



MISSIONS

BLESSED TO BE A BLESSING

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WELCOME TO THE MINISTRY

Since our founding in 1996, Cross Sound Church believes we are “blessed to be a blessing” in everything we do. The Missions Team is tasked by the Elders to carry out that call to missions.

We seek to bring hope and healing to Kitsap County, the Greater Seattle Area, Washington State, the United States, and around the world. We do this by partnering with other churches, international missionaries, and ministry partners.

Most of these partnerships include, but are not limited to, financial support. We have committed to pray regularly for them, partner actively in their work, and encourage deeper relationships. Our guiding principle in selecting these mission partners is that each evolves from an existing relationship with CSC. If you have questions or would like more information about any of the information in this brochure, please reach out to one of us.

Blessed to be a blessing,
The Missions Team

Jason Long (Team Chair)
Dave O’Connell (Pastor)
Barbara Ames
Stu Childers
Tom Crowley
Linda L Gordon
John Hays
Greg Livdahl
Rachel Long
Shannon Roa
Deby Berkimer



SISTER CHURCHES

Sister churches are congregations in other parts of the world where Cross Sound Church has entered a committed, bi-directional relationship. Each of these relationships looks a little different, but at the heart of each is a desire to join in the life and ministry of the sister church while also inviting them to do the same with us.



LOS PINOS NUEVOS - MATANZAS, CUBA

PASTOR: ELVIS AND ISNAY CANCIO

Our relationship with Los Pinos Nuevos in Cuba started with Alan Thompson, a long-time missionary to Cuba and a former member of Cross Sound. Through our relationship with Alan, we began by building a relationship with the Los Pinos Nuevos leadership in Havana. We next were invited to enter a sister church relationship with a church in Matanzas, Cuba.

This Matanzas church is led by Elvis and Isnay Cancio, who were called to ministry from another part of Cuba. The church in Matanzas is a collection of house churches, with pastors for each of the zones of the city and leaders for each house church. As a part of their ministry, the church also owns and operates a small farm, has a food distribution ministry, and conducts Bible and ministry training for people from the house churches who want to go deeper and/or step into a leadership role.



EL REDENTOR - MEXICO CITY, MEXICO

PASTOR: RODRIGO AND RUTH GARCÍA REYNOSO

El Redentor was planted by Victor and Teresa Cruz in 2011 in the Condesa-Roma area of Mexico City. Their desire is to be a church with a missionary vision in a strategic area of the city so that many lives are transformed by the power of the gospel. They also seek to train leaders and plant new churches that promote the renewal of the culture and character of the city for the benefit of the people and the greater glory of God. To this end, they have planted two churches in other strategic areas of Mexico City, Iztapalapa in 2015 and Azcapotzalco in 2022.

As Victor moved on to be the director of the Mexico City Hub for City to City, Rodrigo García Reynoso succeeded him as pastor at El Redentor. Rodrigo has been Victor's intern since 2018, got married to Ruth in December 2022, and transitioned to being the full-time pastor in January 2023. He is also finishing his seminary degree and will be ordained by the Mexico City Presbytery in the future. We're looking forward to partnering with Rodrigo and Ruth in the continued growth of El Redentor. Victor will continue to support the church by preaching once a month, providing some counseling, and serving communion until Rodrigo is ordained.



MIWANI CENTER - MIWANI, KENYA

PASTOR: MICHAEL AND BENTOR NDEDA

Cross Sound's relationship with the Miwani Center and Nehemiah International began through Jeff Krueger and his father John. Jeff and Marit Krueger moved to Kenya and lived at Miwani for several years. Over the years, several medical professionals from Cross Sound have traveled to Miwani to provide much needed assistance to their medical center staff.

We currently work with Michael Ndeda who provides leadership for the Miwani Center. His goal is to train orphaned and vulnerable young children and their families living in difficult circumstances. Because of the ravaging effects of HIV/AIDS, warring neighbors, and impoverishment, many children and families have been exposed and their wellbeing weakened. As a result, there is a need to create a self-sustaining institution that will stand up for these children. The long-term vision for Miwani is to create a generation after God's heart by reaching the vulnerable orphans and children to increase their access to opportunities that exist around them.



MISSIONARIES

The missionaries we support are involved in many different types of work in places around the world. Each of these missionaries were a part of CSC prior to serving as missionaries and we continue that relationship by joining them in the ministry the Lord has called them to, whatever and wherever it is.



PASTOR VICTOR AND TERESA CRUZ
LATIN AMERICA: CITY TO CITY (CTC)

Victor and Teresa are longtime friends of Cross Sound, living here on Bainbridge with their son and daughter, while Victor attended advanced training at The Seattle School of Theology and Psychology. Victor initially planted El Redentor Church in Mexico City and has been its Pastor for many years. Beginning in January 2023, Victor transitioned from his full-time pastoral role with El Redentor to devote most of his time to a new role as Director of the Mexico City Hub for City to City (CTC).

Victor's role is to help coordinate the development of the Gospel Ecosystem, which is a church planting movement that will collaborate with leaders from different denominations, campus ministries, missionary agencies and mercy organizations that are already working for the wellbeing of the city, but that are not sharing yet their resources with one another. The vision is to pursue collaboration, and extreme generosity to others. You can find more detailed information and a video that explains what they are doing at www.mexicocityhub.com.



JACQUELINE HUTCHINS

CAMPUS2CAMPUS (C2C) – OSAKA, JAPAN

Jacqueline is ministering in Japan as part of an organization called Campus2Campus. C2C has teams in Japan, Thailand, Indonesia, Taiwan, and India. C2C is a church planting organization. Their focus is to plant multiplying, gospel-centered churches in cities with a college population of at least 100,000 students. Jacqueline's team of 8 (plus a baby) moved to Osaka, Japan in 2022.

Japan is one of the most unreached countries in the world with many college students. Although Japan is open to missionaries it has been called "the missionary graveyard" because of the lack of fruit from prior mission movements. Jacqueline and her team are learning the language and culture and starting grassroots ministry efforts to one day plant a church. They want their team to one day be a sending hub for other missionaries to be trained and go out to other cities in Japan. Jacqueline grew up on Bainbridge Island and attended Cross Sound along with her family before entering college.



ANNA SWANSON

INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE MISSION (IJM) - MOMBASA, KENYA

Anna works from Mombasa, a coastal city in southeastern, Kenya along the Indian Ocean. Mombasa is about 300 miles from Nairobi. IJM is a global organization that protects people in poverty from violence. Their mission is to rescue victims, bring criminals to justice, restore survivors to safety and strengthen and help local law enforcement build a safe, lasting future. Human trafficking and slavery are a \$150B industry: that's 10 times the annual revenue of the National Football League.

Prior to joining IJM, Anna served with the Houston Police Dept for many years. She began as a police officer, then transitioned to many roles including working with the legal division on internal investigations related to police corruption. Anna is also an attorney. Prior to joining IJM, she worked as a litigator in white collar criminal defense, as a judicial clerk to a federal judge with the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas, and as a litigator at the law firm of Kirkland and Ellis, Anna grew up on Bainbridge Island and is a BHS graduate.



JON AND KATIE BONKER

RUF-I, UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA, GAINESVILLE, FL

Jon and Katie, along with their children Hannah, Naomi, Judah, Micah, and David were missionaries with Mission to the World (MTW), the sending agency for our denomination, in Bangladesh for 7 years. Jon served there for several years prior to marriage as well. Katie was an MTW missionary in Malawi prior to their marriage. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, they returned to the U.S. in 2020.

The Bonkers have now been called to a new ministry with Reformed University Fellowship International (RUF-I). They have accepted a call to minister to international students at the University of Florida. Biblical hospitality is the backbone of RUF International ministries. Currently, there are more than one million international students on U.S. college campuses, but 75% of them will never enter a local home while they are living here. RUF International explores the gospel with international students both on and off campus. They do this by gathering with Christians from local churches to host discussion meetings, dinners, and small group Bible studies.



PAUL AND CINDI SCHULER

RUF-I, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT BERKELEY, CA

Paul Schuler is the Pastor who planted Cross Sound in 1996. He and Cindi have eight children, fifteen grandchildren, and thirty-three years of pastoral ministry in four different churches. God is calling them to a new ministry adventure. Like the Bonkers, the Schulers will be ministering to international students with RUF-I. The Schulers have practiced hospitality throughout their ministry. During the years of raising their family and serving congregations, they had the privilege of welcoming and hosting many International students and their families in their home and around their table. They have seen and experienced firsthand the joyful, transforming power of the welcome of Jesus. They have participated in the blessings that come to churches that say “yes” to gospel hospitality. So, while this ministry is new to them, it is also the continuing and expanding of something they have been doing for a long time.

UC Berkeley hosts an average of 9,000 internationals each year (almost one in five on campus!). This year, over fifty countries from around the world are represented. RUF-I encouraged the Schulers to begin RUF-I at UC Berkeley as a strategic starting point to RUF-I’s growing West Coast ministry.



MINISTRY PARTNERS

Ministry Partners are organizations that serve locally, regionally, or globally. Most of these partnerships started first with individual members of the congregation and have grown to a partnership with the church.



FIRST AID ARTS SEATTLE, WA

Healing and harm reduction are possible through the arts. First Aid Arts equips and certifies lay care providers with the tools and training needed to effectively respond to stress and PTSD using the arts. First Aid Arts is on a mission to create “a world where wounded hearts heal beautifully.” Co-founded in 2010 by Curtis and Grace Romjue, First Aid Arts provides services locally and around the world.

Curtis and Grace are leaders in bringing effective arts-based resources to trauma survivors and those who care for them. They provide training and support to individuals and organizations who want to offer effective arts-based care to survivors of natural disasters, human trafficking, forced migration, domestic violence, homelessness, and other types of traumas. Over the past year, First Aid Arts has teamed with World Vision and traveled to Eastern Europe to train and minister to individuals displaced by the war in Ukraine.



SCARLET ROAD BREMERTON, WA

Through holistic care Scarlet Road offers the hope of freedom to those who have been sexually exploited. Scarlet Road opens the doors to healing, on the front lines, where exploitation is commonly seen and experienced. Meeting women where they are, be it on the street, in their workplace or incarcerated, the Scarlet Road team walks with them, helping to work through the barriers that prevent a life of freedom. Following their relational approach that marks successes and points of growth, they see women and children overcome abuse, gain life skills and opportunity while building a foundation that offers stable ground for a successful future.

Through their program, each person can begin right where she is, first having her basic needs addressed, and then building further upon emotional and physical health, goals, boundaries, spiritual discovery, and self-awareness. Women will have a network of trusted resources to their advantage, offering counseling, resume building, job assistance and educational advising, to create the best opportunity for healing and lasting change. Scarlet Road invests in a way that is relevant to the individual, based on personal needs, struggles and strength. They offer not just a program for healing, but a foundation for sustainable change.



YOUNG LIFE

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND AND NORTH KITSAP (BINK)

Young Life is an international nonprofit that introduces teens to Jesus Christ and walks with them in their faith. Today, Young Life is a global organization with local focus. You'll find Young Life leaders from diverse cultures, nationalities, and backgrounds in over 100 countries around the world. Young Life staff and leaders are positive role models for young people. They are dedicated to building lasting friendships with teens and helping them prepare for the future.

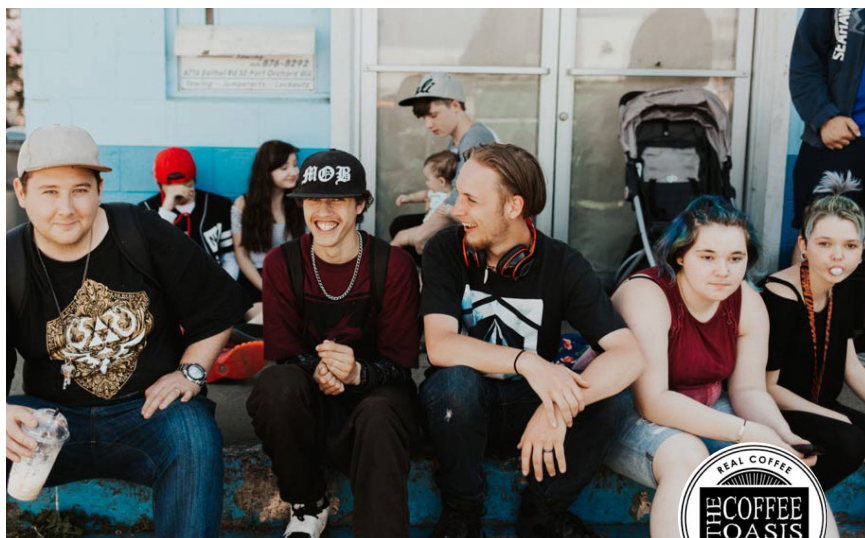
Jillian Bateman has been the Area Director for Bainbridge Island North Kitsap since July 2017. She connects with youth in a way that very few can and loves to invite others to join her. Jillian and her husband Drew, both grew up on Bainbridge Island and graduated from BHS. They also both serve with our Cross Sound worship team and are the parents of three daughters.



SEATTLE'S UNION GOSPEL MISSION (UGM) SEATTLE, WA

Seattle's Union Gospel Mission is a non-profit ministry whose mission is to bring the love of Jesus and hope for a new life to our homeless neighbors. UGM began in 1932 to feed and care for those suffering from The Great Depression. UGM now loves and cares for thousands of hopeless and hurting people each day. They search. They listen. They walk alongside. They offer hope and work to break the cycle of homelessness and addiction. It all starts with dignity — in the form of a blanket, a hot shower, a home-cooked meal, a warm place to sleep, and friendship. It continues with addiction recovery, one-on-one counseling, and long-term solutions.

UGM addresses root causes and breaks the cycle of homelessness by meeting urgent physical needs, building relationships, and offering long term recovery programs. UGM's efforts work to restore dignity and help move people to healing, thriving lives. UGM wants everyone to know, no matter their circumstance, they are loved and cared for by them and by God. For many years, youth and adults from Cross Sound have volunteered with UGM.



THE COFFEE OASIS

POULSBO CAFE AND CENTER

The Coffee Oasis serves homeless youth throughout Kitsap and Pierce County. They have several cafes with attached youth centers that offer a safe place for youth to come hang out, build positive relationships with adult staff and volunteers, get a meal, access resources like job training, and get help with other physical needs they have like housing, clothing, etc.

Cross Sound has specifically partnered with Coffee Oasis in Poulsbo which is located at 780 NE Iverson St. Along with operating the cafe and youth center, the Poulsbo center is actively engaged in spending time in schools and other places around Poulsbo where youth spend time as well as hosting community events, like a back school bash and community Christmas party, that encourage youth to engage with them.

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