

FELLOWSHIP

GLOBAL RISES

2020





LESS
UNDER
OUR
TREE

MORE
FOR THE
WORLD



INTRODUCTION

What do you enjoy most about the Christmas Season? For me, it has to be all the wonderful traditions we celebrate this time of year. Whether it's beautiful lights, angelic music, or amazing culinary treats, we all have traditions that we associate with the Christmas Season.

Well, at Fellowship we have a tradition, too. It's an opportunity for us to turn our attention beyond the walls of our church—beyond our gift lists, guest lists, and wish lists—and give generously to people all around the world who have needs. We call this tradition, “Global Christmas”.

Fellowship is privileged to work alongside twelve global partners who are serving Christ in their home cultures around the globe. These partners are working in areas of great material and spiritual deficit. They know their people, and are doing a tremendous job of serving, right where God has placed them. Yet we have something they need, something that will help them increase the influence of the gospel through each of their ministries: We have financial resources.

We've created this Global Christmas magazine for you to learn more and start praying about how God will lead you to give. In these pages, you'll get to know our partners better, hear about their dreams for their ministries, and find out how you can be a part of this amazing work.

This year we're setting a huge goal for Global Christmas at Fellowship: we want to raise \$1 million for our ministry partners. Imagine the impact these dollars will have all around the globe when they're put into the hands of these faithful men and women! Would you please join us in chasing this goal for the glory of God and the spread of the gospel through these incredible partnerships?

Global Christmas is an opportunity for us to take a portion of what we've each been given, and see it used for the furtherance of the gospel in desperate places. Here's how you can take part: go to www.FellowshipGlobalChristmas.org. This is where you can learn about all twelve of our global partners and how this year's giving will bless them in the year ahead.

This is a tradition Fellowship looks forward to every year, and we hope it will become one of your favorite traditions, too. It's a great opportunity to disciple our families, and to remind our own hearts that this season, ultimately, is not about us.

Because less under our tree... really does mean more for the world.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rob Sweet". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rob Sweet

Lead Pastor, Fellowship Bible Church

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THE ECONOMICS OF HEAVEN

LLOYD SHADRACH



“There is one who scatters, and yet increases all the more, And there is one who withholds what is justly due, and yet it results only in want.

PROVERBS 11:24

I have always been struck by the paradox of these verses.

- How is it that the person who “scatters” – giving away what she possesses – ends up with more?!
- How can the person who holds on to what should justly be given, end up wanting!?

The outcomes don’t correspond with the behavior. You don’t get more, when you give what you have. And you should not have want, when you keep what should be given. This makes no sense!

Could it be that Solomon, the wisest man who ever lived, is giving us an example of heavenly economics, where what makes no sense from a worldly viewpoint, makes all the sense in the world when seen from heaven? I think so. And his economics are built upon three biblical principles.

First, God owns everything. Consider Psalm 89:11...

“The heavens are yours, and the earth is yours; everything in the world is yours—you created it all.

If you create something, you own it. There is nothing in the universe that God did not create. Nothing. Therefore, he owns everything.

The second principle flows directly from the first: If God owns everything, then I own nothing.

Let me clarify. From an earthly perspective, you own what you work for, what you purchase. But from a biblical perspective your car, your clothes, your shoes, your watch, your home, your checking, savings and retirement accounts, even your pet are not yours, they are God’s. (First principle: God owns everything)

God has gladly given you all you have (it’s in His DNA). But, He gives us all we have to enjoy as



stewards. A steward is not an owner, but one who has been entrusted by the owner to manage and allocate their resources.

The third principle: God's resources are unlimited. If you possessed every piece of currency on the planet, while it would be a gargantuan amount, it would be finite. But for the one who creates all things from nothing, there is no limit to what He possesses.

Taken together, these three biblical truths explain Solomons paradox of the heavenly economy.

Solomon is describing the person who is living these three principles. Thus, when this person gives what she possesses away, she is not diminished in the least. Just the opposite, she experiences increase. But how?

As God's steward, she has access to an infinite amount of all that is needed. Her giving is not a deduction from a limited amount. It is a distribution of limitless supply.

Think of it like this: Suppose you were given just one bucket of water to water your crop for the entire growing season. You would probably apply that water in "drips" and "drops", seeking to make it last as long as possible.

But suppose you had a hose hooked to a spigot that tapped into an underground artesian well. You would let the water flow like a river, and, your crops would multiply. A bucket holds water. A hose distributes water.

This is what Solomon implies when he adds the parallel statement...

²⁵The generous man will be prosperous, And he who waters will himself be watered.
Proverbs 11:25

Think back with me to our brief "mini-series" on the Kingdom of God . God's plan has always been His Kingdom: His people, in His place, under His rule, enjoying His blessings, forever. Those "in the kingdom" live to bring others who are across the street or across the sea "into" the Kingdom.

God supplies all the funds and resources required for that mission by entrusting His unlimited supply to citizens of the Kingdom, who steward those resources for the expansion of His kingdom on earth.

Giving and being a blessing to the world are part of God's nature. Made in His image, it is our DNA as well. That's why our giving to extend God's kingdom in this world does not "diminish" us in any way. Rather, stewarding His resources for His Kingdom, our "less" is always "more." Such is the way of heavenly economics.



WHAT IS GLOBAL CHRISTMAS?

Every December, it is our privilege at Fellowship Bible Church to take a few weeks and place special emphasis on what God is doing around the world, both locally and globally. We call this season Global Christmas. It is a reminder for us to look beyond ourselves and embrace the work our Global and Local partners are doing as they embrace hurting people who need the good news of Jesus Christ.

There are many needs that we could come alongside but our commitment to building relationships causes us to be intentional with a few. We have strategically selected local and global partnerships to help invest in and further their mission. Our partnerships are intentionally selected so our members have the opportunity to serve regularly and build relationships that shape us. Without intentionally building relationships with others on our street, community, and around the world we will remain limited in our understanding, experience, and views of who God is and the needs of the world. This commitment is rooted in our values of **Better Together** and **Not About Ourselves**.

Your giving makes a difference! These partners are doing incredible things, and we get the chance to come alongside and join them in kingdom work. Because of the generosity of your prayers, finances and sending global teams, we have helped to train leaders, educate and feed children, grow churches and so much more. Over the past 20 years, together, through our local and global partnerships, we have walked out our value of Not About Ourselves and have contributed close to 11 million dollars and extended the reach of the gospel!

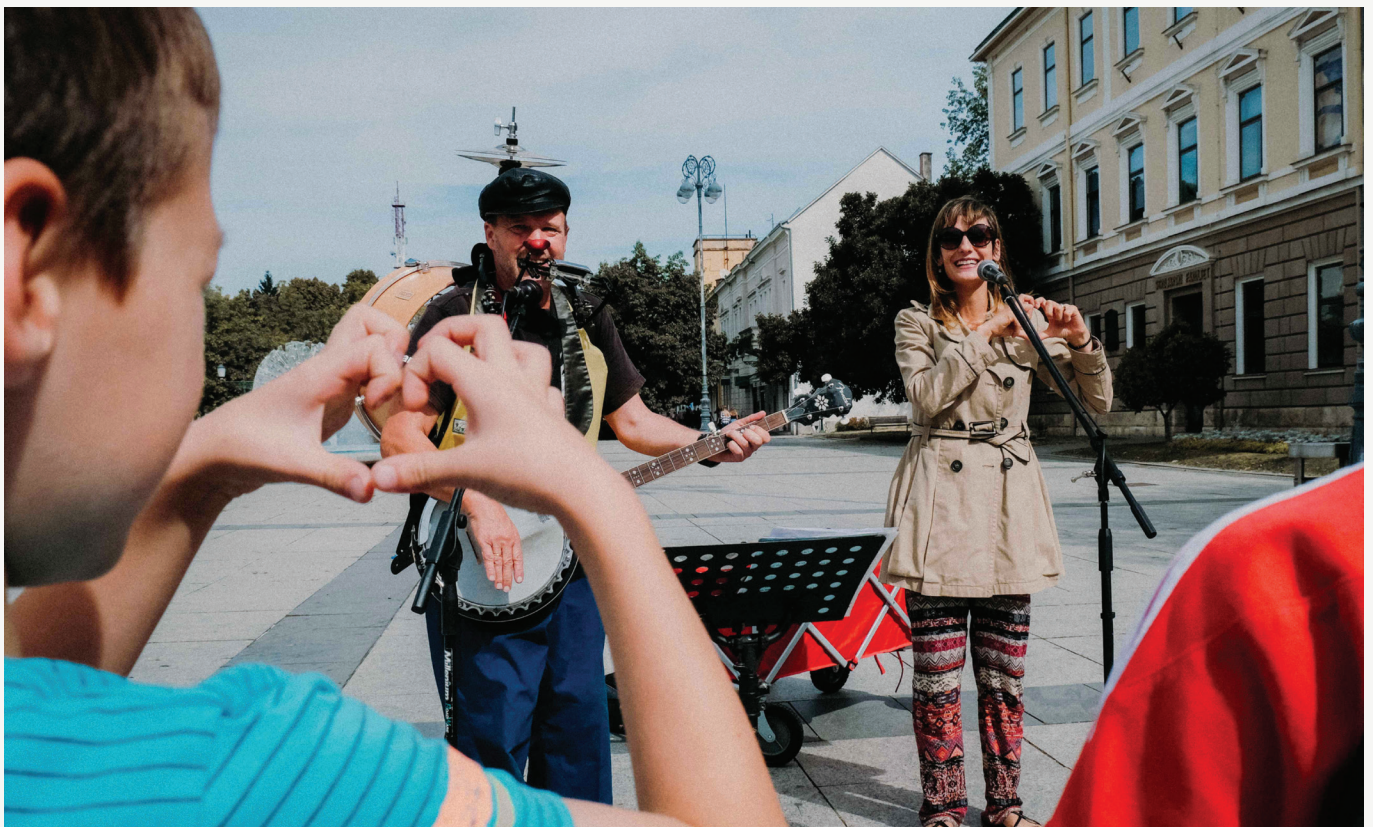
This year, our goal is to contribute 1 million dollars to these partnerships!

We invite you to take part in what God is doing around the globe and live out these same values by sharing our resources with a hurting world in need, all to benefit the kingdom of God through our local and global partnerships.



“...and you will be my witness in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

ACTS 1:8



To support our partners, visit: FellowshipGlobalChristmas.org

PRAYING FOR OUR PARTNERS

LLOYD SHADRACH AND ERIC HOFFMAN

It's not uncommon to hear someone say, "Communication is the lifeblood of every healthy relationship." At Fellowship, we take this to heart, which is why excellent communication with each of our partners is an important pillar in our cooperation for the sake of the gospel.

The best means of communication, however, is prayer. When it comes to supporting our partners, talking with them is important, but lifting them up in prayer is more so.

Prayer is talking with God through the power of the Spirit in order to declare His infinite glory, confess our dependence and gratitude, and implore Him to meet our needs and the needs of others.

Prayer not only unleashes the power of Heaven, it deepens our affection for those on our prayer list. Thus, we grow in relationship with our partners as we lift them consistently before the Father.

In the book of Philippians, we find that prayer is an important part of Paul's relationship with the church at Philippi. He prayed for them, always, treasuring them in his heart before the Lord.

Let's pray, then, using Paul's prayer as a guide. Allow the phrases in bold to lead you as you pray for our partners around the globe.

I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all **making my prayer with joy**, because of our **partnership in the gospel** from the first day until now."

And I am sure of this, that **he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ**. It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because **I hold you in my heart**, for **you are all partakers with me of grace**, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel."

For God is my witness, how I **yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus**. And it is my prayer **that your love may abound** more and more, **with knowledge and all discernment**, so **that you may approve what is excellent**, and so **be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ**, to the glory and praise of God.

Philippians 1:3-11





PRAYING FOR OUR PARTNERS

DECEMBER 7

JAMES BAAK



- Juba, South Sudan
- Founder and Leader of Solidarity Ministries Africa for Reconciliation and Development (SMARD)

We thank God for silencing the guns between the Army and Rebel Forces, bringing hope of lasting peace in South Sudan. We pray for God to bring lasting peace in South Sudan and to work on the hearts and minds of the people we serve to respond to the Gospel.

DECEMBER 8

ANGEL BARRIENTOS



- Comas, Peru
- Senior pastor of the Christian Missionary Alliance (CMA) Church of Comas

We thank God for feeding, healing and comforting suffering families through Fellowship's generous financial assistance. We ask God for effective evangelism and discipleship to families who aren't experiencing a living, vibrant relationship with Jesus as their Lord so that they may know Him as their own.

DECEMBER 9

PETER GARANG



- Lietnhom, South Sudan
- African Leadership and Reconciliation Ministries (ALARM) South Sudan Country Director

We thank God for the support we have received that has allowed us to continue training pastors to share the Gospel and teach women and children how to use the gifts God has given them. We ask God for opportunities for a Fellowship team to take part in our 2021 Pastor Leadership Training Initiative.

*Join us in praying for our partners on the following days
Contact Suzan Hicks (shicks@fbctn.org) to learn more about our partners.*

DECEMBER 10

ROSEMARY KHAMATI



- Adjumani, Uganda
- Founder and Executive Director of PEACE International

We thank God that despite the shutdowns around the globe, ministry to women, children and teachers in the refugee camp continued. We pray that God would use us to help free people from bondage so they can do what God has created them to do.

DECEMBER 11

LUIS LOPEZ DEL AGUILA



- Rimac, Peru
- Pastor of the Christian Missionary Alliance (CMA) Church of Rimac

We thank God that despite our inability to meet in person, we were able to have communion with one another through technology. We ask God to comfort the families whose health and jobs were negatively impacted by COVID-19.

DECEMBER 12

ANDREJ LOVŠE



- Maribor, Slovenia
- National Leader of Josiah Venture and co-shepherd of his church

We thank God that after years of ministering to people in our neighborhood, we have a Bible study in our home with many non-believing neighbors. As we look to the future, we pray for multiplication of small group studies and house churches in our area.

PRAYING FOR OUR PARTNERS

DECEMBER 13

JOHNATHAN MACRIS



- Athens, Greece
- President of Hellenic Ministries

We thank God for the opportunities we had to share Jesus' love with refugees we are serving. Although we haven't always had the freedom to speak about Jesus, they have seen it in our lives. We ask God for an extra outpouring of power, grace and compassion that would ignite a revival across our land.

DECEMBER 14

DARKO MIKULIC

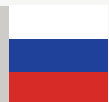


- Slavonski Brod, Croatia
- Pastor of Slavonski Brod church

We thank God that in the midst of restrictions, He opened the door of opportunity for us to share the Gospel like never before. In one week, we were able to plant more Gospel seeds than we have in years of ministry. We ask God to draw these people to Himself.

DECEMBER 15

DR. PETER MITSKEVICH



- Moscow, Russia
- President of Moscow Theological Seminary

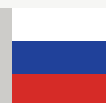
We praise God that Russian believers, despite government restrictions on Christian churches and believers, press forward in new and creative ways, telling the lost about the truth and hope they can find in Jesus. We ask God to help these believers hold fast to their faith and to stand for Christ in their communities as a light in a hard place.

Join us in praying for our partners on the following days
Contact Suzan Hicks (shicks@fbctn.org) to learn more about our partners.

DECEMBER 16



DINISLAM SALPAGAROV



- Karachaevsk, Russia
- Evangelist to Karachay people

We thank God for the baptism of one Karachay in our region. Out of 220,000 Karachay people, only 20 are Christians. We ask God to continue bringing Karachay to Him so that one day there will be a church full of Karachay people.

DECEMBER 17



DR. IMAD SHEHADEH



- Amman, Jordan
- President of Jordan Evangelical Theological Seminary

We thank God for providing during the pandemic when the economy was down. We witnessed a growth in the number of online students. We ask God for continued adequate online technology so that the online classes can function well.

DECEMBER 18



STEFFEN WEIL

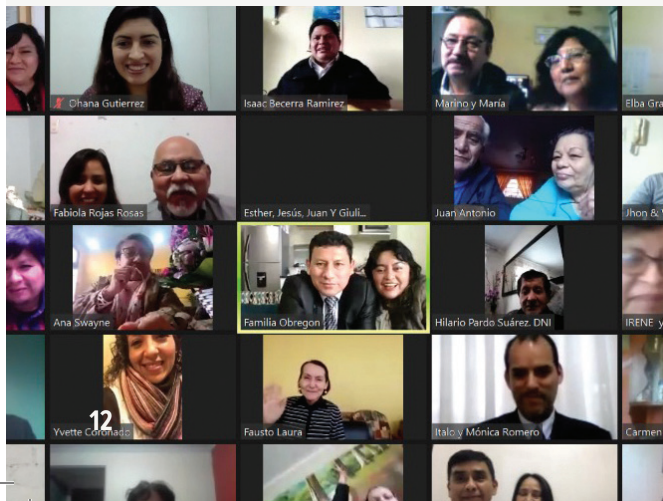


- Potsdam, Germany
- Church Planter and Pastor of mittendrin church

We thank God for the baptisms and baby dedications we have had this year. We are praying for our redesigned small group ministry to have a higher engagement to the community around them and that we see many come to know the Lord.



HOW OUR PARTNERS ARE LEADING IN THE MIDST OF COVID



We've all experienced a year like never before, full of disappointments. Perhaps we had great plans for how we were going to serve God, only to have those plans altered or completely canceled. But God...! He wasn't surprised by the events of 2020, and He's continued His work in mighty ways. We asked six of our global partners to share what God has been up to in their communities, and how He's using even a global pandemic for His glory.



STEFFEN IN GERMANY:

Despite limitations on where we could gather, our church experienced meaningful outdoor baptisms and child dedications which were witnessed by those passing by. In addition, our families have spent more time together in Bible study and devotions. We have felt less fear and more joy!



DR. IMAD IN JORDAN:

2020 was an unusual year, in that most operations and classes were held online. Even though the economy was down, and new students weren't allowed to enter Jordan, we were grateful for an increase in our online enrollment. The Lord has also provided financially according to His riches, despite the fact that most companies have closed down or are paying half their salaries.



DARKO IN CROATIA:

In this season of Covid-19, God opened an unexpected door of opportunity: a city-wide festival. Due to indoor restrictions, we performed live music at our city's main square. We also streamed our message online each evening. These adjustments allowed us to reach thousands of people rather than hundreds. Our way was small; His way was more than we could have imagined!



ANGEL IN PERU:

In a country that has endured many COVID-related deaths, God has used us to encourage, heal and comfort the afflicted. We have seen God bring families together, and many have learned to serve others by living out the parable of the Good Samaritan. God's miracles have been evident this year; we praise Him and declare Jesus as the only Lord and Savior, the only solution for our lives.



ANDREJ IN SLOVENIA:

When COVID put an end to large group meetings, our church gathered in small groups to pray for all of Slovenia and for specific towns in each region. Our small group spent four eight-hour days prayer-walking in a particular town in our area. At one point we climbed the surrounding hills and prayed for the city as a whole. Through this prayer walk, we met several people that had never before heard the gospel, and we encouraged them and gave them Bibles.



DINISLAM IN RUSSIA:

We have wanted to minister to children in our area by providing temporary housing for orphans. The pandemic caused delays in getting proper documents, however, so the house remained empty and the ministry was put on hold. Yet God had other plans. A Muslim family recently turned to Christ and was rejected by their relatives, leaving them homeless. We offered them the empty house, and now we have the vision of creating a House of Mercy for Muslims in difficult circumstances.



Johnathan Macris
President of Hellenic Ministries

OPPORTUNITY FOR THE GOSPEL

“It’s almost as if hardship and crisis attract us to be messengers of hope.”

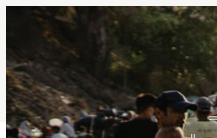
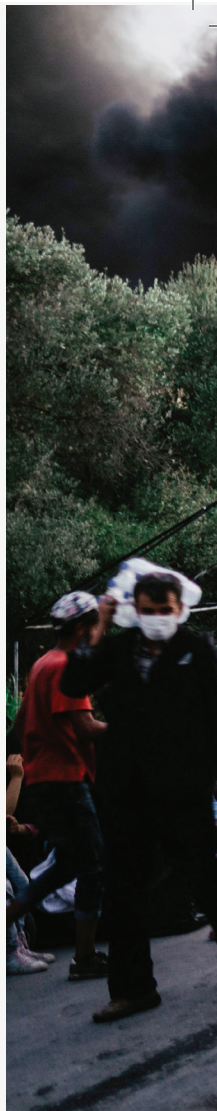
When Johnathan Macris, a Fellowship Global Partner and President of Hellenic Ministries in Greece, utters these words, it’s fair to say they’re more than idle chatter. Johnathan has lived a life full of deep challenges and daunting tasks. Yet he’s quick to focus on the resulting blessings as well.

Raised in the jungles of Irian Jaya, Indonesia, as eldest son of a missionary family intent on reaching stone-aged tribes with the gospel, Johnathan learned that challenges are a part of life. His parents taught him to face each difficulty with faith, trusting that God uses

trying circumstances to multiply divine blessings. Now, after years of ministry in Greece, Johnathan is more convinced than ever that God uses trials to get our attention, to increase our faith and dependence, and to spread His glory as He works on our behalf.

One fresh example comes from the Greek island of Lesbos. The aid organization EuroRelief—which Johnathan also oversees—has for several years been providing staff and volunteers to Moria refugee camp, the largest settlement of its kind in Europe. When Moria burned to the ground this past September, over twelve-thousand refugees faced a crisis within a crisis, forced to spend several nights without shelter in local fields. Worse yet, Greek villagers rioted to keep refugees from entering their city and local towns, leaving families without food, water, and basic necessities.

By the third day after the fire, the Greek army was building a new tent city near the sea, but had difficulty distributing food to the mobbing, hungry people. EuroRelief workers were asked to help, and soon devised a plan which provided all twelve-thousand refugees their first hot meal in days. (Somehow, the meal consisted of fish and Arabic bread—or, loaves and fishes—reminding the EuroRelief team of Jesus’ feeding of the five thousand!).



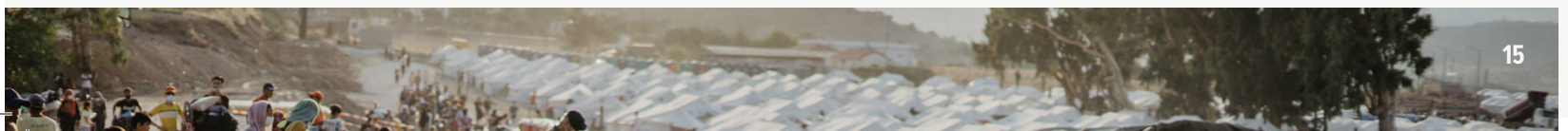


As the tent city took shape, many of the first to return were new followers of Jesus. Now, unlike in Moria, they are meeting publicly within the camp and fellowshiping together in their tents. Each morning they study together on a low hill overlooking the sea, something they refer to as their own “sermon on the mount”. They have also banded together to form a maintenance crew they call “Acts II”, in order to serve their fellow refugees with the love of God. Because of the fire at Moria, a new spirit of boldness has arisen amongst God’s people.

“It’s amazing to see how God has used this ministry to impact refugees on Lesvos”, says Johnathan. “In spite of the many challenges faced by our refugee friends as they seek a new life in Europe, many have been touched deeply by the kindness of Christian workers

upon their arrival on Lesvos. Though cold, wet and hungry after rafting across the sea from Turkey, they’ve been met with smiling faces, warm blankets and a hot cup of tea—all in the name of Jesus. We hear story after story of how peoples’ lives have been transformed by the love of God presented in this way.”

Johnathan admits that challenges like the fire at Moria can leave him feeling weary and weak, especially because of the great responsibility that rests on his shoulders. “Yet, time and again,” he affirms, “I’ve seen that during a crisis God specializes in bringing a purpose and a hope. He uses these moments to create exponential faith in the lives of those who are willing to trust Him in the midst of suffering.”





ROSEMARY AND MICHELLE: A FRIENDSHIP STORY

Michelle York and Rosemary Kamati grew up a world apart, but now find mutual delight in a friendship that spans both cultures and miles.

Michelle traded the farm country of the Midwest for the music scene of Los Angeles after graduating from High School. There she met her husband, Peter, and together they moved to Nashville to begin a family. Rosemary, from a village in Western Kenya, ministered in South Sudan until war broke out in December 2013. When many Sudanese fled for their lives to refugee camps in Northern Uganda, Rosemary followed and serves there today.

Both women are proven leaders. Michelle has held a variety of leadership positions with organizations and non-profit boards; Rosemary is the Africa Director for PEACE International, overseeing a large operation of ministry staff and volunteers. She also represents PEACE at meetings with government officials.

The ladies met in 2004, when Fellowship was planning its first trip to Liethom, South Sudan. Rosemary visited the church and met Michelle at a women's bible study. Michelle was full of questions about her upcoming trip to Africa, and invited Rosemary for lunch and shopping. It was the beginning of a wonderful, and fruitful, friendship.

Today, Rosemary is a Fellowship Global Partner, representing the strategic work taking place in Uganda; Michelle supports the ministry by acting as Country Champion. The two have collaborated on many special projects, with Michelle traveling to Uganda five times since 2017.

When asked what drew her to this friendship, Rosemary says, "We kind of have the same heart. We are close to the same age and have many things in common. We have compassion for others, we are results-oriented, we laugh loud, and can dance and have fun when necessary. We love to develop leaders from the grassroots, and we love Jesus deeply."

Michelle agrees. "Rosemary is incredibly genuine, forthright, courageous, bright and trustworthy. She constantly strives to provide the best work possible. She may run a tight ship, but she really loves to laugh and have fun along the way!"

At the heart of their relationship is a common desire to serve the Sudanese refugees currently displaced in Uganda. They share ideas, they pray, and they

strategize together. They dream about ways God might use them to bring spiritual, mental, and physical flourishing to the beautiful South Sudanese people. Michelle exclaims, "We have so much fun in this together, while absolutely marveling in awe over all that God is doing—through even us!"

When asked about their cultural differences, Rosemary admits that issues can arise. "We have laughed about some problems and warned about others," she says. "But each time we meet and talk these through, we realize how deep this friendship has grown." But there's fun differences, too. For instance, they sometimes try to copy each other's accents, with limited (and sometimes humorous) success. And, Michelle remembers when Rosemary taught her to cut Kasava plant out of the ground with a machete, then eat it. "She's a beast at it!" she laughs.

Best of all, both agree that their friendship has made them a little more fit for heaven. They see how God has used the other to prepare them for that day, because their friendship is not based on tribe, race, or color.

"God shapes us to think, feel and love outside our own cultural comforts and mindset," says Michelle, "and He does the same for the people we serve. Together, we experience more deeply the breadth of the Gospel and the expanse of God's Kingdom."

Both friends are grateful that Fellowship's model is built on relationships with people, not just projects. Michelle exclaims, "We call each other 'twin' because we share the same heart for Christ and the work in Uganda. Rosemary is truly one of my dearest friends in the world; I'm grateful for the sweetness and joy she brings to my life."

Rosemary agrees. "Michelle has a love for Africa, for refugees, and for our ministry. She has been my number one cheerleader, and we love doing things for the needy, to the glory of God."





STUDENT STORY INTERVIEW

Fellowship member Mary Leichner has spent considerable time in Slovenia working with Josiah Venture and Global Partners, Andre and Nina Lovše. She agreed to answer a few questions about her experiences, and how her life has been impacted because of her time overseas.

FELLOWSHIP: Mary, thanks for allowing us to ask you a few questions about your time in Slovenia. But first, where did you grow up, and what kind of exposure did you have to missions and to missionaries as a kid?

MARY: I grew up here in Franklin, in a Christian home where I prayed to receive Christ when I was seven years old. I knew a little about missions because my aunt and uncle were missionaries, and my older siblings went on trips with FSM.

FELLOWSHIP: Great. Tell us about your first short-term experience. When did that take place?

MARY: Well, because each of my three siblings had gone on mission trips to Slovenia, I knew there was something special about the country, and the people there. As a sophomore in High School, my family encouraged me to go, and I was terrified! Yet that trip changed my life and increased the depth of my love for the Lord. I ended up going to Slovenia three summers in a row.

FELLOWSHIP: Looking back, what impacted you most during those trips?

MARY: I was really impacted by the people I met in Slovenia, many of whom are the only believers in their school, family, or group of friends. I began to see that the cost of following the Lord in Slovenia is much greater than in the United States. God opened my eyes to my own faith. I saw my lack of devotion and trust in God. After my first trip I came back to the States with a desire to know God more.

I think that's why I ended up going back yet again, interning there for the entire summer of my Sophomore year in college.



FELLOWSHIP: As an intern what were your main ministry tasks?

MARY: So, I interned for an organization called Josiah Venture, which works alongside local churches in order to reach the youth. I helped with the week-long “Fusion” camp, which uses music as a tool to build relationships and to share the gospel with students. The camp is SO FUN!

Most of the summer consisted of meeting one-on-one with students or planning group events. My internship was unique because I’d previously built relationships in Slovenia during my short-term trips. Because of this, I was blessed with the ability to go deeper with existing relationships, while also developing new ones.

FELLOWSHIP: Mary, how have you been forever changed by your experiences in Slovenia?

MARY: First, I’d say my value for genuine relationships has grown significantly; I’ve experienced the beauty of relational ministry. As I get to know others on a deeper level, I can’t help but talk about the Lord.

Second, my relationship with Jesus has grown. My overseas experiences revealed my need for a genuine relationship with Him. I love the Lord and I want my relationship with Him to always come first.

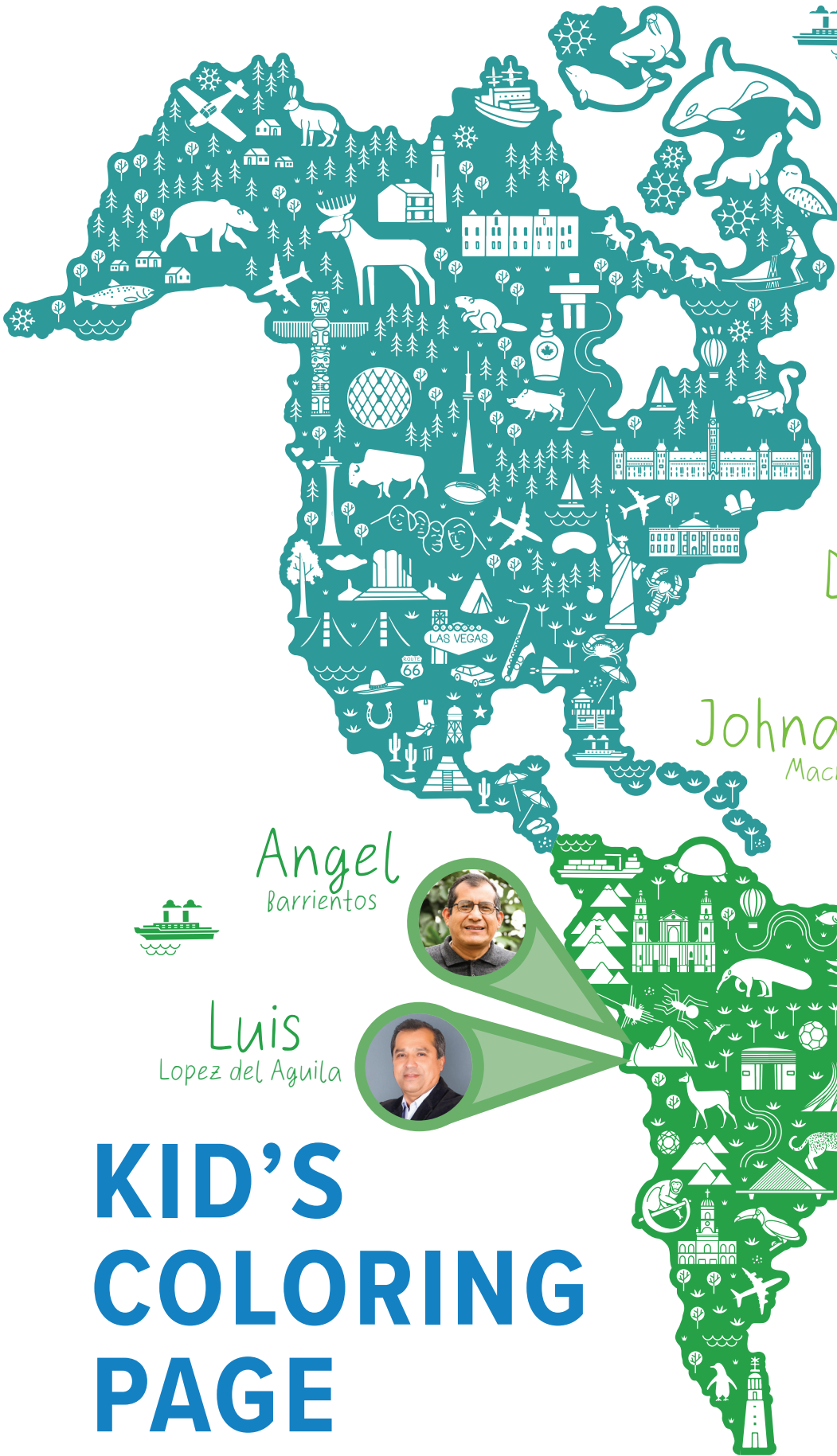
FELLOWSHIP: Thank you for sharing your heart with us. What would you say to those contemplating a short-term trip with Fellowship?

MARY: You may never feel “ready”, but God can show His glory through anyone, no matter how inadequate they feel. Serving overseas is an awesome experience; I highly recommend it! It’s a great way to challenge your faith in the Lord, to grow closer to Him, and to share who He is with others.



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*For more information on short-term trips,
email **Suzan Hicks** (shicks@fbctn.org)*



Steffen
Weil



Andrej
Lovše



Darko
Mikulic



Johnathan
Macris



Angel
Barrientos



James
Baak



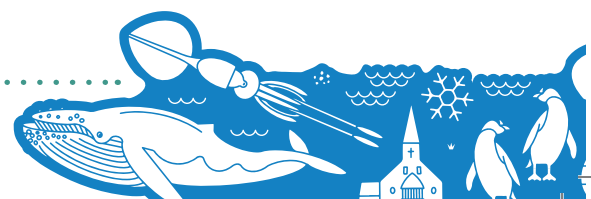
Luis
Lopez del Aguila



Peter
Garang



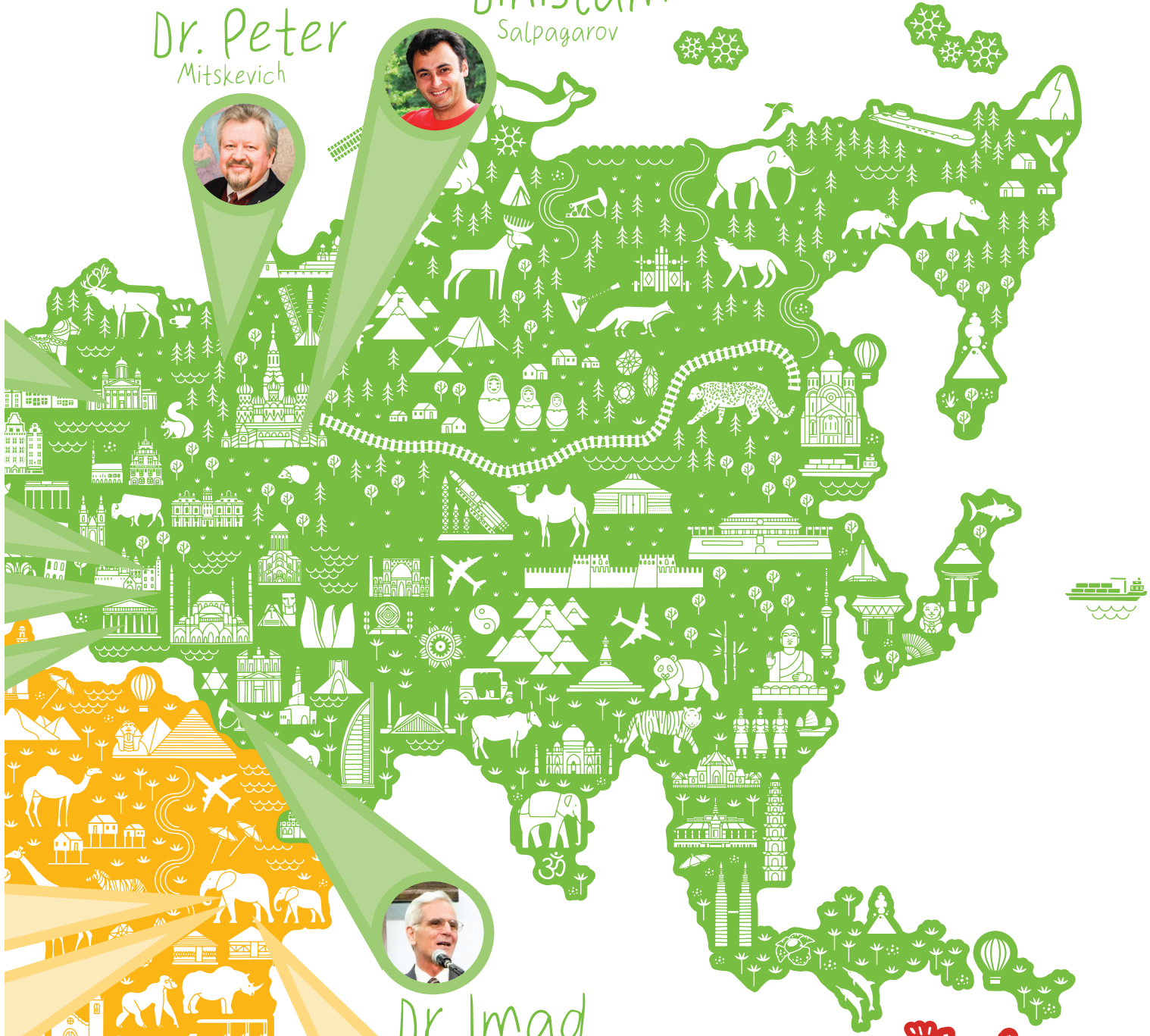
KID'S COLORING PAGE



Dr. Peter
Mitskevich



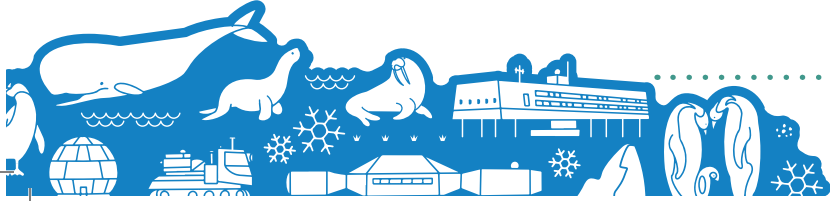
Dinislam
Salpagarov



Dr. Imad
Shehadeh



Rosemary
Khamati





EVA AND THE HORSE MINISTRY



Eva and her family are one of Fellowship’s 12 Global partners. They serve as missionaries in Slovenia, which is located in Europe. Eva’s parents are Andrej and Nina and she has 2 younger brothers, Tim and Izak.

Eva started riding horses when she was 4 years old and has loved them ever since. She has had her own horse, Charly, for 3 years. Though her family has other animals, Charly is her favorite.

Because Eva grew up hearing her parents talk about the Bible, she has always believed it to be true. She has always prayed and worshiped God. Eva says, “Lately my relationship with God has grown stronger. I have started to read the Bible on my own and pray a lot more.” Eva says she’s been able to see God working all around her. “I have also been more confident to tell my friends from school that I am a Christian.”

Church in Slovenia looks different than our church here. Their church is a small group of people that meets in someone’s home. On Sundays, all the parents study the Bible together and Eva helps teach the kids a Bible Story.

Eva is now using her talents to tell others about Jesus. She gives horseback riding lessons and hosts a Pony Camp for kids. Eva says, “First, I teach them about horses and things they need to know about riding. We always do a craft about horses as well.” So far, 4 of the kids from her horseback riding lessons are now attending their church, where Eva is also teaching them about God’s love.

Here is Eva’s message to you and kids here in America: “I really love sharing God’s story with kids here in Slovenia. You can share His love, too, through something you love to do. If you can paint or draw, maybe start an art club and tell your friends about God while you’re drawing. I like to find creative ways to tell kids about God’s amazing work. What is a fun way you can tell someone how much God loves them?”





DEVELOPING GENEROSITY IN OUR CHILDREN

ERIC HOFFMAN

Christmas is an electric season for our family. The lights, the rich foods, the music, and our annual trip to Michigan all fill us with anticipation of snow and lasting memories. As parents, however, the Christmas holiday always presents a unique challenge: How do we focus our family on Jesus, and lead our children in the practice of generosity?

Jesus told us it is better to give than to receive. But in our materialistic culture, it's easy to lose this important message. We desire to partner with you in this season and help you lead your children in cultivating generosity.

Throughout this magazine, there are several stories designed especially for children. These stories tell of our global partners, and how our giving can bless them in their work. We're hoping that many children will want to give a small gift toward a Global Partner, and thus learn the joy of generosity.

Also, if you're a parent, here are a few guiding questions to help you engage your children around this topic:

1. What are things you love about Christmas?
2. Read John 3:16. Why did God give us Jesus?
3. What are ways you can show other people you

love them this Christmas?

4. How does it make someone feel when you give them a gift?
5. Can you think of someone who is different from you? How can you love them by giving to them or sharing something with them?

We'd love to hear about each child that makes a gift, so we can personally thank them for their generosity. In January, every child that has given money toward Global Christmas will receive a personalized, thank-you postcard from one of our Global Partners.

We can't wait to hear stories of how children have grown in generosity, as they learn that less under our tree is more for the world.

Here's how children can take part:

1. On Sunday, they can bring home a Global Christmas envelope from their class

or

2. You can help them fill out their information on the card included in this magazine, and put their funds in the pre-paid envelope, then mail it to the church.

RECIPES FROM GLOBAL PARTNERS

GERMANY CHRISTMAS RECIPE KAISER-PLÄTZCHEN

Irresistible jam-filled Christmas cookies shaped like stars, hearts, or rounds. The round ones are also called Little Rogues (Spitzbuben).

INGREDIENTS

- 3 cups flour 300g
- 1 cup powdered sugar 125g
- 1 package vanilla sugar
- 1 pinch Salt
- 4 egg yolks
- 7 tablespoons butter 100g
- powdered sugar
- vanilla sugar
- raspberry or strawberry jam

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Sift flour onto work surface and make a hole in the center. Put powdered sugar, vanilla sugar, salt and egg yolks inside the hole and place the butter flakes on top of it. Quickly knead ingredients to form smooth dough. Cover with kitchen towel and let chill for 1 hour.
2. Preheat oven to 350° F.
3. Roll out dough on a floured surface as thinly as possible. Cut out cookies with cookie cutters. If using different shapes, make sure to always cut out even numbers for each shape. Use a small round cookie cutter to make a hole in the center of half the cookies. Place cookies onto a greased cookie sheet.
4. Bake for 15-20 minutes at 350° F in the preheated oven.
5. Let them cool down. Spread jam on cookies without hole and place the other half (cookie with hole) on top. Mix the powdered sugar and the vanilla sugar and dust the cookies.

VARIATION:

You may also use only round cookie cutters. The round version of these cookies is also known as Little Rogues (Spitzbuben).



PERUVIAN COOKIES

PERUVIAN ALFAJORES

INGREDIENTS

For the “cookie tops”:

- 100 g unsalted butter at room temperature
- 100 g granulated white sugar
- 4 egg yolks
- 2 tbsp water
- 250 g cornstarch
- 70 g flour without baking powder
- 1 tsp salt
- 1/4 tsp baking powder
- powdered sugar

For the manjar blanco (caramel):

- 400 g evaporated milk
- 400 g condensed milk

INSTRUCTIONS

The “cookie” tops

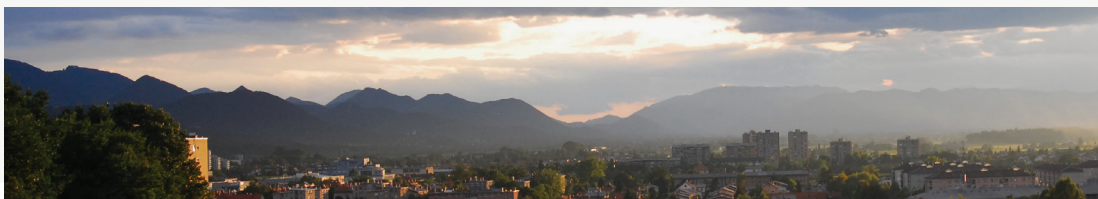
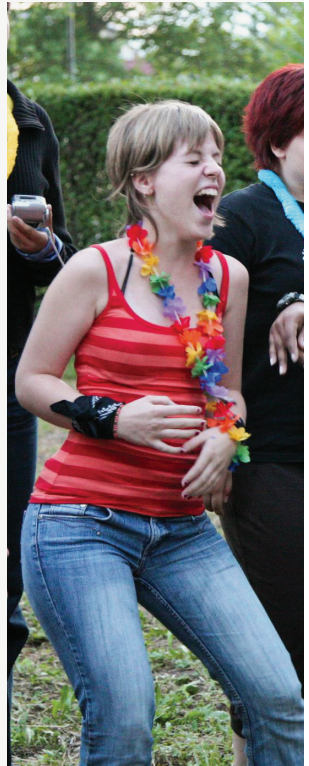
1. Mix the butter with the sugar with a hand mixer until you have a uniform paste.
2. Add the yolks and water and mix.
3. Add the sifted dry ingredients and mix first with a spatula until you can't continue to mix it and then mix the dough with your hands. Don't knead it, just mix it because if you handle it too much it gets very hard.
4. Wrap in film and put in the refrigerator for 30 minutes to be able to roll it out later.
5. Sprinkle flour over the dough and a clean surface. Stretch until it is about 3mm thick. Move it around on the table after each stretch to make sure it isn't sticking.
6. Cut the cookies in circles and put them on a baking tray lined with parchment paper.
7. Place in a preheated oven at 180C for 8min.
8. Allow to cool completely before filling.



The Manjar Blanco (Caramel)

1. Put the milk in a large pot and keep stirring with a spatula over medium-low heat until you can see the bottom of the pot clearly.
2. Transfer to a container that can withstand moving from hot to cold. The bigger container the better as this cools it down faster.
3. Fill the cookie tops with the caramel using a sleeve.
4. Sprinkle the cookies with powdered sugar.

WAYS TO GIVE



HELP A PARTNER.
SERVE A COMMUNITY.
HEAL A NATION.

HELP OUR GLOBAL PARTNERS AS THEY SERVE THEIR COMMUNITIES AND SHARE THE HOPE OF THE GOSPEL.

Our partners rely on your support to meet their goals and plan their ministry year.

YOUR GIFT ALWAYS MAKES A DIFFERENCE.

Show our partners that you believe in what they're doing and you're behind them all the way.



GIVE TO GLOBAL CHRISTMAS

1. Visit FellowshipGlobalChristmas.org and click "GIVE"
2. Text the word **GLOBAL** and **any dollar amount** to **615-645-2565** (for example GLOBAL100 to give \$100.00)
3. Fill out the information on the card included in this magazine and put your funds in the pre-paid envelope, addressed to Fellowship Bible Church

Contact **Suzan Hicks** (shicks@fbctn.org) to learn more about our partners.





**YOU'RE
INVITED TO
A SPECIAL
CHRISTMAS
CONCERT**



NOWHERE TOWN

**DECEMBER 11 | 6PM & 8PM
DECEMBER 12 | 6PM & 8PM**

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT NOWHERETOWNCHRISTMAS.COM
TICKET SALES GO TOWARD THE GLOBAL CHRISTMAS OFFERING.

