

## **MISSIONS FOCUS**

Our Missionaries, their health and ministries affected by Covid-19

## Missio Dei Oakland, (MDO Bay Area, CA)

From today's bulletin / Missions Report from Missions Team

**Missio Dei Oakland** (MDO Bay Area, CA) – Pastor Alex Schweng along with their growing staff and partners serve the urban poor. MDO's vision is to exalt Jesus Christ and see His kingdom shine in the brokenness of our world. This past July started the 12<sup>th</sup> year of ministry in Oakland and has grown to serve other cities of great need. Pastor Alex is turning 50 this year and is also becoming an empty nester. One of his prayer requests is for freedom to truly discern and hear God's call so that he will serve well in this next chapter of life.

An example of how MDO is fulfilling its vision is this story of Tariq, a new member of one of their house churches. "For many people in our world, if you see Tariq (or someone who looks like Tariq) walking toward you on a street in Oakland, you feel scared. I totally get it. His life has been filled with trauma since childhood and he's also caused pain along the way. Shot multiple times, once in the head, but survived. A couple years in prison. Now trying to figure out his life...

There are a lot of guys who do not want change in their lives. Tariq is not one of them. Coming out to house church, discipleship time, job hunting, wanting a Godward life and one that blesses others. The Spirit is alive, working all around us. Thank you for your support to get us on the street and meet people who want a new life in Christ ...but just need a church that will meet them where they're at."

Thank you for reading about and praying for our missionaries, the countries and people locally and globally served!