

THE 2020 THANKSGIVING REPORT



A LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT

What a year it has been! Despite the unforeseeable circumstances we've all been through you have made it possible for Mission ONE to do more in 2020 than ever before. For that, I want to say thank you.

As you read the stories of this report, I hope you are encouraged. You will see stories of hope in unexpected places. From disaster relief to communities transformed through the gospel of Jesus, you will see how you have impacted our world.

This marks the completion of our first year of the Investing in the Global Church campaign. You have committed over 68% of our \$4,770,000 goal! We are blown away by God's faithfulness and your generosity!

During 2020, we had the largest relief response in our 29 years as an organization. The COVID-19 pandemic caused food shortages around the world, and through your support, Mission ONE was able to help distribute over 800,000 meals.

Families were able to return to their homes in Syria, women gained the ability to provide for their families, jobs were created for those who couldn't find work, children received an education, and hundreds gave their allegiance to Jesus Christ.

For these and countless other blessings, we are thankful.

I invite you to join us as we rejoice in what God has accomplished in the past year. Take some time to reflect on how God has made your life and community more like the Kingdom of God. And join us as we celebrate how God has done the same through the Global Church around the world.

Thank you for your partnership in the gospel.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "William". The script is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "W" and a trailing flourish.

William Strickland
Mission ONE President

WHO WE ARE

We are a team of people — partners, patrons, prayer warriors, pastors, moms, dads, and humble servants. We envision a world where every community is transformed for the glory of God and the honor of all peoples. Working globally, with national and indigenous leaders, together we are making communities more like the Kingdom of God. Learn more about our team at mission1.org/our-team.

WHAT WE DO

Through the Global Church, we provide creative solutions, training, and support to help strengthen communities and bring hope to people in the hardest places.

STRATEGIC PROJECTS

We assist in planning and promoting initiatives such as planting churches, developing missional businesses, schools, and medical facilities through local church outreach in communities where the need is great. These projects provide transformational resources to local communities that reduce dependence on aid from the West, place the local church at the center of communal life, and give people hope.

TRAINING

We develop curriculum and train leaders in ways that add relevance for people who have been historically difficult to reach with the gospel. Learning to teach the Bible through a different cultural lens gives people ownership of the gospel, rather than feeling like it's just a story from another culture.

RELIEF

When survival is on the line because of war, oppression, or natural disaster, we want to help immediately. We listen to our partners to understand the real needs, and then we meet them. This is an opportunity to demonstrate the love of Christ — restoring honor and humanity to people in their most desperate hour.



SOUTH SUDAN

Warring Tribes Gather Under God's Roof

In South Sudan, the warring tribes of the Didinga Hills live a harsh and unpredictable life. The families there often suffer physical abuse, substance abuse, hunger, and violence due to the instability in the area. Despite lush farmlands, the war-torn nature of the region means people have to fight for everything they have.

In the Farasika church, planted by Mission ONE partners, a different type of worship has begun to take place. The members of these conflicting tribes are partaking in services side-by-side. Tribes like the Boyas, listen to the pastor's message with guns at their side. When the offering basket is passed around, they give bullets. A symbol of the violence they experience and their devotion to the gospel as they give what they have. Though many in the area oppose bringing these turbulent communities together under one roof, the Farasika church has found genuine worshipers, hungry for God despite the unrest in their day-to-day lives.

Raising Up Women

It is common practice for girls to be given as wives at a very young age in East Africa. They often have little to no access to education and when they seek it out, can suffer the embarrassment of being pulled away from class by their husbands. Jacinta works with our local Mission ONE partners and has taken it upon herself to advocate on behalf of the teenage brides. She has become an expert negotiator, convincing many of the husbands to allow their wives the opportunity to learn.

The gift of an education provides opportunity for growth among women in the region who are often oppressed and treated as commodities. Education also creates space for a powerful community to form and influence. Though the girls are not members of the local church, they are experiencing God's love through Jacinta.





NEPAL

The "Cave People" No Longer

When Mission ONE partners in Nepal first encountered the Chepang people, they were living primitively in caves. They had limited access to food, shelter, and basic life-sustaining resources. During a flood and subsequent landside, the people of this village were left almost entirely without the basic needs to survive, living exclusively on the vegetation they could forage.

Our partner in Nepal worked together with the local government to relocate the village, build more sustainable structures, and establish a large farm that provides both nourishment and a source of income. During the Covid-19 crisis, when many of the Chepang people lost their ability to earn a wage as day laborers, the infrastructure developed by the local church helped them sustain through trying times.

We don't just want to give people food that can only help for a short time. We want to enable and train them to care for themselves long-term, so they are locally sustained. We believe this starts with the local church and strong leaders.

Likewise, we are not just looking to fulfill the physical needs or economic needs of the community, but also the lasting spiritual needs. Our partners in Nepal are discipling leaders from the Chepang community to rise up as local pastors and take over the leadership of the church.

It has been confusing for those who do not follow Jesus to witness the outpouring of support from the local church. Local ministers have been able to pray with many of these people and share the reason for their hope. Though there are still many people who are not a part of the church they regularly get to experience the work the Lord is doing in their midst.



PAKISTAN



Women are Becoming the Breadwinners

In Pakistan, women are considered the lowest members of the social structure. Their inability to earn an income and their status in the culture places them in a position to be subservient to their husbands and all other men in their lives. As Christians they are also religious minorities and are held in an even lesser regard.

Just one year ago, Mission ONE partners in Pakistan established sewing centers, where these women could learn a marketable skill. In the wake of the global pandemic, this proved even more valuable than they could have imagined.

Seima, a mother of four, has been learning to sew for the past couple of months at the sewing center in her local church. She was making excellent progress when the global pandemic hit and forced her husband to lose his job as a day laborer. Seima knew that while she was still new to sewing, her skills could be used to keep her family fed during a time when most people were starving. She bravely knocked on the doors of neighbors and strangers to offer her skills to anyone that needed a seamstress. Seima is currently the breadwinner in her family and inspiring other women to earn a dignified income.

The churches in each community have donated the use of their building for the sewing centers to meet. In one particular community, there have been ongoing security issues with the sewing machines being stored at the church. Because the local church needed to remain open to all members seeking refuge there was no way to lock up the sewing equipment. In an act of community ownership, local church and community members donated their time and labor to build a new room on the property that could be used exclusively as the sewing center.

These spaces have been a financial safe-haven for those whose families have been thrust into dangerous and unpredictable circumstances, but the sewing centers offer even more than monetary security and skill-building. These spaces also offer opportunity and dignity to women who have experienced a culture of shame, abuse and neglect. Developing a useful skill and engaging in an environment that promotes their value as women has brought spiritual fortune to these women as well.

Meet some of ladies from this sewing center on our blog. mission1.org/sew





OUR COMMUNITY LOOKS MORE LIKE THE KINGDOM OF GOD BECAUSE WE ARE LESS REACTIVE AND MORE PATIENT. PEOPLE ARE OPEN TO SHARE, GIVE, AND OFFER HOSPITALITY IN SPITE OF THEIR OWN POVERTY. THEY DEMONSTRATE FAITH IN GOD AND QUICKLY COMMIT THEIR CHALLENGES TO PRAYER.

- MISSION ONE PARTNER, INDIA



A REASON TO CELEBRATE

110 people have joined us through our monthly sustaining Mission ONE Patrons program.

68% of our Investing in the Global Church campaign has been committed! These commitments allow us to continue to serve our partners in the Global Church.

We were invited to partner with the Middle Eastern Women's Leadership Network to create and facilitate a 5-week course on Restoring Honor Through Shame. **50 female leaders** from places like Tunisia, Lebanon, and Jordan are participating in this curriculum to address the underlying cultural and spiritual issues that lead to oppression of women.

10 women have realized their God-given value and are earning a dignified wage through our sewing programs.

This year *Reading Romans with Eastern Eyes* was released on Audiobook – a great honor and uncommon achievement for a theology book!

We've added **Bikonzi Moise, Jude Tenorio, Charith Denson, and Sandy Shrader** to the team! These new team members represent outstanding growth and excellence in the areas of supporting our partners and sharing the work that is being done through the Global Church with our patrons.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW *

We invest wisely.

SUPPORT

Contributions \$1,725,254

Other Revenue \$23,823

Total Revenue \$1,749,077

EXPENSES

Program \$1,251,675

Admin \$237,649

Fundraising \$319,842

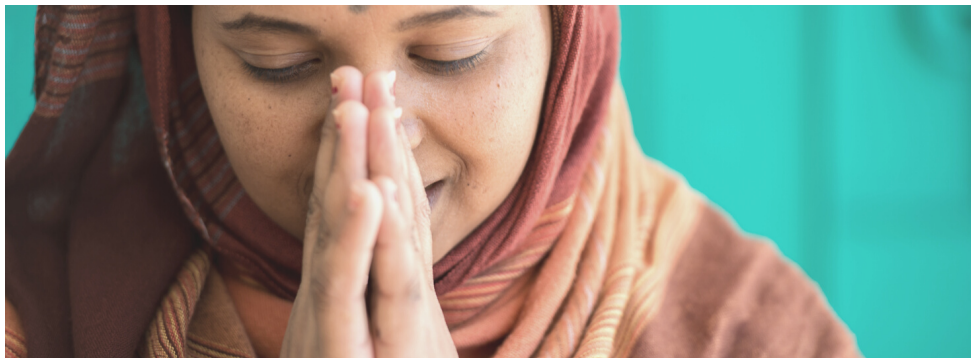
Total \$1,809,166

Net Revenue (\$60,088)

The local leader has the unmatched advantage of knowing the people, the culture, the language, and the barriers to the gospel as he is 'one of them' and his changed life demands an answer!

- MISSION ONE PARTNER, NEPAL

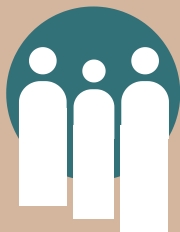
*unaudited financials





129 CHURCHES PLANTED

In places where there
were none



8,514 PEOPLE FOUND HOPE

In the gospel of Jesus Christ



2,160 PEOPLE TRAINED

Through our Honor and
Shame theology




858,893 MEALS SERVED

During our coronavirus
relief response



194 HOMES BUILT

Or rebuilt for families
in crisis in Lebanon,
Nepal, and Kenya



**WE ARE
THANKFUL FOR
THE CHURCHES,
INDIVIDUALS, AND
BUSINESSES WHO
HAVE CHOSEN TO
PARTNER WITH
US.**

I am drawn to Mission ONE for several reasons. As a Global Outreach Pastor, my heart longs for the Global Church; Mission ONE has this same heart! One of the most impressive things to me about Mission ONE's approach is that they serve the Global Church in these ways through relationships! They do not simply show up, drop off resources, and leave. They are in it for the long haul with these amazing indigenous leaders and Mission ONE understands the global currency of partnerships is relationships.

**- ETHAN COLLINS
SCOTTSDALE BIBLE**

Church Partnership

Mission ONE is one of my selected charities because of the faith, character and purpose of the founder, leadership and staff. Their goal of 'partnering with the global church' through supporting indigenous pastors of proven integrity helps me rest assured my legacy gift is in good hands.

- MARILYN NASMAN

Legacy Giving

We are committed to supporting and empowering national Christian workers in their native countries as they share the gospel of Jesus Christ. NutraMedix is very excited about Mission ONE's initiative to create self-sustaining ministries around the world.

**- TIM EATON
NUTRAMEDIX**

Business Partnership



For the glory of God and the honor of all peoples.



480.951.0900
mission1.org
PO Box 750
Phoenix, AZ 85001-0750