

Finishing the Task He Commissioned

“I was lost and no one was looking for me...”

Several years ago, I attended a meeting about ‘unreached people groups’. The key-note speakers were Nik and Ruth Ripken. I sat literally spellbound as they shared their testimonies about going to some of the most spiritually dark places on earth.

One thing Nik brought out in his personal testimony has stuck with me. He was raised in a dysfunctional situation and did not know strong parental love, nor was he exposed to the gospel. He said something like, *“I know what it is like to be lost and have no one looking for you.”*



Sitting there that night a hard truth stirred in my mind. For many lost people around the world today, not only are they unreached with the gospel, but there are no known concrete plans to reach them.

I think there is a strong parallel between ‘unreached peoples’ and Nik Ripken’s statement about being *‘lost and have no one looking for you.’* Most likely, people without Christ do not even know they are ‘lost’, and many would be seriously insulted if they were told that is their present spiritual condition. But, the most disturbing factor is that there are literally billions of people who apparently have *‘no one looking for them.’*

It is a fact that our world population is quickly approaching 7.9 billion. The most generous numbers say there are around 780 million born-again Christians. Simple math says that leaves over 7 billion without a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. No matter how you look at it there are more people ‘lost’ than ‘found.’

Let’s take a good look at the world around us, the opportunities God is giving us to reach the world with the gospel, and re-commit ourselves to finishing the task He commissioned to us. May it be that not one unbeliever on this earth can say, *“I am lost and no one is looking for me.”*

To read the full article written by Clint Morgan, visit **iminc.org**.



FAMILY HAPPENINGS



Caroline Pierce, IM's Financial Operations Manager, delivered her baby, Parker Pierce, on June 26. Both mom and baby are doing well.



The Price girls finished 6th grade! In a recent routine homeschool inspection, Cristina was interviewed about the current curriculum being used. Both girls were tested to see where they are in comparison to a child in public school. They are pleased to report they passed the inspection!



The Johnsons moved back to the States from Spain. Alejandro and Breanna will be married on July 24. In August, the Johnsons will begin their ministry as "Missionaries in Residence" at Welch College.



The Lancasters will travel to Dallas for ten days to celebrate Tammy's dad's 75th birthday on July 31st. Both of their sons and daughters-in-law will be present for the family event. Jaimie's mom and sister will also be coming to celebrate Tammy's birthday.



The Eagletons will travel from Brazil to Nashville, TN on June 30-July 1. They will later move to Moore, OK to serve as "Missionaries in Residence" at Randall University.



Caroline McDonald and Robert Mann will be married in Gallatin, TN on July 8. While in the States, the McDonalds will share their ministry highlights at Cross Timbers Church. **Donnie and Ruth** will return to Japan on July 22.

ETEAM ON MISSION IN CHICAGO

ETEAM 2021 looked far different than anticipated, however God's guidance was apparent as we sent 24 students to Chicago this June. Each student took part in ministry with David and Pam Potete at Northwest Community Church. The students participated in VBS and local outreach for a large portion of their time in Chicago. Students grew, learned, and dove deeper into their role in The Great Commission this summer. We are excited to see what this unique experience will mean in the future of these impressive ETEAMers!



HANNA PROJECT IN ECUADOR

We are thankful for the 21 members of the THP Ecuador 2021 team who went to serve with our partner organization, Jungle Kids for Christ through construction, medical, and children's camp. This was the first team we have been able to send out since the onset of Covid-19, so we were extremely thankful to be able to resume travel and service. We encourage you to visit **hannaproject.com** to learn of future opportunities where you can serve and give to those who need it most.



GO GLOBAL CHANGES PERSPECTIVES

2021 Go Global missions events have moved from Oklahoma to Tennessee. Attendees have the opportunity to discover their place in God's story to the nations. We look forward to the upcoming Go Global event taking place on July 10, 2021

at The East Central District Association of Illinois in Mt. Vernon. The missionary roster for this Go Global event consists of Josh Simmons, Tyler Penn, Emily Petty, Annabelle Ellis, and Jaimie Lancaster. Pastor Josh McKinney said, "Go Global changed my perspective on what it means to be 'for missions.' My eyes were opened to the incredible challenges and oppressive spiritual warfare that our missionaries face. They need our full support and Go Global equipped me with the tools to do that."



COLLEGE STUDENTS SERVING GLOBALLY

Many of our College Missions Program and Overseas Apprenticeship students are currently serving all around the world, gaining field experience as they work with

IM missionaries, receiving course credit for their school or university, and building relationships with the locals in those communities. If you're a college student and want to learn more about the world and what it looks like to share the gospel wherever you are, check out other CMP opportunities at **iminc.org/go**.





PRAYER FOCUS

- Many IM missionaries will be attending the NAFWB National Convention in Memphis, Tennessee this July. Pray they make connections and relationships with individuals and FWB churches in the States as they raise funds and support to return to their fields.
 - Pray for the World Missions Offering as we continue receiving financial gifts from churches and individuals throughout the year. We are already at \$393,408.40. Our \$1,000,000 dollar goal is possible with your sacrificial giving. We are excited about the amount IM has already received due to your generosity!
 - Many IM missionaries are returning to the States this summer seeking funding and support to return to their fields. We encourage you to contact them, invite them to speak and share about their ministries. They need your partnership to return to their fields so they can continue sharing the gospel with those who have never heard!
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STATESIDE MISSIONARIES

Several IM missionaries are currently on Stateside Assignment raising funds and support. Opportunities to meet and speak with churches and organizations are greatly appreciated. These services inform church members of each missionary's ministry so they will know how to specifically pray and partner with them.

Contact any of the following missionaries by using the information below:

Annabelle Ellis

615-674-5440 • aellis@iminc.org

Tim & Lydia Awtrey

916-273-3711 • tawtre@iminc.org

Abby Walker

615-588-8348 • awalker@iminc.org

Emily Petty

217-994-6274 • epetty@iminc.org

Adam & Carol Duncan

573-289-3560 • aduncan@iminc.org

Sam & Lauren Riggs

205-495-0997 • samriggs@iminc.org

Ken & Jayne Cash

252-947-0829 • kcash@iminc.org

Ken & Judy Bailey

405-759-0396 • kbailey@iminc.org

Neil & Mandi Morgan

843-373-3612 • nmorgan@iminc.org

Jack & Ashley Kettelman

jkettelman@iminc.org

Daniel & Kate Speer

dspeer@iminc.org

Tim & Kristi Johnson

615-630-1323 • tjohnson@iminc.org

Kenneth & Rejane Eagleton

keagleton@iminc.org

Allison (THP)

allison@hannaproject.com

Josh & Bethany (THP)

629-215-9264 • josh@hannaproject.com



GETTING TO KNOW YOUR MISSIONARIES

Tim & Kristi Johnson, Spain

Tim and Kristi Johnson began their ministry in Spain in 1998. Their first few years focused on learning the language and serving in the Villalba Church. Then they, along with their teammates Anthony & Lea Edgmon, moved to Alpedrete to begin a new church plant in a pueblo with no Gospel-preaching church in the town's 500-year history. They have participated in various outreach ministries over the years: English classes, "Mommy & Me" music sessions, "Coffee and Something More" presentations, and much more. Spending time building relationships with Spaniards was a vital part of their ministry. Tim and Kristi have recently announced a big change in their role in missions as Tim will be leading the Missions Program at Welch College beginning in August 2022. They look forward to continuing to partner with IM as they help train future missionaries for their fields of service.



Daniel & Kate Speer, Japan

Daniel and Kate Speer have served with IM as missionary interns since April of 2013, including a little over four years of service in the greater Tokyo area of Japan.



During their terms of service, they were able to be of practical help to Good News Chapel church in Iruma-shi, Japan and Kamifukuoka Christ Church in Kawagoe-shi, Japan. They have three children: Audrey, Analeigh, and Owen. Daniel and Kate have helped with various outreaches in Japan, including gospel choir workshops, music for Sunday worship, personal discipleship studies, and English classes. Kate was born in Japan to missionary parents Donnie and Ruth McDonald and is thankful to be able to use her Japanese language ability in service as an adult. Daniel has been able to attend a few semesters of language school while on the field and looks forward to more in the future. The Speer family returned to the States in June of 2021. They will be seeking career status in July as well as raising support to return to Japan.

Your partnership in the gospel yields dividends around the world in lives changed and churches planted. If you'd like to discuss ways to see that impact continue long-term, call 1-877-767-7736 for information on Planned Gifts or Estate Planning.



Visit www.iminc.org for up-to-date news.