

# Home Office Housekeeping



# General Housekeeping

- GFA Tariff
- IMG Medical Insurance
- GFA Reports



## GFA Tariff (service fee)

- 10-year anniversary
- \$1.1 million added to our HO endowments
- This generates an additional \$55,000 annually for HO expenses.
- This allows us to pass more designated gifts on to you.

# IMG Medical Insurance

- Insurance premiums will go up each year.
- GFA “buys down” the premium increase each year.
- GFA self-funds the insurance deductible.
- Our insurance broker gets new quotes for us each year.

# IMG Medical Insurance

## Insurance Claim Form Submission

- Please submit claims online if possible.
- Be sure to include an itemized invoice for all claims and proof of payment if you paid the invoice already.
- After you file the claim, check back on the IMG website in a couple of weeks to see if there are any problems with the claim that are holding up processing.
- The \$1,500 deductible that GFA self-funds will show up as a separate EOB.



# GFA Reports App

- Submit monthly reports
- View your current and past support, including mailing address and email (if available)
- View notes that are included with gifts
- View your pledged supporters list
- View your support level figures

February 2025

# Field Memo

*The purpose of the Field Memo is to inform the GFA family and build a family culture.*



Monthly Publication



August 2025

# Field Memo

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Purpose



# Announcements (continued)

## Welcome to GFA!

- **Micah Beachell** was accepted into GFA's Strategic Internship Program on December 9, 2024. He will be mentored by his Uncle Sid Messer in Ecuador. Micah left the US on January 31 and plans to return on March 21.
- **Hannah Lovegrove** was accepted as a short-term GFA missionary to Morocco on December 19, 2024.

## Thank you for your sacrificial service:

- Effective January 31, 2025, Interim Pastor Ministry missionaries **Tony and Ellen Slutz** are resigning due to health concerns.

## Missionaries on the move:

- **Priscilla Smith** was approved on January 22, 2025, to return to the Central African Republic for a two-year short-term assignment helping Donna Bixby at Jonathan's House, an orphanage and Christian school ministry. Priscilla is preparing for an August departure.

## Pray for the GFA Music Team to Europe:

Several people are preparing to sing of **Christ, Our Sufficiency** in churches, schools, rest homes, and public concerts during their spring tour across Germany, Luxembourg, and France from May

12 to June 3, 2025. Dr. Brenda Keen will direct these musicians, and the team will be led by GFA Board member Dr. **Jim Wiginton and his wife, Cyndi**. The Wigintons lived in France for four years, speak French fluently, and are veteran missions team leaders.

The team will hold deputation meetings in six different churches during the months of February and March to help defray team costs and generate prayer support. If you are in the Greenville area, please consider attending one of the team presentations:



# Staff Spotlight

## Staff Spotlight

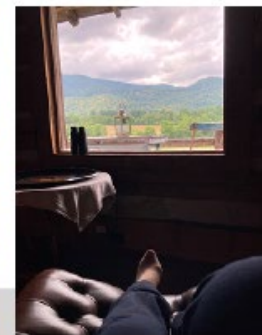
Betty Rooks



### My Favorite Things

**Favorite Season:** Fall. No contest!

**Dream Vacation:** A week or two at a cabin with a back porch view of a mountain lake and a really good book would suit me just fine—even better if a storm rumbled through!



### My Skimpy Resume

I've held only three jobs in my entire life. I worked at Scott Exterminating Company in Atlanta after high school and each summer between my college years. That's where I figured out how much I liked working in an office. (No, I didn't crawl under houses and kill bugs, but I got to know some really nice people who did.) I started working at Bob Jones University on June 9, 1980, just three weeks after I graduated from BJU with a degree in office administration. Jim Berg and Dick Leiter shared a secretary until Dr. Berg became Dean of Students, and I became his full-time secretary. After almost 30 years, he used to say I could



# Missionary Spotlight

## Missionary Spotlight

Tim and Claire Petersen



### Ministry Summary

We are helping develop a church plant in a town outside of Warsaw, Poland. Both of us are working on learning and improving our Polish language skills, and Tim has been involved with preaching and discipleship in the church.

**Missionary Service:** Short-termers since September 14, 2017; career missionaries since January 16, 2020

**Field:** Poland

**Contact:** [petersens.to.poland@gmail.com](mailto:petersens.to.poland@gmail.com)



#### A Word of Encouragement

I [Tim] was reading a book recently, and at one point the main character was adamant that he did not want to die. That reminded me that even though we still face grief and sadness from death, we do not fear as those without hope. What a joy it is to be able to say with Paul, “for me to live is Christ and to die is gain.”

#### How I Chose My Field

I [Tim] grew up in Poland as a missionary kid. As a child I saw the great need for more gospel witnesses here. The country is strongly Catholic (also very much practicing), with only a 0.2–0.3% population that is evangelical of any kind. I initially did not want to come here because I knew it was going to be so difficult, and I felt that I was not the right kind of person for it. But the Lord convicted me via His words in Exodus 4:1, “Who has made man’s mouth? Or who makes him mute or deaf, or seeing or blind? Is it not I, the LORD?” With that God reminded me that if He is calling me to do this, then He would enable me as well to do it.

# Missionary Spotlight

## Missionary Spotlight

Chris Hess



**A Word of Encouragement**  
Keep a God-centered focus!

**How did you choose your field?**  
My initial connection with Nova Scotia came through participation in the BJU mission team training for two summers. The Lord then used His Word, circumstances, the counsel of godly people, and the leading of His Spirit to direct me to return as a full-time missionary.

**My Greatest Joy**  
Gospel-related connections! I pray for God to open doors, contact unsaved people, converse with them, communicate the Gospel, continue to pray and connect with them, and see people trust Christ as Savior so that they can begin to grow spiritually. For example, recently, a lady I have known and prayed for more than 30 years trusted Christ as her Savior.

## Ministry Summary

I am based in Pleasant Bay, a fishing village in the highlands of Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia. The Lord also gives opportunities to branch out to people in other communities to share Christ and His Word through children's Bible clubs, ladies' outreaches, and serving individuals in times of need.

**Missionary Service:** Accepted for full-time ministry on March 16, 1982

**Field:** Nova Scotia, Canada

**Contact:** [canadacom5@hotmail.com](mailto:canadacom5@hotmail.com)



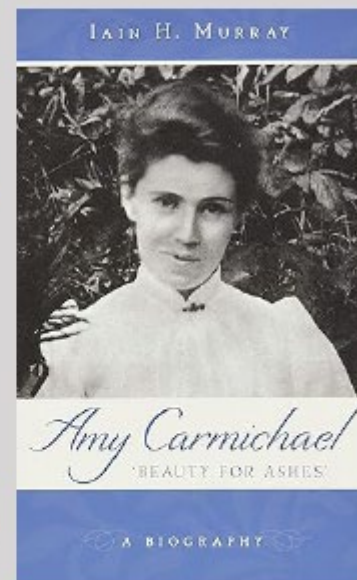
## For Your Reading Encouragement

*Amy Carmichael: Beauty for Ashes* by Iain Murray

Reviewed by Jan Patterson

This book is a more recent update on the life and work of Amy Carmichael and the “unexpected life calling” that God put in her path. It is not meant to be as extensive as the earlier, classic biographies by Frank Houghton and Elisabeth Elliot.

Iain Murray gives a brief synopsis of Amy’s youth and early ministries in the UK and Japan, and then focuses mostly on her labors in South India and what became the Dohnavur Fellowship. He details some of the great blessings and deep struggles she experienced and provides an update on the current ministry of the Fellowship. It was due to Amy’s steadfast determination to maintain a fully Scriptural and godly focus in every area—the goals of the children’s education, the stand and spirituality of all her helpers, even the lands and buildings of the Fellowship—that it continues to maintain solid principles to the present. As with any strong leader, Amy had her share of criticisms and disagreements, but most people described her as cheerful, bright-eyed, and happy-hearted. Her life principle was that “love is the foremost Christian grace.” Amy wrote extensively, especially after a bad fall left her an invalid. Her writings are full of her love for Christ and what devotion to Him looks like. She includes imagination, art and poetry, and her many works continue to be favorites today.



Book recommendations/annotations

# Family News

## Family News

**Tony and Cathy Payne** - Thank you for continuing prayers for Tony's mom, who suffers with end stage renal disease. Ask God to help her grow in her anticipation of eternity with Christ.

**Bob and Becky Hein** - We are looking forward to a Hein Family Christmas at the Perry Farm. Our daughter's married name is Perry, and she has invited the whole family—all 27 of us!

**Juanita Garland** - My mother turns 100 the beginning of January, so I will be going for a short trip to the States to help her celebrate! My daughter Rachel and her 3-year-old son, Enoque, will be traveling with me, for which I am grateful.

**Jim and Carol Knakal** - Jim had rotator cuff surgery the day before Thanksgiving, and it greatly limits what he can do physically. Pray that physical therapy will progress rapidly.

**Sam and Penny-Sue Laterza** - Please continue to pray for a good recovery for Sam's mother after her cancer surgery in early December.

**Walter and Carol Loescher** - Kai Daniel Dahlhausen, our third grandchild, arrived on December 2, weighing in at 7lbs. 9oz. and 20 inches long. Tim and Liz Dahlhausen, Kai's parents, are excitedly preparing to go to Morocco as full-time missionaries in early February.

**Marcia McLean's** father, James Robert Dluhos, Sr., passed away on Friday, November 22. Marcia was able to return to the States to attend the memorial service at Calvary Bible Church in Myrtle Beach, SC. Mr. Dluhos was also the father of Soraya Casillas, wife of GFA board member Ken Casillas.



*Baby Kai Dahlhausen*



## GFA Internal Podcast

- Private podcast
- For GFA missionaries
- Platform for Jon Crocker to communicate his heart to you
- Accessible on podcast platforms and the GFA website
- Highlights the theme for the year, testimonies from missionaries, GFA Family Conference and MAT Retreat sessions

# GFA Internal Podcast

Announced in  
*Field Memo*

Links given for  
listening on the GFA  
website or a  
podcast app

## Internal Podcast

### *Faithful to the End*

By Jon Crocker

Godly character is indispensable for those who serve as leaders among the people of God. Without real heart holiness in our thoughts, attitudes, words, and actions, we do not have ministry. How do people stay faithful to the end? Why do so many disqualify themselves? This focus on the culture of the heart is the emphasis for the GFA family this year. In this episode of the internal podcast, Jon Crocker explains this theme.



Listen to the podcast  
(pw = Internal@2025)



Subscribe  
(pw = 61gfam)

## Internal Podcast

### *Honoring Faithfulness*

Testimonies from Missionaries

It is good and right to honor those who faithfully serve the Lord (1 Thessalonians 5:12–13, 1 Corinthians 16:18, Philippians 2:29, 1 Timothy 5:17, and Hebrews 13:7). In this podcast missionaries who have reached a decade benchmark in 2025 direct our attention to the Lord and how He has shepherded them and used them for His cause. You will hear from Sara Morris and Marnie Krause (10 years); Tim and Laura Berrey and Steve and Marcia McLean (20 years); Michael and Janice Berbin, Dale Crawford, Todd Hudson, Joaquin Lopez, and Rob and Cyndi Moody (30 years); and Bud Talbert (40 years).



Listen to the podcast  
(pw = Internal@2025)



Subscribe  
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## Pictures of the GFA Music Team



Pictures

# Europe Field Conference 2025



Pictures

March 2025

# Field Memo

*The purpose of the Field Memo is to inform the GFA family and build a family culture.*



Please give us feedback!



# Helping One Another Endure



*Hebrews 3:12–14 12 Take care, brethren, that there not be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart that falls away from the living God. 13 But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is still called “Today,” so that none of you will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. 14 For we have become partakers of Christ, if we hold fast the beginning of our assurance firm until the end.*

*1 Thessalonians 5:11 Therefore encourage one another and build up one another, just as you also are doing.*

*1 Thessalonians 4:18 Therefore comfort one another with these words.*

*Romans 15:14 And concerning you, my brethren, I myself also am convinced that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge and able also to admonish one another.*

*Hebrews 10:23–25 23 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful; 24 and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, 25 not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.*

# Obstacles

- The difficulty of honesty/transparency
- Geographic distance
- Cross-cultural challenges
- “Spiritual maturity gap”

# Results

- Unless we intentionally and persistently keep ourselves inside of the Bible's one-another circles, we will miss out on so many blessings that God intends for us.
- We put ourselves at risk of being hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

# Results

- “The Fatally Friendless Father” (<https://www.growingfathers.com/the-fatally-friendless-father/>)
  - Friendless Fathers easily excuse negligence in spiritual disciplines.
  - Friendless Fathers never “answer” for how they are leading their families.
  - Friendless Fathers get stuck in mental-emotional funks.
  - Friendless Fathers give sin room to grow in secrecy

# Encouragements

- Think of yourself as a member of the body (because you are!).
  - 1 Corinthians 12:21 And the eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you"; or again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you."
- Have a healthy fear of constant affirmation.
- See this theme as a *means* to develop your congregation.

# Encouragements

- Remember that this is Christ's own plan for building His church.

**Ephesians 4:11–16** 11 And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, 12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ; 13 until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ.

**Ephesians 4:11–16** 14 As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming; 15 but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ, 16 from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building

# Encouragements

- Remember that this is Christ's own plan for building His church.
- Seek accountability

