

## Conference Secretary of Global Ministries

The primary functions of Conference Secretary of Global Ministries (CSGM) is to interpret the programs, emphases, plans, and policies of the General Board of Global Ministries to the Annual Conference. Participate in training events led by Global Ministries staff.

Attend CSCM jurisdictional fellowships each year in the fall.

Cooperate with Global Ministries in its mission program in the United States and around the world  
Work with the Advance and Missionary Services to promote Covenant Relationships and itineration of missionaries in order to share the story of God's mission and increase support for missionaries  
Coordinate the itineration of missionaries visiting supporting churches. Make special efforts to have missionaries visit churches that are not currently supporting missionaries. Promote new Covenant Relationships. Maintain the list of missionaries supported throughout annual conference.

In more than 60 countries around the world, United Methodist missionaries come from many places and backgrounds, and witness and serve in dramatically different locales and cultures.

They engage in a range of activities and professions including pastors, educators, congregational and leadership developers, regional coordinators for UMCOR, agriculturalists, health coordinators, and doctors.

The major task that we have been engaged in since last annual conference is missionary itineration. Missionaries are provided the opportunity every 3 years to visit with their supporting churches. Arranging schedules is a task that requires organizational skills and tenacity.

**Lawrence and Jane Kies**, missionaries serving at Africa University in Mutare, Zimbabwe, had a brief visit in July and made their own itineration schedule.

**Belinda Forbes**, missionary assigned to Nicaragua, visited supporting churches, Metropolitan Memorial UMC, Chevy Chase UMC, Damascus UMC, Hughes UMC and Sandy Mount UMC in August. Thanks to her for arranging her own schedule of visits with local churches

**Alina Saucedo**, missionary, and her husband, Michael Keyse, serving San Francisco Libre, Nicaragua, itinerated November 14—30, 2016. They visited Rockville, UMC, Westminster UMC, Emmanuel UMC-Laurel, Wesley UMC, and Gethsemane UMC. They toured the BWC Conference Center, shared a meal at GBGM meeting followed by a presentation.

Special thanks to the individuals who extended hospitality and invited them to share Thanksgiving with their family, friends as well as opportunities to be engaged during the holiday.

Because of their extended stay in our conference, GBGM Chairman, the Rev. Raphael Koikoi, contacted the Susanna Wesley House in Baltimore and made arrangements for base housing for Alina and Michael. Pastor Laura Kigweba picked them up from airport and transported them to Amtrak to continue on the final leg of their journey.

Laura made certain they were comfortable especially since it was their first visit to this area and they were not familiar with Baltimore.

Mission U, a joint venture of GBGM and UMW, is the major training event for mission education within the BWC. Members of CBGM serve on planning committee which is an annual school for Adult and Youth. The event will be held July 28-30, 2017 at Bethesda Marriott.

In closing this report, with a heavy heart, for those who didn't receive notification, Co-Secretary of Global Ministries, N. Sharon Leatherman passed on July 8, 2016. She was a wonderful mentor, had a heart for Missions and served the Baltimore-Washington Conference for many years, sharing her expertise and enthusiasm with the committees she served.

Jane O. Grays  
Secretary of Global Ministries