

Unfinished

A publication of TMS Global

Summer 2017 | 65



Mission and the local church

Reclaiming our purpose and our power



UNFINISHED

Summer 2017, Issue 65

Publisher/CEO

Max Wilkins

Editor

Ruth A. Burgner

Design

Jonathan Duncan

Proofreaders

Theresa Gardner, Sarah Parham, Lauren Mead Rogers

Founding President/President Emeritus

H.T. Maclin

Unfinished is a publication of TMS Global. Subscriptions are free upon request.

Send subscription requests, change of addresses, and all correspondence to P.O. Box 922637, Norcross, Georgia 30010 or call 800.478.8963 (FAX 770.446.3044). TMS Global is funded entirely by gifts from individuals and local congregations. All gifts are tax-exempt and are gratefully acknowledged. Please visit TMS Global online at: **TMS-Global.org**.

TMS Global staff: Ron Beatty, Ron Braund, Duane Brown, Ruth Burgner, Tracy Byrd, Richard Coleman, Eunice Cook, Frank Decker, Vicki Decker, Jonathan Duncan, Theresa Gardner, Stacey Hannan, Kate Hilderbrandt, Reed Hoppe, Brenda Lee, Lauren Mead Rogers, Ari Morsella, Nathan Naidu, Dean Osuch, Sarah Parham, Ivar Quindstrand, Jim Ramsay, Shawn Ramsay, Andrew Randall, Stan Self, Becky Stephen, Romal Tune, Jennie Wheaton, Max Wilkins, Steve Wilson, Roger Wright

TMS Global board of directors:

Jherson Acevedo, Costa Rica; Jorge Acevedo, Cape Coral, FL; Edward Bell III, Georgetown, SC; John Church, Dalton GA; Steve Dodson, Peachtree City, GA (board chair); John Grant, Tampa, FL; Bill Hewitt, Charleston, SC; Susie Maclin, Decatur, GA; Ubolwan Mejudhon, Bangkok, Thailand; Marsha Mullett, Clearwater, FL; Neal Reynolds, Atlanta, GA; John Spencer, Bentonville, VA; Helen Rhea Stumbo, Nicholasville, KY; Richard Weber, Sandy Springs, GA; Todd Weeks, Suwanee, GA; Max Wilkins, Norcross, GA



Cover photo:

It is the local church—not the mission agency—that is God’s primary agent for reaching the world for Christ. This issue is all about cultivating a mission culture in your church, and how TMS Global can help.

TMS Global’s Global Outreach for churches has a new name...



EXPANDING MISSIONAL OUTREACH

ACTIVATE

Maybe your church has fallen into a routine. Worship services and programs are decently attended. People seem happy enough. The church is doing well enough. But **there is something missing**. If you desire to see your church come alive to God’s heart for the world, this opportunity is for you. Through Activate training, coaching, and resourcing, we will help you discover the **first steps toward a mission action pathway** customized for your church, and a way to fully fund your missions budget.

If you’re interested in finding out more about **Activate**, contact Duane Brown at 800.478.8963, ext. 9043, or cm@tms-global.org.

You can also visit us at www.tms-global.org/churches.

Table of Contents

“Let us not glide through this world and then slip quietly into heaven, without having blown the trumpet loud and long for our Redeemer, Jesus Christ. Let us see to it that the devil will hold a thanksgiving service in hell, when he gets the news of our departure from the field of battle.”
— C.T. Studd



Join the movement

Your church can become a house of prayer.

4 Activate your church in mission 8

One pastor tells how his congregations became deeply involved in mission and the remarkable turnarounds that resulted.

Church, let's be the Church

President Max Wilkins on our lack of clarity

2 News 16

The kind of prayer that changes the world

Pete Greig tells one of the marks common to intercessors who deeply mark history

6 Find your place: Mission opportunities for you or those you love

They are on their way

TMS Global aims to increase diversity in the world mission workforce

How we got here

The story behind "Activate"

12 Welcoming our newest missionaries

The kind of churches that raise up missionaries

Identifying practices that cultivate a mission culture

14 'This is God's work' 20

Veteran missionaries describe 27 years of cross-cultural ministry

FOLLOW US:

 @tmsglobl

 facebook.com/tmsglobl



Church, let's be the Church!

It's probably not lack of desire or willingness that keeps the people of God from the mission God has called us to, says President Max Wilkins. It is probably a lack of clarity. And that can change!



"The Church is the Church only when it exists for others ... not dominating, but helping and serving. It must tell men of every calling what it means to live for Christ, to exist for others."

—Dietrich Bonhoeffer,
Letters and Papers from Prison

Shown here: First United Methodist Church of Tuscumbia, Alabama. See pages 8-11 for story.

"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)

Mission is the reason the church exists.

It is *really* that simple. A church that is not on mission is often just a vaguely spiritual Rotary Club. It may do some nice things, but it is not really a church.

As Jesus gathered with His disciples one last time following the resurrection, His instructions were clear: get down to Jerusalem, gather in a prayer meeting, get filled with the Holy Spirit, and get on mission in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

Then, according to Luke, in Acts

chapter 1, having spoken these words, Jesus ascended into the clouds and disappeared. The disciples were left standing there, gazing into the heavens, when suddenly a couple of angels appeared. "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand there looking into the

As the church became increasingly mission focused, we saw every other metric of the church life grow. ... Most exciting of all, the church became known as "the mission church."

sky?" The implication is clear: Jesus has just given you your mission; stop staring at the clouds and get on with it.

Sadly, the vast majority of churches in North America today are not on mission in any meaningful way. Often inwardly focused or lethargic, many of these congregations have mastered "looking

into the sky" but have not subsequently gone forth in the Spirit and power of God to join Jesus in His mission. I do not believe that this lack of missional engagement is due to church people's lack of desire or willingness. Instead, I think it reflects a lack of clarity surrounding the call to mission, and a concurrent lack of understanding of how a church can mobilize for that mission. And the good news is: that can change!

Finding clarity

Fourteen years ago I moved from Hawaii (where I was suffering for Jesus!) to Florida, answering the call to pastor a church there. In the first 10 years of its existence, this church had grown numerically and spiritually. There were many growing disciples, and the hearts

of the people were inclined toward mission, though there was little tangible expression of that. Knowing that the church needed to be on mission, I sought help in mobilizing the congregation. We found that help in The Mission Society (now TMS Global) and its Church Ministry department.

As TMS Global came alongside to help educate and coach us, we discovered that becoming a missional church involves:

1. calling the church to prayer and focusing that prayer life on the mission;
2. understanding the biblical basis of the mission;
3. creating a strategic plan for carrying out that mission and a funding model to resource the mission;
4. mobilizing the people of the church to see the mission not as a “program” of the church, but as central in animating everything the church does.

In an 18-month process, during which we received coaching, instruction, and guidance from TMS Global, everything was transformed. We moved through each process listed above to develop a mission culture. We saw giving to the mission increase in such staggering ways that it almost defied belief, and the number of people engaged in hands-on mission increase from around a dozen to several hundred. We became fully engaged in mission locally, regionally, and around the world.

As the church became increasingly mission focused, we saw every other metric of church life grow as well. Attendance and membership increased. The number

of volunteers grew rapidly. And giving to the church budget flourished. Perhaps

There is nothing quite as powerful as a group of people discovering why they exist.

most exciting of all, the church became known in the community as “the mission church.”

There is nothing quite as powerful as a group of people discovering why they exist.

Coming alive

Since that day 14 years ago when I became involved with TMS Global’s church mobilization ministry, I’ve been blessed to witness this same process repeated in scores of churches. And each time I do—each time I see a church more fully join Jesus in His mission, coming alive as it finds its true purpose—my heart longs to help more and more churches do the same.

We are devoting this entire issue of *Unfinished* to the idea of creating a mission culture in the local church. You will find encouraging stories of prayer movements, church mobilization, and life transformation. It is a joy to celebrate the things the Lord is doing as churches become mobilized to join Jesus in His mission.

We hope this issue will also encourage you to believe that both you and your local church can experience a missional transformation. TMS Global is ready and willing to engage you in the process. †

The Rev. Max Wilkins is president and CEO of TMS Global.

Worship and the mission of the Church

Worship is an affirmation of the glory of God, and the Church of Jesus Christ is called to worship. Turning our eyes upon Jesus, and joining our hearts and our voices as we give praise to God is central to who we are as the people of God. There is no way to overstate this. And yet, Richard Foster reminds us, “As worship begins in holy expectancy, it ends in holy obedience.” In other words, as we gaze into the heavens, our minds on Jesus, we must remember that the Holy Spirit and the power we receive are given to us to be obedient to do the work to which He has called us.



JOIN THE MOVEMENT

Your church can become a house of prayer.

Cultivating a missions culture in
your church starts with prayer.

“God is doing something. ...God is calling His Church to pray. And students of Church history all tell us that every major movement of the Spirit throughout history begins with a movement of prayer. We are probably in the middle of the biggest movement of prayer the world has ever seen,” tells Pete Greig, the leader of a worldwide 24-7 prayer movement that has been spreading since the beginning of this century. “The single greatest call upon every church leader, alongside the proclamation of the gospel,” he tells, “is the call to mobilize prayer.”

Pete Greig is a pastor who knows about disquiet. He was a church planter in England in the late 90s. His church was going well; it was growing; people were saying *yes* to Jesus. But, he says, “slowly this deep dissatisfaction began to grow in my heart. ... I realized that even though our church was high on program, high on projects, and high on activity, we were weak on spirituality. Something in me began to long for more. I began praying, ‘God, I’m sick and tired of outsourcing my prayer life to other people. I want to learn to hear Your voice for myself. I’m sick and tired of a vicarious faith, whereby I surf off of the experiences of other people, and I tell their stories and that feeds my faith. I want my own stories. I want my own adventures. I want my own testimonies. And most of all, God, one day when I stand before You, I don’t want to have to list, ‘Well, I was a pastor and I planted churches.’ I want You to look me in the eyes and say, ‘I knew you. We were friends.’”

“And so amid the busyness of pastoral ministry, I started praying, ‘God, please teach me.’ And I realized that something had to change.”

That unrest led Greig to visit Herrnhut, Germany, where, beginning in 1727, Moravian Christians prayed around the clock without a break for more than 100 years! As a result,

hundreds of missionaries were sent out (thereby launching the first great mission movement of the Reformation).

Inspired by his visit to Herrnhut, Greig decided to start a 24-7 prayer experiment in his church. Greig hoped this non-stop prayer could go on a month. “We were not trying to launch a movement,” he tells. “We were simply wanting to know God better. And as we sought God night and day in this prayer room, the Spirit of God came among us in incredible ways. ... We just kept going, and after two or three months of non-stop prayer, the whole thing just went viral.”

Communities in other countries began to hear and started prayer rooms too, where people joined in praying non-stop. Today the prayer that began in September 1999 continues—and has spread unexpectedly to half of the nations on earth. And from the more than 13,000 prayer rooms, people have begun going out in mission.

In his recent book, *Dirty Glory*, Greig tells about massive prayer movements happening in some of the most unlikely places—and of a kind of praying that changes the world.

Quotes by Pete Greig noted above were taken from presentations by him at the New Room Conference, Franklin, TN, September 21-23, 2016; Holy Trinity Brompton Church, London, September 7, 2016; and International Leaders Conference, 2014.

I realized that even though our church was high on program, high on projects, and high on activity, we were weak on spirituality. Something in me began to long for more.

A KIND OF PRAYING THAT CHANGES THE WORLD

Pete Greig tells one of the marks common to intercessors who deeply mark history.


One of the marks common to intercessors like those of the great Hebridean awakenings (*see below*) is that they don't just say polite prayers submissively. They tend to wrestle against God with an audacity that brings breakthrough. Their prayer times often seem to move beyond the recitation of liturgy, the quiet absorption of Scripture, and the enjoyment of worship music—valuable as such things can be—to actively laying hold of the purposes of God with a violent insistence. They have learned to enter his throne room expectantly, to make their requests forcefully, to insist upon an answer with a tenacity easily

mistaken for defiance. ...[T]he apostle Paul describes Holy Spirit praying for us “in wordless groans” (Romans 8:26), creation “groaning as in the pains of childbirth” (Romans 8:22), and “we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies (Romans 8:23). There is, it seems, a lot of prayerful groaning going on in heaven and on earth!

I remember running the youth program at a large Christian festival where a meeting had just finished. Young people were rushing around, skateboarding and chatting. Someone

came to me very concerned about two girls who were sobbing uncontrollably, almost screaming, in the corner. I asked a responsible woman to sort it out, but when she walked over to the girls, she too broke down in tears and began crying! Nonplussed and slightly annoyed at such immaturity, I walked towards the group. But when I got close enough to discern their words, I stopped in my tracks. These girls were not hysterical; they were crying out to God for a friend who didn't know Jesus. Their hearts were breaking before God with compassion that challenged me profoundly.

How little we know about travelling



In 1949, revival broke out and began to spread across several areas of the Scottish Hebrides. This is described as the “last real awakening in the Western world.”

The turnaround in your church might come through taking on a way of praying you may never have done before.

and prevailing with God in prayer.

Jesus models a mystical militancy: wrestling with the devil in the wilderness, rejoicing as he sees Satan fall from heaven, shouting his rebuke to the storm, casting demonic spirits into the abyss.

He might well be viewed as a little extreme by many of his churches today.

Contemplative prayer and quiet conversation with God may not always be enough.

Contemplative prayer and quiet conversation with God may not always be enough. If we truly want to see the kingdom of God return to this enemy-occupied world, we cannot avoid a

certain aggression in prayer.

Duncan Campbell, the preacher who had been deployed so powerfully by God in the Hebridean awakening, was later also used in a similar revival across the water on the Isle of Skye. On

one occasion he locked himself away in the local minister's study to pray. This

was in a part of

Skye that hadn't been touched by the movement. Suddenly the minister, out of the field, heard a startling cry. It was Campbell bounding towards him across the moor. "It's coming! It's coming!"

We've got through at last! We are over the top!" Sure enough, the revival broke through in that community that night. †

Pete Greig pastors Emmaus Road in Guildford, England and champions the 24-7 prayer movement throughout the world. The preceding was



taken from his newest book, Dirty Glory. Copyright © 2016. Used by permission of NavPress. All rights

reserved. Represented by Tyndale House Publishers, Inc.

The prayers of desperate hearts

"The Bible seems utterly unfamiliar with casual prayer: prayer of the mouth and not prayer of the heart. Travail—a kind of burdened, focused pressing—seems closer to the throbbing core of Scripture."

This short quote is from the Rev. David Thomas who, as part of his Ph.D. research, journeyed to the Outer Hebrides of far-northern Scotland. There he interviewed 11 eyewitnesses of the Hebridean Revival. They told of the importance of the preaching, yes. But they also described something more essential: "a kind of spiritual posture . . . an attitude of brokenness and desperation." They called it *travailing prayer*, "like the Holy Spirit groaning through them, they said, like Paul in Galatians 4:19, *travailing as if 'in the pains of childbirth until Christ is formed in you.'*"

For more information, see "To Sow for a Great Awakening," by David Thomas. See the store at Seedbed.com to order a single booklet (\$1.95).

Activate Your Church In Mission

What happens when missions becomes more than a program

Today, an estimated 2.2 billion people will live their whole lives without hearing of Jesus in a way by which they can respond. At the same time, ironically, many US churches hardly know how to begin to reach out—even to our neighborhoods. But all that is changing.



Does your church struggle to know how to become involved in effective and meaningful mission work? Does a small percentage of the congregation lead most of the mission initiatives? Does your church have a difficult time funding its mission programs?

If so, you are not alone. Most local churches face the same problems when creating or maintaining a mission program.

One local pastor shares how he led his churches to overcome these common issues to become thriving congregations who are deeply involved in missions.

Here is his story.

When the Rev. Dr. Rudy Guess was first appointed to Tuscumbia First United Methodist Church in Tuscumbia, Alabama, he knew exactly how to expand the church's existing mission efforts.

Dr. Guess had partnered with TMS Global in the two churches he previously served, introducing the Activate program with success in both locations. Activate is a partnership program available to churches interested in taking the next step in their mission initiatives. Church leaders are trained, coached, and provided with resources as they navigate building a strong mission cul-

ture in their congregation.

"I discovered that TMS Global shared a similar heart for reaching the world for Christ," said Guess. "I wanted our church to become an Acts 1:8 church—ministering to our neighborhood, region, and the ends of the earth."

A tale of three churches

In the 1990s, Guess was serving Gardendale-Mt. Vernon United Methodist Church in Gardendale, Alabama. When he arrived, little was going on in the area of missions. The mission committee had a budget of \$5,000 and one participant in Volunteers in Mission.

The church had recently completed a capital campaign and was hesitant to take on Faith Promise giving.

Guess pressed on, believing that the Activate process could help the church expand its mission program. He invited TMS Global to lead an Activate training, coach the mission leaders, and the church held its first Global Impact Celebration (annual mission conference) a few months later. "It changed our church," remembers Guess.

After the Global Impact Celebration, the congregation pledged \$90,000 to missions. The church's mission budget increased by 1,800 percent in one year,



At the Global Impact Celebration, missionaries and mission partners connect with members of your congregation.

and giving to the general church budget increased also. “We had short-term mission teams go to Brazil, Mexico, Kenya, and Guatemala, as well as teams involved in local missions each month,” reported Guess.

When Guess was appointed to Decatur First United Methodist Church, Decatur, Alabama in 2012, he again invited TMS Global to host the Activate training. Similar to his previous church, Decatur First had a small mission budget and had just been through some difficult financial times. After completing the Activate process and hosting their first Global Impact Celebration, the congregation pledged \$70,000 to missions.

Guess said, “After the Global Impact Celebration,

If you want your church to join Jesus in His mission . . . this is the best way I know to make it happen.

one retired pastor remarked, “This was better than many revivals that I held!”

So, when Guess arrived at Tusculmbia First United Methodist Church in the summer of 2015, he immediately contacted TMS Global about hosting

an Activate training for the church. The church worked through the process of training and coaching, and Tusculmbia First held its inaugural Global Impact Celebration in February 2017.

As a result, the congregation pledged more than \$80,000 to missions. In addition, giving to the general budget and the capital fund both increased as well. The church had more than 100 people commit to serving in mission in some way this year.

Missions in a new light

“It was an incredible experience,” said Guess of the recent Global Impact Celebration. “I continue to hear from members of the congregation about what a powerful week it was.

One of the missionaries who attended said, ‘It was a missions conference and a revival!’

“I highly recommend the Activate process and the Global Impact Celebration. These events help the church

begin to see missions in a new light. If you want your church to join Jesus in His mission, as opposed to simply having missions as one committee of the church, this is the best way I know to make it happen.”

What is Activate?

Activate is a training program designed to ignite a passion for missional life and service among the congregation, and introduce your church to a plan for expanding its outreach. After the initial Activate weekend event, churches can choose to receive coaching to develop a mission action plan, including how to develop partnerships and fund your mission ministry.

Coaches come alongside your mission leadership team as they plan the Global Impact Celebration and educate the congregation on Faith Promise giving. Churches also have access to articles, webinars, and additional training events.

How it all began

In 2000, TMS Global started a new ministry designed to help churches

become more effectively involved in missions, both in their neighborhoods and around the world. TMS Global sought to come alongside local churches and empower them to launch or expand their own mission efforts.

The Rev. Dick McClain, former president and CEO of TMS Global, directed the Activate program when it first began. "The ministry emerged out of our desire to do a better job of resourcing congregations for mission. We believe that the local church is God's primary agent for mission, so we developed a comprehensive program to help churches be both more strategic and more effective in their missional outreach," said McClain.

Over the years, TMS Global has partnered with more than 400 churches in the US and trained thousands of pastors internationally. The training had such a profound impact on congregations that the decision was made to provide the materials free of charge to other denominations. Both The Wesleyan Church and The Church of the Nazarene took TMS Global's Activate materials and adapted them to their own contexts.

"I love guiding congregations as they work through our Activate training and coaching," said Duane Brown, former pastor and senior director of church ministry. "I see churches come alive and people get excited about reaching out to their community. It's one of the great joys of my life to engage God's people in mission to the world."✠

Reed Hoppe is the associate director of communications for TMS Global.

Activate basics



Activate training

Activate is an interactive weekend event designed especially for your mission team and other key leaders. Attendees receive a clear vision and understanding of God's call to mission, as well as training focused on developing a proven mission action plan for making disciples that can be customized for your local church. (The Activate training was formerly called the Global Outreach Weekend.)



Global Impact Celebration

A Global Impact Celebration (GIC) is an annual mission celebration held in your local church. Missionaries and mission partners attend the event, report on how Jesus is working through their ministry, and connect with members of your congregation. The GIC engages the entire congregation with programs designed for every age, and participants have the opportunity to sign up for mission-related events with which your church is engaged.



Faith Promise Giving

Faith Promise is a means of raising money for your church's mission budget outside of the congregation's regular tithe. The congregation is challenged to pray about what amount God would have them pledge to missions, then actively watch for how God provides the funds.

If your church is seeking to become more activated in mission, contact our church ministry department to get more information. TMS Global will offer the Activate training at no cost to your church, and a trained coach will help guide your mission leadership team through the entire process.

Contact Duane Brown at **800.478.8963, ext. 9043**, or **cm@tms-global.org**.

You can also visit us at **www.tms-global.org/churches**.



HOW WE GOT HERE

THE STORY BEHIND ACTIVATE

Dick McClain, former TMS Global president, was the lead developer for Activate. For the first time, he tells its back story, and of the mark on this rare training by a legendary missionary.

The local church can sometimes feel disconnected from missions, maybe because the church's role doesn't seem clear. Dick McClain understands this. Growing up a missionary kid, he remembers thinking that "the local church's role in global missions was to 'pay, pray, and get out of the way.'" Essentially, he figured the church and missions were different worlds.

That would all change in seminary. Called to missions, Dick took every course he could take to prepare for cross-cultural service. "In those days at Asbury Theological Seminary," he tells,

"that meant taking a lot of classes from Dr. J.T. Seamands."

The professor of Christian Missions, Seamands was a veteran missionary. And he had an important word for local church pastors, something McClain would hear by chance.

"I had no intention of serving as a pastor in the States for more than a couple years, but I found my way into the class 'The Pastor and Missions,' simply because J.T. was teaching it. Little did I know that it would shape my life and future ministry more than anything else I studied in seminary.

Life-changing teaching

"Probably the most important thing I learned from J.T. is that missions is the priority, and not just a program, of the local church. And he taught me that the pastor has primary responsibility for leading his or her church into missions. The pastor needs to pray for missions and preach about missions. The pastor needs to go on mission trips and lead members on mission trips. Spearheading missions efforts is one job that the pastor should not subcontract to anyone else in the church. In fact, I've come to believe that if the pastor does



Lasting influence

"If you want to learn what J.T. Seamands taught," writes Dick McClain, "sign up for a TMS Global Activate weekend. J.T.'s spirit is all over it."

A veteran missionary to India, Dr. J.T. Seamands (shown right of Dr. E. Stanley Jones) was, for 26 years, the professor of Christian Missions at Asbury Theological Seminary and was the founding director of its E. Stanley Jones School of World Mission and Evangelism. Named at his retirement "Professor Emeritus," Seamands gave his time to teaching and preaching in more than 40 countries as long as he was able. Among the 14 books he authored was: *The Supreme Task of the Church: Sermons on the Mission of the Church*. Today, hundreds of churches are still being marked by Seamands' teaching through TMS Global's Activate weekend.

not take the lead, the church probably won't get to first base when it comes to mission.

"At a very practical level, J.T. taught me how to conduct a missions conference and how to lead the church into the time-honored method of Faith Promise giving, something that captured my imagination.

Zero fear

"J.T. taught about Faith Promise giving, then he brought in a pastor with a fruitful mission ministry, to give a firsthand testimony of what God had done in his church through this method of giving. I soon came to describe Faith Promise as a way of 'programming for miracles,' because I saw miracles in my churches as people trusted God for what He could provide for missions through them.

"J.T. taught me that neither individuals nor congregations can out-give God. He taught me that I didn't need to fear what would happen to my church's finances if people got excited about missions, and especially that I didn't need to guard my members' wallets. He taught me that there has never been a church that closed its doors because it gave too much money to missions!

"As it turned out, God never let me serve as a cross-cultural worker. After seminary, I spent 11 years in the pastorate and then 28 years on staff with TMS Global."

Fresh ministry

During that time, inspired by the teaching of J.T. Seamands, McClain launched TMS Global's church ministry division. He says, "the seed and passion for mobilizing local churches for missions was planted in my heart by J.T. Seamands.

As far as I know, no one picked up the mantle after J.T. retired to continue the 'Pastor and Missions' class. But if you want to learn what he taught, sign up for a TMS Global Activate weekend. J.T.'s spirit is all over it." †



The Rev. Dick McClain served nearly 28 years with TMS Global.

Before becoming president, he served in various positions, including heading the church ministry division, which he launched inspired by a teaching that had changed the trajectory of McClain's own life.

Now "retired," Dick continues to serve with TMS Global as a mission coach for churches.



A whole other world

Church leaders tell how ministry seems different since Activate training.

"Our weekend with TMS Global was by far the strongest and most clear presentation on missions for the local church I've ever been a part of."

– **David Grout, pastor, Christ Church, Bowling Green, Kentucky**

"I can't explain what happens during an Activate Conference, but somewhere in the process God grabs your heart, and you discover your purpose in the world."

– **Jan Gilbert, missions leader, Aiken, South Carolina**

"The Spirit revealed to me that, as a pastor, I had been seduced into a Jerusalem-only ministry. In my zeal to reach the lost of Cape Coral and the surrounding area, I had forgotten about the world."

– **Jorge Acevedo, pastor, Grace Church, Cape Coral, Florida**

"TMS Global coached us toward a more focused approach. We developed a mission strategy that helped us wade through all the needs and opportunities out there and choose the ones that fit our vision and personality."

– **Carolyn Moore (shown above), pastor of Mosaic Church, Evans, Georgia**

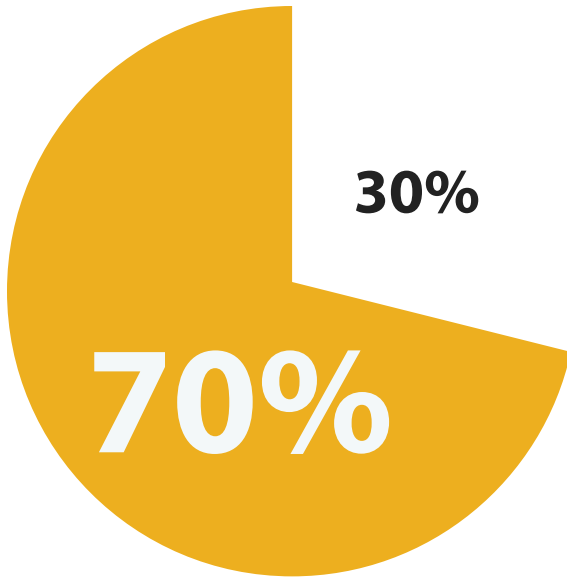
The kind of churches that raise up **missionaries**

Identifying practices that cultivate a mission culture



Every year, thousands of local churches in the United States raise up and send out missionaries. These congregations are among those most likely to robustly emphasize mission (local and international) as central to their church purpose. We wanted to know: What are some of the common practices that help these congregations communicate and cultivate a mission culture? So we asked our missionaries to tell us about their sending churches. Here's what we found out:

Above: Kerry Davidson, missionary in Liberia

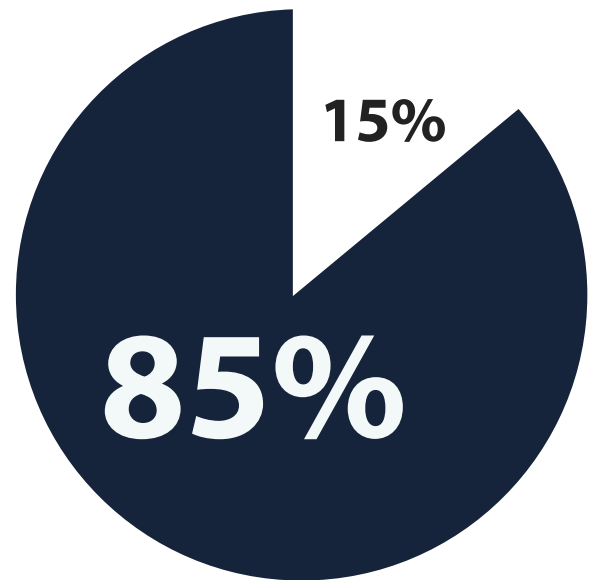


Churches that raise up missionaries help men and women discern their call.

Missionaries were asked if their home church community was significant in their discerning the call to mission. About 70% of respondents said that their church played a important role in hearing the call to mission.

Churches that raise up missionaries pray.

Missionaries were asked if their home church has some kind of organized prayer effort, a designated space for prayer, or a prayer meeting. A large majority—about 85% of respondents—answered yes.



Churches that raise up missionaries engage in local acts of service, support long-term missionaries, and send short-term teams.



Other top practices listed:

- Engage in local evangelistic outreach
- Hold annual mission events
- Visit missionaries

MINISTERING AMONG REFUGEES

When violence broke out in South Sudan, the TMS Global team members were forced to flee. Today, their lives have changed, along with millions of displaced South Sudanese.



The war has caused more than 1.7 million South Sudanese to leave the country as refugees, and an additional 1.9 million people to be internally displaced. Most have fled to Uganda, where more than 850,000 people are residing in refugee camps.

Doctors Lynn and Sharon Fogleman moved to South Sudan in 2012, soon after the country gained independence. Both family physicians, Lynn and Sharon taught a Community Health and Disease Prevention program within The United Methodist Church of South Sudan. The young country has one of the poorest healthcare situations in the world.

Carolyn Goodwin, a retired nurse, joined the team and developed prison ministry along with assisting in the medical stores of Yei Hospital. Together, the team worked in partnership with the hospital and County Health Department educating regarding clean water and sanitation, providing nets to prevent malaria, addressing other common health issues in that region of Africa, and actively sharing the gospel with South Sudanese.

Although violence was a common part of life in this new country, the team resided in Yei, which remained relatively

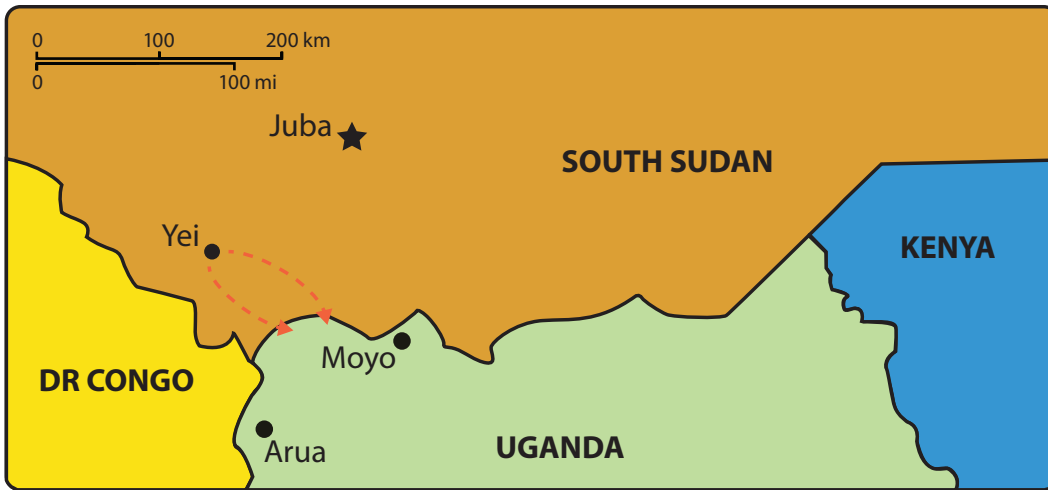
safe. That changed in 2016 when tension between government and rebel forces increased dramatically.

“Government soldiers were raping people, looting businesses, burning homes, and killing anyone they found who sided with the rebels,” said Lynn. “The rebels were doing the same thing, so travel beyond our town became very unsafe.”

The Foglemans’ good friend and fellow missionary, Sister Veronica of St. Bahkita Hospital, was killed in May 2016. A Catholic nun and a physician, she was traveling home by ambulance after taking a patient to the hospital. Soldiers ambushed the ambulance and shot her.

Last July, the TMS Global team made the difficult decision to leave Yei. They each packed a small bag and made the dangerous drive to the border, which was closed only an hour after they crossed into Uganda.

They each packed a small bag and made the dangerous drive to the border, which was closed an hour after they crossed into Uganda.



“Having escaped Yei, we are living just eight kilometers from the South Sudanese border, unable to cross into the country we were called to serve,” said Sharon Fogleman. “Yet, we are able to continue to serve the people we have come to love as we live near Palorinya Refugee Camp in Moyo. Please pray for peace for South Sudan.”

Uganda

The TMS Global team have settled in two cities of northern Uganda and are serving in several camps of the region. The Foglemans are in Moyo, working in healthcare in the district hospital, where those from the camps with serious healthcare issues are taken in.

In early 2017, Carolyn Goodwin was joined by Nancy Peed, a hospital administrator. Living in Arua, they conduct Trauma Healing Workshops in the refugee camps and minister among children and at prisons.

Sharon Fogleman tells of the grace the team has witnessed even during this difficult time. “Soon after they arrived at the refugee camp, Christians pulled together and helped one another,” she remembers. “Their resilience was amazing.

They set up a compound of tents for the 36 orphans from the children’s homes in Yei and began caring for them. The community radiated hope.”

For the director of the children’s home, Justus, this situation was all too familiar. When he was just four years old, he was forced to flee to a refugee camp. “My father told me we would just be there for a few weeks. I lived in that camp for 21 years,” said Justus. He now lives in Rhino camp with his wife and two young sons.

“Although South Sudan is in a very dark place right now, we still see hope. The Christians in South Sudan know that Jesus is their only hope, and that is what they cling to,” said Sharon. “Join us in praying for peace in South Sudan.”

Soon after they arrived at the camp, Christians had pulled together. ... The community radiated hope.

TMS Global team members in South Sudan



Doctors Lynn & Sharon Fogleman



Carolyn Goodwin



Nancy Peed

FIND YOUR PLACE

Mission service opportunities for you or those you love



LIBERIA

Join a family creating a hospitality and eco-tourism business to employ and disciple youth transitioning from the orphanage to adulthood. A four-year term commitment is preferred. Discipleship and business skills would be helpful.



SOUTH ASIA

Work with a TMS Global team to develop a business that provides jobs, builds relationships, and shares the gospel among Muslims and Hindus in a desperately poor community. Currently in need of someone who specializes in administration and marketing.



EAST ASIA

Serve with a TMS Global team working under Thai leadership. Mobilize local churches to meet the spiritual and social needs of vulnerable people in their communities. Create disciple-making movements among young professionals in Bangkok and other cities in the region. A four-year term commitment is preferred.



MIDDLE EAST

An educational business start-up is in need of the following: a bookkeeper with skills in international finance and taxes, a grant writer, and a media and marketing specialist.

CoWork

Two-year term for professionals

Are you a professional who dreams of using your skills in missions? "CoWork" is a specialty term of service. As a CoWork missionary, your skills and calling to cross-cultural ministry are matched with a TMS Global team or project. This two-year term is ideal for those with some life and vocational experience to offer. It's easy to start the journey. Visit TMS-Global.org and complete the interest form.

To read of other mission opportunities visit us at www.TMS-Global.org.

They are on their way!

These cross-cultural workers are about to leave



Lane & Merry Grayson - The Bahamas

Lane and Merry serve in the Bahamas, leading children to Jesus, discipling families into maturity in Christ, and creating vocational training opportunities for young people.



Nancy Peed - Uganda

Nancy joins a medical team serving South Sudanese refugees in a camp in Uganda. She provides medical care and healthcare education, and mentors people in their relationship with Jesus.

TMS Global aims to increase diversity in the world missions workforce

TMS Global has named its first African American Mobilization Advisory Board. The 12 influential leaders representing a broad range of the African-American church will work with TMS Global to influence organizational policies, offer recommendations to help increase staff diversity, and make existing staff more aware of cultural issues. The leaders will also help inform churches of the resources and opportunities available through TMS Global, and help ensure

"Moving forward," says the Rev. Romal Tune, "we must make our institutions as diverse as we want to see on the mission field."

its training materials are culturally sensitive.

The board has held its first meeting. Members of the board also participated in The Convocation for Pastors of Black Churches, a national gathering of several hundred black church leaders held in Atlanta. To present TMS Global's vision for more involvement in world missions by black churches

was the Rev. Romal Tune, who joined TMS Global last year as full-time senior advisor to the president, the Rev. Max Wilkins.

"We are so pleased to be able to draw on the wisdom of leaders of such influence and believe we are making significant steps towards realizing our goal," said Tune. "Moving forward, we must make our institutions as diverse as we want to see on the mission field, and we are glad to see such interest in and support for what we are committed to achieving."

The Revs. Romal Tune, Christian Washington, and Regina Henderson at The Convocation for Pastors of Black Churches in Atlanta.



Welcoming our newest missionaries

On May 2, in a service attended by board and staff members, TMS Global blessed its seven new cross-cultural witnesses. These missionaries will serve in France, the Middle East, Ethiopia, and Mexico. Among them is Johnny Guzman and his wife, Mary (*right*). Johnny is the son of Florencio and María Guzman, who were in the first class of missionaries to be sent out from this then-one-year-old mission agency. "I'm very happy to be continuing in the legacy of my parents," Johnny told the attendees. Today, 188 TMS Global workers serve in 34 countries.



for—or are newly arrived in—their places of service. Thank you for praying for them.



Randy and Pati Walchle – Liberia
Randy serves Liberians through family and trauma counseling, shepherding, and directing sports camps. Pati disciples women and participates in healthcare education.



Jamie and Holle Wollin – Albania
Holle teaches at an international school in Tirana, Albania, and Jamie ministers to men in the Gypsy community.

"This is God's work"

Veteran missionaries describe 27 years of cross-cultural ministry



John and Colleen Eisenberg

He heard the loud blow of the ship horn, signaling it was time to depart. It was 1960 and John was 10 years old. He was boarding a ship bound for England with his parents. After pre-field training to serve as missionaries, his family would travel to Zimbabwe to live.

John lived in Zimbabwe for nearly five years before his family was forced to leave because of war. He returned to Zimbabwe after college and served as headmaster of a school where he also taught agriculture and construction. Colleen, who would become his wife, was studying international agriculture with the intention of serving in an area experiencing famine.

After John and Colleen married, they applied to serve with TMS Global. Ghana, West Africa became their new home. They lived in a fishing village and John started a vocational school. Colleen homeschooled their three children and taught Bible story lessons to neighborhood children in the afternoons.

After almost six years, the Eisenbergs relocated to Paraguay. In addition to their other ministries, John and Colleen mentored couples and taught marriage enrichment

seminars. "Four out of five families in Paraguay are led by a single mother," said John. "Marriage isn't the norm in Paraguayan culture. We have tried to model what a healthy Christian marriage looks like, and teach that God desires for couples to be married.

"One of the greatest blessings of cross-cultural ministry has been becoming fully reliant on Jesus," said Colleen. "In the US, we are used to taking care of ourselves and have the resources to do so. When living overseas, the cultural way of doing something is different or the resources are not available. We have had to depend on Jesus in ways we would not have in the US."

"I've been involved in cross-cultural ministry for 55 years," John explains. "What I have learned is that this is God's work. We are merely His apprentices. We need to enter our host culture with an open spirit. Learn from the people there and the reasons they do the things they do. Be needy among the people. Remember to keep Jesus as our focus. **It's easy to get discouraged by the challenges. But cross-cultural ministry is about getting lost in the worship of Jesus as we serve Him in serving other people, to love them as Jesus loved us.**"

"The way of Jesus cannot be imposed or mapped — it requires an active participation in following Jesus as he leads us through sometimes strange and unfamiliar territory, in circumstances that become clear only in the hesitations and questionings, in the pauses and reflections where we engage in prayerful conversation with one another and with him." — **Eugene H. Peterson**

They are on their way *(continued)*

Unnamed cross-cultural witness – the Middle East

This cross-cultural worker is a licensed professional clinical counselor. As part of a team of counselors, he serves refugees and the cross-cultural worker community.

Unnamed cross-cultural witnesses – Thailand

This family serves Burmese refugees who have fled to Thailand and shares the gospel with local Buddhists.

Unnamed cross-cultural witnesses – Kosovo

Three families serve with an international partner in Kosovo, reaching young people and ministering to various Muslim communities, sharing the gospel in culturally relevant ways.

BE JOYFUL IN YOUR GIVING.

Play a part in reaching the nations with the gospel.

- Train one (1) indigenous Christian leader to reach unreached people within his or her own country
- Fund one (1) Activate Conference at a US church, mobilizing it for global mission
- Train one (1) US missionary to multiply his or her ministry through strategic cross-cultural partnerships

\$500

Project ID #: 0113

\$1,250

Project ID #: 0112

\$3,750

Project ID #: 0111



To make a gift, visit us online at www.TMS-Global.org/give

TMS Global
6234 Crooked Creek Rd
Norcross, GA 30092-3106

FIND YOUR PLACE



JOIN A COLAB TEAM

Pack your passion and come find your place on a TMS Global team with CoLab. Develop cross-cultural ministry skills, receive mentoring and experience formation in community. Integrate culture and language learning with hands-on experience to create a collaborative project that will contribute to your team's long-term goals. Discover the unique ways God is equipping you to join Jesus in His mission.

CoLab is a two-year term for growing leaders, ages 22-35. Find your place at www.TMS-Global.org/go

