

# Grace Center Missionary and Ministry Partners

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## Adi and Mia Pop

*New Covenant Church; Transylvania, Romania*



Adi and Mia Pop are the pastors of New Covenant Church in the city of Targu Mures, in the region of Transylvania. Their church was founded in the early years after the communist regime fell. As pastors, they also oversee other churches in Transylvania. Their vision is to see people that God placed in their care growing toward maturity in their walk with the Lord and as a result bring His Kingdom more and more for Him to be glorified. In the wake of the war in Ukraine, New Covenant Church have provided aid and shared the love of Jesus with those who have been affected. Adi and Mia have hosted multiple outreach teams from Grace Center since our partnership began and are beloved friends of Grace Center.

# AncoraTN

*Middle Tennessee*



After years of relationship, Grace Center began partnering with AnchorTN (formerly End Slavery Tennessee) in 2020. AncoraTN's mission is to promote healing of human trafficking survivors and strategically confront slavery in our state. As the single point of contact for human trafficking referrals in middle Tennessee, the organization addresses the issue through training, long-term comprehensive aftercare, advocacy and prevention services in the hopes of one day fulfilling their vision for a slave-free Tennessee. AncoraTN invites members of Grace Center to learn more and become involved by visiting their website [www.ancoratn.org](https://www.ancoratn.org) and listening to their official podcast, Someone Like Me.

Learn More: <https://www.ancoratn.org>

# Anna Carroll

*Refuge City; Costa Rica*



Anna Carroll is a member of Grace Center and the founder of Refuge City in Costa Rica. Refuge City began when Anna made a trip to the border of Costa Rica and Nicaragua in 2009 and learned about the issue of child prostitution that permeated the area due to a high volume of travelers. After returning to the United States, Anna founded Refuge City which is a global humanitarian organization that seeks to create sustainable solutions to end injustice. They partner with individuals, communities and organizations to tackle root causes of injustice like poverty and exploitation through prevention, intervention and restoration efforts. Grace Center is honored to partner with Anna Carroll and the Refuge City team!

Learn More: <https://www.wearerefugecity.com>

# Back to Jerusalem

*China and Beyond*



Back to Jerusalem (BTJ) is the goal of the Chinese church to evangelize the unreached peoples from eastern provinces of China, westwards towards Jerusalem. The vision was birthed among Chinese believers in the 1920s, and since that time, the churches of China have been striving and even suffering persecution to fulfill what they believe is their integral role in fulfilling the Great Commission. BTJ partners with the church of China to evangelize the religiously oppressed areas of Asia, and also train and send Chinese missionaries into unreached regions of the globe, including Muslim, Buddhist, and Hindu nations.

Learn More: <https://backtojerusalem.com/>



# Bart and Anja Trusdle

*Youth With A Mission*



Bart and Anja Trusdle are missionaries with YWAM and have a heart to disciple and be discipled as they use their gifts and abilities to love their community. Bart has been a member of Grace Center for many years along with his family. In 2014, he felt God call him to missions and attended a YWAM Discipleship Training School on a ship in the Mediterranean Sea. Though his time there was not without challenges, God used Bart to reveal Himself to refugees in Greece and confirmed his call to missions as he led a short-term outreach in England. In early 2017, Bart began serving at a YWAM base in England where he eventually met Anja, a fellow YWAM missionary from Switzerland. They were married in 2020 and had their first child in 2022. They are passionate about becoming equipped to give Godly counsel and have served in areas including accounting, maintenance, street ministry and international outreaches.

# Daniel and Doina Matei

*Agape Church; Romania*



Daniel and his wife, Doina, have been the leaders of Agape Church, in Timisoara, Romania, for over 25 years. When they planted the church in June 1990, Agape Church was the first charismatic church in Romania. Since then, God has opened many doors and over 50 spirit-filled churches have been planted all over the nation of Romania! Prior to their ministry in Romania, Daniel and Doina spent several years in the USA and also served as missionaries in China. They are currently in their 80s and their hearts continue to burn for their home country of Romania to recognize and declare that Jesus Christ is Lord. Daniel and Doina are long-standing friends of Grace Center!

Learn More: <https://www.bisericaagape.ro/>

# David and Peggy Fitzpatrick

*Institute for Cross-Cultural Affairs; USA & Israel*



Dave and Peggy have spent many years dedicated to building the church of Jesus Christ in the USA, Israel and beyond. They are passionate about increasing the church's awareness of God's love for Israel, His firstborn, and encouraging political and business leaders to make a positive impact on the communities around them. In 2014, they launched the Institute for Cross Cultural Affairs (ICCA) as a vehicle for their work in both Israel and the USA, in political and business spheres and among both the Jewish and Christian communities. Over the years, they have hosted multiple camps for high school students that brought Israeli Jews and local Christians together in friendships and opened doors for kingdom possibilities in the future! Currently, Dave and Peggy are working among business leaders in South Carolina and Pennsylvania and are helping to awaken Holy Spirit's inspiration among these leaders to use their positions, influence and resources for Kingdom purposes. They are a dear father and mother in the Grace Center family and we are grateful to partner with them as they follow the Lord and bless those He has called them to serve.

# Don Finto and Tod McDowell

*Caleb Global; USA, Israel, Middle East*



Don and Tod are leaders of Caleb Global (formerly Caleb Company), whose name is inspired by Caleb, the fearless warrior described in the Bible as having wholehearted devotion to the Lord. The Caleb Global is called to raise up an intergenerational company of Jewish and Gentile believers in Yeshua (Jesus), challenge them to a life of wholehearted devotion to the Lord and equip them with the Israel key that unlocks world revival. They run regular trips to Israel and the Middle East for both touring and outreach along with their yearly School of Revival which takes place in Thompson Station, Tennessee. Papa Don is a loved father in our city and is an integral part of the Grace Center body, along with Tod, his wife, Rachel, and the McDowell family.

Learn More: [Caleb.global](http://Caleb.global)



# Global Mission Awareness

*Global Ministry*



Global Mission Awareness (GMA) is a family of families who are passionate about the pursuit and expansion of the Kingdom of God. Founded by our friend, Leif Hetland, GMA believes that love is a powerful force that blind eyes can see and deaf ears can hear. They are committed to building a global family through love as they seek to present “a God that looks like Jesus.” GMA accomplishes this by building, equipping, resourcing, and mentoring pastors and missionaries in over 22 nations including many in the Middle East. Over the last 20 years, they have seen one million names added to the Lamb’s book of life and they are convinced that this is just the beginning!

Learn More: <https://globalmissionawareness.com>

# Mar Azul Church

*Puerto Rico*



Grace Center began partnering with Mar Azul in Puerto Rico shortly after Hurricane Maria devastated the island in 2017. Immediately following the hurricane, the leadership of Mar Azul invested 100% of their resources into serving the people of their island and helping them to recover. They developed a plan for food and supply distribution that was eventually adopted by FEMA in their crisis response efforts on the island. Grace Center took up an offering and was honored to help them buy a van to transport supplies and support teams. Shortly afterward, GC began partnering with Mar Azul and investing in relationship with their leadership team. Mar Azul has hosted multiple teams of Grace Center members and has welcomed us to serve alongside their church as they love the people of Puerto Rico. They are also committed to reaching the people of surrounding islands, including Cuba!

Learn More: <https://www.marazul.church>

# Kati Thunborg

*First Fruits Ministries; Nashville, Tennessee*



Kati Thunborg is the founder of First Fruits Ministries. She has been a member of Grace Center for several years and is a missionary to the people of Nashville! Prior to moving to Nashville, Kati completed a YWAM Discipleship Training School including an outreach to Papa New Guinea. She has been a missionary to the inner city of Nashville since she graduated from year two of SOSL in 2018. In the summer of 2023, the Lord led her to start an outreach called Fresh Fruit Ministries which has her and her team on the streets of Nashville each week, giving out fruit and coffee to people experiencing homelessness and leading many into encounters with the LIVING God! Kati has a heart for people to experience God's love and is committed to seeing and caring for people wherever the Lord calls her!

Learn More: <https://www.freshfruitsministry.com/>



# Rolland and Heidi Baker

*Iris Global*



The Bakers are the founders of Iris Global, an organization committed to expressing a living and tangible response to those commandments that Jesus called greatest: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength," and "Love your neighbor as yourself." Iris bases exist in many countries around the world. While Rolland and Heidi are based in Pemba, Mozambique, they also travel extensively, bringing revival wherever they go. Countless people around the world have been saved, healed and set free by God through the ministry of Iris Global. Grace Center is thankful for our friendship with the Bakers and is honored to partner with them!

Learn More: <http://www.irisglobal.org/>



# Siloam Health

*Nashville*



Siloam Health is a medical non-profit in Nashville with a mission to “share the love of Christ by serving those in need through health care.” Since beginning in 1991, Siloam Health has had deep roots in the Nashville church. It developed from a desire to become part of the solution to local poverty and a broken health care system. Siloam Health now has a full-time staff of 40 with over 400 regular volunteers including local pastors, intercessors and medical personnel. The majority of Siloam Health’s patients are foreign-born Nashvillians and many have come to know Jesus through the efforts of the Siloam Health team! Siloam Health also facilitates an important program called Nashville Neighbors which connects established Nashvillians with refugee families to help practically and relationally as they adjust to life in Nashville. We are excited to partner with them as they “bring transformation to our city!”

Learn More: <http://www.siloamhealth.org/>

# Surpresa Sithole

*Iris Global; South Africa*

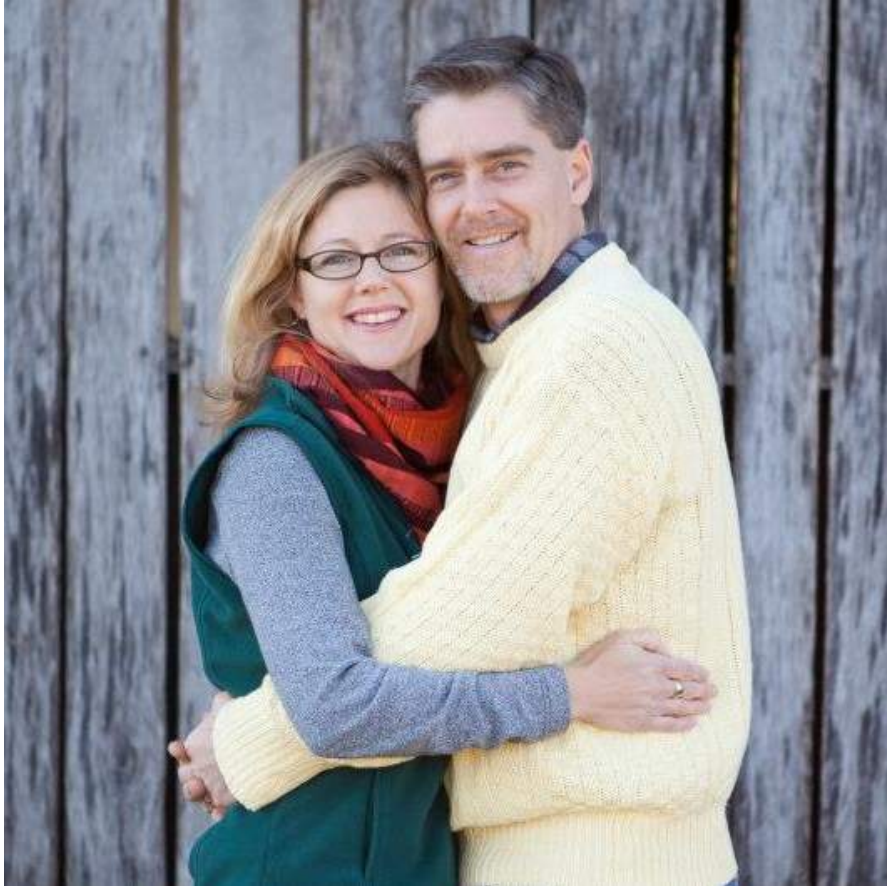


Surpresa and his wife, Tryphina, live in Nelspruit, South Africa where they are the directors of Iris Africa. Surpresa began following the Lord at the age of 15 when he was dramatically called by God to leave everything behind, follow Jesus and preach the Gospel wherever he went. In 1997, God sovereignly connected Surpresa (which means Surprise) with Heidi and Rolland Baker of Iris Global. Surpresa now serves as the International Director of Pastors for Iris where he helps oversee the rapidly spreading revival in southern Africa. Surpresa and his team have hosted several Grace Center outreach teams and have been dear friends of Grace Center for many years.

Learn More: <http://surprisesithole.com/>

# Steve and Samantha Allen

*Contend Global & Allen Family Ministries; Colorado Springs, CO*



Steve and Samantha Allen live in Colorado Springs, CO and work with Contend Global, previously known as The Call, along with Allen Family Ministries, discipling young people, writing books and creating atmospheres of the Lord's presence through creativity. They previously spent sixteen years as missionaries in Bangkok, Thailand, working as church planters among Thai Buddhists and raising their family. When they returned to the USA and moved to Nashville, TN, they remained passionate about seeing young people equipped and released into their callings through leadership coaching and the arts. During their time in Nashville, they worked with Caleb Global and also served as the leaders of Grace Center's missions committee for nine years. They and their incredible children are beloved friends of our church family.

# Tudor and Mirela Petan

*Alfa Omega TV; Romania*



Tudor was saved at the age of 40 following the anti-communist revolution in Romania. Shortly after his conversion, he and his wife, Mirela, felt God leading them into ministry through television and they founded Alfa Omega TV. They are currently missionaries through media, reaching Romanians all over the world, as well as other communities in Eastern Europe. The Petans are involved in media ministry through television, the internet, printed materials and prayer. They are also developing material in the Romanian language which is focused on “the Israel key” to the fulfillment of the Great Commission. Through their ministry, many Romanians have come to know Jesus and have experienced transformation in their lives! Grace Center is grateful for our friendship with this wonderful couple and their ministry.

Learn More: <https://alfaomega.tv/en>



# Happy Hearts

*East Africa & Europe*



Happy Hearts is a nonprofit focused on providing life-saving care for unborn babies, infants and children in war zones. They are primarily based in Somalia and more recently Ukraine, though their work has touched many other countries in East Africa and beyond. From providing safe housing and urgent care to pregnant women fleeing the threat of death, to placing abandoned babies in families and providing life skills, Happy Hearts's mission is to bring hope and joy to tragedy stricken places and create opportunities for children to excel and succeed. Their vision is to see those facing some of the hardest challenges on earth transition from surviving to thriving. Grace Center is honored to partner with Happy Hearts!

Learn More: <https://www.happyhearts.co>

# Chuiba Village

*Mozambique*



In 2011, Grace Center adopted the village of Chuiba in Mozambique, in partnership with Iris Global. Chuiba is a predominately muslim village but the number of believers is growing and now includes the village chief! To date, Grace Center has provided a well for the village, helped to build two buildings that serve as a church and a preschool and established a daily feeding program for about 150 children. Since adopting the village, Grace Center has taken multiple trips to build relationships, connect with the local church and encourage the leadership. We are committed to loving and serving this village well. Keep an eye out for information about joining us on our next trip to Chuiba!

# Missions Events

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## **Missions Connect**

Grace Center's vision is to partner with God to bring transformation to our homes, our city and beyond. Missions Connect is an opportunity to come together with your church family and ask the Lord what that means for you in your day-to-day life!

Facilitated by Grace Center's missions committee, Missions Connect takes place on the second Sunday of most months and is open to all who would like to attend.

If you'd like a reminder of God's heart for the lost, a community to run with or prayer from your church body as you partner with God to bring transformation to

your sphere of influence, this gathering is for you! You do not need to have any missions plans or prior experience.

Grace Center's missions committee is honored to partner with any Grace Center members who are serving in their areas of gifting, passion and influence! Whether you are intentionally reaching out to your neighbors and coworkers, considering cross-cultural missions, praying for a particular people group or are curious to learn more about Grace Center Missions, we would love to connect with you via one of the options below.

- Attend Missions Connect to meet GC's missions committee and other passionate GC members and share what God is leading you into. At each Missions Connect, we make space to pray for any church members who have local, domestic or international ministry plans in the upcoming weeks or months.
- If you are unable to attend Missions Connect but are considering or planning a local, domestic or international ministry trip, feel free to send us an email at [missions@gracecenter.us](mailto:missions@gracecenter.us) to share what you're up to and invite Grace Center into your journey!

### **Up-coming Missions Trips**

- Costa Rica