



# HALL family



## Greeting Letter

Dear Pastor,

My name is Baraka Hall, missionary to Ghana, West Africa. My family and I are members and are sent out of Crossroads Baptist Church under the leadership of Pastor Kenny Baldwin. I was reached as a bus kid at First Baptist Church of Hammond, Indiana. I began working in the ministry as a teenager and have seen many Deaf saved, grow in Christ, and become fruitful soul winners. My burden is to reach more Deaf around the world and to train them to become effective and fruitful soul winners.

Our desire is to work with Fundamental Baptist Church International in Ghana, West Africa, to plant a Deaf church. We want to see Deaf people saved and train them to become soul winners. In addition, we have a strong burden to reach their hearing families for Christ. This will be most effective through the ministries of our Ghana Team. Our vision is to train the Deaf and either send them to plant a Deaf church or to work with regional pastors and establish Deaf Ministries to coincide with ministries of the regional pastors.

This will take much labor and sacrifice. We are ready to reach the Deaf in Ghana, West Africa. We invite you to pray and consider partnering with us in this effort through your prayers and finances. Please contact me if you would allow us to share our burden and calling with you and your church.

If I can serve you in any way, please allow me to do so.

Baraka Hall  
Team Ghana

### SENDING CHURCH

Crossroads Baptist Church  
Dr. Kenneth K. Baldwin, Pastor  
703.845.0017  
info@ourcrossroads.org  
ourcrossroads.org

### MISSIONS AGENCY

FBMI, Missionary #6117  
507 State Street  
Hammond, IN 46320  
fbmi.org | 219.228.2850



### MAILING ADDRESS

Baraka Hall  
849 Indiana Street  
Hammond, IN 46320

### CONTACT INFORMATION

barakahall@fbmi.org  
219.487.9211  
rockyandmelanie.hall  
fbmi.org/missionary/hall



## Personal Testimonies

### *Baraka Hall*

I was born hearing in Chicago, Illinois. At the age of 3½, I contracted spinal meningitis and from that became Deaf. I lost all communication with my family and felt very isolated. As a result, my behavior, as you can imagine, was horrible. At the age of 11, my friend was talking about church. I wanted to go to this Deaf church to be with my friends. So I gave him my address, which he then gave to his bus captain. That Sunday I was on my way to the First Baptist Church of Hammond, Indiana. After misbehaving on the bus ride home, a lady worker called me to the front of the bus and shared the Gospel with me. I remember that day receiving hope as I accepted Christ as my Saviour.

During camp at the age of 12, I felt God was calling me to preach. I surrendered to His will and went forward. It wasn't until high school that I really struggled with this decision. You see, I played football all four years. I was an all-star captain at a 6A school. I had many college scholarship offers. The University of Florida, the Gators, came to my school to recruit me. I really wrestled with this decision. A godly man came to me and offered his advice. He said if I went to play for the Gators, I might end up messing up my life; who knows? He continued by saying that if I went to Bible college, I could serve God. That struck me—serving God! I put aside all my scholarships and decided to go to Hyles-Anderson College.

It was my second year at college, during a Missions-Emphasis Week, that God began tugging on my heart to be a missionary. I really didn't want to leave the comforts that I had here in America. However, I told God I would go. I knew God wanted me to go to Africa, but it wasn't until we had our annual Pastors' School when the Ghana Team was launched that God revealed it to me. He struck my heart and said, "That's where I want you to go."

On my survey trip to Ghana, He confirmed that calling. I traveled with a veteran international missionary to the Deaf. He told me to pray that God would show us some Deaf, because not always do you get to meet them while traveling. On my two-week survey trip, I met over 700 Deaf people. I met Deaf people every day. God showed me His ministry for me.

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## Personal Testimonies

### *Melanie Hall*

I started attending church at the age of four as a bus kid. I recall hearing the Gospel multiple times in Sunday school, Junior Church, and Vacation Bible School. Each time it was presented, I raised my hand and prayed to make sure I had a home in Heaven. Finally, in third grade my Sunday school teacher at Community Baptist Church of Andalusia, Illinois, made it clear to me that I could never be good enough to earn salvation and I could never do anything to lose it. I understood that gift was Jesus, and He alone had the power to save me. That day I put my faith in Him, and it has been settled in my heart ever since.

I grew up in a very dysfunctional family. My parents are Deaf and Hard of Hearing and were, at that time, very heavy drug addicts. My sisters and I were left to our own doings and were never disciplined. We were our teachers' worst nightmares. Oftentimes, after sharing my testimony, people have accused me of being the poster child for "Jesus saves." However, it was different at church. It was a place of refuge. I remember going to church to feel loved and accepted.

I thank God for a youth pastor and his family who invested in me. I started going soul winning at the age of 13. My youth pastor and his family would invite me to their home every weekend so that I would be able to work on the bus route with them. They took time to disciple me and show me what a Christian family looked like. They would bring me into their home to eat and fellowship with the missionary family they were hosting. It was at our missions conference that I surrendered to be a missionary. I laugh now, because I told God, "Anywhere but Africa!"

In high school I had a strong desire to attend our Christian school. However, because of my parents' addictions, they could not afford food, much less a Christian education. At the age of 15, I moved in with my aunt and got a job cleaning empty apartments and the complexes to pay for school. I am so thankful that God gave me this opportunity. I know, without a doubt, that had I not made this change, I would have never attended Hyles-Anderson College.



# HALL family



## My Calling

At the age of twelve, I went to a Deaf Camp in Mount Salem, West Virginia. The entire week filled with great fun and amazing preaching. It was during that week that God was really working on my heart. It was after the Thursday evening preaching service that I told my pastor what God had laid upon my heart, and I surrendered to preach.

I returned home, and one evening in a dream, God impressed upon my heart to go to Africa to preach. I awoke and told my mother about this dream. She told me it was just a dream. I returned to bed, and God showed me yet again that I would be preaching in Africa.

While at Hyles-Anderson College, I surrendered to be a missionary to Africa. Later First Baptist Church announced that they would be sending a team to Ghana. God impressed upon my heart again that I should join Team Ghana and reach the Deaf there.



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## Doctrinal Statement

**SCRIPTURES** — We believe in the verbal, plenary inspiration of the Bible. The Old and New Testament are definitely inspired word for word. We accept the Textus Receptus manuscripts from which came the King James Bible. The Scripture is the final authority in all matters of faith and practice.

**SOVEREIGN GOD** — God is a Person, eternally existing as a Trinity in unity—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—three Persons and yet but one God. (Deuteronomy 6:4; Matthew 28:19; I Corinthians 8:6)

**SON** — Jesus Christ, eternally existing, is the only begotten Son of God, Who became a man totally apart from sin, being conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary, and is true God and true man. (Luke 1:30-35; John 1:1-15; Philippians 2:5-8; Colossians 1:15)

**SIN** — Man was created in the image of God but fell through sin, bringing not only physical death but also spiritual death—separation from God. Now all mankind is totally depraved, having inherited a sinful nature; is bent toward sinning; and has become sinful in thought, word, and deed. (Genesis 1:26, 27; 2:16, 17; 3:6-19; Romans 3:10-23; 6:23)

**SACRIFICE** — The Lord Jesus Christ suffered and died as a substitutionary sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. He arose from the dead in the body in which He was crucified; He ascended into Heaven in the glorified body where He is seated at the right hand of God the Father as Head of the Church, making intercession for the saints as our High Priest. (Luke 24; Acts 1:9-11; Romans 5:8-10; Ephesians 1:20-23; I Peter 3:18)

**SALVATION** — Man is lost and must be born again to enter the Kingdom of God. Salvation is by grace alone through personal faith in the finished work of Christ on the Cross. (John 1:12; 3:3-7; Ephesians 2:8,9)

**SERVICE** — The local church is a group of believers baptized by water; banded together for edification, exhortation, and evangelism as commanded by Christ in the Great Commission; preaching the Gospel to every creature. (Mark 16:15; I Corinthians 12:12; Ephesians 1:22, 23)

**SECOND COMING** — The Lord Jesus Christ Himself is coming again in the air at any moment to catch up His Church and to reward their service. The unbelievers left behind will go through a period called the Tribulation, after which Christ shall return visibly to the earth to set up His Kingdom of one thousand years of righteous rule. After this the unbelievers of all ages will stand at the Great White Throne to be judged and cast into the Lake of Fire, separated from God forever, while the believers spend eternity in the fullness of joy in Heaven with the Lord. (Matthew 24:29-42; I Thessalonians 4:16-18; Revelation 19:11-20:15)

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July 27, 2015

Dear Friend,

I would like to recommend the Hall family to your for prayerful consideration for financial support. Baraka & Melanie Hall are true servants of God. They are "go-getters", soul-winners, prayer warriors, and sincere Christians who desire to do a great work in the country of Ghana. We have the privilege as a church to partner with them as they fulfill God's calling on their lives.

Bro. "Rocky", as a deaf man himself, has a passion for deaf people but even a greater passion for the Lord. His wife Melanie is fluent in sign language and is a wonderful complement to him. They, along with their precious children, will do a phenomenal work with the deaf. Here at Crossroads Baptist Church, they have been involved in several ministerial efforts and have led deaf to the Lord. They have willingly helped in any position needed, and I truly appreciate their servants' hearts.

I would sincerely ask that you would consider taking them on for financial support and expediting this process of getting them to the field as quickly as possible. Perhaps you could have them in your church to present their work. I know that your heart will be moved as mine has already. Without a doubt, they will be an asset to your mission's family and a great investment for you to make into God's kingdom.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me. Thank you for your consideration.

God bless,

Dr. Kenneth K. Baldwin  
Pastor

"EXCEPT THE LORD BUILD THE HOUSE, THEY LABOUR IN VAIN THAT BUILD IT..."



August 30, 2013

Dear Pastor and Church Family,

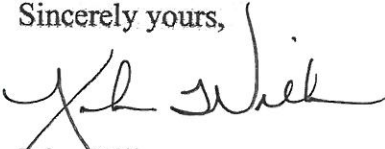
It is an honor to come to you to recommend Baraka and Melanie Hall for God's service with Team Ghana, where they will be starting a Deaf Ministry. They are fine couple, who are gifted to serve the Lord Jesus Christ in a unique way. Bro. Baraka is Deaf himself but travels with his wife who can audible interpret for him. Their sweet spirit and love for Jesus Christ will be obvious right away. Just having them in your church will be a delightful experience.

Baraka was reached at the age of eleven through our Bus Ministry. He has worked in the Deaf Ministry since 2000 in various capacities. He has also worked in various capacities with two different chapels in our Chapel Ministry.

I hope you will consider investing your missions dollars into a precious family like this. Any investment made in their lives and ministry and will bring eternal dividends. I sincerely hope you will consider supporting this fine couple.

If further questions exist, please feel free to contact me at (219) 932-0711.

Sincerely yours,



John Wilkerson  
Pastor

JW/km

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**First Baptist Church of Hammond**

507 STATE STREET | HAMMOND, IN 46320 | (219) 932-0711 | FBCHAMMOND.COM | JOHN WILKERSON, PASTOR



*Deaf Ministry  
First Baptist Church  
507 State Street  
Hammond, Indiana 46320*

**Soul-Winning Ministry**

**Bus Ministry**

**Sunday School**

**Interpreter in All Services**

**Deaf Women's Missionary  
Society**

**Deaf Activities**

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**Pastor:  
John Wilkerson**

**Deaf Pastor:  
John Cooper**

~

**(219) 932-0711**

**Fax (219) 228-2801**

Dear Pastor,

Baraka Hall is a fine Christian, a fervent soul winner, a caring father, and a loving husband. As a Sunday school teacher of deaf teenage young men, he spends time studying the Bible for his lessons, visiting his class members, and praying for their growth in the Lord. Both he and his wife are incredible assets to the Deaf Ministry of the First Baptist Church of Hammond, Indiana.

While attending college, Baraka felt the call of God upon his life to be a missionary to Africa. He focused his collegiate career accordingly, taking many missions and pastoral classes. Baraka and his wife Melanie both served with distinction in the Deaf Ministry of the First Baptist Church of Hammond under the leadership of Dr. Bill Schutt and at First Baptist Church of Roseland under the leadership of Bro. Ted Speer, the team leader of Team Ghana.

Having known Baraka since he was 12 years old, I enthusiastically recommend him as a missionary your church should consider supporting. He and his family are dedicated to the task of spreading the gospel to the deaf of Africa.

In Christ,



John Cooper  
Deaf Pastor

*"And in that day shall the deaf hear the words of the Book..." Isaiah 29:18a*



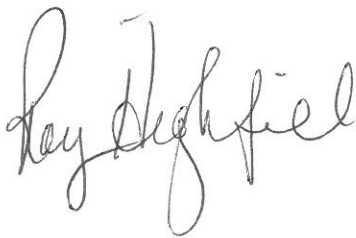
Ray Highfill  
3975 Calhoun St.  
Gary, Indiana

February 22, 2013

To Whom it may concern,

I have known Rocky Hall from his college days at Hyles-Anderson College and he has always shown himself to be a good solid Christian young man. Rocky and his wife, Melanie, have worked in the deaf department for several years. They are a vital part of the Deaf ministry. Rocky and Melanie have always been eager to serve the Lord. I believe Rocky and Melanie will be used greatly by the Lord where ever the Lord leads them to serve.

I am happy to recommend to you Rocky (Baraka) Hall and his wife Melanie. In the many years that I have known him he has shown his love of God, his desire to serve God, working with the deaf.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ray Highfill". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned in the lower-left area of the document.