

# EXTRAORDINARY

**GOD'S TRANSFORMATIVE POWER  
THROUGH ORDINARY PEOPLE  
LIVING AND LOVING LIKE JESUS**





## FROM THE MOBILIZATION TEAM



At Crossroads, we believe that every follower of Jesus is called to live and love like Him—in our homes, in our neighborhoods, and to the ends of the earth.

This booklet is more than a celebration; it's an invitation. An invitation to see how God is at work in Evansville and around the world—and to recognize that these aren't just *our* stories. They're yours, too.

As you read, we hope you see how your prayers, your generosity, and your willingness to say “yes” to God's leading are all part of this bigger picture. **We pray it stirs something in you**—maybe a step of faith, a deeper connection to our neighbors, or a renewed passion to join God's mission.

Let's keep living His story together—one shaped by the love and way of Jesus.

With joy,

*John Heflick & Matthew Philip*  
LOCAL & GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT LEADS

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Carol  
Houston  
encounter

Debra  
Everett  
Dearborn, MI  
encounter

CROSS-  
CULTURAL  
FRIENDSHIPS



# HOW WE LIVE AND LOVE LIKE JESUS

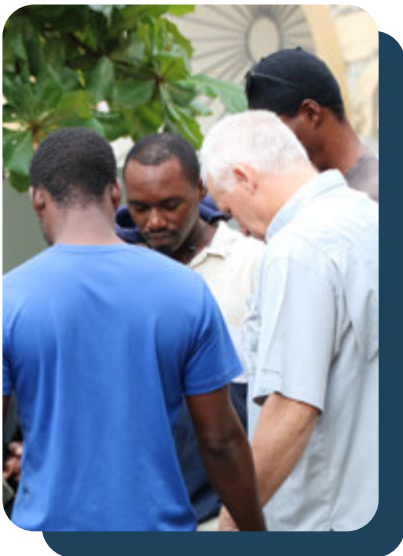
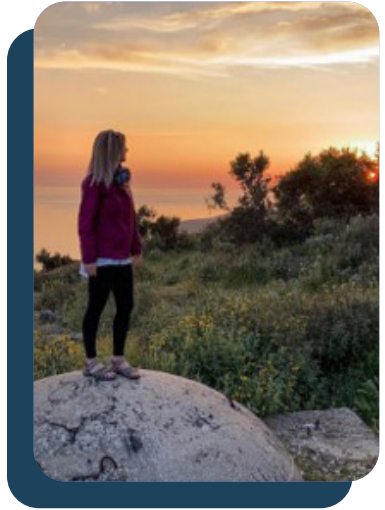


## We Go Where the Need Is Greatest

We follow Jesus to places others might overlook—both near and far. Whether it's across the street or across the ocean, we're drawn to people who are vulnerable, overlooked, or hard to reach.

## We Listen for God's Lead

We believe prayer isn't just a starting point—it's the way forward. We listen for God's direction and move when He leads, trusting His Spirit to direct our steps.



## We Build Real Relationships

We care more about connection than quick fixes. Whether we're working with a local neighbor or a global partner, we invest in relationships built on trust, respect, and shared hope for the future.

We follow Jesus' example, lean into His love, and trust the Holy Spirit to guide us every step of the way. That's what drives how we serve in our city and around the world. **No matter where we're serving, you'll see the same heartbeat behind it all.**

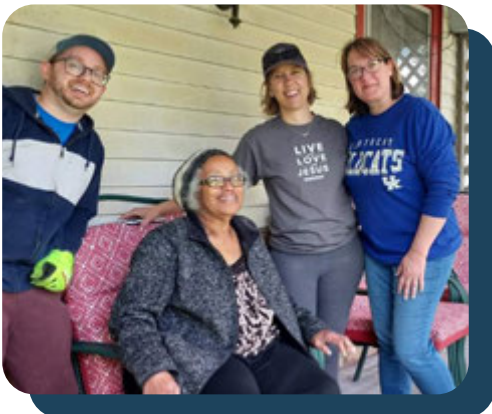


## We Empower Everyday People

This work isn't led by a few, it's powered by teams of volunteers. We train and support everyday people to step into meaningful ministry, offering their time, gifts, and presence to serve others well.

## We Work Together for More Impact

No one can do it all alone. That's why we link arms with churches, non-profits, schools, businesses, and community leaders—anyone working toward the good of others. Together, we can make a bigger difference.



## We Use What We've Been Given

We've all been blessed with something to offer. We share our time, our prayers, our money, and our skills to meet real needs and move His mission forward.





## CHURCH PLANTING

When churches take root in local communities, they become living expressions of the Gospel, especially where Christ is not yet widely known.

# NORTH AFRICA

## Bridging Belief Through Shared Stories

By understanding both the culture of their North African Muslim neighbors and the truth of Scripture, Alfredo and Tamara find natural bridges for meaningful conversations.

In one community, a young believer came to know the Lord through a friendship with Tamara. When the girl's father invited them to celebrate the Islamic festival Eid al-Adha (The Feast of the Lamb, which remembers Abraham's willingness to sacrifice his son) Tamara saw a unique opportunity. She shared about the sacrifice of Jesus, the true Lamb of God, and how His death offers new life to those with open hearts.

"I described to the family the sacrifice that Jesus made for all and the need to be born again with an open heart for God to come into our lives and guide us in this truth," Tamara said. "When the father heard this, he was silent, and then said that he believed I was right! He recognized that he was seeing God as a religion, but not from his heart."

Through moments like this, Muslims are hearing about sacrifice from a Biblical perspective—and discovering Jesus as the Lamb of God.



Be part of the story,  
learn more here.



## Choosing Truth in a Culture of Honor

In the North African towns where Gina is building relationships, honor and favor are highly valued. When a group of appreciative association officers honored her time and community investment with a small ceremony, Gina had an incredible opportunity to encourage them in return. Knowing that they accepted her as a Christian, she praised them for their open-mindedness.

Gina said, "I told them, 'No one is born into a certain religion. We must all choose what we believe and choose to follow the truth no matter where we are born.'" The men who honored her made a point of telling her they believe in accepting people no matter what religion they are from.

Gina and her friends share about their faith openly, and those in the community know that she and the short-term groups who come through are all committed Christians. "I pray that the strong cultural value in honoring outsiders who bring good would one day soon lead to them honoring Christ with their whole lives," said Gina.

I DIDN'T TAKE ON THEIR WAY OF LIFE. I KEPT MY BEARINGS IN CHRIST—BUT I ENTERED THEIR WORLD AND TRIED TO EXPERIENCE THINGS FROM THEIR POINT OF VIEW. I'VE BECOME JUST ABOUT EVERY SORT OF SERVANT THERE IS IN MY ATTEMPTS TO LEAD THOSE I MEET INTO A GOD-*SAVED* LIFE.

# NORTH AFRICA

## Hope Has an Open Door

Visitors, mainly women, often walk through the doors of Sousse International Church not only traveling alone, but feeling alone. They are met with open arms, surrounded by the company of women who minister compassionate prayer to their broken hearts.

Anna found friends, fellowship, and like-minded Christians as she walked through the complex, stressful process of divorce of a cross-cultural marriage.

Roberta renewed her commitment to the Lord. She asked for protection against bitterness when she sincerely prayed for her Muslim husband's salvation after he abruptly ended their 17-year marriage.



While on vacation, Tammy visited Sousse for just one week. After attending, she wished she'd spent less of her vacation pampering her body and more of it spiritually feeding her soul. She resolved to attend church again upon returning home.

"The doors of our church are open to whomever may walk in, for whatever duration of time they stay, even if just for one Sunday," said our missionaries at Sousse International Church. "Wherever they come from and whatever the condition they arrive in, we pray that they leave carrying the hope and peace that comes from experiencing the love of Jesus."

THERE ARE OVER 90 MOSQUES IN SOUSSE, BUT SOUSSE INTERNATIONAL CHURCH MEETS AT ST. FELIX CATHOLIC CHURCH - THE ONLY CHRISTIAN CHURCH BUILDING IN THE CITY.



Be part of the story,  
learn more here.

## When Helping Others Heals You Too

Sometimes a trip changes more than your destination—it changes your calling.

Local and global trips are not only opportunities to share the Gospel—they often become channels through which people discover unique aspects of their personal calling.

For Hannah Cunningham, that discovery began through local outreach and global missions. “In 2018, I began volunteering at a trauma-informed community center called Hope Place. This was where I first learned what trauma is and the impact it can have. I have never been the same,” she said.

As she learned about emotional trauma and began her own healing journey, Hannah’s life was transformed.

“In 2023, I went on my first trip with Teach to Transform in India,” she recalled. “I got to see the power of having the opportunity to share your story and your pain in a safe space, and how healing leads to healing, which leads to more healing in families and communities and churches.”

Today, Hannah is living out her calling in full-time emotional trauma ministry—building on the foundation God laid through her experiences in local and global mission.



TUNISIA IS WHERE THE BIBLE  
WAS CANONIZED IN 397 AD  
AT THE COUNCIL OF CARTHAGE.



Be part of the story,  
learn more here.

# JAPAN



## Out of the Shadows

A past traumatic experience seemed to follow Kira wherever she went. Shy, guarded, and dressed in clothing she could hide behind, she went to church one Sunday at Kyoto Christian Church. From that day forward, she attended nearly every weekend and got baptized.

THE MUSTARD SEED NETWORK HAS STARTED 8 CHURCH PLANTS TO DATE IN URBAN JAPAN



After her baptism, Kira went through the church's discipling program. She began to face her traumatic past and recognized the shame and self-loathing that had come from it. Her mentor, Mirja, reminded her, "These are lies. That is not how God sees you. He has taken your burdens of shame and guilt and set you free." Over time, her expressions brightened. Her wardrobe grew more colorful and feminine. These outward changes reflected what was happening in her heart. "It was just so beautiful to see how the Holy Spirit really transformed her," shares Mirja. "He continues to guide her out of that darkness of the traumatic experience into His light and His healing."

The Lord continues to do new things in Kira's life. She now volunteers in youth ministry and plans to pursue theological studies after graduating from college.



IT IS ESTIMATED THAT 95% OF JAPANESE HAVE NEVER HEARD THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST.



Pastors of Kyoto Christian Church, Mirja & Shin



Be part of the story,  
learn more here.

# ALBANIA



ALBANIA'S EVANGELICAL COMMUNITY IS YOUNG AND GROWING, LED MOSTLY BY FIRST-GENERATION BELIEVERS SPREADING THE GOSPEL THROUGH PERSONAL NETWORKS.

## From Mafia to Mission

In villages across Albania, a former Mafia member now spends his days boldly sharing the gospel on street corners. Described as both an incredible guy and a firecracker, he uses his fearless personality to draw crowds—and point them to Jesus. Though some oppose his message, he's undeterred, legally free to share his faith... at least for now.

Albania, once the world's only officially atheist country, is still a nation with towns where no believers or churches exist. The need is great, but God is opening doors. Bible League Albania is working to change the spiritual landscape through church planting, while

voices like this ex-Mafia evangelist stir curiosity and open hearts.

From the U.S., Darren and Stephanie McCombs at Crossroads and a few Evansville-based churches have sensed God's call to partner with this movement.

The timing is crucial. Albania stands at a crossroads, with both growing openness to the Gospel and rising cultural resistance.

Through courageous local leaders and global partnerships, the Good News is reaching new villages—one street corner at a time.

ALBANIA, ONCE THE WORLD'S ONLY OFFICIALLY ATHEIST COUNTRY, IS STILL A NATION WITH TOWNS WHERE NO BELIEVERS OR CHURCHES EXIST.



Be part of the story,  
learn more here.



# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

When the Church invests in efforts that care for both physical needs and spiritual well-being, we help build communities that reflect the fullness of God's Kingdom.



# GLENWOOD STUDENTS

## When the Church Becomes the PTA

At Glenwood Leadership Academy, teachers often encounter challenges not present at other schools. At one point, 70% of teachers had been there 3 years or less. With no teacher support system, retention was low and student success suffered. Crossroads, a partner with GLA for more than a decade, was invited to deepen our involvement by mobilizing volunteers to “adopt” teachers and their classrooms.



TEACHER  
RETENTION HAS  
INCREASED TO  
AVERAGE 90%  
THE PAST  
THREE YEARS.

Sometimes that means gift cards, pizza parties, or snacks for hungry kids. Other times it's oranges, Easter baskets, or hot coffee on a hard morning. “The Lord provides through Crossroads,” teacher Katie said. “There have been times where I’ve shown up completely drained, and there’s Crossroads—friendly faces with a cup of coffee for me. It feels so good to be supported.”

Adopters check in weekly, pray for their teachers, and build friendships that last for years. “You go from stranger, to acquaintance, to friend, to family,” Patti said. For many, it’s opened their eyes to hidden needs. “The kids have a lot on their shoulders—they need consistency and love, so they can focus on being kids,” adopter Kim shared.

What started as responding to the challenges of a partner has grown into a community for our volunteers. It’s also played a part of an increase of teacher retention. Entering the 2025-26 school year, over 85% of teachers have been at GLA for 3 years or more.



Be part of the story,  
learn more here.



# RESTORATIVE HOUSING



Photos provided by Community One

## Engaged People, Transforming Places

When Bre stepped into her new home in the Tepe Park Neighborhood, keys in hand, it was a moment of joy and stability—the fulfillment of a dream.

But before she moved in, she noticed the house next door falling apart. A damaged roof had left the home vulnerable, and without help it would soon be unlivable.

As a resident leader in the Tepe Park Neighborhood Initiative, Bre shared her concern with Community One. From that simple act, a wave of renewal began.

Community One purchased the house next door, another across the street, and a vacant lot nearby. Thanks to partnerships with local churches and faithful volunteers, these properties are being reborn. Two full rehabs and an innovative new build are nearly finished. All three will be dedicated on the same day.

What started as one neighbor's concern has grown into a block-wide transformation. Soon, three families will know the joy Bre felt when she became a homeowner—while joining a community of neighbors committed to seeing each other flourish.

Bre's story reminds us that the greatest asset in any neighborhood is its people. When neighbors invest in one another, entire communities are restored.

Be part of the story,  
learn more here.



# POVERTY ALLEVIATION

## A Filter for Water, a Fountain of Hope

Mama Naishuro didn't know what clean water looked like. She and her family were used to going to the earth dam and drinking water from there. As a result, she and her kids frequently were sick. All that has changed. Mama Naishuro received training in safe water practices as well as a water filter to share with other families around her.

Access to clean water has long been a challenge for the Maasai tribe of rural Narok, Kenya. Through AfricaHope and the Transformative Water Project, access to clean water and training in safe water has been a gateway to community transformation. "Now, she makes run-off pond water from the earth dam safe and never has to worry about her kids drinking dirty water again," says one of the partnership leaders. In response to receiving these water filters, the Maasai women have expressed a feeling of peace.

In addition to improving food and water security, the water and sanitation training sessions include opportunities for prayer, worship, and Bible lessons. Through this model, which has been the fruit of AfricaHope's long-term efforts and presence in the communities, entire villages have come to know the Lord, changing the dynamics of their relationships. God is restoring these communities through the work of AfricaHope.





**Sun King**  
**HOMEPLUS**

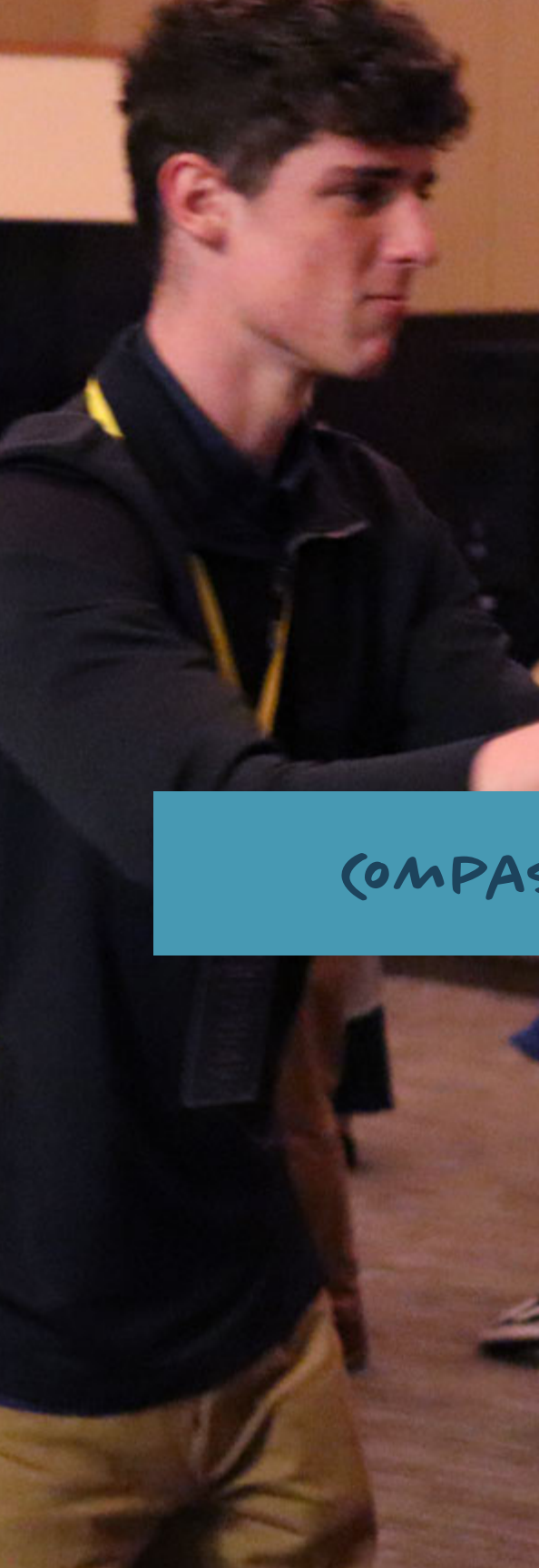
- Modern solar lighting and power that also connects to mobile phones
- 100% solar power
- 100% solar power



Be part of the story, learn more here.







## COMPASSION

When the Church moves toward people on the margins, we reflect the heart of Jesus and help restore dignity, stability, and belonging.

# SPECIAL NEEDS

## A Place for Joseph

For many years, Anna Jo Wyman came to church alone. Her husband, Will, stayed at home with their son, Joseph – a man with Down Syndrome who never quite fit into the usual Sunday programming.

“It was easier for all of us to skip church or one stay home with Joseph and one attend church. Joseph needed individual support at church, and there was none”, she remembers, her voice threaded with years of loneliness and longing for inclusion. All that changed with the Buddy Program. “The first Sunday, I was so anxious – checking my phone constantly, wondering if Joseph was okay. I’m sure I heard very little of the sermon.”

Now Joseph arrives with his mom and dad, grinning as he heads off with his buddy for donuts, cards and an opportunity to serve communion. Anna Jo and Will sit side by side and worship together, knowing Joseph is not only cared for, but truly belongs. “He has friends now. He has a job to do, and Joseph counts,” Anna Jo shares, gratitude shining through. “And when we talk about church and God at home, it’s all of us together.”

The Wymans’ journey is less about simply attending church together and more about experiencing family fellowship within a community that is learning to walk alongside them.



Be part of the story,  
learn more here.



# FOSTER FAMILIES



THERE ARE NEARLY 1,000 CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE IN VANDERBURGH COUNTY, BUT ONLY 150 FOSTER FAMILIES

## Welcoming the Little Ones

Alison always wanted to be a mom. So when she learned about the urgent local need for foster parents, she realized God was inviting her into something bigger.

Five years later, ten children have passed through her home. Some stayed weeks, others years. Every time, she's told them the same thing: "You are my child. I love you like you're my child, and I will do everything for you."

It's not easy. There are midnight feedings, sudden goodbyes, and the ache of watching a child leave. But there's also joy—watching a baby hit milestones, seeing a child feel safe enough to sleep soundly.

Alison relies on her church family, foster care community, and friends who show up with meals, childcare, or just a listening ear. "I've learned to give the hard parts to God," she says. "I'm not Superwoman. God asks us to do hard things, but He always promises to be right there with us through it. He provides again and again."

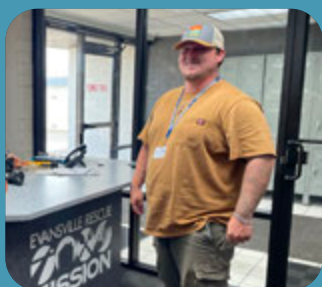
Her hope is simple: that every child who walks into her home leaves knowing they are wanted, seen, and loved—just as Jesus loves them.

"It's messy," Alison says. "But I feel like I'm being the hands and feet of Jesus for these kids who can't fight for themselves."

Be part of the story,  
learn more here.



# THE UNHOUSED



## From Prison to Purpose

When Jordan walked out of prison he carried more than a record—he carried a mountain of burdens. Parole officers brought him to Evansville Rescue Mission (ERM). He didn't want to be there. Resistant to the program, he saw ERM as nothing more than an alternative to prison.

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INDIVIDUALS ARE  
UNHOUSED IN  
EVANSVILLE ON ANY  
GIVEN NIGHT

But Phillip, his case manager, saw something different. "From the first day, I knew the Jordan sitting in front of me wasn't the man he would become," Phillip recalls.

Slowly, Jordan leaned into the support around him. Through recovery programs, chapel, and mentors who wouldn't give up on him, he began to change. He visited Crossroads Christian Church, but what started out as curiosity grew into community—people welcomed him and showed him what unconditional belonging looked like when the whole church celebrated his baptism. "I couldn't have done this on my own," Jordan says. "It was God, and the people He put around me."



1 IN 5 OF THEM  
HAVE CHILDREN

Today, Jordan is not just thriving—he's leading. Once resistant to programming, he now mentors men walking the same path he once did and is preparing to step into case management.

Jordan's life is proof: when someone encounters God's love and true community, transformation happens—and it ripples far beyond one person.



Be part of the story,  
learn more here.

# HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS

## A Burden Worth Carrying

David Reid didn't set out to become an advocate for trafficking victims—it started with watching "Sextortion: The Hidden Pandemic" with his wife, Kelle, followed by a meeting at Crossroads.

"I guess to me, those are my neighbors," David said, recalling the stories that made him see it wasn't just a distant crisis but something happening right here in Newburgh and Evansville.

As a father and grandfather, the reality struck him as he pictured parents looking at an empty bed, not knowing if their child is alive or dead, or what horrors they're going through.

Although David feels "almost the least prepared" on the Human Trafficking Awareness team, he's motivated by a strong sense that God has put this burden on his heart.

Whether assembling care packages for survivors or considering new ways to show worth to people who feel forgotten, David and the team simply want to make a difference. "I feel like we've kind of been chosen to carry (this burden), to see what we can do," he says. It's a journey fueled by the hope that small acts of love really do matter.

IT'S A JOURNEY  
FUELED BY THE  
HOPE THAT SMALL  
ACTS OF LOVE  
REALLY DO MATTER.

Be part of the story,  
learn more here.



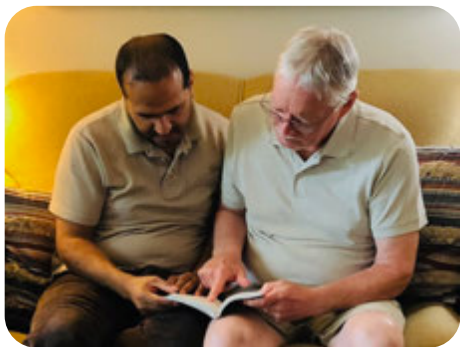


When the Church builds cross-cultural friendships, the love of Jesus spreads—transforming families, neighborhoods, and nations.

## CROSS-CULTURAL FRIENDSHIPS

# ENGAGE DEARBORN INITIATIVE

## No Longer Believing the Lies



One day Larry was talking with one of his students, Aziz, about following Christ.

“Are you ready to give your life to Christ?” Larry asked.

“My father, I am. But I can’t because it would bring shame on my family.”

Larry didn’t push. He trusted God was at work in His timing.

Later, Aziz returned to his home village in the Middle East. There, he gathered seven friends, helped them download the Bible app, and led a study. Then he sent them out to a university to share what they had learned, modeling what Larry had shown him.

One day, a group of five men carrying guns confronted Aziz outside his home. They demanded \$30,000 and told him to stop “spreading lies about Jesus.” But after years of studying the Bible in Larry’s home, Aziz knew the truth: the real lies were the ones he had been taught growing up—about Jesus and about American Christians. Through his relationship with Larry and other believers, he now knew who was telling the truth.

Even under threat of death, Aziz kept sharing the gospel until he was eventually forced to flee his country.



Be part of the story,  
learn more here.





## EDUCATION

When people learn in environments shaped by faith and encouragement, they grow into leaders who strengthen families, communities, churches, and nations.

# EDUCATION HAITI



## Faith that Stands

It was just another day at Sonlight Academy, until Principal Carmen Niehaus was urgently called to the schoolyard. A group of sixth-grade girls were on the ground, terrified of what they believed to be a spiritual attack. Haiti is a breeding ground for fear given the heavy influence of voodoo coupled with political unrest.

Carmen's response to the girls was simple, yet profound: "Stand up." Carmen reminded them that God is more powerful than anything. After more truth-filled conversation and prayer, the girls were able to settle.

Reflecting on this event, Carmen said "I don't want them to fear what is in Haiti. I want them to feel they have the power of God." Carmen's sister, Cara Wimpelberg, added, "When the students are taught that they can be sealed with the Holy Spirit, protected from any other dominion, you can see a change in their faces. It's a sense of security when there is no security around them."

Today, more than 90% of Sonlight's graduates have dedicated their lives to Christ. The people of Haiti experience the love of Jesus through the Christian staff, students, and graduates of Sonlight, changing the lives of generations to come.



**SONLIGHT  
SUPPLIES  
ELECTRICITY  
TO OVER 100  
HOUSES IN  
THEIR AREA**



Be part of the story  
learn more here.



# EDUCATION (CZECH REPUBLIC)

## Walking Students Toward Peace



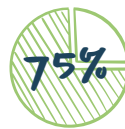
After several years serving as a missionary teacher in the Philippines, Jessica noticed something: God kept bringing her students in need of emotional support, and He kept equipping her to meet those needs. Feeling led to further develop this gift, she pursued additional training and accepted a new position at the Christian International School of Prague (CISP).

“As the school counselor, I’ll have the privilege of being present in their quiet, searching moments—to walk with students through life’s challenges, speak hope into hard places, and point them to the One who brings peace,” Jessica shared.

Through CISP, students are steadily exposed to the Gospel. After a chapel message about who Jesus is, a group of sixth grade boys responded with curiosity and openness. The weekly messages about Jesus help their minds be open to the Lord. One Muslim student in the group said, ‘Now I know who Jesus is, and I’m curious to learn more about Him.’”



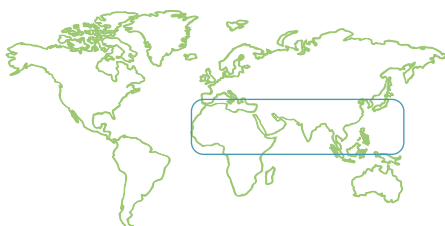
The Christian International School of Prague



75% OF STUDENTS RETURN TO NON-CHRISTIAN HOMES AT THE END OF EACH DAY



1 IN EVERY 3 STUDENTS IS FROM A COUNTRY IN THE 10/40 WINDOW



THE 10/40 WINDOW CONTAINS THE WORLD’S LARGEST CONCENTRATION OF UNREACHED PEOPLE GROUPS AND SOCIOECONOMIC CHALLENGES.

Be part of the story,  
learn more here.



# CHURCH MOBILIZATION

## On Mission, Right Where You Are

Chase Harris already had a passion for sharing the love of Christ, but after completing the MomentumYes curriculum, he began to think critically about his role in the Great Commission.

"You don't have to go across the ocean to be on mission," Chase explains. "There are international students on campus. There are immigrants and refugees right here in Evansville." As campus minister for Student Christian Fellowship, Chase is uniquely positioned to both model and teach this mindset.

The students Chase disciples travel to various countries, learn new languages to

communicate more effectively, lead camps for children at a refugee center, and pray regularly for nations around the world. This fall, Chase will help guide college students through the MomentumYes curriculum.

He views the knowledge gained from MomentumYes as fuel for his obedience to God, wherever that path leads, and looks forward to the students experiencing the same transformation. "The Great Commission is a privilege and responsibility for all of us who follow Christ," shares Chase. "These students are capable. They are called. God has placed in them a purpose."



**MOMENTUMYES IS  
ACTIVELY BEING USED IN 67  
COUNTRIES ON 6 CONTINENTS.**



Be part of the story,  
learn more here.

# DEAF BIBLE TRANSLATION

## Signs of Hope

For centuries, the Bible has been translated into countless languages—but one community still waits: the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

Crossroads is partnering with Pioneer Bible Translators (PBT) to change that. Through a global grant, we support a project bringing Scripture to life through a colorful, illustrated Action Bible video—complete with sign language narrators for adults and children in Latin America.



PBT's Fuego de Manos team is translating the New Testament for Deaf communities. Over 40 Scripture stories have passed consultant checks.

When technical delays threatened to slow them, the team turned their focus to something even more powerful: direct Gospel outreach. With hearts open and hands ready, they began sharing the Good News in person.

That's how Jhonny met Martha, a highly respected Deaf woman with a strong desire to see the Gospel spread. Through her influence, nearly 230 Deaf individuals across two cities could soon hear the message of Jesus. The community is hopeful, eager, and ready to engage the Gospel themselves.

## 400

THERE ARE 400  
DEAF LANGUAGES  
BUT THE BIBLE  
HAS HAS BEEN  
TRANSLATED/  
FILMED IN ONLY ONE  
- AMERICAN SIGN  
LANGUAGE.



Be part of the story,  
learn more here.





# LEADERSHIP

When leaders are equipped, everyone around them benefits—families, churches, and neighborhoods alike.

# WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP AFRICA



FROM 2018 TO OCT 2024, THE NUMBER OF WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP IN AFRICA HAS INCREASED BY 110%

## From Silence to Leadership



Faridah, a young woman from Kenya, felt that it was time she had a new name – one that would outwardly define her new identity as a child of God. She was raised in a culture where she was not allowed to speak in front of men; because she was a woman, she was considered a weak vessel. After hearing the gospel of Jesus Christ, she began to understand

her true worth. From that moment on, she changed her name to Fredah Ketiba, “a lady that Christ changed from Muslim to Christian.”

It was through a Young Life event she was invited to attend that she experienced a hope and a love that she had never known as a Muslim woman.

Fredah’s decision to follow Christ launched her into a series of leadership roles: first as a Young Life leader, then a mentor for YoungLives, a ministry for teen mothers. She will soon move into a new position as YoungLives Regional Coordinator for all of Kenya. Her ministry is helping women across Africa not only find their voices, but also learn about a God who hears them, values them, loves them, and knows them by name.



Be part of the story,  
learn more here.



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CAMP ILLIANA

LIVE and LOVE  
JESUS

LIVE and LOVE  
JESUS

LIVE and LOVE  
JESUS

scf

STUDENT  
CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP



## STUDENT MINISTRY

When the Church invests in students, they're equipped to lead with faith and purpose in every area of life.

# UNIVERSITY STUDENTS



## Faith in the Frat House

When Owen Lawrence joined his fraternity, Phi Gamma Delta (FIJI), at the University of Evansville, he had a desire to start a Bible study. Fraternities are rarely associated with Jesus—but Owen believed God could use him to change that.

Unsure where to begin, Owen sought guidance from Student Christian Fellowship (SCF) staff and other brothers. With their encouragement, he launched a Bible study. The response was immediate. From the very first meeting, interest grew—21 brothers have attended, with 12–14 gathering consistently each week to study Scripture, pray, and have honest conversations.

Over half the fraternity has participated, including brothers who haven't been to church in years. In a space once shaped by stereotypes, real friendships are opening the door to real faith.

"I am so blessed to be able to lead a group like this and have the support system I do with SCF and my brothers," said Owen. "It is one of the highlights each week and I am excited to continue to see how God will work through FIJI, and hopefully in other fraternities on campus."



SCF HAS BEEN  
DOING CAMPUS  
MINISTRY AT UE  
& USI



**2,400+**  
STUDENTS  
IMPACTED



Be part of the story,  
learn more here.

# HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS MALI

## Testimonies from Young Life Mali



"Young Life Koro is not just a youth group; it is a family—a place where everyone is welcomed with kindness, listened to without judgement and encouraged to grow.

*-Antimé Guindo, Koro*

"Thanks to a Young Life leader Mr. Luc Kodio, whose guidance and the caring environment helped me, I have learned to love the Bible and to live out my faith in a concrete way."

*-Zonathan Sagara, Koro-Bankass*



Since I've joined Young Life, my life has truly changed. It was at the evangelism camp that I made the most important decision of my life to accept Jesus Christ into my heart and to walk with Him."

*-Salimata Bolozogola-Sikasso, age 17*



"One day, my pastor called me and said, 'I am recommending you for a training in Bamako so that you can impact youth even more with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.' That is how I attended my very first Young Life training. That moment was a turning point in my ministry."

*-Nestor Assan Sountoura  
(Sikkasso Area Director)*



Be part of the story,  
learn more here.

# FAITH IN ACTION: STORIES FROM 2025 MISSION TRIPS





**AFRICAHOPE TRIP**

"My son, Preston, and I were able to travel to Kenya with a group of 10 adults and teenagers who partnered with AfricaHope who aims to eradicate spiritual and physical poverty. We were able to visit some of the families who are sponsored by Crossroads' families, and we saw some people come to faith in Christ.

In addition to connecting with the people in Narok, this trip was formative in our faith journeys, personal identities and roles in the body of Christ. We also shared some lighthearted moments as a team; Preston was nicknamed Barter King and Resident Baboon Chaser."

– Ashley Elliott



"My prayer prior to going was we would be the aroma of Christ. Through His working through us and Fellowship Church Dubai, we were able to see people emotionally healed and set free through Freedom Prayer. We brought back the aroma of Christ through their witness - some had been persecuted, and others had to make extremely difficult decisions to support their families and remain a witness of His goodness and provision."

– Judy Liddle



**DUBAI TRIP**



**TAJIKISTAN TRIP**

“Along with enjoying the hospitality of families in their homes for meals, we made several visits to the Afghan refugee community center in the city of Vahdat to see both the life skills training and trauma healing work they’re doing and to distribute sewing machines to refugee women who had completed their sewing classes. The sewing machines were a project funded by Crossroads in 2024, and the women were humbled to receive them so they could start their own sewing or embroidery business.

Throughout the week, we also worshipped with both a recognized church and several home churches... it was clear that God is at work in the lives of the community center workers/teachers and the refugees, both Christians and non-Christians alike. Praise to our God, the protector of our faith!”

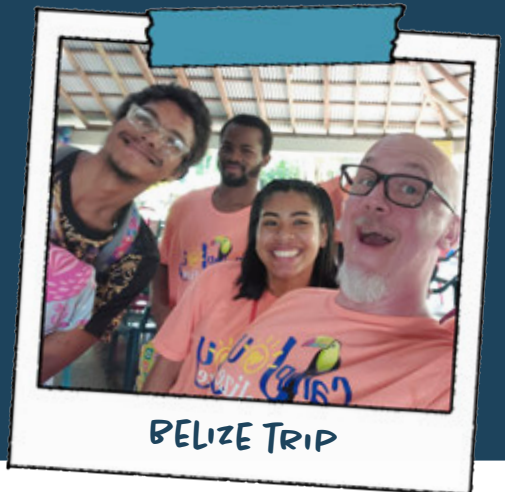
– Kent Ahrenholz



**CAMP JOY IN BELIZE IS THE ONLY CAMP IN THE COUNTRY CREATED FOR THE UNIQUE NEEDS OF ADULTS & STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**



**CAMP JOY**

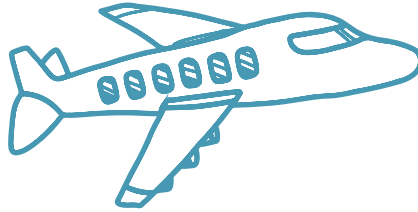


**BELIZE TRIP**

"In May 2025, our team of four traveled to Port-de-Paix, Haiti to visit Sonlight Academy. We were able to visit all the classrooms, visit with our sponsor students, assist the principal with end of the school year tasks and help clean and close up the classrooms for the summer.

"We were blessed to witness three of the high school students being baptized. We attended a Haitian (Creole) church service at the Son Center on Sunday and we were honored to attend graduation for the Sonlight class of 2025 where Advocacy Team member, Ryan King, gave the commencement speech. We were blessed in so many ways working alongside the missionaries that keep Sonlight academy going from year to year."

- Tonya Joiner



"Camp Joy is so aptly named. The look of pure joy was evident on the faces of the campers and the counselors! It was a week of all things church camp and an opportunity to make home visits. The opportunity to work with these special friends and Belizean counselors was such a blessing to me."

- Vicki Stuffle







# EMPOWERING THE NEXT GENERATION

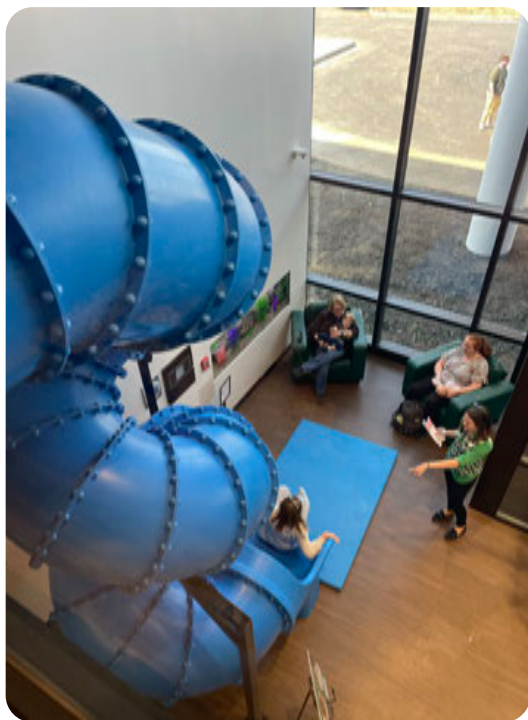
## Sliding Into Compassion

At Camp Alive, kids learn that living and loving like Jesus starts at any age. Each summer, the camp alternates between a local and global focus, choosing projects children can easily understand and rally around. In 2024, they highlighted the Susan H. Snyder Center for Women and Children in Evansville.

Leaders wanted the mission to feel real, so one morning, kids were asked to imagine becoming suddenly homeless with only a backpack to pack. On stage, they unpacked stuffed animals, storybooks, and favorite toys—items that revealed both innocence and empathy. The exercise sparked reflection, helping campers grasp the challenges faced by other children in their own city.

That empathy turned into action as kids gave generously to provide a new slide for the Center. When a photo of the completed project was shown in Kids church, the impact became tangible: their giving had created joy for children who needed it most.

Camp Alive shows parents and kids alike that the next generation can carry God's heart for mission. Their prayers, gifts, and imagination are already helping to transform lives—here at home and around the world.





## YTH Dominican Republic Trip

"The DR was the most life changing experience! God showed me His goodness through the joy of the kids with so little and how willing my companions were to serve. The trip helped me to understand that just 'cause I don't see it, doesn't mean God isn't moving. He is moving all around the world and doing amazing things."

– Colin Pillsbury



# GLOBAL GRANTS: INVESTING IN GOD'S MISSION

## **ACCELERATING CHURCH PLANTING, ALBANIA**

**Total Amount: \$10,000**

This grant supports a new initiative to expand a disciple-making movement and church planting work in Albania. The project will develop a more strategic approach to evangelism in a predominantly Islamic context.

## **LAUNCH FUNDS FOR HOPE SIGNS, USA**

**Total Amount: \$7,500**

This grant supports the launch of a five-year strategic vision to enhance and expand Hope Signs, a ministry that connects Deaf and Hard of Hearing teenagers with Christ.

## **WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP ACCELERATOR, AFRICA**

**Total Amount: \$16,000**

This grant completes the funding for Cohort 4 of the 18-month Women's Leadership Accelerator (WLA) program, which equips top-tier women across Africa through training, mentoring, and coaching.

## **MAASAI CHURCH PLANTS, KENYA**

**Total Amount: \$30,000**

This is a multi-year grant to support church planting in three Maasai villages. The funding covers the cost of hiring a vehicle for weekly visits to share the Gospel and establish a church. Over 50 visits have already been made despite challenges like washed-out roads and roaming elephants.

## **BIBLE TRANSLATION, DEAF COMMUNITY, LATIN AMERICA**

**Total Amount: \$40,000**

This is a three-year grant to help underwrite the translation of the Action Bible into Latin American Sign Language. Deaf communities throughout Latin America are marginalized minorities, with high rates of unemployment and illiteracy.

## **SONLIGHT ACADEMY, HAITI**

**Total Amount: \$30,000**

This grant supports Sonlight Academy, a preschool-through-12th grade English-immersion school in Haiti. The school operates in a challenging environment due to significant political turmoil and social unrest. The funding will help hire, train, and retain Haitian teachers to provide a quality education for approximately 360 Haitian students.

Through the faithful prayers, generosity, and commitment of our church family, we get to invest in these stories of hope and renewal. Our global grants further our shared priorities—deepening relationships with partners, strengthening communities, and seeing lives transformed by the love of Jesus. These aren't just their stories—they're yours too, as we join together with God in His work around the world.

### **SPANISH TRANSLATION OF MOMENTUMYES, USA**

**Total Amount: \$40,000**

This is a two-year grant to fund the Spanish translation of the MomentumYes video series. Spanish is the largest mother tongue for Christians globally, and Latin American church leaders state there is “no similar resource” for Spanish-speaking churches. This project was completed in early 2025.

### **TEEN OUTREACH, MALI**

**Total Amount: \$36,000**

This grant helps Young Life Mali expand its outreach to teens from Muslim backgrounds. They plan to expand their ministry to two high-risk areas, Sikasso and Koro. The funds will help recruit and train national ministry leaders, increase the number of women in leadership, and fund additional camps and scholarships for at least 220 kids.

### **EMPOWERING AFGHAN REFUGEE WOMEN, CENTRAL ASIA**

**Total Amount: \$15,000**

This grant, awarded over two years, supports the Afghan Refugee Women's Advancement (ARWA) initiative. The funding underwrites the cost of 80 sewing machines and supports the expansion of the Sewing Program. The project provides spiritual and physical relief to Afghan people fleeing the Taliban and impacts approximately 100 women and their families.

### **ENGAGE DEARBORN INITIATIVE, USA**

**Total Amount: \$18,200**

This grant helps launch and support a curriculum and training program for American Christians who volunteer to serve the Arab community in Dearborn, Michigan through an ESL program. The program will impact potentially 30 volunteers and over 200 predominantly Muslim ESL students. The grant also supports the completion and printing of an Arabic-language curriculum, provides resources for ESL teachers, and develops courses like “Spiritual Arabic” for beginners.



# FOCUS AREA SNAPSHOTS

## CHURCH PLANTING

### ALBANIA

**Partner Organization:** Uncharted International

**Advocacy Team Leaders:** Darren & Stephanie McCombs, Dustin Krantz

### JAPAN

**Partner Organization:** Kyoto Christian Church

**Advocacy Team Leaders:** Don & Karen Gore

### NORTH AFRICA

**Partner Organization:** Sousse International Church

**Advocacy Team Leaders:** *open*

**Partner Organization:** Team Expansion

**Advocacy Team Leaders:** *open*

**Partner Organization:** Team Expansion

**Advocacy Team Leaders:** Kent & Teresa Ahrenholtz

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

### GLENWOOD STUDENTS

**Partner Organization:** Potter's Wheel & Glenwood Leadership Academy

**Advocacy Team Leader:** Patti Lahay

### POVERTY ALLEVIATION KENYA

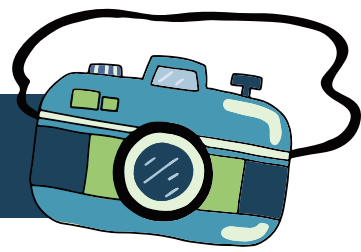
**Partner Organization:** AfricaHope Kenya

**Advocacy Team Leaders:** Jack Arney, Andrew DeVries

### RESTORATIVE HOUSING

**Partner Organization:** Community One

**Advocacy Team Leaders:** *open*



## COMPASSION

### FOSTER FAMILIES

**Partner Organization:** *no partner yet*  
**Advocacy Team Leader:** Amaris Stewart

### SPECIAL NEEDS

**Partner Organization:** *no partner yet*  
**Advocacy Team Leaders:** Marla & Jamie Wilson

### HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS

**Partner Organization:** *no partner yet*  
**Advocacy Team Leaders:** David Reid, Dorothy Fox

### UNHOUSED

**Partner Organization:** Evansville Rescue Mission  
**Advocacy Team Leader:** C.J. Gelisse

## CROSS-CULTURAL FRIENDSHIPS

### CROSS-CULTURAL FRIENDSHIP, USA

**Partner Organization:** Arab-American Friendship Center  
**Advocacy Team Leaders:** Deedra Everett, Larry & Mary Francis

## LEADERSHIP

### WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP

**Partner Organization:** Young Life Africa  
**Advocacy Team Leader:** Trish Silvera

## EDUCATION

### HAITI

**Partner Organization:** Sonlight Academy

**Advocacy Team Leaders:** Catherine King, Tonya Joiner

### CZECH REPUBLIC

**Partner Organization:** Christian International School of Prague

**Advocacy Team Leaders:** open

### CHURCH MOBILIZATION

**Partner Organization:** MomentumYes

**Advocacy Team Leaders:** Nancy Teicher, Sandra Briody

### DEAF BIBLE TRANSLATION, LATIN AMERICA

**Partner Organization:** Pioneer Bible Translators

**Advocacy Team Leader:** Katie DeVillez

## STUDENT MINISTRY

### UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

**Partner Organization:** Student Christian Fellowship

**Advocacy Team Leader:** Caleb Wilson

### HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS MALI

**Partner Organization:** Young Life Mali

**Advocacy Team Leader:** Sophia Lamptey

### DEAF STUDENTS, USA

**Partner Organization:** Hope Signs

**Advocacy Team Leader:** Adam Hubert



# A FUTURE SHAPED BY LIVING & LOVING LIKE JESUS TOGETHER

**IN THE YEARS AHEAD, WE BELIEVE GOD IS CALLING US TO KEEP LIVING AND LOVING LIKE JESUS—IN NEW WAYS AND IN NEW PLACES. TOGETHER, WE WILL BE:**

**Listening** to God and learning from our neighbors

**Forming** new partnerships locally and globally

**Uniting** with other churches for greater Kingdom impact

**Expanding** and equipping Advocacy Teams

**Launching** the next generation of leaders

**Growing** together in what it means to follow Jesus with our whole lives



This movement is bigger than any one of us, but it only happens when each of us plays our part. Imagine the difference we can make together as we keep saying “yes” to God’s call. Let’s walk this journey side by side, for His glory alone.



Be part of the story,  
connect with us.



# SPECIAL THANKS

We could not have done this without the many people who helped bring this book to life. Thank you for sharing your gifts and passions to make this project possible.



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## **Our Local & Global Advocacy Team Leaders**



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