

## SHARING OUR DISTINCT MISSIONS MODEL

In 1940, MSC was founded by the brethren movement in Canada to facilitate the support of their mission workers. Today, this movement of local churches or “assemblies” spans a wide spectrum of expressions, from Gospel Halls to Bible Chapels to Community Churches. Despite differences of ecclesiastical expression, **these local churches have provided MSC with a singular, deep commitment to a biblical model of missions which has become our clear identity.**

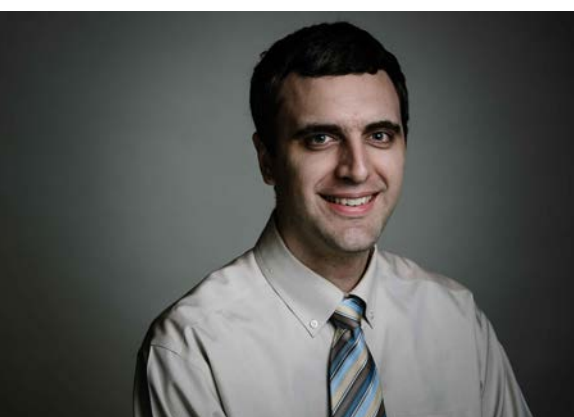
Local churches from within the brethren spectrum form the vast majority of MSC’s constituency. **So much of what makes MSC distinct and relevant today can be clearly and effortlessly traced to our brethren DNA.** We love the assemblies we serve.

Since beginning in the early 19th Century, the brethren movement has been a back-to-the-Bible movement, dedicated to the Lord and to simplicity and diligence in evangelism and discipleship. These are values we hold dear at MSC.

The world is changing quickly and the Lord is calling out people to reach that changing world who do not resonate with the traditional sending missions organizations. They and their churches are being led to search for a way for the local church to send their own workers. For much of MSC’s history, and increasingly in recent days, we have served churches and workers from outside the brethren world. **Although we do not recruit workers or advertise MSC, many today are searching for an organization that does missions as only we do, and the Lord is leading them to us.**

We are excited to see a variety of churches asking us to help them accomplish missions in a simple, Biblical way, with full dependence on the Lord to supply their needs, just as we’ve done missions for three-quarters of a century. Today, roughly ten percent of the overseas and cross-cultural workers we serve have been commended and sent by local churches which are not directly connected to the brethren movement.

This year, for the first time, we have included a free supplement to the Missionary Prayer Handbook called MSC PLUS which includes many of these workers. As with the Handbook, some in sensitive areas are excluded for security reasons. We trust you will use these tools to pray for and support those engaged in the Lord’s work on the frontline of missions.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jerry Bolton".

**Jerry Bolton**  
Communications Director



# DISCOVERING MSC:

**FF** **FULL TIME MINISTRY HAS BEEN ON OUR HEARTS FOR MANY YEARS.** *As we stepped out in faith, Emmanuel received formal pastoral training at Southland Church. During that time, God began to show us the specifics of what He was calling us to do, church planting.*

*We began searching for an organization who would allow us to carry out our vision through our home church. Doors opened and closed. We were out of options and gave it all to God as our big prayer request for 2017 at the New Years Eve prayer summit.*

*Later that evening, Emmanuel felt prompted to do an online search and the first thing that popped out at him was MSC Canada! We read, watched videos and knew that God had just answered our prayers! We are so grateful for MSC and the amazing support they have been to us!*



***Emmanuel & Angela Davis***

Mission Workers

Sent by Southland Church

Steinbach, Manitoba



**SOUTHLAND  
CHURCH**

## 2018 MISSIONARY PRAYER HANDBOOK

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The 2018 Missionary Prayer Handbook contains

- ✓ **49 NEW MISSIONARIES**
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# TESTIMONIES



## WE WERE APPROACHED BY A YOUNG COUPLE in our

congregation who had been called to the mission field. As a church we felt it was our responsibility to send out and oversee our missionaries under the spiritual authority and directions of our elders. We were looking for an experienced partner to help us with the resources and administrative services we lacked. MSC was such a partner. When a major crisis arose in the field, MSC's assistance was invaluable in getting our workers home.

### **Alain Lamothe**

Member, Missions Committee  
Living Hope Alliance Church  
Brampton, Ontario

Living Hope  
ALLIANCE CHURCH

Designed to enable thoughtful prayer, the Handbook lists **700+ MISSIONARIES commended from assemblies in Canada and the US** and includes contact information and a description of their ministries. Canadian orders will receive a free copy of *MSC PLUS* with each handbook, a special companion booklet featuring additional workers as well as the staff, programs, and leadership of MSC Canada.

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2018  
MISSIONARY  
*Prayer*  
HANDBOOK



# UNITED IN MISSION

TO PARAPHRASE THE POETRY OF ROBERT SERVICE: ***"A man's final words are meant to be heard."***

There is a great deal of truth to the notion that near the end of life, we tend to communicate those things which are near and dear to our whole being. It is generally a time for serious thought and personal reflection. The words expressed are of utmost importance.

This was certainly true for my late father who died last year. In the last week of his life I went to visit him in the hospital. Up to this point our relationship had been somewhat strained as he resented my conversion to faith in Christ. His bitterness only grew as over the years he saw the majority of his children, one by one, following Jesus.

In our conversation, he began to weep as he mentioned the things he valued for us, his children. **This demonstration of emotion was for my father an extremely rare event.** I witnessed for the first time his language of love verbalized. We spoke further of our relationship and were able to get to a place of reconciliation and mutual affection and understanding. Praise the Lord for his grace and mercy!

As the end of his life on earth approached, the Lord Jesus had an intimate conversation with his loving Father. The Spirit inspired the beloved apostle to record these precious words for our own benefit and consideration. Jesus' prayer centred on relationships: He with his Father and they together with those who had believed the gospel. He was concerned not only for those in Jerusalem but for those in the future who would believe in his name.

And what was his primary concern for us? He asked the Father to grant us safety, perseverance and unity. Three times over he asked that we would be one, not only with God but also that we be united one with another:

**HOLY FATHER, KEEP THEM IN YOUR NAME, WHICH YOU HAVE GIVEN ME, THAT THEY MAY BE ONE, EVEN AS WE ARE ONE.**

**I DO NOT ASK FOR THESE ONLY, BUT ALSO FOR THOSE WHO WILL BELIEVE IN ME THROUGH THEIR WORD, THAT THEY MAY ALL BE ONE, JUST AS YOU, FATHER, ARE IN ME, AND I IN YOU.**

**THE GLORY THAT YOU HAVE GIVEN ME I HAVE GIVEN TO THEM, THAT THEY MAY BE ONE EVEN AS WE ARE ONE.**

The late William MacDonald made this comment regarding the early Brethren:

...the Plymouth Brethren started by and large as an attempt by sincerely motivated believers to work towards Christian unity, and overcome the barriers of denominationalism.

He also added:

Sadly, though, in many cases, the practical outworking of the application of the principles behind the movement has led to increased sectarianism.

## GET THE MISSION PRAYER ITEMS BY EMAIL

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**7** concise prayer items direct from mission workers, plus additional expanded items.

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MSC Canada has for many years sought to be obedient to the will of God, to have fellowship with believers and local churches who are of like precious faith. In the spirit of unity we hope you will join us in this good work.

On behalf of the Board,

**Russell Sutherland**  
President

**[msccanada.org](https://msccanada.org)**

