

Last year, COS supported **15 missionaries**  
living in **11 countries**  
with **prayer** and **financial** support of \$52,000

**Pentecost Sunday, May 31, we will collect Faith-Promise offerings and pledges to support our missionaries for 2020**

Ruth and Jim Padilla deBorst describe their work in Latin America:



*"We focus on three core ministries:*

**Locally**, Casa Adobe, the intentional Christian community, where family, friends, and guests grow together in faith as good neighbors with the people of Santa Rosa and the rest of creation.

**Regionally**, the Cohort of Missioners, within which young people engage in a year of service, learning, and exploring their vocation along with peers from other contexts

**Continentially**, with the Community of Interdisciplinary Theological Studies, a learning community with formal and non-formal programs, which nourishes the missional presence of Christian lay people and young adults in the

*Spanish and Portuguese speaking world.*

*Participants in these three core ministries yearn to embody and foster the living out of God's Kingdom here on earth, where friendships exist across borders, where justice becomes a visual practice, and where love is shared with friends and strangers alike."*

**And from the other side of the world:**

**Istifanus and Jemimah Bahago** are serving as missionaries from Nigeria to Sierra Leone, West Africa. Istifanus works as a consultant to the Christian Reformed Church of Sierra Leone. Their vision is to develop indigenous servant leaders in the Church, with congregational life and ministry that is based on a Biblical, Reformed world-and-life view. Their ministry also includes preaching, teaching, prayer, hospitality and planting churches where there are none.



## God has been calling an increasing number of COS members to serve in global ministries. This growth continues to be an exciting area of renewal for our church.

Like for so many of us, COVID-19 has impacted the day-to-day lives of our missionaries. Rev. Bahago writes, “The church today has virtually gone back to how it began as a house church ... as recorded in Acts of the apostles. While the early church had to do with physical and visible persecution targeting the Christians, today we are facing a different dimension: an invisible enemy of humanity, one that crosses tribes, nations, creeds and beliefs – COVID-19.”

COS missionaries are facing changed schedules, anxiety, and isolation. Uncertainty – but also hope. In their own words:



*Geoff's commute to work*

**Geoff and Tammy Kooistra, Ecuador** – “The city of Quito (Ecuador) is on lockdown. Tammy can only leave our house to get food and medicine or go to the doctor. Geoff can go to work because the radio is considered essential as a means of communication. ...We are happy that HCJB has been able to continue its radio and internet ministries. This has been a great encouragement for the audience in this time.”

**Tony and Allison Westrate, Cameroon** – “We praise God that Tony was able to lead an Easter service outside with the people we are quarantined with and to baptize 4 students in a blow-up swimming pool. It was a real blessing to celebrate the Resurrection of our Savior together and to witness these students commit to a *New Life* - following Jesus for the rest of their lives.”



Faith-Promise provides an opportunity for us to support the critical work of our missionaries.

**This year we are hoping to raise \$27,750 from Faith-Promise offerings.**

The General Budget will contribute an additional \$24,250 – for complete Missions Support of \$52,000.

If you have additional questions, feel free to contact anyone of the *COS Missions Support Team*: Ray Kapteyn, Albert Strydhorst, Amy Hackert, Roxanne deGraaf, or Joel Carpenter

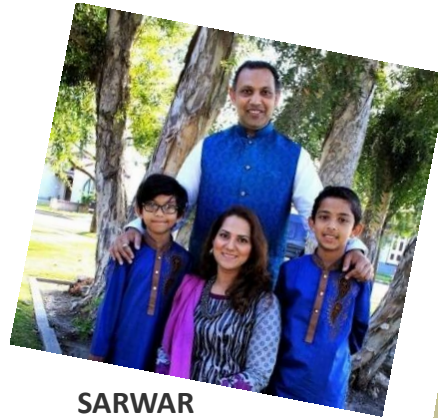


# COS-supported Missionaries 2020

For security reasons, not all COS-supported missionaries are shown



**LEE, MEXICO**



**SARWAR**



**COMFORT  
SAMPONG,  
HONDURAS**



**BAHAGO,  
SIERRA LEONE**



**KOOISTRA,  
ECUADOR**

**WESTRATE,  
CAMEROON**



**LORRAINE RONG LI  
& YAN WANG**



**EVANS, U.K.**



**PADILLA-DEBORST,  
CENTRAL AMERICA**



**OPIRA, MICHIGAN &  
CONGO**

**STRYDHORST,  
MICHIGAN &  
INTERNATIONAL**



**CHURCH OF THE  
SERVANT**  
CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH