

10

Countries

38

US  
Missionaries

51

National  
Missionaries


1

Great  
Commission

- Works of Evangelism
- Establishing Churches
- Equipping Nationals



EMU  
INTERNATIONAL

New River Gorge, WV

# JEFF DAVIS

Director, EMU International

As we begin the month of October, my wife Joanna and I bring you greetings from Winter Park, Colorado. Sitting on the deck, the crisp autumn air gently brushes against my face as I write this letter. The mountainside is a living canvas as the aspens stand tall, their golden leaves shimmering like coins in the sunlight creating a vibrant tapestry that stretches as far as the eye can see. As I take a deep breath, the tranquility of this moment fills my soul, and I feel a profound connection to the beauty and serenity of nature and its Creator.



What a contrast from the world we left early Saturday morning, September 28. We had no power, no internet, and limited cell service, due to the destruction left by Hurricane Helene. We had to use flashlights to get ready to make our way to the airport. We were not sure if our flight would take place until we arrived at the airport and saw the lights and could tap into Wi-Fi. We were torn emotionally, as we were leaving with so many still suffering, but we were looking forward to spending a week away connecting with ministry friends and remotely working in the beautiful Rocky Mountains.



We went to bed Thursday evening praying for those in the path of the storm as Hurricane Helene slammed into the Big Bend region of Florida as a powerful Category 4 storm with sustained winds of 140 mph. We never anticipated that it would blow its way through the Southeast and dump record amounts of water leaving its trail of destruction across Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia. Over 120 lives have been lost, and many more remain unaccounted for. Over 1,000 people remain listed as missing in and around Asheville, NC, alone. Our area in the Upstate of South Carolina recorded 68 mph winds and 11.53 inches of rain. We had a row of ten giant Leland Cypress trees uprooted between our house and our neighbors. One tree was lying across our side driveway on top of my mom's car with branches just scratching the top. One of the trees ruptured the main water line to our neighbor's house. Another crushed a classic car he had covered in his driveway. Another lay across the main road. A large White Oak tree stood tall, supporting two of the Cypresses that surely would have hit their house. It could have been so much worse.

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It wasn't long before neighbors were out in force, chainsaws roaring, to assist in the cleanup. We spent the afternoon helping one another. Meals were prepared on outdoor grills. The devastation was incredible but the camaraderie and goodwill among neighbors was a special opportunity to come together. Please join us in praying for hope, strength, and peace for the families and first responders in the Southeast. May God use this tragedy to bring many to Himself and to glorify His name.

September was a busy month as I had the opportunity to share the ministry of EMU International with a church near our home in Greer. Joanna and I then traveled to **West Virginia** for the annual meeting of the **Fellowship of Missions**. The FOM was officially organized in 1969. Today, 23 like-minded mission agencies, representing some 2,000 missionaries serving on all six continents, partner together for encouragement, ministry development, and mutual accountability. I always enjoy these times of collaboration with fellow servants. At the close of the meeting, I was honored to speak to the student body at **Appalachian Bible College**. Upon returning to Greenville, I was joined by **John Mark Steel**, (missionary to Uruguay), and **JB**, (missionary to the Middle East), at **Bob Jones University** for their REACH Week Mission Conference. In October in addition to speaking in several churches, I will visit **Faith Baptist Bible College** in Ankeny, IA, and **Appalachian Bible College** in Mt. Hope, West Virginia for their mission conferences. I love these trips to college campuses to promote missions and share the ministry of EMU International. Pray with us that God will send forth laborers into His harvest.



As I write this letter it seems like our world is falling apart. Iran attacked Israel today. Massive port strikes began across the East Coast. The Vice-Presidential debate this evening demonstrated a significant contrast in world views in the upcoming election. We might not understand what is going on in our crazy, messed-up world, but one thing we can be sure of is that God is commanding us to "be still," literally quit striving or trying to fix everything and let God be God. Why? Even in the context of mountains being cast into the sea and catastrophic flooding, (read *Psalms 46*), God is exalting Himself among the nations (*Psalms 46:10*). *Selah* – pause for a moment and let that sink in.

Thank you for your partnership in this ministry. Let us know if there is any way that we can better serve you.



## Jeff's October Schedule

- 1-7 Colorado
- 12 Engleside Baptist Church, Alexandria, VA
- 18 Raleigh, NC
- 19 Flight from Wilmington, NC to Des Moines, IA
- 20 Ankeny, IA
- 21-25 Faith Baptist Bible College, Ankeny, IA
- 26 Flight from Des Moines to Wilmington
- 26-27 Grace Baptist Church, Wilmington, NC
- 28-30 Appalachian Bible College



FOM leaders and their wives with West Virginia Governor Jim Justice and Baby Dog

