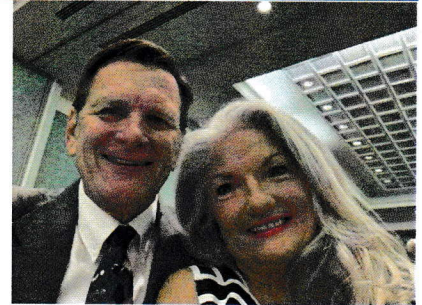


Growth by Pixels!

Developing Leaders over Distance

Dear Friends,

Here in Florida, we are experiencing a significant surge in the spread of COVID-19. Just as we had hoped that we might be past the worst of this pandemic, June brought a 600% increase in the cases here. In Galatians 6:10, Paul encourages us, "...let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone..."



June brought not only continuing challenges but new opportunities as well. With countries under lockdown how do we continue to do ministry? All over the world, our staff have been working together to retool our approach to make the shift to reaching people with the gospel using online tools and social media. Here are a couple of stories:

- One student in a closed country connected online after watching a film on the life of Augustine and shared how God had prepared her for the film by giving her two dreams about Jesus. She opened her heart after watching the film and received Jesus just as she saw Augustine do in the film. Then she asked, "How can I be baptized like Augustine was?" She's being followed up by volunteers in her country.
- In May, in Zambia, Ephraim, one of our staff, shifted his ministry to a digital platform and reached 190 people with 20 indicated they had received Christ! From the new believers and contact with several existing Christians he is now helping to disciple 25 people online.
- In eSwatini (Formerly Swaziland), Nelisiwe, a volunteer started her a WhatsApp Bible study group and is discipling more than 10 people.

As we seek to mobilize and develop leaders, new approaches are also needed. On Tuesday, June 30th, Human Resource leaders from across Southern and Eastern Africa met via Zoom. They began exploring how do we mobilize, recruit and train new missionary staff in this new environment?

- How do you assess spiritual growth and maturity in an online environment?
- How do your model ministry over distance? What new skills and mindsets are needed for our trainers and coaches of new staff?
- How do we integrate new staff with their local ministry teams virtually?

These are challenging questions! We are learning, experimenting and trying and failing and learning more! Pray for our HR leaders as they practice Adaptive leadership in a rapidly changing world.

Personal Update:

Thank you for praying for me! My hernia surgery went well and I've healed quickly. It was a sweet moment during my follow-up visit with the surgeon when he said, "No restrictions!". Both

laser procedures on my eyes (posterior capsulotomy??) went well. My vision has not cleared up as much as I had hoped. I'll see the Ophthalmologist for follow-up in August.

Over the past month or so, we've celebrated several family milestones:

- Mike and Michelle celebrated their 17th anniversary!
- Granddaughter, Madelynn, turned 9!
- Grandson, Marshall, turned 6!
- Jim and Jessie celebrated their 16th anniversary!
- Jim passed a big milestone as he turned **40** on June 29th!

*Thank you for standing with us through this season of change,
John & Cynthia Chynoweth*

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