
IMPACTING LOSTNESS TOGETHER



INTERNATIONAL
MISSION BOARD

2023 GLOBAL IMPACT GUIDE

A close-up portrait of a young girl with a headscarf, looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. The background is dark and textured.

LOSTNESS
IS GROWING
EVERY DAY

WE WILL NOT IGNORE IT.
WE WON'T BE SILENT.
WE WON'T STAND STILL.

WE WILL REACH THE NATIONS,
NO MATTER THE COST.
WE WILL BRING THE SOLUTION —
THE GOSPEL—
TO THE WORLD'S GREATEST PROBLEM,
LOSTNESS.

Quoting the prophet Isaiah, the apostle Paul declares in Romans 10:15, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!” We echo those words and declare beautiful are the feet of those who tread through the slums and cities, the towns and villages, those who board the buses, planes, and trains, those who walk through the apartment stairwells and the refugee encampments declaring the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

How blessed I am to not only have a front row seat to all God is doing through Southern Baptists and their missionaries, but also to be a part of this work. Through the IMB, every Southern Baptist can join the work by making sure our missionaries have everything they need to do what God has called them to do. We join that work with our prayers and generosity and, for some of us, by walking alongside them in their harvest fields on short-term mission trips. This work to reach the lost is the most important work in the universe!

The world’s greatest problem—lostness—is a greater problem today than ever before. More people will die and enter hell tomorrow than today and even more in the days to come. We cannot remain unaware of the magnitude of this problem nor of the unprecedented opportunities that we have to address this problem with God’s solution—**the gospel**.

For this reason, the IMB is purposeful, strategic, and laser-focused on reaching the lost, obedient to follow the Holy Spirit to the least-reached people groups on the planet. Those who are sent to the frontlines of this work deserve our unwavering loyalty, our undying support, our unyielding commitment. They are your missionaries, our missionaries. We are the ones holding the ropes for them. **Let’s commit ourselves anew to joining them in the task to reach the nations—together.**

Thank you, Southern Baptists, for being among those who hold those ropes the tightest.

Paul Chitwood

Paul Chitwood
IMB President



REVELATION 7:9

“After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb...”



IMPACTING THE WORLD

with you

**YOUR GLOBAL IMPACT
HAS KINGDOM IMPACT.**

What we do together is
reaching the world and
changing eternities.

WHERE WE WORK

59% OF THE WORLD'S POPULATION (4.6 BILLION PEOPLE) ARE CONSIDERED UNREACHED.

This means there are less than 2% evangelical Christians within their people group or nearby. Unless something changes, they have little to no chance of hearing the gospel in their lifetime.



GLOBAL DEAF
An estimated 72 million culturally Deaf people have almost no access to Scripture in their heart language, and few of them have ever been exposed to the gospel. IMB teams work to reach the global Deaf.

GOD'S WORK THROUGH US IN 2022

3,521
missionaries supported
with comprehensive care

67
new people groups and places engaged

728,589
people heard the gospel

178,177
new believers

21,231
new churches

102,417
baptisms

146,026
people received leadership training



Salvation in South Asia

A family in South Asia rejoices to be among the new believers in 2022, thanks to your generosity that provided food for the hungry. South Asia is one region where hunger is great, and His provision through you has been greater.

After this family received a food bag, they were very responsive to the gospel and eager to learn more about the Bible. In time, the wife and oldest daughter committed their lives to Christ, and a few months later, the husband did as well. Now, the entire family attends church regularly, and a group meets in their home weekly for Bible study and prayer.



SOUTH ASIAN PEOPLES



RELIGIOUS BIRTHPLACE
South Asia is the epicenter of global lostness with almost 1/3 of the world's unengaged and unreached people groups.



CHRISTIAN INFLUENCE
The region hosts a potential harvest force of 34 million evangelical believers. Training efforts are encouraging them to reach 1.8 billion lost people.



ISLAMIC HUB
The region is home to approximately 1/3 of the world's Muslim population.

Ukrainian believers connect as church family in Poland

"A Prayer for Ukraine"

*My God, I pray for our Ukraine,
My God, I pray to You for the people,
You forgive them, You save them,
And show us Your mercy,
My God, I know, that You will be with us.*

Some eyes were glassy with tears as voices rose to sing these lines in the community-center-turned church in Zory, Poland. This worship song existed before the war but took on a new meaning because of what happened in the church members' homeland.

"If you want to make any Ukrainian cry these days, you play that song," said Dan Upchurch, one of the pastors and founders of Christian



Community Church of Zory, Poland. Dan and his wife, Lori, are IMB missionaries. They also had to flee because of the war. They understand how their church family feels because they live and serve among them.

After singing "A Prayer for Ukraine," Vadim, who leads worship with his wife, Oksana, told those gathered that it's easy to be discouraged by all the terrible things happening in Ukraine.

"If you can't run, walk to God. If you can't walk, crawl to God," he encouraged the group.



Vadim and Oksana fled Crimea in 2014 when Russia seized control and moved into mainland Ukraine. They fled again after the 2022 invasion. They learned the lesson of running to God in a time of upheaval before many Ukrainians did.

The church meets in a room that looks like a dance studio. The mirrored walls give the illusion of twice the number of people—which is a chilling thought when you imagine it representing the husbands, fathers, and brothers who are not there because they couldn't leave Ukraine. Men between the ages of 17 and 60 are not allowed to leave in case they are needed to fight.

Regular members are passionate about serving. Their church is like a family, especially since they are separated from theirs. Luba makes coffee each week and helps with the children. Sasha does it all. He helps with sound for the service, teaches Sunday School, and preaches.

Ukrainians have been uprooted from not only their home, cities, and community, but they are also separated from their faith family. Many Ukrainians attend church services in the language of their host countries. The men, women, and children in this room are thankful they can worship in their heart language. The first time Dan invited people to respond to the gospel, a woman said she had been meaning to take that step of faith. She was passing through and had Dan not given the invitation, she may have continued to delay her decision.

Radick also committed his life to Christ at this church, and church members recently celebrated his baptism. His conversion brought tears to the eyes of Bartosz and Zhanna, who have invested in him since childhood. Bartosz, who is Polish, served in Ukraine as a missionary with his wife, Zhanna, who is Ukrainian.

In a recent sermon from Ephesians 1:15-23, Dan told the believers in order to grow spiritually, they need a deeper understanding of Christ's position and their position in Him. If Christians don't understand Christ's exalted position in the universe, they will not understand all that they have in Him and will keep asking the Lord to give what they already possess in Christ.



This message encourages them in a time when it seems Ukrainians' world is in tatters. Jesus will be with them, even as missiles fall and hearts on this side of heaven are shattered. 📍



EUROPEAN PEOPLES



EVANGELICAL ABSENCE
800 million people live in Europe, and only about 1% are evangelical Christian.



UKRAINIAN REFUGEES
More than 4 million Ukrainian refugees have sought asylum in Europe because of the war. 90% are women and children.



MISSIONARY PRESENCE
In 2022, IMB missionaries and partners shared the gospel with 102,295 people through coffee carts, relief and medical projects, concerts, and seeker groups.

**WE ARE WITNESSING
GOD'S MOVEMENT
AMONG THE
NATIONS.**

Let's rejoice in highlights
from this past year.

CELEBRATING GOD'S WORK *with you*

God is mightily working among the nations because you gave **\$203.7 MILLION** to the 2021-22 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering®.

This is the largest offering in our 178-year history. Your missionaries serving on the field are aware of the significance of this record-breaking total and the impact every gift has on reaching the lost.

Gifts to the offering sailed past the original goal by more than \$20 million. **100% of gifts** given to the offering and directly to the IMB supports missionary presence around the world.

The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering® is a registered trademark of Woman's Missionary Union.



Thank you for your tremendous generosity.
The world's greatest problem demands our greatest resources.

SENDING MORE MISSIONARIES MEANS MORE GOSPEL ADVANCE.

A full candidate pipeline means more opportunity to grow the total number of missionaries serving on the field. Those in the pipeline have submitted initial applications and begun discussions with the IMB about serving overseas.

Let's commit to sending more missionaries to the nations, together, so that every people group can have access to the gospel.

2023:
SURPASSED
1,200
CANDIDATES
APPLYING FOR
MISSIONARY SERVICE

2019:
300 APPLYING FOR
MISSIONARY SERVICE



Missionary returns to the field - again!



The work in Thailand isn't finished, so Jeri Whitfield keeps returning! She first arrived as a 22-year-old Journeyman and served for two years. She returned to Thailand in her 40s but took an early retirement at 55 due to health concerns. She returned to the mission field for a third time in her 60s. If you ask Jeri why she keeps returning to minister in Thailand, her answer is a no-brainer. She committed her life to be a steadfast missionary presence. God isn't finished using her to reach the nations.

**Are you ready to explore how your gifts can be used?
Are you ready to return? God isn't finished yet!
For more information visit imb.org/go**



ASIAN PACIFIC RIM PEOPLES



HOME OF MEGACITIES
50% of the world's largest cities are in the Asia-Pacific Rim, including Tokyo, Mumbai, and Shanghai.



LANDS OF LOSTNESS
46,470 people are dying every day without Christ in the Asia-Pacific Rim. 624 million people are non-religious. 527 million adhere to ethnic religions, 483 million are Buddhist, and 266 million are Muslim.



POPULATION CENTER
3,358 people groups call the Asia-Pacific Rim home, and roughly 2.3 billion people live in the region.

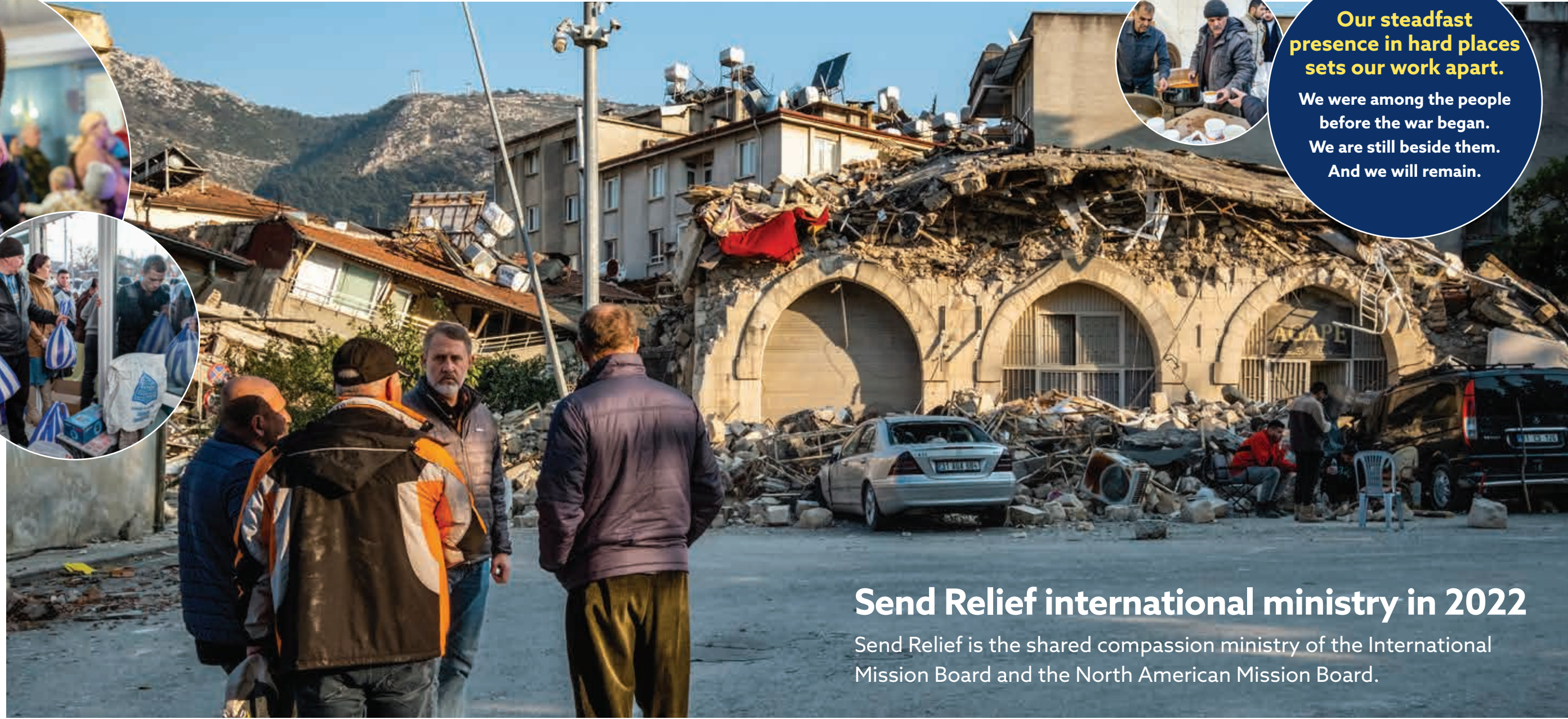


Gifts to Ukraine relief as of early 2023 totaled

\$10 million
given to Send Relief

+ **\$2.9 million**
given to the IMB

\$12.9 million



Our steadfast presence in hard places sets our work apart.
We were among the people before the war began.
We are still beside them.
And we will remain.

Send Relief international ministry in 2022

Send Relief is the shared compassion ministry of the International Mission Board and the North American Mission Board.

Gifts to Send Relief in 2022

2.56 million
people served

2.4 million
meals provided

688,000
food packages distributed

900,000
heard the gospel

5,100
churches involved

1,680
new areas opened to gospel work

59,000
people received access to clean drinking water

Visual Scripture resonates in Deaf African hearts

Abdulai had never heard the name of Jesus. As one of Africa's many Deaf peoples, that's understandable. But he'd never seen Jesus' name signed or read about a Savior in the Bible.

“My entire family is Muslim, and no one ever told me about Jesus,” he said. “Being a Muslim, nothing gave me hope.”

Everything changed when a friend invited him to an evangelical church that was interpreted into sign language. This was different from anything he'd experienced. He never had an

interpreter at a Muslim service or event. Abdulai learned who Jesus was, developed a heart connection with Him and became a believer. His life hasn't been the same since.

“It was through the Scriptures that I began to see. But it was very surface because I still, even after being baptized, didn't have Scripture in my own heart language,” he said.

This isn't the first time we've seen a lack of access to Scripture among the Deaf in Africa. In fact, we often find that most do not read or write, making it difficult to know the truths of the gospel.

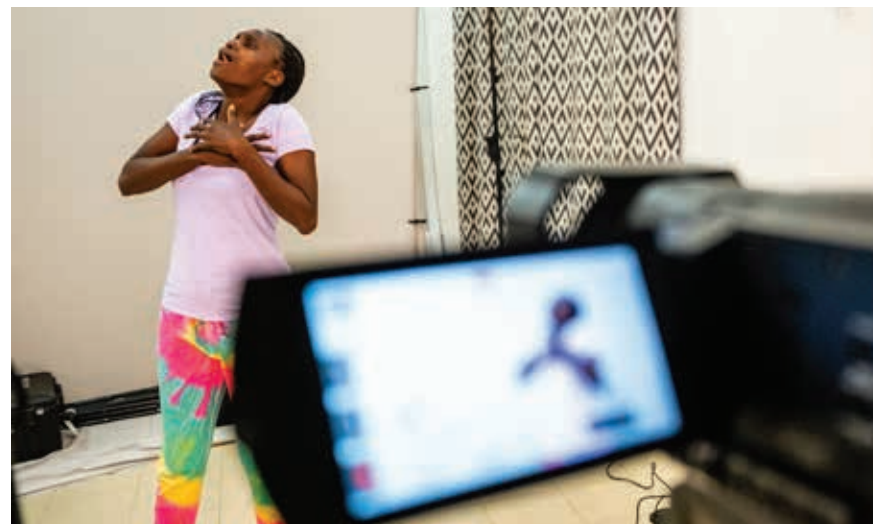


Even for those who are literate, their heart language is the sign language specific to their country. A written Bible just doesn't communicate the truths in a way they can fully understand.

With this in mind, IMB missionaries invited Abdulai, along with several others, to a StoryOne Camp. This camp is a periodic event we host along with Deaf Pathway Global, a partnering ministry organization. The project's goal was to teach attendees to translate eight Bible stories into the sign languages of Senegal, Burkina Faso, Niger, Sierra Leone, and The Gambia.

Attendees at the camp learned not only how to sign these specific stories, but also how to illustrate some of these stories and larger Bible concepts with pen and paper. The concepts and stories are easy to replicate and understand, especially by someone who does not read or write. Mnemonic hand movements assist Deaf nationals in recalling it for evangelizing and discipling.

"Abdulai's love for Jesus grew by leaps and bounds when he saw what [Jesus] did for him," IMB missionary Paul Yount shared. "He needed to see stories from the Bible translated into his heart language to understand, appreciate, love, and be transformed by God."



Paul Yount and Willie Brown are IMB missionaries who facilitate StoryOne Camps. Thankfully, through your generosity to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, Abdulai was able to attend two more camps in 2022. He was trained in Bible stories on the identity of Jesus and functions of the church.



"He now has a repertoire of stories that he can use for evangelizing the Deaf and helping believers plant new churches in their communities," Yount said.

When you support projects like this, you enable long-term workers to evangelize, train disciples, educate church leaders, and provide resources to plant indigenous, Deaf-led, self-sustaining, reproducing Deaf churches using those core stories. Together, we reach the nations with the gospel. 📍



DEAF PEOPLES

NO ACCESS



An estimated 72 million culturally Deaf have almost no access to Scripture in their heart language.

SIGN ROOTS



Although there are nearly 300 different sign languages, many share foundations that we call sign roots. IMB missionaries use sign roots as the basis for translating 300 Bible stories into multiple sign languages.

JESUS' NAME



The majority of the Deaf have never seen Jesus' name signed in their language. Often ignored and oppressed, the Deaf are some of the least evangelized people on earth.

We've shared an unwavering
commitment to solve
the world's greatest
problem for 178 years.

**WE GIVE
EVERYTHING
WE HAVE TO
THIS TASK.**

COMMITTING TO THE TASK

with you

“God is growing His church in ways we never could have imagined when we arrived 30 years ago, and yet so much darkness remains. We will stay for as long as He asks.”

Jonathan and Sarah Alexander, Central Asia



Missionary presence changes lives



Damir sat by the side of the road, destitute and crying. He prayed God would either help him or let him die. His employer hadn't paid him. He couldn't pay his rent and his family disowned him.

Four local churches, national believers, and IMB missionaries know the world's greatest problem is lostness. They see it every day in Central Asia. They see the spiritual darkness that traps many like Damir.

Through your faithful prayers and giving, they've found a way to engage the lost through the House of Hope, a halfway house for recovering alcohol and drug addicts. House of Hope provides shelter, job skills training, and fellowship. Men staying at the House of Hope also participate in Bible studies and prayer times. They hear the gospel and see it lived out.

Damir is thriving and is set up for success so he can be a gospel witness in his community. Thank you for being a part of the work—the most important work we can imagine.



CENTRAL ASIAN PEOPLES



GREAT NEED

Nearly 400 million Central Asians comprise 386 people groups. 39% of these groups do not have church-planting efforts among them.



FIRST GENERATION

Most Central Asian believers are 1st generation Christians. Only a handful have known Jesus for more than 30 years.



WIDESPREAD POVERTY

Poverty is widespread, producing fractured families as husbands and fathers — or sometimes wives and mothers — move to other countries looking for work.

2022 FINANCIALS:

A YEAR MARKED WITH INCREDIBLE GENEROSITY

WHEN YOU GIVE, YOUR GIFTS ARE MANAGED WITH THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF INTEGRITY.

TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS
\$329.4 M

TOTAL EXPENSES
\$306 M

60% OF CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED THROUGH THE COOPERATIVE PROGRAM FUNDS MISSIONARY PRESENCE OVERSEAS.

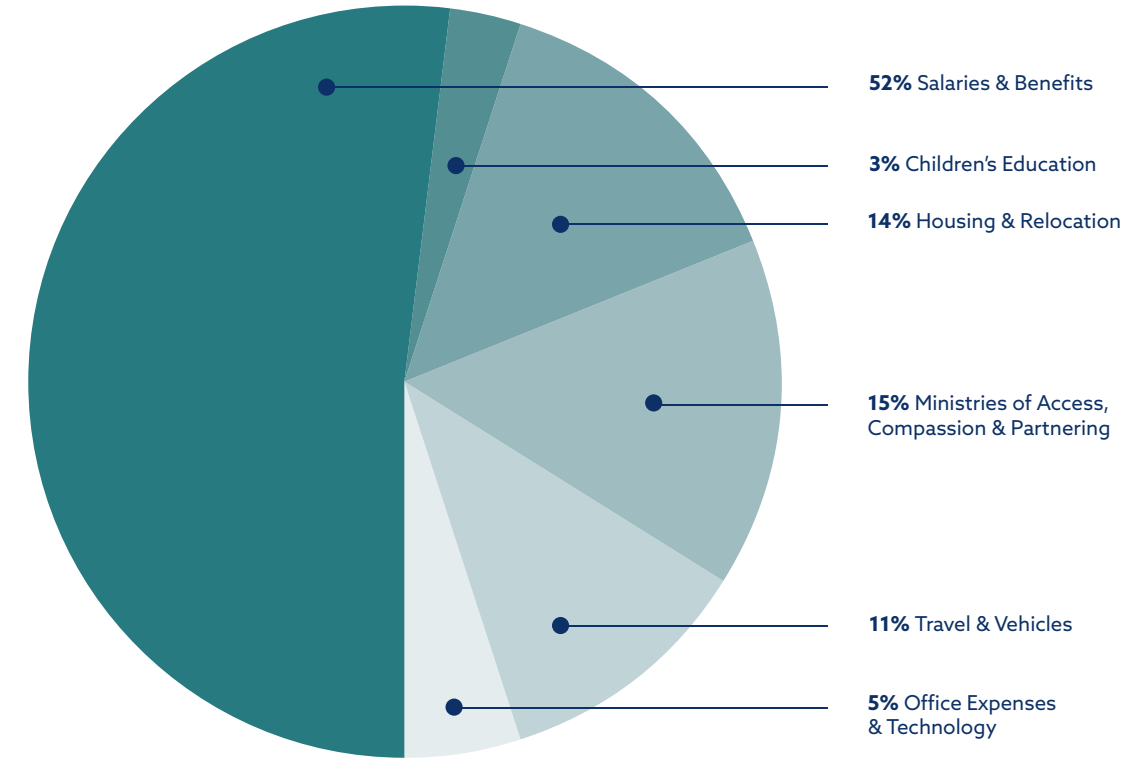
2022 CONTRIBUTIONS



2022 EXPENSES



FUNDING MISSIONARY PRESENCE



When you give to the Lottie Moon offering, **100% of every dollar directly supports missionaries** and their overseas ministries. Your church's support of the Cooperative Program enables us to fuel overseas ministry needs that are not covered through the Lottie Moon offering.



3,072 PEOPLE GROUPS

No one is engaging them.

Until now.

We've identified 3,072 people groups across the globe who have no missionary presence and likely no gospel access.

They live in jungles and across deserts. They are on islands and across mountains.

Their villages are remote. Some live in cities, others in isolated communities.

So we're preparing to go to the deepest part of lostness to find the people no one else is looking for.

PRAY
for 300
missionary explorers

over 5 years

to each scout out **10** unengaged unreached people groups

so that...

3,000+ people groups
ARE FOUND & KNOWN

This pioneering initiative, Project 3000, will create 100 new jobs each year over three years. Each of these missionaries will be exploring 10 people groups over a two year period.

They'll be journeying into the unknown to find out where they live, learning about their culture, discerning their literacy, developing ministry strategies, becoming prayer warriors for these groups, and finding national partners.

From the Great Commission until the Great Multitude, we must unite in this Great Pursuit: To reach every nation - no matter the cost.

Join us in the commitment of the Great Pursuit of reaching every nation by becoming a virtual explorer and receive Project 3000 updates.

Visit imb.org/greatpursuit to learn more and sign up.



WHAT COULD HAPPEN IF 47,000 CHURCHES WERE DIRECTLY CONNECTED TO THEIR IMB MISSIONARIES?



You support the work your missionaries do as they solve the world's greatest problem. **Now, your missionaries look forward to connecting with you.** They are doing this through IMB's Church Connections efforts.

Before we implemented Church Connections in 2021, our leadership estimated that almost **50%** of Southern Baptist churches had no known connection to an IMB missionary.

WE KNEW THINGS HAD TO CHANGE, so missionaries started personally contacting

churches. The personal connections are providing direct opportunities for churches to have greater impact around the world, transforming lives with the gospel.

They could be actively engaged in fulfilling the Great Commission. That vision culminates in this: the gospel getting to **EVERY NATION, ALL TRIBES, PEOPLES, AND LANGUAGES.**

Email info@imb.org to learn more and connect with our team.

People group changed by the gospel

What does it look like when we commit to the hard work of reaching a people group with the good news of Jesus? Consider the Manyika of Mozambique.



For the Manyika, the problem was accessibility, especially during the rainy season when roads were washed away. Praise God for IMB missionaries and their local partners who were willing to traverse the bad mountainous roads to share Bible truths. Now there is a gospel presence among the Manyika. Each time they return, the crowd under the shade tree grows larger and more people are turning to Christ.



SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN PEOPLES



HOPELESS ETERNITY
Every day, 22,121 people in Sub-Saharan Africa die without Christ — that's 1 person entering a hopeless eternity every 5 seconds.



REACHED & UNREACHED
Sub-Saharan Africa has a growing Christian population, but it's still home to 1,577 unreached people groups who live in sprawling cities, barren deserts, rain forests, and on tropical islands.



RAPID URBANIZATION
Sub-Saharan Africa is urbanizing faster than any other part of the world. 60% of Africans will live in cities by 2050. Kinshasa, Lagos, and Luanda are all larger than New York City.



The number of people dying daily without Jesus continues to grow.
PRAY WITH US. GIVE WITH US. GO WITH US.

REACHING THE NATIONS

with you



YOUR PRAYERS ARE POWERFUL

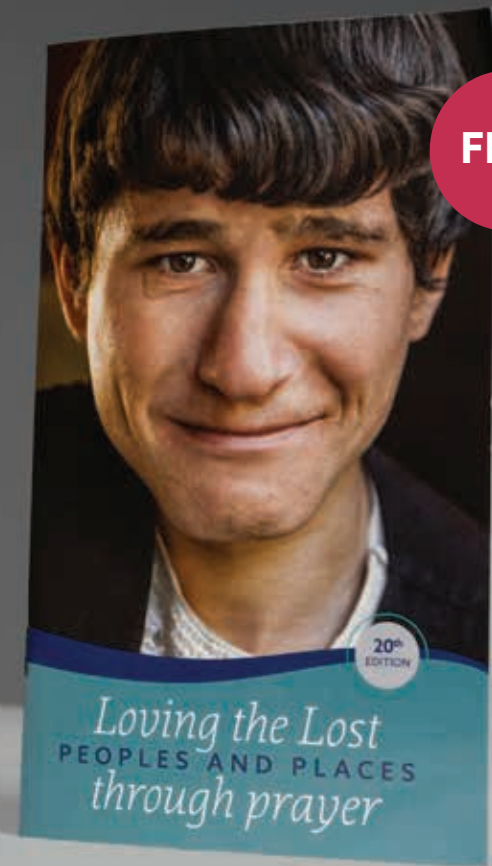
When we ask you to pray for your missionaries and for the lost, we are asking you to join us in the greatest work. Your prayers make a real difference.

We want to connect you with specific needs as you pray.

God is answering your prayers

For two decades, we have joined workers in praying for Moses, a village chief in West Africa. He had heard the gospel many times and studied God's Word, but he had not been willing to leave Islam. When Moses' health rapidly declined in January 2023, workers visited and walked through the gospel with him once again. **With deep joy, they listened to him repent in prayer and declare that he wanted to follow Jesus.**

You joined us in praying for a training event for believing women from a region in Nepal where most tribes are Hindu and worship forest deities. Since this training, the women have been busy sharing their testimonies and the gospel. One has led four other women to faith in Christ. When the believing men saw the women confidently leading others to Christ, they asked for an opportunity for training as well. **The gospel is spreading!**



FREE

LOVING THE LOST Prayer Guide

59% of the world has no meaningful access to the gospel. Together, we can pray and ask God to change this.

Join us in praying for 52 of the world's unreached people groups.

Order your free copy and explore other prayer resources at imb.org/pray

Your generosity provides missionary presence

2023-2024 LOTTIE MOON OFFERING GOAL: \$200 MILLION

100% of every gift to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering® directly supports missionaries and their ministry overseas.

The Bible is a story of God's generosity from cover to cover. His generous gift of grace extends to you and the world. What does this mean? We've been entrusted with this grace, and we get to pour it out on others—365 days a year. To live generously is to extend His fame so that all nations, peoples, languages, and tribes may know His name. We exist to take the gospel to every corner of the earth, and through your generosity, we deliver tangible help and the hope of Jesus to those who need it most.



SOUTHERN BAPTIST COOPERATIVE PROGRAM

Churches voluntarily give through the Cooperative Program to fund state, national, and international missions. Over 50% of gifts sent in by state conventions are directed toward the IMB.

LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING®

Individuals contribute through their church's annual offering or directly to the IMB to support and sustain missionary presence among those without a gospel witness.

DIRECT GIFTS FROM PARTNERS LIKE YOU

Gifts directed to a specific team or ministry are recorded in the Lottie Moon offering total. On request, the IMB gladly notifies your church of gifts so they may be counted toward church giving goals.

How IMB Missionaries Are Funded

100%
of your gifts directly support the work of your IMB missionaries thanks to the generous support of churches through the Cooperative Program.

GENEROSITY MATTERS

The IMB can help you use almost any resource God has given you for a mission impact. We have experts ready to serve you in gifting your vehicle, natural resources, stocks, cryptocurrency, jewelry, real estate and more. Often, non-cash gifts have great tax advantages too.



Inspire others through your generosity!

Inspire and encourage a missionary by giving a gift to the Lottie Moon offering in their honor.

Inspire your peers by creating a fundraiser in honor of your birthday or in memory of a loved one.

Inspire your church family by requesting the IMB let your church know about your gift anonymously.

[Learn more at imb.org/generosity.](https://www.imb.org/generosity)

Ways to Give

CASH GIFTS

1

Cash gifts are an easy way to have an impact today, while possibly reducing your tax liability. Aside from gifts via check or credit card, some take advantage of a Qualified Charitable Distribution from their IRA (age qualified) or distributions from a Donor Advised Fund.

NON-CASH & TANGIBLE GOODS

2

While 80% of giving is traditionally cash, it usually only represents 3% of the average person's total wealth. The remaining 97% are non-cash assets, such as real estate, commodities, stocks, cryptocurrency, and business interest but also, vehicles and other tangible property.

LEGACY GIFTS

3

Legacy planning secures kingdom impact long term. Yet, 67% have no estate plan. Planning for the future does not have to be daunting. We have developed a network of planning partners to help you and your family to identify strategic options suited for your overall charitable goals.

Faithful giving leads to salvation



Dawit was a security guard, translator, friend, and family member. He was your missionaries' door to communities with no gospel presence in Northern Africa. Over a 13-year period, Dawit helped eight IMB families and 16 short-term missionaries. He was not a believer when he first met IMB missionaries, but through their continued witness, he understood what it meant to be saved and gave his life to Jesus. Dawit is now with the Lord, and the missionaries rejoice to know that his eternity is secure.

The long-term commitment that leads to this kind of relationship is possible through your faithfulness to IMB missionaries. They are present and among the lost, building relationships that lead to Jesus.

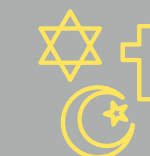
Will you give so that more people like Dawit can hear the good news?



NORTHERN AFRICAN & MIDDLE EASTERN PEOPLES



CURRENT CONFLICTS
65% of the world's current conflicts are happening in Northern Africa and the Middle East creating the great opportunity to bring the gospel to refugees who wouldn't otherwise have opportunity to hear.



MAJOR RELIGIONS
The world's major religions — Islam, Judaism, and Christianity — all have significant populations in Northern Africa and the Middle East.



DIGITALLY CONNECTED
Roughly 8 in 10 people from Northern Africa and the Middle East use social media. This allows IMB teams to reach thousands of people with gospel messages using digital resources.



ARE YOU READY TO GO?

Is it time for your first mission trip? Are you ready to consider a summer overseas or a semester with a missionary team? What about a two-year opportunity? Is God calling you to plant your life no matter what stage you're in among the lost so that they can hear the gospel?

Every missionary's goal is the same—that the lost would hear the gospel, find salvation in Him, and spread His message to others. We want to see healthy disciples making disciples, and churches planting churches.

These are current missionary job requests with the IMB. We need you. Reaching the lost will take all of us. Together, we will reach the nations.

Visit imb.org/go or email us today at info@imb.org.

God can use your gifts as a ...

STORYTELLER, NURSE, STUDENT MINISTER, VIDEOGRAPHER, PHARMACIST, TEACHER, RESEARCHER, ENGINEER, ACCOUNTANT, ATHLETE, COACH, DOCTOR, CODER, PILOT, TOUR GUIDE, GAMER, STUDENT, EDUCATOR, BARISTA, THEOLOGIAN, PASTOR, WRITER, ILLUSTRATOR, DENTIST, BUILDER, FARMER, EXPLORER, TUTOR, DESIGNER, DEVELOPER, ARTIST, PHOTOGRAPHER, EVANGELIST, CHURCH PLANTER, SURGEON, MUSICIAN, AND MUCH MORE TO BE A MISSIONARY!

6 THINGS

to make your mission trip **IMPACTFUL**

by Tina Louderback, missionary to Panama



Let's face it, churches spend a lot of money and time doing short-term mission trips. If we are going to invest so much, let's do it right by being intentional from the beginning.

My husband, Tim, and I host teams taking entry-level mission trips in Panama. We suggest you add prayer to the following six things to make your mission trip impactful:

1. Flexible doesn't mean "wing it." Be prepared!

Try to paint a picture for your team about what they signed up to do. Not only will you have an immediate impact, but you'll have time to invest in relationships.

2. Partner with local believers.

Work with your IMB missionary but let us connect you to local believers, churches, and ministries. They will take over the task of discipleship after you go home.



3. If nationals can do it, you shouldn't.

Ministering with national believers keeps dependency down. Spend time empowering, not enabling. Not only is this biblical but provides a reason for being in places tourists don't normally see.



4. The only solution you need is for lostness.

Don't try to fix things. What you can fix is your new friend's eternity. Each day 173,451 people die without Christ. You have the solution for a lost world— the gospel!

5. The ENTIRE church should be involved.

A short-term trip can transform the entire church. Have a plan to get everyone involved from the beginning, during, and upon return. Your church will be forever changed by this experience.

6. Short-term trips should lead to long-term commitment.

It's going to take all of us working together to reach the nations. This may lead to ministries not only in another country but in your community.

AMERICAN PEOPLES



GREAT MIGRATION

Migrants from across the region come to Mexico — approximately 1,500 per day or 1/2 million per year. They come with dreams of traveling to the U.S. or Canada.



EXTREME ISOLATION

An estimated 90 people groups live in extreme isolation in the Amazon jungle and have no contact with the outside world.



URBAN DENSIFICATION

Urbanization in Latin America is over 80%. New arrivals come for a better life, but poverty, crime, and violence increase in tandem with population growth.



YOUR MISSIONARIES ARE GRATEFUL.

When we say “thank you,” it’s not a simple statement. We recognize the deep commitment that so many of you have made to solve the world’s greatest problem.

You support more than 3,500 missionaries and their families, and you’re committed to sending more because lostness is growing every day.



JESSE

Jesse, West Africa (Journeyman)

In my city, I teach English at a community center. We use Scripture to teach students English and share the gospel. One of my favorite parts of my job is discipling young women. Thank you for providing this opportunity.

Carpenters, Italy

We live in a gorgeous place in Northern Italy but many of the people here worship the creation instead of the Creator. Thank you so much for



CARPENTER FAMILY

your prayers and support which allow us to be here sharing about our Creator.

Moses, Senegal

We are teaching a new church plant how to sing songs to worship God. In the past, they sang songs to worship an idol, but now they worship Jesus. Thank you for your support. Without you, we can’t do this in Senegal.



MOSES

Baumans, Europe

I want to say a huge thank you. Thank you for your generous giving to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering and Cooperative Program. One of the things I get to do is train our [IMB and national partner] teams in using digital tools to get the gospel to people’s phones.

Jack and Prinna, Japan

Through your partnership in the gospel, the Lord has worked through us to raise up



BAUMAN FAMILY



JACK AND PRINNA

Japanese disciples who are now opening up their home and leading Bible study. Thank you for your prayers and financial support.

Brian, Colombia

It takes almost all day to get to this indigenous village, and it’s one of the closest communities on the mountain. Because of your giving we can help Christians to be discipled and take the gospel further up the mountain to people who have never heard.



BRIAN

**REACHING
THE NATIONS,
TOGETHER.**



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