



REACHING ACROSS

Developing Christian leaders globally

DECEMBER 2021

Learning the Value of Distance



Executive Director
Greg Morrow

In *Surprised By Joy*, C.S. Lewis writes:

The truest and most horrible claim made for modern transport is that it ‘annihilates space’. It annihilates one of the most glorious gifts we have been given. It is a vile inflation which lowers the value of distance, so that a

modern boy travels a hundred miles with less sense of liberation and pilgrimage and adventure than his grandfather got from traveling ten.

If our thoughts about Lewis’ insight cause us to think only about mileage, we’ve missed the point. Lewis’ “annihilation of space” explains a problem risen to an epidemic level in our modern age – and I don’t mean COVID-19.

Regardless of the specific nature of one’s circumstances – good or bad, hard or easy – many today seem unable to appreciate “distance” by taking the “long look.” Instead, we prefer immediate answers to questions, immediate solutions to problems, and immediate justice to right all wrongs.

FLF has experienced much throughout the past two years as has, of course, our entire world. If our experiences have taught us anything, perhaps among the greatest lessons would be to reconsider Lewis’ premise about the value of “distance”... acknowledging our humanity by wishing for immediate relief from what presses upon us while, at the same time, appreciating the importance of taking a long look, both into the past as well as into the future.

If our experiences have taught us anything, perhaps among the greatest lessons would be to reconsider ... wishing for immediate relief from what presses upon us.

Looking back at the previous two years reveals much for which FLF can be grateful. When our plans were derailed by pandemic restrictions in 2020, our field service staff remained active by ministering to our partners, the “gatekeepers” with whom we work around the world. You will find evidence of this throughout this newsletter.

Maintaining contact affirmed our love and commitment to our FLF colleagues. Remaining open to providing support in ways that recognize leader development meant investment, especially when formal training opportunities were less likely.

I’m grateful for each member of our FLF board and staff who work so faithfully and give so generously to ensure a continuation of FLF’s mission: **to develop Christian leaders globally.** Most importantly, I’m humbled at how the Lord reinvigorates and revives us in the midst of such things as a world-wide pandemic. In such times it is important for us to live with the same confidence as did King David, as he writes in Psalm 28:7-9:

The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and he helps me. My heart leaps for joy, and with my song I praise him. The LORD is the strength of his people, a fortress of salvation for his anointed one. Save your people and bless your inheritance; be their shepherd and carry them forever.

I’m as excited about the ten miles we have traveled in our past as I am for the hundreds of miles that lie before us!

Use your newsletter to make a difference!
READ • PRAY • RESPOND

	Send a call to prayer card to Future Leadership Foundation to spiritual leaders, pastors, friends, and family.	<input type="checkbox"/> Tell me how I can participate in FLF's work. <input type="checkbox"/> Tell me about giving FLF with my 401(k) or mutual fund shares. <input type="checkbox"/> Tell me how to become a member of FLF's Board of Directors.
	I am enclosing a gift to FLF for: <input type="checkbox"/> 2020 <input type="checkbox"/> 2021 <input type="checkbox"/> 2022 <input type="checkbox"/> Other: \$ _____ (NOTE: For each separate order, please send separate contributions.)	
Name: _____ Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____	Please designate my gift for: <input type="checkbox"/> general needs <input type="checkbox"/> other: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> I will regularly give to Future Leadership Foundation. <input type="checkbox"/> Please send me your online newsletter. (check or uncheck) <input type="checkbox"/> Please send me your email newsletter. (check or uncheck)	Return in the reply envelope or mail to Future Leadership Foundation, P.O. Box 50000, Columbia, MD 21045

INSIDE:



- FLF@Work in 2021
- Plans and Projects
- International Summit Plans

Over 90% of the operating expenses for FLF are covered by FLF Board and Staff. Nearly all of what you donate goes to projects and partners!

By the Numbers: FLF Ministry Accomplishments in 2021

Despite travel and meeting restrictions, FLF has been blessed by what God enabled us to do. *God gives seed to farmers and provides everyone with food. He will increase what you have, so that you can give even more to those in need.* (2 Corinthians 9:10 CEV)

10 COUNTRIES



Guatemala
El Salvador
Estonia
Latvia
Lithuania
India
Mexico
Moldova
Poland
Ukraine



PROJECT DISTRIBUTION
\$80,722



17 PROJECTS

424.50
VOLUNTEER HOURS



1,092
PARTICIPANTS



VOLUNTEER HOUR VALUE
\$11,628



Future Leadership Foundation

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The Future Leadership Foundation (FLF) develops Christian leaders globally, collaborating with churches, ministry organizations and religious entities by addressing needs and goals that facilitate reaching people for Christ and equipping them for ministry.

Leadership Team:

Executive Director: Greg Morrow; **Director of Operations:** Robbi Haynes; **Field Services Directors:** Calvin Brown, John Claydon, Chris Cook, Steve Easterwood, Michael Graves, Mike and Robbi Haynes, John Jackson, Heber Mena, and Phil Rector; **Treasurer:** Gary Collins; **Communications:** Ken Satterfield

2021 Board:

President: John Heskett, Chesterfield, Mo.; **Vice President:** Tom Ogle, California, Mo.; **Secretary:** Gerri Ogle, California, Mo.

Board members: Julius Anderson, Lake St. Louis, Mo.; Karen Badger, Rolla, Mo.; Steve Easterwood, Kirksville, Mo.; Larry Guess, Fenton, Mo.; Stephen Hemphill, Liberty, Mo.; Andre Khudyadkov, Kiev, Ukraine; Stephen Mathis, Jefferson City, Mo.; Thea Scott, Jefferson City, Mo.; and Tom Wright, Lee's Summit, Mo.

Advisory Board:

Kathleen Boswell, Sedalia; Jennifer Briner, Switzerland; and Ryan Feeler, Rolla, Mo.

FLF PROJECTS INCLUDED:

- Church Planting Retreat (*Ukraine*)
- Foster Adoptive Leadership Retreat (*Moldova*)
- Golden Apple Institute (*Poland*)
- Humanitarian Aid (*India*)
- Macendonia Project (*Ukraine*)
supporting new churches and pastors
- Missions Department Retreat (*Ukraine*)
- Music in World Cultures (*Eurasia*)
- Music Leadership Initiative (*Ukraine*)
- Pastor Theological Education (*El Salvador*)
- Pastor Theological Education (*Mexico*)
- Tabitha House (*Guatemala*)
- Training for Young Leaders (*Estonia*)
- Young Pastor and Family Retreat (*India*)

What's Ahead in 2022?

Scripture teaches us to “Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths” (Proverbs 3:5-6). The Future Leadership Foundation board has approved funding for these projects in the year ahead. They reflect a multitude of places, partners, and possibilities in the year ahead. Your support helps make these efforts possible!

COSTA RICA



Vision Trip for Future Work

Connect with pastors, assess ministerial and leadership needs, and explore partnerships.

EL SALVADOR



Theological Education, Leader Development

Provide classes in ecclesiology, eschatology, and leadership training.

ESTONIA



LATVIA

LITHUANIA



Worship Training Initiative

Participate in worship training via Zoom and rent audiovisual equipment.

INDIA



Emerging Leaders Initiative

Equip 60 strategically selected emerging leaders from eight states of Northeast India.

Webinar Classes for English language

Establish satellite webinar classrooms for up to 1,200 in North and Northeast India.

ISRAEL



Infrastructure Investment in Leader Safety

Install a bomb shelter for the safety of students and faculty of partner Yuval Center for Worship and Arts.

MEXICO



Theological & Leadership Training for Pastors and Leaders

Establish a three-year certification program.

MOLDOVA



Pastor, Pastor Wife & Church Leader Conferences

Lead multiple conferences to encourage and train pastors, spouses, and leaders.

PANAMA



Vision Trip for Future Work

Connect with pastors, assess ministerial and leadership needs, and explore partnerships.

POLAND



The Heart of Europe Mission/Vision Initiative

Recruit 3-6 pastors or church leaders to meet with Polish church leaders and explore partnerships.

Spiritual Renewal Retreat

Leadership Forum

Conduct two endeavors in partnership with Golden Apple Institute.

UKRAINE



Local Church/Mission Conference

Teach and promote mission participation and giving in churches for leaders and students.

Missions Retreat

Encourage and equip approximately 50 students and leaders to mobilize their churches for outreach and missions.

“Ministry. Creativity. Mission.” Conference

Provide a worship leader to address conference for young people.

Church Renewal Initiative

Promote partnership between Ukrainian and American churches through a vision trip.

Church Planting Retreat

Recruit three pastors or church leaders to lead an seminar for seminary students

TOTAL EXPENDITURES: \$36,400





International “Re-set” Summit Proposed for Summer 2022

In 2017, Future Leadership Foundation invited leaders from eight countries to a summit in Ukraine introducing FLF leaders to our international partners, while building relationships, and dreaming of the future. This led to additional European summits.

The gatherings attracted national Baptist leaders; university and seminary professors; organization leaders from benevolence ministries to children and the aged; and a sports evangelism ministry. Common bonds and the foundations for future collaboration were established.

By the beginning of 2020, FLF approved two dozen projects when COVID-19 and lockdowns changed plans and focus. FLF began concentrating on relationships to ministry partners and their families, keeping the lines of communication open. As a result, opportunities for 2021 training events have opened sooner than anticipated.

FLF believes the time is right to re-engage with our international partners in our common cause to develop Christian leaders globally. Therefore, we

propose FLF invite its international partners from around the world to participate in an in-person “re-set” summit in the summer of 2022.

International representatives, FLF leaders, and partners from the United States would be invited. A goal for the summit will be to strengthen relationships

favorable for future training opportunities between FLF and its partners as we collaborate together.

Due to the process of purchasing airline tickets in advance and the resources of the Greene County Baptist Association, the Re-set Summit is tentatively scheduled for 10-12 days in July or August in the city of Springfield, Mo. FLF will raise funds to support all international travel cost to make the trip affordable to our partners.

Imagine the possibilities for collaboration between churches, national, and international partners, working together and dreaming new and more effective ways of developing Christian leaders!

You'll be hearing more about the summit as plans are put in place. Imagine the possibilities for collaboration between churches, national, and international partners, working together and dreaming new and more effective ways of developing Christian leaders!

