

NEIL RUDA

AGWM



Your world missionary enlisting workers and providing resources for evangelism, discipleship, and compassion ministries.

SUMMER 2021



KRISTINA'S CALL TO MISSIONS

About five years ago I began conversations with a young college graduate, Kristina. Her degree was in Environmental Engineering and she wanted to use her training to serve in missions. Through many phone calls, emails, and in-person conversations, we found the perfect place for her to serve — CompassionLink (CL), one of our AGWM International Ministries (IM).

The process of applying, training, and fund-raising took about 18 months before she began serving at CL. Today she leads the sustainability and appropriate technology initiatives of the ministry and is my Pipeline representative there. She's come full circle — once investigating the possibilities of serving in missions at CL, she now helps me serve others going through the same process!

IM MISSIONARY RETREAT

The COVID-19 pandemic caused us to delay the biennial IM missionary retreat from 2020 to 2021. We decided just a couple months ago that it would be possible to hold the retreat, so what normally would be done to prepare in a period of several months was compressed into several weeks. It was a lot of preparation and the retreat was a tremendous success.

My fellow missionary peers enjoyed a weekend of refreshing, recharging, and spending time together. This was my eighth retreat that I've helped host and it was by far our very best. Now perhaps someday I will get a retreat — It's a lot of non-stop work! HA!

I often am behind-the-scenes — below is a photo of me preparing the media tech for our meetings and service.



GENERAL COUNCIL MINISTRY

Our denomination will hold its biennial conference in August, which gives me the opportunity to meet attendees that sense a call to missions and begin dialogues with them. Here is a prayer request: ***Pray that God would provide conversation opportunities with individuals visiting our exhibit who would like to serve in missions with one of our IMs.*** This is a life-changing decision and process — I'm honored to be part of it.

FALL PIPELINE MINISTRY

I look forward to once again being on our college campuses this fall and winter. Talking with students about their future in missions is usually a process of conversations throughout their time in school. Often the dialogue begins in their freshman or sophomore year and continues through graduation. Another prayer request: ***Ask God to provide opportunities to meet with students sensing missions in their future and starting the relationship with them to investigate how they can serve with our ministries.***

PIPELINE PRAYER REQUEST

There are 84 opportunities to serve with the nine IMs. ***Pray that God helps me match folks desiring to serve in missions with these pressing needs.*** I enjoy helping individuals and couples find ways to use their skills and talents to serve our ministries. Ask God to put burdens upon folks' hearts to make a difference by serving in missions. One of my passions is to bring a fresh, young group into missionary service at our ministries. I began as a young adult and believe it's my turn now to help the next generation begin their ministry in missions.

PERSONAL PRAYER REQUEST

AGWM missionaries are self-funded. We depend upon churches and folks who generously give, some monthly and others occasionally, to make it possible for us to serve in missions. I currently have a shortage, so my monthly stipend (which covers my ministry and family expenses) is quite a bit less than what is budgeted.

May I ask you, if you have not yet partnered with me in missions, to prayerfully consider either a one-time or a monthly tax-deductible donation? If you already are a supporter, perhaps you would consider a special one-time gift or increasing your monthly commitment. It's simple to do — just let me know you'd like to do so, and I'll walk you through the easy process. You would be a great blessing to me and help remove this burden from my shoulders.

Blessings,

Neil

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