

Free Methodist World Missions
PO Box 51710
Indianapolis, IN 46251
800-342-5531

To opt out of the print version of HEARTBEAT and receive an email prompt for the mobile-friendly version, go to fmchr.ch/FMWM-Subscribe

Or visit the web version at www.fmwm.org and select the Heartbeat link.



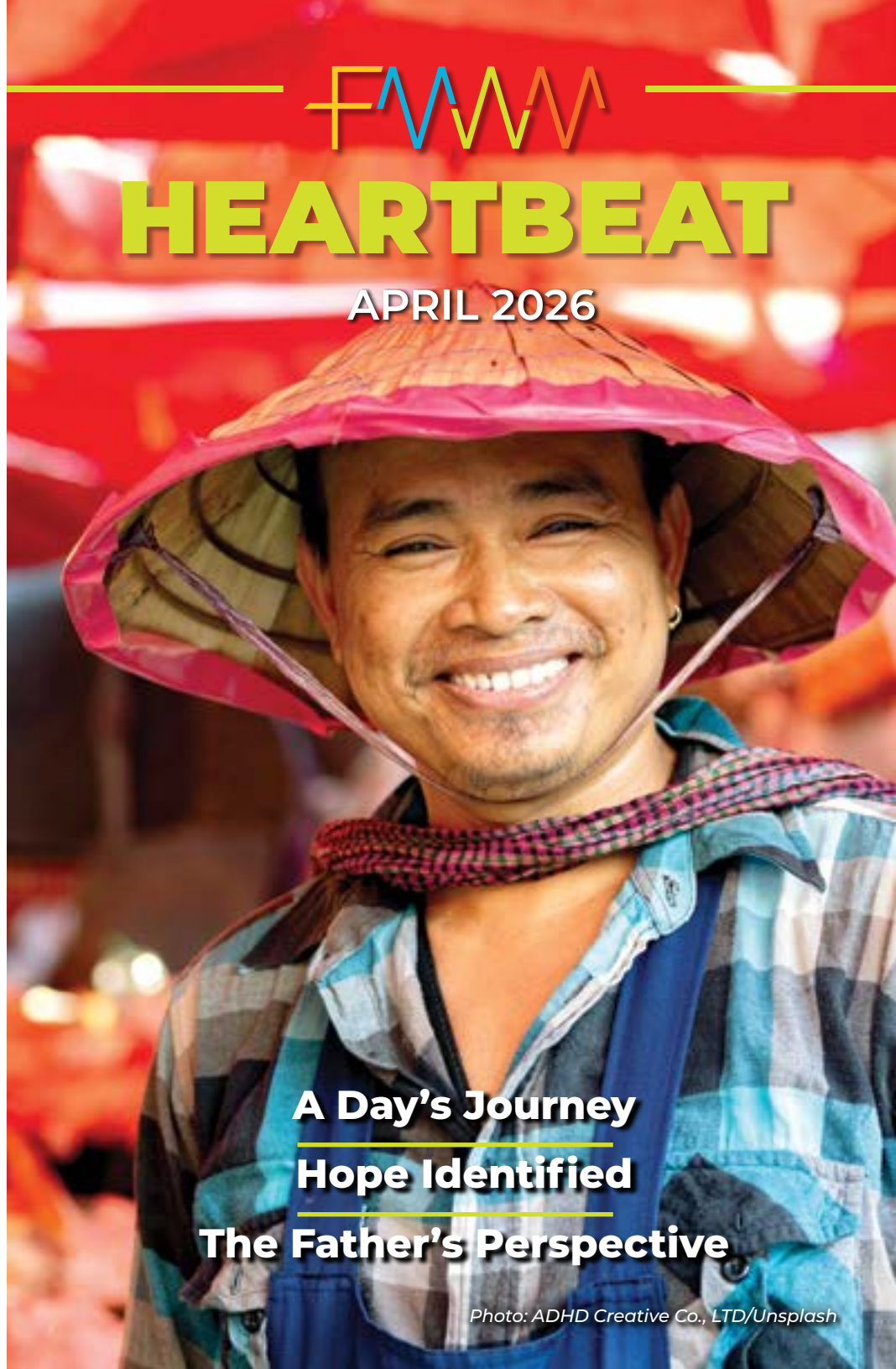
HEARTBEAT

APRIL 2026

PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID AT INDIANAPOLIS, IN, AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES.

PUBLICATIONS AGREEMENT NO. 4-0716549
STATION A, P.O. BOX 54
WINDSOR, ON N9A 6J5 CANADA
EMAIL: CPCRETURNS@WDSMAIL.COM

Free Methodist World Missions makes disciples by mobilizing the global church and empowering international leaders to establish transformational churches.

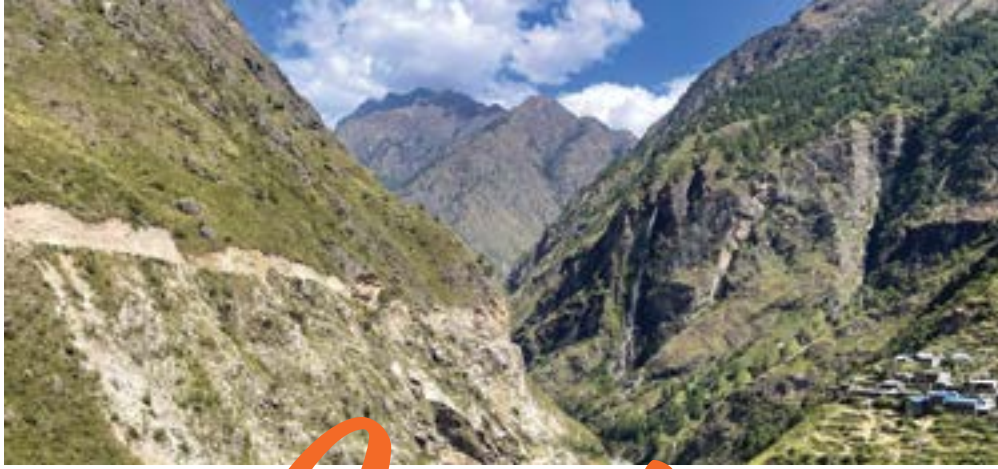


HEARTBEAT

APRIL 2026

A Day's Journey
Hope Identified
The Father's Perspective

Photo: ADHD Creative Co., LTD/Unsplash



ONE DAY'S *Journey*

By Sherry Cahill, Asia Missionary

How far would you go so that someone might hear the name of Jesus for the very first time?

The question echoes from Scripture itself: *“How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard?”* (Romans 10:14, ESV). For Free Methodist World Missions Asia, this question is not theoretical — it is lived out on rugged roads, remote mountain paths, and in quiet villages waiting for good news. The call is to make disciples among all people — no matter the distance, the difficulty or the cost.

Recently, that calling led a Free Methodist superintendent serving Creative Access-NP on an extraordinary journey to a remote village where the name of Jesus had never been spoken. No church. No Scripture. No previous witness of His love. Just a people waiting — unknown to them — for good news.

The journey began before sunrise on a motorcycle, navigating narrow, winding paths, through high-altitude terrain. With every mile the air grew thinner, and signs of civilization faded. Eventually, the road disappeared altogether. Where machines could go no further, faith carried the rest of the way.

For an entire day, the superintendent walked on foot through isolated

territory — steep hills, uneven ground, and vast stretches of silence broken only by the sounds of nature. The risks were real. Help was far away. Communication was limited. One wrong step could have serious consequences. Yet every step was covered in prayer, and God's protecting presence was felt throughout the journey.

As evening approached, the village finally came into view.

Rather than fear or suspicion, the superintendent was welcomed with warm hospitality. As conversations unfolded, it became clear God had already been working, preparing hearts before the journey ever began. Curiosity was alive. The soil was ready.

When the gospel was shared — simply, clearly and with love — the villagers listened intently. For the first time, they heard about a Savior Who knows them, loves them and gave His life for them. They heard about forgiveness, hope and new life. The Holy Spirit moved quietly yet powerfully.

That day, two people placed their faith in Jesus Christ for the first time.

In this small village, generations of spiritual silence were broken. Plans are already being made to return, because this was only the beginning.

Was the journey worth the exhaustion and risks? Without hesitation, the answer is yes. Because sometimes, one day's journey changes a village forever.



Hope IDENTIFIED IN A HOPELESS SITUATION

By Sherry Cahill, Asia Missionary

*"The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit."
(Psalms 34:18)*

When darkness presses in and hope feels out of reach, God still finds a way to break through. Even in moments that feel utterly hopeless, His rescue can arrive through a simple act of obedience, a phone call or the loving care of His people. Superintendent "H" witnessed this truth in a deeply personal way — a powerful reminder that hope is never beyond reach.

Superintendent "H" shares:

Every time I hear news that someone has chosen to end their life, my heart tightens with pain — and it hurts even more when innocent children are taken with them. I often wonder what circumstances could drive a person to such a heartbreaking decision. I wish I had known their situation sooner, that I could have reached out and ask God to intervene. What if they had been able to call a believer before it was too late? But praise God, in His mercy, there are desperate situations where hope is found.

"KA," a young mother of two, was overwhelmed by severe depression and despair. She felt as though she was slowly dying — unable to get out of bed, physically and emotionally drained. Her thoughts were consumed by death, yet her heart was torn by thoughts of her children.

At the edge of the darkness, one question pierced her

despair: If I leave, what will happen to my children? That single thought held her there just long enough to reach for her phone.

"KA" called Sarah, an emerging leader in Creative Access-VN, who previously led the house church "KA" attended. Sarah's phone rang. When she answered, she heard a weak, trembling voice. "Sister Sarah ... please help me ..."

As Sarah listened, she prayed silently, offering words of comfort and reassurance. "KA" shared how ongoing hardships, marriage to an unbeliever and the birth of her second child had led to deep physical and emotional suffering. Sarah prayed with "KA" over the phone, asking God to forgive, renew her strength and restore hope.

The next day, Sarah visited "KA" along with "T," a young mother who had once struggled with mental illness herself but had found faith and healing. Though still fragile, "KA" was encouraged by their prayers, the Word of God and their loving presence.

When they returned on Sunday, the transformation was evident. "KA" was able to sit up. Through tears, she sang hymns, but they were no longer tears of despair; they were now tears of hope.

Praise the Lord — our Redeemer, our Healer and our unflinching hope!



THE *Father's* PERSPECTIVE

By Sherry Cahill, Asia Missionary

Thailand is often called “The Land of Smiles.” Visitors quickly notice warm expressions everywhere — on crowded streets, in bustling markets and along quiet village paths. Yet those who live and minister in the region learn an important truth: Not every smile means the same thing. Thai culture recognizes many kinds of smiles — polite smiles, nervous smiles, protective smiles and even smiles that quietly mask pain. What we see on the surface can easily mislead us. This is where the Father’s perspective becomes essential.

Consider the local market-shop owner who greets customers with a practiced smile. Kate, a longtime business owner, was one such woman. On a visit to her shop, I sensed something was different. She smiled as usual, but there was a certain heaviness beneath it. When I asked how she was doing, tears welled up in her eyes. She shared with me that neighboring business owners — friends of 10 years — were relocating.

“I feel so sad,” Kate said. “I’m worried about where they will go. I already feel lonely.”

As I listened, tears flowed freely. The Holy Spirit gently prompted me to ask if I could hug her. Unsure how she would respond, I asked, “May I give you a hug?” Kate nodded and stepped forward. She held on tightly —

longer than I expected. In that moment, we both wept. Though her pain was real, the presence of the Holy Spirit was unmistakable. Before I left, she welcomed two more hugs.

Behind Kate’s smile was unspoken grief. God had orchestrated a divine appointment — not for words of advice, but for listening, compassion and simple human connection. It was a reminder about how vital it is to see people through the Father’s eyes, and to look beyond the smiles.

Jesus modeled this perfectly. Scripture tells us when He saw the crowds, “*He had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd*” (Matthew 9:36, ESV). Jesus looked beyond outward expressions and saw the heart.

The application is both simple and demanding. We must slow down, listen to the Holy Spirit and ask God to help us see as He sees. When we adopt the Father’s perspective, we are better equipped to share the love and hope of Jesus with a world that may be hiding behind a smile.

**The author used AI assistance in editing these stories.*

Vol. 8 No. 4 APRIL 2026

Publisher: Gerald Coates
Editor: Jan Coates
Copy Editor: Matt Schnepf
Graphic Designer: Beth Winchell
Subscription Manager: Matt Alte

Free Methodist World Missions Heartbeat (ISSN 2380-0283) (Print) is published monthly by Free Methodist World Missions, PO Box 51710, Indianapolis, IN 46251. Periodical postage paid at Indianapolis, IN, and additional mailing offices.

Postmaster: Send address changes to Free Methodist World Missions Heartbeat, PO Box 51710, Indianapolis, IN 46251. Canadian Publication Mail Agreement #40716549 Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to: Station A, P.O. Box 54, Windsor ON N9A6J5

Email: cpcreturns@wdsmail.com

To be added or removed from the mailing list, or give notifications of address change, contact Matt Alte, (800) 342-5531.

Printed in the USA — Copyright 2026

All Scripture quotations take from the New International Version unless otherwise indicated.





APRIL PRAYER GUIDE

01 > **Wednesday** | **Latin America**

Please pray for the JUMELI Youth Summit in Lima, Peru, taking place April 2-5. About 400 young people from Latin America, Canada and the United States are expected to attend. Pray that the Lord would use this time to strengthen their faith and clarify His direction for their lives.

02 > **Thursday** | **Creative Access-CA**

Pray that Julie will walk with attentiveness and responsiveness to the Holy Spirit as she enters a new season of ministry to parents in her community.

Birthday: Julie

03 > **Friday** | **Asia/Togo**

Asia: In the first six weeks of 2026, eight new elders were ordained in five countries. Pray for the continued development of the pastoral-formation efforts across Asia and for those being trained to facilitate. **Birthday: Darin**

Togo: Please pray for Jordan Kaufmann as he serves in Togo. Ask the Father to guide Jordan in caring for and loving others – not merely to make them feel comfortable or accepted, but to love in ways that genuinely build God's kingdom with effectiveness and lasting fruit.

Birthday: Jordan Kaufmann

04 > **Saturday** | **Africa**

Pray for the Africa missionary team, asking God to provide health and protection, empowerment for service, and fruitfulness in their ministry efforts. Pray many lives will be touched and transformed through their faithful service.

Birthday: Larry Light (U.S.-Based Partner)

05 > **Sunday** | **France**

The church in Cergy ministers to many children and young people. Pray for their spiritual growth and ask God to ignite a passion in their hearts to serve Him and share the good news in their schools and communities.

06 > **Monday** | **Middle East**

Pray for Dale and Dawn as they train new leadership in the Middle East. Many young leaders are stepping up to take significant leadership roles now and into the future.

Birthday: Dale

07 > **Tuesday** | **Uruguay**

Ask the Lord to give guidance to Mission District Leader Sebastian Caballo, allowing him to lead with wisdom, develop a healthy ministry, pursue continuing education and serve his family well.

08 > **Wednesday** | **Latin America/ Colombia**

Latin America: Ask the Father to give Area Director Ricardo Gómez wisdom and discernment as he supervises leaders and ministries in Latin America. Pray for health and safety as he travels throughout the area.

Birthday: Ricardo Gómez

Colombia: Pray for Nikki Roller to have grace and fruitfulness during the period when Thad's travel schedule is busy and takes him away from the family.

Birthday: Nikki Roller

09 > **Thursday** | **ICCM**

Praise the Lord for a livelihood and sustainability initiative in Zambia that purchased 24 goats, offering families nourishment, income and a path forward to self-reliance. Pray this project will not only provide for immediate needs but plant seeds for lasting transformation in families and communities.

10 > **Friday** | **Senegal**

Pray for the physical and spiritual protection of pastors and their families in the face of economic challenges and spiritual hostilities.

11 > **Saturday** | **Portugal**

Please pray that the Lord would grant Cida Matos good health and balance as she manages her treatment for high blood pressure.

Birthday: Cida Matos (International Missionary)

12 > **Sunday** | **Europe**

Eduardo and Cindi Angelo hope to establish a Missionary Center in Lisbon to train missionaries. Pray for the implementation of this project.

Birthday: Cindi Angelo (International Missionary)

13 > Monday | Paraguay

Pray for Juan Carlos Rodriguez as he serves the Paraguay Annual Conference and works to complete a master's degree through Asbury Seminary. **Birthdays: Juan Carlos Rodriguez (International Missionary)**

14 > Tuesday | Zimbabwe

The Wesley Bible College (a distance-learning program) and the Chikombedzi Hospital are ministries of the Zimbabwe General Conference. Pray for the provision of staff for these two institutions.

15 > Wednesday | Creative Access-RA

Because of the desperate economic situation in this country, several churches hold "soup kitchens" to prepare food for the needy in their communities. Praise the Lord for the transformative impact this simple ministry is having on families.

16 > Thursday | Greece

Pray for Michael as he continues to disciple and mentor Muslim background believers (MBBs) in Greece and other places in Europe. Pray the Holy Spirit will use MBBs to reach back to their home countries with the gospel.

Birthdays: Michael Long

17 > Friday | Tanzania

Pray for solid biblical and pastoral training for pastors and new leaders as the church grows.

18 > Saturday | Asia

Pray for the persecuted church in Asia, asking the Father to help them remain bold, faithful and steadfast in their witness.

19 > Sunday | Middle East

In January, a government in the Middle East revoked permission to have a ministry center in an extremely sensitive area. Our team is well established in this area. Please pray for the legal process and a quick resolution to the situation so ministry can continue.

20 > Monday | Ecuador

Pray Becky Course will have wisdom to balance ministry and caring for aging parents. **Birthdays: Becky Crouse**

21 > Tuesday | Japan

Pray for Chris and Yuko Wilkins' two sons, who are now students at Asbury University. Pray the Holy Spirit will work to help them grow and develop, faithfully walking with the Lord. **Birthdays: Chris Wilkins**

22 > Wednesday | Fiji

Pray for strong partnership, unity and fruit as Tessie and Ian serve alongside the Fijian church to expand God's kingdom. **Birthdays: Tessie Chua (International Missionary)**

23 > Thursday | Taiwan

The annual conference in Taiwan meets April 23-25. Pray for a fresh move of the Spirit in the Taiwan FMC bringing revival and a renewed passion for the lost.

24 > Friday | Asia

Pray God will give wisdom and creativity to Bryan as he facilitates the production and deployment of Gethsemane Leadership Training (GLT) videos and as he leads FMWM Mobilization efforts. **Birthdays: Bryan**

25 > Saturday | Liberia

Pray for the continued formation of a healthy, strong and vibrant church in Liberia and the reactivation of pastoral training in all districts.

26 > Sunday | Set Free Movement

Join the Set Free Movement in praying for change makers in every community. Everyone has a role, but pray for those who have significant opportunities to prevent vulnerability and trafficking – business leaders, educators, law enforcement, pastors, nurses and students. And pray God will raise an army of those who will faithfully pray for them.

27 > Monday | Jordan

In February, 90 women gathered for a retreat. Many hearts were stirred, and some encountered Christ for the first time. Pray the seeds planted will grow and bear lasting fruit.

28 > Tuesday | Creative Access-X

Pray for Flor Marlene as she directs the Theological Seminary in Creative Access-X and serves the Latin America Area through pastoral formation and pastoral care groups. **Birthdays: Flor Marlene (International Missionary)**

29 > Wednesday | Hungary

Pray the English classes and other outreach ministries of the Budapest ministry center will create a positive witness and develop trust in the community, leading to open hearts and gospel opportunities.

30 > Thursday | West Africa

Pray the Rev. Dosseh Takpale will have wisdom and resourcefulness as he oversees the Wesley Missionary institute, superintends the FMC in Togo, and supervises work in four other countries where the church is in formation. **Birthdays: Dosseh Takpale (International Missionary)**