



Dear Friends,

It is with great excitement that I write to inform you of my new position as Assistant Director in Training with EMU International (Evangelical Mission to the Unreached), a seventy-year-old mission board serving nearly one-hundred missionaries headquartered in Taylors, SC. It is also my desire in this letter to invite you to partner with my family as we begin this new ministry.

When I resigned Oakwood Baptist Church last May, God made it clear to me that it was time for me to move on to a new ministry. The problem was, at that time I didn't have a clue what that next ministry would be. Our church was very generous to us and continued to pay me my salary through the end of November. I enjoyed some much needed rest and time with my family, but I also got busy praying and seeking God's will for our next steps. It wasn't long before I began to hear from churches that were looking for a senior pastor. As I would talk to the leaders in these various ministries, the Lord would not allow me to have peace in pursuing these opportunities. Our family just waited and prayed.

### A Growing Missionary Burden

As we continued to search for God's will, there was a continual restlessness in my soul about what I had labeled "church American style." Having traveled to several foreign fields, I had witnessed something different than what was being seen in most American churches. I had also felt a missionary burden every time we would have a missionary in to present their work. I often told our church that I was praying, "Lord, send me." In fact, as I look back on my sermons from last school year, I saw a continued pattern of a missionary focus that began with our mission trip to Romania and then continued with the hosting of 20 Chinese exchange students. I preached two different series on missions, "*God On Mission*," and "*Blessed to be a Blessing*." Last summer, I went back and listened to several of those messages and again heard myself say from the pulpit at the end of a couple of those messages, "Lord, send me." When God led me to resign from my position as senior pastor of Oakwood Baptist Church, I hadn't figured out where He wanted me to go. Like Abraham of old, I knew He was telling me to step out in faith. So I did.

Then somewhere around the end of August, between calls from a couple of different churches looking for pastors, I received a phone call from a pastor friend. He told me that Ken Jensen, the director of EMU International was looking to hire a new assistant director for the mission with the expressed purpose of replacing himself. Ken wasn't looking at retiring, but he was considering the future of the ministry and trying to put in place a plan to train his successor as director of the mission. I can't go into all of the details of what took place over the next couple of months; it would take too much time, but that initial conversation with my pastor friend began a huge ministry pivot for our family. God was leading us to be "missionaries." The plan is that after two years I will assume the position as Director of EMU International.

After several lengthy interviews and filling out all kinds of background paperwork, then answering questions from the EMU missionaries, we met with the board on December 7, 2015. In this meeting, God made it apparent that He was leading our family to be a part of the EMU International family. I would assume my new position in an official capacity on January 1, 2016.

I hit the ground running and immediately began to fall in love with my new position. In bringing Ken and I together, God has given me a great friend and mentor. We spent many hours in January going over the 70-year history of the mission. I read extensively, trying to learn all I could about the policies, procedures, and personnel of the mission. In February, Ken and I had the privilege of spending three weeks together in Uruguay. I had a tremendous time meeting our missionaries, preaching in their churches, and learning about the work in this small South American country. EMU International began as Evangelical Mission to Uruguay. It has been exciting to see God continue to work in Uruguay and also see the expansion of the mission into other countries. I am looking forward to seeing where God is going to lead us next.



We want to invite you to partner with us

EMU International's focus historically has been to train nationals to reach nationals. EMU's missionary family is nearly 100 total people, serving in 10 different countries, with 1 Great Commission. My administrative role will help provide the tools and information they need as they do their very strategic grass roots evangelism and discipleship.

In the days ahead, I will be traveling, representing the mission and introducing churches and individuals to EMU International and the amazing work God is doing around the world through our missionaries. I will also have the privilege of ministering to and with our missionaries who are serving in other countries.

I cannot tell you how much it would thrill my soul to have thousands of friends across this country partnering with us in the mission work of EMU International. I imagine a group of people across this country and around the world, a family if you will, that is well informed about our work so that they can pray diligently for our missionaries. I imagine this family of partners praying for one another also. I imagine God working in the hearts of these individuals to not only give financially and to pray regularly, but also as He leads to go with us on short-term trips. I also imagine out of this group, God doing a work in certain hearts and calling them to give their lives to full-time cross-cultural missions ministry.

Please don't read this appeal as if I am begging for money. Rather, read this as an invitation to enter into a partnership. We are looking for friends who will share our vision, who want to have a part in fulfilling the Great Commission around the world. Think about this: According to Philippians 4:17-19, God promises to bless us when we meet the needs of His servants. This pleases God and on top of that, Paul teaches us that the missionary's fruit is credited to the one who gives financially. That sounds like a pretty good investment.

I read where Chip Ingram met a Christian businessman who made the following three observations:

- #1 I would desire to help poor and hurting people
- #2 You are in contact with poor and hurting people
- #3 I want you to be my eyes and ears and help them as God leads you

The businessman then handed the preacher a check for \$5,000. Chip asked, "Do you mean you want me to figure out who to help and then help them the way you would if you saw the situation?" The man responded, "That's exactly what I want you to do."

Would you allow us to be your eyes and ears as we follow God's plan for our lives of mobilizing for missions? I am excited to invite you to be a part of our team. We look forward to providing our friends with the opportunity to participate in God's plan for world evangelism through prayer and financial support. The monthly correspondence will bring each of our partners with us to the front lines to see what God is doing around the world.

***We are not trying to raise support; we are trying to raise ministry partners!***

From a personal position, we need to enlist friends to help meet our financial needs and to partner with us in prayer. In so doing though, each of these friends will...

1. Play a vital role in the work of the Kingdom
2. Live their lives more strategically as they plan their giving goals
3. Partner not only with us, but with our mission and each of our missionaries
4. Grow their prayer life as needs are shared and victories are celebrated.

Would you consider adding our family to your "giving portfolio?"



## What returns can you expect?

Consider for just a moment what is happening with our EMU International missionaries.

- In Uruguay we are seeing continued growth in our churches and Bible Institute. We also have a growing Christian camp and we have partnered with other fundamental believers to help start a Bible College in the capitol city of Montevideo.
- Consider what is happening in the tribal areas of Cambodia where we have four different missionary families working to actually create alphabets in order to translate the Bible and reach these unreached people groups. We have another missionary that has a goal of starting churches in Cambodia.
- We have several missionaries in Mexico, Peru, Croatia, and Chile involved in church planting and camp work. Our missionaries in France are on the frontlines establishing a church very close to the recent terror strikes.
- Our missionary in India, a country of 1.3 billion people, has been a part of seeing 40 schools started in the last 17 years. He has named his ministry "One Fair Chance," with a goal of giving every individual in India a chance to hear the gospel.
- We have one missionary who is traveling extensively teaching in the 10-40 Window countries where it is extremely difficult and dangerous to proclaim Christ.
- We have one missionary family serving in Communist China, using the platform of teaching as an opportunity to open doors for gospel presentation.

Following Paul's example, I would like to transplant the treasure that these missionaries are laying up in heaven (*Matthew 6:20*) to your account (*Philippians 4:17*).

I know that there is no shortage of opportunities where you could invest or spend your money. I believe with all of my heart that by partnering with us, you will help us truly make a difference in the world, and in eternity.

Thanks for taking time to read this lengthy letter. We hope you will join our team of ministry partners as we seek to mobilize people for missions with EMU International.

Sincerely, Your friend,



Jeff Davis  
pastorjeffdavis.com



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## WILL YOU PARTNER WITH US FINANCIALLY FOR THE NEXT TWO YEARS?

There are several ways to give towards our support

- 1 If your preference is mailing a check, please put a note on the check and on the envelope that it is for Jeff Davis. Send it to...  
  
EMU International  
209 Roberts Rd.  
Taylors, SC 29687  
Phone: (864) 268-9267  
  
Save time and postage by having your bank mail a check directly from your account (usually called online Bill Pay). You can set up a recurring and/or one-time payment and have your monthly donation to EMU automatically deducted from your personal checking or savings account. If you are interested in this method of giving, please use the enclosed form, or follow the link on our webpage and then return it to our office. Be sure to sign the authorization to give the EMU Office the needed permission to access your account. On the form, you can also choose how you would like to receive your receipt each month—email or regular USPS. Transfers are done the middle of each month. This is the quickest and most efficient way to support us regularly.
- 2 Give online using a credit or debit card via our PayPal link. This service now accepts credit cards from many countries. Note that you can give a one-time gift or set up a recurring donation which is convenient for you and helps us pay our recurring bills. Be sure to enter Jeff Davis in the Purpose field.
- 3 As we make the transition to this new ministry, we are incurring a lot of initial start up expenses for things such as printing and travel. Although the mission is paying me a salary, I have also been asked to raise my support to help relieve the burden of the general account. I hope in the days ahead to be able to take some meetings in churches to help promote the work of EMU International. Hopefully these meetings will cover my travel expenses. For our friends who are interested in knowing some of our needs at this time, we have two daughters at Bob Jones University. We also are working to put our house on the market with plans of moving to the Greenville area. We could also use a new car as I will be traveling a lot. Please pray about these needs. If you would like to give us a special donation to help with these needs then please use one of the ways described above. Be sure to designate your gift for Jeff Davis. Of course our monthly partners can also give special gifts.

<http://pastorjeffdavis.com/partner>