

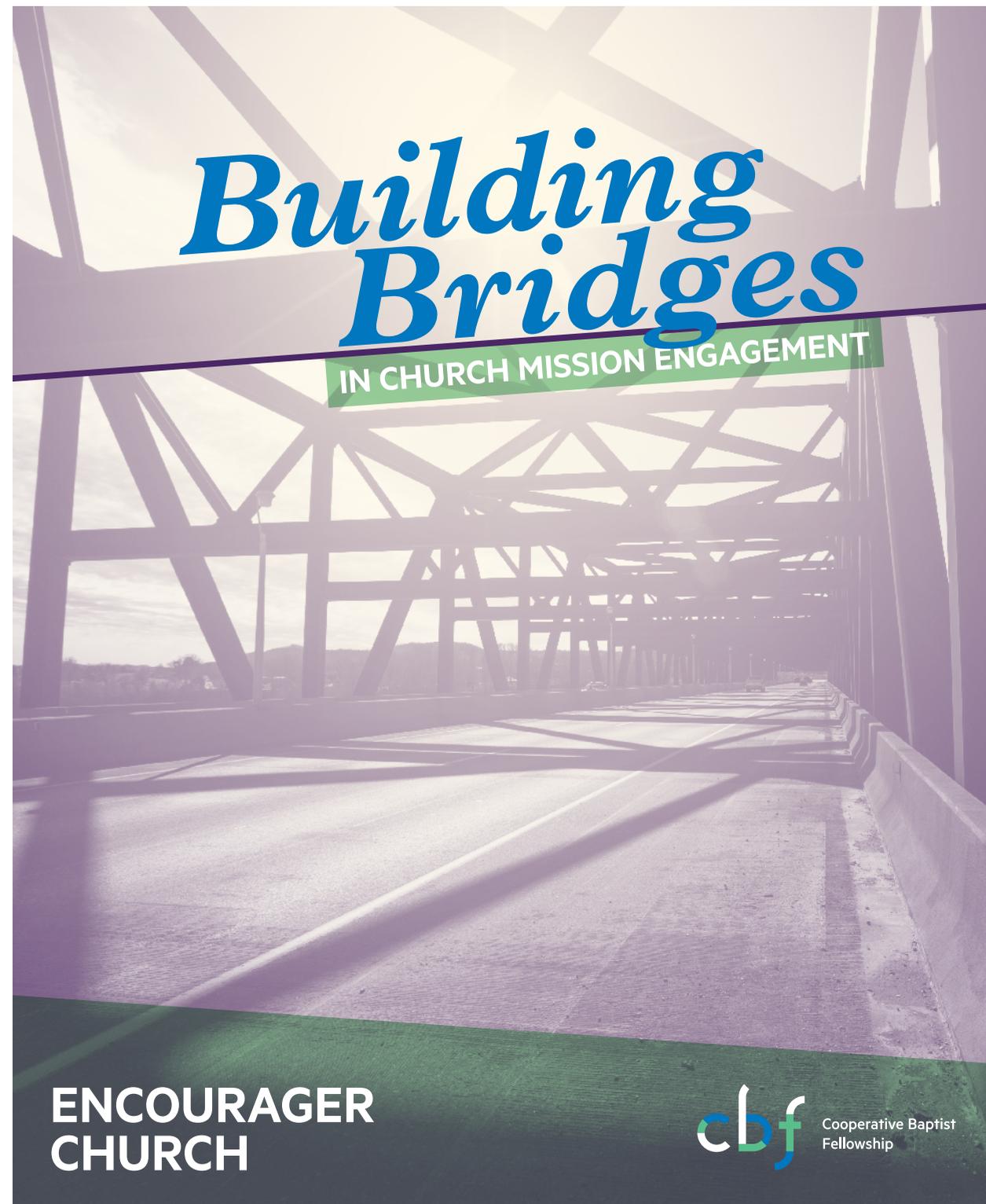


FORMING TOGETHER

Every congregation connects with field personnel differently. Below are ideas from fellow Encourager Churches about how they are forming together with ministry on the field.

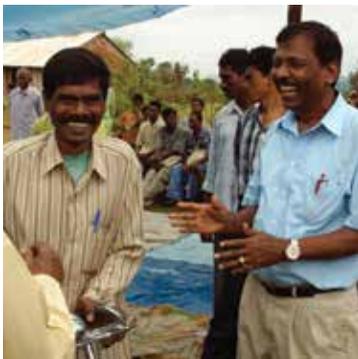
- ▶ Invite field personnel to video in a live or recorded mission moment to be played in worship during a Sunday service or Wednesday night.
- ▶ Invite field personnel to write a column or post a link to their blog in your church newsletter.
- ▶ Prayer! Yes, it's on the first page but it's worth stating again: Invite field personnel to pray for you and include them on your Wednesday night prayer list. Add them as recipients to your email list and keep them on the list. Let them know that you are regularly praying for them.
- ▶ Bulletin boards are totally back "in." Use lots of photos, a map, two push-pins and strands of string (seriously).
- ▶ Invite field personnel to write for your advent devotional guide.
- ▶ Provide a car and a house for field personnel to borrow while they are making transitions.
- ▶ When planning a short-term mission endeavor, start by asking field personnel what they really need. Sometimes what they need is for you to come and be immersed in the culture.
- ▶ When mailing a care-package, find out if there is an import duty. Some countries charge hefty fees for picking up foreign packages.
- ▶ Vacation! If someone in your congregation has vacation property, consider offering that to field personnel for R & R, and do not forget those serving in the U.S.!

Cooperative Baptist Fellowship
 160 Clairemont Avenue, Suite 500
 Decatur, GA 30030
 800.352.8741
 contact@cbf.net



ENCOURAGER
 CHURCH





WHAT IS AN ENCOURAGER CHURCH?

Encourager Churches come alongside field personnel in partnership in order to build bridges in mission engagement. In a hyper-connected and socially networked world, close partnerships with specific field personnel unleash the power of personal relationships to transform lives. The Spirit works in and among our relationships for the mutual transformation of our congregations, field personnel and those whom we seek to serve.

CBF Encourager Churches are an important component to the work of CBF field personnel around the world. Such relationships invite the church into a unique and intimate role in missions. It brings churches into the historic role of sending members of its body into the world as we cultivate beloved community, bear witness to Jesus Christ, and seek transformational development.

Your church can covenant with field personnel for mutual support in areas such as prayer, programming, short-term engagement and financial support. Each area unites churches with the ongoing mission work of field personnel around the world in our three contexts: Global poverty, global migration, and the global church.

To facilitate this enhanced role of the local church in the mission enterprise, CBF seeks to formalize church partnership through the Encourager Church Covenant. This covenant between field personnel, local churches and CBF encourages mutual roles of support fostering important ministries and transformative relationships.



ENGAGE



Pivot

Turning Teams Towards God's Mission Near and Far



Pilgrimage

Transforming by being Transformed



Mission Distinctives

Adult small-group Bible studies



Mission Collective

Regional, church-based training events that gather collective wisdom for collective action



Form™

Missional formation curriculum for preschoolers



Spark™

Missional formation curriculum for children



The Short-term Mission Handbook

by CBF



Summersalt

Missional formation lessons and activities for children and preschoolers

Pray with and for our field personnel and global ministry partners.

www.cbf.net/pray

Serve the world's forgotten and forsaken through mission trip opportunities.

www.cbf.net/serve

Help end poverty, transform lives and share Christ's love around the world.

www.cbf.net/give

Learn about CBF missions in your small group using OGM Bible study curriculum.

www.cbf.net/OGM

ENCOURAGER AREAS

Prayer Support

Encourager Churches covenant to pray without ceasing. They integrate prayer requests from the CBF field personnel into the prayer life of the congregation back home and field personnel bring your joys and concerns before the global church.

Program Support

Some aspects of developing and maintaining partnerships that work well at the local level include: Printing and mailing newsletters, hosting video mission moments, and providing missionary housing and vehicles while home. Your congregation becomes an advocate in your community and at regional events. Because each ministry is different, be sure to contact your field personnel about ways in which you can empower them on the field.

Short-term Engagement

Short-term missions with CBF follows a partnership model working alongside CBF field personnel and mission partners. You will be joining our ongoing work which is designed to be relational, sustainable, and values mutuality. These experiences are blessings to you, your congregation and your host. To learn more about short-term service with CBF visit www.cbf.net/serve.

Financial Support

Encourager Churches financially support ministry on the field in various ways. You commit to helping provide the missionary presences through "in honor of" gifts of the *Offering for Global Missions* as well as direct support of field personnel, recurring gifts toward individual support, and mission programming budgets. We ask that each Encourager Church make a 3-5 year commitment in order to help the long-term presence of CBF field personnel.