

# Gary and Penney Sidle

## Zambia (Retired)

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**Birthdays:**

Gary: March 20  
Penney: July 25

**Anniversary:** June 21

Gary and Penney served for 24 years on the Africa Southeast Field in the countries of Malawi, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. They have three adult children who grew up in Zambia, Lindsay, Alyssa, and Josiah.

Gary and Penney had several roles while they were on the mission field:

Gary served as the Field Education Coordinator for the Africa Southeast Field. This extension education program is connected with the Nazarene Theological College of Central Africa (NTCCA) in Malawi. Gary served on the NTCCA Board of Trustees from 2004 to 2024. Both he and Penney taught classes in the extension program.

Penney served as the Children's Ministries Coordinator for Africa Southeast Field and oversaw the Child Sponsorship ministry in Zambia. She introduced the "Caravans" ministry to the field where it grew rapidly in many local churches. She was involved with Nazarene Compassionate Ministries including starting Child Development Centers in strategic communities and with starting and developing Nazarene Community Schools.

Gary served as the Field Work and Witness Coordinator and was involved with building training centers, district centers, churches and parsonages where needed. He brought in training teams, sports teams, children's and youth ministry teams, along with Jesus Film and evangelism teams.

They both served in an advisory capacity for the Jesus Film ministry and hosted the Jesus Film partnership teams.

Gary and Penney were both involved with the development and printing of materials for the Africa Southeast Field. This included setting up a literature office and purchasing various equipment needed to print discipleship materials, including Sunday School books, for all ages and in various languages.

Gary worked with the Africa Region and with the many artists and musicians in Zambia to write and produce songs to sing our Articles of Faith for the Church of the Nazarene. More recently, the last songs in English were completed here in the US and are scheduled to be launched in April 2025 by Lillenas Music (Church of the Nazarene).

Gary wrote a mission book entitled *The Smoke That Thunders* which highlights personal lessons learned the first couple years of their ministry in Zambia. Gary has enjoyed writing some songs and recording for Zambia gospel artists and for Alyssa's album along with playing drums and guitar. Gary conducted a weekly radio program that aired on the Radio Christian Voice network in Zambia.

In their prior ministries, Gary and Penney pastored two churches in West Virginia: the Clarksburg Church of the Nazarene from 1993-1998, and the Paden City Church of the Nazarene from 1998-2001. Gary worked with the Home Missions Board on the district and developed the Church Growth Institute that was involved in training and equipping small and medium size churches.

Gary enjoys music and songwriting along with sports. Penney enjoys reading and making cakes and was active with some women's ministry groups in Zambia.