



YOU ARE IMPACTING  
GOD'S KINGDOM

*Until all have heard*

2024 ANNUAL REPORT

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*\*names changed in stories for security purposes*





# From Andrew

**Until all have heard** is a phrase that reflects the heartbeat of our organization. You are part of OM, embracing this phrase, so thank you! Our passion is to engage with the hardest-to-reach people groups who have never heard the name of Jesus. The Lord works through OM to help them turn into multipliers of the gospel.

Together we have seen that the Lord is good, and we want everyone, everywhere to hear the message of our Savior. But we recognize that the work of expanding God's Kingdom isn't that of just one team or organization; we collaborate with those also passionate about seeing His will be done, on Earth as it is in heaven.

In this report you will see the diverse Body of Christ on display in the lives of OM team members and partners we all seek to serve. In Panama, an Indian couple is reaching out to the Indian immigrants. In the Northern Caucasus, prayer is leading faithful believers to those open to hear the good news. In Bangladesh, where Christians make up less than one percent of the population, OM workers train women in job skills — and the lifestyle of a Jesus follower. Though the work varies, these heroes share the same heart. They labor in the Lord's harvest fields, for the good of their communities and the glory of God.

**Thank you for partnering with us in the good work of the Kingdom.** The support of people like you doesn't only benefit that work; it's part of it. We are *all* disciple-makers, Kingdom messengers and global mobilizers. You and the workers highlighted in this report are my heroes in reaching the least reached. Join us in proclaiming, that we will worship our Lord and love His people, *until all have heard!*

In His holy name,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Andrew'.

**ANDREW GINSBERG**  
President and CEO, OM USA



© Ellyn Schellenberg



# A global mission

FOR ALL PEOPLE

We want to see  
**vibrant communities  
of Jesus followers**  
among the  
least reached.

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- We believe that the gospel has the power to change everyone and everything.
- We believe it is God's mission to transform lives and communities as He reconciles the world to Himself.
- As believers, we ALL have the privilege of joining with Him in this mission.





**More than 58%** of OM workers are from the majority world\*

*\* The majority world is defined by OM as Africa, Asia, South and Central America, the Middle East, Balkans, Eastern Europe, Caribbean and Papua New Guinea.*

**4,500**

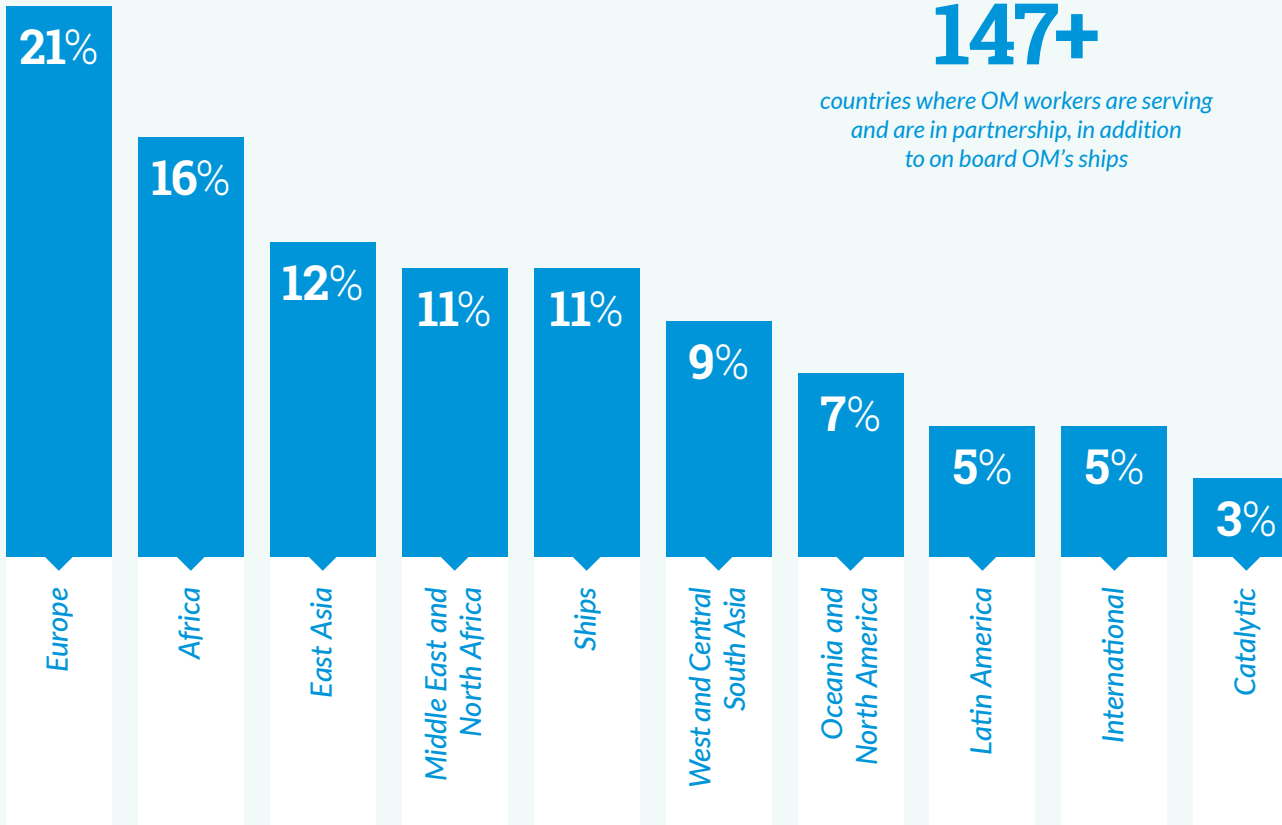
adults serving with OM

**125**

nationalities serving with OM

**147+**

countries where OM workers are serving and are in partnership, in addition to on board OM's ships



Where we are **serving**



“BUT YOU WILL RECEIVE POWER WHEN THE HOLY SPIRIT

COMES ON YOU; AND YOU WILL BE MY WITNESSES

IN JERUSALEM, AND IN ALL JUDEA AND SAMARIA,

AND TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH.”

ACTS 1:8 (NIV)

New groups formed

WITH YOUR SUPPORT DURING 2024

790

### Vibrant Communities

A group of believers who practice worship, prayer, baptism, breaking of bread, service, witness, giving, fellowship and Bible study.

Each Vibrant Community is led by **local believers** and **has multiplied** to at least one more group.

978

### Body of Christ groups

A local expression of the Body of Christ who meet regularly to engage in Bible study and teaching, and practice some of the things described above. There are **some believers** in this group.

3,297

### Small groups

A group meeting around the Word of God in some way. They may be **seekers** and not yet believers.



## MOBILIZATION IMPACT

IN 2024,

FROM THE USA,

YOU HAVE HELPED

TRAIN AND MOBILIZE:

# 425 Americans

*All Jesus followers engaged among the least reached globally.*

# 33 Professionals

*To full-time marketplace work in the following countries:  
UAE, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Egypt, Malaysia,  
Vietnam, Japan, South Africa and India.*

# 310 Short Termers

*Activated into 1-2 week mission trips around the world.*

# 34 University Students

*Equipped through 2-month internships in the global marketplace.*

# 30 Disciple Makers

*Serving in refugee-dense population areas within the USA.*

# 18 Young People

*Sent to 3-12 month On-Ramps on board  
OM's Ships or Discipleship Schools.*





Through your giving, OM was able to send **\$10,096,907** overseas, impacting more than **122 ministry projects** in over **76 countries** and our **two ships**.

#### VIBRANT COMMUNITIES OF JESUS FOLLOWERS

- 72 fields and ministries reported growth.
- 12 fields have seen multiplication to the 3rd or 4th generation.
- 7 fields have seen 100+ new groups.
- 20 fields have at least doubled the amount of new groups compared to last year.

#### INNOVATION

- For the first time this year, OM expanded our marketplace sending program by holding our Global Career Launch Course on board our ship, *Logos Hope*, to equip international crew members to get missional jobs in least-reached countries. As a result, several non-American participants are now pursuing work as teachers in the Arabian Peninsula.
- We are developing and designing some of the best experiences in the world for Jesus followers in the global marketplace, and we

have the platform to attract talent to these opportunities. In 2024, we won an “early talent award” on Handshake, which is the number one site for college students to find jobs. We ranked alongside global companies like Nike and Newell-Rubbermaid. Only 274 out of 900,000 companies receive this award.

- In April, OM helped our recruiting partner, TalentCo., launch its middle eastern hub. This new tool has deepened relationships with some of the most influential clients in the region, which is opening more doors for us to send intentional candidates to the global marketplace.

#### PEOPLE CARE

- Our People Care team served 432 American OMers living in 43 countries and on board OM’s two ships, providing support, care and counseling for those engaged in work with the least reached and those supporting local Jesus followers doing the same.

**“It has been a fruitful year of mobilizing women and developing women leaders. They are engaging deeply within marginalized communities with unreached women. We are excited for how the women are multiplying their own vibrancy and disciple making efforts into others!”**

– Larissa, Women of Impact Africa



## OM'S SHIPS

### DOULOS HOPE VISITS PHNOM PENH

*Doulos Hope* made history by voyaging through the Mekong River during June 2024. This journey fulfilled a dream that was in the making since the ship's launch. Her agile build and smaller size enable her to visit communities that would otherwise be out of reach.



Jenny\*, a member of OM in Cambodia, noted, "There were people who felt really touched that all of you would come to their land to share God's love."

During her five-week stay in Phnom Penh, crewmembers connected with locals through the distribution of glasses to improve vision, children's programs, the bookfair and food donations.

Jenny continued, "The community that the ship brought, that fellowship of brothers and sisters in Christ, is the greatest blessing that the ship has given."

Some locals took an excited interest in serving God around the world. One church leader who is partnered with OM in Cambodia is now planning to send volunteers on board *Doulos Hope*. "After the ship came, we saw that Cambodia can contribute too," he expressed.

Jenny called this realization a "shocking change," and went on to say, "It is so significant to have churches support local Cambodians going out. When *Doulos Hope* came, people saw that you don't need much experience – you need a willing heart and a faith, and you can serve and make a difference."

Written by Myah Peterson



- In 2024, 1.07 million people visited *Logos Hope* and *Doulos Hope*.
- OM's ships visited 27 ports in 14 countries throughout Africa, South East Asia and the Caribbean.
- 1.1 million books were sold; 55,000 of them were Bibles!



YOU GENEROUSLY GAVE

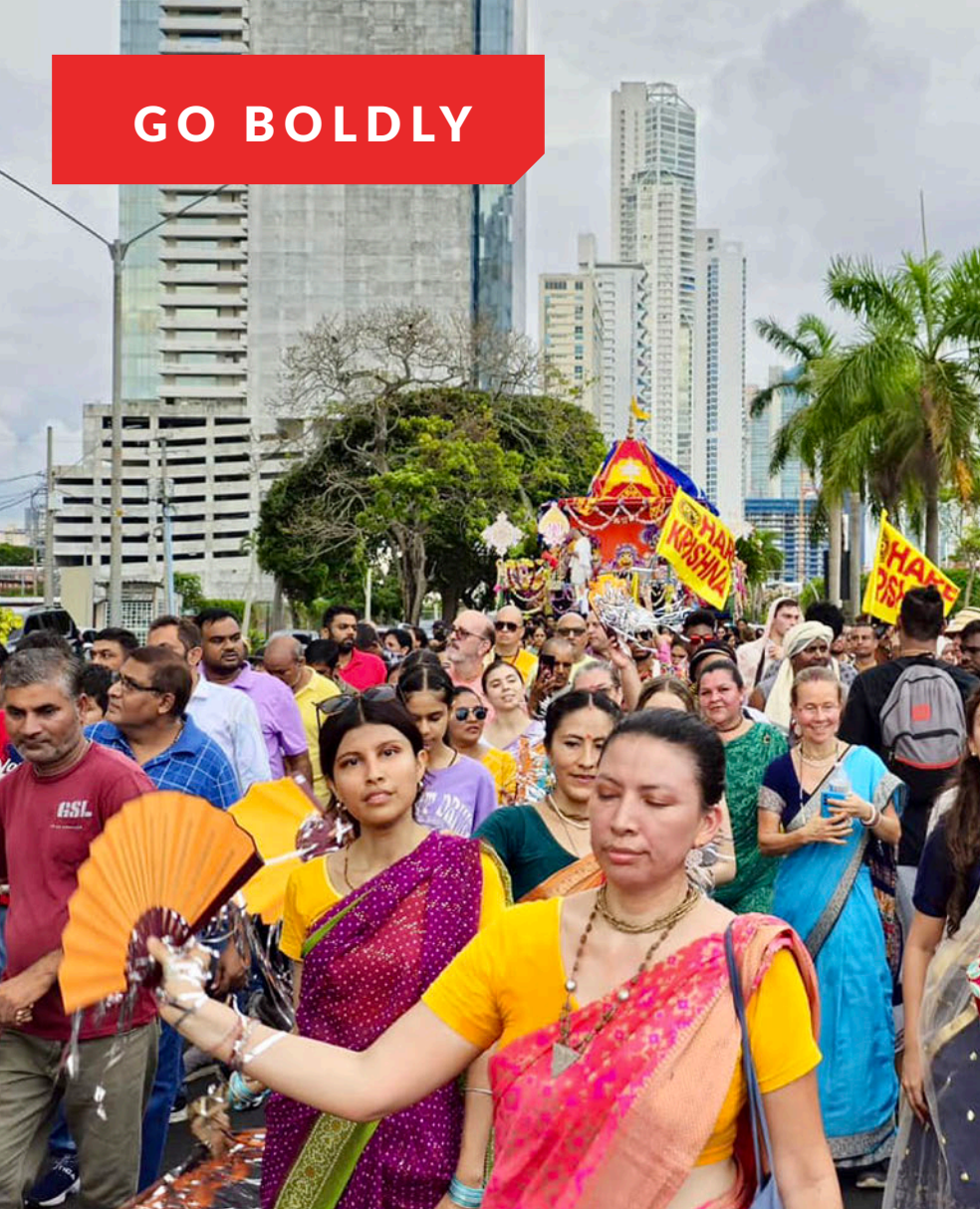
\$1.7 MILLION FOR OM'S SHIP MINISTRY

IN 2024

THANK YOU!



GO BOLDLY



# Bridging cultures



**S**hibu (India) first moved to Panama in 2010 with his wife Lily, who is from there. Then, with a heart to share the love of Christ with Indians, the family moved to India.

However, things did not go as they had hoped. Shibu recalls, “We had to leave India due to some problems there. My wife was a foreigner. It was not safe for her to be there.”

“In 2014, we decided to come back to Panama. But we started to ask God: ‘Why did You bring us back? What is the purpose? You bring us back to Panama but we want to live in India.’ Because that was our heart — serving among Indian people.”

The couple then heard God clearly speak to them, pointing out that no one was actively reaching out to the Indian population in Panama. Both Shibu and Lily had previously worked with OM, and in 2015, they joined OM in Panama with their three children.

## HISTORY AND TRADITION

Panama has an Indian population of around 33,000 — a large number considering the country’s population is just four million. Of these, the majority are Hindu, with some Muslims but very few Jesus followers. Many Indians first came to the country to help build the Panama Canal more than 100 years ago, then stayed and started families in Panama.

Shibu explains, “Most people are from The Punjab and Gujarat. The Gujaratis are 80 percent of the Indian population in

Panama; then we have people from a Sindhi background who are from different parts of the country, some from the south, some from the north.”

“The Sindhi are very open, like they marry locals, Latinos. But the Gujaratis, they are very rigid, very orthodox. They will go to India to find a spouse for their daughter or son and bring them to Panama. We know one Indian family where the girl married a local and they sent her out of the family. It was so difficult for her to come back to her family because she married a Latino.”

## A FOREIGNER AMONG COMPATRIOTS

Although Shibu and Lily found where they were supposed to be, it wasn’t without challenges. Shibu remembers, “It was so difficult for us because most of the Indians in Panama are Gujaratis but I am from South India. Southern and northern Indians have wide differences — it’s like being foreigners. When I would go to their restaurants or their shops, that’s how they would see me, so they never wanted to talk to me. We even speak different languages, but we can all speak Hindi.”

“It took a while for me to connect with the community. I thought: I am from India. It’s going to be easy for me, you know, people will accept me. But it was so tough for me and for my wife to connect with the people.”

Lily began tutoring Indian children in Spanish, strengthening connections with families. Gradually, the family was accepted by the community and started to form friendships.



## A GROWING MINISTRY

Shibu and Lily try to visit at least one church every month in Panama City and often travel three or four hours to visit churches further afield and share their passion for spreading the gospel.

To help churches understand more about the Hindu community, the couple runs regular training sessions explaining Hinduism, Indian traditions and festivals and possible ways for people to connect with their Hindu neighbors. The training also includes a visit to a Hindu temple where participants can hear from a temple priest and ask questions. For many participants, the temple visit is their first time speaking with a Hindu and hearing their beliefs.

In September 2024, 40 people from different churches and areas of Panama attended the training. *"The participants had so many questions, and we had a great time sharing and explaining some of the important questions at the end of the workshop,"* recalls Shibu. At the end of the training, everyone ate a meal together and *"it was great fun watching people enjoying the Indian meal and chai!"*

Hindus believe in many gods and goddesses, so when they are told about Jesus, they often consider Him just another deity, teacher or a good man. *"They don't have any objection to hearing about Jesus,"* Shibu shares. *"But when it comes to understanding that Jesus is the only way, then it takes a long time for them to understand."* •

*Written by Pamela Kingsley*



MANY INDIANS FIRST CAME

TO THE COUNTRY TO HELP

BUILD THE PANAMA CANAL

MORE THAN 100 YEARS AGO,

THEN STAYED AND STARTED

FAMILIES IN PANAMA.







THE DOCTOR HAD CHECKED NURAY AND SAID

SHE WAS COMPLETELY HEALED.

NURAY SAID: "I AM AMAZED. THESE GUYS DID A

GREAT JOB. LET THEM COME AGAIN AND

TELL ME MORE ABOUT THEIR GOD."

# Jesus in the mountains

## GREATER CAUCASUS

**D**avud\*, an OM worker, traveled to the Northern Caucasus with his friend Kamran\*. Both men are from a nearby country in central Asia and traveled through the mountainous — and mostly unreached — region to share the hope of Jesus with those who had never heard it.

In one village, they met someone who had a sick relative in the nearby hospital. The person called Nuray\*, their relative, and asked if Davud and Kamran could come and pray for her. She agreed, and the pair went to the hospital.

After sharing the gospel, they asked Nuray: "Could we anoint you and pray for you?" Again, Nuray agreed, so, they anointed her and prayed for her in the name of Jesus Christ. Then Davud and Kamran left.

A couple of hours later, they received a message. The doctor had checked Nuray and said that she was completely healed. Nuray said: "I am amazed. These guys did a great job. Let them come again and tell me more about their God." So, they did.

The next time Davud and Kamran visited Nuray's village, they brought their families staying the night

with Nuray's family, deepening their friendship. It is their prayer that the entire family follows Jesus.

### GUIDED BY PRAYER

During their travels, Davud and Kamran prayed for different least-reached people groups in the Northern Caucasus. They visited a remote village in the mountains where one of these groups lived and, not knowing anyone there, prayed for God to connect them to a person of peace who would help them.

As they arrived in the village, Davud and Kamran met a group of men on the road. It was a narrow road, and the men were clearing debris that had blocked it. Davud and Kamran asked if they could help. The men agreed and afterwards introduced themselves.

One of the men was Muhammed\*, whom Davud and Kamran invited to drink tea with them. In the local culture, friendships are formed by sitting together, sharing a meal and drinking tea; that is also the time for deep conversations.

Muhammed came that evening with a few fish he had caught in a river. The three men ate the fish, and Davud shared some stories from the Bible. Seeing that Muhammed was interested, Davud continued sharing about his faith.

A deep friendship began. Even though they lived far away, Davud and Kamran visited Muhammed's village many times to disciple him. When Muhammed had problems, they cried with him. When he had reason to celebrate, they laughed with him. Muhammed confided that they were two of his best friends.

Muhammed and his family have since become followers of Jesus — reading the Bible together and growing in their faith. The Northern Caucasus are a very difficult and dangerous place to share the gospel, yet despite the risk, Muhammed is sharing his faith with others. Recently, he shared the good news of Christ with his brother. •

*Written by Megan Sauter*





**O**livia\* dreamed of living intentionally overseas since she was young. After gaining career experience in the US, she started applying to jobs in the Arabian Peninsula (AP).

Stretching from the Red Sea to the Persian Gulf, the AP is composed of seven countries: Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Oman and Yemen. Only about 500 to 1,000 Jesus followers are reported among the people groups in this region. Social control and family pressure to stay within the Islamic culture and religion, as well as teachings in schools and from mosques, hinder the spread of Jesus' message of love and hope.

Despite difficult circumstances, the church is growing in the AP. Nearly 65% of Arabs in the AP are under the age of 30, and many of them are open to hearing

the good news of salvation, especially through online Christian resources.

During her job search, Olivia received several offers in different countries but ultimately signed a contract in a city where she would have community with other Jesus followers who had been living there for decades—offering their own cultural experience and wisdom to Olivia and helping her deepen local friendships.

In 2024, Olivia's first full year of working in the AP, she has discovered that while her job provides her an authentic identity, her hobbies have opened doors for personal friendships. Spending time participating in activities she loves has led to natural connections with dozens of Arab women.

Traveling to and from a shared activity, Olivia spends several hours a week with one local friend, talking

about their interests and birthdays and religion, including conversations about their respective faiths and prayer.

*"Investing time into local people's lives is very, very important," said Denise\*, another American and long-term OM worker in Olivia's city who is discipling Arab women. "As you make friendships, you begin to discern things in their lives, and you are the only one in their lives that can take that to the Lord to help them get a solution."*

OM is investing in more media outreach to Arabs hungry for hope. And, because of your partnership, Jesus followers like Olivia are also living out the love of Christ in person to their Muslim neighbors in the AP through friendships and workplace relationships. •

## Living as light

 ARABIAN PENINSULA

IN 2024, OM MOBILIZED

33 PROFESSIONALS

INTO THE GLOBAL MARKETPLACE,

WHERE THEIR CREDIBLE IDENTITIES

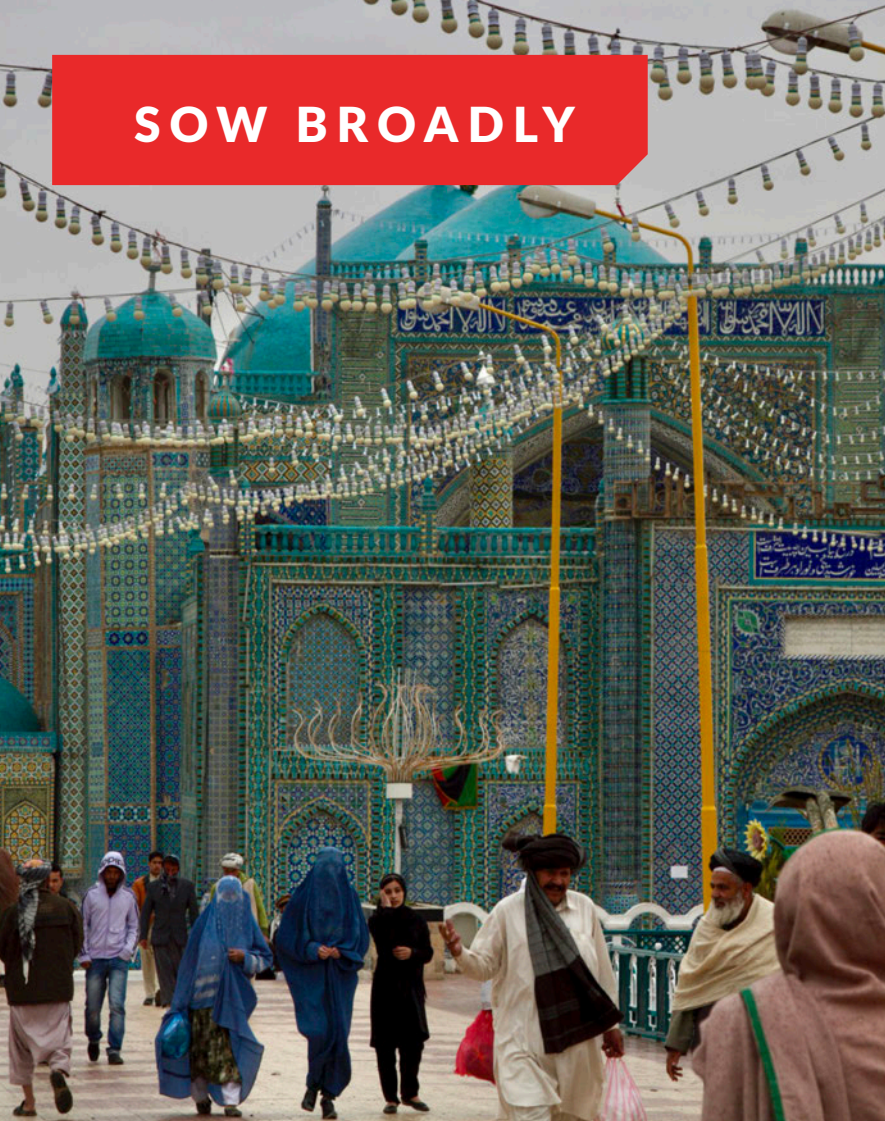
IN THE COMMUNITY ALLOW THEM

TO SHINE GOD'S LIGHT

THROUGH THEIR WORK.



## SOW BROADLY



# The gospel going wide

 AFGHANISTAN

**F**or over 30 years from outside of the country, OM's Pamir ministry has broadcasted the message of Jesus over radio waves into Afghanistan. Fifteen years ago, TV broadcasts were added. In more recent years, they developed a variety of social media platforms to take the good news even further.

*"[Social media] has been one way of broad seed sowing that has catapulted us into a new ministry level," Adam\*, a ministry leader, shared. "We get many negative responses ... but we focus on the positive comments and messages — the things that lead to a connection with our team members and deeper conversations."*

*"Afghanistan is one of the most challenging places in the world to follow Jesus, as well as to discover Jesus," Robert\*, an OM ministry leader, said. "In the current situation within the country, Jesus followers and even seekers of Jesus, face pressure from all sectors of society, including their families and communities. There are no churches, and having a Bible can be a risk."*

One woman who follows Pamir's Facebook page and downloaded the Bible to her phone told a team member: "I read the Bible, and when I believed, my life was changed! I am very interested to learn and understand more." Another person downloaded and started reading the Dari Bible App and shared later that he felt light flood him. He found himself changed with a new sense of love for other people. He reads the Bible daily and is keen to start Bible study with one of the Pamir follow-up teams.

Gul\*, a woman who previously heard about Jesus from one of her sons, said in a follow-up call with a team member that she had believed in Jesus for some time already, and was now ready to pray to receive Jesus. Gul expressed appreciation that someone explained Scripture to her, and how much joy and peace she felt. Prior to her decision, she regularly connected with a Pamir worker over the course of several months and discussed more about who Jesus was.

### CREATIVE MEDIA APPROACHES

Due to low literacy rates, the Pamir radio and television shows are a great way for Afghans to learn about Jesus. "Our team members talk with Afghans on a daily basis, answer questions and/or read the Bible to them so that they can grow in their faith," Adam shared. One such man follows the Pamir radio broadcasts regularly and also listens to the audio Bible on the Bible App developed by Pamir. In this way, he has studied the Gospels. He prays for those who have not yet heard the true Word of God. Regularly in contact with a Pamir team member, he commented that he is learning to put everything into God's hands instead of becoming angry when others do wrong.

*"One of the most effective ways to share the gospel in Afghanistan is through various forms of media, over the radio waves and satellite TV, as well as online and through apps," Robert explained. "In a country where most people describe their situation as hopeless, it is critical they learn of the true hope only possible through Jesus!"*



An older man talking to a Pamir worker remembered: *“Several years ago, one of you prayed with me, and after that, my life was changed. I listen to the Dari, Pushto and Hazaragi programs and I pray for all of you who share the good news with our people.”* Another man said: *“You are doing a good job sharing about the Light.”*

The team uses a variety of ways to identify and guide interested online users through a step-by-step discovery and discipleship process: first, messaging individuals and answering big-picture questions about God and the Bible, and later, having one-on-one calls and connecting them with further Bible study opportunities. This helps the team reach thousands of people with a broad message about Christ and also discern and come alongside those seeking truth to engage in meaningful conversations.

One example of this is a man who has connected with Pamir workers through social media for a couple of years. As the workers answered the man’s questions and directed him to a Bible study, he announced that his questions were answered and that he was ready to be baptized.

### **MAKING A BIG IMPACT**

In 2024, thousands of users engaged for thousands of hours with the team’s media content on social media, websites and mobile apps, as well as radio and TV. In response to the message communicated on these platforms, **5,245 Afghans contacted the Pamir team through social media**, and team members had conversations with 2,171 people. An additional **1,799 Afghans reached**

**out by phone**, and team members spoke with 555 people (some called the team but then decided they did not want to talk further). Of these conversations, about **23** were classified as an ongoing mentoring relationship, where discipleship and deeper Bible study occurred.

Despite the persecution of followers of Jesus in this part of the world and the difficulty of openly witnessing in Afghanistan itself, the Pamir team has found a variety of ways to share truths about Christ with Afghans. In a highly familial culture, this ministry provides a connection to the whole family.

As one person shared: *“I listen to your radio programs in the evenings with my family. I heard a lot of good things and truth, and I try to tell my neighbors and others. We want to learn more from the Bible.”* A Pamir team member is in regular contact with another man and his family for fellowship and Bible study; they have followed the TV programs for some years now.

The Pamir team continues to be committed to speaking about Jesus in a variety of ways so that Afghans have the opportunity to know they are part of God’s plan. *“Our very first ministry, which continues to this day, consists of several hours of gospel messages broadcasted every day over short and medium-wave radio into Afghanistan — quite literally so that all can ‘hear’ the good news!”* shared Robert. *“We, along with our ministry partners, have expanded into television, film, Bible translation, apps, online and social media, so that the gospel can be widely sown where it is not known.”* •

*Written by Ellyn Schellenberg*



**“IN A COUNTRY WHERE MOST PEOPLE  
DESCRIBE THEIR SITUATION AS HOPELESS,  
IT IS CRITICAL THEY LEARN OF THE TRUE  
HOPE ONLY POSSIBLE THROUGH JESUS.”**



# Sharing Jesus online



**W**hen many churches were shifting to online meetings because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the OM team in Belgium decided to also step into the digital world and began making YouTube videos to share the good news with people in Belgium.

According to a study published by Pew Research Center in 2018, 70 percent of people in Belgium say there's no God. Most evangelical churches in the country don't grow beyond 50 members, and half of self-identifying evangelical Belgians don't attend church regularly. While French-speaking churches are often buoyed by French-speaking immigrants, Flemish-speaking churches have historically found it more difficult to grow. That is why the OM team in Belgium has focused much of its work on the least-reached region of Flanders.

## SOWING THE GOSPEL WIDELY IN FLANDERS

According to Martin Turner, the leader of OM's work in Belgium, who often cohosts the videos, says that the negative feedback they receive about the videos is normally about how it's impossible to be both rational and a Christian. But for him, that's one of the main motivations for the videos. Many Belgians have been

influenced by atheist perspectives on faith; when they hear Christianity explained, it's through that critical lens. Often, the descriptions they hear about the Bible, for example, aren't accurate.

Part of the purpose of OM's Flemish-language videos is to *"give a non-believer... from a secularist background, who's never read the Bible an accurate picture of following Jesus,"* says Martin; and that includes loving God with our minds.

*"Instead of structuring the videos like a typical church service, with worship songs and preaching, the videos are structured more like a television show,"* says Martin.

While a video will always include some kind of prayer, it might also have art, music or recaps of a particular book of the Bible. And in the first 30 seconds of each video, the on-screen host will mention that they're presenting from the point-of-view of a "rational Christian."

Although the viewership of the videos started growing organically, Martin and the team realized that they weren't reaching the audience they wanted. YouTube and other social media algorithms prompt users with more videos that are similar to the ones they've already watched, but the hope was that viewers who wouldn't normally watch anything about Christianity would find their videos. So, they began advertising. Now, the videos get roughly 10,000-15,000 views a week, and between two to four percent of people in Flanders have viewed at least one. More encouragingly, half of their viewers are returning users.

OM has also worked with outside partners to develop graphic novel adaptations of different books of the Bible in Flemish and French. There isn't a good existing Flemish Bible translation, as the only one can seem archaic and strangely worded to modern Flemish readers, so the OM team is also experimenting with

A.I. translation software to see if it can produce a more readable version.

## LOOKING AHEAD TO VIBRANT COMMUNITIES

What does Flanders and the country of Belgium need? According to Martin, it's a good Bible in Flemish, evangelism that reaches people who've never heard an accurate portrayal of the gospel, deep relationships with Belgians and a church that's Kingdom-minded. Centering their work on these core needs, the OM team continues to seek out new opportunities for sharing the love of Jesus, especially with Flemish people.

*"There's going to come a point in Belgium when we say, 'We've done it.' When Belgium is 10 percent Jesus followers, we're going to have to stop saying it's least reached,"* says Martin. *"But we're not there yet."* •

*Written by Katie-Marie*

70 PERCENT OF PEOPLE IN

BELGIUM SAY THERE IS NO GOD







# Hope radio

 SOUTHERN AFRICA

**A** radio station in southern Africa broadcasts practical information and news to Muslim-majority communities. The station is also sharing about Jesus.

Due to low literacy rates and few resources available in their language, one least-reached people group faces challenges in staying up-to-date with local news, learning new skills and hearing about Jesus' love for them. That is where the radio comes in.

Together with partner organizations and local communities in the area, OM started a Christian radio station to reach people within a 30 mile radius. The station broadcasts a wide variety of content including practical information, community news and Scripture. Over half of the programs are aired in the language of the least-reached people group.

*"Our listeners face many of the same challenges that other communities face: socio-economic poverty, arranged marriages at young ages, teen pregnancies, high school dropout rates for both girls and boys and natural disasters such as flooding or drought," explained Fischer\* the radio Program Manager. "Our programs are intentionally addressing the needs of our listeners: both their physical and spiritual needs."*

Daily weather reports help fishermen stay safe; sharing new agricultural methods support farmers; health and home topics engage women; topics such as business and education help youth make wise decisions; plus, the gospel message is shared to all!

Radio programs are run by about 20 staff and other volunteers daily. One show is the 'Thought of the day', where Bible passages are discussed by two hosts. In the evening, a partner, Trans World Radio (TWR), provides expository teaching. Biblical content makes up about 15 percent of the daily program.

## LEARNING TOGETHER

About 14 Bible study groups have formed over the past few years in the area. *"I can say that these groups would not exist without this radio station," Fischer said. "These groups are places where people can come together to discuss God's Word and what it means in their own lives. The majority of these Bible studies are among [the least reached], who have heard about Jesus on the radio and wanted to know more."*

Another staff member, Philip\*, explained how people come to the radio station saying they have listened to the Bible programs and want someone to come to their village to start a Bible study. *"We go to their community and ask the chief for permission to do this, and so far, we have always gotten the OK," Philip said. "I think we have a good reputation in the villages."*

Most groups start meeting under a mango tree in a public space, many attending out of curiosity. Over time, the participants whittle down to those who are really interested in God's Word. *"We start with the story of creation and build on the common ground that might be there... Most of them are from a Muslim background, but even Christians can have a low level of biblical knowledge," Philip shared. "We focus on all the predictions that point towards someone [who would] come to save all people. That way when we get to the New Testament, they can see the fulfilment of these prophecies is in Jesus."* When the group has finished the Old Testament, the leaders

ask if they want to stop. Philip adds, *"Everyone says: 'No, no. This has helped us so much. We have a different perspective. Please continue.'"*

The larger the groups mean that they journey together in their discovery of God's Word, experiencing less pressure from within the community to reject the Bible. *"It's easier for a group to decide that Jesus is the truth than it is for an individual," Philip explained. "And anyone can join these groups, even though some people are too shy to join the Bible studies yet."*

*"God has touched [people's] lives and is at work," Philip said. "It's difficult to say how many [participants] are believers, but it is a big step for someone from a Muslim background to be baptized." People from the Bible study groups shared that in the past they were angry people. In one family, there was a lot of tension between husband and wife about her attending the Bible studies. Over time she changed so much that her husband encouraged her to continue to attend.*

***"We are here to bring light to these communities and the other surrounding areas," said Fischer. "To bring the gospel to those around us, but we also have a social responsibility to care for others too... I see the Bible as something that gives us guidance – and that is, I think, a need for everyone." •***

*Written by Ellyn Schellenberg*



## TRANSFORM TOTALLY

# Making her own decision

 BANGLADESH

“THIS WAS AN UNFORGETTABLE

EXPERIENCE THAT HAS DEFINITELY

HELPED OPEN MY EYES.”

**N**ishi’s\* journey with OM started in 2010 when her husband, who served with OM in northern Bangladesh, noticed that only men gathered at the house churches. He invited Nishi to attend so that other women would also begin going, as culturally, it is disrespectful for a man to talk to an unknown woman. Together, they invited people to church.

Nishi’s parents adhered to Islam before becoming Jesus followers and working with OM. As a child, Nishi saw what it meant to have a personal relationship with Christ and how her parents and other believers shared the gospel with others. After she got married in 2010, Nishi officially joined OM with her husband. Currently, she is a full-time mother of two and serves with the women’s ministry in Bangladesh.

### EQUIPPING AND EMPOWERING

In Bangladesh, the Christian community makes up around only 0.4 percent<sup>1</sup> of the population, while 90.5 percent of the population is Muslim and 8.4 percent is Hindu; Nishi’s family is the only Christian family in her neighborhood. “Generally, women are considered property of their husband or their parents if single. They cannot make decisions without their husband or parents, any general decision either in the family or outside or in their own life. And it’s an ownership culture, so if you think: ‘I’ll do it, it’s my life,’ that doesn’t work in our culture,” explains Nishi regarding the general treatment of women in her country. Views regarding women are a bit more relaxed in the city, where some women,

especially university students, are granted more freedom.

Working both in the city and rural areas, a team of 20 OM workers serve the women of Bangladesh through a variety of outreach programs such as door-to-door visits and selling Bibles and Christian literature in the park. Throughout the year, women are offered lessons in computer literacy, tailoring, sewing and adult literacy, while teenage girls are invited to learn how to make crafts to sell for pocket money.

*“In our country, in general, it’s difficult for women to work or get more opportunities outside of the home, so our ministry equips them through discipleship programs and spiritually,” says Nishi.*

The team focuses on building relationships with each woman and girl they meet and living out their faith through their words and actions. For those who are believers or interested in the Bible, a three-month discipleship program is available to help participants know the Lord, grow in their faith and share the love of Christ with their neighbors. Each year, four or five women accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior.

### BREAKING BARRIERS

*“In Christian communities, how women are regarded and treated is different. Women have more power to talk, express themselves or make decisions for themselves. For example, in my family, me or my mom or my sisters can actually make decisions. My family honors the decisions I make,” says Nishi.*

<sup>1</sup> According to [joshuaproject.net](http://joshuaproject.net)



Nishi has seen that when women realize that God loves them individually and that they need to personally receive Christ for their salvation, it is difficult for them to make the decision and be the only Christian in their family. It is often easier for women to commit to Christ if their husband or father is already a believer or if the woman is independent and earns her own money. In other instances, *“maybe in their heart, they receive Christ, but they have fear to express their faith. Many of the women feel this way — of course not all — but many of them,”* Nishi recalls.

### SEEKING AND BELIEVING

After Syeda\* became a Christian through the discipleship training, her family stopped funding her education and accommodation. Thankfully, a Christian family who understood the challenges of deciding to follow Jesus helped her find a place to stay and continue her studies. Despite the small number of Jesus followers in Bangladesh, they are quick to help one another and have created a strong support system.

Every year, a women’s conference of around 60-80 women — both seekers and believers — from different parts of the country gather for fellowship. *“Bangladeshi women are not really used to asking questions, and culturally, they cannot ask questions in front of men,”* explains Nishi. *“But at our women’s conference, we gave them a demonstration of a Q&A panel, so then they realized that they had so many questions in their hearts, and they could ask after we told them that this environment is friendly.”*

In 2023, four women from Muslim backgrounds were baptized. One of the women, Yasmin\*, learned about Christ from her friend who shared her faith. Yasmin had many questions about the gospel, especially regarding Jesus as the Son of God. Her friend, a new believer, invited her to the women’s conference to ask her questions. After participating in Q&A sessions, she was baptized on the last day of the conference. Since her recent marriage, Yasmin has slowly started sharing the gospel with her mother and sisters with the support of her husband’s family who are believers.

*“The process of receiving Christ takes a long time because women are not used to making decisions on their own, and their mentality and worldview needs to be changed,”* says Nishi. *“Pray for OM’s team; before, they were shy, but now they are more active because, in the last three years, there’s been more training programs, so they understand how to reach the least reached.”* •

*Written by Jenna Zhao*



**“BANGLADESHI WOMEN ARE NOT  
REALLY USED TO ASKING QUESTIONS  
AND CULTURALLY, THEY CANNOT  
ASK QUESTIONS IN FRONT OF MEN.”**



# The man in white

## GHANA AND OM'S SHIPS

Noah's story began in a village called Jamboai, where he grew up in a family from a different faith background. In time, he moved away from his home and began working to support his siblings in the southern region of Ghana.

But one night, everything changed. He had a vision that would transform his life forever.

In this vision, a man wearing white told Noah that it was time for the Lord to deliver people from the northern region of Ghana. *"That was when the Lord put it on my heart to come back to my village which is in the north and start a prayer center,"* he shared.

### A STEP OF FAITH

Noah set out back to Jamboai, where he began constructing the 'Mountain Sinai Prayer Center for All Nations'. Here, everyone would have the opportunity to pray, worship and hold church conferences.

With an eagerness for ministry growing in his heart, Noah also attended Bible college and eventually felt God telling him to serve on board *Logos Hope*. The leader of OM in Ghana encouraged Noah to join, knowing it would be an opportunity for growth.

Noah wasn't sure how he was going to raise the financial support, but knew God was in control. *"I took a step of faith, and the Lord made a way,"* said Noah. *"The Lord opened up the door."*

### FROM THE SHIP AND BEYOND

By November 2021, Noah was serving on board *Logos Hope* in Sierra Leone. *"When I got to the ship, I discovered Logos Hope is like the body of Christ. Many departments work together to make one body, one voice, one goal and one vision. I learned a lot there and discovered that [the ship was] the best place for me to learn about the ministry and to learn more to do the work of God."*

Noah took part in many opportunities provided on the ship such as engaging in a cross-cultural environment, medical initiatives and different leadership programs. *"I learned how to mobilize the youth in the ministry, disciple them and [encourage] them,"* he said.

Noah makes use of all these skills at his prayer center. He organizes activities for young people, helps conduct free medical consultations and hosts events where widows and orphans can share a meal together.

### STEPPING STONES OF TRANSFORMATION

Today, Noah's prayer center has been a stepping stone for many to become Jesus followers, including his father and other family members. *"We were in darkness,"* said Noah. *"But when the prayer center started to invite men and women of God from the city, people testified and started experiencing God's power."*

The Jamboai Chieftan, who has known Noah since the beginning of his story, shared, *"I was amazed because of the way he went to the ship and came back. He has learned so many things from this ship. I know that [Noah] has changed and changed everybody in his church and even the whole community too."*

Millie (USA), visited Noah's village with a team from *Logos Hope* two years after Noah's time on board ended. She shared of Noah's influence on his

community: *"There was a little kid, [age] eight or nine, Elijah... One night he dressed up as a pastor because he wanted to be like Noah when he grew up."*

### FAITHFULLY SERVING THE LORD

*"OM in Ghana has been blessed tremendously by the training, discipline and other skills Noah acquired while serving on board the ship,"* shared Pastor Paul, field leader of OM in Ghana. *"He is faithfully serving the Lord in his community in Northern Ghana, which is predominantly the least reached."*

Looking ahead, Noah is excited for his ministry to continue growing. With Jesus at the center and providing continually, Noah's heart is set on traveling to least-reached communities. He wants to share the goodness of God's love so that everyone can hear.

It is beautiful to see the fruit from Noah's obedience to God. God always has a plan for our lives, but it is up to us to make the choice to follow in His will. •

*Written by Myah Peterson*

"HIS COMMUNITY IN

NORTHERN GHANA IS

THE LEAST REACHED."







# Perseverance in persecution

 SOUTHEAST ASIA

**S**haring the gospel in South East Asia often comes with persecution. Transformation, however, is taking place in lives of Jesus followers and minds are changing.

Vina\* is originally from a small Buddhist village in the Mekong region where family practices animism.

More than a decade ago, a lady traveled to Vina's village, offering housing and education for women lacking the financial opportunity to study. Vina became a believer. She soon moved to the city and felt free to attend church and grow in her relationship with Jesus.

In the city she started working as a barista in an OM-run coffee shop. Here Vina eventually became the leader of small groups, discipling others to Jesus.

## CHURCH PLANTING

Today, Vina serves as the training coordinator for OM in her country and is helping equip believers to share the good news of Jesus. *"We're equipping Jesus followers to gain the confidence to start more house churches. When*

*they don't have enough space, they want to build more buildings instead of hosting house churches in their own villages. We are now encouraging them to go to another village to start a new home church there."* says Vina.

After completing the discipleship and church planting training in the city, many Jesus believers return to their village and face persecution from their in-laws and village members.

## PERSEVERANCE IN PERSECUTION

When Pastor Phayvanh\* returned home after training, he found that his village had destroyed the collecting bowls filled with sap harvested from his rubber trees. Without the tools to support his livelihood, he requested Vina's team help him buy more bowls. Another couple, Sousada\* and Phetsarath\*, dreamed of planting a church in their family's village. Their family however became hostile. They returned to the city.

While Vina encourages trainees to go back to their villages to share the gospel, she understands the hardship of ostracization due to a difference in beliefs. Her own village leader called the police on her and new believers, demanding they return to worshipping spirits. *"They told the police that when they believed in Jesus, they were healed from different ailments and addictions. But I still needed paperwork from this village leader to study in the city. Unfortunately I lied to him that the group would return to spirit worship. If it were today, I would not lie even if he would not give me the paperwork, but my faith at that time was not that strong,"* says Vina.

## VICTORIES AND GROWTH

Despite persecution she has experienced and witnessed, Vina is encouraged by the Jesus followers she has interacted with. Her faith has grown.

When Vina and a team visited a village with a few believers who needed encouragement, they gathered together to pray and share testimonies. One man, Tui\*, who was not yet a believer, brought his child and asked the group to pray for his son. Afterward, without any

prompting, Tui cut off the strings around his wrist that were dedicated to the spirits and worn for good luck and protection. It was a significant step for him to take.

Small groups of Jesus followers continue to grow in numbers and in their faith. Every month or so, the OM team receives testimonial videos of further healing and spiritual growth that is happening among these house churches. As they grow, people see that Christians are not trying to disrupt the community but want to be part of the community. The transformation that takes place in individuals' lives is having a ripple effect in their wider social setting – there is more acceptance of Jesus followers as peaceful people. •

*Written by Jenna Zhao*

**"THEY TOLD THE POLICE THAT**

**WHEN THEY BELIEVED IN JESUS,**

**THEY WERE HEALED FROM DIFFERENT**

**AILMENTS AND ADDICTIONS."**





**We celebrate partners like you** who make our mission possible! God works through your generous financial gifts, enabling Jesus followers to take the gospel to the nations, seeing lives transformed through God's love.

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## Income and Expense (USA)

USD MILLIONS

Income	2021	2022	2023	2024
Contributions	\$30.5	\$40.7	\$35.1	\$30.0
Investment Income	\$0.5	\$(0.4)	\$0.1	\$0.1
Other	\$2.5	\$0.9	\$1.1	\$0.7
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$33.5</b>	<b>\$41.2</b>	<b>\$36.4</b>	<b>\$30.8</b>
Expenses	2021	2022	2023	2024
International Ministry	\$22.5	\$27.8	\$23.4	\$20.6
Other Ministry	\$6.6	\$7.4	\$6.3	\$6.9
Fundraising	\$2.3	\$3.4	\$3.2	\$3.6
General & Admin	\$2.3	\$2.8	\$2.9	\$2.7
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$33.7</b>	<b>\$41.4</b>	<b>\$35.7</b>	<b>\$33.9</b>
<b>Surplus / (Loss)</b>	<b>\$(0.2)</b>	<b>\$(0.2)</b>	<b>\$0.7</b>	<b>\$(3.1)</b>



## Income and Expense (International)

USD MILLIONS

Income	2021	2022	2023	2024*
Contributions	\$79.9	\$89.1	\$88.4	\$80.1
Earned Income	\$3.5	\$5.5	\$6.2	\$7.8
Other	\$5.6	\$7.5	\$10.5	\$10.2
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$88.9</b>	<b>\$102.0</b>	<b>\$105.1</b>	<b>\$98.1</b>

Expenses	2021	2022	2023	2024*
Community-facing Ministries	\$65.0	\$76.1	\$80.6	\$74.2
Administration and Generosity Ministry	\$15.3	\$22.8	\$23.0	\$23.4
Stewardship of Resources	\$2.2	\$2.3	\$3.7	\$2.4
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$82.5</b>	<b>\$101.2</b>	<b>\$107.3</b>	<b>\$100.0</b>

<b>Surplus / (Loss)</b>	<b>\$5.5</b>	<b>\$0.8</b>	<b>\$(2.2)</b>	<b>\$(1.9)</b>
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\* Estimate based on unaudited consolidation of financial reports from 147+ countries where OM serves.



“NOW HE WHO SUPPLIES SEED TO THE SOWER

AND BREAD FOR FOOD WILL ALSO SUPPLY

AND INCREASE YOUR STORE OF SEED AND

WILL ENLARGE THE HARVEST OF

YOUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.”

2 CORINTHIANS 9:10 (NIV)

## OM USA LEADERSHIP

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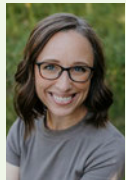
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"So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, **to equip his people for works of service**, so that the body of Christ may be built up..."

**EPHESIANS 4:11-12 (NIV)**

\* Photo obscured to protect identity



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**Until all have heard!**



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were selected as regions with a high percentage of least-reached people, and where, **thanks to your support**, OM teams are seeking to make a difference. For more information, download the free prayer app at [om.org/prayer-reach](https://om.org/prayer-reach).

*Until all have heard*



**"ASK THE LORD**

**OF THE HARVEST,**

**THEREFORE,**

**TO SEND OUT**

**WORKERS INTO**

**HIS HARVEST FIELD."**

**MATTHEW 9:38 (NIV)**

