Overflow

CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY MAGAZINE



KINGDOM MINISTRIES

Overflow STREAMS OF LIVING WATER

"Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within them." (John 7:37b-38)

On September 6, 2020, the Bobcat Fire started in the San Gabriel Mountains, and burned through one of my favorite local hiking spots, Monrovia Canyon Park. I was devastated to hear the news. After the park reopened, I hiked the canyon trail through the charred grounds up to the waterfall. As I sat at the top of the stream, I took a moment to pray. Looking down into the canyon, I noticed two things—the devastation from the fire, but also the renewal brought by the stream. New grass, new plants, new flowers, and new trees sprouted up. And with them came other signs of life-a wide variety of birds, butterflies, squirrels, ground critters, and even a mother deer and her fawn. I thought, "Thank you Lord, for this stream, because as long as the stream keeps running, this canyon will be renewed with life."



Jesus said, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within them." (John 7:37b-38) Jesus is speaking of the Holy Spirit's impact on the hearts and lives of those who believe in Christ. When Jesus says "living" water, He is contrasting it with stagnant water. Living water flows with vitality and nourishes life, restoration, and goodness wherever it goes. It's a powerful promise that even when the fires of life come our way, as we place our faith in Christ, He will fill us with streams of living water that not only renew and nourish us, but also restore, renew, and bring life and goodness to those "downstream" from us.

Since its founding in 1907 as a little home Bible study in Los Angeles, Christian Assembly Church has been a place where Jesus graciously calls people to Himself. As people from every generation respond to the gospel of Jesus, we indeed are seeing Jesus fulfill His promise of living water flowing to us and through us. Locally, we now have 22 different partnerships where streams of living water are flowing. Globally, it's currently flowing into 25 different countries, including

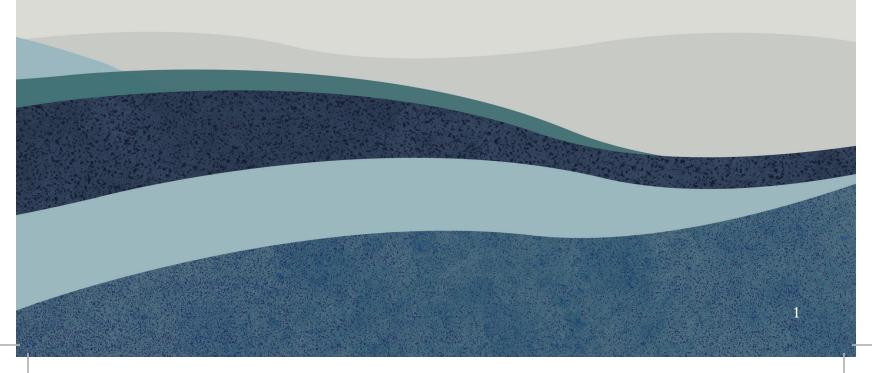
impacting 30 unreached people groups. And everywhere it is flowing, we see signs of life: the gospel is being shared, people are being saved, disciples are being made, lives are being restored, and goodness is coming in too many ways to count—all of this done in Jesus' name.

In these pages, you will see some of the many ways God is using us as a church family. Without your faith, prayers, serving, and financial giving, none of these stories would be happening. I hope the stories and partnerships inspire and encourage you as much as they do me. May God use them to invite you to make a first time—or renewed—commitment to Christ and drink deeply. May the promised living waters continue to overflow from each of our lives together for the glory of God and the good of others in Jesus' name.

With Hope and Gratitude in Christ,



Tom Hughes, Co-Lead Pastor Christian Assembly Church Los Angeles cachurch.com @cachurchla



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Matthew 22:37-40

Local Ministries

Kids Hope

SNAPSHOTS OF MENTORING

WORDS ARE WORDS

In January of 2008, the Kids Hope program at Eagle Rock Elementary School started with 15 mentors. Budd Christopher, a retiree at the time, was one of the first. He was matched with a third grader who was struggling to read at a first grade level. Budd brought comic books to every session, saying, "Well, words are words," and by the end of that school year his student was reading at a third grade level. Budd was faithful to get to know this kid, see what interested him, and then make reading fit his interests. It didn't take more than an hour a week to make the difference, and the gift of reading emerged in this reluctant reader's life.

Budd has gone home to be with the Lord, but the words, comics, and friendship he passed on in Jesus' name will remain with that third grade little boy-now a grown man-forever.

FROM LOSSES TO GAINS

Nine-year-old David had already experienced too many losses in his life. He was due for a gain. David had been on the waiting list for a Kids Hope mentor for 18 months. Kids Hope Director Sarah Dornbos had been looking for a good fit for David, but had come up short. But God kept saying to wait, to ask, and He would provide.

At a Kingdom weekend in January of 2023, Sarah announced that she had a student looking for a mentor, and this student loved basketball. Not only did God send a mentor who loved basketball, but one who had worked as a talent scout for the Bulls during the Michael Jordan era and owned six championship rings. Talk about a moment of seeing God's provision and abundance, "beyond what we could ask for or imagine!"

The first day David met his mentor they talked mostly about college basketball. The hour flew by, and David ran to his dad at the pickup gate shouting, "Dad, he's cool!" In the following weeks, David and his mentor worked on improving David's jump shot and defensive stance, calculating collegiate statistics, and measuring the circumference of the ball. David's new mentor, Mr. Gaines, was an answer to Sarah's prayers. David was due for a gain, and he got one. Mr. Gaines.

IT'S A FAMILY AFFAIR

Eight years ago Barbara, a Kids Hope mentor, was matched with Elizabeth, a third grader who had just reunified with her dad after being placed in foster care. The two met weekly in the Kids Hope classroom, making Barbara a stable and supportive presence in Elizabeth's life. Eventually, Barbara became part of not only Elizabeth's life,

but part of her whole family. But the story doesn't end there.

Elizabeth shares, "Because of Kids Hope, I got to go to Hume summer camp and learn about God. It changed my life. I wanted to give back to the church, so I started taking my dad and brother to church with me on Saturdays and volunteering in Kids Church."

Since that time, Elizabeth has volunteered with VBS and as a student officer at F.L.Y. club, which







CA operates at Eagle Rock High School. Just this summer she was finally old enough to complete the Kids Hope mentor training. This fall was a full circle moment, when Elizabeth was matched with her own student, an exuberant kindergartner named Logan. Now she and Barbara both mentor their students on Monday afternoons.

Elizabeth and Barbara's relationship has impacted their entire families. Elizabeth's dad is volunteering as a prayer partner with Kids Hope, and her brother is a student in the program. Barbara's husband Keith and son Jon are both mentors, and the kindergartner that Elizabeth now mentors, Logan, has two sisters in Kids Hope as well. There is a mutuality here that Sarah hopes to see more of—that those who were served by Kids Hope come back to serve others.

Elizabeth describes just that kind of mutuality when she talks about Barbara. "She's just a wonderful person, and she inspired me to want to make a difference too." (A)

year since then, volunteer mentors from Christian Assembly Church are screened, trained, and matched with students referred to the program by school staff. These mentors work one-on-one in the Kids Hope classroom, once a week, during the school year. We recently helped Freedom Church in Chatsworth launch their own Kids Hope program in LAUSD-this is the 18th program we have helped other churches launch. All these Kids Hope programs share a passion to help LA's most vulnerable children experience the "hope and a future" promised in Jeremiah 29:11. Our goal is simple: to intervene in the lives of kids in our neighborhood with "no strings attached" and become agents of transformation, affirmation, and hope!

To find out how you might join our team as a mentor, on-call super sub, prayer partner, or events volunteer, visit our website (kidshopeeaglerock.com) or use this QR code.

Duarte/Monrovia Young Life

"Through Young Life I have grown spiritually and developed my own personal relationship with God, while making lifelong friendships and memories." This is the testimony of one Duarte/Monrovia Young Life student. Meeting over lunch at school, in family homes, and at camps, over 100 students have been impacted similarly.

Duarte/Monrovia Young Life started in the fall of 2019, when a grassroots movement of Christian parents launched the ministry at Royal Oaks, a kindergarten through 8th grade school. Over the next few years, this start-up board planned, prayed, and eventually hired Area Director Gina Quay in April of 2022.

After starting out at Royal Oaks, the team launched a second lunch club at Duarte High School in the fall of 2022. And then, in the middle of the school year, a third lunch club was added at Monrovia High School, making three clubs on three campuses.

This past year Duarte/Monrovia Young Life connected with 100 to 150 students weekly. Twenty leaders—with teams of five to eight leaders at each campus—invested in students by hanging out and sharing about Jesus during lunch.

Each week lunch club attendance ranged from 30 to 60 students per campus.

Additional clubs gathered in the evenings in families' homes, and a monthly Bible study met for those who were ready to go deeper in their faith. In 2022, Young Life took 28 students to Winter Camp for the first time, and in the summer of 2023, Young Life took 36 students to summer camp.

On top of that, leaders supported students at sporting events, musicals and band concerts, helped with school projects, led a weekly park day, had meals with students' families, invited students into their homes, went out to coffee and boba, and much more. In the summer of 2023, 18 students decided to begin a relationship with Jesus for the first time!

Young Life Duarte/Monrovia has built a community where students know they are loved and they belong. "The camps are always so incredible and fun. They have played a huge role in shaping the person I am today," adds that same high school student. "I can honestly say that Young Life has had a profound impact on my life, and I am so grateful for everything it has given me."



FCA IN THE SAN FERNANDO VALLEY

Bevin's Story

"My story shows how God's grace will pull you back to Him, even if you think He isn't working, to have you receive His light in your heart."

Bevan Maxwell, a junior at John Burroughs High School, joined Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) at the beginning of his sophomore year, just looking for friends and a place to fit in. "I didn't really know anyone besides people I met through tennis. One of those people happened to be the current FCA president. Through him I joined FCA, met more people, and made great friends."

That FCA president was Zion DuMonde, whose family attends Christian Assembly. FCA Area Representative Josh Brodt worked with Zion and his brother Elijah and a few other CA Students and their friends to get the FCA Huddle restarted at John Burroughs High School. Because of the influence of the DuMonde brothers and other student athletes, more students heard the gospel and were encouraged to become part of the student leadership team at their school. Bevan was one of those students.

Bevan was raised in a Catholic home, but the pandemic disrupted his practice of the faith. "While never fully leaving the church, I definitely became further apart from it during Covid," he says. "But when I joined FCA, I started the long process of fully returning to Christ."

Bevan is now leading Bible studies. He has also had the confidence and passion to speak in front of large groups of students at huddles, where there are games, prizes, and tons of food—all for the sake of sharing the gospel. Bevan adds, "My story shows how God's grace will pull you back to Him, even if you think He isn't working, to have you receive His light in your heart."

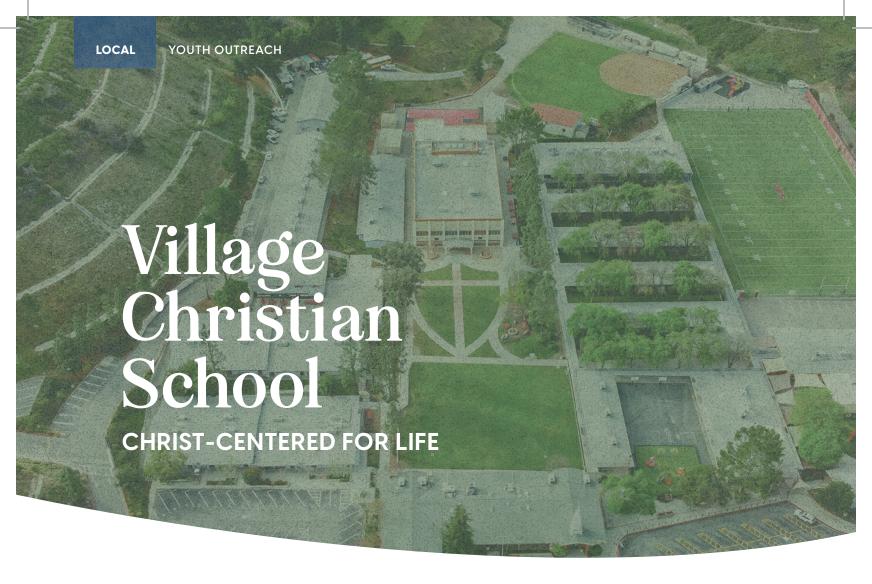
Bevan is not the only one speaking about his faith in Jesus. Anastasia, a student leader who was born in Russia and raised in Armenia, gave her powerful testimony to a group of about 45 of her peers at a huddle at Glendale High School. Josh shares what happened next.

"The students came into the room talking and joking loudly at first, excited by the free Chick-fil-A sandwiches being given away. But once Anastasia started to talk, you could have heard a pin drop in that room! We were all riveted by what she shared. Hearts were truly touched that day because of her willingness to speak to her peers. Whenever students get up and speak about the Lord in front of their peers, it is beautiful!"

MORE ABOUT FCA

Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) exists to lead every coach and athlete into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ and His church. Since 2015, close to 5,000 students have made decisions to follow Christ through FCA's campus huddles in the San Fernando Valley.





High school junior Emma
Cusimano is no stranger
to starting at a new
school. In fact, when she
began at Village Christian
School in the fall of 2022, Emma
was a new student for the tenth
time. Village Christian seeks to
be a place for students like Emma
to grow in their relationship with
Christ, and to find His purpose for
them in this world.

The mission of Village Christian School is "to provide a CAREing, Christ-centered education, producing students who thrive." This type of "CARE" involves being Christ-centered and Accessible/Affordable, fostering Real Relationships, and striving for Educational Excellence. It also means welcoming every student, so that he or she feels almost immediately at home.

After completing her first year at Village, Emma seems to feel just that—at home. "Village has been amazing. It was definitely a place where I felt like I belonged."

Because of programs like Concentrations™ at VCS, students can not only find a sense of belonging, but also begin to discern God's calling

on their lives. Starting in High School, students choose a concentration, an area of focus to begin to explore the passions and abilities that God has placed in them.

As part of the Health and Environment concentration, Emma hopes to focus on the medical field after graduation, perhaps even shooting to become a neurosurgeon. Emma adds, "Village really has pushed me further in my faith, and being surrounded by people who live for Jesus as I do has made me grow as a Christian and as a person."

Unlike Emma, graduating senior

MICHAEL MALDONADO has
attended Village Christian for 14
years, making him a "lifer" at VCS.
As a Ministry and Social Justice
concentration student, Michael plans

to attend Vanguard University in Costa Mesa to study theology, with the goal of becoming a pastor.

"I feel that God has put it on my heart to use my voice to teach others about His love and salvation that can only be received through Him," Michael shares. "Each and every person in this world has been given a gift by the Lord to use for His glory, and I plan to do that on a daily basis throughout the rest of my life."

Graduating senior **ELIJAH NGAI**, who started at

Village in seventh grade,

has discerned a similar

calling of spreading
the good news of Jesus.

"After graduation, I'll be part of Circuit Riders, a branch

of Youth With a Mission, where I will be part of the Discipleship Training School and doing missions overseas," explains Elijah. "I am beyond excited to be sharing God's love with the youth of this generation," which is exactly what Village sets out to do for students like Michael, Emma, and Elijah.

As Head of School Tom Konjoyan states, "Over the past seven decades thousands of students have had their lives transformed through their experience at Village Christian. They have gone on to be leaders in their communities, churches, and families." And as in Elijah's life,

into the world.

A LITTLE MORE ABOUT VCS

Founded in 1949 as an outreach to the community, Village Christian School has been a vanguard of quality, Christian education in the Greater Los Angeles area for the past seven decades. From its humble beginnings in a small church building with only 40 elementary students, VCS has grown into one of the largest K-12 private schools in the nation, with 1,150 students on a 30-acre campus.

In 2023, CA partnered with VCS by giving \$300,000 to support Village Christian School's gospel-centered mission of equipping the next generation of leaders.



TURN MINISTRIES

Students Connecting Students to the Gospel and the Church

Brian Weaver is a graduate of Clemson University, but from 2018-2021, Brian did more than just earn the necessary credits to get his degree.

Brian served on a leadership team for the Hills Retreat, an annual retreat for freshmen led by students for students. The Hills Retreat is just one of many retreats run in connection with Turn Ministries.

Turn Ministries is a movement that proclaims the gospel to incoming students, with the end goal of connecting them to other Christian students and to the local church. The Turn Network spans across 12 collegiate campuses in six different states. These retreats are independent in function but united in a common goal-welcoming incoming college students into the local Christian community.

"By mobilizing the student bodies to host the retreats, the incoming freshmen are connected not just to churches, but also to brothers and sisters in college with them," explains Turn Ministries Chief Executive Officer Matt Stone.

Although Turn Ministries has only been around since 2018, the movement has already reached over 3,000 incoming college students! These 3,000 students—in turn—have been connected to over 90 local churches.

Even so, Brian shares, "The impact of our ministry isn't just measured by numbers. It's really measured by how our relationship with Christ has impacted us, and how it leads us to move toward other people."

STUDENT MOBILIZATION

Reaching the Lost

Bella Hardy grew up attending Christian Assembly, but going into her sophomore year at the University of Colorado, she would describe herself as "super lost."

In the first of a series of events that are part of her "crazy God story," Bella made a bold move to attend a church nearby for a young adult service much like Fusion (CA's young adult service). At that service she met her soon-to-be best friend Kate, who shared the gospel with her and connected her to Student Mobilization (StuMo).

StuMo mobilizes students like Bella "to live for Christ wherever they go." Originally the ministry focused on students in Greek life, but that focus has expanded to sports teams and clubs. Since its beginning at the University of Arkansas in 1986, StuMo has been launched at 26 different campuses and in six different regions of the United States.

"After getting involved with StuMo," says Bella, "I knew this was something I wanted to be doing forever." In fact, Bella plans to join the StuMo staff team at the University of Wyoming in the fall of 2023.

Bella isn't lost anymore. She has seen the impact of StuMo in her own life, and now has the chance to reach the "lost of the lost" for Jesus. Recently, she had the privilege of leading a Colorado University student to Christ on a third Starbucks coffee meet-up. Bella's prayer request: "that I can lead my girls well." It seems that prayer is already being answered.



MERCY STREET

Tremell's Story

When we began ministering to Tremell in the Spring of 2022, he was withdrawn and shut down. But after consistent visits, he eventually committed his life to Jesus Christ. He began to lean into prayer, started reading the word, and seemed joyful and light. When he heard us coming down the row, he would run to the jail door and call to us, "Please don't miss me when you come to this row. I always want you to come and pray with me."

Because he was in for a serious felony, Tremell was looking at life behind bars. It seemed there was no hope. But when things look impossible for us, God is just getting started. Mere months after committing his life to the Lord, Tremell experienced a miracle. He went to court, and his sentence was reduced from life to only two years!

This is not an unfamiliar story. Over the past nine years we have seen it time after time. Prisoners encounter the Lord, turn their hearts to Christ, and God extends mercy. Not only are they forever changed, but many have experienced reduced sentences and early release.

In Matthew 25:31-46, Jesus says that when we minister to the prisoner, we are ministering to Christ himself.



MORE ABOUT MERCY STREET

Mercy Street has ministered to those affected by incarceration for over nine years. In that time, they have reached out to well over 2,000 men, and have seen hundreds commit their lives to Christ and experience healing, restoration, and freedom to live the lives that God always intended for them to live.

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HOPE THE MISSION

Tiny Homes

Before coming to the Arroyo Seco Tiny Home site, Doreen was living in a tent in Highland Park.

In her own words, "After receiving keys to my permanent dwelling, I finally have a chance to reconnect with society in a socially acceptable way. I can feel like a normal human and no longer live in shame."

Hope the Mission is a faith-based organization that exists to tangibly demonstrate God's love to the hurting, hungry, and homeless by offering immediate assistance, as well as long-term solutions. Their goal is to reach people where they are, love them unconditionally, and address their physical, emotional, and spiritual needs.

Opened in October of 2021, the Arroyo Seco Tiny Home site has 117 units and an average of 160 guests. Each guest receives three meals a day, case management, housing navigation, and access to mental health and substance use treatment.

Since the inception of the site, 72 guests have moved into permanent housing, and a number of residents have broken free from addiction. Many others have accessed mental health services and are living free from mental health ideations.

Doreen is no longer homeless. She shares, "Homeless people are very judged and criticized, but at Hope the Mission, their goal was always love first, not judgment first."



CRESCENT PROJECT

The Story of One Afghan Family

When the Sultani family, refugees from Afghanistan, arrived in Los Angeles in March of 2023, they were unsure of how to meet their family's pressing needs.

So, they met with Dann Torres, Los Angeles Coordinator for Crescent Project—a ministry that equips the church and community to reach Muslims with the gospel.

The father, Jamshid, worried about his ability to care for his disabled six-year-old son Ahmed. He needed to find medical care and assistance for his son, and was especially concerned about paying his rent of \$2,195, due in two days.

That night Dann prayed over Jamshid in Jesus' name, and sent out the Sultani family's needs to the local Crescent Project network. The Lord showed up in mighty ways and delivered a miracle through the generosity of responders.

The balance of rent was provided within the necessary 48 hours. Donations came in that week to help support the family's immediate needs, including grocery gift cards given by Christian Assembly. And Dann connected Jamshid with a key contact at GLAD (Greater Los Angeles Agency on Deafness), and helped with additional muchneeded special education resources.

Dann shares, "I connect Afghan families with churches and individuals who can be a resource to them as they acclimate to their new home. Through prayer, genuine friendship, and the efforts of many, our hope is that our new Muslim friends will see all provision and assistance coming from Christ Jesus!"





OPEN ARMS

Darnisha's Story

When Darnisha suspected she might be unexpectedly pregnant, she was full of fear.

She already had two children and didn't want to have more. Finances were hard, and she was just starting nursing school. Add in the fact that she didn't have medical insurance, and the odds were against her.

Walking through the doors of Open Arms for the first time, Darnisha thought, "I don't think I'm going to keep him." Her case manager listened to her story, her obstacles, and her dreams. Darnisha felt heard, and hope sprang up.

At that moment, Darnisha says, "The stress went away, and I felt relief."

Since it opened in 1992, The Open Arms Pregnancy Clinic has offered life-affirming services to thousands facing unintended pregnancy and reproductive choices. Services include pregnancy testing, ultrasounds, education, decision counseling, pregnancy and parenting classes, and material support—all at no cost.

Darnisha's son Legend was born in March of 2023. Darnisha says he is a feisty boy, who brings her so much love. She is still pursuing her RN on an expedited program.

Darnisha shares, "My pregnancy brought me closer to God, and I'm learning to put things in His hands."

"My pregnancy brought me closer to God, and I'm learning to put things in His hands."

Made New

A FEW STORIES OF BAPTISM AT CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY

Each year, God blesses Christian Assembly with people who investigate faith, become convinced of the truth of the gospel, and give their whole lives to Jesus.

Our mission: "God's grace compels us to lead spiritually convinced and unconvinced people to complete commitment to Jesus Christ." Part of that complete commitment is baptism, a public demonstration of faith and a commitment to follow Jesus in new life with God by the power of the Holy Spirit. Take a look at a few of these stories of being made new in Jesus!

TATUM WORTHEN

My name is Tatum. Before giving my life to Christ, I wasn't certain of the meaning of my life. One day my Kids Church pastor said, "If anybody hasn't dedicated their life to Christ,

do it now in prayer." So I did! Now that I have committed my life to Jesus, I know that our Savior has rescued me from sin and death. I am getting baptized to show my faith and my commitment to following Jesus.

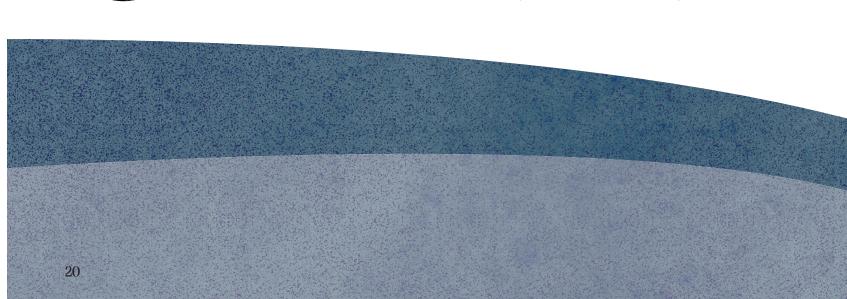
JULIAN AGUILAR

My name is Julian. Before deciding to trust Christ, I was lost in addiction to alcohol for seven years. I treated God like a genie. I would sin, ask

for forgiveness, feel clean for some time, and then go right back to sin.

After moving back to Los Angeles, I would hike to a nearby mountain and sit on a rock that has a cross on it. I would set aside those first hours in the day just for God. I had such deep, intimate sessions with Him, just listening to the gospel on YouTube and letting the word sink in.

It didn't take long for me to completely trust in Christ for my salvation, because I experienced



how easy it was for Him to move mountains if I just surrendered. Now I know the truth of what love really is, and I have the Word of God as my sword to combat any attack of the enemy.

JANE CAMARISTA

My name is Jane. I grew up in the Catholic faith, and so I have believed in God since I was very young. Then, through a long battle with cancer involving 10 surgeries, I

came to a point where I knew I didn't have control. I needed to surrender everything to God's will.

Since deciding to fully place my trust in Jesus, I have experienced the Holy Spirit's help and guidance to move forward in the chemo process. Even though my journey isn't over yet, I am here to share my testimony that my latest biopsy result was benign, and the Lord really still heals and works miracles. I am here in front of you all today declaring the goodness of the Lord in my life!

DAVID FISHER

My name is David. Before
I trusted Jesus, my life was
painful and hopeless. I was
involved with street gangs,
addiction, and the behaviors that

come with them. No matter how hard I tried to do better, I felt as if I had no purpose. In desperation, I fell to my knees and I found Jesus pulling my heart and being the only One to look towards.

His light shone a path in the darkness for me, and I decided to trust Jesus with my life. I am no longer a slave to addiction, and I have found people that genuinely care about me. I am becoming a better person towards others, a better son, brother, and father. I'm getting baptized because Jesus is making me new.

INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT BAPTISM AT CA?

Christian Assembly offers baptism services five or six times per year. If you would like to be baptized at CA, we offer a baptism class to help you understand what baptism is, how we do it, and why we do it that way. You can sign up for the next baptism class here at cachurch.com/baptism or scan this QR code.

"God's grace compels us to lead spiritually convinced and unconvinced people to complete commitment to Jesus Christ."

Conversations About Jesus

Conversations can change lives, particularly conversations about Jesus. Some of the greatest conversations recorded in the Bible took place over a meal with Jesus.

Today people can still discover who Jesus is and what He is all about while talking together around a table. Conversations About Jesus consists of a series of meetings on a patio behind Lucky Baldwin's, a local pub in Old Town Pasadena.

Sitting around a table—talking, listening, laughing, and even sometimes shedding tears—evangelism happens. People who do not attend church services show up to share a meal and discuss matters of faith, questions about religion, and curiosity about the Bible. They come because a friend invited them along or told them about Conversations About Jesus.

Over the course of four weeks, some decide to begin attending Christian Assembly's weekend services, others take new steps to investigate Christianity, and still others decide to believe the gospel message for themselves. Standing in the alley behind Lucky Baldwin's, men and women have opened their hearts in prayer and professed new faith in Jesus. All because of divinely appointed conversations about Jesus.

To find out about upcoming evangelism opportunities, visit our website (cachurch.com/evangelism).

Tommy Walker Ministries

Amidst the nightlife of Melbourne, Australia, a partner of Tommy Walker Ministries recently performed a song that was written, produced, and released by TWM.

After seeing the video, Tommy shares, "He was so boldly and joyfully declaring the gospel!" This act captures the mission of TWM: to declare the gospel through worship.

Tommy has taken his gifts for worship leading and songwriting around the world–from Los Angeles to every corner of the globe. Through Tommy Walker Ministries, the mission of declaring the gospel through worship expands beyond Tommy and his team, to every worship leader and songwriter connected to the TWM network, and beyond.

TWM not only produces and releases worship music, but also puts on worship concerts and seminars. TWM creates resources for worship leaders and worship teams—all of which are given away for free. TWM has given away over 100,000 resources, including albums, sheet music, performance tracks, music videos, teaching videos, and music instruction videos.

In January of 2023, TWM hosted the first Songwriter Retreat in Del Mar, California. Worship leaders and songwriters from far and wide gathered together to learn, be encouraged, and write worship songs for their local congregations. Since that time, TWM has received several reports of those congregations being blessed by these newly written songs.

When asked about the challenges the ministry faces, Tommy says, "We need God's strength and help to accomplish the many opportunities He is bringing to us." And so we respond with this prayer, "Do It, Lord."



Living Missionally

STORIES OF PEOPLE FROM CALIVING ON MISSION IN EVERYDAY LIFE.



RICO DIZON

I came to faith in Christ after years of drug addiction and alcoholism. At the time, my life had no direction. I was hopeless, and almost became homeless. God met me in May of 1994 through my aunt and uncle, who brought me to church.

During the service, I sensed God saying, "Son, you are tired. Come home." That night I slept peacefully for the first time in many years. The next day my craving for drugs and alcohol was completely gone.

Because of how God rescued me, my missional calling is to obey the Lord Jesus Christ's mandate to bring the Kingdom of God by proclaiming the gospel and continuing the discipleship work that He began.

Serving at CA has helped me follow God's calling on my life. I have been volunteering on the Welcome Team since 2010, and recently I started to volunteer with CA's student ministries and Kingdom ministry. I also look forward to CA's Serve Day and other short-term mission opportunities.

As you serve, remember that God is faithful. He will draw hearts toward Him, because, "In your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore." (Psalm 16:11)

MATT LOWE

I have a twofold missional calling. Vocationally, I am an actor, so I consider myself a ninja pastor on set, praying for people and sharing Jesus' joy with them.

The other part of my calling is my day-to-day availability. I prayer walk my street sometimes. We open our home to host parties with neighbors, and wherever I go, I try to listen for the Holy Spirit's invitation to partner with Him in what He's doing in peoples' lives.

I have also started regularly praying for people, especially for physical healing. A group of us prayed for a man, and he was healed of debilitating neuropathy right then and there! Another time I prayed for a life group leader who had twisted his ankle badly, and he got up and ran around the room after the Lord miraculously healed him! Other times I pray, and it seems like nothing happens—but something always happens. People feel loved, seen, and cared for by Jesus.

I have been most impressed by God working through me just because I am available. I believe we are all priests, God's ambassadors meant to partner with Him to bring His Kingdom here on earth every day.





TONI AND STEWART BROWN

Foster families need a community supporting them in their heroic efforts. Statistics show that 50 percent of families will stop fostering within the first year if they don't have community support to lean on, but if they do have support. 90 percent will continue

support, 90 percent will continue to foster.

We serve as ministry leaders for Care Communities at CA. A Care Community supports foster/ adoptive families by providing help with babysitting, meals, grocery shopping, cleaning, mentoring, transportation, anything else needed. As ministry leaders, we create awareness, train leaders and volunteers, and serve as advocates for foster/ adoptive families.

We currently support four foster/ adoptive families and three volunteer host families, who temporarily provide care for kids who are in danger of going into the foster system. In total we have over 50 volunteers at Christian Assembly and several more who will be trained.

Look around you and see how God might be inviting you to get involved with the things that burden your heart. Pray. Take a step of faith. Then watch as you see God work through you for His Kingdom purposes!

DEBBIE SLAVIN

I have had so many opportunities at CA, simply by saying yes to what God has laid out for me.

When CA became my home church, I joined the Welcome Team and started going to Women's Bible Study, quickly becoming a table leader.

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I've also gone on trips to Tanzania and the Philippines, retreats in East Asia, helped to bring Perspectives (a course about God's global purposes) to CA, led women's discipleship groups, and helped bring the Spiritual Authority Cohort (an experiential prayer training) to our church. I have also been part of the planning teams for women's retreats and conferences.

Outside of CA, I have the honor of sitting on the boards of two amazing organizations: VisionSynergy, whose mission is to accelerate the progress of the gospel among the unreached, and San Gabriel Valley Habitat for Humanity, which is doing amazing work to provide affordable housing for low-income families.

I also try to take every opportunity to share my faith with my coworkers and to pray and bless them. The workplace can be anyone's mission field. Faith is like breathing; it should come naturally to let others know about your love for Jesus.

SONNY AND ERIN DE GUZMAN

Our worldview regarding missions is to partner with those who are already doing the work on the mission field. When CA announced that they were sending a team to the Philippines in 2014, we felt called to go. That was the first of our three trips there—with our whole family.

We believe learning by experience is one of the most effective ways to show our kids how God reaches people all over the world. We want to teach our kids about God's Kingdom, missions, and serving the poor. Nothing beats meeting the people in the community, sharing a meal with them, praying, worshiping, and crying with them. It's a life-changing experience.

More recently we started supporting missionaries through hospitality and housing. We built an ADU (accessory dwelling unit) in our backyard, and for the past year, we have hosted several missionaries in our ADU for free. We have learned that there is a need for temporary housing for missionary workers.

God can and will use whatever you can offer to Him. Pray and meditate on God's Word daily. Find out what your spiritual gifts are; then see how those gifts apply to living missionally.

HOW IS GOD CALLING YOU TO LIVE ON MISSION? "EVERY BELIEVER IS CALLED. EVERYONE IS ON MISSION." -MATT LOWE



If you would like to learn more about practical ways to live missionally in your everyday life, scan this QR code.

Volunteer Partnerships

CA SERVES WITH THESE LOCAL MISSION ORGANIZATIONS

ELIZABETH HOUSE

Elizabeth House empowers pregnant and parenting women experiencing homelessness to reclaim their lives and build successful family legacies. Through the love of Christ, Elizabeth House provides a residential program, life-long personalized care, and community-based support for pregnant and parenting women and their children. This is done through a holistic program that addresses physical, emotional, spiritual, and economic needs.

UNION RESCUE MISSION

Union Rescue Mission is dedicated to serving those experiencing homelessness. It provides emergency and long-term services, which include food, shelter, clothing, medical and dental care, and Christian recovery programs. URM also offers transitional housing, legal assistance, education, counseling, and job training. URM provides an escape from Skid Row and helps guests transition from homelessness to independent living.

URM'S HOPE GARDENS FAMILY CENTER

Hope Gardens offers a peaceful setting and transitional living to moms, children, and single women, as well as permanent supportive housing to senior women. In addition to food and shelter, HGFC has long-term rehabilitation programs, job training, and counseling. Hope Gardens provides the real help women need to escape homelessness forever.

DOOR OF HOPE

Door of Hope's mission is to empower families facing homelessness.

Door of Hope operates four shelters that house single-parent families, twoparent families, and domestic violence survivors—together with their children.

As families transition from Door of Hope into their own homes, the ministry offers ongoing services to help them maintain their new housing.

CHILDREN'S HUNGER FUND

Children's Hunger Fund equips local churches with Food Paks, boxes of non-perishable food for families in need. Supporters provide Food Paks to churches in the U.S. and around the world. These Food Paks are then delivered to homes. Food becomes a tool for local churches to share the gospel with families in their communities.

OLIVE CREST

Olive Crest is dedicated to preventing child abuse by strengthening, equipping, and restoring children and families in crisis. The Olive Crest vision is a strong family for every child. Through the power of God, family, and community, Olive Crest helps break the cycle of abuse and empowers children and families to become healthy and productive.

TREASURES

The mission of Treasures is to equip and empower women in the sex industry and survivors of trafficking to live healthy, flourishing lives, and to train others across the globe to do the same in their cities. Treasures is a survivor-led, traumainformed community of women committed to meeting women where they are through outreach, care, and training.

HOVING HOME

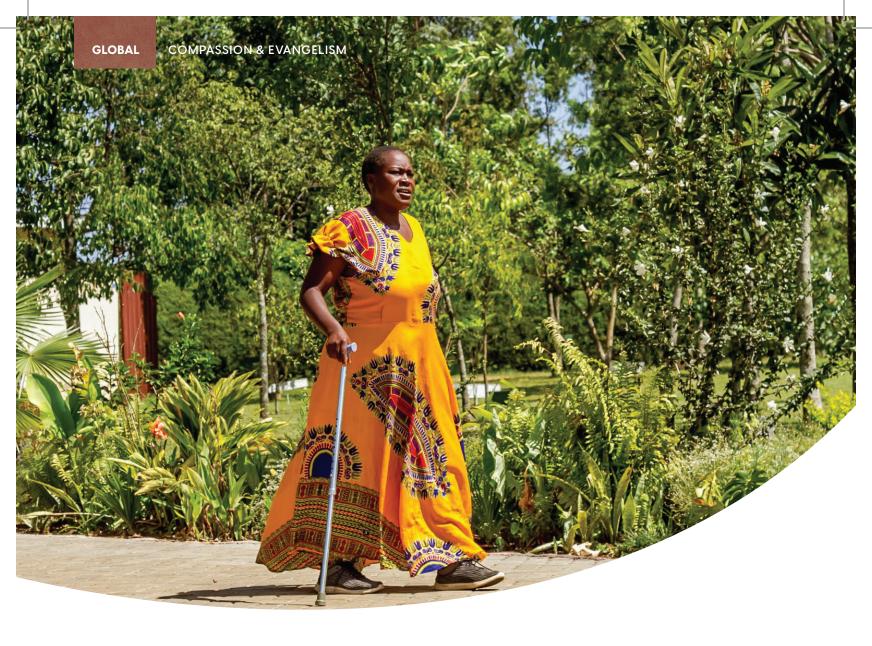
The Hoving Home is a nonprofit, residential, faith-based program that serves women who have been involved in drug addiction, alcoholism, prostitution, crime, and other life-controlling problems. The Hoving Home's mission is to provide a loving community devoted to rebuilding shattered lives, and to empower women to fulfill their God-given purpose.



THEN JESUS CAME TO THEM AND SAID, "ALL AUTHORITY IN HEAVEN AND ON EARTH HAS BEEN GIVEN TO ME. THEREFORE GO AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS, BAPTIZING THEM IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER AND OF THE SON AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, AND TEACHING THEM TO OBEY EVERYTHING I HAVE COMMANDED YOU. AND SURELY I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS, TO THE VERY END OF THE AGE."

Matthew 28:18-20

Global Ministries



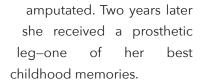
LIVING ROOM INTERNATIONAL IN KENYA

Ruth's Story

Ruth's radiant smile is a result of a gift she recently received from Living Room—a new prosthetic leg.

Ruth has no memory of the accident that occurred when she was only nine months old. The story was told that she was crawling on the dirt floor of the mud-walled, grass-thatched kitchen where her mother used the traditional three stones and firewood to cook. Ruth's leg entered the fire without her deaf mother hearing her screams. An aunt heard and rushed to save her.

Ruth's entire leg was badly burned, and though treated, it became contracted and never healed properly. At the age of twelve, Ruth's leg was



Living Room's Tumaini na
Afya (Hope & Health) outreach
team met Ruth in 2020 through a
neighbor who encouraged her to
come to Kimbilio Hospice for physical
therapy services. At the time, Ruth was in
great pain. She had been using that same
prosthetic leg for 23 years. With great love
and care, our team found a way to get Ruth a
new leg that fit her properly.

When asked, "How has Living Room impacted your life?" Ruth quickly responds, "I can now walk without pain. Asante kabisa! Thank you very much!"

MORE ABOUT THE LIVING ROOM

In 2009, Living Room International was created to meet the needs of the seriously ill in Western Kenya. Over the past 10 years, Living Room has been a life-giving and transformative refuge for thousands of people throughout Kenya. Living Room has worked side-by-side with other Kenyans to build two hospices/hospitals in Western Kenya, a home-based care program, and a funeral home. Each day the Living Room team is challenged to learn more, listen better, and love deeper.

LETTER ABOUT THE CA PARTNERSHIP WITH THE LIVING ROOM BY JULI BOIT

Dear CA.

In August 2004, I was sent out from Christian Assembly to the village of Kipkaren, Kenya to begin HIV/AIDS community mobilization work. What I thought was going to be a year or two of ministry has turned into nearly two decades of witnessing God at work in ways I never could have imagined. I will always be grateful for the prayers and financial support that have accompanied my family and me, as well as our work that eventually became Living Room International—a community of compassion, working together in Jesus' name to provide dignity and quality of life to people in Kenya through holistic medical care and education.

In 2009, when we sensed God's leading to begin Living Room, CA generously gifted \$75,000 to construct Kimbilio Hospice, a 24-bed hospice to care for adults and children affected by lifethreatening disease. In 2016, Living Room was ready to expand its reach and construct a 49-bed hospital in a second location. CA once again stood with Living Room by extravagantly giving \$1.2 million towards the construction of the hospital. The hospital officially opened in 2019, and Living Room is now serving over 100,000 Kenyans per year between our two sites.

Small steps taken with love, together, have led to miracles. It's all for the glory of God and the love of our neighbors.

With love & thanks, Juli Boit for the Living Room team

LA ROCA MINISTRIES IN MEXICO

Serving the Least of These in Jesus' Name

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me."

Matthew 25:35-36

Recently a 20-year-old young woman named Sarai was left at Carlos and Rossy Montoya's doorstep in Tijuana, Mexico. She didn't know how she got there or who brought her. In Carlos' words, "She didn't know anything!" She had no phone and no idea where she was.

The Montoya's brought her in, fed her, and offered her a warm shower and clean clothes. They helped her contact her parents, who had no words—only gratitude. Within a few days,



Sarai was back at home with her family. Shortly after Sarai's return, her father called Carlos and Rossy, saying, "You probably saved her life!" For 25 years, Carlos and Rossy Montoya have faithfully followed Jesus' invitation to love the least of these, people like Sarai.

La Roca Ministries has been a place of refuge and healing, reaching people for Christ-people who are suffering from some of life's greatest challenges. Here is a brief description of what La Roca's ministries look like and how they are bringing life, hope, provision, and freedom in Jesus' name.

THE RANCH MEN'S DISCIPLESHIP (A RECOVERY PROGRAM):

A one-year residential program designed to support men who are overcoming life-controlling issues and recovering from drug and alcohol addictions.

THE MEN'S AND WOMEN'S SHELTER:

An overnight refuge for more than 200 individuals every night, located in one of the most impoverished, prostitution-filled, and illicit druguse areas.

THE HOUSE OF GRACE ORPHANAGE:

A home for abandoned children and for children of single mothers who are often addicted to drugs, working as prostitutes, or unable to care for their children.

THE DUMP (CITY WASTE):

A ministry that provides food, fresh water, showers, and the gospel to 300-500 people who scavenge through the garbage looking for anything they can salvage or recycle.

THE WATER CANAL:

A ministry that serves around 250 people weekly, offering God's Word, food, and other resources along the Tijuana River Bank, known as a home for the homeless and drug addicts.

BIBLE SCHOOL MINISTRY:

A 16-course biblical studies program developed to equip and edify believers for a lifestyle of continuous growth in God's Word.

THE SONORA MINISTRY:

A recovery program and a seminary to train and equip locals to go out and reach natives in the hills.

OAXACA CHILDREN'S CLUB:

Provides nutritional meals, the gospel, and hope to children who would go hungry if not for this ministry.

CITY LIGHT WOMEN'S ACADEMY:

Designed for women escaping the grips of human trafficking and prostitution.

In the last year, La Roca Ministries has reached over 2,500 new people, with over 350,000 meals prepared in all of its ministries. And over these last 25 years, whatever was done for one of the least of these brothers and sisters, it was done for Jesus.

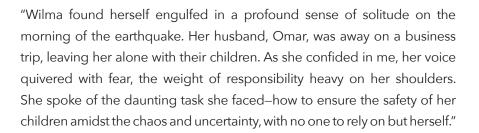
FOURSQUARE DISASTER RELIEF

Wilma's Story



In February of 2023, a devastating earthquake struck Turkey and Syria, leaving in its wake a trail of unimaginable destruction and an overwhelming loss of life.

Through generous giving and support, **Foursquare Disaster Relief (FDR)** swiftly mobilized a response to the earthquake, breathing life into a devastated region. FDR Emissary Richard Farris, who was part of the on-the-ground relief team, shares Wilma's story.



The following day, the harsh reality of their situation struck with full force. Wilma and her family were left with no place to call home, and the devastating loss of all of their material possessions loomed over them.

Within the tight-knit community, a couple of families huddled together in a cramped tent, their shared space inadequate for everyone to rest comfortably. Sleep came in fragmented doses as they took turns to find solace in the limited shelter available. However, amidst the hardship, an unexpected ray of light pierced through the darkness.

FDR was able to provide a tent to Wilma and her family—a sanctuary they could call their own. In that moment, pure elation radiated from their faces. They shared a collective excitement and relief, as they now possessed a semblance of security, allowing them to chart their next steps toward recovery.



MORE ABOUT FDR: REBUILDING FROM THE RUBBLE

The February 2023 earthquake in Turkey and Syria left behind a staggering death toll, surpassing 50,000 people. Turkey, with 45,968 confirmed deaths, and Syria, mourning 7,259 lives lost, bore witness to immense human suffering and profound grief.

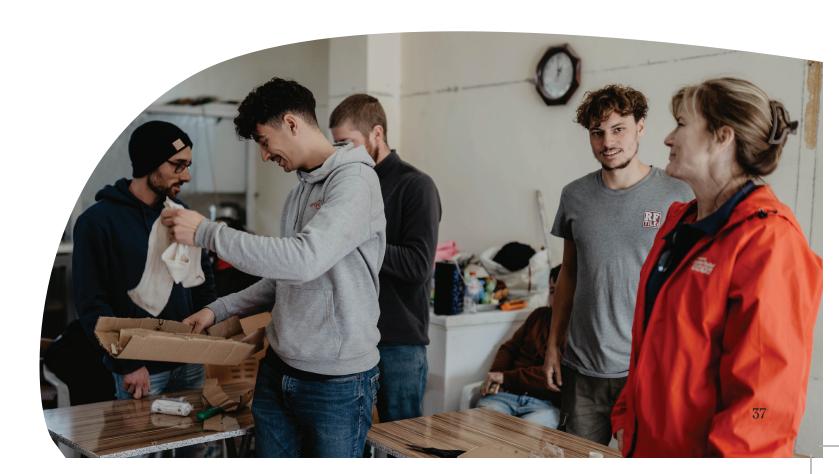
Foursquare Turkey's swift action to mobilize relief efforts from various fronts proved instrumental in providing immediate care and support to those in need. Meal distribution trucks traversed the affected areas, delivering sustenance and essential supplies to countless individuals. FDR and Foursquare Missions International collaborated with local leaders to coordinate additional resources, including food, clothing, and medical aid. Generators, food supplies, water, heating, and medicine, along with care packages, were provided to alleviate the suffering of the victims. FDR distributed sleeping bags, blankets, winter clothing, and hot meals each day,

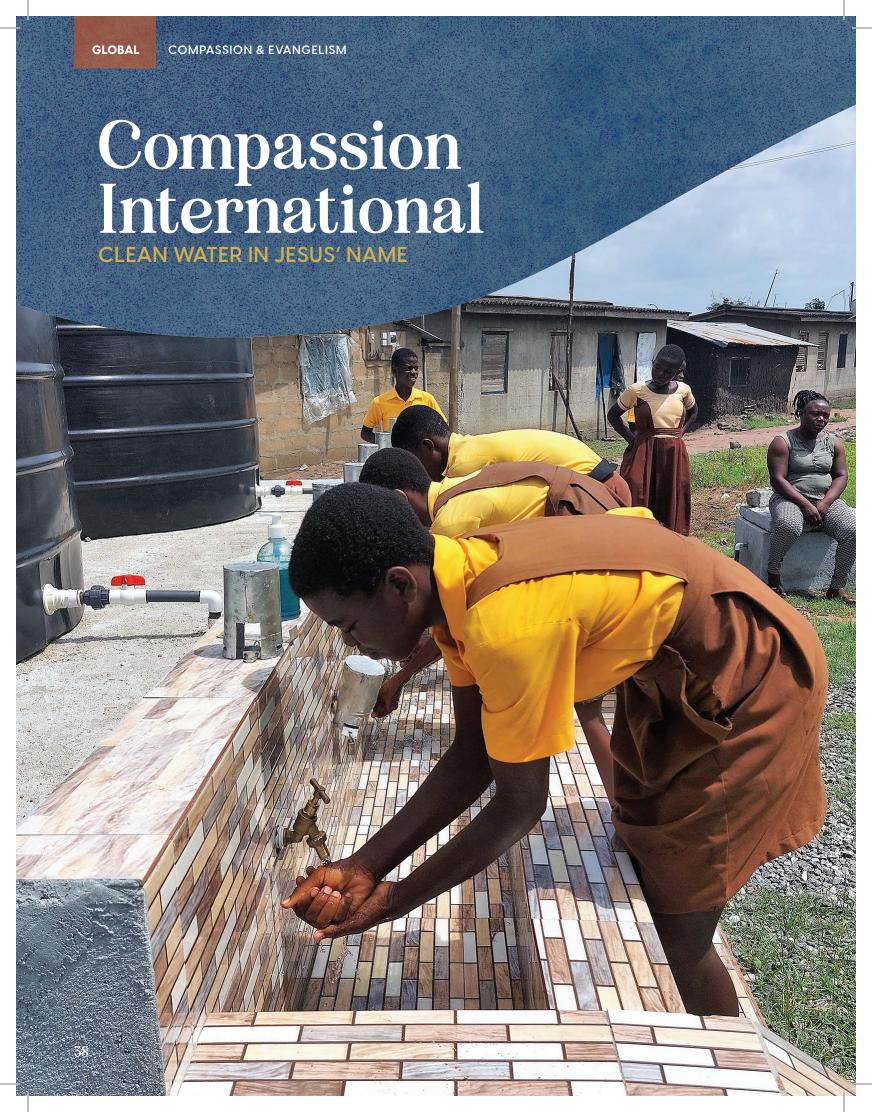
extending warmth and compassion to those who had lost everything.

The FDR team, along with numerous partners in Turkey, established five strategic locations equipped with mobile kitchens, which served thousands of hot meals daily. They also ensured access to clean water and provided tents for those left homeless.

While physical aid was undoubtedly essential, spiritual and emotional care were equally critical. Prayer and trauma support were an integral part of the relief efforts. Recognizing that the earthquake not only shattered homes but also uprooted lives, FDR endeavored to bring comfort to individuals grappling with an uncertain future.

Christian Assembly gave \$50,000 to FDR to help with these vital relief efforts in Turkey. Together, we have seen that our hope in Christ can withstand even the most devastating trials.





"You will always be remembered for every drop of water from this intervention."

These are words of gratitude to Christian Assembly from Reverend Jasper, who leads the Presbyterian Church and Child and Youth Development Center in Ghana. Christian Assembly's gift of safe water through Compassion International has impacted the lives of 200 Compassion participants, as well as 860 caregivers and community members in the area.

Before the intervention, community members and childcare workers made regular, long treks to collect water from a local dam—the very water that would often make them ill due to contamination. The alternative was to travel long distances to buy water to be used in cooking. Both of these options impacted the entire community negatively, and disrupted the ministry and classes of the Child and Youth Development Center.

Now, because of Christian Assembly's gift, two distribution centers allow for easy access to safe, clean, life-sustaining water for the Child Development Center and the surrounding community. Pipes have been installed to access safe water from the Ghana Water Company. A 10,000 liter water reservoir at each distribution point provides access to clean water when the main grid lacks supply.

In addition, hand washing stations are available at the center, and local health officials have led an educational workshop on water, hygiene, and sanitation that reached 192 participants, 118 caregivers, and 600 community members.

"Safe drinking water was the biggest concern for all of us, but this is no more the case as we have access to water all day round," says Mustabshira, a caregiver of two Compassion participants. In addition, Compassion staff report: increased school attendance and punctuality, improved hygiene and sanitation in the community, a decrease in hygiene-related illness, and financial savings because of not having to buy clean water.

Most of all, children are hydrated, and the community is both excited and relieved.

According to Abekah, who directs the Compassion Center, "It takes less than 15 minutes for the participants and their families to get access to the water. It used to take more than one hour."

Isaac, also a project director for Compassion, adds, "The community had been exposed to so many years of dependence on unhygienic water sources and has always been looking forward to getting support from the government, but in vain. So completing this mechanized borehole has brought life and hope to the inhabitants in the community."

He goes on to say, "To Compassion International and its sponsors, based on John 4:14 which states, 'But whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.' It is our prayer that you will not be thirsty for this kind gesture."

A Compassion participant named Radia shares, "I no longer struggle to get potable water in the community, and I also have been relieved of the hassles of water borne and other related diseases. Other children in the community and I



now attend school regularly, and I no longer go to school late."

Jibordi, a 9-year-old boy, agrees. "There was no good drinking water for use at home, and I had to walk long distances to collect water from the dam. I no longer experience complicated health conditions related to drinking contaminated water from the dam." In closing, he prays this blessing over Christian Assembly.

"God bless you and your families so much for the intervention. I also pray that God increases your finances and blesses you abundantly, so you can help other people who are in need. I pray that God will continue to expand whatever you are doing, so you can continue this good work."

Thank you, Jibordi. The word "Amen" means, "so be it." And so we say, "Amen, Jibordi, Amen."

MORE COMPASSION INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS FUNDED BY CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY

It seems that the Lord has already begun answering Jibordi's prayers to expand Christian Assembly's partnership with Compassion for the Kingdom. Take a look at these additional efforts that are either completed, in process, or still to come!

Christian Assembly has given \$150,000 towards clean water, Bibles, and funding for discipleship to Ghana to impact over 5,000 people.

Christian Assembly gave \$75,000 to help 5,400 vulnerable children and their households receive emergency food relief in Columbia.

Christian Assembly gave \$457,000 to fund six clean water, Bible, and discipleship projects in Brazil, the Dominican Republic, Nicaragua, and the Philippines. Combined, these projects will impact over 30,000 people in Jesus' name.

"But whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

JOHN 4:14

Breakthrough Church

MANILA, PHILIPPINES

Carlos and Edna Ilustre lead Breakthrough Church, a community in an impoverished area of greater Manila, seeking to offer hope, freedom, and opportunities to break the cycle of poverty.

Their mission: "The sole purpose of our life, relationships, work, and learning is to know God through His Son Jesus, who left us things to do while waiting for His return."

One of those "things" that Jesus has called Carlos and Edna to do is to build new congregations right within the communities they serve. They start by doing home visits during the week to spend time with the people, understand their needs, and "touch their hearts with the genuineness of God's love for them."

Next, small groups gather in shacks and makeshift huts weekly, meeting for prayer and Bible study. Instead of going to a church, the people are the church, God's people.

Carlos and Edna share, "People know that they have to make a decision if they want Jesus in their lives or not. So, more people commit their lives to Christ and immediately begin serving."

Breakthrough is now serving in eight communities. They have at least 300 new families that meet regularly for prayer, discipleship, and worship, and to learn about God and His purposes. Breakthrough now has six Sunday services and Saturday Jesus Fun Clubs that meet weekly in these communities, and is feeding at least 400 children twice a week.

When asked how Christian Assembly can pray for Breakthrough, Carlos and Edna answered, "Please pray that the Lord will raise more people from the new communities we are reaching who will commit their lives to sharing the gospel, prayer, and making disciples. Pray that these people will learn to love unconditionally, serve out of need, and give out of poverty."



Sofia's Story

Ten years ago
Sofia's aunt
convinced her to
go to church for the
first time, and her life
was never the same.

She was overwhelmed by the love she felt, and amazed that the pastor knew everyone by name. Soon this Ukrainian teenager in Zaporizhzhya started attending Young Life Club regularly, where she played crazy games and got to have fun. She never stayed long enough to hear the talk about Jesus, but still kept coming back each week.

The atmosphere at Young Life was different than anything Sofia had ever experienced. She went to camp to have fun with friends, and even though she tried her best not to pay attention to the club talks or engage in discussions, something was shifting within her heart. Sofia shares, "After I got home from camp, something happened. I saw my life is not good, I wanted to change. I said yes to Jesus!"

Sofia continues to say yes to Jesus. In February 2022, her world turned upside down when she became one of over five million Ukrainian refugees flooding into Europe. Sofia settled in Prague with her mom, and found a Christian

community in a small Ukrainian-speaking church. Only a couple of months after arriving in Prague, some Young Life Ukraine leaders spoke at her church, sharing the vision of reaching out to young Ukrainian refugees in the city. Sofia remembers feeling torn. "I don't feel like I'm a leader, but I felt called by Jesus."

At the first activity, frisbee in the park, she saw the teenagers, and something stirred in her heart. Suddenly the natural introvert wanted to connect with these teens and share Jesus' love with them. Although Sofia may not have felt like a leader, Young Life Ukrainian Ministry Coordinator Danyal Dobroliubov says Sofia has "superpowers" when it comes to discipling young women.

During her first few months leading in Prague, Sofia connected with Maša and Vlada. Just a few months later, both girls were baptized at church. Now Vlada helps to lead the ministry in Prague with other Ukrainian students. Maša returned to Ukraine and is reaching out to teenagers in Kiev. Sofia's heart for discipleship is evidenced by the deep spiritual growth in the girls she disciples. She wants to help her team grow in Christ and help young people find their place in the local church.

This is no easy task right now. Surrounded by news of death and destruction, Ukrainian refugee teenagers are filled with anger. Almost all of them



are experiencing loss and know friends or family who have died in the war. Because they are living in new countries where they don't speak the language, they feel alone. Their parents are also coping with all of the changes, pressures, and family separations. All of this leads to strained relationships between parents and teens.

The call to share Jesus with these hurting teens can seem overwhelming, but Sofia says she has learned, "The Lord empowers the faithful." Her church in Prague had 15 members before the war started. Now 100 people show up on a given Sunday. About 20 of those are teenagers who have started coming through the Young Life ministry.

God is using Sofia to draw hurting Ukrainian teens deeper into His love—the very same love that drew Sofia herself.

MORE ABOUT YOUNG LIFE IN CENTRAL & EASTERN EUROPE

Young Life has a ministry in seven countries in Central and Eastern Europe: Albania, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, North Macedonia, Poland, and Romania. Each country has a unique language, culture, and religious background, which brings its own benefits and challenges for ministry.

In the past 10 years the ministry has expanded from four countries to seven, from six staff to 30, and from 46 volunteer leaders to about 200. Its attendance has grown from about 850 kids to over 4,000, and from about 450 kids going to camp to over 1,100. We pray continually for God to keep opening doors to meet the next kid.

Fre's Story



Frehiwot (Fre) Feleke grew up in a Christian family and attended Woldia University.

Though active in her local church, Fre felt shy. "I needed more leadership training and discipleship," Fre shares. Through her time on campus, she was deeply inspired by the lifestyle and witness of The Evangelical Students' and Graduates' Union of Ethiopia (EvaSUE) staff serving there. They encouraged her and trained her to lead. She became an evangelism leader in her campus fellowship and then a main leader.

"I often felt afraid and discouraged like Moses, but God's grace and provision was with me!"

After graduating, Fre became part of the EvaSUE campus staff for three years in the same area. She helped lead students to Christ, and her fellowship was active in advancing God's Kingdom both on and off campus. She then became the EvaSUE Northeast Regional Coordinator for three years. Fre explains, "I was able to lead because EvaSUE gave me good training. I grew in confidence because I saw God's strength at work in my weaknesses. God grew my abilities!"

This past year, Fre joined the EvaSUE National Service Center as a Student Ministry Officer. Now based in Addis Ababa, the capital city, she is the main leader for all the staff in four regions of the country. Fre adds, "I am humbled by the continued chances God has given me to serve through EvaSUE. EvaSUE changed my life and helped me grow in my understanding of scripture, missions, and leadership."

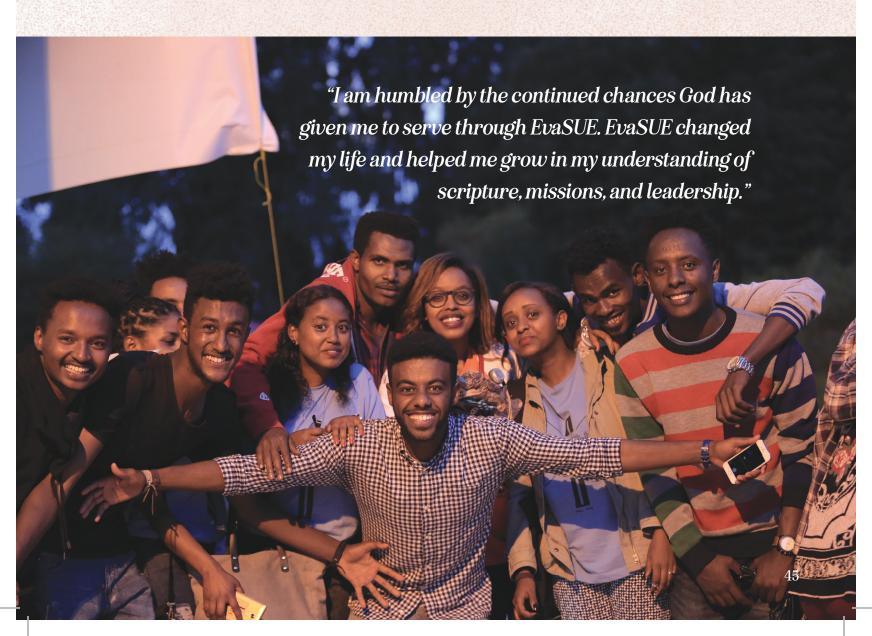
MORE ABOUT EVASUE

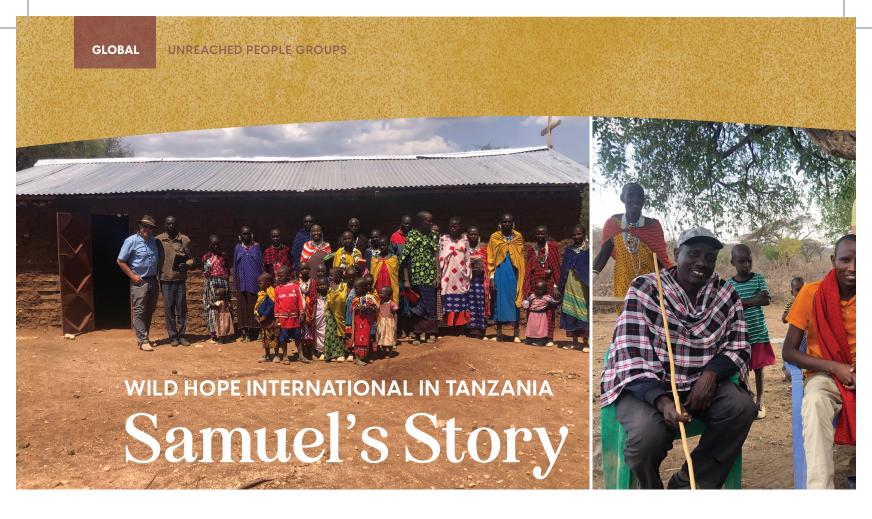
EvaSUE is one of the largest and fastest growing college ministries in the world. We equip Christian students on 176 college and university campuses around the country in nine different regions. We give training in evangelism, discipleship, missions, and leadership. We currently serve over 50,000 students and are projected to have over 70,000 students by 2030!

Despite many struggles the past few years with Covid, war, drought in some areas, and a struggling economy, our ministry continues to grow. Students are reaching their peers, and being discipled in family groups and through weekly teaching and training. Our staff grew to

105 this year from 85 last year. We have hosted national and regional events around the country despite continued instability.

Ethiopia was just 0.5 percent evangelical just 60 years ago, but currently evangelicals are around 20 percent of the total population—that's 24,000,000 evangelicals. And with 60 percent of the population being under the age of 25, the importance of a ministry like EvaSUE is huge!





Samuel Senwa would wait until the cattle settled down around midnight, light a candle in the little room with cow dung-smeared walls, and study until three in the morning.

Samuel's hard work paid off when he graduated from primary school, which is the end of education for most Maasai.

Because Samuel and his family were quite poor, and his mother was a widow, he worked as a manual laborer in Kenya. While there, he attended a graduation for a Maasai getting his degree. Samuel immediately decided to do the same, returned to Tanzania, and enrolled in secondary school. Other students shared their pencils and paper with Samuel, because he was too poor to buy them.

Although facing one challenge after another, and always worrying for his mother, Samuel never gave up. After secondary school, he went to Sokoine University in Morogoro and was part of Deep Level Discipleship, a program run by Wild Hope missionaries Solomon and Sarah.

In April of 2023, Samuel graduated from Sokoine, at the top of his class in Agro-Veterinary Medicine. Peter and Tammy Russell, CA Kingdom Partners and Wild Hope Missionaries, spoke at the celebration for Samuel. One thousand Maasai attended!

Because Samuel was the first in his valley to get a degree, his victory was the community's victory. The joy was tangible as the people sang and ate together in one big throng with all of them calling him "Professor" in loud shouts—all the while praising God!



Wild Hope seeks to empower leaders who will transform their communities, leaders just like Samuel. As he shares, "My life was so difficult that I almost gave up. But God has brought me through."

MORE ABOUT WILD HOPE

The mission of Wild Hope International is to empower leaders—through Christian discipleship—to step into their destiny as children of God who will transform their communities and the world. Peter and Tammy believe that Africans are the ones who will change Africa, and that empowering them to do so is the most effective model to bring lasting change. They primarily do this through spiritual formation and coaching in small discipleship groups at their Retreat and Training Center in Arusha.

In 1991, when Peter and Tammy first came to the Maasai, they were an unreached people group according to the Joshua Project. Peter and Tammy invested primarily in eight Maasai disciples at

Entashata (on the Tanzanian border). That group of eight disciples has directly led to the planting of approximately six churches in Kenya.

However, the real growth has been in Tanzania, where 65 churches are currently baptizing about 700 new believers a year, and discipling them. And thanks be to God, today the Joshua Project considers the Maasai to be a reached people group!

Their focus moving forward is to replicate the fruit they have seen in Northern Tanzania in the South, amongst unreached people groups.



I am a member of a sixman team doing Bible translation into the heart language of my people.

We have talked among ourselves about the need for a Bible in our mother tongue for many years. We thought Bible translation had to be done by experts in the West somewhere, and chances are we would never see one in our lifetime.

Yet here we are, a band of brothers from our own people group, sitting together and actually doing

Bible translation. We-people who by day work in the fields and by night work for the church—are now being considered translators of the Bible, in our own language. Such a privilege is beyond imagination.

I have been quite active in church, but my knowledge of the Bible is only average and general. I have a Vietnamese Bible, but only read it on occasion. When my pastor committed the church to do the Bible translation, he put me on his team due to my good standing in the church and because he needed someone who is "good with words" in both Vietnamese and in our heart language.

At first, I felt very proud, but then I became terrified. This is not just translating some reports for the church. It's translating the Bible, and it's bringing the Word of God to my family, my church, and my people. As I work daily on the text, I have in my heart a new desire to learn God's Word more and more.

I am now on a new path with God in His Word. Word by word, sentence by sentence, day by day. I can't wait for the time in three or four years when I can hold the Bible in my hand in my heart language that I helped translate. All I can do now is praise God.

MORE ABOUT FEBC VIETNAM

Vietnam is one of five remaining Communist countries in the world, a restricted country in Southeast Asia with a population of almost 100 million, of which more than 98 percent have not heard the gospel. Believers and churches are facing a wide range of oppression and persecution.

Through "unofficial" operations over the last 45 years, FEBC Vietnam has established a solid reputation in the country. We use multiple media channels and tools to share God's Word, including the Internet, mobile devices, radio broadcasts, and emergent technologies.

The Lord has entrusted to us one of the most effective tools to spread the Good News, a content delivery system using mobile technologies to distribute on-demand gospel content anywhere to anyone; we call it "IBMD" (or "Internet Broadcasting via Mobile Devices").

In addition, new ministry doors have recently opened. We are engaged in a comprehensive Bible translation project that aims to provide a Bible in the heart language of every people group in the country, one of which is sponsored by Christian Assembly Church. In fact, in 2022 Christian Assembly gave \$45,000 to translate the entire New Testament for the T'rin people group in Vietnam to have God's Word in their heart language.

FEBC'S MISSION: "The Bible for every people group, a leader for every church, and gospel content to every home."







Muslims,
Zor prayed
a ritualized prayer that
expressed devotion to
Muhammad, but had no real
relationship with God.

In his own words, "When I would pray the Islamic prayers, I wouldn't ask anything from God." Karon, a relative of Zor and one of the national partners with our ministry, would visit Zor's house in the village, and lead discovery Bible studies with Zor's family. Karon would talk about the power of prayer—particularly the power of praying in the name of Jesus. Zor explains, "Karon said that after the Islamic prayers, ask God. You will see God's answers."

One day, Zor's wife was working outside when a large column fell on her. She was knocked unconscious and taken to the hospital. Zor was desperate. He took Karon's advice of praying in the name of Jesus and asked Jesus to heal his wife. Recalling that prayer, he says, "With all my heart, I believed that He would do it."

The next morning his wife woke up, and the doctors said that she was completely fine and could go home. Zor fully committed his life to Jesus. As a result, Zor's relationships with others began to shift. He learned how to love.

He shares, "I used to never ask anyone for forgiveness. But now I have learned to love and to forgive. Now I can go up to anyone I have offended and ask them for forgiveness. My behavior towards my wife has changed. I learned



how to show her affection. I have learned how to

show love to my friends and family. I feel that my

life has completely changed."

Zor has grown exponentially in his faith and is now one of our national partners—a team of eight who go into villages to help lead community development projects and discovery Bible studies. Although Zor is a relatively new believer, he continues to grow, demonstrating a heart for prayer. One night as our team was praying, we asked, "Who wants to be filled with the Holy Spirit?" Zor jumped right into the middle.

When we see someone like Zor, who was raised in a village, praying with passion and sharing his faith, it gives us hope that we will one day see many more like him leading their people to complete commitment to Christ.

MORE ABOUT THE MINISTRY

The Bennetts serve in Central Asia in a country that is 98 percent Muslim and over 95 percent mountains. They have lived in the region for almost nine years, and are now leading a large team of foreigners and locals, who go out into the villages and lead discovery Bible studies and do community development projects. The goal is to see holistic transformation in villages, so that people in these communities have access to food, freedom, and forgiveness.

The ministry has helped to build medical clinics, repair roads, buy desks for a school, and bring practical help to many villages. Discovery Bible studies teach villagers to ask simple questions in order to understand the Word of God. There are currently over 70 discovery Bible study groups learning the Word of God. Since the beginning of the year, 30 people have prayed to receive Christ, and nine people have been baptized. Over the past several years, the ministry has helped lead several hundred people to pray to receive Christ.



An Elam Ministries church planter named Mina started a friendship with Attieh and Ahmad during the pandemic.

She knew they had recently become Christians, so she attempted to disciple them via digital means for several months. However, meeting only online made it difficult to gauge just how effective that discipleship had been, especially because Attieh and Ahmad didn't seem to be sharing their faith with those around them.

In 2022, Mina was finally able to visit the couple in person, and Attieh and Ahmad were overjoyed! Attieh became excited to learn how to share her faith, so Mina recommended a one-week discipleship intensive course for believers in Iran.

After completing the course, Attieh had a strange dream. In the dream, it was one o'clock in the afternoon, and two strangers knocked on the front door, introduced themselves as Majid and Sahar, and said they were coming for salvation. The next morning, neither Attieh nor Ahmad knew what to make of the dream.

You can probably guess what happened next. At exactly one o'clock that day, there was a knock on the door, and a couple stood on the doorstep. "Hi," one of the two said, "You don't know us, but we are Majid and Sahar. We heard you are Christians. Can we come in?"

The couple soon came to Christ, and Mina arranged for them to receive a Bible. Since then, four of Majid and Sahar's family members have come to the Lord. All six new believers are being discipled by Mina through their connection to Sahar.

Mina no longer wonders about Attieh and Ahmad. She knows they are sharing their faith, and that both their dreams and hers are coming true.

MORE ABOUT ELAM MINISTRIES:

The mission of Elam Ministries is to strengthen and expand the church in the Iran region and beyond. Over Elam's 30+ years of ministry, hundreds of thousands of Iranians have come to Christ. Today, Elam trains emerging leaders as church-planters, pastors, and evangelists; prints and distributes scriptures; provides ministry to many demographics of the church; develops Farsi-language media and print resources; and supports persecuted families through advocacy and relief.

We are thrilled to mark 20 years since the finished translation of the Farsi New Testament. To date, 2.5 million Farsi New Testaments have been printed. In 2023, Christian Assembly gave \$200,000 for 25,000 Farsi New Testaments. These will be distributed in the Iran Region through Elam Ministries.

To hear the personal testimony of an Iranian man whose life was transformed after receiving a copy of the New Testament, please visit the podcast *Jesus Speaks Farsi*: elam.com/podcast.

ECWA IN WEST AFRICA Alhaji Barka's Story

Alhaji Barka was one of the first Fulani (a Muslim people group) in Liman Katagum (a village in Nigeria) who accepted Jesus Christ to be his Lord and Savior.

A Christian Fulani named Haro shared the gospel with Alhaji. And he became a Christian.

Alhaji was a very wealthy Fulani, who was well-respected as a community leader. However, his conversion brought severe persecution upon him and his family. As a result, his oldest son was killed by Yakubu, one of the Fulani youths in the community.

Several months after the death of Alhaji's son, the unexpected happened. Yakubu started having a dream in which he saw Alhaji's son asking him to repent from his evil act. For months the dream disturbed Yakubu to the point that he could no longer hide his burden, so he decided to reveal the dream to Haro–the very man who had brought Alhaji to faith in Jesus Christ.

Haro went to Bakari Ibrahim Bunga of City Ministries, and Bakari arranged for a meeting that included both Alhaji and Yakubu. Bakari asked Alhaji, "If the person who killed your son appeared here, what would you do to him?" Alhaji responded, "If the Lord has forgiven me, who am I not to forgive another person? I'll forgive him just like the Lord forgave me."

At that very moment, Bakari told Alhaji that Yakubu was the one who killed his son. Yakubu fell to his knees, crying and asking for forgiveness, and Alhaji immediately forgave him. When Yakubu went back to his camp, other Fulanis noticed that he was now a Christian and threatened to kill him. With nowhere else to go, Yakubu and his family ended up on Alhaji's doorstep. True to his word, Alahji took them in. Like a father to his own family, he provided everything they needed.

But the persecution didn't stop there. Nine times Fulani Muslim bandits kidnapped Alhaji, tortured him, and threatened to kill him in the same way they had killed his

son-if he didn't renounce his faith in Jesus. Nine times he was kidnapped; nine times he would not renounce his faith. However, because of growing persecution, Alhaji finally decided to relocate to Gombe state in northeast Nigeria.

Shortly thereafter, Alhaji's 10-year-old granddaughter Kankani fell sick. One day she had a dream. In her dream she saw a man who asked her to tell her grandfather not to leave the village, because if Alhaji left his community, the blood of his son would have been shed in vain. The man in the dream said that if he remained where he was, the testimony of Jesus Christ would fill the whole community.

The man appeared to the girl again the following day, but this time physically. Kankani, Alhaji's wife, Haro, and Alhaji all saw the man standing in the middle of Alhaji's compound. He told them that Alhaji should remain where he was, and that He—the man—would be with him always. Then He disappeared.

Alhaji obeyed the man's instruction and remained in the village. There were many planned attacks on Alhaji, but the bandits did not succeed. Presently there are hundreds of Fulanis receiving the gospel message in the same community where Alhaji's son was killed.

Only the transformational power of Christ could enable Alhaji to forgive someone who had murdered his beloved son. Because Jesus had forgiven him, Alhaji forgave—but he didn't stop there. Alhaji took in Yakubu as a son of his own. As a result many have seen, and have put their trust in the Lord.

MORE ABOUT BAKARI IBRAHIM BUNGA

Bakari Ibrahim Bunga is a CA Kingdom Partner in West Africa with Evangelical Church Winning All (ECWA) and City Ministries. Christian Assembly supports Bakari, along with 20 church planters, who lead people to Christ amidst immense persecution and suffering. Bakari has been a key leader in a movement that has seen thousands come to Christ in West Africa. He is so influential that a jihadist terrorist group called Boko Haram has a bounty on his head. In many ways, Bakari is a modern day hero in the faith, as he continues to lead others to advance the Kingdom of God in the midst of persecution.

FAQS

About the Kingdom Ministries of Christian Assembly Church

BY TOM HUGHES

1. WHAT IS THE "KINGDOM" VALUE OF CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY CHURCH?

Jesus is the King of Kings (see 1 Timothy 6:15, Revelation 19:16), and the Kingdom of God is a central theme in His teachings. When we use the term Kingdom, we are talking about sharing God's transforming grace with others around us, in the city, and around the world, just as God shared it with us in His Son, Jesus Christ. This includes both acts of mercy and justice, as well as verbally telling people about Jesus Christ and how they can be saved by grace through faith in His life, death, and resurrection. Want to read for yourself what Jesus has to say about the Kingdom of God? Check out Mark 1:15, Matthew 6:10, Matthew 6:33, or all of Matthew 13. Another set of foundational verses for us in this area is 2 Corinthians 5:17-20.

2. WHY DOES CA HAVE BOTH LOCAL AND GLOBAL KINGDOM EFFORTS?

Jesus told his disciples, "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8) So that meant in their local city, their surrounding region/state, and to the ends of the earth. We follow the model given to us in Jesus' words, which engage us in both local and global efforts.

3. WHY DOES CA SEEK TO ENSURE THAT ALL OF OUR EFFORTS INCLUDE BOTH TELLING THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS AND DEMONSTRATING IT?

Jesus ministered to the whole person – body, mind, soul, and spirit – and so we seek to follow that same practice. In fact, Jesus told his original disciples: "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:18-20) So clearly there is a spoken evangelism, a teaching, and a discipleship component to the mission of Jesus.

Likewise, Jesus was clear that acts of compassion, justice, and mercy were critical parts of His mission. In Matthew 25, He specifically includes tangible acts such as feeding the hungry, giving a drink to the thirsty, clothing the naked, taking care of the sick, and more, as ways of living out the values of the Kingdom of God. He even goes so far to say, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." (Matthew 25:40)

4. HOW CAN I BE INVOLVED IN THE LOCAL EFFORTS THAT ARE HAPPENING?

Serving is one of the best ways to be part of all that God is doing! In fact, I would say that getting involved in the mission by serving is one of the best ways to grow your relationship with God. Jesus said that the greatest in the Kingdom would be a servant of all. (Matthew 20:26-28) If you want

to find out more about serving locally, visit our website (cachurch.com) or scan the QR code.

5. HOW CAN I BE INVOLVED IN THE GLOBAL EFFORTS THAT ARE HAPPENING?

In our weekend services, we periodically will announce when we are seeking to gather a team to go and serve with one of our global efforts. Listen for those announcements and sign up for any that interest you. Also, if you want to learn more about serving with our global efforts you can visit our website (cachurch.com) or scan the OR code below.

6. IS THERE A PRAYER GUIDE FOR CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY'S KINGDOM MINISTRIES?

There sure is. You can find an intentional prayer guide at **cachurch.com** or by scanning the QR code below.

7. HOW ARE ALL THESE DIFFERENT EFFORTS FUNDED?

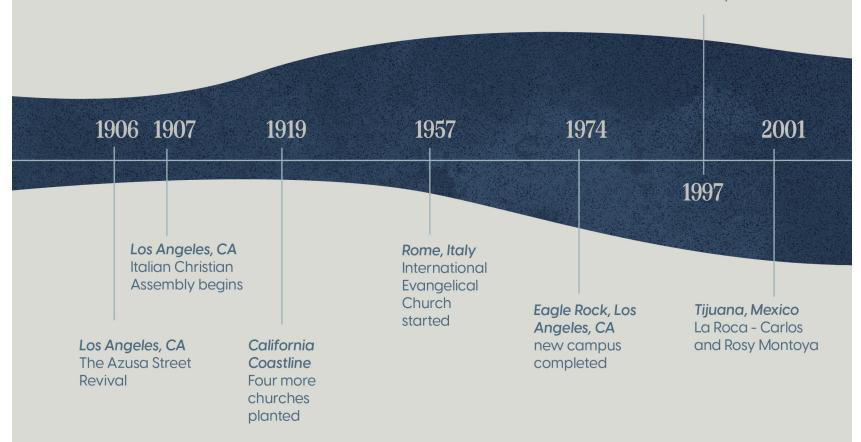
All of our local and global efforts are funded solely through the tithes and offerings of the people of Christian Assembly. Sometimes we also have visitors or friends who hear about what is happening and feel compelled to be part of supporting our Kingdom work financially. If you want to give to help empower these Kingdom efforts, you can do so either on our website

(cachurch.com), on our Christian Assembly App, or by scanning the QR code. ♠



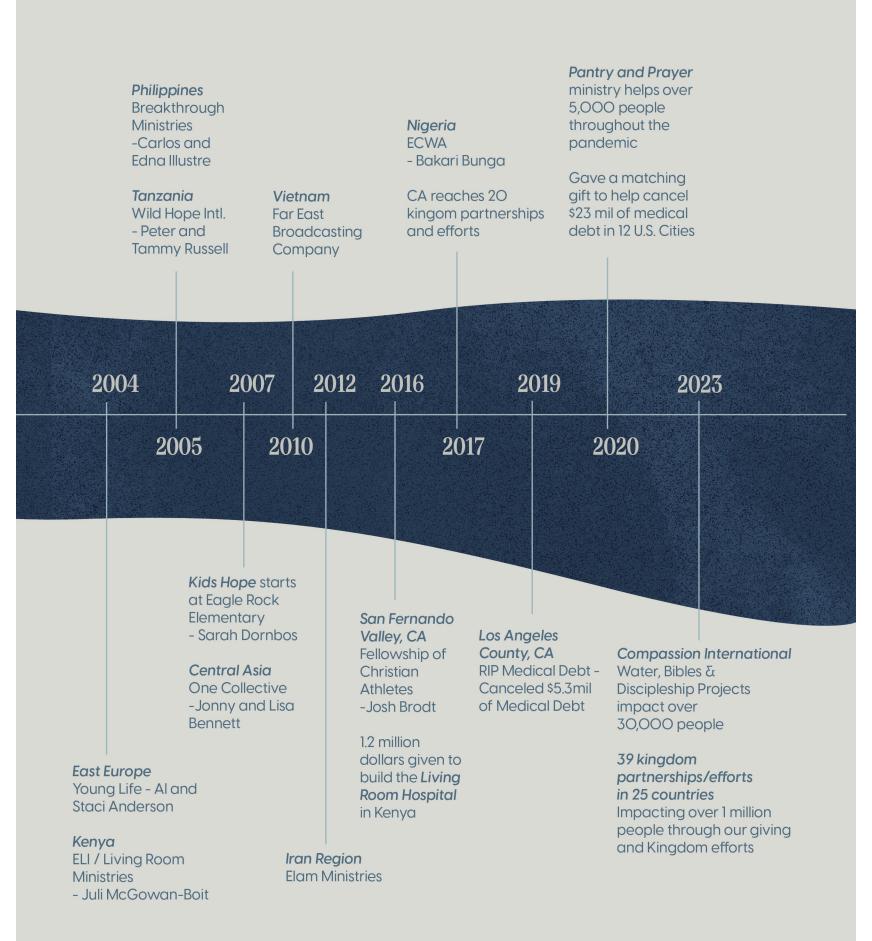
History of CA on Mission

First International Tour Tommy Walker and the CA Worship Band





NOT ALL KINGDOM PARTNERSHIPS ARE SHOWN IN GRAPHIC ABOVE. TO SEE A FULL LIST OF CA'S CURRENT KINGDOM PARTNERSHIPS AND EFFORTS, SCAN THE QR CODE.



Get Involved

PRAY

Join what God is doing through prayer. Pray through the Kingdom Prayer Guide included in the QR code below.

SERVE

Get involved in God's mission by serving others. It is one of the best ways to grow your relationship with God. Learn more about how to serve locally and globally by scanning the QR code below.

GIVE

Give to the Kingdom offering, which supports all of Christian Assembly's local and global Kingdom partnerships and efforts. You can go to **cachurch.com/give** or scan the QR code below.



To learn more about how to pray, serve, and give, scan here. For more information on Kingdom ministries at Christian Assembly, go to cachurch.com/kingdom.

Thank You

Thank you to our Christian Assembly Church family for the ways you faithfully pray, serve, and give generously to extend God's Kingdom both near and far. We are grateful to be a part of what God is doing through our beloved CA Kingdom Partners. Thanks to all of those who shared their stories and contributed to the content of the magazine.

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