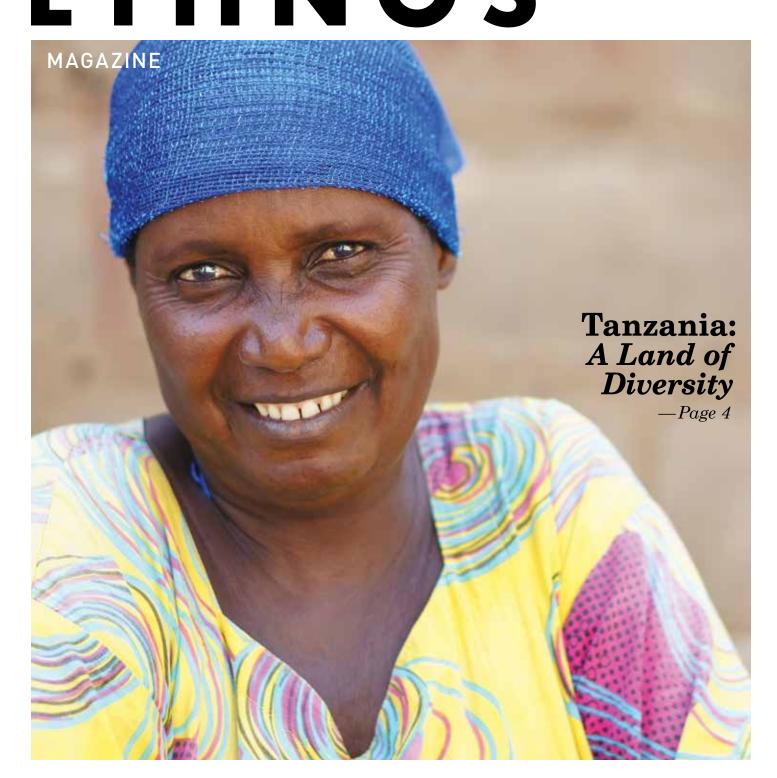
Share God's Love All Year Long —*Page 14* Compel Podcast—How Ordinary Women Spread the Gospel Story —*Page 18* What Was God Thinking? —*Page 20*

A THRIVING CHURCH FOR EVERY PEOPLE ETHNOOS



ETHNOS360 BIBLE INSTITUTE WHERE BIBLE EDUCATION AND MISSIONS ARE ONE

Study the whole Bible in two years with an emphasis on cross-cultural missions.

PREPARE FOR LIFE AND MINISTRY.

517-782-9309 e360bible.org



Dear Friend,

It is only by the grace of God that His work moves forward, both here in Canada and around the world.

We all know how easy it is to have a misunderstanding with people we know who speak our language and have a similar worldview.

If you've ever tried to work with someone from another country, you know differences in language and culture can make clear communication even more difficult.

Today, two Canadian families, Markus and Stefanie Koehler and John and Krista Poidevin, are experiencing the grace of God. New to Tanzania, they are being supported and blessed by Tanzanian believers as they invest their time and energy into learning the local culture and language. For this to be working is a sign that God is working.

While serving cross-culturally certainly has its challenges, the present harmony you will read about in this edition of Ethnos Magazine is a testimony to God's grace towards the men and women who are following Christ and obeying His command to reach the world with His Good News.

I trust that as you read the following pages, you will praise God for His goodness overseas, but also for His grace in your life.

Yours in Christ,

m n taller

Tim Whatley Executive Director, Ethnos Canada



ETHNOS magazine

Vol. 82 | Issue 4, 2019

Ethnos Magazine team

Editor: Rosie Cochran Managing Editor: Bruce Enemark

Rex Crawford, Julie Fallis, Macon Hare, Chris Holland, Emily Kopf, Stephen Narwold and David Pierce

Ethnos Magazine is published by Ethnos Canada.

Unless otherwise noted, Scripture taken from the New King James Version, copyright 1982, by Thomas Nelson. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Subscriptions

The Ethnos Magazine is provided free to readers in Canada on a year-to-year basis. To receive the magazine or have it sent to a friend, sign up online at ethnos.ca/subscribe, email info@ethnos.ca, or call toll free 844-855-6862.

If you no longer wish to receive Ethnos Magazine, please send a note and your name and address to Ethnos Canada, PO Box 707, Durham ON NOG 1R0.

The magazine may be read online at **ethnos.ca/magazine**

Requests to reprint articles should be directed to Editor Ian Fallis at Ian_fallis@ntm.org.

© Ethnos Canada September 2019 Contents of this magazine may not be reproduced in whole or in part unless expressly authorized in writing.

Ethnos Canada partners worldwide Canada 844-855-6862 USA 407-323-3430 Australia 011-61-2-6559-8646 Europe 011-44-1472-387700 New Zealand 11-64-9-427-8485

Cover photo by Ian Fallis



NEWS AROUND THE WORLD



Ethnos missionaries have made a lot of progress with Bible translations this year. In 2019, the Bible has been translated into these languages:

BULONGISH New Testament — Guinea, West Africa — *Dedication:* July 2019

KUMAN New Testament, Kuman with English (complete Bible) and Kuman with Tok Pisin (complete Bible) — Papua New Guinea

LOLO with Portuguese and Lolo with Chechewa (complete Bibles) — Mozambique — *Dedication: March 2019*

MENGEN New Testament — Papua New Guinea — *Dedication: May 2020*

PIAPOCO New Testament (reprint) - Colombia

PRAI New Testament with Old Testament portions — Thailand — Dedication: early 2020

TEPEHUAN New Testament with Old Testament portions — Mexico — Dedication: November 2019

WANA Old Testament portions - Asia Pacific

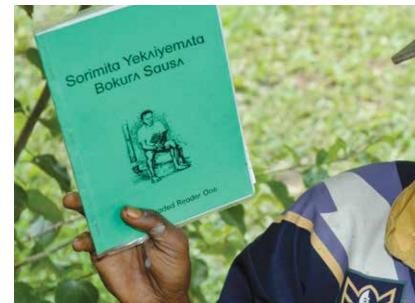
Ethnos missionaries have 117 Bible translations in progress, and some are so close to being completed that they could be sent to be typeset before the end of the year.

Volunteer Opportunities: Writing, Editing and Illustrating

Because having a readable Bible is crucial for a church to thrive, Ethnos missionaries spend years translating the Bible into the heart language of the people they work with. Often, before the missionaries can begin translating, they must create an alphabet and then a written form of the language and teach the people how read it.

One problem missionaries have found is that teaching people the basics of how to read is not enough to enable most of them to be able to read and understand the Bible well. We don't expect kindergarteners to have excellent reading and comprehension skills after one year of school; so why would we expect differently of new readers in other countries and cultures? Reading is a skill that develops with practice over time. However, unlike for children in America, few books are available for practice for new readers in remote people groups.

To remedy this problem, the literacy team in Papua New Guinea have begun a program to bring new books to these people groups. The program involves individuals volunteering to write, edit and illustrate non-fiction books. The books will then be translated into multiple languages so that various people groups can use them to develop their reading skills. And as their skills grow, so will their capacity to understand the precious Word of God and to grow into a thriving church. Learn more: www.ntmpng.org/literacy





19 NEW ESE EJJA BELIEVERS

The Ese Ejja village in Bolivia where Mike and Cher Riepma minister is made up of about 900 people. 400 of whom are children under twelve years of age. Mike and Cher love these little ones and have been encouraging the Ese Ejja church and believing parents to minister to the children. The Riepmas said that recently "several older boys and girls really wanted to spend time with Cher to hear again how one can be saved. We praise the Lord [that] nineteen [kids] made decisions to trust Jesus as their Saviour and want to express their new faith in Him to others."





HELICOPTER PROGRESS

Brazil: A generous donor provided the remaining costs to purchase a helicopter, and flights should begin by the new year. We should have sufficient funds for land development, hangar construction and pilot training. Thank God with us for His faithful provision.

Philippines: The helicopters and hanger are fully operational, thanks to God's gracious work through your generous gifts and faithful prayers.

Papua New Guinea:

We need to replace our 40-year-old LongRanger helicopter in Papua New Guinea with two or three smaller R66 helicopters. One helicopter alone cannot meet the current needs of thirteen locations, much less serve the new works to be opened in coming years. Pray for the anticipated \$3.6 million needed for this project. Give at *ethnos360aviation.org* Thank you.



NEW BIBLE TEACHING IN KAJE

After living and learning with the Kaje people of Papua New Guinea for over four years, missionaries Taylor and Abby Goheen and Jon and Jen Myers began the chronological Bible teaching. Starting in mid-August, Taylor and Jon have been teaching four times a week and will likely complete the teaching in mid-December. The teaching will culminate with Jesus' life, crucifixion and resurrection. Please pray for clear teaching and receptive hearts, especially now—the most crucial part of the teaching.



WANTAKIA LITERACY

In June, the Crabtree, Hambrice and Sanders missionary families began teaching literacy for the first time to the Wantakia people in Papua New Guinea. The course was several months long, and many new readers celebrated their graduation upon completion of the course. The missionaries continue to help the Wantakia people hone their reading skills and have begun a second literacy class for those who missed the first one. Meanwhile, the missionaries have begun translating the Bible and preparing Bible lessons for the foundational, chronological teaching they plan to begin in early 2020. Please pray for the Wantakia people during this crucial time. Updates can be found on the "Reach Wantakia" Facebook page. 4 ETHNOS.CA



Photos by Ian Fallis



6 ETHNOS.CA

rom the oppressive heat of Dar es Salaam to the coolness of a mountain village in the southwest, we met the Tanzanians, a friendly people with ready smiles and greetings.

We found that same amiability as we drove 17 hours north over well-paved roads. The roads turned to dirt, dust and ruts as we neared our destination, the villages of several people groups. A layer of dust coated everything from the surface of our shoes and clothing to our phones, cameras and water bottles. It did more than cover it. The dust sifted below the surface, into every nook and cranny, a gritty, abrasive presence that refused to be ignored. It settled on our tongues and teeth. But the trip was worthwhile.

Tanzania is a country made up of many people groups with their own distinct cultures and languages, with Swahili as the official language. Most of the people groups have blended in peaceful harmony. However, some remain more isolated, less connected to the 21st century. And the ones we saw were but a drop in the bucket. That was made clear as we neared a crossroads well outside of Dar es Salaam. We were told, "Down this road are people who haven't yet heard of Jesus. And the same thing down the next road and the next. Who's going to go reach them?"

These many less-connected people groups pick and choose what's important to them of all that civilization offers. They live at the edge of civilization, at the edge of the church, but not beyond the reach of the love of God. They are people in need of a clear gospel presentation. They are people in need of a Saviour. They are people for whom God sent His Son to die.

And these are the people that make up this beautiful country. A people as diverse as the land itself. Diverse in appearance, diverse in culture and diverse in speech.

These diversities are part of what makes up this great country of Tanzania, but the linguistic and cultural differences also create a challenge for the Church in reaching the many people groups with the gospel. And when we say *Church*, we are talking about the global Church, the body of Christ. And, yes, this includes the Tanzanian church.

Granted, it has not always been that way. There were the days when missions was viewed as the



They live at the edge of civilization, at the edge of the church, but not beyond the reach of the love of God. responsibility of the Westerner, but that is changing. The Tanzanian church now sees that the Great Commission wasn't directed to Americans, but to the universal Church. Tanzanian believers are excited about getting involved. Tanzanians like Pastor Christopher of Mbezi Chapel.

Pastor Christopher said that in the past he had thought, "We are poor people. We can't do the work of missions. The work of missions is the work of Americans."

But now he sees it differently. Now he says, "It is the plan of God for Africans and Americans and Asians to do the work of missions together."

As Ethnos missionaries have engaged with believers within Tanzania, they've seen how the local churches as well as other mission organizations have been reaching Tanzanians with the gospel message. DJ says, "A lot of work has been done. There are churches established and maturing. Yet, in talking with these churches and organizations, [we found that] they felt like there is still room for what we have to offer as an organization [in order] to focus on unreached people groups."

And that's what Ethnos is all about. God's command to "go therefore and make disciples of all the nations" is our mandate, and the "love of God" is what constrains us.

We're not doing it alone.

We're so thankful that we aren't doing it alone. And we don't want to do it alone. We're doing it side by side with global partners around the world.



Mbezi Chapel

In Tanzania, global partners come on more than one level. We find Canadian missionaries from Ethnos Canada, American missionaries with Ethnos360 and Mexican missionaries from Misión Pro Indígena coming together under Integral Vision in Tanzania. Together they are moving the church planting effort forward. We also find Tanzanian believers working alongside expat missionaries. This coming together to fulfill the Great Commission is an awesome thing to see.

Though my understanding of Swahili is nonexistent, words were not necessary as I watched the interactions between the Tanzanian believers and the expat missionaries. The genuine love and friendship between them spoke louder than words in any language. And once translators stepped in to bridge the language gap, the depth of that relationship became evident in the obvious, mutual respect they held one for another.

Despite the differences between them being greater than the diversity within Tanzania itself, it was apparent that those differences were outweighed and overcome by a unity in Christ, by the love of God. The relationships that I had the privilege to observe were a beauty to behold. And through relationships like these, doors are opened to reach people groups in Tanzania.

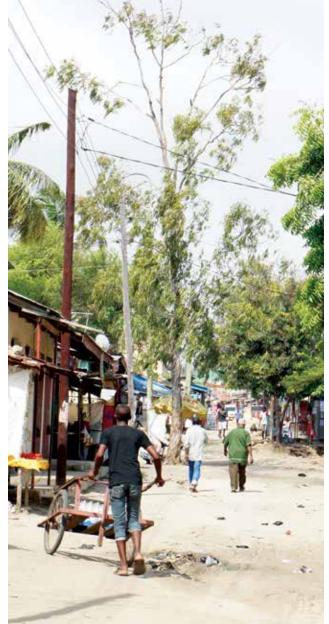
We see the changing face of missions.

As we look at the diversity of unreached peoples within the borders of Tanzania, we more readily recognize and understand the diversity of ministry reflected in missions.

Ethnos missionaries continue to go to hard places, to remote places, to places where others have not yet gone in order to see a thriving church for every people. And that won't change.

But more and more, we see unreached people groups with distinct cultures and languages living on the fringes of civilization while others are found even within the confines of large cities. As we watch the changing face of where unreached peoples are located, we see the increasing need to connect more intentionally with local churches, to engage on the edge of the church and to work together with local churches to see a thriving church for every people.

At times this manifests itself by expat missionaries alongside local believers reaching the 8 ETHNOS.CA



As we watch the changing face of where unreached peoples are located, we see the increasing need to connect more intentionally with local churches. unreached; at other times it manifests itself by the equipping of those local believers to do it alone. Either way gives the same desired result: more people are brought into the family of God, establishing thriving churches in the process.

I like how Larry Brown, CEO of Ethnos360, put it when talking about how we do ministry—whether flying into remote mountain villages or reaching unreached peoples in a bustling urban environment. Larry said it's not **or**, but **and**. It's not a **this** or **that** approach. It's an **and** approach.

That's what I saw during our trip to Tanzania: the **and**. Missionaries serving together under Integral Vision in Tanzania want to engage with the unreached people groups of Tanzania, **and** they want to engage with the already existing church in Tanzania.

They saw the importance of relationships within the local churches.

When I sat down with DJ and his wife Tricia, they shared their insights about the importance of developing relationships with the Tanzanian people—and not just for the sole purpose of learning the culture and language.

They realized that if this were truly to be not just an **or** scenario but rather an **and** scenario, they needed to become relevant members of the community. They needed to become integral members of the local body of Christ.

But how do you do that? How best could these missionaries build relationships and become relevant members of the community there in Tanzania? DJ said that "as believers, it was a natural thing to do that in a church context."

And there in the city of Dar es Salaam was a body of believers at Mbezi Chapel that made that possible.

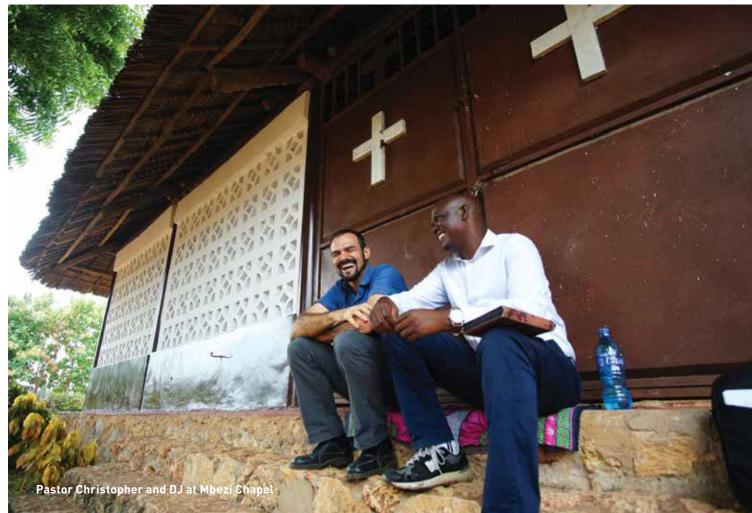
"Pastor Christopher and the folks at church were very kind and gracious and really willing and ready to help us out and help us learn the language," DJ said. This body of Tanzanian believers gave of themselves and really helped integrate DJ and Tricia into the church family and into the community.

"I would go on pastoral visits with Pastor Christopher just to tag along and to watch him interact. ... It's amazing how the Lord has used this relationship [to allow us] to encourage one another.

"This relationship is needed for the future, for working together with the church in Africa and [specifically in] Tanzania. We see ourselves as a ministry of the local church, the body of Christ here. When God is looking down from Heaven, He's not saying, 'Oh, there's my Americans, and there's my Canadians, and there's my Tanzanians.' No, He's seeing His body, the Church."

To that end, these expat missionaries have been building relationships. And not just relationships, but friendships. They're becoming part of the local churches now, even before the first expat missionaries begin a work among a people group.





¹⁰ ETHNOS.CA

During our short visit, it was encouraging to see the local churches not only *wanting* to be involved but *already* involved.

They are involved in the culture- and language-learning process.

Tanzanians from various churches work together with the new missionaries to help them in the national culture- and language-learning process.

Lucy is one of those, and as with each member of the team, she has a story to tell. Her story is tied in with Amy's story because Lucy was an answer to her prayer.

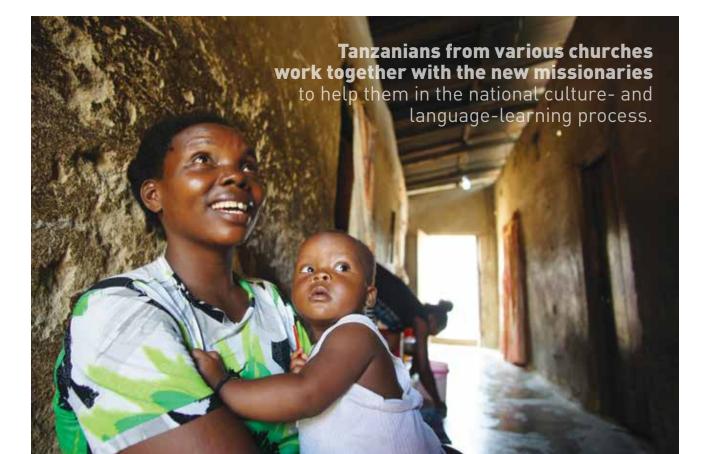
Amy was moving along in culture and language acquisition when she got to the point where she knew she needed a friend. She asked her friends back home to pray. "I need a friend," she wrote. "I want a Tanzanian friend who can understand me and [whom] I can talk to." And God answered her prayer.

Through a series of circumstances, Amy was put in contact with Lucy. There was that awkward first meeting when you wonder if you'll click. And click they did. Amy said, "We met that first time, and she was a lovely person. We started meeting together for language, and you know, five years later she's one of my best friends. God totally met my need."

Lucy has become more than a friend; she is a coworker in the ministry. She works full time as part of the Integral Vision staff in Tanzania, teaching culture and language to new missionaries. Amy has only glowing reports to give about Lucy. "She is one of the most amazing people I've ever met. Anyone who meets her loves her and just knows that she cares about them—and she is amazing at her job."

They are involved in translating chronological, foundational Bible lessons.

Then there's Thomas who works hand-in-hand with Abel on the translation of chronological, foundational Bible lessons into Swahili for the Tanzanian churches. Their desire is that these lessons not only benefit the local Tanzanian churches but also benefit future Tanzanian missionaries. Thomas explained that it's "not that they would teach in Swahili but that they could use these [lessons] as a good foundation as they translate them into the local language in order to work with the people groups."





What is a People Group Assessment?

A People Group Assessment is the process of gathering information about ethnic people groups in order to help mission leaders in that country or region know how best to serve the Church in deciding where to place missionaries and in what capacities.

> And the churches are interested in these lessons. Pastor Christopher has already been asking, "When are you going to get done with your curriculum? We want to use it in church."

They are involved in People Group Assessments.

The Tanzanians in the local church are also involved in people group assessments. Actually, calling it *involvement* is incorrect. *They are doing it!* It's a team of young Tanzanian men from Mbezi Chapel that is spearheading the people group assessments.

Pastor Christopher told me: "I pray for our young guys when they go out to do the surveys to various areas, that they will see the need for the gospel to go there. I am praying for them that God would touch their hearts, [for] their own hearts to be ready to go and do the work of God."

And his prayer is being answered. These trips are having an impact. Joas, the young man who

12 ETHNOS.CA

heads up the people groups assessment team, said, "When I go through these villages where these people are, I see the importance, the need, and I also would like one day to go and work and teach and share God's Word among people groups like this. And when I come back and share this in church, the church is touched and is interested to know what's happening out there in those areas."

Pastor Christopher told me, "I am very happy to see how [your organization] ... works together with the nationals (those born here), who are also the members of Mbezi Chapel."

It is obvious that God is already moving hearts toward reaching the unreached people groups of Tanzania. This is true even before the mission has a course developed to begin sharing with the national churches, courses that would give them a framework to teach God's Word chronologically in a cross-cultural setting.

The groundwork is laid. But there's much work still to do in Tanzania on both fronts: engaging with the church at the edge of the church **and** seeing the first expat missionaries enter an unreached people group.

They aren't the only ones involved.

There's another church involved. The North American church. Those many local bodies of believers that stand behind individuals and couples, equipping and sending them out as their ambassadors to people groups on the other side of the globe. Reaching the diverse ethnic groups within Tanzania involves people like them, the North American church—people like you.



Chandler and Jamie shared about their church's involvement. They said that Bedrock Community Church of Bedford, Virginia, had a long history of involvement in short-term mission trips but not so much with long-term career missionaries. In fact, Chandler and Jamie are their church's first career missionaries. He admits that "we're learning on our part, and they are learning on their part." And it looks like they've been fast learners.

He was encouraged by one of their elders who took the time to research how other churches take care of their missionaries. Their church has learned what it looks like to send people out into the nations, namely sending Chandler and Jamie.

"[Bedrock Community Church] has a team for us, and it was basically our small group before we left," Chandler said. "It's a group of maybe 10

Reaching the diverse ethnic groups within Tanzania involves people like them, and people like you. to 15 people. They consistently pray week after week for us. They send us care packages. And if there's something that needs to be taken care of, like new prayer cards, they send them out. Things like that. It's been encouraging staying connected with them and hearing how they are praying for us. At Christmas, one of our pastors went around and took little 10-to-15-second videos from different people in church and just sent them to us."

Chandler summed it up when he said, "Our elders understand what true partnership is."

As you can see, partnership takes place on all levels. Partnership within a missionary team on the ground in their country of service. Partnership between the expat missionaries and the local churches in their country of service. And partnership between the North American church and their missionaries, whether those missionaries fill strategic roles to move the church planting effort forward or become part of a church planting team themselves, whether in Tanzania, Papua New Guinea or Colombia.

We're a team. We're the body of Christ. We're a blend of eyes, hands and feet; of cardiovascular, nervous and muscular systems. We each have a God-given function within the body of Christ as we partner together to see a thriving church for every people. What function has God given you?





Born in Wales and raised in Canada, Rosie Cochran and her late husband served for many years in a rustic village among a people group in the jungles of South America — and felt privileged to do so. Now God has given her the privilege to communicate the vision and reality of missions around the world, showing what it means and takes to see a thriving

church for every people. Rosie is grateful for her sending church, Second Baptist Church of Auburn, New York, who has stood with her all these years. 14 CONNECT ETHNOS.CA

Share God's Love All Year Long

When people hear and read God's message in their own language, it speaks to them in a way no other Bible translation does. And it speaks to them of God's love. It's a demonstration that our Almighty Creator hasn't stopped reaching out to people wherever they are.

Your gift as a partner in heart language ministries plays a key role in demonstrating His love. And you can do more than make one gift. You can partner in heart language ministries all year long with monthly giving. You can do that in three ways.

SHARE GOD'S LOVE BY MAIL

Sharing God's love through supporting heart language ministries by mail is as simple as using the enclosed response card to send a cheque.

We'll mail you a thank-you and an acknowledgement of your gift. And attached to that will be a tearoff portion you can return with your next gift.

SHARE GOD'S LOVE **AUTOMATICALLY**

You can share God's love with a monthly, automatic deduction from your bank account.

At **ethnos.ca/monthly-pad** you'll find the form and directions as well as answers to frequently asked questions.

Designate your gift for Where Most Needed (C1200).

SHARE GOD'S LOVE **ONLINE**

At the Ethnos.ca website, you can set up recurring monthly gifts in any amount you choose.

Go to **go.ethnos.ca/1912mag**, click the *donate to this project* button, enter the amount you wish to give and click the *add to cart* button. On the *Billing Address & Payment* screen, select *Monthly Donation*.

Complete the rest of the page and click *donate*, and your recurring donation will be automatically billed to your credit card.

Praise. 12 NAHUATL BELIEVERS BAPTIZED

A small church exists in the Nahuatl people group of Mexico, and the missionaries continue to teach and disciple the young believers. As the missionaries taught through the Gospels and Acts, the Nahuatl church heard about New Testament believers getting "dunked" as a symbol of their faith. At first, the Nahuatl thought the idea was crazy because their animistic beliefs promote a fear of being submerged in water. But through the teaching of the Scriptures and the Holy Spirit, some of the believers decided to be baptized. They waited until the rainy season came to their village in the desert, and then they set a date. Twelve believers, mostly women and children, were baptized. They faced their fear of water and declared publicly that Jesus alone was their salvation. Praise God with us for changed lives!



·)))

What is *Partner to Partner*?

The *Partner to Partner* newsletter helps you see how God is working around the world through your partnership with Ethnos Canada. Besides encouraging stories of transformed lives and updates from the field, each issue presents opportunities and options for you to help accelerate God's work among people groups around the world. Here is an excerpt from a recent issue.

"Is there a difference in people's lives when the Scriptures are finally translated? Do they make a difference? A resounding 'yes!' bursts out from the mouths of those who now have the Word in their own tongue, in the language that reaches the depths of their heart. Let me give you [an example] of how they responded to God's Talk in their language.

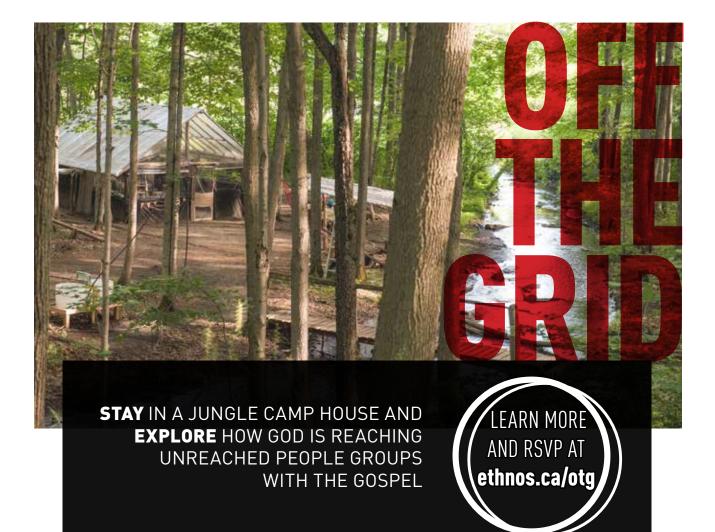
"Stephen Crockett, who ministers among the Moi people of the Asia-Pacific Region, recently wrote of meeting with two Moi men who were training to be missionaries themselves. They were doing a comprehension check of some Scriptures with Stephen and the translation consultant, Bob Clark. At the end



of it all, one of the Moi men became very serious and said to Stephen,

"You know we've learned the [national] language and can read their Bible now, but it's like the meaning is closed to us. But when we read the Moi Bible, it's like it's been opened up to us, and we can understand what the Creator God is trying to communicate with us."

In order to read more about this, go to ethnos.ca/mission-news/partner-to-partner



"When you read and you understand and find exciting things, you keep reading."

ab

YOUR PARTNERSHIP DEMONSTRATES HIS LOVE

Who doesn't know that "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life"?

Estimates place the number of people who have no access to that truth at 3 billion.

And you're in the perfect place to glorify God among the nations by declaring His love to the world.

Today, you can partner with Ethnos Canada to share God's message and His love in the heart languages of people groups around the world. With every gift you make to Ethnos Canada, you help God speak to people's hearts. With every gift you give, you demonstrate God's love for people.

LOOK HOW YOU'RE DEMONSTRATING GOD'S LOVE

Your partnership contributes to such milestones as the Lolo people recently receiving their New

16 CONNECT ETHNOS.CA Testaments with parts of the Old Testament.

One Lolo man, Molesse, in the first three months of having the Bible in his own language, read through Genesis, Ruth, 1 and 2 Samuel, Daniel, Jonah, Malachi and the entire New Testament. It was completely unlike reading the Bible in someone else's language.

"When you read and you understand and find exciting things, you keep reading," Molesse said. "Before we had the Bible in our language, we would read just a little bit and then put the Bible away because we did not understand very well what we were reading."

TODAY'S HEART LANGUAGE MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY

As the end of the year approaches, we'd like to give you an opportunity to underwrite heart language ministries around the world with a special gift to Ethnos Canada.

Your gift will fund the backbone of services that are necessary for missionaries around the world to focus on the complex task of establishing a thriving church.

Your gift to Ethnos Canada today will provide them with vital services such as:

- Training and travel for consultants that help them through each successive step of ministry.
- Receiving, processing and forwarding gifts from you and others like you.
- Mobilizing new co-workers and providing ongoing care and training.
- Leadership and administration travel and other expenses.
- Launching our first team to the indigenous peoples in Northern Canada.

Today, will you give a gift so that, together, you and Ethnos Canada can communicate God's love to people without access to the Good News?

Use the enclosed response card to give by cheque or credit card or call toll-free 1-844-855-6862 to give by credit card or give online at *go.ethnos.ca/1912mag*



Pray. GOATS AND GOODBYES

I was standing in our bedroom, folding clothes as we prepared to leave our third "home" in three months. I crossed to the window to see if I could find out who was wailing outside.

It was a goat. Pegged into the grass on the other side of the road. Alone. It kept jerking and pulling at the rope, desperate to get back with the group that was farther down the road. I... felt tears welling up in my eyes.

I wasn't crying for the goat, although I did feel bad for it. Those tears were for me. In that moment, I felt very much like that struggling animal, who just wanted to be with its herd.

However, as I was getting ready to wallow, I noticed something. The goatherd had pegged each of the goats at a distance from one another so that they would have the optimal amount of grass to eat. The goat might not understand this, but the goatherd did.

Like that goat, I cling to comfort. I want security. I will always want to be where I feel most at ease. Also like that goat, I don't truly know the best place for me. But I know the One who does. He will lead me to where I can best feed and grow, and unlike the goatherd, He will never leave me there alone.

-Stacy Creech

•)))

Pray for missionaries like Michael and Stacy Creech as they face living outside of their comfort zone while living in Senegal.

CONNECT WITH your missionaries!

18 CONNECT ETHNOS.CA

MARK AND LAUREN DUCOMMUN Leo and Talia

Serving in Public Relations, Mark in videography and photography, and Lauren in women's ministries Sent by NorthCreek Church, Walnut Creek, California

ark and Lauren served in the Asia-Pacific region for the past four years. After learning the national language, they served at a national missionary training program, equipping men and women to teach God's Word and take the gospel message back to their remote people groups.

God continues to direct their steps—this past summer their family returned to Canada. While grieving the loss of a ministry they had so passionately pursued, God showed them that there are endless opportunities to support that ministry from within Canada!

Mark uses his skills as a videographer and photographer to share stories illustrating the need for more Great Commission workers.

Lauren is Ethnos Canada's new Women's Ministry Coordinator. She is helping equip women to teach the Bible and disciple others. She also enjoys engaging



Connect with Mark and Lauren at ethnos.ca/mark-and-lauren-ducommun/

with women to raise awareness of unreached people groups and to show what it looks like to reach them.

Lauren is part of a team that launched a women's podcast, *Compel*. She is helping women missionaries share stories of God's faithfulness in their lives and relating how they have used their skills and gifting to be a part of taking the gospel to the ends of the earth.

Compet a missions podcast for women

NEW podcast for women

The Compel podcast exists to engage women with the biblical basis for missions. We want to connect them to ordinary women who are serving around the world, sharing God's heart for the nations. Our desire is to come alongside our sisters in this journey and share how women can be involved in spreading the gospel message to the ends of the earth.

compelpodcast.ca // subscribe today!



Preparing to serve the First Nations and Inuit people in Northern Canada Sent by Sheridan Drive Baptist Church, Muskegon, Michigan

> **Connect with Kezia at** ethnos.ca/kezia-rumley/

y parents were faithful to teach me from an early age that I was born as a sinful human being in need of the Lord Jesus to save me. I was six years old when I made the decision to believe in the Lord Jesus for myself, trusting in His death and resurrection.

While a teenager, I came across a First Nations exhibit in Tobermory, Ontario. I remember praying, "God, if there are any people like this left up north, I'll go to them." I promptly forgot all about that prayer, but God didn't!

Years later, God used a friends' photo from Ethnos' Jungle Camp to trigger my thinking — "Wow, that is really cool, but not for me!"

While supply teaching in my hometown, God used a week at Ethnos360's Wayumi program in Pennsylvania to direct my focus back to serving among unreached people groups.

While training to be a missionary at Ethnos360's program in Missouri, I learned that Ethnos Canada was preparing to send church planting teams to the First Nations and Inuit in Northern Canada. I was intrigued.

While taking a specialized linguistics course in a Cherokee community in Oklahoma, the Lord reminded me of what I'd prayed 10 years earlier, and I realized that He wanted me to serve among the indiginous people in Northern Canada!

In the summer of 2019 I completed a field orientation in Northern Canada.

My current ministry is to connect with believers and share my vision for my future ministry as I finish raising the rest of my support.

It was one thing to share about the needs in some of the northern communities when I only had heard about them. Now that I've experienced a little more and begun some new friendships with native people, I'm finding a new urgency to share God's Word well among the people in Canada.

Can I do this? Nope, but the Lord Jesus can through me!



See firsthand what it takes to plant a church among people who have no concept of the God of the Bible. Learn from missionaries on the field and spend time with indigenous people in Papua New Guinea.

INTERFACE

A six-week college-level course in Papua New Guinea. ethnos360.org/interface

FIELD SUPPORT INTERNSHIPS

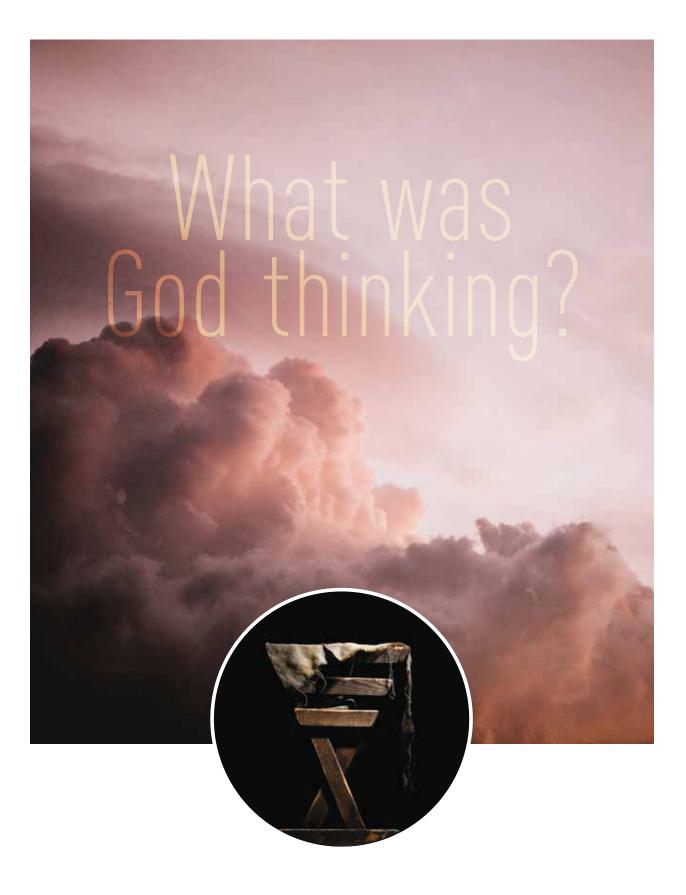
Come for Interface and stay an extra two weeks to get a closer look at one of six key support ministries. *ethnos360.org/internships*

CHURCH PLANTING INTERNSHIPS

Spend a semester in Papua New Guinea experiencing crosscultural church planting firsthand. *ethnos360.org/church-planting-internships*

407.547.2491 | missiontrips@ntm.org

20 CONSIDER THIS ETHNOS.CA



He gave up the glory of heaven for a stable. What was He thinking?

How many of us would make that choice? Would we choose to leave a glorious mansion for a drafty barn or a cardboard box under an overpass?

Would we trade a pillow-topped mattress with a warm down comforter for a rough blanket and straw that was meant to be fed to the livestock?

Would we trade a room smelling of the finest scented candles for a stable where the odor of the dung of livestock would overwhelm our senses?

Jesus did. He gave up the glory of heaven for a stable.

And He didn't stop there.

He gave up the glory of heaven to live a rustic life. What was He thinking?

How many of us would make that choice? Would we choose to leave a mansion with all the modern conveniences available to step back in time, back into the Dark Ages? Or would we have chosen to wait a few hundred years for the world to become not quite so primitive? Or maybe we would have rejected the idea as ludicrous and below our social standing.

Would we trade luxury for poverty?

Jesus did. He gave up the glory of heaven to live a rustic life.

And He didn't stop there.

Photo by Zahary Staines - Unsplay

He gave up the glory of heaven for rejection and death. What was He thinking?

He spent three years teaching His disciples and the people. In the end, one of His disciples sold Him out, and the world at large rejected Him.

They mocked Him. They beat Him. They hung Him on a cross to suffer unimaginable pain leading to His death.

> How many of us would make that choice? Would we knowingly invest our lives to reach a people who we knew would reject us, betray us and kill us in the most horrendous fashion known to mankind?

We probably wouldn't. But Jesus did. He gave up His life to make a way possible for mankind to be reconciled with His Heavenly

Father, to make **His** Heavenly Father their Heavenly Father.

He gave up the glory of heaven for a stable, for poverty, for rejection and, ultimately, for death. What was He thinking?

He was thinking of ... mankind. He was thinking of ... us.

Now let's reverse this. What about us? What are we thinking? What are we willing to give up... for Him.

—Rosie Cochran, Director of Communications, Ethnos360 USA

He was thinking

of us.









There are opportunities throughout Canada and around the world.

Construction, Maintenance, Plumbing, Carpentry, Electrical, Mechanics and Plant Management

GO.ETHNOS.CA/TRADES