

For security sake, please do not post any of this on social media.



Why would I eagerly buckle up when going only 10mph on an empty back road? To keep from banging my head on the roof of the car and being thrown into the lap of our driver. We traveled these rugged back roads of **Liberia** to villages that were just being opened to new ministry in **January**.



Above: Preaching to those who arrived early for our medical clinic.



Above: we treat body and soul in our clinics.

Partnering with the AIBM (African Independent Baptist Mission), we significantly impacted four new church plants. Though it was only a single day in each location, we saw 380 patients with 72 professions of faith.

This year marked 25 years of taking teams to Liberia, always partnering with the indigenous AIBM. They pick the locations where we minister with a special emphasis on new church plants. While follow-up statistics are difficult to obtain, we see new church buildings being built where we had ministered one or two years before. This growing indigenous emphasis of starting new preaching points and new churches has been a wonderful development.



Above: holding clinic in a local community building.

Below: the new church currently being built in that village.



Moreover, our ABWE mission started the “Missionary Physician Assistant” (MPA) school about 20 years ago. The major burden of its development was by missionary Steve Trexler under the AIBM. With his retirement the program became fully indigenous and was just granted government status as a four-year bachelor program. This increases their capacity another 50 students a year to 200 in the school at a time. This program has become one of the foremost in the country with over 90% passing their certification exam.



Above: school emblem.

Below: Craig from our team teaching in one of classes



Being a Missionary PA program, all the students graduate with a minor in Bible; and they are equipped to be medical missionaries wherever they are in the country. On this recent med team trip many of our helpers were from the PA program as well as our local Christian clinic (also under the AIBM).

This April medical evangelistic clinics will be going out with all the treaters being PA graduates. And the school itself is becoming totally self-sustaining. This school with its vision, activities, and outstanding students, is an incredible development.

Below: Philip from the first PA graduating class, seeing patients with me on this trip.



Finally, in Liberia we have been partnering for years with a small mission board out of Jamaica called Faith and Deeds. As they are transitioning to a total national leadership and participation, they have developed a program which they call MCHE (Missionary Community Health Education/Evangelism). While the “classical” use of CHE has been to start churches, this new approach can be used by the PA’s to help local churches grow. That is, the PA graduates can encourage and develop local churches wherever they are, whether they are working on their own, or for some nonprofit organization, or government facility. As a medical missionary, seeing all this indigenous, self-sustaining ministry is tremendously encouraging.

Below: PA student helping Craig in our pharmacy this January



Last year I had opportunity to speak in **Indonesia** about our approach to medical, short-term team trips. A Christian university there has invited me to come in **March** and help them organize this kind of outreach from their university. We will be using the staff and students in a totally indigenous effort. Due to the location in a Muslim dominated society the outreach must be done with discretion. The emphasis of the program is having more personal contact and prayer with patients before they see the doctor. We are praying and looking for champions of this program who will carry it forward year by year. This has huge potential for a self-sustaining ministry and impact all through the country. So please pray for our trip to Indonesia and God will raise up local leaders to champion this approach.

This **June** in **Zambia**, we will be working again with a group of pastors who have come together calling themselves *Grace Reigns Ministries*. Mike and Cindy Lilya have been going there short term for about 20 years. They have helped the pastors develop as a church planting and discipleship ministry. In recent years the ministry has headed toward becoming self-sustaining by getting these “tent-making” pastors into the business of raising pigs! This locally profitable business of each pastor will help get their backs off the wall financially. This also allows them in their church to expand and even help other pastors. In our medical trip in June, we will be reaching out to new ministries that are joining Grace Reigns.



We prayed about retiring. But what the Lord gave in answer are new open doors, multiple teammates for me to mentor, and better health. Indeed, four team leaders are now on board (3part-time, 1 career). The ministry is growing. If anyone wants to contribute to our glasses and medicines fund or our ministry, please click on the following link:

[https://give.abwe.org/projects/ihm-short-term-trip-medicine-and-glasses-js:](https://give.abwe.org/projects/ihm-short-term-trip-medicine-and-glasses-js)

(If clicking link does not work, then copy and paste into your web browser)

In a past letter I mentioned the **need for a newer car**. We found an excellent

choice through some relatives. If anyone can help with the purchase, that would be an answer to prayer. Please click on the following link:

<https://give.abwe.org/worker/293>

(If clicking link does not work, then copy and paste into your web browser)

About contacting me: **my email address is changing**. While I can still be reached at the old address for most of this year, please switch to the new one.

OLD: jacksorg@abwe.cc

NEW: jack.sorg@abwego.org [note the "." between jack and sorg]

We are so thankful for your prayers and support. And we rejoice in the Lord's faithfulness and grace.

Grace and Peace to All,

Jack and Sandy Sorg

Association of Baptists for

Jack and Sandy Sorg

Sending Church:

World Evangelism (ABWE)
Church

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