

Curriculum Vitae 2021



REV. LUIS DANIEL ALBA PANTOJA, B.A., M.A., Th.M.
Tagalog Indigenous Name: *Lakan Sumulong*

Family:
*Married for 42 years with 3 young adult children
and 8 grandchildren*

Date of Birth:
19 November 1956

Place of Birth:
Lumban, Laguna, Philippines

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STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

My current spiritual journey has led me to commit my energies to help in the transformational development of the conflicted communities in Southeast Asia based on a Peace Theology. Submitting to God's sovereignty and motivated by the love of Jesus Christ, I envision to contribute to the salaam-shalom between various people groups representing different cultures and ideologies in this beautiful region. This renewed sense of the Holy Spirit's leading energizes me to live, learn, and share with the local communities. I am confident that, through a partnership with the local, national, and global People of God, especially the international peacemaking Christian community, God will heal our conflicted region.

MINISTRY SUMMARY

Handled different positions which required people-oriented skills, teaching & communication skills, relationship building, leadership performance, leadership development, measured productivity, and flexible attitude towards unforeseen situations. These positions include working in the fields of *collegiate level teaching, community development team building, senior pastoral staff leadership, investment funds management, global mission leadership* and *cross-cultural peacebuilding team leadership*.

ACADEMIC BACKGROUND

Bachelor of Arts in Theology, *Febias College, Valenzuela City, Philippines, 1979*
Master of Arts in Asian Studies, *University of the Philippines, Diliman, QC, Philippines, 1982*
Master of Theology, *Vancouver School of Theology, University of British Columbia, Canada, 2002*

CURRENT OCCUPATIONS

President & CEO, *PeaceBuilders Community, Inc., Davao City, Philippines (PeaceBuildersCommunity.Org)*
International Partnership Worker, *Mennonite Church Canada, Winnipeg, Canada (MennoniteChurch.Ca)*
Lead StoryTeller, *Coffee for Peace, Inc., Davao City, Philippines (CoffeeForPeace.Com)*

WORK EXPERIENCE

Resident Pastor. *Metropolitan Baptist Church, Paco, Metro Manila. July 1980 to June 1982.* As a resident pastor, it was my primary duty to lead and manage the weekly operations of the church, to equip lay workers, to establish neighborhood Bible Study groups, to lead in prayer meetings, and to preach during Sunday worship services. Reason for Leaving: To explore a college teaching position in Olongapo City.

Professor—Sociology, History, and Political Science. *St. Columban College, Olongapo City, Philippines. July 1982 to February 1985.* I developed Sociology, History, and Political Science syllabi for senior college students, taught the contents of those syllabi in the classroom, gave advice to graduating students with regards to their senior academic papers, participated in an academic evaluation committee to assess senior students' performance, and participated in a committee that developed the curriculum for the Social Sciences Department of St. Columban College. As an ordained Baptist pastor, I submitted to, and cheerfully worked with, my academic superiors who belong to this Roman Catholic order from Ireland. Reason for Leaving: Moved to Canada to serve as a church planter with the Central District of the Baptist General Conference of Canada.

Church Planting Team Leader. *Evangel Christian Fellowship, Olongapo City, Philippines. July 1982 to February 1985.* Supported by my salary as a college professor, I helped train and mobilize a volunteer team of church planting workers. Together, we developed a radio program ministry, college student ministry, livelihood program for hospitality industry workers, and conducted intensive discipleship training. Reason for Leaving: Moved to Canada to serve as a church planter with the Central District of the Baptist General Conference of Canada.

Church Planting Pastor. *The Living Christ Community Church, 1277 Wellington Ave., Winnipeg, Manitoba R3E 0K3. March 1986 to June 1989.* I led a team in doing demographic research on the Filipino community in Winnipeg, networked with various civic leaders, supervised in producing a project proposal, applied for a denominational grant to fund the project (Baptist General Conference of Canada), organized a core group for a new Filipino Baptist congregation, trained new leaders, incorporated the organization as a charitable society, and eventually recruited a qualified pastor to lead the new church. Reason for Leaving: Accepted new pastoral ministry in Vancouver, BC.

Senior Pastor. *Grace International Baptist Church, 7650 Jasper Crescent, Vancouver, British Columbia V5P 3S5. July 1989 to June 1994.* As the senior pastor, it was my primary duty to lead, manage, and develop the pastoral staff, to equip lay workers for both local and global ministries, to lead in the prayer ministry, and to preach during Sunday worship services. Reason for Leaving: To learn professional financial management and to explore the business world.

Investment Funds Consultant. *Investors Group Financial Services, 205 - 960 Quayside Drive, New Westminster, British Columbia V3M 6G2. July 1994 to June 1996.* As a licensed investment funds consultant, I provided financial services based on the investment needs of my clients. The most productive means for me to gather contacts and turn them into loyal clients was through speaking in a public seminar, followed by individual contacts and interviews, concluded by investment recommendations, and finally closing the investment contract. I was in the top 5 account executives in our region during my last three months with the company. Reason for Leaving: Called back by our religious organization's Canadian head office to lead and manage our global ministry personnel.

Director of Global Ministries. *Baptist General Conference of Canada, 4306 - 97th Street, Edmonton, Alberta T6E 5R9. July 1996 to September 2000.* Reporting directly to the CEO, I recruited, trained, and managed Canadian career and professionals to serve as missionaries to less developed countries and various people groups. This position required up-to-date information on relevant global ministry needs and issues, creative development of relevant policies, recruitment approaches, and placement mechanisms to effectively match personnel qualifications against needs and challenges in various local contexts of our globalized world. I also did extensive traveling— provincial, national, and international— for the purpose of public relations, fund-raising, coordination, and supervision of personnel on the field.

During this time, I also served as Vice-Chairman of the Task Force on Global Mission, Evangelical Fellowship of Canada. Reason for Leaving: To pursue a Canadian graduate education in Theology and Social Ethics.

Spiritual Leadership Team Leader. *Waves Community Church, 8120 No. 4 Road, Richmond, British Columbia V6Y 2T6. October 2000 to July 2005.* While enrolled as a Th.M. student at Vancouver School of Theology, I gathered a multicultural team of young Christian leaders and explored a church planting ministry using a house-church model. We configured our ministry to navigate the postmodern-emerging worldview we were facing. That house-church founded a charitable society. After 5 years, the house-church decided to send its newly evangelized people to various churches around Vancouver that would help them be disciplined within the context of their respective cultural backgrounds. Eventually, the house-church, after serving its purpose, ceased being a registered charitable society and became a peace and reconciliation vision-keeper. Reason for Leaving: To experience what it means to be in a peace-oriented community and to explore global ministries from a peace theological perspective.

Peacebuilding Pilot Worker. *Waves Community Development Resources–Peace Mennonite Church, Sultan Kudarat, Maguindanao. December 26,2004 to May 15, 2005.* I immersed myself in the heart of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) mass-base and lived in Nuling, a Muslim community which is the traditional neighborhood of the Maguindanao datu (chieftain) clans. I presented myself to the Hon. Datu Toco Mastura, Mayor of Sultan Kudarat, as a Christian peace worker who wanted to experience a transparent dialogue with Muslims. His people checked my background for a week, after that, he introduced me to the barangay (village) leaders, the religious leaders, and the municipal leaders. I was also protected, cared for, and mentored by the Hon. Datu Kharis Baraguir, the retired first elected Vice-Governor of Maguindanao. I found him to be the Person of Peace in my peacebuilding journey in Mindanao. That began a beautiful relationship between me and the Maguindanao leaders in the town of Sultan Kudarat. I am using the lessons learned during those five months to train Christian peacebuilders using complete transparency in relating with Muslims. Reason for Leaving: To raise support in Canada so I can bring my wife here in Mindanao so both of us can serve as full time peacebuilding workers.

International PeaceBuilding Partnership Worker. *Mennonite Church Canada-PeaceBuilders Community, Davao City, Philippines. January 2006 to the present.* God willing, we are here to accomplish the following: (a) to establish a Christian peacemaking presence in the Philippines, through the activities of PeaceBuilders Community, Inc.; (b) to help establish the Commission on Justice, Peace, and Reconciliation of the Philippine Council of Evangelical Churches; (c) to advance peace and reconciliation education in this land through nationally-managed seminars and through bridging partnerships between educational institutions teaching Peace Theology and various educational institutions in the Philippines.

CURRENT AFFILIATIONS

Member, *Peace Mennonite Church, Richmond, British Columbia, Canada*

Co-Convenor, *Mindanao PeaceWeavers, Mindanao Philippines*

Christian Spiritual Adviser, *Mindanao People's Caucus, Mindanao, Philippines*

Christian Spiritual Adviser, *All-Out Peace Network, Philippines*

FAMILY

LifePartner. *Joji Felicitas Bautista-Pantoja, born January 14, 1960, married June 30, 1979*

Children. *Jojie Alethea, b. June 1980; L'nielle Joy, b. April 1982; Daniel Byron, b. June 1983*

PERSONAL HOBBIES

Outdoor Activities. mountain climbing, scuba diving, long-distance swimming, off-road biking
Creative Arts. oil painting, multi-media development, writing, photography

Most Favorite Pastime. discussing peace and justice issues with friends and relatives

SELECTED PUBLISHED ARTICLES

- "Peacebuilding and Transformation: Being a Christian Witness in a Conflicted Land," *Evangelicals Today* (Official organ of the Philippine Council of Evangelical Churches, August-September 2007).
- "Learning From A Man of Peace," *Canadian Mennonite Magazine* (January 24, 2005).
<http://www.canadianmennonite.org/vol09-2005/9-02/faithlife.php>
- "Teaching Gen-Why: My Lessons and Mistakes In Mentoring Postmoderns," *Leadership Journal* (A Christianity Today Publication: Summer 2003)
- "Questions I'm Learning While Mentoring Postmodern Church Planters: A Modernist's Experience," *NextReformation* (May 2001). <http://www.nextreformation.com/html/leadership/mentor.htm>
- "Please Don't Start Another Postmodern Ministry!" *NextWave Magazine* (November 2000).
<http://www.next-wave.org/nov00/please.htm>
- "Dealing With MegaChanges: Local Churches on the Cutting Edge of Global Mission," *Evangelicals Today* (PCEC, November-December 1997).
- "Servant Leadership: A Paradox," *Evangelicals Today* (PCEC, July-August 1997).

REFERENCES

- **Superior:** *Bishop Efraim Tendero*, Global Ambassador, World Evangelical Alliance, P.O. Box 7099, Deerfield, IL 60015. Email: [bishopef@worldea.org](mailto:bishopfef@worldea.org)
- **Mentor:** *Datu Migketay Saway*, Indigenous People's Custodian of Talaandig Ancestral Territory, Tulugan, Songco, Municipality of Lantapan, Province of Bukidnon, Philippines 8722. Email: migketay@yahoo.com
- **Friend:** *Gus Miclat*, Executive Director, Initiatives for International Dialogue, 27 Galaxy Street, GSIS Heights, Matina, Davao City, Philippines, 8000. Email: gus@iidnet.org
- **Mentee:** *Twinkle Alngag Bautista*, Senior Vice President, Coffee for Peace, Inc., 721-A Loreto Street, Juna Subdivision, Matina Crossing, Davao City, Philippines 8000. Email: tala@coffeeforpeace.com