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# NAZARENE MISSIONS INTERNATIONAL



Leora Legacy, NMI President

July 2019

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## Mission Books for 2019-2020 and New LINKS Missionaries

**Great mission books this year (as always).** Titles are: *Shiro Kano: Faithfulness at Any Price*; *What Begins Here Transforms the World*; and *Tracy Sahib, Servant of Christ in India*. You can read a mission book the old fashioned way by getting a book from Leora Legacy, Debbie Mosher, Kesha Sinclair or Gloria Luke OR you can also access the e-book or download an audio book version online at <http://www.nazarene.org/nmi/mission-books#>. Business cards giving the adult and children's mission books titles plus online address are on the missions table in the lobby. Pick up one and use as a bookmark or just a reminder to "read" the books in one form or another. Parents – see Schelon Seefeld for a children's mission book.

**New LINKS Missionaries** have been assigned to the Florida District. They are Erika Contreras Medina (Argentina); Joe and Cheryl Young and family (East Timor) and retired missionaries – Mary Meighan and Beverly Schmelzenbach. Remember to pray for these missionaries. Get better acquainted with them by reading their bios and seeing their photos on p. 2. You can even email or Facebook to let them know you are praying for them. Watch for LINKS emphases throughout the year.

## 2019-2022 Florida District LINKS Missionaries

**Erika Contreras Medina** – (Argentina)

**Joe & Cheryl Young** – (East Timor)

**Mary Meighan** – Retired/Bradenton, FL

**Beverly Schmelzenbach** – Retired/formerly in Florida but currently in Tennessee

## Praise

**IWIN Trains Leaders in Bolivia** - Training in the Wesleyan Institute of Nazarene Identity (IWIN in Spanish) was held this spring on the Santa Cruz District of Bolivia. The program helps develop, strengthen, and improve leaders in the South America Region, while adding to their skills, knowledge, and leadership experience. The project seeks to develop leaders in a variety of ministry areas in the local, district, national, regional, and global levels of the church. In the session in Bolivia, more than 60 leaders participated. The leaders on the South America Region expressed thanks to God for the opportunity to learn. Please remember each IWIN participant in your prayers, and ask God to help them to apply the valuable lessons learned during the session.

## Prayer

**Irene and Miguel Garita, serving in Costa Rica** – The Garitas request that they would find committed couples on the Mesoamerica Region to work in the Family Discipleship program. They also ask that you would pray for them as they finish the program of the "Academy of Excellence for Superintendents" and as they seek to give sensitive care to the pastoral families.

**Prayer for Walker Family** – Rev. Brian Walker passed away recently due to an accident. Brian was the son of retired missionaries Ken and Linda Walker. Brian pastored a Church of the Nazarene in South Carolina. Please pray for the family and the church in this time of loss. Ken and Linda served as Nazarene missionaries in Eswatini (formerly Swaziland) and South Africa.

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# Florida District LINKS Missionaries 2019-2022

(Loving, Interested Nazarenes, Knowing and Sharing)

LINKS (Loving, Interested Nazarenes, Knowing and Sharing) is a ministry designed to “link” or connect Nazarene missionaries and Nazarene churches through prayer, personal contact and giving. Global NMI assigns missionaries to each Nazarene District every 3 years. Churches are asked to support these missionaries through prayer, contact on special events (birthday & anniversaries) and send money gifts to help purchase needed personal items.

For the next 3 years, the Florida District has been assigned as LINKS missionaries: Erika Contreras Medina – serving in Argentina; Joe & Cheryl Young and their 3 children – serving in East Timor; and retired missionaries Mary Meighan and Beverly Schmelzenbach. Want to learn more about these great folks? Read on.

## Erika Contreras Medina – Argentina

(Birthday, February 21/Contact: [contreras@samnaz.org](mailto:contreras@samnaz.org) or <https://www.facebook.com/erikamedinamisiones/>)

Born in México, Erika is now in missionary service in Pilar Buenos Aires, Argentina. Prior to this, she pastored two Nazarene churches for six years. Erika is also an accountant and is currently working in the South America Region at its Regional Finance Office.

Outside of her official role, she is involved in three ministries. One is as a Sunday School group leader where she clarifies who Nazarenes are and what they believe so class members will want to become Nazarenes. She is also serving with a Welcome Team at her church and trains others how to make new people feel part of the church family. In addition, she has a home Bible study for single, widowed and divorced women.

She says about her work in Argentina, “It’s a lot of work and sometimes the culture is very hard, but with your prayers, we can continue to have strength and vision for the ministry.”

## Joe & Cheryl Young and family – East Timor/ Southeast Asia

(Birthdays: Joe Young – April 11/Cheryl Young – November 23/  
Jonathan Young (19) – July 13/Hannah Young (18)– December 4 and  
Becky Young (16) – June 16. Anniversary: August 7. Contact:  
[info@steadfastpilgrims.com](mailto:info@steadfastpilgrims.com); <http://www.steadfastpilgrims.com>; and  
<http://facebook.com/groups/stdfstpilgrims>)

Joe and Cheryl Young began their ministry with the Church of the Nazarene in 2000, shortly after graduating from college. While they were serving in associate and senior pastoral ministry, they felt a distinct call to serve God in cross-cultural ministry as missionaries. After 12 years of full-time ministry and several years of preparation, Joe and Cheryl transitioned from the pastorate in 2011 to serve as Mission Corp volunteers with the Church of the Nazarene in a Creative Access Area in Southeast Asia. Their primary responsibility was evangelizing and discipling unreached groups, especially among refugees.

In 2014, they began service in Indonesia as Specialized Assignment Missionaries. Their duties in that assignment included: leadership development, theological education, discipleship/evangelism, and educational/field technology.

In 2018, the Young family moved to Timor-Leste, a developing island nation southeast of Indonesia and part of the Asia-Pacific Region of the Church of the Nazarene. As Team Leaders, they coordinate the work of the Church of the

Nazarene there. Specifically, they are responsible for overseeing church and district development, pastoral training, leadership development, evangelism and discipleship strategy, and compassionate ministry.

## Mary K. Meighan – retired/living in Bradenton, FL (Birthday, August 4/Contact: [Marykmeighan@gmail.com](mailto:Marykmeighan@gmail.com))

Mary Meighan was born in New York. She attended the University of Tennessee, received her B.A. in science at Trevecca Nazarene University, and an R.N. degree at Mid- State Baptist School of Nursing in Nashville. She completed a Midwifery RM Diploma at the Queen Victoria Hospital in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Miss Meighan’s first assignment with the Department of World Mission was as a nurse at the former hospital in Acornhoek, South Africa. Then she served as Acting Principal of the Nazarene Nursing College in Swaziland, helping to legalize the college and affiliating it with the University of Swaziland so graduates could receive degrees in Nursing and Midwifery.

Mary was assigned as Nurse in Residence 1994 to 2002 at Casa Robles, the Nazarene Retirement Center located in Temple City, California. After 34 years of missionary service, Mary retired and now lives in Bradenton, FL.

## Beverly Schmelzenbach – retired/currently in Tennessee (Birthday, February 9/Contact: [beverlyansch@gmail.com](mailto:beverlyansch@gmail.com))

Beverly married Harmon Schmelzenbach in 1955 in Nampa, Idaho, where they both graduated from Northwest Nazarene College. Harmon pastored two years, and then they left for missionary service in Africa in 1960.

After serving in South Africa for 17 years, they pioneered the Church of the Nazarene in the countries of Namibia, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda, Zaire and Ethiopia. They retired in 2001 after 41 years of service.

Harmon passed away on January 2, 2019. He and Beverly were living in Floral City, Florida. Surviving him are his widow, Beverly, and their three children, LeAnn, Pamela, and Harmon IV. Beverly is currently living in Tennessee .



Joe, Rebekah, Jonathan, Cheryl & Hannah Young (East Timor) /and  
Erika Contreras Medina (Argentina)

## 2019-2022 District LINKS Missionaries

**Pray for our LINKS missionaries and connect with them via email or Facebook. In August, UBNC will send a support check from Faith Promise to each missionary. Watch for a LINKS display and get photo magnets next month too. (one per family)**