

A THRIVING CHURCH FOR EVERY PEOPLE



**“The Ministry
of Information
Technology”**
on page 4

ETHNOS
magazine



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FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

What comes to mind when you think of missions? For many, it's Bible translation and Bible teaching in villages isolated from the Good News—but rarely Information Technology (IT).

In this issue of *Ethnos Magazine*, we want to highlight the vital role our IT team plays in reaching unreached people groups (UPGs).

When Melanie and I were church planting among the Nivaclé people of Paraguay, I remember the shift from daily radio check-ins to the arrival of Internet in our home in 2014. That change transformed our lives and ministry.

Suddenly, we could access medical help in hours instead of days. Our children could build meaningful relationships with extended family. Ministry questions that once took six months to resolve could be answered in days. Prayer requests that once took weeks to share could now be lifted up the very same day.

Today, serving in leadership here in Canada, I see even more clearly that this kind of technology is essential. Our IT team supports nearly every aspect of our missionary sending infrastructure—communications, financial processing, mobilization, cybersecurity, and data and network systems. In many ways, their work forms the backbone of everything we do.

Even now, though we are far from Paraguay, technology allows Nivaclé church leaders to call and ask questions as they prepare to teach God's Word. While they may not have access to the same study resources we enjoy, they are not alone—and that is, in part, because of the systems our IT team has made available.

As I reflect on all of this, I am deeply grateful for those who serve in IT. Many have the skills to pursue highly lucrative careers, yet they have chosen instead to invest their gifts in advancing the gospel.

Thank you for praying for and supporting this essential ministry. Through their work, the Good News of Christ continues to reach places where it has never been heard.

Yours in Christ,

Shaun Humphreys

Executive Director
Ethnos Canada

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NEWS AROUND THE WORLD



URGENT NEED FOR SCHOOLTEACHERS

Numonohi Christian Academy (NCA) in Papua New Guinea (PNG) needs schoolteachers. Due to the timing of work permits and entry visas, the pre-field orientation schedule and partnership development, there is urgency to get the word out over the next two months in order to have teachers by August. If NCA cannot recruit additional teachers, then they expect grade level closures and correspondence courses in core subject areas. This will impact students' education, parents' ability to minister in support roles and

both NTM PNG's (New Tribes Mission/Ethnos360 Papua New Guinea) and partner missions' organizational function.

These are the urgent needs for the 2026–2027 school year:

- High school math teacher
- High school science teacher
- Elementary teacher
- Educational Special Services — educational therapist (NILD certified, on-site or remote)

In the USA alone, there are roughly three million elementary and high school teachers. The team at NCA is praying for at least four who feel called to invest their gifts in equipping students to follow Christ and who want to join a team

united around one purpose: seeing a thriving church for every people group and language of PNG. Serving at Numonohi Christian Academy means discipling students and supporting missionaries by helping their families thrive. One teacher supports the work of many.

The application process needs to begin by March 2026, so now is the time to reach out.

personnel-director@ntmpng.org
or go online at
go.ethnos.ca/mag-nca-teacher



LITERACY STUDENT FAITHFULNESS

We started our second Elsendg primer with our literacy students. We have been a bare-bones crew with sickness. Please keep praying for our literacy students to stay faithful to their studies and to gain reading proficiency. It is exciting to see them making progress, but it isn't easy for

all of them. Please pray particularly for Bop, Elpi, Yanto, Ledia, and Martina to stay encouraged and grow in their knowledge. Copy the link to the right or scan the QR code to watch the video on YouTube. It's "The Good News as told by Bop" [one of the Elsendg believers mentioned above]. To God be the glory!

— *Scott Flaughter, Asia Pacific*

Scan to watch
Bop's Gospel Message:



CULTURE CORNER:

THE STORY OF THE "MOON" AND THE BEGINNING OF THE HUMAN RACE

Somewhere, no one knows exactly where, but very far "down river," there is an immense eternal tree that is holding up the sky. There are stories of individuals both divine and mortal who have learned how to climb up and down between our world and the world above us. For example, there is

the story of the moon. The moon, who is also a human, fell into disfavour with those on earth. The earthlings decided to kill the moon, so they hatched a plan to travel far toward the horizon where they would lie in wait for the moon to come down low in the sky like he does almost every night. They were lying

in wait as he descended down the horizon. When he was close enough, they shot him with an arrow which caused the moon to bleed profusely over all the earth. This blood then became human beings, and thus the planet was populated.

— *Yanomamö folklore*





TRANSLATION WORK IN ECUADOR

Our team's focus for the year continues to be translation. A translation check helped to hone our focus and to see ways to improve our translation procedures, and we are looking forward to implementing some of the wisdom gleaned from our consultant friend. Our co-workers Kevin and Kathy Bruce will be focusing on discipleship and teaching. Our new teammates Steve and Gwen Anderson will be finishing up their Spanish study in the city and [will be] getting a house built out here. Pray for the Awa believers to see needs and help out in the church.

— *Andy and Chrissy Shaub, Ecuador*



LEARNING PHASE TWO

We went into the year with the huge task of recreating a lot of the graphics needed for the first two phases of language learning. We praise the Lord that those graphics are done and ready for printing. There were times we wondered if it was possible, but God kept providing what we needed — including some amazing artists who worked alongside us! Another thing we are so grateful for is the progress that is being made by the team working among the “K” people. They have encountered so many challenges and difficulties, but the progress they are making despite that is miraculous. We are so grateful to the Lord!

— *Joel and Andi, West Africa*



MISSIONS SMALL GROUP ENCOURAGEMENT

This [season], we've had several opportunities to invite people into our home to share about our ministry and how they can be involved. A participant shared: “I grew up going to church my whole life, but I honestly thought missions was a minor theme in the New Testament. I had no idea it started in Genesis and that Israel was meant to be missionaries to the nations all along.” We would really appreciate your prayers for our small group, that God would work mightily in their hearts, stir them toward involvement in missions as senders or goers and motivate them to share what they are learning with others.

— *Lucas and Olivia Wiebe, Support raising in Germany*



FROM THE HOME OFFICE TO THE WORLD

Here at Ethnos360's Home Office, I serve a dual role as an administrative assistant and the Food Service Coordinator. Depending on the day, I might be making cookies, cleaning an oven, preparing a financial report, taking notes for a meeting or sometimes all of the above! Why do my co-workers here at the Home Office and I do what we do? Because we desire to see a thriving church for every people group—mature and equipped with the Word of God in their own native language. We know that it takes a team of people, all using the gifts and abilities the Lord has supplied, to take the gospel to unreached people groups.

— *Hannah Sipress, Ethnos360 Home Office, Sanford, Florida*

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A NEW ROLE

We landed in the Philippines [recently] and are excited to be back despite the jet lag. As we look at returning to our ministry, we covet your prayers. Lance will begin a new role as program manager for the Philippines' aviation team, while also functioning as the director of maintenance.

We are excited about the new role but also know it will be an adjustment for our family. Pray for our family as Lance begins [his new] role. Pray for our kids! We pray they would come to know Jesus as their Saviour.
 — *Lance and Caitlin Rensberger, Ethnos360 Aviation, Philippines*

THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY:

THE HIDDEN INFRASTRUCTURE

As someone who grew up in the digital age, I can't remember a time without computers, smartphones, Wi-Fi and Google. I use the internet to share social media posts, do digital banking, read the news, research questions—you name it. I understand what these forms of technology can do for me, but I don't understand what makes them work. And I think that most people would say the same. Today, Ethnos360 missionaries use these digital tools to study culture and language, translate Scriptures, format Bible lessons, send in their supply orders, and communicate with family back home. This technology has become as crucial to the ministries of both church planters and support missionaries as it is in your daily life and mine.

IT stands for information technology. Our technology has hardware, the physical parts that we interact with, like laptops and internet routers, and software, the non-physical programs that guide the computer's hardware on what to do and how to do it. It also includes other things like data, networking, processes, security and much more. Some questions we might ask to understand the full scope of IT are: How did integrating IT into mission work all start? Who provides IT support? What do they do? And why does it matter for mission work among unreached people groups? The work of IT is a big picture to paint, so let's start from the beginning.



- ↑ Preserving irreplaceable data for missionaries
- Dave Brendle pioneered computer technology in missions.

“How can these
***newfangled
personal
computers*** help
our missionaries?”

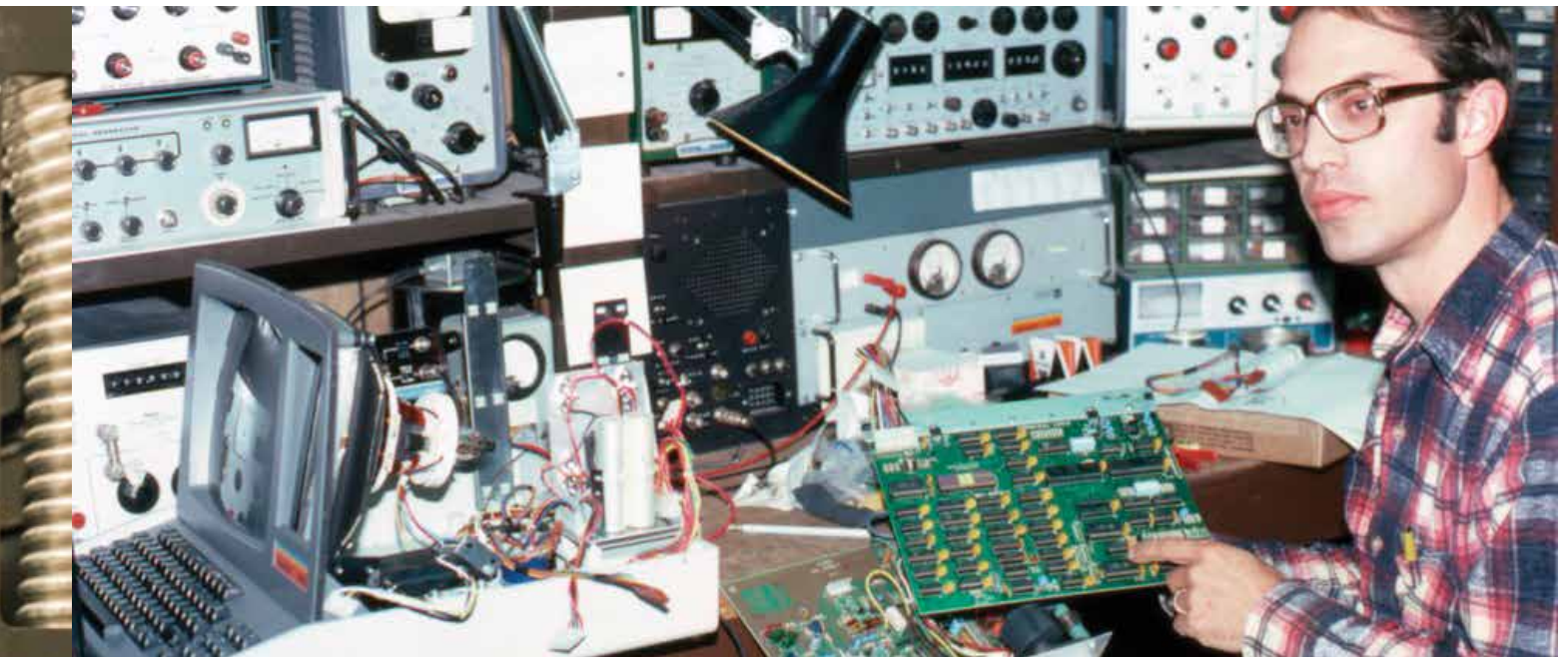
OUR PAST

Bible translation efforts were what prompted Ethnos360, New Tribes Mission (NTM) at the time, to explore if this up-and-coming computer technology could ever be beneficial to church-planting missionaries. The question that started it all in 1980 was, “How can these newfangled personal computers (PCs) help our missionaries?”

One man was charged with one year of research in 1980 to evaluate if computers would be practical for and beneficial to Bible translators. This job was given to Dave Brendle, the only electrical engineer for NTM in the USA at the time. When he was not working on his responsibilities in avionics, he was ordering and testing systems and

speaking with computer companies and other mission organizations.

The year of research and testing came to an end, and Dave recommended a build-it-yourself PC kit. Five translators were interested in purchasing one, and two of them immediately placed orders. Dave’s job was to build the computers, even with his full-time work in avionics. “I built the [PCs] in my spare time—nights and weekends. I built for quite a number of translators during the next two years.”



1941

The first fully functioning digital computer (Z3).



1942

New Tribes Mission founded.



1943

In May, the first issue of NTM’s magazine, *Brown Gold*; in October, five missionaries to the Ayorés were martyred.

Although in 2026 we might not be able to picture our work without computers, in 1984, some people could not picture working with computers; they did not see how it could be beneficial to their work.

A REVOLUTIONARY CHANGE

Time and money. Two precious resources for missionaries who have a limited amount of both. Initially, the idea of these “newfangled” computers was not welcomed by everyone. The first reaction of Bolivia church planter and Bible translator Wayne Gill was, “This is something else to waste missionary time.” Wayne was originally from Wyoming, but he had moved to Bolivia to be a missionary and had completed a New Testament translation into the Trinitario language on a standard typewriter.

Then, a clear leading of God had moved him to the Chimane people group in another part of Bolivia to translate for them. Wayne was a translation wiz. He already knew the process for Bible translation, he already had the equipment for it, and he knew it worked. This is when a pilot on a routine supply run brought the news of a “new thing called a *computer*.”

It wasn’t worth much consideration; it would be far too expensive. Thousands of dollars would be required to buy a computer and all the equipment to run it—a big ask for a missionary who raised his own support and would have to buy the computer himself. It would take far too much from his missionary work. It would take precious time to learn the computer, to input all the hand-written translation materials on the computer and to fix it when it would inevitably break.

In the jungle, the only technical support Wayne and his teammates had was what they could do for themselves or when the aviation team would fly in for the monthly supply drop. How could a computer possibly be worth all of that time and money and effort?

“Search and replace” made it worth it. Not only were the missionaries working on translating the Bible, they also were developing materials for their team as they learned the culture and language of the people they were working with. They had all these notes on hand-written note cards and typed papers, but paper was susceptible to threats. Countless hours of translation work could be completely eradicated. For example, one translator left her village to go to the mission base, and when she came back several weeks later, termites had destroyed over ten years of work!

The “search and replace” feature on the digitized platform allowed Wayne and other missionary translators and typists to edit and update documents in a fraction of the time it used to take. Previously, when a change



↑ Wayne Gill doing Bible translation using notecards



← Ruth Gill doing Bible translation on an early personal computer

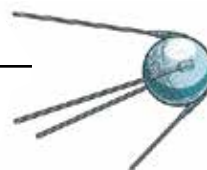
All it took was one question and a few open minds to change the course of how computer technology was to be utilized by NTM/Ethnos.

needed to be made to a document, the *entire page* would need to be retyped ... and then this process was repeated for *each copy*. Now they could edit the original document without needing to recreate the change manually for each copy. Consider how this new feature radically increased time efficiency in language learning and Bible



1955

Introduction of tape recorders in language learning; gospel presented to the Hamtai people of Papua New Guinea.



1957

Sputnik, the first artificial satellite, orbits the earth. Satellites today provide communication and navigation worldwide.

translation. Missionaries were able to prepare these materials more quickly and thus spend more time studying the language, translating, building relationships with their indigenous neighbours and caring for their families.

After seeing the large impact that computers made on the Bible translation process, other organizational departments like the finance office back in the USA began to catch the vision as well. The finance team requested an accounting system that was able to meet the organization's specific needs, and the IT team fulfilled that request. They also developed an email system for NTM. Dave said, "Once email and communication came into play, requests for computers exploded, as individual missionaries saw how the computer could aid their connections to families and supporters." Now all missionaries could see the relevancy of computers.

All it took was one question and a few open minds to change the course of how computer technology was to be utilized by NTM/Ethnos360.

PRESENT

From training to church planting, IT supports every stage of ministry. Our IT workers fill roles both in North America and on mission fields overseas. Although workers in North America can help missionaries with many things remotely, some support must be given in person because the hardware needs to be installed, repaired, maintained and adjusted. Stateside IT missionaries support the organization as a whole, while overseas IT missionaries are assigned to support specific fields' needs. Without on-field IT support, church-planting missionaries have to send their computers away to be fixed, which in turn delays Bible translation and hinders communication for weeks.

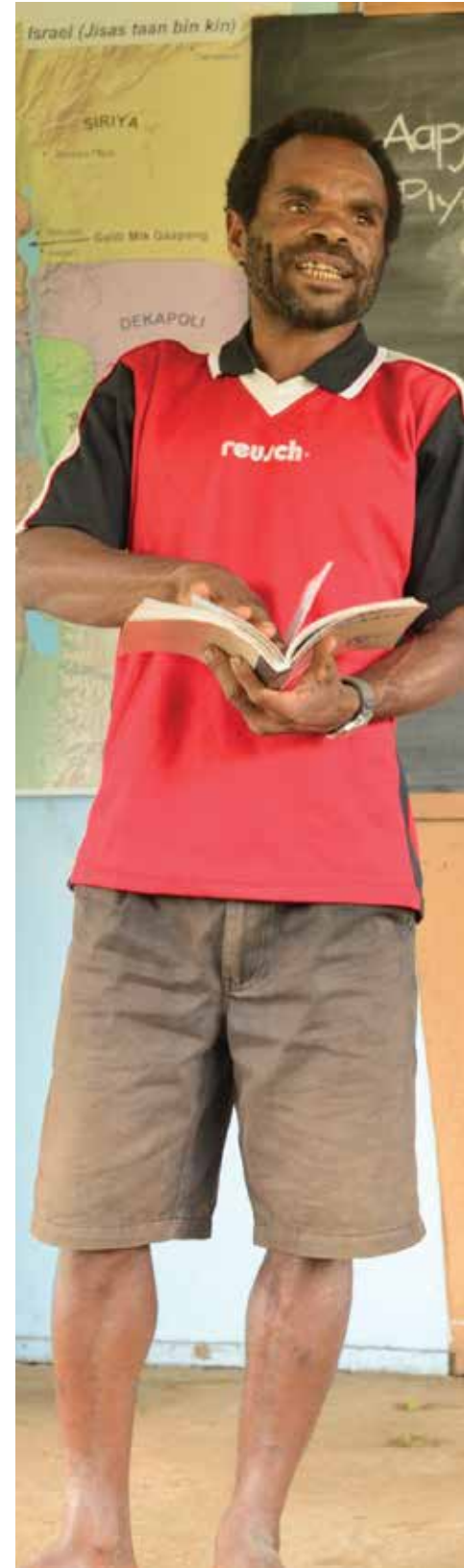
I have now been around Ethnos360 for over a year at the American Home Office in Sanford, Florida, and I cannot think of one worker here whose job is done without computers and IT support. On one level, we communicate on computers, and our work happens via computers. Even teams that do hands-on jobs like maintenance receive work orders online and order parts digitally. And on another level,

"Every step of the way, computers have been a critical component in seeing a church established among the Dinangat people."

— Jeremiah Markley,
church planter, translator,
Papua New Guinea

↓ An IT worker in Papua New Guinea supporting missionaries

↓ David Ogg working on the Simbari translation.



1959

NTM's Woodworth print shop printed its first New Testament (Curipaco of Colombia, Sophie Muller).



1975

Trevor McIlwain developed the chronological approach for teaching the Palawan people of Papua New Guinea.

our organizational intellectual property and our personal information are protected by IT.

The support ministry of IT is much more multifaceted than I realized. Ethnos360 IT has the following objectives:

- Provide the technology, tools and training to Ethnos360 staff for ministry
- Support staff members by removing technological obstacles to their ministry
- Protect against attacks on technology and information
- Preserve irreplaceable data, such as Bible translations and important records.

So, how do these objectives impact present-day church planting practically?

A “NARROW MISS”

Benjamin and his wife, Missy, are church planters in Papua New Guinea who experienced a “narrow miss instead of a blindside.” Benjamin recounted, “A couple years ago, we returned to the field after home assignment and were gathering supplies to go back to [the village] when we received an email alerting us to the fact that changes were in place to transfer our support to a new bank account. The email said that the transfer would take place in the next day or two. Only we had not asked for a transfer, nor had we opened a new bank account. After making a few rushed phone calls, the [IT team] determined that our mission account had been hacked and that a bad actor had impersonated us and successfully sent the request to the finance office without our knowing.

“Armed with this information, finance office personnel were able to report to the bad actor’s bank management, and together they prevented the transfer of funds from happening. Without the swift response from the IT team, an entire month’s income would have been lost and would probably not have been recoverable. From across the ocean in Papua New Guinea, it would have been very difficult for us to deal with this problem on our own.”

OUT WITH THE OLD. IN WITH THE NEW

Long since gone are the days of typewritten and handwritten Bible translations and weeks-long delays before hearing from family, friends and supporters while on the field. Additionally, new technology has made church planting more efficient and effective in other major areas like financial transactions, protection of personal information, Bible education and missionary training.

Directly impacting Bible translation, computers were game changers for how information was to be stored and retrieved, shared and edited, and printed and copied. No

more giant file drawers for paper copies, no more termites eating original script. Edits could be implemented immediately. Consultants could receive the finished or almost finished translations via email rather than waiting for the consultants to make the trip to the village. And the completed translation could be emailed to the formatter instead of being sent by snail mail.

To receive mail in a remote village still takes a lot of time—several weeks or months. But now, missionaries don’t have to ache for a word from home. Worldwide instant messaging is made possible through the work of IT. Missionaries can stay connected with co-workers, family, friends and supporters.

While missionary grandchildren in the early days would barely know their grandparents back in their home country, now they can FaceTime—hear their voices, see their faces. Missionaries can keep in touch with their adult children who have repatriated. Instead of isolated work, missionaries can consult co-workers and collaborate in real time. Churches can stay up to date on their missionaries’ needs—practically, spiritually, financially. This level of connectivity has made it safer and easier for missionaries to live in remote areas and minister to unreached people groups.

Andy Wegner, who serves in the mobilization department at Ethnos360’s Home Office, expressed his appreciation for IT support: “If I didn’t have a computer to do my job, I would have to be driving [all around the country], costing us a lot more money. We would need a lot more supporters on our team. Our computers allow us to connect with people all over the world and mobilize through online content, which is becoming more and more effective for mobilizing college students and older adults alike.”

IT supports Bible education by providing the systems for managing students and classwork at Ethnos360’s



Photos by Joel Potter



1980

Research begins on computers—can they be helpful for translators?



1981

First laptop computer (Osborne 1).



1983

Microsoft Word released.



← Julie Enemark provides help desk support to Nancy Fleming at the Ethnos360 Home Office.

→ Brian Hicks supports the IT needs of pilots and support staff at Ethnos360 Aviation.

→ IT intern Quang Duong learns from help desk administrator Josh Draughon.

→ Scott Rodman prepares computers for missionaries.

→ Ethen DeMarce prepares fiber for the main internet backbone at the Ethnos360 Training Center.

→ John Caballero's skills from the corporate world serve the Ethnos360 IT team well.

“I communicate daily with people on different continents and in multiple countries. This morning alone, I met with people in Africa, South America, North America and Southeast Asia.

We were able to hold a meeting and work together smoothly because of the technology that keeps us connected.”

— Keith Copley, Church Planting Consultant

residential Bible institute in Wisconsin. Not only do IT personnel upload and organize the recorded lectures for Ethnos360 Bible Institute's online classes, but they also organize the student dashboards and the instructors' accounts. Similar online discipleship programs have been created for believers located in places where a traditional missionary cannot go and provide this education in person.

In the past it was not easy for missionaries and national co-workers serving in different countries to connect and share resources online. In 2024, IT members from several countries worked very hard to create a safe, global online platform where missionaries from the Americas, Africa, Asia and Europe could collaborate and share ministry expertise. This platform ensures that everyone has access to the excellent resources available for church planting, regardless of where they are from or where they work.

PROTECTING THE WORK AND THE WORKERS

Besides serving Ethnos360 missionaries, IT specialists are dedicated to the security of students in training, interns, volunteers and those who partner with Ethnos360 financially. The IT team provides new tools



1980s

Personal computers become mainstream.



1991

Tim Berners-Lee releases files describing his idea for the “World-Wide Web.” The internet has enabled an increasing number of missionaries.



1992

50th anniversary of NTM.

that focus internally on the work being done; they also safeguard the organization from those outside the organization looking to attack our systems.

Cybercriminals, like those who tried to steal from Benjamin and Missy, actively seek security weak points to exploit. These kinds of attacks can cause outages that disrupt missionary care, training, finance operations, communication and donor engagement. Missionaries' livelihoods depend on these systems being in operation. Reliable systems help keep missionaries equipped and supported when they need to be focused on their ministry roles. Ethnos360 IT blocks multiple hacking attempts each day which, if they had gone through, would have been disastrous. The dynamic team of IT workers is constantly learning how best to serve and protect their missionaries and systems.

CHALLENGES

Missionary challenges today differ from challenges of the past ... on the surface. Adapting to change and troubleshooting technology is a major part of the work of IT, a job that did not exist when Ethnos360 was founded nearly 85 years ago. However, the age-old, root challenges to mission work remain the same: shortages of labourers and resources.

Even with an unprecedented number of opportunities for those with tech skills, people simply do not know that their skills in IT can be used directly in missions. Director of IT Neil Byce says, "Each time I share the story of our vast and ever-growing IT needs, I'm met with the same reaction: surprise. People lean back, eyebrows

raised, genuinely stunned. They tell me they had no idea Ethnos360 depended so heavily on technology. The thought simply never crossed their minds that servers, cybersecurity, software development, connectivity in remote regions and the countless digital tools behind the scenes all play a vital role in global missions.

"What's even more striking is how often someone admits they never imagined that a shortage of IT personnel could slow the spread of the gospel. Yet the reality is that every Bible translation, every communication link to a remote team, every flight operation, every training center, every donor interaction—all of it relies on the quiet, unseen labour of people in IT. And once people see that picture, once they realize how deeply technology intertwines with frontline ministry, they never look at IT in missions the same way again ... and they often become a huge advocate for us."

Skilled workers are necessary but in short supply. The demand for more workers to fill these positions, both stateside and overseas, is always growing. Currently, our IT team has over 20 open roles in the USA and 11 open international positions. We are thankful for the faithful labourers who serve with us now, and we trust God to fill the major gap of labourers.

Another challenge for IT missionaries serving in support roles is that they often experience difficulties as they raise funding to do their ministry full-time. Churches and individuals don't always recognize how vital these roles are to sustain church-planting efforts.

Part of being in the world of nonprofit missions means dependence on God for meeting needs through His people,

→ IT team members from around the USA gathered at the Home Office for their annual meeting.



Photos by Joel Potter



1998

Google launched.



2007

Apple releases iPhone, transforming mobile computing.



2017

75th anniversary of the mission, changes name from NTM to Ethnos360 in the USA and Ethnos Canada in Canada.

including financial needs. Software programs, data storage and equipment need to be financed. We praise God for His provision.

Dave Brendle said, “Our IT team has always found ourselves facing major challenges. . . . However, God has always brought in the right people just in time to meet these needs. God continues to provide the next generation of workers to meet the challenges of the future.” The demand is increasing for people to join the mission work of providing IT support that enables more churches to be planted.

THE FUTURE OF IT IN ETHNOS360

What is on the horizon for information technology at Ethnos360, and how will it help with church planting?

AI (artificial intelligence) talk has taken over the conversation in the tech world lately because it is impacting everyone. Many people have already integrated AI into their daily lives for working, cooking, managing their schedule, taking care of the home and more. This powerful tool continues to develop rapidly.

Careful stewardship of time, resources and missionary information is the hallmark of the Ethnos360 IT team. This is shown in their use of AI. One example is that they have set up firewalls with AI-integrated smart protection tools. Our team has set these up carefully so that they work alongside us to keep our systems and information safe from cyberattacks.

People have begun to ask questions about how this technology will affect missions: “Now with AI, you won’t need people to do Bible translation anymore, right?” AI will never replace the need for human labourers to share God’s amazing story of Creation, sin and redemption through Christ. AI doesn’t operate through love. It doesn’t bond and build trust with people. It won’t cry with you in times of tragedy or feast with you in times of celebration. Shared human experiences give missionaries a deeper connection with the people to whom they are ministering.

We rely on God’s sovereignty and guidance, using tools like AI only where they can safely and thoughtfully support the ministry.

TEAM GROWTH

A series of projects is underway to standardize the tools and systems used at all our US centres in Arizona, Florida, Missouri, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin; the goal is to strengthen unity by reducing downtime. A connected, unified system makes for better synergy between team members and technologies. Moving toward a cloud-based system reduces physical maintenance needs for servers

and enables access to resources anywhere in the world.

Our IT team will continue to adapt and grow to ensure our efficiency, effectiveness and security as a mission, and as key ministry roles are filled, the team will be able to launch exciting new initiatives for our different departments. In a world of ever-changing technology, we trust God for our future.

FINAL THOUGHTS

From a missionary’s first steps in training to the complex tasks of language learning, Bible translation and church planting, our IT professionals ensure that every stage of ministry is empowered by reliable, secure and innovative technology. Though IT is often behind the scenes, its impact is front and center.

A thriving church for every people. That has been the heartbeat of the Ethnos360 IT team since the beginning. Each day, barriers are removed—education, communication, translation and literacy barriers—and tools are provided by the ministry of the IT team that will continue to accelerate the Great Commission while relying on God’s provision.

People like Dave, Neil and many others on the IT team support the ministries of stateside workers like Andy and Keith and international church planters like Wayne and Benjamin and Missy. God gives each of us experiences, opportunities, dreams and skills so that, being empowered by His Holy Spirit, we can partner with Him and the local church to bring the gospel to the ends of the earth.



Contributing Writer

Megan Bartlett graduated from Liberty University in 2024 with a bachelor’s degree in Business Administration: Communications and began interning with Ethnos360. Now, as a volunteer, she continues to serve in the Communications department at the Home Office in Sanford, Florida. It is Megan’s joy to be a part of reaching the unreached by bringing awareness to the need for missionaries and encouraging others to take part. She is supported by her home church, First Baptist Church of Barron, Wisconsin.

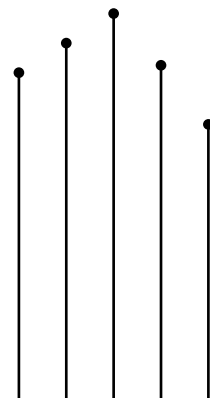


2025

To date, 111 New Testament translations completed.

2026

86 New Testaments in progress; all missionaries use computers for work.



EMPOWER CHURCH PLANTING THROUGH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

IMAGINE THIS

Imagine living your entire life without access to God's Word. For billions of people around the world, that is still the reality. Have you ever asked yourself what it will take to reach them? Behind every Bible translation and thriving church is a network of support — and you can be key in making that happen.

Reaching the last, the least and the lost isn't easy. It requires courage, commitment and — believe it or not — information technology (IT). In today's world, missionaries in remote locations can remain connected with the rest of the world, but only if they have the technology to make it happen. IT tools, like computers and computer programs, aren't just a convenience; they are a lifeline for missionaries serving in isolation. They enable missionaries to learn languages, disciple believers and communicate with co-workers across continents.

Ethnos360 reaches people who do not have access to a thriving church, and we can't do it alone. You can play a key role in carrying out the Great Commission by choosing to **pray, give or serve**, specifically in Information Technology. Your involvement helps missionaries stay connected, equipped and encouraged as they bring God's Word to those who have never heard.

PRAY ABOUT IT CHALLENGES

Prayer is powerful, and it's essential to pray about the information technology that keeps Ethnos360 missionaries connected and equipped. Our IT team faces unique challenges that impact the entire mission team, and we need your prayers.

God reminds us in James 5:16b: "The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much." Your prayers help strengthen the unseen

IT framework that enables the whole mission body to serve together. Our IT staff regularly pray together about these needs, and we've seen God provide wisdom and protection in many challenging situations.

Join us in prayer for the following:

- **Staffing:** Pray that God would direct skilled IT professionals to join the team and help carry the growing workload.
- **Cybersecurity:** Pray that God would protect our systems and missionaries from attacks and give wisdom as we strengthen defenses.
- **Wisdom:** Pray that God will give our team insight and creativity as we tackle increasingly complex technology issues in a rapidly changing world.
- **Funding:** Pray that God would meet the financial needs we have for critical upgrades and tools that enable church planting and missionary support.

Will you pray specifically for Ethnos360 IT as we keep missionaries connected and the gospel moving forward?

GIVE TOWARD IT NEEDS

Technology has been essential in speeding up our efforts of church planting and Bible translation worldwide. We have increased our use of technology, and costs have also increased.

Technology is the unseen framework that keeps Ethnos360 missionaries connected, equipped and protected as they serve around the world. When you give to the Ethnos360 IT General Giving Project, you're helping make that possible.

Your gift will help modernize outdated systems, strengthen connectivity for missionaries in remote areas, protect identities and data, and provide essential tools that enable Bible translation and discipleship.

OUR IT TEAM HAS:

23 open positions
across the US

11 open international
positions

→ IT team
in prayer



TECHNOLOGY IS THE UNSEEN FRAMEWORK that keeps Ethnos360 missionaries connected, equipped and protected as they serve around the world.

In 2026, your support will enable us:

- To strengthen defenses against cyberthreats at our US locations as well as threats against the irreplaceable data of our missionaries worldwide.
- To replace aging server hardware that keeps our systems running.
- To expand IT support for our retirees, honouring their years of faithful service.

Your gifts help missionaries stay connected and equipped to share God's Word with those who have never heard. Will you join us in meeting these urgent IT needs? Give today to see technology help us reach the unreached.

SERVE AS AN IT MISSIONARY

Is God leading you to missions service? Ethnos360 needs people with a wide range of professional IT skills to help keep the mission moving forward.

Currently, our IT team has 23 open positions across the United States and 11 open international positions.

As technology becomes increasingly vital to Bible translation and church planting, the need for more staff continues to grow. We are praying for individuals with experience in these areas:

- Cybersecurity
- Networking
- Hardware and Software
- Application Development and Administration
- Databases
- Website Administration
- Help Desk Support
- Project Management
- IT Leadership

When you serve, you become part of the story to see a thriving church for every people. We have both on-site and remote opportunities to serve as a career member, associate member, volunteer or intern.

For IT volunteers, we generally need a commitment to serve for six months or more because of the onboarding needed to get familiar with our technical systems. Ethnos360 IT in the USA accepts volunteers who can commit a minimum of 14 hours per week. This allows our partnership to be effective and sustainable.

Is God calling you to take the next step? Learn more about specific opportunities on our IT webpage go.ethnos.ca/mag-it.

—Neil Byce
Director of IT
Ethnos360 (USA)



← Neil Byce



↓ Sean Martin and John Reeve hold down the fort for Ethnos Canada



SERVING IN IT IN CANADA

While our U.S. colleagues share how IT strengthens global ministry, the Canadian picture is more modest—but growing. Currently, our Canadian office is served by just two part-time team members who help coordinate technology needs across the ministry. To meet day-to-day demands, we also rely on trusted third-party service providers for areas like infrastructure, security and systems support.

This model has allowed us to stay operational and responsive, but as ministry opportunities expand, so do the demands on our systems and people. We are seeing increasing needs in communication, data management, cybersecurity and digital tools that support Canadian missionaries around the world.

Looking ahead, we are prayerfully exploring how to expand our capacity—both through additional personnel and strengthened systems—so we can better serve missionaries and the churches that support them. As in the early days of mission technology, we trust God to provide the right people and resources at the right time.

Questions? Email connect@ethnos.ca

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Image by
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PRAY Jesus Alone Can Straighten Us



Benjamin and Missy Hatton, with their teammates Bart and Emily Allen, minister among the Amdu people of Papua New Guinea. The Amdu church is maturing as the Holy Spirit works in the hearts of our brothers and sisters. The Hattons witnessed evidence of this in several believers' lives recently.

"One believer who has struggled over the years to demonstrate that he has a clear understanding of how a person can be made right with God has encouraged our hearts recently with the clearest comments about his confidence in Christ alone for his salvation. He said in one meeting, 'If someone thinks they can straighten out their own life and become

acceptable to God, then the Holy Spirit won't come and live in them. Only those people who declare that it is true that Jesus alone can straighten us are accepted by God and His good Spirit comes and lives in them. I say it is true that Jesus alone can straighten us.'

"There are a number of people like this man who enjoy our meetings and come regularly but struggle to communicate that they have a clear understanding of their helplessness before God. Pray for these people that the eyes of their understanding would be opened and that they would express a clear testimony of faith in Jesus."
— Benjamin and Missy Hatton,
Papua New Guinea

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PRAISE Exceedingly Much Hope



When Paulina, a young mother, became very sick and was nearing the end of her life, she said, “I trust Jesus, my Lord-Owner-Boss. If He wants me to get better, I’ll get better, but if He wants me to go to be with Him, then I will. I’m good with whatever He wants.” She passed away two days later.

Canadians Merrill and Teresa share that “as the believing family put her into the hole and covered her with dirt, they began to imagine her chatting with Jesus. They were all excited about that possibility. And then they mentioned Enoch and Abraham,

along with the disciples, and many others, that she was possibly visiting with them too. This burial became a wonderful celebration of life! Suddenly everyone was saying, ‘Truly we are those who live with exceedingly much hope!’ Yes, there was a great party celebrating their huge hope in Christ.”

Praise the Lord for the hope that comes from trusting in Him. Praise Him that this people group now has Scripture and Bible lessons in their language in the form of radio broadcasts, podcasts and printed Bibles.

— *Merrill and Teresa Dyck, Latin America*

PRAY

My Fire Had Gone Out



Felix, an elder of the Dinangat church, shares of how God worked in his heart when missionary Ralf, who Felix says is “like a brother to me,” came for a visit in October 2025. “[Years ago] through the missionary team, I heard God’s story of salvation for the very first time—and I understood that Jesus died on the cross for me personally. I believed and became a child of God. For several years now, Lukas and I have been serving as elders of our church.

“[Missionaries] Ralf, Elli and Mimi came back to Dinangat for a few weeks. Before we wanted to continue with the translation work, Ralf,—as always—first asked: ‘How are you? How is the church doing?’ And he quickly noticed that I was not doing well.

“My wife had a baby in August, even though she’s in her mid-40s. Our nights were short. I was the only one preaching on Sundays. ... And I had lost sight of Jesus. I was living more focused on my circumstances than on His strength.

“I sensed my inner fire was low — almost out.

“The next day Ralf worked with Lukas [the other church elder] on 2 Peter. And it didn’t take long for him to see that Lukas was struggling with the same thing I was: he was tired,

worn out, dried up on the inside.

“That first Sunday I preached. I stood up front — but I knew I had little to give the church. Ralf offered to preach the second Sunday. ... Ralf preached about the fire of our faith. About our relationship with God. He spoke about a fire that goes out when we don’t tend to it.

“That sermon hit me straight in the heart. When Ralf sat down after preaching, I stood up. With teary eyes I confessed to the church: ‘My fire is out.’ Many things had brought me to that point, but the most important one was that in my daily life I had stopped looking to Jesus.

“As I spoke, I saw people nodding all across the room. Many were in the same place.

“God showed us grace. ... [A]s Lukas and I continued taking turns working with Ralf on the translation, God used many of the very verses we were translating to encourage us personally. God is so patient with us and so faithful. Please keep praying for us and for the church — that our fire would burn clearly and brightly again.”

— *From elder Felix via Ralf and Elli Schlegel, Papua New Guinea*



Photo by Joel Potter

Help bring the Good News to the Inuit

The June 2025 Ethnos Magazine introduced the new Canadian Arctic work among the Inuit. Ministry in the Arctic is costly and requires careful research and planning. Before missionaries can move into remote communities, a Ministry Opportunity Assessment must be completed.

Your generosity will help raise the \$115,500 needed to assess nine Arctic villages. Once the assessment is finished, missionaries can be strategically placed—ultimately leading to a clear presentation of Truth in these communities.



go.ethnos.ca/mag-arctic-canada-moa



Brazil Hangar Project

“Praise the Lord the first literacy class has finally begun!” The team among the K people of Brazil is bringing the gift of reading — opening the door to the Good News for thousands of K people. Two new families have just joined the team as they prepare to translate Scripture and teach foundational Bible lessons.

But with the deadline looming for losing the current hangar space, the K team and seven others will have no R66 helicopter service to sustain them in their isolated locations. The solution? Build a hangar. Until full payment is made on the land, though, construction cannot continue.

***Can you help reach
the people of Brazil?***

Go to
go.ethnos.ca/mag-brazil-hangar
for details and to help with
the project.



PRAY I Want to Tell Everyone



“As we worked through [Bible lessons for the Turu people], God began opening eyes and hearts.

“One friend, Fedius, said, ‘No one has ever shared God’s Talk like this. I was always told God was angry and that I had to work hard to appease Him. But God’s Talk says something so different. He knew I couldn’t do enough good, so He sent Someone to take the punishment for my sin. He asks me to trust this plan only. I want to do this. And I want to share this talk with my wife and friends.’

“Another friend, Fodius, shared, ‘God worked hard to give us this specific talk and that’s why you and I must work so hard to translate and teach it well. This talk that says His plan for sending Someone to take my “heavies” (punishment) is enough to make me right with Him. And once

I am right with Him, He stays with me and gives me the strength to live rightly. This is such a light talk to hear. I want to tell everyone.’

“[Then,] unprompted, he stood before a large group of Turu people and shared how God has given us His Talk and shown the way to be made right with Him, ... making the point that what God provides is what we need to trust in.”

Praise the Lord that “God is opening hearts to His Word,” and “Turu believers are beginning to speak God’s Story to their own people.”

— *Ryan and April Beck, Asia Pacific*



JOIN THE PRAYER TEAM
go.ethnos.ca/mag-pray

PRAY Longing for Help to Arrive



Brian and Bailey Pruett serve at Ethnos360 Aviation’s headquarters in McNeal, Arizona. “After years of hard work and prayer, our team launched a helicopter program in the Amazon. ... We have been burdened for Bruno (and his family) who has been the only pilot and mechanic in our flight program in Brazil for years. The program has grown and now has two regions and two hangars that it operates from. Needless to say, Bruno has been longing for help to arrive.” God did send help — Kyle and Whitney Coulliard and their family have moved to Brazil where Kyle has joined Bruno as a pilot.

“Presently, there is so much work to do that we cannot possibly meet the needs with our small team. There are people groups who are completely hidden from and unreached by the outside world. They have no idea who

Jesus is and no possible way to find out because the news of salvation isn’t in their language.

“Please pray with us as we work to train pilots and mechanics for this daunting task. Pray as we try to build up this flight program in Brazil, that God would provide the resources and connections that we need to support our church planters.” The team will need to purchase property to build a hangar to house their R66 helicopter; pray that God will supply the funds.

“Finally, pray that God will send people to fill all the positions on the team that we need!”

— *Brian and Bailey Pruett, Ethnos360 Aviation, Arizona*



HELP FUND THIS PROJECT
go.ethnos.ca/mag-brazil-hangar

CONNECT WITH YOUR MISSIONARIES



MATT & JOAN GUNTHER

& Lilith

Enroute to Papua New Guinea

Sent by Cecil Lake Christian Fellowship,
Cecil Lake, BC

We have had the privilege of serving in the training program at Ethnos Canada for the last two decades. We get to teach about language learning, Bible teaching, cooking from scratch, living with alternate (and sometimes primitive) technologies and other interesting and perhaps not so interesting things about being a cross-cultural church planter. More importantly, though, we get the chance to disciple the next generation of missionaries towards a closer walk with Jesus, to challenge them to take up their cross daily and to live life by the Spirit of God within them rather than by their own fleshly desires.



ethnos.ca/matthew-and-joan

Our desire is to continually remember the millions of people from thousands of different language groups who have never had a chance to hear the good news of the Gospel. It motivates us in our work as missionary trainers, and it has motivated us to accept an opportunity to serve our overseas coworkers for a year in Papua New Guinea by taking on the ministry of Guest House Managers at one of our support centres there. We invite you to pray for us as we embark on this journey and to pray with us that God would raise up more and more men, women and families who would respond to the missionary call and commit to taking God's word to the places it has never yet gone!



ADRIAN & JOHANNA SIMPSON

Enroute to Papua New Guinea

Home Church: Rock Mills Fellowship
Baptist Church, Flesherton, ON

Johanna grew up in southern Germany, while Adrian was raised on a family farm near the Ethnos Canada campus in Durham, Ontario. We met while attending Word of Life Bible Institute in Owen Sound and were married in 2013. Since then, we have made our home in central Ontario (near Dundalk) and have been actively involved at Rock Mills Fellowship Baptist Church, serving the church body in various

capacities, including youth, music and sound ministries.

Professionally, Adrian's background is in agriculture, sales and industrial facility operations, and Johanna's in market research.

Johanna has carried a burden for people who do not yet have access to the gospel or Scripture in their own language since Bible school. Although overseas missions was not initially something Adrian felt led toward, the possibility continued to resurface over the years. In 2024, after learning about a support role in Papua New Guinea, we began exploring the opportunity.

A vision trip to Papua New Guinea in November 2025 brought greater clarity. During this time, God especially challenged Adrian to let go of insecurities related to his identity and instead fully rest in who God has fashioned him to be. This allowed him the confidence to step away from the career God blessed him with for many years, knowing God will continue to provide. The question shifted from "Why go?" to evaluating whether we had valid reasons not to go. In that process, we recognized that God had arranged many details in our lives over the years to take care of things that might have kept us from going. In addition, we also saw firsthand the pressing need for additional support staff in PNG, and realized that our skills

and experience could help fill some of the gaps of the team there.

This ultimately led us to commit to a 4-year term as Associate members of Ethnos Canada to serve in needed practical support roles which will help enable church planting teams to focus on gospel ministry.

What we'll be doing:

ADRIAN will be part of the **Technical Services Department**. In a country with limited infrastructure and few trained tradespeople, he will help meet construction and maintenance needs at support centers and in tribal locations. Part of his job will also be to share practical skills with PNG nationals who work on the base.

JOHANNA will serve in two support roles:

As a **Records & Information Manager**, she will help develop and launch a digital records and filing system so teams across PNG can access the resources they need for their ministry. She will also serve part-time as a **teacher**, supporting missionary families by teaching a foreign language course to high school students.



ethnos.ca/adrian-and-johanna



JADON & BAYLEY ABRIEL

Monty & Valerie

Enroute to Mexico

Sent by Charlottetown Bible Chapel, PEI

We met at Charlottetown Bible Chapel in 2019 and were married two years later. After an opportunity to visit the Ethnos Canada campus in 2021, we had a clearer understanding of the big picture of missions and realized the great need for workers. We spent the next years praying and seeking out wisdom from our church, and felt the Lord was then directing us to pursue full-time missions. In 2023, we left our jobs to dedicate our time to Bible study and missionary training. In December 2025, we completed our missionary training, and we are now pursuing a church-planting role in Mexico. We continue to seek to serve God however He sees fit and be a part of building His Church as He leads.



ethnos.ca/jadon-and-bayley

GO What is holding you back from pursuing missions?

I am a second-year student at Nipawin Bible College in Saskatchewan. Over Christmas break, I had the opportunity to travel to South Asia on a two-week Ethnos Encounter Trip (EncounterTrip.com) to better understand what missions looks like overseas.

While there, we travelled through the mountains and visited local places of worship shaped by Buddhism and Hinduism. Many people live in constant effort to gain merit for a better next life through reincarnation. Their devotion is striking—hours spent painting, praying, burning incense, and performing rituals. I saw prayer flags hung in windy places so prayers could be “carried” to heaven, and bells rung to get the attention of their gods.

Yet, through all of this, the spiritual darkness and lack of hope was evident.

I learned that, on average, it can take eight years of hearing the gospel and seeing a Christian’s life before someone comes to faith—and many have never even heard the name of Jesus once.

This opened my eyes. As a Canadian, I have access to the Bible and the freedom to study it, yet I often live as though eternity isn’t real. But it is. Real people, with real souls, are separated from God without Christ.

And how can they believe in someone they have never heard of?

As a Christian, what I do matters for eternity. I am called to make disciples. It is a privilege that God would use someone like me to make His name known—He simply asks for obedience.

I have the opportunity of sharing the great hope that I have with lost people whether I am called to do that abroad or across the street!

This call is far greater than any career or possession. But when I asked myself, *What is holding me back?* I thought of my family, my comfort, my lack of ability, and lack of finances.

But these are not valid reasons to not answer the call.

- God has blessed me with a family whom I dearly love, and they love and know God personally, but other people don’t!
- I won’t take material things with me when I die, so I shouldn’t be concerned about anything material.
- God equips those He calls.
- Lastly, God designed the Church to work together—I got to see Him provide the money needed for my trip through my church community.



So what is holding *you* back?

Jesus said, “For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul?” (Matthew 16:26).

Let’s stop making excuses. Let’s join Him in His mission to reach the world.

— Alicia Reimer,
Student at Nipawin Bible College



FIND A TRIP THAT’S RIGHT FOR YOU

go.ethnos.ca/mag-short-term-trips

CONSIDER THIS

AM I WILLING TO COUNT FORKS?

God impressed this question on my heart during a recent study of Ezra. After serving with Ethnos360 in Southeast Asia Mainland for 18 years, God now has me in an unexpected ministry far behind what many consider to be the forefront of missions. Many see the forefront of missions as a remote place in another country, where the missionary must learn a different culture and language to teach the Bible.

My current ministry is serving in the Information Technology (IT) division of Ethnos360 as an administrative assistant. My daily work involves planning meetings, onboarding new IT staff, taking notes and organizing essential information. Sometimes my heart aches to be in Asia again, teaching God's Truth in the heart language of my friends there. Sometimes I wonder about my daily tasks in this role when they are so different from what God originally called me to do.

The question about counting forks came when I noticed in Ezra that God specifically named and called some servants to do behind-the-scenes work to facilitate His worship.

Ezra led the Jewish exiles back to Jerusalem from captivity in Babylon to rebuild the temple. His God-inspired record names and counts all groups who were a part of re-establishing worship in the temple. These people would make it possible for the nation of Israel to worship God in the way He specified.

God stirred up their spirits to go and rebuild the temple (Ezra 1:5). Ezra includes many different roles in his list: priests, Levites and temple servants (Ezra 2:36-70). The priests and some Levites could be considered on the forefront of temple service. The priests offered sacrifices,

taught the Law and judged the people. Some Levites assisted the priests, purified objects and led worship through music (Nehemiah 8:7-8, 1 Chronicles 23:3-5, 28-32).

However, I noticed that the Bible also records the names of Levites serving in less prominent ways in the temple worship. These Levites serving in behind-the-scenes roles were an important and necessary part of worshipping the Most High God in the way He commanded.

COUNTING FORKS AND GUARDING GATES

Some Levites were “in charge of the serving utensils, being required to count them when they brought them in or took them out” (1 Chronicles 9:28 AMP). Their job was to do a daily count of the utensils, like the meat forks, shovels and bowls used in the sacrifices. Some had the job of counting forks every day!

Others prepared the food used in worship. It says “Mattithiah ... was entrusted with the responsibility for baking the offering bread” (1 Chronicles 9:31 NIV). This was not just a random assignment: Mattithiah was entrusted with this job of baking the bread used in worship, day after day.

Other Levites were gatekeepers who were “in charge of the gates of the house of the Lord ... as guards” (1 Chronicles 9:23 ESV). This included taking turns being stationed to guard it at night. Their responsibility was watching—to safeguard and protect the treasures within God's temple.

Regardless of whether these servants of God counted forks, baked bread or guarded gates, their purpose was

→ Marie Modin, entrusted with
finance office tasks

Tory Weiss, Wanda Hull, and Caroline Elter,
entrusted with housekeeping tasks

Roland Shafer Jr, entrusted with
IT infrastructure tasks

Luke Myers, entrusted with
groundskeeping tasks

Tamara See, entrusted with
administrative assistant tasks



the same: to make sure people worshipped God as He designed.

I was encouraged that God recorded the names of His servants who did these behind-the-scenes jobs in the temple because so many of the tasks that my co-workers and I do each day in our IT roles are similar.

Just like God noticed these daily temple tasks, He sees the daily support tasks we do so that people around the world can worship Him: writing computer programs, setting up email accounts, configuring network equipment, protecting against cyberattacks and helping missionaries with computer questions. God also sees my co-workers in the finance office who process donations and those in the personnel department who update records and assist new members of the team.

Without these tasks of “counting forks,” our missionaries would not have the finances or computer resources needed for them to help plant thriving churches. God uses the people who are doing those tasks to be a part of His glory being seen in all people groups.

CHOSEN AND ENTRUSTED

Not only does the Bible name these roles, but it also says that King David and his officials specifically chose the people for their temple roles (Ezra 8:20). They were chosen by God-appointed leaders for their roles of service, just like our missionaries are appointed by local churches to serve. Today we often say that those chosen by the church for ministry are “called to ministry.” These Levites were “called” to count forks, bake bread and guard gates. Today support missionaries are called

to serve in many different operational ministries like finance, information technology, maintenance, communications, MK education, member care, food services, and mobilization.

The Bible also explains that the gatekeepers were chosen and entrusted by David and Samuel to guard the temple and its treasures (1 Chronicles 9:22–26). Their obedience was essential to people worshipping God in His temple.

Likewise, when our finance team processes donations and prepares audit reports and when our IT team protects Bible translations and personnel records from cyberattacks, they are playing crucial roles in advancing the worship of God among the nations.

Isn't it encouraging to know that God uses these unseen tasks to bring glory to Himself? He has chosen and entrusted people for these unique support roles so that worship can flourish worldwide.

God calls people in different seasons of life to use their gifts in support roles. Some He calls after missions training, others after serving overseas and others even mid-career or in retirement.

How has God chosen and entrusted you? Are you willing to count forks for God's glory? Will you step into the role He's asking of you by serving behind the scenes? Is He leading you to support those behind the scenes with prayer and finances so that His name is worshipped among the nations?

—*Tamara See*

Administrative Assistant for Ethnos360 IT



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