

New Roots Review

December 2018 Edition

Your Response to the Savior's Call is Noted

by Fred Wilgenburg

President George H.W. Bush, who recently died, comes to my mind as I write this newsletter. I like this quote about him: "Bush was not a man who was born on third base and thought he hit a triple. He worked his whole life to earn that position in retrospect" (<https://thefederalist.com/2018/12/03/service-george-h-w-bushs-privilege/>). He was aware of his privileges, and he went on to make the best of it. He got an education at Yale University, but before that, as an 18 year old high school graduate, he signed up and became a naval aviator in World War II. He did those things, and most of the rest of his career to make the best of it, which for him meant "service" to his country. From the same article quoted above, ... "Bush embodied in many ways the ethos of the New England aristocracy from which he was begotten, including the idea that to whom much is given, much is expected."

I am grateful that over the past twenty years, I have directed non-profit ministries which have received much support from believers in God who realize they have been given much—salvation along with other faith-benefits as children of God (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit), family, health, opportunities for fulfilling employment, accessible education, healthcare, to name a few. To this, Jesus said at the close of one of his parables: "From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked" (Luke 12:48b).

"Thank-you" for supporting ministry that seeks to give people the opportunity "to make the best of it." "Thank-you," whether your support is given to New Roots Ministry, or to other ministries which are also making a positive difference in people's lives.

Know that support of New Roots Ministry impacts the lives of immigrants and former refugees who have come to the US quite recently—some came this past year, many came 5-10 years ago, some came up to 25 years ago. Know that support given here serves as an equipper, and as a catalyst, as the people we serve are often helping their loved ones and the people of their native country:

- ◆ In many countries, substantial fees are required for children to receive education, so those (—>)



**NEW ROOTS
MINISTRY**



There's nothing like joining a family or friends for a meal or beverage to get to know them well. It's an opportunity to express gratitude, to have good discourse, and to experience new things.

If you are interested but uncertain how, please let me know as I have former-refugee & immigrant friends who would welcome the opportunity.

Donations are always appreciated! Gifts can be given through our website—
www.sfnewroots.com/donate/

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- ◆ Many aspire to finish college degrees or to begin college so ultimately they can have employment aligned with how God has gifted them.

- ◆ **A new expansion of New Roots Ministry is formally helping individuals strategically plan for achieving their goals, including navigating what can be the complicated system of higher education.** Former board member, Rod Ledebauer, will help lead this exciting new initiative.

What blessings many of us have! Based on that, thank-you for heeding the Savior's call to serve, and to give.

**I pray for a blessed Christmas season for you and your loved ones!
May God bless your 2019 in profound ways!**

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who are blessed to now live in developed countries like the US, send money to fund the education of others.

- ◆ Many people still have family members in refugee camps as that can last for years. There, they often live at subsistence levels, so financial help from family members in the US is needed.
- ◆ Some former refugees have begun impactful ministry work in their native countries— orphanages, schools, financial assistance for the underprivileged— while living in the US where they have good employment so they can send the necessary money.

What is New Roots Ministry?
It's "a springboard for immigrants & their churches." This is done through workplace chaplaincy (both as Fred is chaplain for 17 hours/week at Smithfield Foods & as we are training & placing bilingual chaplains on commercial farms), through Timothy Leadership Training, through hosting special educational events, through empowering refugee/immigrant pastors, leaders, and their churches—they speak with us in churches, we send a newsletter, we find partnering churches, we advise on the development of ministries, through offering unique Service Opportunities—serve in a store owned by refugees or immigrants, then hear their stories, and our newest thing, through helping individuals strategically plan for achieving their goals, including higher education if needed.