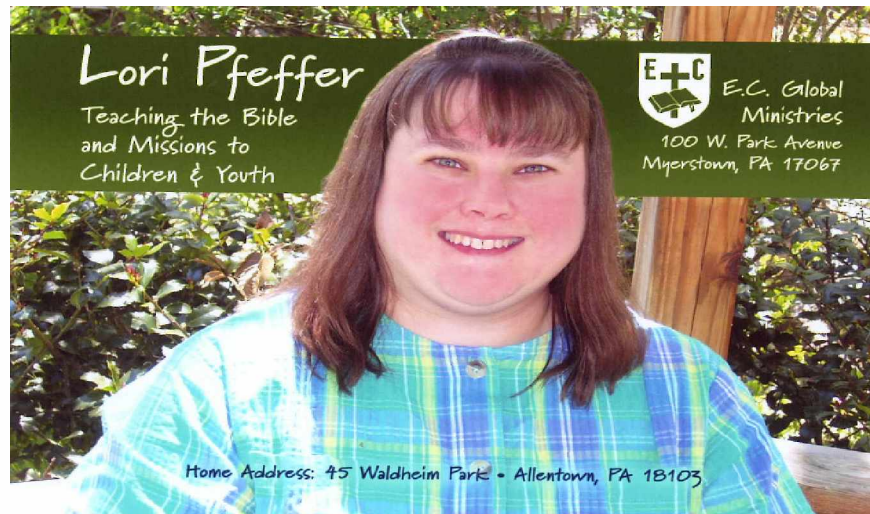




# GLOBAL MINISTRIES COMMISSION

of the Evangelical Congregational Church

Empowering National Churches • Facilitating Mission Workers • Ministering to the Marginalized



**Lori Pfeffer**

**Home Church: First E.C., Easton**

**Mission: BCM International**

**Birth Date: August 27**

**Commissioned: December 2, 1990**

When Lori Pfeffer began anticipating missionary service, she committed to go wherever the Lord would lead her. Lori always assumed she would serve the Lord overseas. What a surprise it was to realize the Lord had called her to a missionary position right here in the U.S. – not more than twenty miles from her hometown.

Lori was born and raised in Phillipsburg, New Jersey. She has been an active member of her home church, First E.C. Church in Easton, PA since 1977. She was commissioned as a missionary on December 2, 1990. Lori's birthday is August 27<sup>th</sup>. In her free time, Lori enjoys reading, photography, and counted cross-stitch. She enjoys music and plays the piano, the guitar, and sings.

Lori grew up in a Christ-centered home where her parents encouraged any activities that would help their children come to know, love, and honor God. This meant faithful attendance of all the Sunday and Wednesday services. Lori and her younger sister, Londa, were also involved in an after-school Bible Club (led by BCM missionaries) and Pioneer Girls. Vacation Bible School and Twin Pines Camp also played an important role in Lori's Christian growth and training. Lori admits, "I knew many facts about God, the Bible, and salvation but I didn't have a personal relationship with God."

High School proved to be a hostile environment for Lori. After her godly grandmother died of cancer, she sank deeper and deeper into depression. Thoughts of suicide became a daily obsession. When Lori was fifteen, her uncle took her and her cousins to a performance of the Passion play put on by Word of Life students. She recalls, "I was watching the actor, who was portraying Jesus, writhing in pain on the cross. That was when I understood that, while salvation was free, it wasn't

cheap. I saw that Jesus paid a terrible price for my sin. I knew I needed to repent and ask Jesus to be my Savior that very night.”

After graduating from high school, Lori went to a Christian college. She had a deep desire to serve the Lord wherever He would lead her and she wanted to be better prepared. During the summer between her sophomore and junior year of college, Lori knew the Lord was calling her as a missionary. She surrendered her life to “go anywhere and do anything the Lord might ask.” She graduated from Messiah College in 1985 with a B.A. in Christian Education.

Unsured of the next step to take after graduation, Lori returned home to New Jersey. During this time, she decided to volunteer in her home church doing whatever was needed. She was quickly put to work: directing Vacation Bible School, teaching the Primary Sunday school class, leading Sunday night children’s meetings, and playing piano for the youth choir.

As Lori became more and more involved with the children of her church, she also became aware of their many needs. Lori began to see the children of the neighborhood as an unreached mission field – her mission field. During this time, she was encouraged by her former Bible Club teacher to consider home missionary work with children. It came as no surprise when, in 1989, Charlotte Beitler (then a Bible Club/E.C. missionary) wrote and asked Lori to consider taking Charlotte’s place when she retired. Lori agreed to apply for the position and was accepted to serve both E.C. Division of Missions and BCM International in 1990.

Lori served with BCM International for almost eleven years. During that time she taught elementary-age children in after-school Bible Clubs which met in homes and churches. During the summer, she traveled to different churches to teach in their Vacation Bible Schools. She worked with the Mission-Minded Kids program and occasionally conducted junior missionary conferences and teacher training events. In 1999, Lori was recruited to write the Mission-Minded Kids curriculum for the E.C. Division of Missions. In early 2001, Lori decided to leave BCM and work solely for the E.C.D.O.M. where she continued the same ministry of teaching and writing.

Lori says her decision to leave BCM was the most painful and difficult decision of her life. However, within months it was clear that the Lord had been leading and was opening up new vistas of ministry for her. During this time, she began a day camp ministry at Waldheim Park and was accepted as a short-term teacher at Zaporozhye Bible College in Ukraine.

As 2008 rolled around, Lori was again feeling the winds of change. On September 1, 2008, Lori returned to BCM International to carry on her mission of “teaching the Bible and missions to children and youth.” Her current ministry includes: teaching after-school Bible Clubs, directing Waldheim Bible Day Camp, conducting teacher training events and junior missionary conferences.

Lori’s life verse is John 15:16, “You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit – fruit that will last.” Her desire is to teach children, leading them to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and discipling them. Her prayer is that one day her students will become teachers, leaders, pastors, and missionaries serving Christ and the Church.