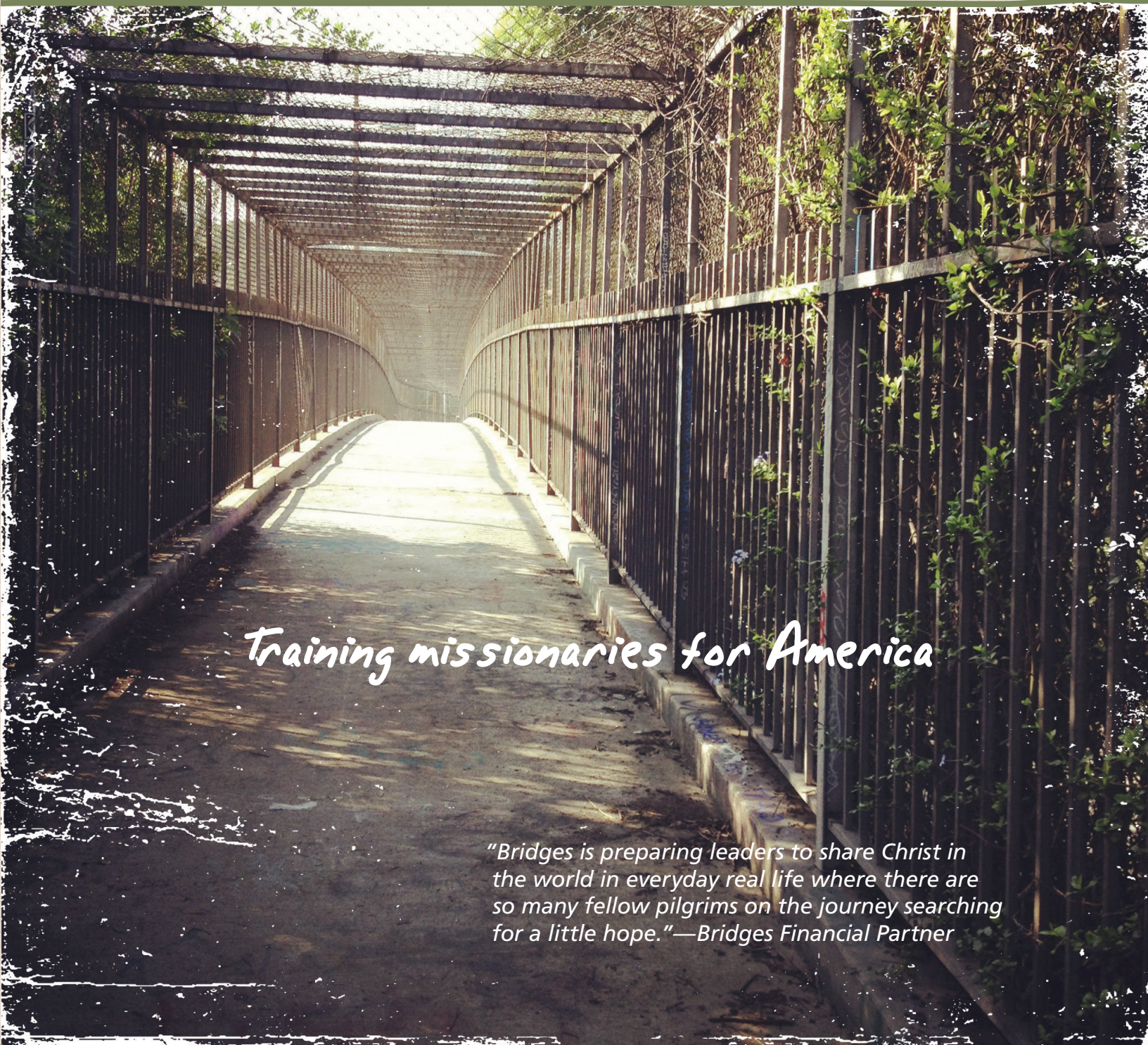




Bridges

*Annual Report
2014-2015*



Training missionaries for America

"Bridges is preparing leaders to share Christ in the world in everyday real life where there are so many fellow pilgrims on the journey searching for a little hope."—Bridges Financial Partner

State of the Movement — By Jim Milley

Thank you for investing in the ministries of our Bridge Leaders. God is changing lives. Together, we are making a difference in America.

Bridges is growing rapidly. Now we are supporting 67 leaders, up from 40 leaders last year at this time. That's 67% growth. At this rate, we will be supporting over 100 leaders and their ministries by Jan 2016. This year our impact spread out across America with leaders now serving in Maryland, Tennessee, Washington and Indiana.



At least 460 people from outside existing churches are beginning to follow Jesus. Sam and Priya Theophylus launched Beautiful Gate this year, the first worshipping community to spin off from Bridges and become their own incorporated entity. You can read more about their story on the next page. We are praying for many more.

You are an essential part of this movement. Thank you for praying. Thank you for giving. Thank you for helping Bridge Leaders with your skills and time.

With joy,

Jim

More Bridge Leaders making more disciples in more areas!



1300 lives touched

460 new disciples being mentored

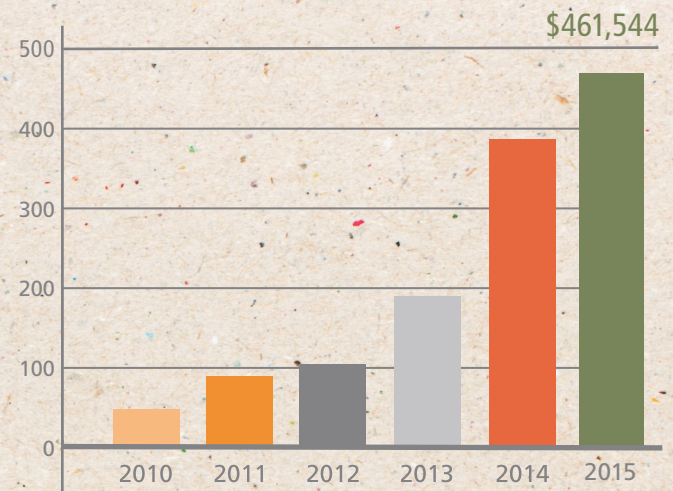
21 groups formed



So how'd we do?

Discipling Activities	June 2013	April 2014	April 2015
Bridge Leaders Responding	15	20	30
Community Groups Joined	13	66	107
Intentional Friendships	66	337	1066
Mentoring & Discipling	15	209	486

Bridges Total Annual Income



Beautiful Gate Community Launched

The Beautiful Gate Community is thriving! In January, Bridge Leaders Sam and Priya Theophylus launched a Christ-following community in Los Feliz, CA, among artists and spiritual seekers. It is the first "church" in Los Feliz in 40 YEARS! In just six months they have: worshipped weekly in a rented space in the city center, led city-wide prayer initiatives in partnership with other churches, organized popular Open Mic Nights for the community, and hosted representatives from the world's largest church in Korea to train them in Bridges' missionary skills for a post-Christian context. The Beautiful Gate incorporated in the state of CA, making it Bridge's first official "spinoff" community. BeautifulGate.LA



"If Jesus were here today, I'd hang out with him."—regular attender

From the Board

THANK YOU for enabling Bridges to equip Missionaries for America! It is our exciting privilege to ensure that Bridges' financial, material, and human resources are leveraged with creativity and stewarded with integrity.



Kevin Sheldahl

Kevin Sheldahl runs an investment advisory firm focused on wealth management and financial planning. He fills the Board's financial oversight role as the official CFO of Bridges. He also enjoys mountain biking, golf, and hanging out with friends and family.

"I love Bridges because it strives ardently to communicate the message of Jesus to people from all walks of life, thereby changing lives and helping create deeper communities of faith."



Jorge Vazquez

Jorge is an outdoorsman, scientist and a friend to his colleagues at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory. He loves biking, skiing, kayaking and anything that allows him to be in God's creation.

"I love Bridges because as well as serving others, it allows me to grow in my own Christian faith as I build personal relationships with people."



Karen Berns

Seeing the reality that our own neighborhoods have become a mission field, Karen joined the Board of Bridges to continue

her life-long commitment to helping people experience God's presence and live for God's mission. Karen recently retired from 40 years of pastoral work within churches across the US.



Greg Jones

Greg has been practicing law in Greater LA for nearly 30 years.



Mike Gibney

Working for IBM, Mike Gibney provides business consulting for large companies around the world.

Resource Review

Human Resources:

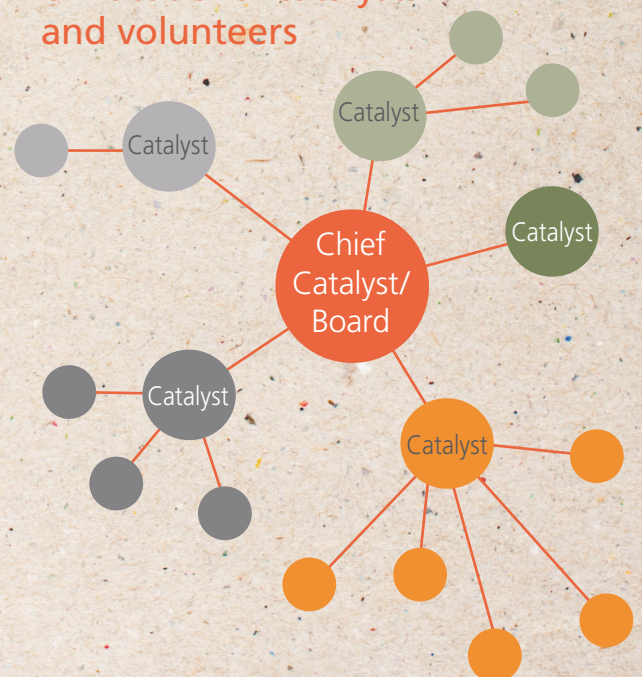
- We grew from 2 to 5 Catalysts (Administration, Communications, Finance, Partner development, Expansion). Catalysts report to Chief Catalyst Jim Milley and may hire sub-contractors under them.
- We're forming a team of 10 committed volunteers to serve in partner development.
- And 10 more to care for our Bridge Leaders

NEW!

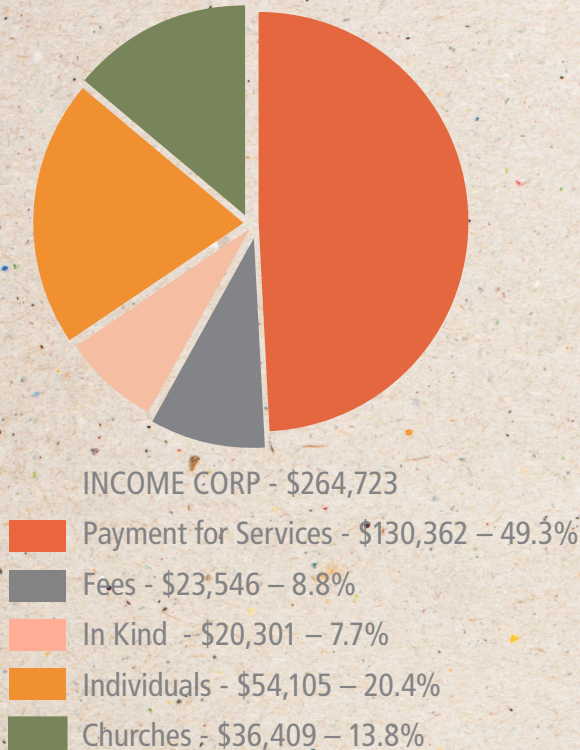
Material Resources:

- Bridges lowers her overhead by not owning or renting property, computers, phone systems or private jets. :)
- Rent-free office space is provided by Glendale Presbyterian Church.

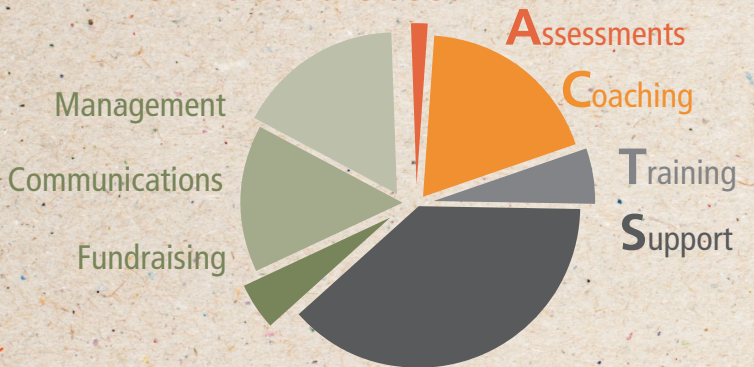
Keeping HR costs low with bi-vocational catalysts and volunteers



Financial Resources: Bridges Corporate Income



How funds are used



Overhead is now at 35%, continuing our downward trend.

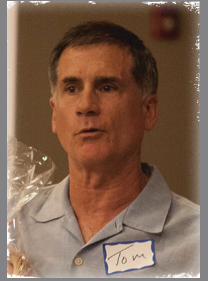
for the 12 months ending June 30, 2015

Contributions are solicited with the understanding that the Board of Directors of Bridges has complete control and discretion over the use of all donated funds.

Message from Tom King, Chairman of the Board

I love Bridges stories...

When people ask me what Bridges does, I often start with fairly mundane language that usually includes words like **administrative, technical, support, assistance**. Helping Bridge leaders with the mundane tasks is the backbone of what we do at Bridges and it is well worth stating.



Soon though, I transition to the more exciting descriptors of how we help Bridge leaders be more effective at what they do. I use words like **training, coaching, enhancement and building**. These aspects help Bridge Leaders better serve this world. They ensure that Bridge Leaders are more successful in their ministries.

But I always finish with a Bridge Leader's story. Their stories are a reflection of God's saving grace, of mercy and sacrifice, of reconciliation and blessing. Their stories are beautiful examples of God's love for his people. They are **powerful, exciting, captivating and uplifting**.

Bridge Leaders are the reason Bridges exists.

Tom

*Thank you for the part
you play in these
Bridge Leaders' stories.*

Have you heard our stories?



Margarita: I'm bridging among Spanish-speaking immigrants...



John: I'm bridging among artists in North Hollywood..



Anne: I'm bridging among my grandchildren...

Follow our ongoing stories online!
www.bridgesus.org

Investing in Bridges Means:

Maximum Impact, Minimum Cost

The minimum amount needed to fund:



a traditional church plant: \$200,000 per year



a foreign missionary: \$70,000 per year



a church revitalization consultant: \$25,000 per year

a Bridge Leader: \$4,000 per year

Bridge Leader

Disciple



Cissy Brady-Rogers

Is bridging to women of all life stages with wellness resources.

Cissy founded and directs Alive & Well Women, a non-profit that partners with women who want their faith in Christ to be at the center of changing their relationship with their body. Cissy is a psychotherapist, university teacher, health coach, yoga instructor and certified spiritual director. Through workshops, retreats and consultations, she helps women like Sharon Song find compassionate, life-giving ways to care for themselves even as they pour out their lives for others.

"I think it is so important for people – congregations and individuals and pastors – to get out of the mindset that the church is a building and all the stuff that the word 'church' conjures up automatically."

—Board Member Karen Berns

The Bridges model is a much more 'Acts 29' model as Berns sees it. The Book of Acts has 28 chapters – an 'Acts 29 model' refers to the next chapter that has yet to be written.



Sharon Song

How one woman's life was changed

Over-caffeinated, over- sugared, over-stressed, over- committed is how Sharon Song described herself. She was on the verge of burnout and completely disconnected from what her body really needed: "Alive and Well helped me learn to listen to my body— especially the stress that was telling me I needed better self- care. I learned that loving and caring for myself is a way to connect to God's love for me." Sharon lives and works in South Los Angeles with an urban ministry community. Inspired by her own transformation, Sharon became a certified fitness trainer and is training to be a spiritual director. She's committed to using what she's learned to support others in living healthy, sustainable, urban spiritual lives.

That \$4,000 nurtures Bridge Leaders through ACTS services



At Bridges, we don't train people and then send them into ministry. We find people doing ministry and offer them the support and training they need.



Self-Assessment Surveys

Collaborating with Assessment specialist, Dr. Gaithri Fernando, Bridges finalized 5 surveys to measure Bridge Leaders' growth. Taken annually, the assessments help Bridge Leaders understand their strengths and weaknesses and celebrate their development over time.

Coaching



We provided 540 Coaching sessions to Bridge Leaders this year.

"Today I led my first Adult Discipleship meeting...We told stories. They had never done so before. It was awesome. I've learned a ton from you, Jim... I'm grateful for you and Bridges."—Bridge Leader Justin



"I want you to know that I count it a privilege to work with the Leaders. I coach. They are bright, motivated, love the Lord and are truly committed to seeing the Kingdom built here on earth. I am enriched in my own ministry by the ideas, joy and creativity I see in our Leaders."—Coach Julie Jones



Over 25 new Leaders engaged
Bridges' ACTS services this year!

Number of Bridge Leaders

Service	2013	2014	2015
Assessment	25	40	67
Coaching	18	35	55
Training	27	106	61
Support Groups	29	40	49
Support Accounts	9	13	20
Support Grants	0	0	3



Trainings

The 60+ attendees engaged together these topics at our two conferences: "Using Difference to Make a Difference" and "The Bi Vocational Life."

"The Bridges Conference is one of a kind when it comes to understanding and embracing a life of Missional Discipleship. The speakers and content were top notch!"—Attendee

Support Groups



A brand new **remote** support group launched, connecting Bridge Leaders from around the country on a monthly basis through video and conference calls.

"The highlight of my year came in participating in the community that developed around our Bridges Support Groups. The genuine listening, accountability and prayer of all of our leaders is something that I have never experienced in my life."—Support Group Leader Nick

Support Grants: Congratulations to the first three Bridge Leaders to qualify for \$3,000 matching support grants this year!



Connie Cobb

A Good Connection: The Power of Phone Ministry

For over a decade, Bridge Leader Connie has run "Operation Love" in North Hollywood, sharing the love of Jesus to neighbors by providing



food, clothing, school and medical supplies. But it was just recently that Connie realized, "Hey! I've been doing another ministry for much longer than this — I just didn't think of it that way." Connie realized that her time on the phone "counts" as ministry. For decades Connie has had the phone to her ear, pastoring and mentoring relatives who don't go to church, friends from her youth who haven't left their old lifestyles, and people that her own pastor refers to her. It is not uncommon for her to spend hours of her week listening to, encouraging and praying with these folks. Thank God for Connie's powerfully redemptive use of technology! And praise God for the ways his love crosses timezones.

Highlighted Events:

Jim visits Ethiopia. (June 2015)

The first non-US partners gave financially for missionaries in the USA.



First Staff Retreat (February 2015) Bridges core catalysts spent a weekend together building team and visioning for the new year.

Board & Bridge Leader Training (March 2015) Digging deeper into the core values of Bridges



Four More Vision Parties

Hosted by:
Betsy Hall & Cat Moore
The Olsons
The Erwins
The Fudges

Upcoming Events:

September: Bridges' In-depth Vision Event

November 13-15: Bridges Fall Training Conference at The Oaks in Lake Hughes, CA. Topic: Inner Healing



Expansion Opportunities:

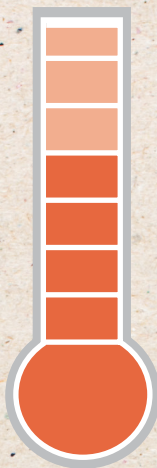
We are expanding in to the Bay Area, Orange County, Ohio, Washington DC, and elsewhere. Expansion Catalyst Ed Carlson spearheads this development work as a new and key volunteer.



\$8000
per year
can start
Bridges in
a whole
new city.

Let's Do It Together!

You are fully supporting **40** of our Leaders who are initiating and sustaining incredible ministry in their own neighborhoods.
27 more Bridge Leaders to go!



High-Impact Partnership Roles:

Sustaining Supporters commit to \$333 per month. They empower Bridge Leaders to start, develop, and replicate a whole new ministry among a new group of people.

2015 Matching Granters meet Bridge Leaders with \$3,000 at the milestone of raising their first \$3,000. With this combined funding, a Bridge Leader can launch and sustain their ministry.

WEBSITE EXPANSION

2015's KEY Investment Opportunity!

Here comes an essential online overhaul that will allow the simple on-boarding of THOUSANDS of Bridge Leaders nationwide. This user-created portal will allow new Bridge Leaders to sign up, find a coach and support group, set up a financial account, and sign all necessary compliance documents.

\$50,000 by December 31st will make it happen!

Contact Jim for a special project donation:
Jim@BridgesUS.org



Donate your car to a Bridge Leader!

Just drive your car into Bob Smith Toyota and ask for Mike or Pete. They'll take care of everything: 800-262-7648
3333 Foothill Blvd, La Crescenta, CA

Armand

Beginning discipleship at a used car dealership?

Armand was depressed. Despite his best efforts, his marriage and business were falling apart. In a "chance" meeting and initial conversation, standing in the lot of a used car dealership, a Bridge Leader asked, "Would you like to try something different? What if we met together and put energy into strengthening your relationship with God?" Armand was ready. He met with the Bridge Leader the very next day and weekly after that. Despite being over 50 years old, Armand had never read the Bible before. Every verse was brand new. Discipleship had begun even though Armand still wasn't sure what he believed about God or Jesus or even how he wanted to live the rest of his life. And discipleship continues. In his own words he responds to the Bridge Leader's involvement in his life: "Thank you for meeting me today. You are reintroducing God into my life." Out of his gratitude for what God is doing through this discipleship relationship, Armand continues to offer Bridges his professional expertise in film-making to help Bridges effectively share impact stories, like his own. Your support enables Armand's discipleship!



Financial Partners: Thank you for enabling our Bridge Leaders to be trained and nurtured as they partner with God's initiatives outside of church walls.

Doug & Marie Abajian
Jean Aichele
Patricia Aleman
Roy & Mary Ashford
Howard & Rhoda Backer
Mr. & Mrs. Bagley

"I have met many of the Bridges leaders and find their enthusiasm and passion for God inspiring. I am happy to share the monetary blessing that God has provided with others to be a small help to them so they can use their talents to further God's kingdom on earth."
—Bridges Donor

Jason Barraca
Jon & Donna Barstad
Sara Bauer
Bob & Cindy Beart
Bryant & El Benitez
Leo & Freney Berkenbile
Don & Karen Berns

Allen & Judy Brock
David & Melea Brock
Bob & Martha Brumfield
George Buehler
Burbank Presbyterian Church
Paul & Katherine Burke
Rafeek Bushra
John Cagle
Bruce Calkins
Donald & Louise Cameron
Joanna Capelle
Ed & Shirley Carlson
Christ Presbyterian Church of Hollywood
Doris Coates
Clark & Kim Cowden
Eric & Susan Crawford
Phil & Ahn Crowley
Bill & Karlene Cunningham
Puri David
Elsa Lee Day
Pat & Elsa Lee Day
Eric Derrington
Paul & Debbie Detterman
Dan & Janette Draney
June & Ken Durr
Chris Duryee

FBRG Insurance Services
First Presbyterian Church of Burbank
Rob & Ginny Fisher
Andrew Floren
Joel & Anna Forsberg
David Frame
John & Gini Frederich
Gilbert & Carolyn Gazanian
Geneva Presbyterian Church
Glendale Presbyterian Church

"I feel a strong desire to follow Jesus' instruction to spread his teachings to all the ends of the earth. Supporting Bridges is one way I feel like I am putting that desire into action."—Bridges Donor

Joel Karahadian
Scott & Deena Keys
Hugh & Marilyn Kilpatrick
Lori & Eric King
Tom & Nancy King
Scott Kinnes
Nate & Kathy Knochel
Knox Presbyterian Church
Scott & Karen Kovach
La Canada Presbyterian Church

Our Giving is Growing!

	2013	2014	2015
Donors	26	108	176
New Donors	26	88	106
Gifts	47	356	600

6x in 2 years

80 new donors

12-fold increase

Exciting News!

Presbytery of San Fernando increased their annual commitment from \$60,000 to \$128,000.

"Please know that Bridges is a trusted partner in ministry with San Fernando Presbytery. Jim is a crucial leader in our presbytery and has a vision that we strongly endorse. Recently I was able to attend a vision meeting with some of the Bridges leaders and came away very encouraged by the caliber of people the program is attracting."—Ken Baker, Executive Presbyter

Maria Beuchel
Alex & Janet Boggs
Steve Boshear
Jerry & Minnie Bowden
Dave & Cissy Brady-Rogers
Suzanne Bravender

Jim & Janet Eddy
Richard Erickson
Paul & Joyce Erwin
Michele Evert
Delphine Fanfon
James & Rebecca Farlow

Richard & Susan Gentilucci
Cheryl Gibson
John & Jordean Giese
Andy & Debbie Gilmour
William Goldmann
Growing Pains
Roger Gulick
Alan & Ruth Gurd
Herb & Rosalie Hall
Betsy Hall
Dana Hall
Bill & Peggy Hanna
Valerine Hardy
Lewis & Julia Hastings
Hope Christian Fellowship
Gary & Mary Hopkins
Charlotte Hopkins
Tim Hunt
Luke Hyder
Gwen Ingram
Michael Jew

La Crescenta Presbyterian Church
Jennifer Lavecchia
Catherine Lawrence
Mark & Eunice Lee
Legacy of Christian Vision
Till & Terry Liepmann
Robert Logan
William Loufik
Randy & Cheryl Lovejoy

Sponsors:

Burbank Presby Church
Geneva Presbyterian Church
Glendale Presbyterian Church
Knox Presbyterian Church
La Cañada Presbyterian Church
Presbytery of San Gabriel
Presbytery of the Pacific
Presbytery of San Fernando
San Marino Community Church
YMCA

Carrie Lovejoy
J B Lovejoy
Bob & Maureen Lucas
Dawn Malcolm
Shawn McCain
Jean Marie McCullough
James McPherson
Ted & Betsy Merchant
Patricia Milley
Marcia Milley
Jim & Debbie Milley
Missionwell LLC
John & Mary Ellen Mohler
Jonathan & Cheryl Molinatto
Ed & Jill Moss
Gary Mullen
Mike & Marianne Murphy
Naveen Nagaraj
Bill & Sarah Nagel
Pramod & Shwetha Ninan
Jeffrey & Bania Norman
Mike & Cathie Patrick
Tom & Christa Peitzman
David Perry

"I know your ministry is having a huge positive impact in people's lives."—LouAnn Stropoli, Mission Director, local church

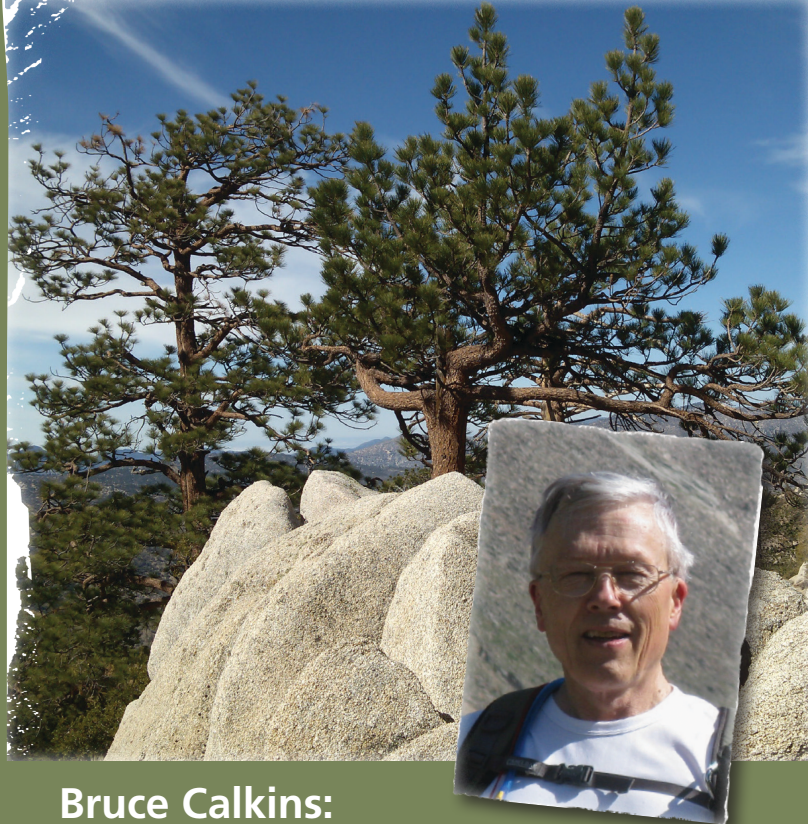
Mike Smith
Scott & Anne Somers
Leandra Soop
Soroptimist International of Baldy View
Russ & Jennifer Stanton
John & Amy Stone
Al & Maria Sun
Teresa Sutherland
Linda Taix
Jon & Beth Teran
The Gay Christian Network
Sam & Priya Theophylus
Rob & Laurie Tribken
Robert Vassy
Christopher Via
Voyagers Club
Doug & Joyce Wachsmuth
Jim & Jeanne Wallace
Nick & Whitney Warnes

"I've been partnering with Bridges since it launched. Why? Because there's a need there to reach people that aren't going to go to a church, particularly a formal church. What stands out to me about Bridges compared to other organizations is the focus on involving people in their own context, training people to do ministry where they are."—Bridges Donor

Shannon Phipps
Charlie Plowman
Michael Porter
Fred & Becky Potter
Presbytery of San Fernando
Presbytery of San Gabriel
Jeff & Katie Rector
Julie & Michael Ressler
Rick Ridgway
Doug Rominger
Herbert & Anna Marie Rottenbacher
San Marino Community Church
L A Schwind
Jeanne Shaffer
Kevin & Diane Sheldahl
Donna Sider
Kemp Smeal

Charles & Lois Westphal
Isaac & Archana Wilson
Tyler Wright
Robert Wu
Phoebe Wyland
Paul & Elizabeth Yoo
Scott & Karen Young
Allan & Pat Yuen

"Meeting in homes, meeting in the marketplace – it is a very culturally appropriate model that doesn't try to 'lay anything on' people, but instead invites them into a relationship with God through Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit."—Karen Berns



Bruce Calkins: God's Mountainside Surprises

Here's Bruce's story in his own words:

Hiking has become an "accidental ministry." It is a surprise. Sometimes I hike alone and don't see anyone for 8 or 9 hours. Sometimes there are other hikers, and only a few words are exchanged. However, there are times when someone needs help or directions or water. Sometimes I've needed help or directions or water. Then someone has ministered to me. Most of the folks on the trail are (shall we say) "outside the church." I don't ask them about their faith; but some ask me what I believe, what I do, why I changed from physics to ministry. Some tell me about their beliefs, questions, and fears.

Last week, on the way down from Jones Peak, another hiker called out to me. We walked down together. We talked about trails he had built and mountains he had climbed. We talked about his professional tennis career, the aneurysm that nearly killed him, his personal faith, his upcoming divorce, and the fact that he's living out of his car. That took an hour. In the parking lot, we spoke for another 30 minutes. He had shared a lot about his beliefs and the crises he was facing. I asked, "Do you want me to pray now?" He said, "Yes."

We prayed. And we said we hoped to meet again on the trail.

*Make disciples as you go, submerge them in
the Trinitarian reality, and train them to do
everything that I commanded you. And look-
I am with you until the job is done.*

Matthew 28:18-20
paraphrase by Dallas Willard, theologian



Bridges

www.BridgesUS.org

Join the movement!

Bridges - 466 Foothill Blvd., Suite 320, La Cañada, CA 91011 - (818) 275-1821 - Jim@BridgesUS.org