

December is often a time of hustle and bustle. Here at the office, everyone has been busy preparing for our Global Conference in Frankfurt, Germany. The meticulous planning, coordination, and anticipation for this event reminds me of another kind of preparation; one that is deeply spiritual. As we ready ourselves to celebrate Christmas, may we also prepare to reflect on its true meaning – to joyfully welcome the world's saviour into our midst. The anticipation of Christ's arrival calls for a heart of readiness, reflection, and reverence – a reminder that in all our busyness, we should not forget to prepare spiritually for His presence in our lives.

In this month's edition of Word & Deed, you can:

- Support our Key Causes through [Giving "2's Day"](#) - today!
- Bring hope & light to our weary world through our [Christmas Appeal](#) - your gift will be matched!
- Pray with us through December's [Prayerline](#)
- Read the CABA Reflection: [Joy](#)
- Browse the [Hopeful Gifts for Change gift catalogue](#)

... and more!

Thank you for partnering with us in ministry to bring the hope of Christ to people around the world.



Ruby Gatiera
IT & M365 Support Specialist

🌟 TODAY (December 3): GIVING 2's DAY 🌟

This Giving 2's Day, CBM is inviting you to participate in a special campaign where *you* choose the impact! With a donation of \$22.22, you can support the cause that means the most to you:



And every \$22.22 gift will be matched, doubling your impact. Give today to make a difference in the area closest to your heart!

[Donate to Giving "2's Day" Today!](#)

Read our Giving "2's Day" impact stories to see how your gift can make a difference [here](#).



Many years ago, beloved children's television host Fred Rogers shared a piece of wisdom from his mom that has had enduring power over the years. He said: "When I would see scary things, my mother would say to me 'Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.'"

We're grateful at CBM to see this wisdom in action as our global partners and field staff serve those who need it most, acting as helpers to bring Christ's hope and light where it may be hard to see.

This Christmas, [will you join us as one of the helpers?](#) All gifts made before December 31 will be matched by a generous friend of CBM.

[Yes, I'd Like to Double My Impact!](#)



[Pray with Us](#)

Celebrating 150 Years Together in Mission.



Back in the days when CBM printed missionary prayer cards that were posted on many a Baptist refrigerator, the card of my husband, Blair, and I featured a black-and-white photo of our young family, and our chosen life verse: *Psalm 16:11 You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.*

I held to this promise of "fullness of joy" as we entered the precarity of life in Indonesian Borneo. I now cringe a bit to realize how romanticized my vision was of the joyful life of service. Over the decades, my understanding of joy has shifted, expanded and taken on deeper layers of meaning. I now see more clearly the paradox of joy – that joy does not mean the absence of sorrow, but a commingling of both.

The idea that joy and sorrow are mutually exclusive – that we must bury and forget our pain to experience joy – is a cultural rather than biblical concept. Throughout scripture, especially the Psalms, we see agonizing lament intermingled with joy and praise, often within a few verses. Modern psychology echoes ancient wisdom, warning that to numb our negative emotions is to suppress them all. In learning to grieve deeply, surprisingly, our capacity for joy expands.

[Read the Full Reflection](#)

News & Stories



[Bruno and Kathleen Soucy Ministry Update](#)

"Thank you to all of you who supported us over these past 18 years, received us, prayed over us, and allowed us to be with you over these past few months in Canada. It has been a great privilege and a pleasure to be a part of a community united in loving others and sharing the Gospel in word and deed."

[Continue Reading](#)



[CP Raju Ministry Update](#)

"Thank you very much for your prayerful and financial support to continue to serve the poor and needy in India. Many people are impacted by your support."

[Read Project Updates](#)



[Bill and Janice Dyck Ministry Update](#)

"Do you like surprises? That depends, right? If you're a detailed planner, maybe not? But what if it is God doing the surprising? One of my favourite verses in the Bible is Proverbs 16:9, "In their hearts, humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps." (NIV) This year has again taught us to hold on to plans lightly because God might have a surprise in store."

[Read More](#)

[Click Here for More News & Stories](#)



Share a gift of HOPE this Christmas!

Whether it's an individual gift for a family member, a teacher, a friend, or a congregation collectively supporting a Shared Hopeful Gift, there are many ways to extend love to people around the globe this Christmas.

You can enable victims of human trafficking in India to build brighter, more hopeful futures through rehabilitation and spiritual care. Children in Rwanda with disabilities and their caregivers can receive much-needed support and education to improve their quality of life. As the church continues to grow in the Middle East, passionate church leaders can be equipped through mentorship and training to share the Gospel in their unique contexts and communities.

[Visit HOPEFULGIFTS.CA](#)