

near many we are grateful that the joy entered the paths of our eyes to intersect: connect with yours! Thank you for all your encouragement & support of our ministry! Grant, Gail, & Family



Blairs' Bulletin

Serving Servants Globally

March 30, 2022

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As missionaries with Operation Mobilization, we work in partnership with interested individuals and churches. Financial and prayer partnership are vital to our ministry and God has been faithful in supplying both. If you would like to learn more about OM or how you can support our ministry financially, please visit our website at www.omusa.org or contact us directly.

Dear Friends and Ministry Partners,

As I (Grant) stood talking with Julio, my OM colleague, at our OM display booths, my friend, Guy, approached and I introduced the two of them. We were all taking part in our Georgia church's Ignite/Engage 2022 missions emphasis weekend last Sunday. Julio is a leader of the OM TeenStreet ministry, which organizes and hosts events for teens around the world to encourage them in their walk with Jesus. Julio had just told me about a trip to Kenya he is about to make when Guy walked up. I found this somewhat amazing, since I know Guy and his family were missionaries themselves in Kenya some years back. I introduced them and they immediately began a more involved conversation about Kenya and how Guy knows people in Kenya, with whom he can connect Julio, who are very connected with ministry to teens there. They traded contact information and, after Guy walked away, Julio looked at me with a big smile and surprised look on his face as he exclaimed, "You just never know where you're going to make connections!" He went on to explain how he never anticipated making such a helpful connection during our own church's weekend of focus on missions. But God is so prone to very often meeting us where and when we least expect Him to show up! It seems that, during the past few weeks, God has been using Gail and me in an interesting way to help make connections in a variety of different contexts. Just six weeks ago, having completed two days

"You just never know where you're going to make connections!"



Along with our OM colleagues, Matt (middle) and Julio (right), we were pleased to be asked to represent OM at our Georgia church's Ignite/Engage 2022 missions emphasis on Sunday, March 27th.

of coaching skills training in January, Gail and I were asked to consider connecting with a couple from Oregon, who are joining OM and planning to serve, along with their five kids, in Israel. The goal was to connect with them in a coaching capacity to assist them with ministry partner development as they prepare to relocate their family of seven to Israel. Little did OM realize when it

was suggested that we work with this family that I was born and lived in Oregon as a kid – so we connected and hit it off with them from the first call! The very same day that Gail and I were asked to connect with this couple from Oregon, a friend of mine from one of my discipleship groups also contacted me to see if I could connect him with someone at OM involved with "business as mission." It just so happens that one of my friends from South Africa is one of the global leaders of the OM "business as mission" ministry. I was happy to introduce

and connect these two friends, too, of course. One of the verses from our discipleship group during recent weeks was Romans 12:5, which says, "so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others." This highlights how God intends for us to work together and make connections within the body of Christ to serve and glorify Him however we are able to do so. *We are so thankful that He has seen fit to connect our lives with yours as well! We are grateful, too, for you, your friendship, and the impact you have in the life of our family and ministry! Many blessings to you!*

*Serving with you for God's Glory,
 Grant, Gail, and Family*

Serving Servants Globally



Grant and two of his "doorholder" (volunteer) colleagues prepare to hand out badges and lanyards to some of the 57,000 18-25 year-olds who attended the Passion Conference 2022 in Atlanta on Jan. 2-3!



Josiah (blue), Rachel (black), and Abbey (pink), with their friend, Jonathan (purple), wait patiently, along with just a few of the other 57,000 young people their age, to enter the Passion Conference!



Gail serves Josiah lunch following the meet and Senior Day for the Point University Swim Team. The parents of the Point Team organized lunch for all 3 swim teams which competed. People kept coming back to the serving line saying, "Nobody ever serves us all lunch! Thank you so much!"

Josiah swam on the 800 Yard Freestyle Relay team which placed 3rd at the Appalachian Athletic Conference Championships. He seems "underdressed" because they had to come find him in the locker room for the awards!



Blair Ministry & Family Focus Points

- ♦ **Jan.-Apr.** - Grant participates in one and facilitates another GROW (discipleship) Group for men in his circles of friends.
- ♦ **Jan.-Apr.** - Grant leads project to create process for investment of funds on deposit in OM International banking system.
- ♦ **Jan.-Apr.** - Grant coordinates operational budget process for all 100+ OM countries/entities globally.
- ♦ **Jan. 29 & Apr. 10** - Grant, Gail, and Josiah participate in Point University Swim Team Senior Day and Year End Banquet.
- ♦ **Feb. 2 & Mar. 30** - Grant participates in OM Senior Finance Leaders Team calls with other int'l. senior finance leaders.
- ♦ **Feb. 10-12** - Josiah participates and Grant and Gail attend Appalachian Athletic Conf. Championships in Kingsport, TN.
- ♦ **Feb. 14 & Apr. 5** - Grant participates in newly formed Global Finance Leaders Team meetings.
- ♦ **Feb. 15 & Mar. 17** - Grant and Gail facilitate coaching sessions for couple (family of 7) called to serve with OM in Israel.
- ♦ **Mar. 12-18** - Rachel participates in Cru evangelism and service short-term mission trip to Miami during her Spring Break.
- ♦ **Mar. 26-27** - Grant & Gail participate in & represent OM in Ignite/Engage 2022 missions weekend at our Georgia church.
- ♦ **Mar. 27-Apr. 2** - Blair family hosts Gail's parents, the Roloffs, for a visit from Toledo, OH.

Focus Points for Praise and Prayer

- ♦ As the school year winds down for Rachel, Josiah, and Abbey over the next 2-3 months, please pray that they will finish well academically. Please pray that they will be able to balance all aspects of life (particularly university life for Rachel and Josiah) and focus properly on academics. Abbey also needs wisdom from God about next steps after high school.
- ♦ Please pray for Grant to continue to have opportunities to influence and impact finance people, projects, and processes globally across OM. There is an ongoing need for wisdom, discernment, guidance, and direction from the Holy Spirit.
- ♦ Grant and Gail are both involved now either participating in or facilitating – or both – GROW (discipleship) Groups through our Georgia church and in coaching a family from Oregon as they prepare to join OM and relocate their family of seven to serve with OM in Israel. Please pray for wisdom, discernment, and direction as we participate and lead!