



# Fellowship International

Gateway to the Nations

Fall 2020



the fellowship

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Good news from Fellowship International... Five full-time missionary units were appointed this past year!



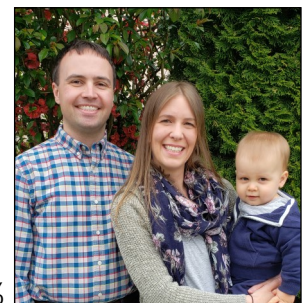
» The Thiessens (Jesh and Julie and their three children) are from Bay Park Baptist Church in Kingston, ON. The family of five spent two years working in Burundi with Samaritan's Purse. This confirmed their calling to poverty-stricken situations. They see themselves providing necessary medical care for the purpose of living out the call 'to love our neighbours as ourselves'. The family's focus now lies in Madagascar. They anticipate a Fall 2020 move to the island nation.

I n April, Andrew and Tanja Rokeby were appointed as long-term missionaries to Japan. They have been partner-raising since that time and have reached about 40% of their goal. A key focus for Andrew and Tanja will be to initiate a disciple-making movement once they completed their language acquisition.



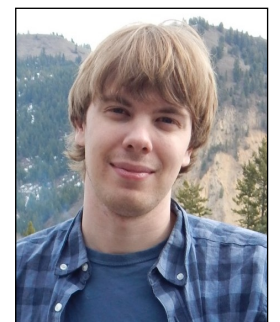
Andrew grew up in Timmins, ON but has spent his university years in BC and it was here that he met and married Tanja. As a couple they have had short-term mission experience in Chad and Japan.

Andrew and Tanja have committed themselves to serve in a nation with less than 0.6% self-identified followers of Jesus.



» Krizzia Ricafort was appointed to our LAUNCH (mid-term) program this summer for ministry in Poland. However, as COVID-19 is preventing her deployment she has decided to pursue post-graduate education at this time. Please be praying for Krizzia as she begins her studies and continues to wait on the Lord to open doors for her to serve in Poland in the future.

Daniel Pickerill was also appointed to our LAUNCH program for ministry in Japan. He is willing and ready to travel to Osaka and take on the teaching assignment that our long-term missionary, Adam Pietrantonio, filled this past year. Like many countries, Japan has stopped issuing visas to foreigners until they think it is safe to do so in light of the current pandemic. Pray for Daniel as he waits for 'green lights' to travel to Japan.



## COVID-19 Update:

Missionaries adapt. Most of our international staff have chosen to stay in their adopted countries. A few, due to medical and educational needs, have traveled back to Canada. Rob Fleming has traveled back to Japan and will set up their house in Hitachinaka. Kathryn will join Rob in mid-October.

The Qazis, Burwells, Vandergaags, Karwurs, and Adam Pietrantonio remain in Canada and are waiting for green lights to return to their fields. The Midigos remain in Kenya, as COVID affects Africa.

**A**ndy and Janet Wildsmith have served for 37 years with Fellowship International. They started their international ministry in Nigeria before relocating to Kenya in 1999. Andy has been a lecturer at Bible colleges and seminaries influencing young leaders throughout his career. Dr. Wildsmith has also edited the *Africa Journal of Evangelical Theology*, which has contributed to leaders across the continent. Janet pursued further education choosing to contribute to the need for training in Kenyan churches to meet the HIV/AIDS crisis in Africa. After raising their sons in Africa, and seeing them married and settled in Canada, both Andy and Janet have expressed their joy over being grandparents. Now, Janet is working for Service Ontario, and Andy, despite some health challenges, has written a number of courses designed for African leaders living in Canada. We are asking God to continue to richly bless and use them in their 'golden years'.



## Cardonas initiate DMM in Colombia

Since the Fellowship International *Poland Summit* in 2018, Diego and Claudia Cardona have been working hard to continue to train and develop new leaders for local churches. Recently, Diego has initiated "Encounter" Bible studies using the disciple-making movement principles and Discovery Bible study tools. To date, 80 leaders are trained, over 100 groups are started, and more than 500 people are attending. Diego estimates that over 25% of the attendees are non-believers who are seeking to personally discover what the Bible says. Pray that seekers will find Christ!"

## Fellowship International Prays Together

In April, Fellowship International initiated two weekly prayer meetings. For an hour on Wednesday and Friday mornings, missionaries and staff from around the world connect to pray. These times, hosted on Zoom, have been a rich source of encouragement.



### Praise and Prayer:

1. Give thanks for our five new long-term appointees!
2. Pray to the Lord of the Harvest for more workers.
3. Pray for effectiveness for Fellowship International missionaries as they raise partners.
4. Pray for fruitfulness in our Discovery Bible studies and in our leading to DMMs.