

# TRC Ministries

## 30 Years of Ministry

Sathees Kumar

Meet Sathees Kumar, a pastor and Church Planting Director for the Assembly of God Church in Sri Lanka who has spent more than half his life serving in ministry.

Although Sri Lanka is a predominantly Buddhist country, Kumar's family had a Hindu background. But his path to serving Jesus all started when Kumar's mother, who suffered from an illness, attended a Christian crusade held by an American missionary, Douglas Gehrman. While at the crusade, Kumar's mother was healed. By her miraculous testimony, Kumar became saved at the age of 14.



Kumar wasted no time in telling everyone about Jesus. He began with his friends at school, sharing scripture and the love of Jesus to them, their families, and anyone who would listen. That was the start of his passion for sharing the gospel which he has carried throughout his entire career.

Kumar's churches continue to grow and thrive today, and are dedicated to serving their community through the love and hope that they themselves have received from Jesus. This includes packaging meals and supplies for 250 families during Covid lockdowns, putting on a children's Christmas program and giving out gift packages for all the children who attended, feeding the homeless, and much more. Kumar and his church are committed to building relationships with those in their community, whether through something as simple as a phone call or through providing necessary food and medicine for those in need.

~Camilla Richter

Read the whole story online  
[regenerationcenter.org](http://regenerationcenter.org)

# Christian Outreach Fellowship

## Passive Churchgoer Becomes Fellowship Leader

Thomas Kwasi Bawacherenaa is a 29-year-old leader of the Nyomoase church. According to Thomas, he dropped out of school in 3rd grade and later got converted through the ministry of Charles Makate. Charles encouraged him to learn a trade and this led him to become a mechanic. After establishing himself, he settled in Nyomoase to practice his trade.

As his Dagaare background did not frown on cohabitation, Thomas took a woman to live with him without establishing their relationship according to customary law and civil law. He received a Dagaare audio Bible from Charles and when he began playing it, he realized that a lot of things were wrong with his lifestyle as a Christian and this included his marriage. He then began to work out his life in conformity with the Scriptures. He asked Charles to lead him to visit his parents-in-law to establish his marriage. He is now legally married with three children.

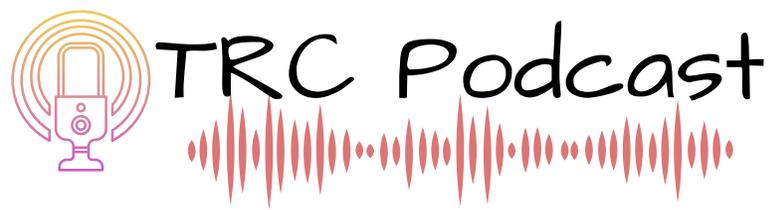
Another aspect of his life that he had asked God to help him with was the rituals one has to perform in his tribe when one loses a parent. When his father died two years ago, he knew pressure was going to be mounted on him to offer animal sacrifices. He knew it was wrong for him to do that as a Christian. Hoping for a breakthrough, he prayed and traveled to his hometown to attend his father's funeral. When they asked him to perform the rituals, he mentioned that his faith as a Christian did not allow him to do that. Having said that, all the elders accepted his point of view and that ended it.

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Praise God that this man has the courage and faith to mold his life around the Scriptures and to allow God to continue to work in his heart and his life. Please pray that Thomas's faith and knowledge of the gospel will continue to grow, and that God would bless this ministry of using Audio Bibles to continue changing many lives.

~Emmanuel Dabson





# TRC Podcast

Check out our bi-monthly podcast on our website and any major streaming services such as iTunes, Google podcasts, and Spotify. In our new series "What's So Great About Salvation" Tory dives into what it means to be saved, and intimates that it is much bigger than what we have been commonly taught.

**Give online at  
[regenerationcenter.org](http://regenerationcenter.org)  
or mail a check to the  
PO box listed on our  
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**You're invited to our 22nd Annual Banquet! Join us on Friday, September 16th at the Broadway Ballroom in Alexandria for a night of food, fellowship, testimonies, and more. Doors open at 5:30PM, dinner begins at 6:00. Register by September 7th by calling our office at 320-759-0794 or visiting [regenerationcenter.org](http://regenerationcenter.org)**



Current giving opportunities:

- Sri Lanka crisis relief
- Replacement van for La Cosecha
- Funding for Marie & Marv to appeal the high courts in South Africa for permanent residence
- More audio bibles to be sent to our global ministries





# Seeds of Hope

PLACE OF HOPE AFRICA

Since the day we received Sthembiso, it was a miracle. Technically the social worker at the clinic where he was left should have phoned the police. Instead, she called Mama Xaba, a retired nurse who is on our board to ask if she was able to take a baby. She replied no, but she knew someone who was. We knew the Lord had brought him to us for a reason.

Sthembiso was only 3 weeks old, due to his age the law required that he be taken to the hospital to be checked over and tested. Marie would go visit him as often as she could. The doctor in charge of pediatrics commented that she really cared about him, and actually looked him in the eyes instead of just coming to see the latest orphan that was abandoned. It took 6 weeks before he was returned to us with the proper paperwork.

In October 2015, we had to return to the states to renew our VISAs. As we were preparing to leave, there were 2 young men who for some reason decided that they were going to do the work of Satan and cause problems in our ministry. We had already had all but 6 of our children back with their families or on to long term foster care facilities. The final 6 were to be placed all together and when we returned 3 months later, they would come back to us. While we were gone there was an upheaval with other social workers and they put the children in different places, including sending Sthembiso to another foster home. Upon our return, we were able to get Sthembiso for visits, he was overwhelmed and traumatized. We are thankful his social worker at the time and his current social worker realized that he needed to be with us. After Sthembiso turned four years old, he was placed back with us. You have no idea what a little one goes through during something like this, and it was a long time before we could be out of his sight without him constantly asking if he had to go back to the other house.

We have been asking for you all to pray with us for our permanent residence exemption.

Sthembiso was the compelling reason for the basis of the application. After three years of waiting for our response, we were very disappointed to see that we had been declined. Unfortunately, we did not know at that time that Sthembiso had Asperger's, which adds a whole new level to things. The minister said there were plenty of foster homes available for Sthembiso to go to. Can you imagine the trauma for a nine-year-old with special needs who has experienced love and stability for most of his life to be uprooted and put under the care of someone who does not understand his special needs? Very few professionals, let alone the normal public have any idea about Asperger's.

Our lawyer has said that we can appeal to the high courts to get the decision overturned, and time is of the essence. The cost can run up to R150,000.00 (\$10,000.00). We are thankful for a group who have agreed to put up the funds, but we do need to reimburse them as much as we can raise. A question that keeps coming to our mind is, "How much is a life worth?". The Lord has promised Sthembiso to us, and that is what his name means. His life will go on a downward spiral if we cannot get this paperwork overturned and adopt him. Please be in prayer as to what the Lord would have you do to help. ~Marv and Marie Bjorklund

# Community KIDS

Community Kids are thriving!

God promises that He can do much more than we can imagine and we are seeing that in action.

Last month Stacy and Rita took 5 of the young Community Kids on a trip with the Let's Go Fishing organization.

It was a huge success! Those 5 kids caught a total of 35 fish! It was one Kids first time catching a fish, plus first time on a boat. Such great memories were made. The crew of LGF were terrific to work with and so very patient. THANK YOU!!

After fishing, we went swimming and played in the sand. It was a wonderful Minnesota summer day.

At the end of July the two CK Teens attending camp at Lake Geneva Christian Center arrived at camp to find that they even got a bunk room with air conditioning! They were thrilled. When the week ended they both said that it was great and that they made new friends. We are hoping to hear more stories from them.

Seeds were sown and we are praying for growth.

Each time we gather these kids together we realize what a privilege it is to be welcomed into their lives, to be trusted by them and their parents and to be supported by TRCM while doing it!

Thank you all for your prayers and support.

God is so faithful!

~Rita Lotti

"Now to him who is able to do above and beyond all that we ask or think according to the power that works in us-- to him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen."

*Eph. 3:20-21*



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Volume 23 Issue 3, August 2022

## Future Newsletters

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## Social Media Reminder

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