



NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2024

Louisiana Baptist Agricultural Missions Fellowship

1312 Ridgeland Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70810

Partnership Missions Ministry, Louisiana Baptist Convention

Website: <https://www.louisianabaptists.org/AGMissions>

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Focal Scripture. *Whoever closes his ear to the cry of the poor will himself call out and not be answered.*

(Proverbs 21:13 ESV)

Focal Thought. *“Find out how much God has given you and from it take what you need; the remainder is needed by others.”* Saint Augustine (354-430 AD)

Happy Easter. I write this newsletter on Easter Sunday and am so thankful we serve a risen Savior. That Christians have been bought by the precious blood of Jesus and have been born again to a living hope of an eternal inheritance is why we do agricultural missions. We are thankful to support agricultural missionaries whose desire is to make disciples.

ADF Update. In January, I was able to travel to Clinton, MS to attend the winter meeting of the Agricultural Development Foundation, which is the parent organization of our Fellowship. At that meeting, a new slate of officers and members of the Board of Directors were approved. Several from our Louisiana Fellowship serve on the Board of Directors. Also approved were funds to repair old dairy goat barns, the livestock caretaker facility, and an organic fertilizer facility at the Mindanao Baptist Rural Life Center in the Philippines. The dairy goat project there has been highly recommended by the Philippines National Dairy Association as a great ministry to reduce malnutrition among malnourished elementary school children in rural areas.

Thank you. On behalf of the Fellowship’s Executive Committee, I want to express sincere appreciation to all of you who donated to our Fellowship in recent months. I am happy to report that over \$11,500 has been received by the Louisiana Baptist Foundation. Most of these funds have been distributed to continue our support for the IMB agricultural missionary couple serving in Eastern Europe. They have been home on furlough the past few months, but in recent communications, they expressed a deep desire to continue to partner with our Fellowship. As in past years, your donations will be supporting potato production, laying hens to support three families,

honeybees for honey production, and a drip irrigation system plus a few tools for a small garden.

This missionary couple works by providing minimal financial input while emphasizing education and development to help small- and medium-sized farms be profitable. They supply small animals (like laying hens) as well as improved methods in gardening, specifically drip irrigation systems, to help families better provide food for their table and produce to sell in the market. The recipients agree in the beginning to return 10% to 20% of what they initially receive to be shared with other families in need. Currently, there are multiple families in need of smaller projects: seed, fertilizer, drip systems, laying hens, goats, and small green house construction. The missionary also is continuing some potato projects this year in a very impoverished village in a mountain valley. In addition, they are continuing and expanding the honeybee projects because of the potential to produce very good honey. The missionary continues working alongside and learning from some local honey producers and sees this as a project with real promise.

Please pray for this missionary couple in Eastern Europe that God would bless them with good health, provide good weather to allow success with their agricultural projects, and opportunities to show the love of Christ and to share the gospel in 2024.

Project Support. We want to continue to support this missionary couple in Eastern Europe this year and in future years as God allows. As always, the need for project support is great. They need continued funding for projects like those described above.

Please help us help others by making your check payable to Louisiana Baptist Foundation and sending it to:

**Louisiana Baptist Ag Missions Fellowship
1312 Ridgeland Drive
Baton Rouge, LA 70810**

Indicate on the check the funds are for Ag Missions. All donations are tax deductible and 100% go directly to the mission field.