## WORLD MISSIONS

A CHURCH FOR EVERY PEOPLE • THE GOSPEL TO EVERY PERSON • A MISSION FROM EVERY CHURCH • JESUS WORSHIPPED IN THE NATIONS

Dear Friends.

Earlier this year, northern Mozambique was devastated following Cyclone Kenneth, many communities too isolated to receive emergency aid.

Moved by compassion, my friend Pastor Laston Bissani Mitambo (Bissani) bravely trekked hundreds of miles across hazardous back-country to help: Partnering with local Brethren in Christ churches and BIC U.S. World Missions (World Missions), he led an effort to deliver a month's supply of rice and beans to more than 500 families, the first sustaining aid shipment for them.

A remarkable leader, Bissani has been in the Brethren in Christ family many years: Twenty years ago, he received a World Missions



Bissani with his wife and ministry partner, Carlotta.

scholarship to attend Bible college, and following his graduation, our brothers and sisters in the Malawi BIC Church, with whom we partner, commissioned him to pioneer church planting in neighboring Mozambique. Throughout his ministry, he's taken a key role in planting more than 100 churches in southern Africa.

As the global Brethren in Christ family, we have the privilege of walking alongside leaders like Bissani at each stage of their ministries, from equipping and commissioning them to joining together in holistic, life-changing ministry: What a gift it is to partner with a global community in sharing the love of Jesus Christ!

This Christmas, we celebrate just a few ways God has moved through our global community in 2019:

- **Disaster relief.** More than 1,000 families in southern Africa received months of life-sustaining provision after cyclones Idai and Kenneth, and in India, we restored buildings damaged by Cyclone Fani. Because BIC U.S. churches and individuals cover administrative overhead, 100% of donations helped people in crisis.
- Church planting and equipping: Through your generosity, more than 50 international BIC church plants were supported. Together, we provided leadership training to 1,500 international leaders and awarded 250 Bible school scholarships to ministers like Bissani.
- Missionary deployments: Since 2018, we've deployed 10 outstanding professionals in health care, engineering, nursing, and more to serve around the globe as missionaries in their specialties a 400 percent deployment increase from the two years prior.

We rejoice in the opportunity to join hands with brothers and sisters like Bissani around the world: This Christmas, would you consider making a <u>year-end gift</u> to BIC U.S. World Missions, enabling us to continue sharing the hope of Jesus Christ in partnership with a global community of pastors, missionaries, and local churches?

Thank you for your partnership in the gospel,

Jonathan Lloyd

Director of BIC U.S. World Missions

