that provides week-long, cost-free wish vacations to critically ill children and their families worldwide who want to visit Central Florida. Since 1986, Give Kids The World Village has welcomed more than 188,000 families from all 50 states and 77 countries. The Village is made possible by the support of generous donors, community partners, and thousands of passionate volunteers who donate their time and talent to make wishes come true.



# We are Fully Funded!

We have raised close to \$24,000. Each student contributed money out of their pocket (\$100), sold parking, wrote letters, and did work projects to help raise money for the trip. Thank you for the help, Broadway!



**Kelbie**

*A Senior Children's Ministry Major at LCU*

"I am excited to share in fellowship with everyone that we encounter and serve the beautiful people God created."



**Todd**

*A Junior Engineering Major at Tech*

"I am excited to see the joy on the faces of the children and families we will be serving on this mission trip."



**Addy**

*A Sophomore Nursing Major at Tech*

"I grew up in ministry, and there's nothing that makes me happier than being faithful when called to serve others! I'm super excited and hope to share that joy with everyone!"

# Meet Our Students!

# Broadway Church of Christ Prison & Jail Ministry

## TDCJ - Lubbock Parole Division & Broadway have partnered to host a *Job Fair* for Lubbock County.

*A Big Thank You!*

Our church has been allowed to serve our community by partnering with TDCJ-Lubbock Parole Division for ReEntry and Rehabilitation. Every 6 to 8 months, Broadway Church of Christ serves as the hosting location that reaches out and loves unconditionally. Our third event here at Broadway was held in January.

Companies from around the area offer unconditional love by giving men and women opportunities for a better life with full and part-time employment and educational training.

These are the companies who participated in March:

- Also Uniforms
- ATD Truck Driving
- Broadway Church of Christ/Harris DWI & Youth Education Programs
- City of Lubbock
- El Robi
- First Convenience Bank
- Goodwill Industries
- Kingdom Towers
- Llano Logistics/Buddy Holly Hall/RC Tylor/USM Manufacturing
- Tropicale Foods
- Workforce Solutions
- United Supermarket
- Motivation Education & Training
- PYCO Industries
- Spartan Public Transportation
- Stoneridge Group
- Telephone Marketing
- Texas Tech Operations Division

Along with the Correspondence courses that are mailed from the church office, these combined ministries are serving 180 men and women including persons at the Montford unit.

*Eddie Harris*



Parole Officers and Directors covering Plainview, the Panhandle, Midland, and Lubbock

*Thank you Broadway, for your love in sharing and supporting the gospel!*

# SPIRITUAL FORMATION IN THE HOME

Parent Class

*APRIL 14TH, 21ST, AND 28TH*

Growing Families Room 225 | Sunday Morning Class

All Children's and Youth Parents Invited



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