Monthly News And Updates for Partners of The Drum Family

October 2024

Kingdom Mosaics from Spain



this issue

Across Alliance Europe P.1-2
Prayers and Praises P.1
Walking as Retreat P.2
Training Cross-Cultural Workers in Kenya P.3
Become a Hero! Partner with Us! P.4

Prayers, and Praises:

Praise - We had some very fruitful meetings in Berlin with ministry leaders from across Europe. Read more about it in the Across Alliance article on page 1-2 (see right).

Prayers - Please pray for our Spain team. It is normal for a team to go through a stage of "storming" after they have been together for a year or so, and our team is no different. We are exactly on track, as far as that goes. This month, our team has it's first birthday as a complete team and we are beginning to feel the challenges and struggles of the storming stage. The good news is that the team spent the first year being very intentional about building relationships, so there is a good foundation from which to weather these storms. The other piece of good news is that the stage after "storming" is "norming", followed by a heightened time of "performing", so that is the hope we have as the team works through this time together. Pray that communication is edifying and good and deep and honoring. Pray that we lean into our love for our neighbor (including our teammates) and that we weather these storms in ways that honor God and each other.

Prayers - We travel to Kenya in October for two separate teaching and training events (see page 3). Pray for those events to be fruitful for all who attend. Pray for all of the logistics that need to happen in planning international events. Pray for our travels and our health as we have demanding travel and teaching schedules. Pray for our Kenyan partners and trainees and that the Holy Spirit gives us exactly the right words and lessons that they need to help them be fruitful and honoring to God and to the work he has called them to.

Prayers - As always, continue to pray for us and for our adult children. We are a long-distance family and that is not easy. Communication is often strained by time zones and work schedules. Pray for everyone to feel loved and connected as a family, even when communication is hard and days and weeks go by without meaningful conversations. Pray for our granddaughter, Lily, as she has her 7th birthday in October. And pray for our youngest, Sarah, as she turns 21 at the end of the month.

Across Alliance: First-Ever European Meeting in Berlin

Billy and I recently traveled to Berlin for the inaugural Across Alliance Europe meeting, which brought together mission leaders from across the European region. Representatives from Germany, Poland, Spain, Italy, and England joined us, offering perspectives on a wide range of ministry efforts. These include youth and university ministry, Bible translation, media resourcing, church planting, hospitality ministries, Business as Mission (BAM) initiatives like coffee businesses and farming, outreach to Muslim and Arabic communities, sports ministry, discipleship, training and care for global workers, and community development efforts.



The diversity of these ministries reflects the heart of the Across Alliance: connecting and equipping cross-cultural disciple-makers—whether they're working across the street or across the globe.
This meeting gave us a clearer understanding of the challenges facing Europe today, both among Indigenous European communities and immigrant and refugee populations.

A key takeaway from the meeting was the deepening of our relationships with these leaders. Through these new connections, we are now better equipped to collaborate, mobilize resources, and share expertise—not only within Europe but also with Across Alliance members on other continents.

Continued on page 2...

Continued from page 1…

"You are either a missionary or a mission field"
~Dick McClain

"You are either a missionary or a mission field" (quote from Dick McClain, shared by Steve Wilson). This powerful quote sums up the key work of the Alliance, for me. To discover what God is doing in the world and in someone's life, to develop that gift and calling, and to then mobilize them to share the Gospel with others, from everywhere to every-where.





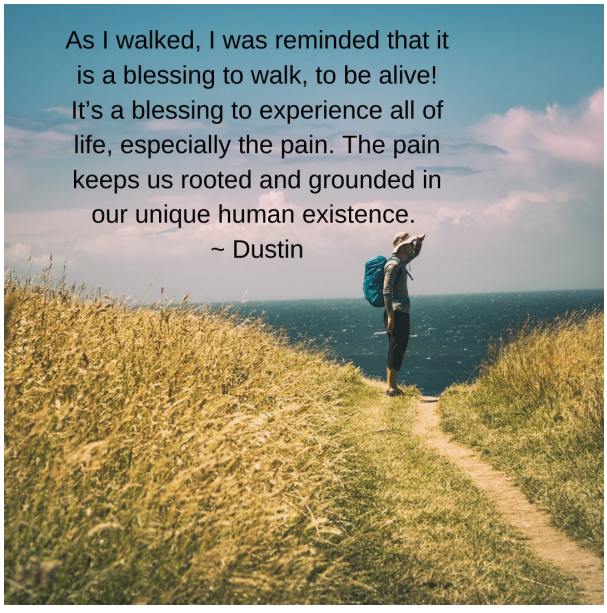
We are grateful for the opportunity to be part of this group of people and look forward to what lies ahead as we work together to expand the reach of the Gospel throughout Europe and beyond. Stay tuned for more updates on this exciting journey!

Walking as a Retreat… Billy continues to lead and disciple people while walking alongside them on the trail



Billy continues to lead groups on spiritual renewal retreats, using hiking as a creative form of restoration. Currently, he is guiding another group of cross-cultural workers and global ministry leaders on their third consecutive year of walking the Camino de Santiago, a pilgrimage known for fostering deep spiritual transformation and community.

To date, Billy has walked over 3,000 miles on pilgrimage trails, offering a unique form of discipleship and leadership development. These retreats provide space for participants to process grief, life challenges, loneliness, ministry calling, and spiritual formation. The extended time on the trail allows for reflection, conversation, and connection with God in a deeply meaningful way.



This fall, Billy had an article published by the Global Member Care Network entitled "Walking as Retreat" *(find the article here* Walking as Retreat Article | PDF (scribd.com)*)*, sharing his insights on the power of pilgrimage as a time of renewal and spiritual growth.

We ask for your prayers for the group of men who are currently walking the Camino with Billy. Pray for their time on the trail as they walk, talk, and process life and faith together. May this journey be a time of deep connection with God and each other.

If you are interested in walking a portion of the Camino de Santiago as a form of spiritual retreat, Billy has 5 spaces open for his May 2025 retreat. This is a rare opportunity, as these trips generally fill up before we even get the dates set! This retreat will be a mixed group of men and women. Contact Billy at Billy@drumsforchrist.org for more information and to sign up.

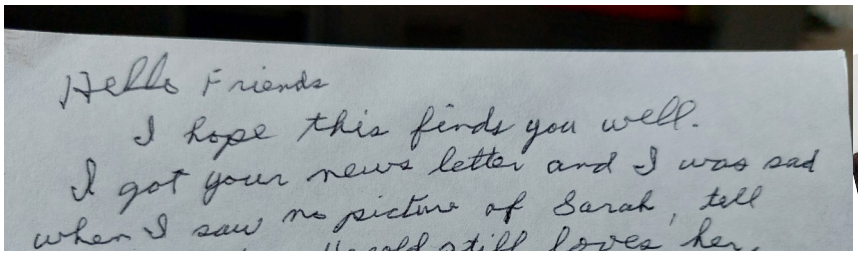
Training cross-cultural workers in Kenya

In October, Billy and I will be traveling to Kenya for two exciting teaching and training events. Our first stop will be in Nyahururu, where we will be partnering with GGFAN Ministries (God's Glory for All Nations), a Kenyan-run mission organization with a strong history of working alongside TMS Global. Together, we will be training 40 Kenyan and Ugandan mission leaders and cross-cultural workers, equipping them to serve more effectively in their ministries.



Following the Nyahururu training, we will head to Nairobi for the Global Member Care Conference. Billy has been invited to lead two sessions during the conference. The first will focus on sustainable care practices for cross-cultural workers, offering tools and strategies to ensure their long-term well-being in challenging environments. The second session will address preventative practices for burnout, an increasingly critical issue for global workers who often face intense physical, emotional, and spiritual pressures.

We're excited for the opportunity to share and learn with mission leaders from across Africa and look forward to seeing how these training sessions will strengthen their ministries and mission efforts. Please keep us in your prayers as we prepare for this important trip!


Hello Friends
I hope this finds you well.
I got your news letter and I was sad
when I saw no picture of Sarah, tell



We recently received mail from a dear friend and partner in the ministry. This was the first line of the letter: "*Hello Friends. I hope this finds you well. I got your newsletter and I was sad when I saw no picture of Sarah."* Many people still want to see and know about Sarah.

Sarah will have her 21st birthday this month, but to many, she is still the toddler who left Texas with us to follow a call to ministry in Latin America, and now Spain. Here she is (left), working as a show jumping trainer in Spain.



Many have followed our friendship with our Spanish pastor and his wife over the years. Miguel and Ana are dear friends here in Antequera. Miguel is within two years of retirement and is facing the reality of how to leave the church well and with good leadership. We spend lots of time listening as he processes this season of transition. Ana and Miguel are also currently serving as house parents for a young woman who is here for a gap year, interning with one of our teammates and deciding what she wants to do with life and deepening her relationship with God.

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- Our greatest desire is to see people become who God created them to be and to live into their purpose. We believe that everyone has value. Everyone has talents, skills, and unique abilities. We want to see that come alive!
- Nurturing and developing people to be healthy spiritually, physically, emotionally, and relationally - because "care" is not just an emotional feeling word, "care" is a verb - an action. That's what we're about - developing and caring for people so they can live into their unique design and God-given purpose.



Become a Partner! We would love to have you on our team!

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Dear Billy and Laurie,

I will pray for you.
As God provides, I plan to partner with you by giving
$_____Per month / year.
Special note:_____

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