# The International Work 2025

A WORLDWIDE ASSOCIATION

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### Operation Manager for the International Work



Doug and Tanya Horchak

### Letter From the President

Greetings,

As our name describes, we are a "worldwide association." From our beginning in December 2010, we have been a *worldwide* work, composed of congregations and ministers *around the world*. Currently, we have 70 elders who serve 166 congregations outside the United States. We are a small organization, but we are truly worldwide, with congregations and ministers in more than 40 countries.

Over the years, we have received multiple requests from ministers and members for photos and information on our international ministers and members. You are holding in your hands our first effort at an *international family album*, produced through the collaborative efforts of Doug Horchak, our International Work operation manager, and David Hicks, our graphic designer.

We regularly have prayer requests for people we have never met. For example, a few months back prayers were requested for our members in Rwanda, where the government has padlocked our building and will not allow us to hold Sabbath or holy day services because we are not registered as a legal entity in the country. Joel Meeker, the regional director for our French-speaking areas has made multiple trips to Rwanda and has spent countless hours trying to resolve this problem, but to no avail. Seeing a photo of our minister, Jean-Marie Mundeli, his wife and the members in Rwanda personalizes the prayer request. We can see them, even though we have never met them.

That is the purpose in this publication—to help you relate to our ministers and members who live and work in other countries. I know seeing a photo of a minister and his wife or a congregation in Africa, the Philippines, Latin America, etc. helps me visualize those for whom I am praying. I believe it makes my prayers more effective and heartfelt, and I am sure that is the case for you as well. One of the greatest blessings that we have had in COGWA over these past years is a unified work that includes a U.S. ministry and membership and an international ministry and membership. We are preaching the gospel to the world while caring for those whom God has called. We provide international scholarships for education. We provide Church halls that we rent or (in some cases) own. We have dug wells in remote areas in Africa, and we have helped with medical bills from our international emergency fund. We are training new ministers and pastors in all countries where we have congregations. We are caring for the brethren, wherever they are in the world. To see their pictures and read their stories binds us together as a true spiritual family.

Paul said in 2 Thessalonians 1:11, "Therefore we also *pray always for you.*" There is never a time when we should not be praying for one another. Here is a tool to assist you in those prayers.

Sincerely, your brother in Christ,

Jum Franks

Jim Franks



Jim and Sharron Franks

# Asia and Middle East Region

he region of Asia and the Middle East is quite expansive, populous and diverse. The region contains two of the most populous nations: India (1.45 billion) and China (1.42 billion). Our members live in countries that were once colonies of European powers: Philippines (Spain), India, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Singapore and Myanmar (Britain), and Indonesia (Netherlands).

Countries in the region are dominated by some of the leading religions of the world: Philippines (Catholicism), UAE, Indonesia and Malaysia (Islam), India (Hinduism), and China, Thailand, Myanmar and Sri Lanka (Buddhism).

Colonization and religion have helped to shape the cultures of the countries in Asia and the Middle East—cultures that can be described as ancient and exotic. The food is varied and spicy, bursting with flavors from the region's worldrenowned fresh herbs and spices.

The members God has called in this region are beautiful bright lights striving to live God's way of life in a spiritually dark and pagan world. Most are scattered and, in some cases, have no local congregation to attend every week. Some face daunting trials, but still keep the way of God burning brightly in their lives.

### **Regional Director**

David and Dorrie Baker





Bernardo and Jennifer Castillon Assistant Pastor, Philippines



Elbert and Flora Gargar Assistant Pastor, Philippines



Paul and Merlen Cebrian Pastor, Philippines



Andrei and Verlyn Siopan Pastor, Philippines



Florante and Lina Siopan Retired Pastor, Philippines



Beltran and Florlin Sison Pastor, Philippines

### Members From the Area



Pastoral Development Program 2024 Philippines



Night to Be Much Observed 2024 Batam, Indonesia



Feast of Tabernacles 2024 India



Congregation Outing Philippines

### Congregations in Asia and the Middle East

India Indonesia Malaysia Myanmar Philippines Singapore* Sri Lanka Thailand United Arab Emirates	35 3 10 298 2 18 8 1	Philippines Bacolod Bicol Bunawan Butuan Cagayan de Oro Davao City Don Carlos, Bukidnon Manila Northern Luzon St. Christine	36 37 4 49 18 17 10 48 50 7
India		Tacloban	22
India Hyderabad Moradabad Pune Sundarbans	1 11 3 20	Singapore Singapore* Sri Lanka	2
т. т		Mount Lavinia	18
Indonesia Batam	3	Thailand Mae Sot	8
Malaysia	0		
Bahau Kuala Lumpur	2 1	United Arab Emirates Abu Dhabi	1
Myanmar			
Yangon	10		

\*We host a weekly Zoom Sabbath service for the Singapore, Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand brethren plus 4 from Canada.

### Canada

anada is the second-largest country in the world by area (after Russia). That fact, coupled with the small number of COGWA brethren in the country (just under 100), makes it simultaneously challenging and fascinating to provide for their spiritual needs.

While having four congregations that meet regularly in the country, we do have some scattered brethren, from British Columbia in the west to Nova Scotia and Newfoundland in the east!

The ministry serving these hardy and resilient folks includes one senior pastor, one resident pastor, three pastors residing in the United States and two elders who live in Canada. A growing number of nonmembers have been added as "coworkers" in the past two years, for which we are grateful. That, coupled with the faithful support of the small group of determined members, enables COGWA Canada to annually contribute to selected church programs serving our international spiritual family in other areas of the globe.

Last summer, a small group of young adults visiting from the United States joined locals in accepting the challenge of a Canadian wilderness canoe trip in eastern Ontario, building bonds in the "hands across the border" activity.

Being a part of a larger team and spiritual family means a great deal to your Canadian brothers and sisters!

#### **Senior Pastor**

Doug and Janel Johnson



### Ministers Serving the Area



Daniel and Cindy Harper Pastor, Montreal and Toronto



Garry and Anne Poffenroth Alberta



David Smith Nova Scotia



Mark and Cheryl Whynaucht Pastor, Calgary and Edmonton

### Members From the Area



Young Adult Canoe Trip Ontario



Calgary Congregation Alberto



Calgary Congregation Alberto



Toronto Leadership Club Ontario



Feast of Tabernacles 2024 Mont-Tremblant, Québec

### Congregations in Canada

Alberta	27
British Columbia and	
the Maritimes	16
Ontario	30
Québec*	25

7	Alberta Calgary Edmonton	20 7	Ontario Toronto	30
5 ) 5	British Columbia the Maritimes Scattered	and 16	Québec Montreal*	25

\*Montreal, Québec, is also covered in the French-Speaking Region.

# Caribbean Region

he Caribbean region includes more than 7,000 islands, islets and keys in total. Although the majority of these are tiny and uninhabited, most Caribbean countries are nonetheless a collection of multiple islands. For instance, the Bahamas alone are made up of more than 700 islands and 2,400 islets and keys, of which 30 to 40 are inhabited.

The islands of the Caribbean are typically sorted into three distinct

groups: the Greater Antilles, the Lucayan Archipelago and the Lesser Antilles. A total of 27 countries are considered as part of the Caribbean and, with the English-speaking South American country of Guyana, a part of the Caribbean Community known as CARICOM. The estimated population of the region is 45 million. The primary languages are English, French, Spanish and Dutch.

The brethren are scattered through the region in eight countries and one U.S. territory.

### **Regional Director**

Arnold and Ann Hampton





Leeford and Carol Burke Jamaica



Osmonde Douglas Barbados



Herchial and Sandra Fisher Pastor, Jamaica



Don and Verlene Simpson St. Kitts



Clyde Skeete Barbados

### Members From the Area



International Leadership Program 2024 Jamaica



Feast of Tabernacles 2024 St. Kitts

### Congregations in the Caribbean Region

Bahamas Barbados	18 55	Bahamas Freeport Nassau	3 15	Jamaica Kingston Ocho Rios	45 1
Grenada Guyana	5 11	Barbados Bridgetown	55	St. Croix	1
Jamaica St. Croix St. Kitts	$\begin{array}{c} 46\\1\\10\end{array}$	Grenada St. George's	5	St. Kitts Basseterre	10
St. Lucia Trinidad	$\begin{array}{c} 10\\ 4\\ 12\end{array}$	Guyana Awarewaunau	8	St. Lucia Gros Islet	4
		Lethem	3	Trinidad Chaguanas	12

## East Africa

East African culture is characterized by its incredible diversity. Across countries like Kenya and Uganda, numerous ethnic groups, languages and traditions share a rich heritage shaped by colonialism, Islamic influence and indigenous practices. The region strongly emphasizes storytelling and community identity, notable examples include the Maasai people in Kenya, known for their cattle farming, nomadic lifestyle and distinctive jumping dances.

Geographical features include high plateaus, the Great Rift Valley, Mount Kilimanjaro, the Masai Mara, Lake Victoria and the Nile River, which starts in and runs through Uganda. As of March 1, 2025, Eastern Africa's population was 509,106,893, making it the most populated subregion in Africa.

Religion in this part of the world is diverse,

with a mix of Christian and Muslim populations alongside a significant number that practice traditional African religions. These religions are often characterized by ancestor worship and a belief in the spirit world. Still, the region's dominant religions are Christianity and Islam.

The members in East Africa face high unemployment rates and tremendous pressure to work on the Sabbath to get and keep a job. Many are subsistence farmers, growing crops and raising livestock to meet their families' needs. Rising costs of staples such as food, fuel and housing are a trial to many. Those in rural areas face pressure from their village and family to maintain traditional African beliefs, such as the veneration of ancestors, the belief in spirits associated with nature, and the use of traditional healing practices. There is syncretism, where many people incorporate aspects of their traditional beliefs into their Christian practices, leading to a blending of religious elements. At times, this can cause those in God's Church to be separated from their family and culture. The members in East Africa are happy people. They are grateful for God's blessings and look forward to the Kingdom.

### **Senior Pastor**

Tim and Valerie Waddle



### Minister Serving the Area



Nathan and Amanda Willoughby Assistant Pastor, East Africa

### Members From the Area



International Leadership Program, January 2025 Migori, Kenya



Ochuna Congregation Kenya



COGWA Youth Camp Kenya



Kitgum Sabbath Services Uganda



Kitgum Congregation Uganda



COGWA Youth Camp Staff Kenya

### Congregations in East Africa

Kenya	317
Uganda	50

Kenya	
Got Kachola	141
Migori	21
Ochuna	105
Sotik	50
Uganda Kitgum	50

# French-Speaking Region

rench-speaking areas in Europe and Canada are not very religious places, so growth is slow. Our members in these regions are scattered, and although these are wealthy regions, many of our brethren have to watch their budgets very closely. In Europe we have a few members in France, Belgium and Switzerland, many have been in the Church as far back as the Worldwide Church of God.

There is a small but vibrant congregation on the French island of Martinique in the French West Indies.

French Africa suffers from a combination of poverty, corruption, solitude and in some cases religious persecution. Our brethren in Côte d'Ivoire struggle in poverty, yet are very faithful and focused. They resisted the temptations of a false minister who promised them money to follow him.

In Cameroon our brethren are scattered all around a large country. They are only able to meet when a minister visits, and we cover their expenses for a day or two in Douala for Bible studies and fellowship. We plan to be there for the Passover.

The Democratic Republic of the Congo is one of the most corrupt countries in the world. It is a struggle to put food on the table. In eastern Congo, one family finds itself in the middle of a civil war. They are thankful for God's protection.

In Rwanda our church is still forbidden from meeting, and new, even more onerous rules have just been implemented that will make it even more difficult to gain government recognition. We are studying a backup plan B.

We have a few scattered members in the Indian Ocean area—two to four people in both islands. They see other members only when a minister comes to visit.

Most of our brethren in Burundi live in a region that the U.S. State Department rates "do not go" because it is so dangerous.

Our congregation in Togo is small but stable, ably served by our elder Guy Ahialegbedzi.

Two other faithful elders serve in Rwanda (Jean-Marie Mundeli) and Burundi (Nathan Mukeshimana).

### **Regional Director**

Joel and Marjolaine Meeker





Guy and Odette Ahialegbedzi Pastor, Togo



Daniel and Cindy Harper Pastor, Canada



James and Odile Muir Pastor, Belgium, France and Switzerland



Nathan and Ntirihora Mukeshimana Pastor, Burundi



Jean-Marie and Pélagie Mundeli Pastor, Rwanda

### Members From the Area



Childen Sharing a Meal DR Congo



Montreal Congregation Canada



Feast of Tabernacles 2024 Montagnac, France



La Mé Congregation Côte d'Ivoire

### Congregations in the French-Speaking Region

		Be
Belgium	2	L
Burundi	845	D
Cameroon	16	Bu
Canada*	25	K
DR Congo	210	Ν
Côte d'Ivoire	20	۸ R
France	10	IN IN
Martinique	16	Ca
Mauritius	2	C
Rwanda	99	~
Switzerland	6	Ca
Togo	16	Ν
-		ות

\*Montreal is also covered in the section on Canada.

Belgium Liège	2	F <b>rance</b> Paris	10
<b>Burundi</b> Cibitoke Kagiorutsi	145 150	Martinique Ducos	16
Masango Mugina Rugombo	150 300 100	Mauritius Beau Bassin	2
Cameroon Douala	16	<b>Rwanda</b> Giti Kigali Muhanga	70 10 19
Canada Montreal*	25	Switzerland Yverdon	6
DR Congo Kasumbalesa Kinshasa	10 200	Togo Lomé	16
Côte d'Ivoire La Mé	20		

# South Pacific

erving in the South Pacific involves serving members in three separate and unique countries–New Zealand, Fiji and Australia–and presents rewards and challenges.

Our congregation in New Zealand is small and scattered and has unique challenges shaped by the country's demographics and geography. New Zealand is a multicultural society, with significant Māori, Pasifika and Asian communities alongside a Pākehā (European descent) majority. Our congregation includes individuals with roots in New Zealand, Australia, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Fiji, Tonga, Samoa, the Philippines, Chile, India and Egypt.

Geographically, the challenges are compounded by the fact that our congregation meets in Auckland, New Zealand's largest city, while many members live in remote areas—such as the far north, south and even Stewart Island and can only participate via webcast.

The country's secular trends and the growing number with no religious affiliation make church growth and engagement particularly difficult, especially among the younger generations. Nevertheless, much of our congregation's growth has come through personal connections with Church members. Half of our congregation is made up of first-generation members. Recently, there has been significant growth among young couples with children, providing a promising opportunity to pass on the truth to a new generation.

The Fijian brethren are scattered around their island nation and mostly watch the New Zealand webcast in their own homes. Once a month, they all gather at a central location to fellowship and watch the New Zealand webcast together. The senior pastor makes four quarterly visits. It's a relatively easy flight from Auckland, and the nation is fairly easy to navigate. These visits allow members the chance to visit with the pastor, as well as hear him live at services and share a meal together.

In January 2025 Australia was added to the senior pastor responsibilities for the South Pacific region. Trips to Australia (every six to eight weeks) will present their own unique challenges. There are currently 20 members scattered across the country.

With three different nations and cultures, the senior pastor must navigate a diverse spiritual and cultural landscape, ensuring that God's truth takes precedence over cultural traditions.

### **Senior Pastor**

Jon and Deborah Pinelli



### Ministers Serving the Area



Biju and Teresa Joseph Auckland, New Zealand



Isaac and Natasha Khalil Auckland, New Zealand



Emori and Ima Toloi Fiji



Andre and Elize van Belkum Retired Pastor, Auckland, New Zealand

# Members Outside of the United States

Total International Attendance: 5,599

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### Members in the Area



Auckland Congregation New Zealand



Nadi and Suva Congregation Fiji



Young Adult Retreat New Zealand



Auckland Camp Weekend New Zealand

### Congregations in the South Pacific

		Australia		New Zealand	
Australia	20	Melbourne	11	Auckland	
Fiji	27	Scattered	9	South Island	
New Zealand	65	Fiji			
		Nadi	19		
		Suva	8		

50 15

# Southern Africa

he Southern Africa region refers to the southern part of Africa, which includes the countries where COGWA has congregations and outlying members: Zambia, Malawi, Zimbabwe, Namibia, Lesotho and South Africa.

As of March 1, 2025, the population of Southern Africa is estimated at 73,723,087. This is about 0.9 percent of the world's population. The majority of this population is in South Africa, which, as of July 2024, has a population of over 63 million.

The culture of Southern Africa, particularly South Africa, is a rich tapestry woven from diverse influences—including indigenous African tribes, Dutch, British and German settlers, as well as Indian and Malay immigrants. The result is a mix of languages, cuisine, music and dance traditions. South Africa, often referred to as the Rainbow Nation due to its varied cultural makeup, has 12 official languages. Key aspects include the practice of braaiing (barbecuing) with family and friends, strong family ties and a vibrant celebration of different ethnicities and beliefs across the region.

The major religions in Southern Africa are Christianity, Islam, Hinduism and indigenous beliefs, including ancestral worship. Over 80 percent of the Southern African population claims Christianity as their religion, with many mixing in local and traditional African forms of worship.

The members in Southern Africa face high unemployment rates and tremendous pressure to work on the Sabbath. Many are subsistence farmers growing crops and raising livestock to meet the needs of their families. Most are dealing with high inflation. Currently, Zimbabwe's inflation rate is significantly high, around 57.5 percent, as of April 2024. Rising prices for everyday items is a persistent issue, and Zimbabwe is one of the countries with the highest inflation rates in Africa.

The members in Southern Africa are happy people. They are grateful for God's blessings and look forward to the Kingdom.

### **Senior Pastor**

Tim and Valerie Waddle



### Ministers Serving the Area



Kambani Banda Pastor, Zambia



Neil an<mark>d Erlene Becker</mark> Johannesburg, South Africa



Tielmans and Falesi Chirwa Blantyre, Malawi



Morgen and Joleen Kriedemann Johannesburg, South Africa



Harris <mark>& Patricia Hlazo</mark> Associate Pastor, Zimbabwe



Tony Levy Johannesburg, South Africa



Harben and Joyce Moonga Nalubanda, Zambia



Ephraim and Pauline Mwashi Mapoko, Zambia



Neville Smith Pastor, Durban & Eastern Cape, South Africa



Elifazi and Selia Salawila Pastor, Malawi



Stephen and Vetina Tshabalala Associate Pastor, Zimbabwe

### Members From the Area



Eastern Cape Congregation South Africa



Chemba and Mbungu Brethren Gokwe, Zimbabwe



Cape Town Congregation South Africa



Feast of Tabernacles 2024 Malawi



Senior Luncheon Durban, South Africa



COGWA Youth Camp Malawi



Kariba Congregation Zimbabwe

### Congregations in Southern Africa

Malawi South Africa Zambia Zimbabwe	132 97 121 286	South Africa Cape Town Durban Eastern Cape Johannesburg	1 32 20 44	Zimbabwe Bulawayo Chemba Gutu Harare Kadoma
Malawi Blantyre Lilongwe Ntcheu	53 49 30	Zambia Lusaka Mapoko Nalubanda	33 48 40	Kariba Mbungu Sanyati Scattered

# Spanish-Speaking Region

he Spanish region primarily refers to Spain and the Spanish-speaking countries of Latin America. Mexico has the largest population in the region, with 130 million. Uruguay has the smallest population, with 3.4 million. The population in the region is a blend of indigenous, mestizo (mixed indigenous and European) and European heritage, though these groups vary in size from country to country.

The culture of the region is renowned for its music, art and cuisine. World famous are the mariachi of Mexico, the tango of Argentina and the marimba of Guatemala, weaving from Guatemala, artistic copper from Chile and pottery from Peru, tortillas and tacos of Mexico, beef from Argentina and potatoes from Peru and Bolivia. The dominant religion in Latin America is Catholicism, at 69 percent overall, and ranges from 81 percent in Mexico to 42 percent in Uruguay. The number of Protestants has been growing, especially in countries in Central America, most of which have 50 percent or fewer Catholics. Though most countries in Latin America guarantee religious freedom in their constitutions, the influence of the Catholic Church is strong in political, social and economic areas—much stronger than it is in the United States or other parts of the world.

Among the distinctive characteristics of the members in Latin America are their faithfulness and perseverance in keeping the Sabbath and festivals of God—in spite of the trials and tests they face routinely. Their trust in God to supply their daily needs is admirable.

### **Regional Director**

Leon and Reba Walker





Alfredo and Alejandra Arboleas Pastor, Argentina



Ernesto and Sandra Arteaga Mexico City, Mexico



Eleodoro and Herlinda Ávila Guatemala/El Salvador



Pablo Dimakis Retired Pastor, Chihuahua, Mexico



Juan and María Cornejo Arequipa, Peru



Gamaliel and Odilia Galdámez Las Cruces, Guatemala



Alberto and Yulún González Pastor, Mexico City, Mexico



Abraham and Paula Hermosilla Santiago, Chile



Eduardo and María Hernández Pastor, Colombia and Ecuador



Adán and Rosario Langarica Pastor, San Luis Potosí, Mexico



Saúl and Carmen Langarica Pastor, Bolivia, Chile and Uruguay



Dr. Ralph Levy Pastor, Dominican Republic



Alfredo and Mercedes López San Miguel de Allende, Mexico



Álvaro and Fabiola Matamala Pastor, Talca, Chile



Luis and Dora Mundo Pastor, Guatemala



Fermín and Priscila Naín Temuco, Chile



Jaime and Flor Ortiz El Salvador



Larry and Blanca Roybal Postor, Monterrey, Mexico
### Ministers Serving the Region



Carlos and Maribel Saavedra Pastor, Peru



Carlos and Daniza Verdugo Temuco, Chile

### Members From the Area



San Salvador Congregation El Salvador



Young Adult Camp Guatemala



El Estor Congregation Guatemala



Children's Choir Temuco, Chile



COGWA Youth Camp Chile

# Congregations in the Spanish-Speaking Region

Argentina Bolivia Brazil Chile Colombia Costa Rica Dominican Repu Ecuador El Salvador Guatemala Mexico	$24 \\ 44 \\ 426 \\ 280$	San Carlos Santiago Talca Temuco Valdivia Colombia Bogota Cali La Plata Medellín Costa Rica San José	24 310 83 48 7 40 14 8 6	Cuautitlán Izcalli El Oro Guadalajara Iguala Jalpa de Méndez León Mexico City Navojoa Querétaro Reynosa San Luis Potosi San Miguel de Allen Tepic Veracruz	22 6 14 10 12 11 50 21 5 5 30 ade 5 10 21
Peru Uruguay	158 15	Dominican Republic Scattered	14	Arequipa Huaraz Lima	17 33 79
Argentina Bahia Blanca	38	Ecuador Cuenca Quito El Salvador	10 14	Moquegua Tacna Tarapoto Trujillo	6 5 6 12
Buenos Aires Cafayate Carlos Paz Santa Clara	22 18 18 9	San Salvador Guatemala	44	Uruguay Montevideo	15
Bolivia La Paz Santa Cruz	9 20	Barillas El Estor Guatemala City Jutiapa Quetzaltenango San Benito	26 24 140 74 72 90		
Brazil Scattered	12	Mexico	70		
Chile Cartagena Concepción Osorno	15 5 13	Cd. Acuña Cd. Juárez Cd. Victoria Chihuahua Chilpancingo	18 14 11 9 6		

# United Kingdom and English-Speaking Europe

e have a wide variety of ages attending services or watching online. Most U.K. members live near London, so that is where we are able to provide services. There is a growing number of *Discern* readers asking about attending, but they live too far from service venues. We encourage them to subscribe to the Journeys emails, do the Bible Study Course, and then join us on the webcast.

Our members who are able to be at services are usually those who do not need to rely on public transportation. The cost of transportation limits how often the elderly are able to attend, and health problems are also a factor.

We wish there were more teens attending, but we continue to assist them in going to a COGWA Youth Camp and subsidize their travel to the U.S.A.

We continue to mail a few hundred *Discern* magazines each issue, and use advertising to promote the Life, Hope & Truth website. Each Wednesday a Zoom Bible discussion engages isolated brethren in Europe, and we have Zoom fellowship every week after Sabbath services for U.K. members to form bonds of friendship.

### **Senior Pastor**

Peter and Sonja Hawkins



### Ministers Serving the Area



Paul and Tracy Carter Incoming Pastor, United Kingdom



Eddie and Sandra Johnson London, England



Will McLoughlin England

### Members From the Area



European Brethren Maastricht, Netherlands



Prague Brethren Czech Republic



Spanish-Speaking Brethren Europe



Combined Sabbath Service England



London Fellowship England



Visiting Members in Prague Czech Republic

# Congregations in the United Kingdom and English-Speaking Europe

Austria* Czech Republic* France* Germany* Greece* Ireland* Israel* Italy* Netherlands* Spain * Sweden* Switzerland* Turkey*	$\begin{array}{c} 4 \\ 5 \\ 2 \\ 7 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 3 \\ 6 \\ 2 \\ 6 \\ 1 \end{array}$
	Ū

London	19
Tonbridge	11
Scattered	20

\*No formal congregation in this country, only scattered members.

# West Africa

est Africa currently refers to two countries that are a part of the Church of God, a Worldwide Association: Ghana and Nigeria. Several sources state that the largest city in Africa is Lagos, Nigeria. Nigeria apparently also has the third-largest film industry in the world. The population of this small country is nearly 224 million. According to *The CIA World Factbook*, over half the population of Nigeria (around 54 percent) are Muslim and 46 percent are Christian. Many languages and dialects are spoken, but English is spoken nearly everywhere.

Ghana has a population of 34.12 million (2023). Ghana is known for its lush forests

and diverse animal life. It has a long coastline of sandy beaches. It is rich in gold, cocoa, oil and timber. It is apparently the fourthlargest cassava producer in the world. Over 71 percent of the population identify as Christian, while 20 percent claim to be Muslim. The remainder practice various indigenous religion.

The distinctive characteristics of our members in West Africa are their ability to remain faithful under hardships and trials, especially corrupt governments and economic difficulties. They are dedicated to keeping the Sabbath and value the opportunity to be able to gather for God's festivals, church services and Bible studies. Their dependance on God is an example for all of us.

### **Senior Pastor**

Paul and Tracy Carter



## Ministers Serving the Area



Joseph and Pricilla Baah Pastor, Ghana



Adonijah and Ruth Blay Pastor, Ghana



Reuel and Esther Dima Pastor, Ghana

### Members From the Area



COGWA Youth Camp 2024 Ghana



Benin City Brethren Nigeria



Church Children Yeji, Ghana



International Leadership Program Elmina, Ghana



Lagos Congregation Nigeria



Church Building Winneba, Ghana



COGWA Youth Camp Kitchen Staff Ghana

## Congregations in West Africa

Ghana	732
Nigeria	97
C	

Ghana		Takoradi	82
Accra	15	Winneba	61
Aduasa	76	Yeji	133
Bantama	135		
Elmina	184	Nigeria	
Kumasi	25	Benin City	42
Kuntanase	21	Lagos	55

