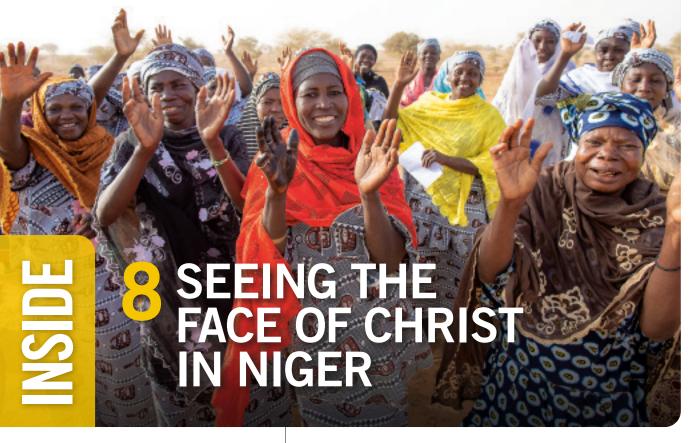
WORLD MEDICAL MISSION® **SPRING 2020** Seeing the Face of Christ IN NIGER

### CELEBRATION IN MALUMGHAT

Surgical wing named after Dr. Lowell Furman



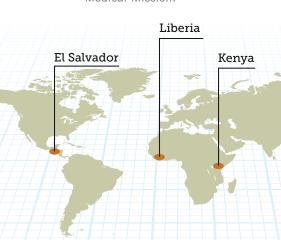
INSIDE: GUATEMALA I MALAWI I BANGLADESH





## 6 Notes from Around the World

Read updates on how God is at work through World Medical Mission.



### "THE WARM HEART OF AFRICA"

Kindness—given and received—creates lasting memories for a pediatrician in Malawi.

16

## To smile The Post-Residency Program gives a dentist the opportunity to serve at a mission hospital in her home country.

## ANSWERING THE CALL A word from World Medical Mission

A word from World Medical Mission co-founder, Dr. Richard Furman



cover PHOTO: A mother and her child receive care at Galmi Hospital in Niger, where nationwide there is only one doctor per about 30,000 people.



### WHERE IS GOD CALLING YOU?

Look at the latest "Calling for Help" to see which mission hospitals need volunteers in your specialty.



World Medical Mission assists evangelical mission hospitals and clinics by sending Christian medical professionals as volunteers, and by providing equipment, supplies, and other resources that help them treat patients in the Name of the Great Physician. SAMARITAN'S PURSE HEADQUARTERS
P.O. Box 3000 • Boone, NC 28607 • (828) 262-1980
@2020 Samaritan's Purse. All rights reserved.

samaritanspurse.org/wmm

■ WorldMedicalMission



### DEAR FRIEND

**AT SAMARITAN'S PURSE,** we are thankful that the Lord gives us wonderful opportunities to partner with more than 50 Christian hospitals around the world. These medical facilities typically are tucked away in remote areas and receive little or no fanfare. However, the ministry they provide leaves lasting footprints on eternity as they treat the sick and share the Good News of hope and salvation through Jesus Christ.

Memorial Christian Hospital in Malumghat, Bangladesh, is one of those longstanding ministry partners where we send doctors, nurses, biomedical technicians, and medical supplies. In operation since 1966, the hospital has been a beacon of light for millions of people who live within that region. Two years ago the head of the surgical department, Dr. Stephen Kelley, showed me their new hospital complex while it was under construction. We praise God for allowing us to help fund that construction, and we rejoice with Dr. Kelley and his staff on the recent opening of this state-of-the-art medical center that will enhance their inpatient and outpatient capabilities far into the future.

Some 5,000 miles away on the southern fringes of the Sahara, a group of doctors from our Post-Residency Program are making an impact at Galmi Hospital in Niger. Their commitment to share the Gospel both inside and outside of hospital walls embodies the heart of the program. As we often say, we are looking for missionaries who happen to be medical professionals.

The coronavirus pandemic has turned the world as we knew it upside down. We are very thankful for the doctors and nurses, including some of you reading this letter, who risk their lives to care for those who are infected. You are constantly in our prayers. In these uncertain times, we want to make the most of opportunities to share Christ and tell others the "reason for the hope that is in [us]" (1 Peter 3:15). God bless you.

Franklin Graham
President, Samaritan's Purse



Insights from some of the medical personnel who serve in mission hospitals in more than 20 countries through World Medical Mission.



### Kenya

Marlene Kort found a unique way to serve when she traveled with her husband, Dr. Bret Kort, an obstetrician/gynecologist, to Tenwek Mission Hospital. The Colorado artist specializes in oil painting and pastels.



"I taught art classes to the missionary kids. They were amazingly mature, attentive, and focused compared to their American counterparts. I was able to prepare/restore 10 historic murals and paint a new one during my time at Tenwek. I really enjoyed how engaged the Kenyans were in the art process while I was painting."



### El Salvador

**Dr. Steven Ginder** is an emergency medicine physician from Pennsylvania who served at **Shalom Family Medical Center** last fall.

"I cared for patients with a variety of conditions ranging from lacerations to congestive heart failure. I was able to participate in the care of a 51-year-old female who had been seen at a government facility and diagnosed with a torn meniscus of the knee. She was unable to afford the care she needed.

After reviewing the results, we were able to provide an immobilizer, taught her some physical therapy modalities, and prayed for her healing. She appeared reluctant to believe she would feel better. She was



ON CALL I

instructed to return, but I was not sure that she would. However, she did return, and was improving. We thanked the Lord for her healing."









### Liberia

**Dr. Lee McCluskey** (second from right) is an orthopedic surgeon from Georgia who participated in **World Medical Mission's Surgery Sub-Specialty Teams Program at ELWA Hospital** in December 2019. He has served for many years as a short-term volunteer and on Samaritan's Purse disaster assistance response teams and is on the World Medical Mission Committee.

Famatta, 17, is the oldest of three children. Her left leg was badly broken when she was hit by a car while walking home from church in March 2018. She was taken to a government hospital but did not receive treatment because her family could not afford the cost of surgery. Her family sought traditional/herbalist treatments, but with no success. Famatta could no longer attend school due to her injuries from the accident. Following the surgery at ELWA Hospital in December, Famatta is now able to walk again—and she has returned to school!

Note

MORE SPECIALISTS ARE NEEDED TO VOLUNTEER their time and skills for the 2020 Surgery Sub-Specialty Teams Program. Please call Program Manager Cindy Albertson at (828) 588-2024 for more information.

— See the 2020 SSST Schedule on page 39. —







LEFT: Dr. Matt Megill welcomes the opportunity to share with his patients in Hausa, the local language. BELOW: Dr. Katie Hoyt monitors the health of one of her unborn patients.



r. Glenn Maas and his wife will never forget the day three years ago when they interviewed with World Medical Mission about serving overseas through our Post-Residency Program.

"Three of the six people who interviewed us wrote down, 'these people want to go to Galmi,' "Sonja said.

"Galmi was not where we thought we wanted to go," Glenn said. "But God wanted us here and told people, 'They want Galmi,' even if it never came out of our mouths."

Galmi Hospital in Niger has a reputation as "a hard place," as one of the pioneer missionaries described it in 1949. According to the hospital history, when the Sudan Interior Mission (SIM) asked for land, the French colonial government offered them a place in Galmi that was known for being infernally hot, plagued by malaria, and prone to choking dust storms from the nearby Sahara Desert. One early missionary said the colonial authorities "pinpointed the site as being one that would be the least suited to our purposes and for the Gospel."

Aside from the extreme mid-African weather, Niger languishes at the bottom of the United Nation's Human Development Index, and there are only a few thousand Christians in a nation of 23 million. Nationwide, there is only one doctor per 30,000 people.

Yet Galmi has grown on Dr. Maas' family, as well as Drs. Stephen and Katie Hoyt, who all came out of the same residency program in Fort Worth, Texas. As their two-year terms are ending, they all feel God calling them to come back to Galmi and serve as long-term missionaries.

That's exactly what the Post-Residency Program was created to do—to raise up a new generation of missionary doctors to replace those who were retiring from the mission field.

The Maases and the Hoyts are not the first to follow this path. Two members of the Galmi staff are graduates of the Post-Residency Program. One more Post-Resident is scheduled to come to Galmi this year.

"I'm a big fan of the program and appreciate that Samaritan's Purse has identified the gap and created something that directly addresses it," said Stephen Montgomery, the retired director of the hospital. "From our perspective, it's just fabulous to get young doctors fresh out of training, fresh out of residency, out into a field placement, where they can bond and explore missionary medicine in a developing world context."

Dr. Stephen Hoyt says, "The Post-Residency Program helps hospitals like this keep their missions going."

"Niger languishes at the bottom of the United Nation's Human Development Index, and there are only a few thousand Christians in a nation of 23 million. Nationwide, there is only one doctor per 30,000 people."

### SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

Stephen Hoyt felt called to be a preacher and enrolled in seminary before God used the book *Jesus MD* by Dr. David Stevens (a former director of World Medical Mission) to redirect his steps. "God showed me through that book I could help people and share the Good News," he said. "He called me to change my path to pre-medical."

Residency led him to Fort Worth, where he met his wife. Stephen specialized in family medicine, Katie was in obstetrics/gynecology, and they both had a heart for missions. "God had put it on our hearts to be in an unreached place and a place with high maternal mortality," he said. That put Galmi on their radar. One of the things they have learned to appreciate about Galmi is the openness to share the Good News with their patients. Freedom of religion is generally respected in Niger. There are some places where Christians are not welcome, and many churches were burned five years ago, but believers in the Galmi area gather freely for worship and are welcome to share their faith.

After church, Dr. Hoyt likes to visit villages near the hospital to see former patients and their families. One Sunday in January, he and Dr. Maas took a translator of the local Hausa language into the countryside to look for the mother of a boy who had died in the hospital with a respiratory illness, possibly tuberculosis. A mistake in directions led them to the wrong village, but the elders there welcomed them to sit down and share Bible stories.

As they told the story of Jesus raising Lazarus from the grave, one of the elders said he had heard that in the hospital, and others nodded. "It's so rare to have an openly Christian hospital where the Good News is shared every day."

Dr. Hoyt explained to them the differences between Christianity and their traditional beliefs. "One day we will all die. We all know that there are two places, hell and heaven. If we do good things, we think we will make it to heaven. But it is not possible for us to do enough good things. No matter how much we try, we sin every day. God saw that no one can qualify to enter heaven. So He decided to send Jesus into this world. He never sinned. But at the end He was crucified. We cannot be forgiven without shedding of blood. Blood

Dr. Stephen Hoyt felt called to serve at Galmi. "God had put it on our hearts to be in an unreached place and a place with high maternal mortality," he said.





of animals is not enough. That is why God sent Jesus to come and die for us. A free gift! Anyone who accepts Him will not perish and will have eternal life."

After sharing the Good News, he asked for questions. "I invite you to ask God from your heart to reveal the truth to you. If you believe and you want to follow Christ, come to the hospital and find us."

The doctors handed out gifts, including bars of soap, treats for the children, and solar-powered radios (fitted with SD cards that include the Bible in Hausa as well as the "JESUS" film) and encouraged the recipients to listen to the messages with their neighbors. Then the elders gave directions to a nearby village where the doctors might find the

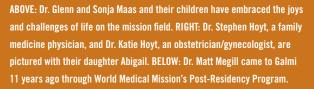
woman they were seeking. When they arrived there, once again they were greeted warmly and welcomed to share about Jesus.

A week later, they finally found the woman, brought her a bag of rice and a radio, gave her enough money to start a business to support herself, and told her about a church in her village. "She seemed very touched by the visit, and we were grateful for the opportunity," Stephen Hoyt said.

### 'WE WANT TO FOLLOW YESU'

Galmi Hospital is a 184-bed facility that sees hundreds of patients every day. Many come for treatment of diabetes or HIV. One of the regular patients is a teenage girl named Adaobi (not her real name) who has Type 1 diabetes.











After two years at Galmi, Dr. Glenn Maas is ready to accept a long-term assignment in Niger.

Her family lives in a remote village with no electricity, so they cannot keep insulin because it degrades in the heat.

She and her mother are familiar with Yesu (as the Hausa call Jesus) from their time in the hospital. Recently, one of the doctors invited them to choose between their traditional beliefs and the way of Yesu. "We want to follow Yesu," they said, and they prayed the sinner's prayer in Hausa as they received Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. Adaobi was discharged with a radio to help her family hear about Jesus. She prays that her father will come to faith and connect with a church.

The Hoyts and Maases will soon return stateside to build support networks so they can return to Galmi. "Being here for two years confirms it," Stephen said. "You are really needed. Patients will wait days to see you, because there is such a shortage of good care. And there's an even bigger need for the Good News.

"It's so rare to have an openly Christian hospital where the Good News is shared every day."

Despite Galmi's reputation as "a hard place," the hospital offers a high level of care, including a well-equipped neonatal intensive

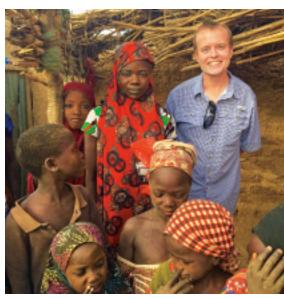
care unit where babies born at 30 weeks have thrived. The missionary compound is a pleasant place, well irrigated, with gardens, flowers, streetlights, and even a small pool.

Dr. Kent Brantly was the attending physician for the residency cohort that included the Hoyts and Dr. Maas. Dr. Brantly was in the Post-Residency Program when he served in Liberia with Samaritan's Purse and survived Ebola in 2014. So some of their relatives expressed concern. "You're going to Africa? You're taking your family?"

In hindsight, the Maases and Hoyts believe this was an ideal time for them to enter the mission field.

"In Niger, Galmi Hospital is the face of Christ," Stephen Hoyt said. "There are so many stories of people who came to Galmi for care. That opens doors. By showing love for the people, it gives credibility and meaning to the Gospel."

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Post-Residency Program application deadline has been extended to May 15, 2020, for those who are completing residency in 2021. Selections will be made in July. Please call us if you have questions at (828) 278-1508.



Dr. Stephen Hoyt visits one of his former patients in the village where she lives.

# The Warm Heart Africa

Kindness—given and received—creates lasting memories for a pediatrician in Malawi.



arely breathing, Stephano was on the verge of a diabetic coma by the time his family brought him to Nkhoma Hospital, several hours away from their village in Malawi. The patient wasn't the typical elderly individual who had suffered for years with the disease. Instead, he was a fragile 11-year-old boy whose short life appeared to be ebbing away.

Dr. Alyson Denson, a pediatrician from Texas, and the staff at Nkhoma jumped into action. As a first-time volunteer with World Medical Mission who was experiencing her first trip to Africa, the scene played out much differently from what Denson was accustomed to in the United States.

"Typically we would be in an ICU with blood sugar checks almost constantly, IV drips,



Dr. Alyson Denson poses with her young patient, Stephano, and his mother. Untreated diabetes nearly took the 11-year-old boy's life. He remained in Nkhoma Hospital for weeks until his blood sugar levels stabilized.

and an abundance of labs. Here we were armed with some fluids, insulin to give in shots, and a glucometer. My palms were sweaty for hours," Dr. Denson shared in her blog.

"On top of all that, this child was severely malnourished. We usually give lots of fluids to patients with diabetic ketoacidosis, but with malnourishment this can lead to heart failure and fluid in the lungs," she continued. "You can go too slowly and not correct their delirious state or go too fast and cause brain swelling. We all put our heads, and books, and calculators together. All afternoon we did not see much change. We headed into the evening."

More tense hours followed, but finally Stephano awoke and his vital signs stabilized. Regulating his blood sugar would be the next hurdle. For now, Denson breathed a little easier too as she watched signs of life return to her young patient.

During her 10-week stay at Nkhoma Mission Hospital, Denson treated children for illnesses such as malaria, tuberculosis, and meningitis. In some cases, she was introduced to diseases that she had learned about in medical school 25 years ago but never seen in practice until now.

Although Stephano's story had a happy ending, other youngsters did not walk out of the hospital and return home to their families. Denson said her greatest challenge was the emotional toll of losing babies and children almost every day.

"I had to perform CPR more times in Malawi than during my entire career in the United States," she explained. "There was so





TOP: Dr. Denson is pictured with her husband, Wayne, and their children: Alex, Brett, Chase, and LeAnna.

ABOVE: The pediatrician said the people of Malawi are "tough, strong, and tenacious, but they are also happy, kind, and welcoming."

much death. In pediatric practice at home, it is such a rare occurrence to see death, and we feel fairly in control as physicians. That's not medicine in Malawi."

"Working with such limited resources, I was reminded of how completely reliant I am on God," she said.

Denson is not a newcomer to missions—or to witnessing hardship and suffering. Since medical school, she has gone on more than 15 mission trips to Central America. She also spent a month in Haiti immediately following the 2010 earthquake, where she served in a post–op hospital treating children with broken bones and amputations. Each experience deeply stirred her heart.

The previous year she had stepped away from the demanding schedule of her pediatric practice, feeling the need to spend more time with her husband, Wayne, and their two pre-teen sons, Chase and Brett. When their efforts to adopt an orphaned Haitian child





"Working with such limited resources,
I was reminded of how completely reliant
I am on God."

fell through, God surprised them with the opportunity to adopt a brother and sister, LeAnna and Alex, from Russia.

The physician resumed work, enjoying a more flexible schedule at a children's clinic and teaching pediatrics courses at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences. Medicine and motherhood kept her busy, but Denson was able to squeeze in several two-week mission trips to Mexico, Guatemala, and Honduras.

Denson and her husband became "empty-nesters" in 2018, prompting her to once again step back from a full-time career, this time in order to pursue a more active role in medical missions.

That desire led her to contact World Medical Mission and see if there was a place of great need where she could go on a longer assignment.

"I told them wherever God can use me, that's where I will go. But when they asked me about Malawi, I didn't even know where it was. I had to google it," she chuckled.

Located in southeastern Africa, Malawi is one of the poorest and least developed nations on earth. More than half of its 18 million inhabitants live below the poverty line and 25 percent live in extreme poverty.

But the country is also known as the "warm heart of Africa," with exceptionally kind and friendly people. Denson found that the patients and staff at Nkhoma Hospital lived up to that reputation. Despite the language barrier (many patients spoke Chichewa), she was able to show God's love to the children and their parents.

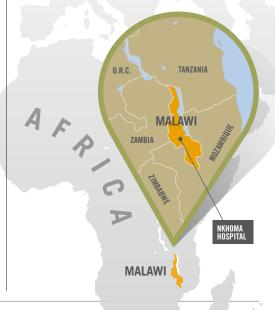
One of the highlights of her experiences in Malawi was the day Stephano, her young diabetic patient, was discharged. It took weeks for his blood sugars to reach the target range.

After coaching his family on the specifics of administering insulin and checking and recording blood sugar levels, Denson had a parting gift for Stephano—a soccer ball and pump.

"Stephano was so excited that he looked like he was going to explode. His family was incredibly grateful and emotional in their saying goodbye," she recalled. "I am on cloud nine to have a critically ill patient going home and doing well."

The inevitable goodbyes to hospital staff and the medical students and residents she befriended made leaving Nkhoma difficult. But Denson rejoices that she was able to share life and the Gospel with so many wonderful people.

"Today, I looked around and saw Malawi differently," she journaled on her last day. "It is different because I am different. This is not a people that intimidates or intrigues me anymore. They are a people I have a deep affinity and respect for. They are tough, strong, and tenacious, but they are also happy, kind, and welcoming. They are the warm heart of Africa, and I am certainly leaving a part of my heart in Nkhoma!"







The wide-ranging talents of Dr. Monica Jordan could have taken her on several career paths, but an unexpected opportunity through the Post-Residency Program confirmed what she knew God had always called her to do—be a champion for Him.

A native of Guatemala, Dr. Monica Jordan praises God for the opportunity to establish a dental clinic at a mission hospital in the northern part of the Central American nation. "If I can help people in other countries, then I can certainly help people in my own country where there are many needs too," she said.

ymnastics and the performing arts are Monica Jordan's lifelong passions. Since the age of 6, her favorite place to be was atop the balance beam, perfecting switch leaps, triple turns, and step-outs. The theatrical stage held a close second place in her heart, where she danced and directed plays for her church's children's ministry.

Years of hard, determined work and numerous trophies vaulted her to the pinnacle from 2001 to 2004 when she was part of Guatemala's national gymnastics team. In 2002 she finished in the top eight in the balance beam category at the Central American and Caribbean Games. She also competed for but fell short of earning a spot on the Guatemala team in the Pan American Games.

Athletic careers can be brief, however, and knee surgery, along with other nagging injuries, led her to retire at the age of 16.

"I wanted something more out of life," she said.

With college on the horizon, Jordan contemplated what she should consider for career options. Sports had become more of a hobby. She viewed dancing and theater as her service to God. Perhaps she could be a dance instructor or teach drama.

With the encouragement of an acquaintance who was a dentist, however, she began to take an interest in the medical profession.

"The truth is, I had not thought about being a dentist," she said. "I now know that God used that person to change my mind and help me go into dentistry."

After graduation from dental school, Jordan's parents helped her set up a clinic in Guatemala City.

Meanwhile, she felt a strong pull toward medical mission work. Jordan had received Jesus as her Savior when she was 7 years old and ministry had always been a part of her life, whether it was working with children in her church or serving as an interpreter for visiting international mission teams.

Jordan went on a couple of mission trips within Guatemala while she was in dental school. After opening her own clinic, she went on five or six trips a year for a week to 10 days at a time.





24 | ON CALL

Dr. Jordan encourages preventive care and dental hygiene, especially among her young patients. BELOW: As a youth, Jordan excelled in gymnastics and earned numerous honors. She was part of the Guatemala national team for four years.



"When I began to go on the short missionary trips, I realized that there was nothing else that would fill me more than being able to bless and help people," said Jordan. "When I opened my own dental office, although I was very happy, I always felt I was called to something else."

### **HOME AWAY FROM HOME**

So Many Reasons to Smile

In 2016, Jordan's brother joined the Operation Christmas Child staff at the Samaritan's Purse international headquarters in North Carolina. He encouraged her to look into short-term mission opportunities through another department at Samaritan's Purse-World Medical Mission.

After attending the Prescription for Renewal conference that fall, Jordan explored volunteer assignments with World Medical Mission that her dental practice schedule could accommodate. She went on two trips the next year—both in Peru—where she provided dental care at Hospital Diospi Suyana and La Fuente Centro Clinic.

"Those experiences transformed my life," Jordan said."I felt God was now calling me to the next step, to be a full-time missionary in my own country. If I can help people in other countries, then I can certainly help people in my own country where there are many needs too."

An opportunity to do just that came about through World Medical Mission's Post-Residency Program, in which young doctors and dentists can serve in mission hospitals for two years in preparation for long-term service as a medical missionary.

Jordan applied and was accepted into the program, making her the first Post-Resident to serve on the medical mission field in her own country.

"It's like a miracle for me to be here," she reflected.

Her assignment: Hospital Shalom in the Petén region in northern Guatemala. But like her missionary colleagues who serve in hospitals around the world, the journey has been a walk of faith involving sacrifice, new experiences, and cultural challenges.

"When I opened my own dental office. although I was very happy, I always felt I was called to do something else."

"I closed my practice in the city. Petén is about 10 hours away from my family. My mother was concerned," recalled Jordan. "I had to adapt in a lot of ways. It's really hot here, and I'm not a hot weather person. The food is different. And the people speak three different languages in this area, so sometimes I need a translator if they don't speak Spanish."

God provided for her every step of the way, and in September 2019 Jordan's dental clinic in Hospital Shalom opened for business. Within months her office was inundated with patients of all ages.

### 'A GIFT FROM GOD'

As she interacts with her patients, it's easy to see why her practice is thriving. Jordan wants them to leave the clinic with more than healthy teeth and gums. She wants them to have the joy of Jesus in their hearts too.

Alongside the image of a glistening white molar tooth, the welcome sign on the wall of the clinic carries a special message: "Con su AMOR DIOS te hará volver a SONREÍR." Translated into English it means, "With His love God will make you smile again."

"God put that phrase in my heart, because with His love, He will be the One who restores not only oral health, but the joy of each person," said Jordan.

Poor dental hygiene and lack of money force some of her patients to come as a last resort. In one instance, a mother brought her 3-yearold daughter who was in so much pain she had been unable to sleep for days. There were cavities in all of her back teeth, some very deep.



The hospital where Jordan's dental clinic is housed is about 350 miles north of Guatemala City in the Petén region. Jordan is serving there through World Medical Mission's Post-Residency Program.

Jordan reassured the mother that her toddler's teeth could be saved with pulpotomies and fillings. But the mother balked at first, fearing surgery would be dangerous for her daughter and too expensive. The bill typically



would have exceeded \$200—far less than clinics in the city—but still beyond the means of this impoverished mother.

During that week, a Samaritan's Purse cleft lip surgical team that included an anesthesiologist was on-site. He volunteered his services, and Jordan waived the dental work charges, meaning the little girl's treatment was completely free.

"This is a gift from God to your family," Jordan explained as the grateful mother burst into tears.

That special moment was also a gift from God to Jordan, a confirmation that she was indeed where He had placed her to serve.

"I won medals and trophies when I was on the national team in gymnastics, and yes, it was an honor to represent my country as an athlete and now as a dentist," she said. "But I think the most important honor in my life is to have salvation in Jesus Christ and to be able to share His Good News with more people."



Dr. Lance Plyler (left) and Dr. Richard Furman (right) join medical staff in the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the opening of the Lowell B. Furman Center for Surgery and Critical Care on the first floor of the new hospital.

## CELEBRATION IN MALUMGHAT

The new Memorial Christian Hospital will bring state-of-the-art healthcare and the love of Christ to Bangladesh.

ore than half a century ago, Dr. Viggo Olsen grieved to see the dearth of medical and spiritual care available to the people in Bangladesh (then East Pakistan). The legendary surgeon set out to make a difference. Since then, the hospital he helped establish in Malumghat has withstood war, floods, and many other challenges, remaining entrenched as a place of hope and healing for the tens of thousands who receive treatment there each year.

Memorial Christian Hospital celebrated a major milestone in its storied history Feb. 28, with the grand opening of a 120,000 square foot, four-story brick building to replace the original 1966 compound located across the road.

"I was quickly reminded why we continue to partner so closely with Memorial Christian Hospital," commented Dr. Lance Plyler, the director of World Medical Mission. Plyler and other representatives from Samaritan's Purse accompanied Dr. Stephen Kelley, chair of the hospital's surgical department, on patient rounds during their tour of the new facility.

"The patients that occupied the beds were of multiple ethnicities and often were from unreached people groups," Plyler said. "Not only did these patients desperately need compassionate medical care, but to learn about the unconditional love of the Great Physician."

For World Medical Mission co-founder Dr. Richard Furman, the highlight was the ribbon cutting ceremony that took place on the first floor of the new hospital. In tribute to his brother, hospital officials christened the wing the "Lowell B. Furman Center for Surgery and Critical Care." Lowell, who shared a surgical practice with Richard in Boone, North Carolina, passed away from leukemia in 2006.

The Furmans felt burdened by the overwhelming need to bring Christ's love and quality medical care to countries with



Dr. Stephen Kelley, chair of Memorial Christian Hospital's surgical department, welcomed the Samaritan's Purse delegation. Pictured left to right are Dr. Kelley, Edward Graham, Dr. Richard Furman, Dr. Lance Plyler, and Scott Hughett.



The new hospital's features include several operating rooms, an emergency room, and an expanded outpatient clinic.



limited resources. The result was the creation of World Medical Mission. At the request of Dr. Olsen, we began to send surgeons on short-term volunteer stints to Memorial Christian Hospital in 1981.

The Furmans and their families made multiple visits to the hospital over the next 20 years. Lowell and his wife Faythe, a certified nurse anesthetist, developed an especially close bond with the staff and patients. Faythe worked alongside her husband in the operating room and taught anesthesia techniques.

"It brought me joy to see Lowell honored by naming the surgical unit after him. I only wish he could have been present," Dr. Furman reflected. "This hospital meant so much to him. He spent more time here than any of the other hospitals where we served."

For nearly 40 years, Samaritan's Purse has sent medical personnel to Memorial Christian Hospital on more than 360 short-term volunteer service trips. In addition, we assisted the hospital with the care of thousands of Rohingya refugees who fled Myanmar in 2017 and 2018. We also deployed a DC-8 cargo plane carrying medical equipment and

supplies, extra beds, and construction materials for additional patient wards during the height of the refugee crisis.

Construction of the hospital, which was supported by Samaritan's Purse, began in June 2013.

"Our visit to the new facility only served to strengthen our resolve at World Medical Mission to continue to support the efforts of this amazing mission hospital in rural Bangladesh," said Plyler.

The state-of-the-art facility is triple the size of the previous hospital, with several operating rooms, an emergency room, plans to expand to 120 inpatient beds, and an outpatient clinic that is equipped to treat up to 300 patients a day.

The old building will be repurposed to house the hospital's Health Sciences College, limb and brace center, bookstore, and office space.

"God is going to use this hospital in special ways that we could never imagine," Dr. Furman commented after the dedication ceremony. "The staff show the love of Jesus that is in their hearts, and they share it with these patients. They are being a light in the world, and the patients see that."







### ANSWERING THE CALL

**Dr. Richard Furman,** co-founder of World Medical Mission

hat does the coronavirus mean to a Christian physician? From a medical standpoint, I have never seen anything like what is happening in the U.S. and around the world today. How much is medical and how much is emotional fear? I don't know, but I do know the coronavirus is spreading all over the globe, and many are dying. We never could have imagined so many changes in our lives in such a short time with so much uncertainty as to what the future holds.

"Not unto us.

O Lord, not

unto us, but to

Your Name

give glory."

-PSALM 115:1

The coronavirus is a huge wake-up reminder of what Christians should be doing in the Lord's Name to glorify Him. Samaritan's Purse is heeding that call and each one of us needs to do the same. We recently sent one of our field hospitals to the epicenter of the outbreak in Italy. Along with physicians and nurses, we sent chaplains from the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association.

We had to cancel our World
Medical Mission doctor
trips to overseas mission
hospitals. Now our
mission field is at home
in the U.S. We feel there
is a strong possibility that
extra physicians are going
to be needed in certain
locations here. Samaritan's
Purse is in the process of setting
up a system where we can send our
physicians to these areas in need.

Our focus goes beyond meeting people's medical and physical needs. A patient's spiritual health is even more important than their physical health. During this coronavirus event, we need to keep the focus on Jesus Christ in all that we do.

We don't know what the outcome of the pandemic will be. One thing we do know is that someday we will all pass away: "How do you know what your life will be like tomorrow? Your life is like the morning fog — it's here a little while, then it's gone" (James 4:14. NLT).

Samaritan's Purse Founder Bob Pierce said something years ago which shouts this theme to us as we go through a time

of fear and danger. What he said was: "I don't care what you have attempted, what you have succeeded at, or what has been your work in Christ's Name while you are here on earth. Only one thing matters when you have reached the last step before you go to stand

before Christ: **Did you tell men** 

### and women who Jesus is?"

32 | ON CALL

Please pray for these mission hospitals and consider volunteering if you are a medical professional in one of the following specialties.





Calling for Help

If you are interested in serving overseas, please complete our Volunteer Application online at samaritanspurse.org/medical/volunteer-application. Due to the COVID-19

place volunteers at this time. Please pray for these mission hospitals and their ongoing critical needs. For further questions, call World Medical Mission at (828) 278-1173.

### **ANESTHESIOLOGY**

Baptist Medical Centre, Ghana Bongolo Hospital, Gabon Chogoria Hospital, Kenya ECWA Egbe Hospital, Nigeria ELWA Hospital, Liberia Galmi Hospital, Niger Hopital Baptiste Biblique, Togo Hospital Diospi Suyana, Peru Hospital Loma de Luz, Honduras Hospital of Hope, Togo Hospital Shalom, Guatemala Kapsowar Mission Hospital, Kenya Karanda Mission Hospital, Zimbabwe Kibogora Hospital, Rwanda Kibuye Hope Hospital, Burundi Macha Mission Hospital, Zambia Memorial Christian Hospital, Bangladesh Mukinge Mission Hospital, Zambia Nkhoma Mission Hospital, **Malawi** Restricted Country Soddo Christian Hospital, Ethiopia

Surgery Sub-Specialty Teams

Tenwek Mission Hospital, Kenya United Mission Hospital Tansen, Nepal

### CARDIOLOGY

Chogoria Hospital, Kenya ECWA Egbe Hospital, Nigeria ELWA Hospital, Liberia Galmi Hospital, Niger Hospital Diospi Suyana, Peru Hospital Shalom, Guatemala Macha Mission Hospital, Zambia Myungsung Christian Medical Center, Ethiopia Restricted Country Shalom Family Medical Center, El Salvador Soddo Christian Hospital, Ethiopia Tenwek Mission Hospital, Kenya

Baptist Medical Centre, Ghana Chitokoloki Mission Hospital, Zambia Chogoria Hospital, Kenya ECWA Egbe Hospital, Nigeria ELWA/Trinity Dental Clinic, Liberia

Hospital Diospi Suyana, Peru Hospital Loma de Luz, Honduras Hospital of Hope, Togo Hospital Shalom, Guatemala Jungle Hospital, Honduras Kapsowar Mission Hospital, Kenya Karanda Mission Hospital, Zimbabwe Kibogora Hospital, Rwanda La Fuente Centro, Peru Macha Mission Hospital, Zambia Memorial Christian Hospital, Bangladesh Nkhoma Mission Hospital, Malawi Restricted Country Ruth Bell Riverboat, Bolivia Shalom Family Medical Center, El Salvador Soddo Christian Hospital, Ethiopia Tenwek Mission Hospital, Kenya

### DERMATOLOGY

Chogoria Hospital, Kenva ELWA Hospital, Liberia Hospital Shalom, Guatemala La Fuente Centro. Peru

Macha Mission Hospital, Zambia Shalom Family Medical Center, El Salvador Soddo Christian Hospital, Ethiopia Tenwek Mission Hospital, Kenya

### **EMERGENCY MEDICINE**

Baptist Medical Centre, Ghana Bongolo Hospital, Gabon Chogoria Hospital, Kenya ELWA Hospital, Liberia Galmi Hospital, Niger Hopital Baptiste Biblique, Togo Hospital Diospi Suyana, Peru Hospital Evangelico, Honduras Hospital of Hope, **Togo** Kapsowar Mission Hospital, Kenva Karanda Mission Hospital, Zimbabwe Kudjip Nazarene Hospital, Papua New Guinea Macha Mission Hospital, Zambia Mukinge Mission Hospital, Zambia Myungsung Christian Medical Center, Ethiopia Nkhoma Mission Hospital, Malawi Restricted Country Shalom Family Medical Center, El Salvador

Soddo Christian Hospital, Ethiopia Tanalian Bible Camp/OHOP, Alaska Tenwek Mission Hospital, Kenya

### **FAMILY PRACTICE**

Bongolo Hospital, Gabon Chogoria Hospital, Kenya ECWA Egbe Hospital, Nigeria ELWA Hospital, Liberia Galmi Hospital, Niger Hopital Baptiste Biblique, Togo Hospital Diospi Suyana, Peru Hospital Loma de Luz, Honduras Hospital of Hope, Togo Jungle Hospital, Honduras Kapsowar Mission Hospital, Kenva Karanda Mission Hospital, Zimbabwe Kibuye Hope Hospital, Burundi Kijabe Mission Hospital, Kenya Kudjip Nazarene Hospital, Papua New Guinea La Fuente Centro. Peru Memorial Christian Hospital, Bangladesh Mukinge Mission Hospital, Zambia

Myungsung Christian Medical Center, Ethiopia Nkhoma Mission Hospital, Malawi Restricted Country Shalom Family Medical Center, El Salvador Soddo Christian Hospital, Ethiopia Tenwek Mission Hospital, Kenva United Mission Hospital Tansen, Nepal

### **GASTROENTEROLOGY**

Chogoria Hospital, Kenva ECWA Egbe Hospital, Nigeria ELWA Hospital, Liberia Galmi Hospital, Niger Hopital Baptiste Biblique, Togo Hospital Diospi Suyana, Peru Hospital of Hope, Togo Hospital Shalom, Guatemala Kibogora Hospital, Rwanda Kudjip Nazarene Hospital, Papua New Guinea Myungsung Christian Medical Center, Ethiopia Nkhoma Mission Hospital, Malawi Restricted Country Soddo Christian Hospital, Ethiopia Tenwek Mission Hospital, Kenva

34 | ON CALL WORLD MEDICAL MISSION - A Ministry of Samaritan's Purse

### **GENERAL SURGERY**

Baptist Medical Centre, Ghana Bongolo Hospital, Gabon Chitokoloki Mission Hospital, Zambia Chogoria Hospital, Kenva ECWA Egbe Hospital, Nigeria FLWA Hospital, Liberia Galmi Hospital, Niger Hopital Baptiste Biblique, Togo Hospital Diospi Suyana, Peru Hospital of Hope, Togo Hospital Shalom, Guatemala Kapsowar Mission Hospital, Kenva Karanda Mission Hospital, Zimbabwe Kibogora Hospital, Rwanda Kibuye Hope Hospital, Burundi Kijabe Mission Hospital, Kenya Kudiip Nazarene Hospital. Papua New Guinea Macha Mission Hospital, Zambia Memorial Christian Hospital, Bangladesh Mukinge Mission Hospital, Zambia Myungsung Christian Medical Center, Ethiopia Nkhoma Mission Hospital, Malawi Soddo Christian Hospital, Ethiopia Tenwek Mission Hospital, Kenva

### HEMATOLOGY

ELWA Hospital, **Liberia**Galmi Hospital, **Niger**Hospital Evangelico, **Honduras**Myungsung Christian Medical Center, **Ethiopia**Soddo Christian Hospital, **Ethiopia**Tenwek Mission Hospital. **Kenva** 

### INTERNAL MEDICINE

Baptist Medical Centre, Ghana Bongolo Hospital, Gabon ECWA Egbe Hospital, Nigeria FLWA Hospital, Liberia Galmi Hospital, Niger Hopital Baptiste Biblique, Togo Hospital Diospi Suyana, Peru Hospital of Hope, Togo Karanda Mission Hospital, Zimbabwe Kapsowar Mission Hospital, Kenva Kijabe Mission Hospital, Kenya Kudjip Nazarene Hospital, Papua New Guinea La Fuente Centro. Peru Macha Mission Hospital, Zambia Memorial Christian Hospital, Bangladesh Mukinge Mission Hospital, Zambia Myungsung Christian Medical Center, Ethiopia Nkhoma Mission Hospital, Malawi Shalom Family Medical Center, El Salvador Soddo Christian Hospital, Ethiopia Tenwek Mission Hospital, Kenya United Mission Hospital Tansen, Nepal

### **NEONATOLOGY**

Chogoria Hospital, **Kenya** ELWA Hospital, **Liberia** Galmi Hospital, **Niger** Hopital Baptiste Biblique, **Togo** Kapsowar Mission Hospital, **Kenya** Kibogora Hospital, **Rwanda**  Memorial Christian Hospital, **Bangladesh** Nkhoma Mission Hospital, **Malawi** Soddo Christian Hospital, **Ethiopia** Tenwek Mission Hospital, **Kenya** 

### **NEPHROLOGY**

Chogoria Hospital, **Kenya** ELWA Hospital, **Liberia** Hospital Shalom, **Guatemala** Soddo Christian Hospital, **Ethiopia** Tenwek Mission Hospital, **Kenya** 

### NEUROLOGY

Chogoria Hospital, **Kenya** ELWA Hospital, **Liberia** Hospital Shalom, **Guatemala** Myungsung Christian Medical Center, **Ethiopia** Tenwek Mission Hospital, **Kenya** 

### **NEUROSURGERY**

ELWA Hospital, **Liberia** Kijabe Mission Hospital, **Kenya** Myungsung Christian Medical Center, **Ethiopia** Surgery Sub-Specialty Teams Tenwek Mission Hospital, **Kenya** 

### OBSTETRICS/GYNECOLOGY

Baptist Medical Centre, Ghana Bongolo Hospital, Gabon Chogoria Mission Hospital, Kenya ECWA Egbe Hospital, Nigeria ELWA Hospital, Liberia Galmi Hospital, Niger Hopital Baptiste Biblique, Togo Hospital Loma de Luz, Honduras Hospital of Hope, Togo Hospital Shalom, Guatemala Jungle Hospital, **Honduras** Kapsowar Mission Hospital, **Kenva** Kibuye Hope Hospital, Burundi Kudjip Nazarene Hospital, Papua New Guinea La Fuente Centro, Peru Macha Mission Hospital, Zambia Memorial Christian Hospital, Bangladesh Mukinge Mission Hospital, Zambia Nkhoma Mission Hospital, Malawi Restricted Country Shalom Family Medical Center, El Salvador Soddo Christian Hospital, Ethiopia Surgery Sub-Specialty Teams Tenwek Mission Hospital, Kenva

### ONCOLOGY

Chogoria Hospital, **Kenya** ELWA Hospital, **Liberia** Tenwek Mission Hospital, **Kenya** 

United Mission Hospital Tansen, Nepal

### **OPHTHALMOLOGY**

Bongolo Hospital, **Gabon** Chogoria Hospital, **Kenya** ECWA Egbe Hospital, **Nigeria** ELWA Hospital, **Liberia** Hospital Diospi Suyana, **Peru**  Hospital Evangelico, Honduras Hospital of Hope, Togo Hospital Shalom, Guatemala Kapsowar Mission Hospital, Kenya Karanda Mission Hospital, Zimbabwe La Fuente Centro, Peru Macha Mission Hospital, Zambia Nkhoma Mission Hospital, Malawi Tenwek Mission Hospital, Kenya

### **ORAL MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY**

Bongolo Hospital, **Gabon**ELWA Hospital, **Liberia**Galmi Hospital, **Niger**Kapsowar Mission Hospital, **Kenya**Myungsung Christian Medical Center, **Ethiopia**Soddo Christian Hospital, **Ethiopia**Tenwek Mission Hospital, **Kenya** 

### ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY

AIC-CURE International Children's Hospital, Kenya Bongolo Hospital, Gabon Chogoria Hospital, Kenya ECWA Egbe Hospital, Nigeria ELWA Hospital, Liberia Galmi Hospital, Niger Hopital Baptiste Biblique, Togo Hospital Loma de Luz. Honduras Hospital of Hope, Togo Kapsowar Mission Hospital, Kenva Karanda Mission Hospital, Zimbabwe Kibogora Hospital, Rwanda Kudjip Nazarene Hospital, Papua New Guinea Macha Mission Hospital, Zambia Memorial Christian Hospital, Bangladesh Myungsung Christian Medical Center, Ethiopia Restricted Country Soddo Christian Hospital, Ethiopia Surgery Sub-Specialty Teams Tenwek Mission Hospital, Kenya United Mission Hospital Tansen, Nepal

### OTOLARYNGOLOGY

Bongolo Hospital, **Gabon**Chogoria Hospital, **Kenya**ELWA Hospital, **Liberia**Galmi Hospital, **Niger**Hopital Baptiste Biblique, **Togo**Hospital Loma de Luz, **Honduras**Hospital Shalom, **Guatemala**Kapsowar Mission Hospital, **Kenya**Kijabe Mission Hospital, **Kenya**Shalom Family Medical Center, **El Salvador**Tenwek Mission Hospital, **Kenya** 

### **PATHOLOGY**

Chogoria Hospital, **Kenya** ELWA Hospital, **Liberia** Galmi Hospital, **Niger** Myungsung Christian Medical Center, **Ethiopia** Soddo Christian Hospital, **Ethiopia**  Calling for Help ON CALL | 35

### 2020 SSST SCHEDULE

July 18 – 25	ELWA, Liberia	Orthopedic*
August 15 – 23	Karanda, Zimbabwe	Orthopedic
October 3 – 11	ELWA, Liberia	Hydrocephalus*

<sup>\*</sup>Tentative

### MORE SPECIALISTS ARE NEEDED TO VOLUNTEER

their time and skills for the 2020 Surgery Sub-Specialty Teams Program. Please call Program Manager Cindy Albertson at (828) 588-2024 for more information.



### PEDIATRIC ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY

ELWA Hospital, **Liberia** Galmi Hospital, **Niger** Kibogora Hospital, **Rwanda** 

### PEDIATRIC SURGERY

Baptist Medical Centre, **Ghana**Bongolo Hospital, **Gabon**Chogoria Hospital, **Kenya**ECWA Egbe Hospital, **Nigeria**ELWA Hospital, **Liberia**Galmi Hospital, **Niger**Hopital Baptiste Biblique, **Togo**Hospital Shalom, **Guatemala**Kibogora Hospital, **Rwanda**Mukinge Mission Hospital, **Zambia**Tenwek Mission Hospital, **Kenya** 

Baptist Medical Centre, Ghana

### **PEDIATRICS**

Bongolo Hospital, Gabon Chogoria Hospital, Kenya ECWA Egbe Hospital, Nigeria ELWA Hospital, Liberia Galmi Hospital, Niger Hopital Baptiste Biblique, Togo Hospital Diospi Suyana, Peru Hospital Loma de Luz, Honduras Hospital of Hope, Togo Hospital Shalom, Guatemala Jungle Hospital, Honduras Kapsowar Mission Hospital, Kenya Karanda Mission Hospital, Zimbabwe Kibuve Hope Hospital, Burundi Kijabe Mission Hospital, Kenva Kudjip Nazarene Hospital, Papua New Guinea Macha Mission Hospital, Zambia Memorial Christian Hospital, Bangladesh Mukinge Mission Hospital, Zambia

Nkhoma Mission Hospital, **Malawi** Shalom Family Medical Center, **El Salvador** Soddo Christian Hospital, **Ethiopia** Tenwek Mission Hospital, **Kenya** United Mission Hospital Tansen, **Nepal** 

### **PHYSICAL MEDICINE & REHAB**

Baptist Medical Centre, **Ghana**ECWA Egbe Hospital, **Nigeria**ELWA Hospital, **Ghana**Galmi Hospital, **Niger**Karanda Mission Hospital, **Zimbabwe**Kibogora Hospital, **Rwanda**Myungsung Christian Medical Center, **Ethiopia**Soddo Christian Hospital, **Ethiopia**Tenwek Mission Hospital, **Kenya** 

### **PLASTIC SURGERY**

ECWA Egbe Hospital, **Nigeria**ELWA Hospital, **Liberia**Galmi Hospital, **Niger**Hospital Loma de Luz, **Honduras**Kapsowar Mission Hospital, **Kenya**Kibogora Hospital, **Rwanda**Macha Mission Hospital, **Zambia**Mukinge Mission Hospital, **Zambia**Nkhoma Mission Hospital, **Malawi**Tenwek Mission Hospital, **Kenya** 

### **PSYCHIATRY**

Chogoria Hospital, **Kenya** ELWA Hospital, **Liberia** Nkhoma Mission Hospital, **Malawi** 

### **PSYCHOLOGY**

Chogoria Hospital, **Kenya** La Fuente Centro, **Peru** Nkhoma Mission Hospital, **Malawi** 

### **RADIOLOGY**

Baptist Medical Centre, Ghana Chogoria Hospital, Kenya ECWA Hospital, Liberia Galmi Hospital, Niger Hopital Baptiste Biblique, Togo Hospital Evangelico, Honduras Hospital Shalom, Guatemala Kapsowar Mission Hospital, Kenya Kibogora Hospital, Rwanda Kijabe Mission Hospital, Kenya Shalom Medical Center, El Salvador Soddo Christian Hospital, Ethiopia Tenwek Mission Hospital, Ethiopia

### RHEUMATOLOGY

Chogoria Hospital, **Kenya** ELWA Hospital, **Liberia** Tenwek Mission Hospital, **Kenya** 

### THORACIC SURGERY

Tenwek Mission Hospital, Kenya

### UROLOGY Bongolo Hospital, Gabon

Chogoria Hospital, Kenya
ECWA Hospital Egbe, Nigeria
Galmi Hospital, Niger
Hospital Shalom, Guatemala
Kapsowar Mission Hospital, Kenya
Karanda Mission Hospital, Zimbabwe
Kibogora Hospital, Rwanda
Kudjip Nazarene Hospital, Papua New Guinea
Nkhoma Mission Hospital, Malawi
Soddo Christian Hospital, Ethiopia
Tenwek Mission Hospital, Kenya
United Mission Hospital Tansen, Nepal



Samaritan's Purse • International Headquarters P.O. Box 3000 Boone, NC 28607-3000