

**"I AM THE VINE;  
YOU ARE THE BRANCHES  
IF YOU REMAIN IN ME AND  
I IN YOU, YOU WILL BEAR MUCH FRUIT;  
APART FROM ME  
YOU CAN DO  
NOTHING"**

JOHN 15:5, NIV



**annual report 2013**



# president's message

Dear Friends,

When Jesus said, “I am the vine; you are the branches,” He was calling us to stay closely connected with Him — the source of life and strength that empowers our daily ministry. And, like branches stemming from the same vine, we are all connected to Jesus and, through Jesus, connected to one another in the ministry of His Gospel, by the power of His Spirit.

Every day, on every continent, OM teams are living out the Gospel in community so that its transforming power can be experienced by all. A passionate urgency drives us to go because we believe that the Gospel has the power to change every aspect of society for God’s glory.

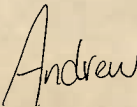
So we live the Gospel in communities — in the markets, over tea, and in churches — because we have seen that transformation takes root in a community when the Gospel is lived out in its fullest expression, real and in person, by branches connected to the Vine.

Within our family of ministries, we have 6,800 workers from over 100 countries serving in 118 nations. An entrepreneurial approach toward fulfilling the great Commission has led us to use many different methods to share the love of Jesus, so that by all means many would know Him. But in every approach, our passion is to see communities of Christ followers established, especially among the least reached and marginalized.

As we consider all that was accomplished in 2013, we rejoice that we share in this work of the Gospel with you: financial partners, OM workers, local volunteers, outreach and event participants, and the transformed men, women and children who have found new life in Jesus Christ.

So, please, rejoice with us as we look back at all that God did in 2013 to establish and grow faithful communities of Christ followers around the world — branches joined to one another and to the Father by our life-giving connection to the Vine.

Grateful for your partnership,



Andrew Scott  
President, OM USA



Andrew and Chris Insaadoo, OM Lake Tanganyika Team Leader

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Lawrence Tong, International Director

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On September 1, 2013, Lawrence Tong, a Singaporean, became OM’s third international director, succeeding Peter Maiden, who retired from the role after serving for 10 years, and George Verwer, who founded OM in 1957.

Lawrence met his American wife, Susan, while serving on the *Doulos*, and they married in 1989. His spiritual journey began with a commitment to Jesus Christ at an evangelistic meeting in Singapore in 1973. He visited the *Logos* when it sailed to Singapore in 1974, joining the ministry team on *Doulos* in 1978. Over the years, he and Susan have served in several OM ministries, including on board *Doulos*, and in India, Bangladesh, and the US.

Lawrence has served on the Board of OM Singapore, as OM country leader for Taiwan, as director of *Logos II*, and in financial development with the OM Ships USA office in Florence, South Carolina. He also led the fast-growing work of OM in China with a significant focus on welfare and agricultural programs following the earthquake of 2008.

## our mission



OM exists to see communities of Christ-followers established among the least reached and marginalized. Here is what we mean by that:

- Communities of Christ followers** — Local churches that are agents for transformation in their region, intentionally multiplying, led by local leaders, and self-sustaining
- Least reached** — those that have little or no access to the Gospel and have yet to hear it once
- Marginalized** — the millions who are forgotten and oppressed by their society

What does it mean, in reality, for a community of believers to be agents of transformation or to be self-sustaining? The following story from our team in Russia helps to illustrate many of these goals in living color...

**Uzbeks Transformed in Russia**

As usual, Alim\* was drunk that night. Escaping his life on the streets of Novosibirsk, he had crashed at the home of a female relative on the same night that Uzbek missionaries Sitora\* and Farhad\* visited her house. She was an Uzbek and a new believer whose joy had led her to invite all her friends and family to come and hear the Gospel! By God’s grace, Alim heard the message, too. (continued on next page)



“IF YOU KEEP MY  
COMMANDMENTS,  
YOU WILL ABIDE IN MY  
**LOVE**”  
JOHN 15:10, NASB



*(continued)*

After making it home, Alim dreamt that the Uzbek missionary was once again sharing the Gospel, but this time clothed in light and offering him a book. This dream so affected him that for the next 24 days he didn't drink or smoke. He told everyone he was experiencing "true life," and later exclaimed that he would not exchange those "days of light" for all the previous years of his life. He soon accepted Christ.

Although Alim promptly fell back into old habits — eventually living in a freezing one-room hut with eight other drunks and addicts — a deep feeling of guilt gripped him, driving him to keep visiting the house-group of believers. Alim's sincere desire to live for Christ was at war with his prior temptations, and at times he would testify for Christ while completely drunk.

However, the patient work of that Uzbek missionary family, discipling Alim as they had been discipled themselves and connecting him with many Christians — including working alongside a team of Christian builders last summer — enabled him to finally find true freedom in Christ.

Seeing a genuine transformation in his life, Alim's wife also came to know Christ and helped provide the secure environment he needed to nurture lasting behavior change.

To the glory of God, Alim is currently completing an intensive seven month ministry training course at the OM Russia Discipleship Center with an aim to one day evangelize his own people in Uzbekistan. But he will begin by working alongside more experienced church-planters, under the supervision and spiritual mentorship of Sitara\* & Farhad\*, for the next one to two years.

Along with a handful of other Uzbek men, Alim will continue learning timber frame construction from the same builders who helped him escape the pull of his old addictions last summer. These international teams are training Muslim Background Believers with skills that can help them be self-sustaining on the mission field.

To help him develop practical ministry experience, Alim is preparing to take responsibility for one of the house groups in Novosibirsk. The team's vision is for this church to be the catalyst for planting a fourth house church there, later this year. They also plan to send Alim to several Central Asian countries so he can experience a variety of ministries and cross-cultural environments.

Praise God, Alim has exchanged the darkness of his bondage on the night he heard about Jesus for the "days of light" he is living now as a maturing missionary with a burden to carry the light of Christ to his own people.



*Uzbek man playing traditional musical instrument.*

*\*Names changed for protection*



# muslim ministry



*Young Druze man serving matte tea.*

Farhad\*, the Uzbek missionaries you read about earlier, reaching out to Muslim Uzbeks like Alim\*, received some of their training because of funding from this project. “Thank you very much for allowing us to do this type of training, which is so beneficial to our ministries,” writes S. Bistoni. “I am going to use this to make an impact in Chad. God bless you.”

We rejoice that 38 unreached Muslim People groups in over 70 locations globally are being impacted by this project. “I work among Somali Muslims who have come to Zambia...100% Muslims,” says Oscar, who works with our team in Zambia. He considers this training a great privilege and believes “many Somalis will come to the saving knowledge of Christ through it.”

\*Names changed

The Muslim People Global Training Project aims to help pioneer movements of multiplying fellowships of Christ followers who are glorifying God and transforming their communities — among Muslims.

“My wife and I work in Zanzibar equipping Christians — working with Muslims,” reports one leader. “This course helped me immensely — equipping me with knowledge, structure and new understanding.”

Another worker among Muslims, Amon\*, has led a church planting team which, for 15 years, has focused on reaching the Druze, a sect of Islam. The team uses literature and other media, such as films, to communicate the Gospel clearly as they slowly break through the sheltered Druze worldview.

Amon leads and trains a core team of 30, out of 200 believers within his network of fellowships, all from a Muslim background. Preparing to be church planters, they work part time and spend the rest of their time in ministry — a more credible testimony in that culture.

A majority of OM Muslim ministry leaders globally have identified investing in training as their number one strategy. In fact, Sitora\* and

# india

At a gathering in Chicago, October 2013, it was time for the leaders of Good Shepherd/OM India to celebrate all that God has done in India, especially in the last 13 years and especially among the Dalits — the Untouchables. This occasion also introduced a clear vision for the way forward.



*Dalit girls studying at the Good Shepherd school in India.*

The promise made in 2001 is being kept — that we would help the Dalits fulfill their dream for freedom from the millennia-old enslaving caste system. Today, this is a fast-growing, transforming Church Movement that is fully engaged in justice and advocacy, in freeing children through English-medium schools, in health initiatives and anti-human trafficking, in economic empowerment, and in the training of leaders.

Looking to the future with their Freedom@25 Million initiative, our workers in India are pressing forward in faith to reach a cultural tipping point, by directly impacting at least 10% of the 250 million Dalit population. In fact, they are even now in a position to bring transformation to 25,000 communities of 1,000 people each across the nation through multiplying church communities, schools, health initiatives, economic development, Bible distribution, and advocacy.

With over 90% of Dalit school graduates being placed in professional or university courses, we are confident that this preventative model is the key to Dalit freedom. So, we are working to see 107 schools

become 300 so that 26,000 children will one day become 500,000.

You have also helped us spare thousands of girls from a life of temple prostitution. One of the most intractable social problems faced by teams in India is the practice of parents and family members dedicating young women and girls as temple prostitutes, or *Jogini*, also known as *Devadasi*. This practice is officially outlawed but is still practiced in many areas.

By God’s grace, our teams — including former Jogini/Devadasi redeemed by the Gospel — were able to share the truth about this life in hundreds of villages, literally halting the dedication of 2,500 young girls in 2013.



*Dalit women find freedom worshipping Jesus Christ.*







# africa

Just as you have helped us touch thousands of lives across Africa, you enabled local workers in Ghana to literally transform the lives of 46 women, making an impact on the community by living out the Gospel.

"It was raining when I met Annabelle," relates OMer Chris Insaidoo. "She approached my car and asked, 'Do you want me for the night?' I felt so very sad."

"Why are you doing this to yourself, my sister?" Chris asked, looking into her dark eyes, which overflowed with tears. Chris gave the girl his phone number and told her to call. "That was the beginning of what led to the rescue of 46 sex slaves from Nigeria."

Taken to a 'guesthouse' in the unofficial red light district of Kumasi with the promise of jobs, the young women were then informed they would work as prostitutes and could only buy their freedom by paying off the equivalent of \$1,840 USD. Each was then forced to put on cheap, revealing clothing and sent out to solicit customers.

"We went to the police commander," states Chris. "He directed us to the Anti-Human Trafficking Unit of the Police who, through information

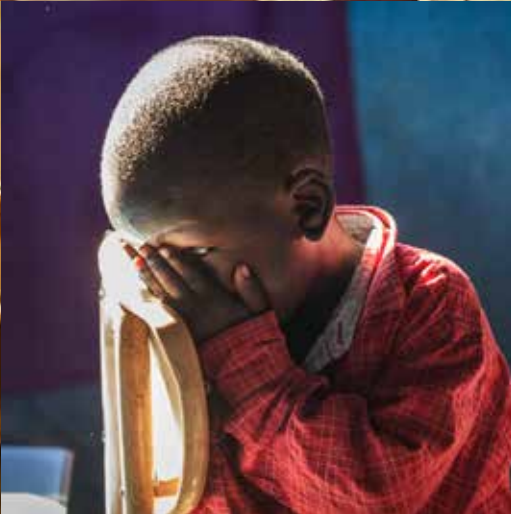


*Education helps children escape the cycle of poverty and oppression.*

from two OM girls, initiated a raid on the brothel. Four traffickers were arrested and 46 girls set free." Twelve were taken to OM's base for counselling, rehabilitation, and discipling and have since been sent back to their families. Most have made a fresh start.

Chris explains, however, that rescuing people is a costly business. Victims are often left feeling cheated, shamed and afraid, with no place to go. "It's hard work, but people who are rescued will go back to slavery without Christ. You must meet their spiritual needs as well as physical needs. So we try to link them with churches."

While we rejoice at the redemption of young women like Annabelle, we know that our work, worldwide, has just begun. Thank you for standing with us.



*OM in Africa is working with the church to rescue and restore.*





# global south initiative

Nations that have welcomed missionaries for decades, even centuries, are now sending their first missionaries! The growth of the church in what is known as the “Global South” — in Africa, Central and Latin America and most of Asia — during the past few decades has been nothing short of spectacular. Clearly, God is providing a new generation of mission workers out of the explosive expansion and maturity of Global South churches. These churches have caught the vision for world evangelism.

In 2013, OM launched its Global South Initiative (GSI) in response to this new reality. The vision behind the GSI is that OM would not only welcome this new wave of mission workers, but that OM’s culture, as an organization, would enable the Global South AND the Global North to thrive together as one body. We are learning from each other: addressing challenges, looking for creative solutions and making the most of opportunities.

Through strategic partners like you, we established a GSI fund that rewards innovation, supporting those projects that are accomplishing the following goals in the most effective and cost efficient manner:

1. Train hundreds of Global South leaders
2. Send thousands of financially sustainable Global South missionaries
3. Plant hundreds of indigenous churches among the least reached

Global South missionaries are typically more culturally aligned with the groups we seek to impact. They also tend to learn languages quickly, live naturally in community, and live simply.

Since our beginning, we have committed to mobilizing believers from all nations to fulfill the Great Commission. Currently, 98 nations are represented in OM, and over 65 percent of OM’s workers are from non-Western nations! We believe the Lord has provided workers for the white harvest and it’s our joy to see thousands join in the work “until the whole world hears.”



*Tina is commissioned to join Logos Hope by her church in Thailand.*

# aid & relief

You helped establish communities of Christ-followers by supporting the relief efforts of OM in 2013. Tragedy exposes people to their vulnerability and opens doors for dialog about spiritual matters. OM has been privileged to represent the gracious hands of Christ to so many who were suffering, while modeling and sharing about the love of Jesus in the process.

## OM Responds to Emergency in Philippines

In early October, most of the local OM Philippines staff, along with 40 pastors from Cebu City, received training on the church’s response to crisis and disaster — not knowing they would mount a major relief operation 12 days later.

On October 15, a 7.2-magnitude earthquake hit Cebu City, followed two weeks later by Typhoon Haiyan, which killed up to 6,000 people and left more than four million displaced. “By God’s grace, about 2,500 families have been reached with water, food, gas and hope — so far,” remarked field leader Sally Ababa, speaking about the immediate relief that was distributed in Bohol, Northern Cebu and Tacloban and the emergency center that was set up at the OM office to coordinate the church’s response.

Your compassionate support has brought hope and help to thousands in Christ’s name.

## Syrian Crisis Softens Hearts

Few countries were in the headlines in 2013 more than Syria. OM partners with over 30 local churches and Christian groups in Lebanon, Jordan and Syria to bring aid to Syrian refugee families. Each partnering church has committed to adopting a number of refugee families to whom they distribute monthly food packages. Teams provide on-going support and help to locals to reach out to Muslims.

Since January 2013, teams have provided aid to more than 1,700 families each month, praying with each recipient family. In Lebanon, where 14 partnering local churches were surveyed in detail, nearly two-thirds have now started a Bible study or discipleship group specifically for Syrian refugees. In one Syrian city, about 15% of those now attending church meetings are from Muslim backgrounds.

“I’m really excited about what’s happening [among] Syrians,” said one OM worker. “When we open the Bible to read for them, they go quiet. When Jesus says, ‘Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened...’ (Matt. 11:28), they go quiet, because that’s them.” Many of them are hungry to hear the Word and experience the peace of Christ.



*Syrian refugees cross the Turkish border with virtually nothing.*





# ships



Logos Hope sails out of Hong Kong at the start of 2013.

You helped us live out the Gospel by supporting the work of OM Ships. This is a unique platform for very high profile global ministry on a scale that is unmatched.

For crewmember Natalie Vellacott (UK), it all began in 2012, with *Logos Hope's* nine-month extended stay in Subic Bay, Philippines. Although such a lengthy stay was a challenging reality for the Ship Ministry, during that time, Natalie was one of several who spent considerable time with a group of street children living under a bridge in Subic Bay.

These boys and young men begged for money and sniffed glue for relief from their hunger. "We spent time with them," shared Natalie. "We told them about Jesus." Through almost daily interaction over five months and in partnership with local Christians, most of the group were placed in local homes and started in schooling or employment opportunities. In some cases, they began a personal relationship with Jesus!

During a return visit to Subic Bay in June 2013, Natalie was thrilled that there was no longer a group of homeless boys hanging out around the bridge. The connections they had established earlier with local families, schooling, and employment opportunities had brought

the lasting solutions of knowledge, help, and hope to these children.

After completing her time on board recently, Natalie is planning to return to the Philippines as soon as she can to continue sharing God's love. "The ship caused me to have a passion for the Philippines," Natalie said, "God has used the ship to show me the future, so I am grateful for that."

During this past year, *Logos Hope* was able to visit ten ports in seven different countries. Over 600,000 people visited the ship, and countless others were impacted through teams going out to show and share God's love to people in hospitals, schools, orphanages, prisons, and on the streets.

We are grateful for your support in prayer and financial giving that has made so much ministry outreach possible.



Natalie Vellacott (UK) drinks tea on board Logos Hope with one of the homeless street kids who lived under a bridge in Subic Bay. She helped him to be adopted by a Filipino family.





# freedom climb



*Bangladeshi woman in the sewing and tailoring program.*

You protected women and children from being born or sold into slavery by supporting the Freedom Climb in 2013. Close to one million people are trafficked across borders each year, and 27 million people around the world are trapped in the bondage of slavery today. The Freedom Climb project supports ministries of rescue, rehabilitation and prevention for women and children who are victims of trafficking, slavery, exploitation, and oppression.

In April, 45 women from nine countries spent 16 nights and 17 days climbing approximately 18,192 ft. to the Mount Everest base camp. Motivated by a desire to be a voice for the voiceless by raising global awareness, prayer, and funds, these women shared the need among friends, family, churches, and charitable organizations to raise money for the cause.

Gildélia “Gil” Vieira Moromisato journeyed from Brazil to join 44 other women in Nepal to climb the icy tracks of Mount Kala Patthar and Ama Dablam. For her, the act of climbing a mountain was symbolic, a recognition that, “for women and children at risk, the journey towards freedom is much more painful, cruel, and, much of the time, seemingly insurmountable.”

But your partnership means that “step by step, on a path flattened by volunteers, intercessors, and sponsors from around the world, the mountain of despair, hopelessness, and poverty has been conquered.” Gildélia rejoices that “daily, these women and children are encouraged by God’s saving love, so they have gradually reached the top of this mountain and have received freedom and new life!”

Preventing Devadasi dedications in India, teaching life skills to abused and isolated female heads of household in the Middle East, educating to eliminate sex trafficking in Ghana, Zambia and Madagascar — these, and 43 more ongoing projects, Freedom Climb has supported by raising over \$1 million net since it began two years ago. Glory to God!



*Gil and another climber, Autumn Ross, on the Everest climb in Nepal.*

“IF YOU ABIDE IN ME  
AND MY WORDS ABIDE  
IN YOU, ASK WHATEVER YOU  
**WISH**  
AND IT WILL BE DONE FOR YOU”  
JOHN 15:7, NASB





# where we serve

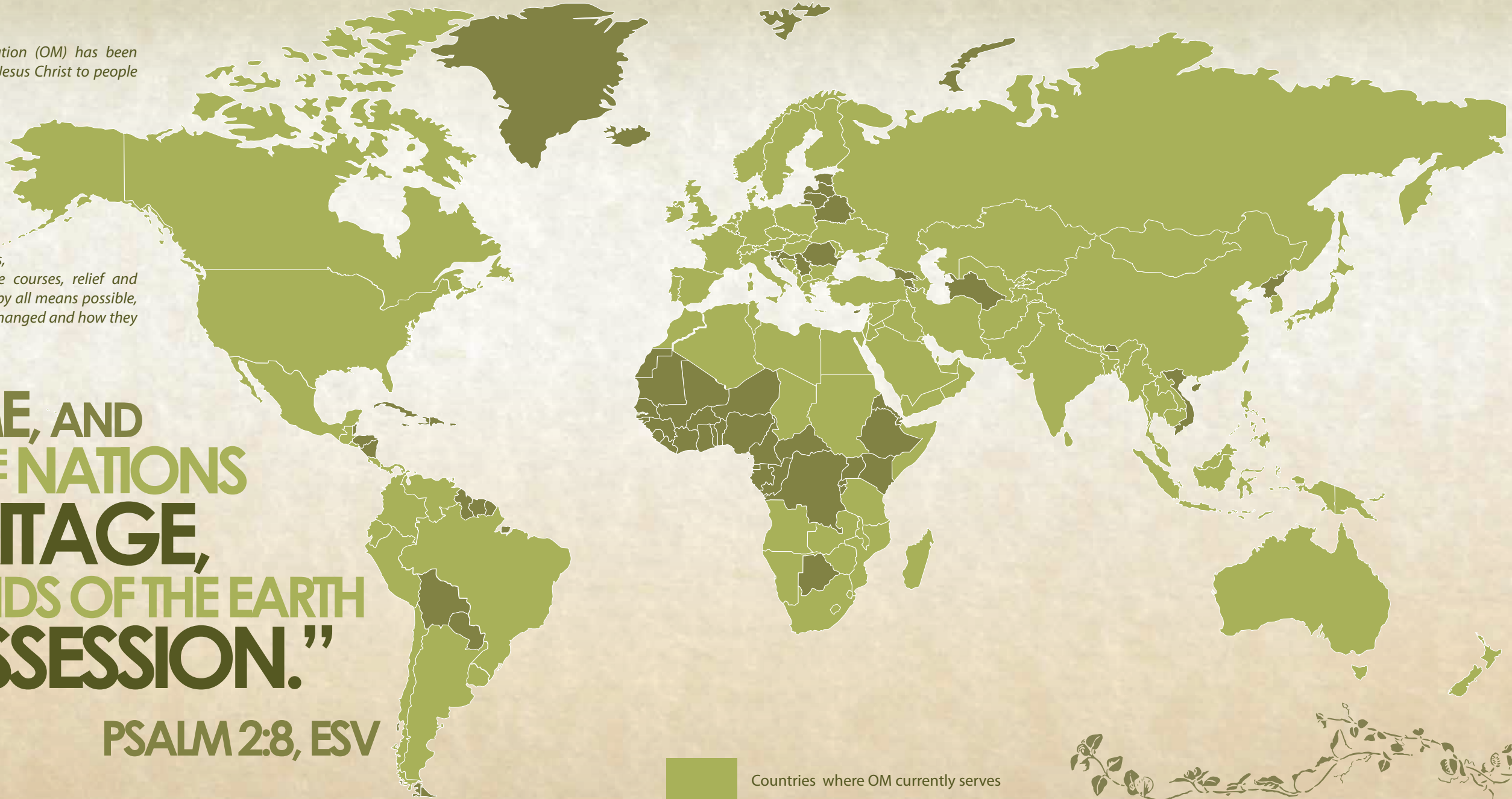
*For over 50 years, Operation Mobilization (OM) has been bringing the message of hope through Jesus Christ to people in over 118 countries around the world.*

*With over 6,800 people from 100 nations who serve in the OM family of ministries, we all have one thing in common — we love Jesus and we want others to have the opportunity to hear about Him.*

*Through literature, the creative arts, friendship, Bible studies, videos, DVDs, CDs, and MP3s, correspondence courses, relief and development work, and much more — by all means possible, we tell people how our lives have been changed and how they too can meet Jesus.*

**“ASK OF ME, AND  
I WILL MAKE THE NATIONS  
YOUR HERITAGE,  
AND THE ENDS OF THE EARTH  
YOUR POSSESSION.”**

**PSALM 2:8, ESV**





# financials

(in US\$ thousands)

## assets, liabilities & net assets

Fiscal Year ended Sept 30	2013	2012	2011*
<b>Assets</b>			
Cash and Investments	\$5,871	\$6,481	\$3,902
Other Current Assets	512	582	1,184
Fixed Assets	5,948	5,793	5,983
Total	\$12,331	\$12,856	\$11,069
<b>Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</b>			
Liabilities	\$1,385	\$2,848	\$1,144
Net Assets	10,946	10,008	9,925
Total	\$12,331	\$12,856	\$11,069

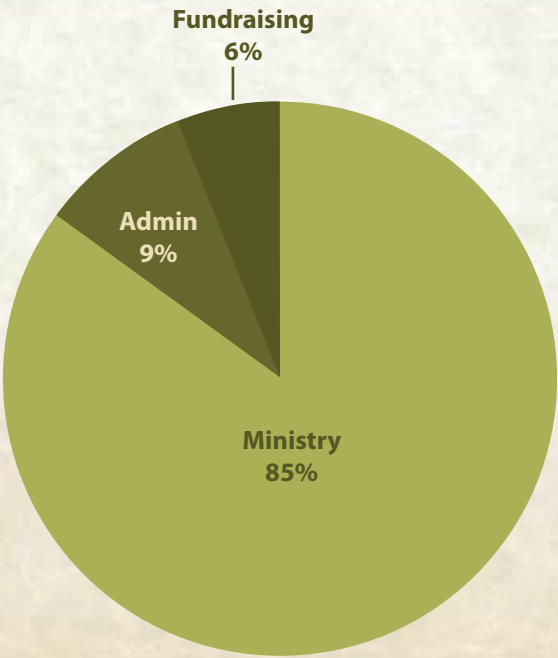
## income & expenses

Fiscal Year ended Sept 30	2013	2012	2011*
<b>Income</b>			
Contributions	\$25,417	\$23,841	\$14,547
Literature Sales	74	86	55
Investment Income (loss)	302	542	(173)
Other Income	561	376	26
Total	\$26,354	\$24,845	\$14,691
<b>Expenses</b>			
International Ministry	\$16,036	\$14,261	\$8,540
Literature Ministry	62	59	33
Other Ministry	5,461	6,650	3,730
General and Administrative	2,308	2,315	1,530
Fundraising	1,549	1,477	1,098
Total	25,416	24,762	14,931
Change in Net Assets	\$938	\$83	\$(240)

\* 2011 represents 9 months of activity, reflecting our change in fiscal year

Our greatest desire is to see communities of Christ-followers established among the unreached and marginalized, and we work diligently to shepherd the lion's share of your financial donations directly to that work.

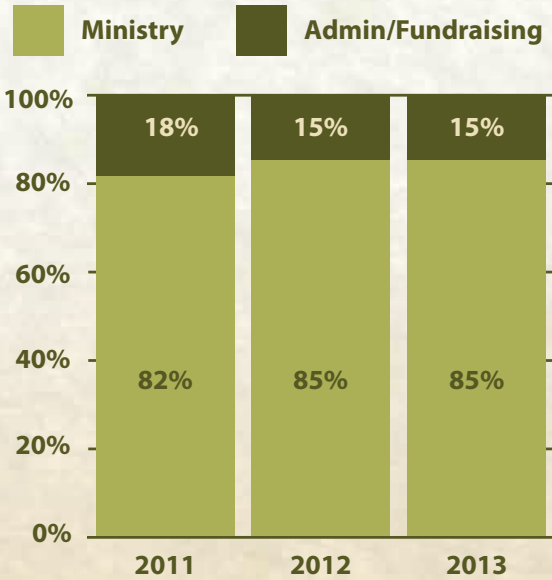
2013 Financial Breakdown



We are also extremely pleased to be able to point out the fact that for two years in a row, of the money you have generously given, we have been able to apply 85% to ministry projects, with 9% for administrative expenses and just 6% toward fundraising costs.

Complete financial statements, audited by Capin Crouse, LLP, are available on request or can be viewed online at:

[www.omusa.org/give/financial-accountability](http://www.omusa.org/give/financial-accountability)



Indian boy practicing his writing in a Good Shepherd school.

### Notes

- Fiscal year runs October 1 – September 30.
- Depreciation of \$660,000 is included in expenses.
- Total Net Assets on September 30, 2013 were \$10,946,000, of which \$3,062,000 were temporarily restricted.
- 2011 represents 9 months of activity, reflecting our shift in fiscal year from a calendar year basis, to the current 10/1 – 9/30.







[www.omusa.org](http://www.omusa.org)

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