

# Upcoming Events

- May & June

8 TRUTHS OF THE GOSPEL - Good Soil Training

New Church Directory Forms:

Please direct completed forms & any Questions to:

Pastor Jose & Ivis Quann

Directory photo scheduling - TBA

CONNECT Card - New bulletin format

- Pray About Sponsoring Dr. JD Smith's 450 mile 5 Day Bike Ride that has been completed - 2.222 X \$450 = GOAL of 1 Mil.
- TOMORROW - Memorial Day Picnic

## MISSIONAL TEAMS:

- Internal / Discipleship - Don & Carm Hickson
- External/Outreach - Jose & Ivis Quann
- Bldg. & Grounds - Bill & Laura Dolhansky
- Technology - Mark & Jillaine Couse

## — MISSIONARIES —



*El Salvador*

- Rigoberto Jimenez Cruz
- <https://bmamissions.org/national-changemakers/>

# Persecuted Christian

- ETHIOPIA -

## CHURCH BUILDING DESTROYED

- In September 2022, Muslim extremists attacked the Bokore Full Gospel church in southeastern Ethiopia. Islamists set it on fire, destroying the building & everything inside; fortunately, no church members were hurt during the attack. The church was planted 12 years ago & has around 120 members. While Ethiopia is a majority-Christian nation, Islam is on the rise, & Muslims now compose nearly 40 percent of the population. In southern Ethiopia, political unrest & the rise of Wahhabism, an extreme branch of Islam, have resulted in a wave of attacks against Christians in that area. VOM is helping to rebuild the church & replace the destroyed items.
- The gospel was first brought to Ethiopia in the first century, but many Ethiopian Christians still face persecution today. In southern Ethiopia, political unrest & the rise of Wahhabism, an extreme branch of Islam, among the Oromo people have resulted in a wave of attacks against Christians across the region. Eastern Ethiopia has one of the largest Somali populations in the world, & Christians there are persecuted by both their communities & their families. In northern Ethiopia, militants among the Ethiopian Orthodox Church persecute evangelical believers. Several majority-Muslim tribal groups throughout Ethiopia also persecute Christians. Freedom of religion is guaranteed under Ethiopian law, & the national government generally works to protect the rights of Christians. But recent political unrest has created opportunities for large attacks on Christians & churches throughout the country. Still, evangelical churches in Ethiopia continue to plant new churches & send missionaries to difficult areas. In November 2020, a civil war broke out in the Tigray region of northern Ethiopia, causing immense suffering & greatly affecting churches & pastors in the minority evangelical area.
- 59 percent of Ethiopians are Christians (42 percent Orthodox & 17 percent evangelical). Islam is growing & Muslims now compose nearly 40 percent of the population.
- Please Pray For:
  - Pastors in Tigray who are suffering during the conflict.
  - Members of churches that have been destroyed.
  - The boldness & safety of front-line workers in hostile areas of the country.
  - Abebech Demisse, Worke Eda'o, Meseret Teketal & other widows.
  - Peace & stability in the Tigray region & between different ethnic groups.
  - Believers who face severe persecution from both Muslims & traditional Christians.
  - Christian leaders from Muslim backgrounds who risk their lives to share the gospel.
  - Believers in the Bale & Arsi Zones whose homes, businesses & belongings were destroyed.

WWW.PERSECUTED.COM/STORIES

