



REACHING ACROSS

Developing Christian leaders globally

DECEMBER 2020

Numerous Opportunities in a Year of Uncertainty



Executive Director
Greg Morrow

Redundant as it may sound, 2020 has been a year like no other. Who could have foreseen the disruption resulting from a worldwide pandemic? Nevertheless, as someone once observed, opportunities often come wrapped up in a problem.

Beginning in March, travel restrictions hindered in-person interaction with our international partners. Still, FLF staff found new opportunities to interface with our global leaders by focusing on relationship building through enhanced communication by email, and virtual meetings. The goal was to “minister to those who minister” by communicating that *they are as important to us as is the work we do with them*. FLF staff also made good use of this time to enact alternate methods of delivering services; a process that has led to some exciting teaching opportunities.

An opportunity to further discussion about FLF’s future development at a three-day board/staff retreat planned for August was postponed due to meeting restrictions. Our board and staff were, however, able to meet one day virtually, interacting with retreat leaders Mark and Linda Whitworth, former missionaries with the International Mission Board. Plans remain active to reschedule this event in 2021, continuing our conversations about the future and how we might better plan for delivery of services, especially in a post COVID-19 world.

Good news for FLF was highlighted by yet another opportunity due to your faithful support. We remain grateful and blessed that our donor base has remained both faithful and generous throughout 2020.

Read more about how funds were dispersed to partners in 2020 on page 3. **None of this would be possible without the support of FLF donors like you.**

Based on the recommendations of Field Service staff working with international partners, FLF forwarded approximately \$9,150 in support of ministry projects that were able to take place with FLF interaction, either in-person or online. An additional \$16,000 was forwarded to Ukraine Baptist Theological Seminary, designated for the Macedonia Project to support church planting, with \$8,000 still to be sent before the end of the year. None of these funds could have been forwarded without the support of FLF donors.

For so many around the world, 2020 has been a year of public conflict, private anguish, and personal loss. **Yet, we are reminded that in the midst of so much chaos, our Lord remains sovereign, unchanged by the challenges we face.** That is the point, isn’t it? For therein lies the relevance of God’s Word from one generation to the next. As it was for those to whom the Apostle Paul wrote, so it remains for us today.

Problems? Yes. Opportunities? Yes, and more!
“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose... For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 8:28; 38-39).

Thank you for your faithful support in serving our Lord through the Future Leadership Foundation. As we near the end of this year, we remain committed to our mission of *developing Christian leaders globally* in the year to come.

May God keep you safe and secure, and may God grant us His peace and presence as we look forward to another year of great opportunity.

**SAY YES!
TO FLF**

Many amazing individuals have said **YES to FLF** through volunteering, partnering in work, and/or giving financially.

Experience their inspirational stories:

flfmissions.org/sayyes



Future Leadership Foundation 2020:



Ukraine: Church Planters Retreat

In February, three FLF trainers traveled to Ukraine to participate in the Church Planters Retreat at Ukraine Baptist Theological Seminary (UBTS) in L'viv. Jason Gentry (team coordinator), Dale Baker, and Stefan Gerville led the training of 17 church planters in 21 hours of formal teaching, as well as informal interaction accentuated by the setting which took place in the Carpathian Mountains. Jason's report captured the essence of this important event with highlights, such as: *"The relationship with them deepened beyond the professional to a brotherhood"; "This investment of time was priceless"; "It was so very touching and humbling... I feel these guys taught me more than I them."*

FLF plans to participate virtually in this event once again in January 2021.

Our service work in 2020 has taken a different path than anticipated due to COVID, however, our commitment to developing Christian leaders globally is stronger than ever. Prior to COVID restrictions in March, we were able to facilitate two trips for training of leaders.

Theological Education of Pastors, El Salvador



Heber Mena, a member of the Central America Field Service team, enlisted Pastor Luis Mendoza to conduct theological education of pastors, leading to a certificate of training presented by FLF, the Association of Baptists in El Salvador (ABES), and the Institute of Theology of Baptists in El Salvador (ITBES).

Luis led 18 hours of formal teaching for 48 pastors who participated in the three-day event.

Highlights from Luis' report included the following: *Thank you for allowing me the opportunity of traveling to El Salvador to teach the class of Systematic Theology. The class taught was really helpful for the*

students to develop a process they can follow to study any topic of the Bible and arrive to a conclusion that will reflect the whole teaching of the Bible, in relation to a specific doctrine. I committed myself to keep in touch and keep sharing with them... I'm grateful for the opportunity of investing my time in the lives of these men and women. I'm looking forward to a new opportunity of spending time with them to be blessed and a blessing. Once again, thank you for this opportunity and privilege!

FLF plans to continue this project in 2021, either virtually or in-person.



Future Leadership Foundation

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The Future Leadership Foundation (FLF) develops Christian leaders globally, collaborating with churches, ministry organizations and religious entities by addressing needs and goals that facilitate reaching people for Christ and equipping them for ministry.

Leadership Team:

Executive Director: Greg Morrow; **Director of Operations:** Melissa Hatfield; **Field Services Directors:** Calvin Brown, Dr. John Claydon, Chris Cook, Steve Easterwood, Michael Graves, Mike and Robbi Haynes, John Jackson, Heber Mena, and Phil Rector; **Treasurer:** Gary Collins; **Communications:** Ken Satterfield

2020 Board:

President: John Heskett, Chesterfield, Mo.; **Vice President:** Tom Ogle, California, Mo.; **Secretary:** Gerri Ogle, California, Mo.; **Board members:** Julius Anderson, Lake St. Louis, Mo.; Karen Badger, Rolla, Mo.; Steve Easterwood, Kirksville, Mo.; Larry Guess, Fenton, Mo.; Stephen Hemphill, Liberty, Mo.; Andre Khudyadkov, Kiev, Ukraine; Stephen Mathis, Jefferson City, Mo.; Jean Roberson, Birmingham, Ala.; Thea Scott, Jefferson City, Mo.; and Tom Wright, Lee's Summit, Mo.

Advisory Board:

Kathleen Boswell, Sedalia; Jennifer Briner, Switzerland; and Ryan Feeler, Rolla, Mo.



Different Plans, Same Mission



Ukraine: Mission Students Retreat

In October, three FLF trainers participated virtually in a Missions Retreat hosted by Ukraine Baptist Theological Seminary (UBTS) in L'viv. Calvin Brown, Heber Mena, and Stuart Doyle provided four virtual classes via Zoom in various topics to instruct nearly 25 seminary students in the missions department at the seminary.

Courses taught as requested by UBTS included Cross-Cultural Witnessing, the Character of God's Servants, Team Building, and Serving with Multicultural Teams.

The content was well-received by both students and staff and created good discussion after the virtual training. And while in-person training is preferred by all, the objectives and goals for this virtual training were met and celebrated.

As one student said, *"It's best to have face-to-face training, but for lack of opportunity, it was a*

wonderful time in its own way!"

Another student shared, *"Thank God for the wonderful opportunity to learn together, even if the teacher is through Zoom."*

A request has been made to continue this work in 2021 as FLF and UBTS continue to partner together to develop Christian leaders globally.



Thank You For Giving!

FLF remains grateful and blessed that our donor base has remained both faithful and generous throughout 2020. Based on the recommendations of Field Service staff working with our international partners, FLF funds were distributed to support ministry projects still able to take place this year.

\$2,700

Underwrote February's Church Planters Retreat at the Ukraine Baptist Theological Seminary.

\$5,000

Wired to the Baptist Union of Poland designated for the installation of a furnace for the Zelow Baptist Church. This church is the focus of the Church Revitalization Project approved by the board in November 2019. Funds for the project were taken from donations directed to the Poland Leadership Training Account received from Parkade Baptist Church, Columbia, MO and a private contribution from a member of the same church.

\$442.50

Underwrote the theological education of pastors in February with the Association of Baptists in El Salvador (ABES), and the Institute of Theology of Baptists in El Salvador (ITBES).

\$16,000

Released to Ukraine Baptist Theological Seminary. These funds are designated for the Macedonia Project, a church planting initiative begun in 2013 partnering American pastors and churches with Ukrainian church plants. A final disbursement will be approved prior to December 31 for a total of **\$24,000** disbursed for the year.

\$1,000

Wired to Ukraine Baptist Theological Seminary, partially support of the UBTS Missions Department Retreat in October.

None of these funds could have been forwarded without the support of FLF donors. Thank you for your faithful generosity this year and in the upcoming year as we continue to develop Christian leaders globally.

Looking Ahead to 2021: An Overview of Our Projects



Ukraine

Providing training for the annual Student Missions Retreat

Providing training for the annual Church Planting Retreat

Hosting Mission Seminars in churches

Creation of a Ukrainian Language Mission Training Manual

Continue to foster partnerships between American pastors and churches with Ukrainian church planters

Provide leadership for a Music Leadership Initiative



Puerto Rico

Provide leadership and training for the American Baptist Churches of Puerto Rico



Poland

Provide various programs to support Church Revitalization in Poland

Provide resources to modernize the Poland Baptist Seminary Library

Provide incentives for seminary student education



Moldova

Provide support and leadership for the Foster Adoptive Program of the Moldova Baptist Union

Provide family ministry training for pastors



El Salvador

Continued leadership and training for the theological education of pastors



And more!

Ongoing communications remain underway with international partners in Belarus, Estonia, Lithuania, Poland, and Mexico regarding additional potential projects. We look forward to sharing with you in 2021 the outcomes of these projects and the ongoing relationships with our friend and partners around the world.

Three Ways You Can Financially Support FLF

1 Give on our website www.flfmissions.org



2 Write a check to FLF

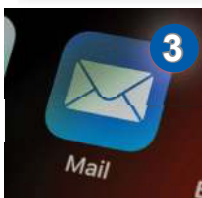
Send it (*and the enclosed card*) to:
Future Leadership Foundation
PO Box 1891
Columbia, MO 65205-1891



As a 501(c)3 charity, you will receive a statement of your tax-deductible gifts to FLF. **Thank you in advance for investing in emerging leaders around the world!**

3 Other ways that best meet your needs

Email us at office@flfmissions.org or call toll-free 866.652.5150 and let us work with you!



Did You Know?

Over 90% of the operating expenses for FLF are covered by FLF Board and Staff. That means nearly ALL of what you donate goes directly to projects and partners!