



2020 *Prayer* *Guide*

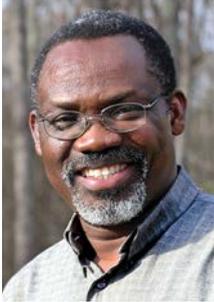
SIM
By Prayer

2020
Prayer
Guide

Introduction

*In the morning, O LORD, you will hear my voice;
in the morning I will order my prayer to you
and eagerly watch.*

Psalm 5:3



How central is prayer to our lives and our ministries? We must all answer this vital question as we seek to work in a world that is increasingly hostile to the gospel.

Imagine the psalmist, David, who, in the first few verses of Psalm 5, cries out passionately for God to hear his prayers: “In the morning, O LORD, you will hear my voice.”

The world into which we are called to serve continues to change rapidly. Many places that used to be receptive or even friendly to the gospel are now antagonistic. Countries where SIM workers used to proclaim Jesus freely are now restricting our access. Many communities that welcomed our workers in the past are now suspicious of those who come in the name of Him who hung on the cross for them. The places we work are ravaged by terrorism, religious antagonism and outright persecution. In some locations, our teams are now restricted to city limits because it is too dangerous to go further.

In a world like this, what do we do? *We pray*. As SIM’s motto says, the only way is *by prayer*. We pray for courage in a world that opposes all that is righteous and godly. We pray for courage in a world of terrorism and government scrutiny. We even pray to flourish and grow in this kind of world. Compelled by the love of God and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we pray for God to help us make disciples of Jesus Christ in communities where He is least known.

We would not do this unless we served a God who answers prayer. And we cannot expect answers to prayers we haven’t prayed.

Our commitment to prayer leads us to the annual production of this Prayer Guide, which informs our prayers for one another. I hope the guide will help you and your teams make personal and corporate prayer the living heartbeat of our organisation.

As you pray through the 2020 Guide, you will learn more about the diverse landscape of SIM's calling and ministries. Please join with our supporters and partners who, like David, call upon the Lord.

Let us cry to our God with passionate faith, in the morning and at night, for the sake of those who still live and die without God's good news, and for the sake of all who are called to take that good news to them. Let us say, like the psalmist, "In the morning, O LORD, you will hear my voice; in the morning I will order my prayer to You and eagerly watch."

Let us call on the Lord, watch for his answers, and trustfully, by faith, continue with Him to the nations.

Joshua Bogunjoko
SIM International Director

Prayer Calendar

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Foreward

Welcome to the 2020 Prayer Guide. The purpose of this prayer mobilisation tool is to inform, inspire and invite readers like you to pray for SIM ministries all around the world.

The information for each context includes that ministry team's vision, types of ministry, prayer points and descriptions of communities where Christ is least known. The phrase "where Christ is least known" is lifted from SIM's Purpose and Mission Statement.

Please share the 2020 Prayer Guide freely and broadly with all who would like to join us in praying for what God is doing through SIM.

Purpose and Mission

Convinced that
no one should live and die
without hearing God's good news,
we believe that He has called us
to make disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ
in communities where He is least known.

Therefore, compelled by God's great love and empowered by the Holy Spirit...

- We cross barriers to proclaim the crucified and risen Christ, expressing his love and compassion among those who live and die without Him.
- We make disciples who will trust and obey Jesus, and become part of Christ-centred churches.
- We work together with churches to fulfil God's mission across cultures locally and globally.
- We facilitate the participation in cross-cultural ministry of those whom God is calling.

Vision

The vision of SIM is to see
a witness to Christ's love where He is least known,
disciples of Jesus expressing God's love in their
communities,
and Christ-centred churches among all peoples.

By faith we see...

in the world:

A vibrant testimony to the gospel through character, word,
and action among communities where currently Jesus is
least known.

Followers of Jesus living out the gospel in unity and in the
power of the Holy Spirit, making disciples who trust Him,
obey Him, and play a full part in church life.

Churches serving their communities and reaching out with
the gospel locally and globally.

in SIM:

A community growing in faith, in obedience to Jesus, and in
ministry competence.

Workers crossing barriers with the gospel, being and making
disciples of Jesus, expressing his love and compassion.

Multi-ethnic and multi-skilled teams serving together in love
and harmony.

Courageous leaders investing in the development of others
for life transforming ministries.

Effective partnerships with Christ-centred churches and
organisations facilitating the spread of the Gospel.

in eternity:

The redeemed from all tribes, languages, peoples, and
nations worshipping the Living God.

SIM Core Values

We are a Gospel community that is:

- 1 Committed to Biblical Truth**
We are committed to biblical truth and joyfully affirm historic, evangelical Christianity. With courage, we declare to the nations the good news of new life in Jesus Christ.
- 2 Dependent on God**
“By prayer” and in faith, we depend on God for the provision of all of our needs. We will demonstrate diligence, integrity, sharing and accountability in cultivating and using the resources God provides.
- 3 A People of Prayer**
Prayer is foundational in our life and ministry. “By prayer” we praise God, seek His direction, request resources and call upon the Holy Spirit to empower our ministries.
- 4 Mission-Focused**
We are committed to the urgent and unfinished task of making disciples of Jesus Christ in all nations. In doing this, we desire to work in loving, trusting, interdependent relationships with churches and other partners who share our vision.
- 5 Church-Centred**
We are committed to being a mission organisation that establishes, nurtures and equips churches to be an expression of Christ in their communities and reach out with cross-cultural, missional vision and action.

6 Concerned About Human Needs
We humbly acknowledge that the ultimate human need is to know God. We also believe that He has called us to carry out compassionate, holistic service in this broken world by alleviating suffering, fostering development and affecting change in society.

7 A Christlike Community
We desire to be a transformational community dedicated to becoming like Christ in love, servanthood, holiness and obedience to the Father. We believe that following Christ's example means sacrifice, hardship at times and perhaps even death.

8 A Learning, Growing Community
We believe in the worth and giftedness of each person in SIM and of those we seek to serve. As enduring disciplines, we practice giving and receiving discipleship, life-long learning, consultative leadership, mutual development and training.

9 Strengthened Through Diversity
We are intentionally interdenominational, international and multi-ethnic. We believe we will become more effective in ministry as we incorporate the richness of cultural diversity in SIM and celebrate our oneness in Christ.

10 Responsive to Our Times
We will respond with creativity and courage to evolving needs and opportunities under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. In order to ensure they are effective and relevant, our ministries, priorities and structures are subject to ongoing evaluation and adaptation.

Angola



Vision

In a culturally, linguistically and economically diverse environment, SIM Angola partners with churches to make disciples of Christ in communities where He is least known, training and mentoring individuals and groups through diverse ministries, including agriculture, healthcare and teaching God's Word.

Ministry

- Agricultural development
- Healthcare, including surgical care, rural clinics and obstetric fistula care
- Disciple-making
- VaNyaneka Bible translation and literacy programme
- Theological education for local pastors and church leaders
- Training pastors and church leaders in youth engagement and ministry

*Declare his glory
among the nations,
his marvelous
deeds among all
peoples. For great
is the LORD and
most worthy of
praise; he is to be
feared above all
gods.*

PSALM 96:3,4

Communities where Christ is least known

Ovangambwe

The Ovangambwe, a sub-group of VaNyaneka, live in southwestern Angola. Their lives revolve around keeping cattle. There has been resistance to the gospel, especially amongst the elders, who say they are too old and set in their ways to change. One church and three preaching points are established among this people group.

Ovamwila

The Ovamwila, also a sub-group of VaNyaneka, are largely rural subsistence farmers and often live remotely. In recent years, many Ovamwila have come to Christ; however, the majority have not heard the good news. A project to translate the Bible is in a very early stage.



MuCubal and Muhimba

Living in the southwestern region of Angola, the majority of MuCubal and Muhimba live without the gospel. They are semi-nomadic, raising cattle and goats. The region in which they live often deals with drought and hardship. Efforts are underway to send medical personnel to this region.



Pray for

- continued good working relationships with Angolan church leaders in each area of ministry.
- wisdom for how to prioritise and respond to many demands on time and resources.
- additional personnel, particularly in the ministries of health, theological education and youth ministry.
- more workers to train local churches and begin new outreach to the youth of Angola.

Australia



Vision

Through grace and dependence on God, we facilitate more people, prayer and funds towards making disciples of Christ in communities where He is least known.

Ministry

- To follow Jesus in his mission, both in Australia and overseas
- To inspire, challenge and partner with churches, in order for them to fulfil God's local, cross-cultural and global mission
- To inspire, mobilise and assist in the preparation of workers to effectively cross barriers and make Christ known
- As stewards, to provide efficient and effective support services to facilitate churches, missionaries, donors and prayer partners to do their works of service
- To promote prayer and opportunities for workers and funding in order to serve vast numbers of people who are least reached

"The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

MATTHEW 9:37, 38

Communities where Christ is least known

Children and youth

Traditionally, a Christian nation with freedom of religion, Australia is becoming increasingly secularised. The dominant ideology has become an individualistic, New Age, pick-and-choose spirituality, with no accountability. While roughly two-thirds of Australians identify themselves in some way as Christian, only eight per cent regularly attend church. Antagonism is increasing, especially in the media, towards the Church and its perceived intolerance and authoritarianism.



Immigrants, refugees, overseas students, tourists

With 28 per cent of the population born overseas and more than 1.3 million university students from overseas, Australia is one of the most culturally diverse nations in the world. These immigrants and students have brought a variety of religions with them. However in some cases, they can be more responsive to the gospel than those remaining in their birth countries. Communities where Christ is least known include Jews, Malays, Sinhalese, Arabs, Iraqis, Turks, Japanese, Thai, Khmers, Bosnians, Persians, Kurds, Afghans, Hazaras and Pashtuns.



Pray for

- Australian Christians to be bold witnesses, demonstrating the love of Christ to those who oppose them, and to be revived once again in their faith so they can cross barriers to make Christ known.
- all at SIM Australia to follow Jesus closely and be empowered for effective and fruitful work as we facilitate more people, prayer and funds for Christ's mission.
- sending and supporting churches to increase their engagement beyond current missionaries.
- SIM Australia, as we facilitate churches in cross-cultural mission.
- the Lord of the Harvest to raise up more churches and workers for communities where Christ is least known, including the more volatile regions.
- more non-traditional missionaries (e.g. self-funders, those in secular employment, business people or university graduates returning to their home countries) and openness and creativity among SIM teams in Australia and overseas.

Bangladesh

Prayer Notes

2



Vision

We desire to see people from all backgrounds loving the Creator with all their hearts, their neighbours as themselves and their communities.

Ministry

- Partnering with local people for outreach work
- Children's Uplift Programme: working with women and their children who are vulnerable or are survivors of human trafficking
- Arsenic poisoning prevention programme: providing education, filters and treatment for arsenic poisoning, a common ailment in Bangladesh
- Transformation centres: providing education opportunities, such as English language classes and primary classes for children in the slum in order to promote new development in impoverished communities
- Morningstar Children's Centre: a slum school that reaches out to poor children and their families
- Salam Training Centre: a vocational school providing trade training for young people to develop life skills
- Bible correspondence school: a distance learning school to disciple believers throughout the country

He told them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

LUKE 10:2

Communities where Christ is least known

Bengali

The Bengali are the largest ethnic community in Bangladesh, a densely populated country of more than 160 million. Bengalis are friendly and very communal.

The capital, Dhaka, is home to more than 18 million people. Floods and cyclones frequently bring suffering to this country where many already live in poverty.



Pray for

- local partners in outreach work.
- the formation of communities who love their Creator and each other.
- our workers to not grow weary but stay encouraged in their work.
- victims of human trafficking, mostly women and children, who face terrible circumstances and often lose hope that they will obtain freedom.
- a favourable relationship with the Bangladeshi government.

Benin

Prayer Notes

2



Vision

In a spirit of collaboration, we see Benin churches becoming mature, missional, dynamic, filled with disciples obedient to the Word of God, imitators of Christ, dependent on the Holy Spirit and full of compassion. In unity, these disciples of all ages serve according to their gifts for the glory of God.

Ministry

- Bible translation and literacy in nine languages
- Radio outreach across 19 different languages
- Evangelism through training and discipleship in Muslim communities
- Medical work
- Theological education
- General education
- Leadership development

*He has shown you,
O mortal, what is
good. And what
does the LORD
require of you? To
act justly and to
love mercy and to
walk humbly with
your God.*

MICAH 6:8

Communities where Christ is least known

Waama

The Waama people are located primarily in Benin's northwestern province and number around 117,000. Natitingou is their cultural centre, but a smaller group of Waama is found across the border in northern Togo.

The Waama are subsistence farmers, using basic agricultural methods. Corn, yams, bananas and peanuts are grown for personal use, and coffee, cocoa and cotton are produced mainly for export. Often, they keep cattle for their hides and manure, but the animals are almost never milked or consumed for meat. Cattle are also used in sacrifices and as marriage payments. Marriages are customarily arranged while the girl is still an infant, often to an older man with multiple wives.

The Waama follow traditional ethnic beliefs and practices, adoring many gods. They have shrines for their ancestral spirits in their family compounds, where an appointed elder makes sacrifices for the family to gain their favor. They are fiercely attached to their three-month initiation, which occurs every three years. So as not to disturb the spirits, absolute silence is expected during this period, putting them in conflict with other ethnic and religious groups in the area, especially churches which play music.

The New Testament is available in Waama, as is the "Jesus" film. There are few Waama Christians (around 2 per cent of the population), and the existing evangelical churches tend to use French or the Ditammari language. The literacy rate is below 10 per cent.



Pray for

- labourers willing to learn the Waama language and go to these communities where Christ is not known.
- key Waama believers and leaders who boldly profess Jesus and are capable of discipling others.
- literacy teachers and radio speakers for SIM broadcasts.
- God to call more Weno missionaries, evangelists and translators to join the new ministry initiative
- Yom believers as they celebrate and read the recently completed Yom Bible.

Bolivia

Prayer Notes

3



Vision

Convinced that no one should live and die without hearing God's good news, we believe that He has called us to make disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ in communities where He is least known. Therefore, compelled by God's great love, and empowered by the Holy Spirit:

- we cross barriers to proclaim the crucified and risen Christ.
- we make disciples who will trust and obey Jesus.
- we work together with churches to fulfil God's mission.
- we facilitate the participation in cross-cultural ministry of those whom God is calling.

Ministry

- Outreach and discipleship among Quechuas, Tacanas, Chiquitanos and people in the Tipnis region
- Disciple making and mission mobilisation within Bolivian churches
- Trauma healing and counselling
- Disciple making among families, children and youth
- Medical ministry to Quechua miners and farmers
- Theological education
- Staffing for Carachipampa Christian School

See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.

ISAIAH 43:19

Communities where Christ is least known

Tacana and Tipnis areas

Many villages of the Tacana people and the Tipnis region do not have a gospel witness. SIM missionaries support local pastors so that their churches will reach other communities with the gospel. Flying in small aircraft is often the only reliable way to reach villages that are frequently isolated by flood plains or unpredictable river travel. Traditional beliefs are another barrier to gospel outreach.

SIM Bolivia is looking for effective ways to address the groups' spiritual and physical needs. An SIM family is pastoring Tacana pastors. Another SIM family will join a mission partner to provide air transport and medical support, reaching remote communities with the gospel.



[HTTPS://INFOAMAZONIA.ORG](https://infoamazonia.org)

Miners of Potosí

Ask a Potosi miner, “Who rules inside the mine?” and he will tell you, “El Tio.” While miners may believe in God, they also believe that the pernicious Tio rules supreme underground, either allowing them to find minerals or keeping minerals hidden. He can protect or harm. They trust that devotion to the Tio, shown through sacrifices and offerings, will placate him, providing success and safety. Even so, miners die or are wounded in the dangerous conditions within the mines.

SIM is reaching out to miners and others in Potosi through a medical clinic, occupational therapy, English classes and community involvement, in order to begin to overcome barriers and resistance to the gospel. SIM missionaries also reach out to Potosi's professional class, which lacks an appropriate witness.



[STEPHEN CRILYSBERGHS HTTP://WWW.SCIP.BE](http://www.scip.be)

Pray for

- workers sent from God to join us in reaching those without Christ.
- Perspectives, Equipping Servants International and theological training to prepare gospel workers to reach their own people and beyond.
- churches to turn away from legalistic attitudes, embracing the gospel of grace.
- God to use SIM's medical ministry, English classes and other creative outreaches to bring people closer to Him.
- partner ministries including COPROMECA that produces Sunday school material, Mosoj Chaski radio that reaches Quechuas, and Camp Kewiña.
- teachers and staff for Carachipampa Christian School, which educates and disciples students for eternity and witnesses to the community.
- grace, unity and cultural understanding, as we live and work in multi-ethnic and multi-generational teams.

Botswana

Prayer Notes

3



Vision

By faith, we see:

- every person in Botswana having the opportunity to respond to the good news, growing in obedience to God and becoming part of a local church fellowship.
- a renewed and strong partnership with the Africa Evangelical Church (AEC) and other denominations, as SIM Botswana walks alongside them to fulfil the Great Commission.

Ministry

- Children and youth ministry
- Outreach ministry through crafts and Alpha courses
- Disciple making

And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

ROMANS 10:15

Communities where Christ is least known

Remote Area Dwellers of the Kalahari Desert

The San are considered to have the oldest culture in the world. Beautiful San rock art can be seen throughout southern Africa, where the San lived as hunter-gatherers. The San are expert hunters, using bows and poison-tipped arrows. Hunting is a collaborative exercise, and the meat is always shared among the group.

Over the past 2,000 years, the San have slowly been pushed to live in the arid sands of the Kalahari Desert by Bantu tribes and white farmers, who took the more fertile land for their crops and livestock. Today, the San find it difficult to maintain their traditional culture and lifestyle. Land that the San used for hunting is increasingly being used for grazing cattle.

In partnership with the Africa Evangelical Church, SIM has engaged with the San of the Kalahari for over 30 years. For the past 10 years, the ministry has been carried out by missionaries living in the desert. These missionaries retired in 2018, leaving a translation of the Gospel of Luke, around 90 recorded Bible stories, Sunday School material and a worship CD as their legacy.



3

Pray for

- the first Batswana SIM appointees, who are developing prayer partners and raising financial support.
- SIM leadership to develop creative ideas for helping the Batswana appointees to grow their support team.
- the local translators amongst the remote desert dwellers of the Kalahari to persevere in their ministry, now without the expatriate missionaries.
- San people to grasp the message of God's love as they listen to Bible stories in their language on donated solar-powered radios.
- the Africa Evangelical Church to catch the vision for reaching and discipling the remote desert dwellers of the Kalahari.
- children and young people to grow in their faith and apply biblical truths in their daily lives.
- people bound by animistic traditions to be set free.

Burkina Faso

Prayer Notes

4



Vision

We glorify God by making disciples of the people in Burkina Faso as we proclaim Jesus Christ and minister to human needs, in order to equip the local Church for her growth and partner with her as she ministers to those least-reached by the good news of Jesus.

Ministry

- Scripture translation and audio production
- English classes as a base for evangelism
- Evangelism and discipleship
- Medical centres
- Theological education
- Ministry to at-risk young women
- Ministry among street boys
- Community development and well drilling
- Ministries to people with disabilities

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

JOHN 1:5

Communities where Christ is least known

Internally Displaced People

While Burkina Faso was previously known for its stability, that has recently changed. Now, there is an epidemic of internally displaced people. In the last two years alone, violence has displaced more than 150,000 people from their homes. Many are living in makeshift refugee camps, but water and food supplies are scarce. Others are seeking shelter with extended family, which for many is putting already fragile financial situations under extreme stress.

In May 2019, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Human Affairs stated that the funding shortfall to feed, clothe and shelter Burkina Faso's displaced people is currently estimated at GBP 50 million. In addition, over 1,000 schools have been closed, depriving nearly 146,000 children of education.

Many of these displaced people are from Muslim communities. Pray that the violence of terrorist groups will lead many to develop an openness to the gospel. Pray that Christians and the Church will reach out to Muslim neighbours and show Christ's love. Pray for wisdom for how our workers can safely and effectively respond to this humanitarian crisis with love and the good news.

Pray for

- wisdom and discernment for SIM leadership as we respond to a deteriorating security situation.
- a change in the new trend of persecution of Christians that started in 2019. Pray that the church would stand firm and shine as a light in the darkness.
- the Church of Burkina Faso to continue to grow in maturity and to catch a missionary vision for the people around them.
- our medical ministries, which are facing significant challenges.
- our English, medical, street girl and boy, community development and disabilities ministries to demonstrate and share God's love in ways that transform lives for Christ.

Canada

Prayer Notes

4



Vision

The vision of SIM Canada is to see a witness to Christ's love where He is least known, disciples of Jesus expressing God's love in their communities and Christ-centred churches, especially among new Canadians and marginalised communities.

Ministry

- Urban least-reached communities
- First Nations ministry
- Serving marginalised communities (such as the Deaf, sex workers and the hip-hop community)
- Mobilising, training and providing support services to mission workers

To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some.

1 CORINTHIANS 9:22

Communities where Christ is least known

New Canadians

In 2019, Canada resettled almost 30,000 refugees. This is a growing community of people who may have come from countries unreached by the good news of Jesus. This is an opportunity for Canadians to share the gospel in communities where Christ is least known, right in our own backyard.

This has been especially evident through the recent Syrian refugee crisis. Many churches have sponsored families to come to Canada, which has also allowed these churches to welcome the newcomers into their church families. Pray for our Canada field workers who work directly with refugees. Pray they would have many opportunities to share the gospel and provide a safe place for refugees to feel welcome in Canada. Pray that Canadians will demonstrate the love and claims of Christ to refugees in their communities.

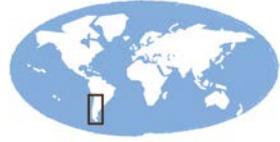


Pray for

- missionaries working in difficult contexts.
- people who have previously heard the gospel misrepresented hear the true message of salvation and experience Christ's love.
- more workers to come to the Canadian mission field.
- SIM to partner well with local Canadian churches.
- wisdom for the team to engage with those curious about missionary service in Canada and overseas.

Chile

Prayer Notes



5

Vision

Compelled by God's great love, we want to see churches with trained leaders, making disciples and expressing the love and compassion of Christ in communities where He is least known. Our motivation is to see the Church in Chile increasingly sharing the Good News, mobilising and sending servants to those living and dying without Christ inside and outside of Chile.

Ministry

- Missions mobilisation
- Partnership with ProVisión, a Chilean mission agency
- Church leadership development
- Disciple making
- Seminary by Extension to All Nations (SEAN)
- Education and evangelism with kids at risk
- Advisory role with the Koyamentu Foundation Training and Retreat Centre
- Marriage and family ministries in church contexts

You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others.

2 TIMOTHY 2:1-2

Communities where Christ is least known

The Chilean evangelical church is part of a growing worldwide missions movement. Our focus is to come alongside the Church to make disciples and develop leaders, enabling the Church to effectively send and support missionaries.

Through ProVisión, a Chilean agency with whom SIM partners, Chilean missionaries are serving inter-culturally – 50 per cent amongst Muslim groups, 30 per cent in Europe, East Asia and Africa, and 20 per cent within Latin America. ProVisión is empowering the Chilean Church to grow in its ability and commitment to provide sustained care and faithful financial and prayer support for missionaries, resulting in thriving missionaries with fruitful ministries. God is continuing to call people of all ages to prepare theologically and professionally to serve where Christ is least known.



5

Pray for

- Chilean churches to develop a culture of disciple-making and community building.
- the hearts of many more Chilean pastors to commit to the Great Commission.
- unity among denominations.
- Chilean missionaries to flourish spiritually, physically, emotionally and financially.
- the Seminary by Extension to All Nations (SEAN) to extend its impact to the entire country.
- protection for at-risk children; pray that their contact with Christians will be a testimony of Christ's love.
- the Koyamentu Training and Retreat Centre to facilitate renewal, transformation and training for Chilean churches and missionaries.
- marriage courses and men's and women's groups to reach non-Christians with the hope found in Jesus.

China

Prayer Notes



Vision

The vision of SIM China is to see people from all ethnic groups and languages in the least-reached regions of China worshipping around the throne of God. There are millions of people who live and die without meeting even one follower of Jesus.

Pray that our team will:

- build up the Church in China, independent of racial and linguistic boundaries.
- see the Church emerge among ethnic communities where people live and die without Jesus.
- participate in the preparation of workers for God's global harvest field.
- be salt and light in the nation, as we pray for China and her 1.4 billion people.

Ministry

- Culture and language learning
- Friendship evangelism
- Church planting and discipleship
- Teaching
- Business
- Equipping the Church
- Health and compassion

*Jesus told them,
"The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few.
Ask the Lord of the Harvest, therefore,
to send out workers into his harvest field."*

LUKE 10:2

Communities where Christ is least known

Animists/ancestor worshippers

Animists live in isolated rural communities and speak little-known languages with no written forms, so they have no Bible whatsoever. Personal friendships are the best means to introduce animistic people to Jesus, but this process takes time.



Muslims

In China, between 20 million and 30 million people follow Islam, and there are few Jesus followers among them. It has become very difficult for foreigners to meet with Muslims, so we support Chinese believers in sharing the good news with Muslims.



Tibetan Buddhists

Tibetan Buddhists live in fear, appeasing spirits to gain merit for eternity. Only the light and hope of the gospel can free them from this bondage. Pray for our supernatural God to reveal Himself!



University students

Thirty million university students across China are open to new ideas and new friends at this formative time of their lives. What an opportunity for language students and university lecturers to demonstrate the gospel to these young people on a daily basis.

Pray for

- the Chinese government and regional authorities, as they lead the world's most populous nation. Ask God to work out his purposes so that all who live in China would come to a knowledge of the truth (1 Timothy 2:1-4).
- our workers who face pressure from changes, which creates uncertainty and concern.
- stable and sustainable visa options, as getting visas is becoming more difficult.
- those in learning the language; Mandarin is a difficult language to learn but is crucial for friendships.
- the leadership team, who supports and encourages those with "beautiful feet" carrying the gospel (Isaiah 52:7).
- new workers to join our team, as we need flexible, passionate and creative people.

Côte d'Ivoire

Prayer Notes

6



Vision

SIM Côte d'Ivoire glorifies God in working together as a family alongside the Body of Christ to reach least-reached people, make disciples of all nations and equip them to transform societies. We are looking for people to join our existing team.

Ministry

- Theological education
- Leadership development
- Radio outreach
- Church planting and crossing barriers to proclaim Christ
- Community development
- Orphan and street children ministry
- Ministry to women
- Counselling

*Do you not say,
"There are yet
four months, then
comes the harvest"?
Look, I tell you,
lift up your eyes,
and see that the
fields are white for
harvest".*

JOHN 4:35

Communities where Christ is least known

The Dioula (Jula) and Malinké (Maninka)

The Dioula (Jula) and Malinke (Maninka) peoples have been Muslim since the 1400s. They had good relations with non-Muslim neighbours and tried to convert them to Islam by setting a good example rather than by force.

Today, the more prestigious members of these people groups send their sons to Islamic schools, where the boys become more entrenched in Islamic theology. Like most Muslim peoples of Africa, these groups have maintained pre-Islamic beliefs, which involve amulets, charms and a complex spirit world.



6

Pray for

- God to anoint the gospel as it goes forth via radio in the north and southwest of Côte d'Ivoire.
- more wisdom and equipment to establish a new radio station in San Pedro.
- God to raise up prayer teams to prepare the way.
- additional missionaries to join the few who are already working with street kids, the Ivorian Malinke (Maninka) people group and Dioula (Jula) people group.
- strong local churches to be raised up among the Ivorian Malinke (Maninka) and Dioula (Jula).
- a disciple-making movement to emerge in Malinke (Maninka) and Dioula (Jula) homes, villages and even mosques.
- the creation of a project for ministry to orphans, street children and women.
- provision of counselling in Cote d'Ivoire.

East African Office

Prayer Notes

6



Vision

By faith, we see mission-minded churches in East Africa fully engaged in global outreach, sending their missionaries to join communities around the world. Our purpose is to serve East African churches as they participate in the global mission.

Ministry

The East African Office helps African churches mobilise, equip, train and send East African missionaries around the world to serve with SIM and its partner mission agencies in gospel ministry. Our global workers serve in:

- Evangelism and disciple making
- Church planting
- Radio ministry
- Leadership training and theological education
- Youth ministry
- Culture and language learning

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"

ISAIAH 6:8

Communities where Christ is least known

Fulani people groups

The Fulani population is made up of 40 million people in 20 West African countries. The East African Office has already sent out five missionary families to serve amongst the Fulani. At a recent conference held in Addis Ababa about the Fulani, eight more candidates expressed interest in such work.



Pray for

- increased capacity for the East African Office to send and train missionaries.
- more East African workers who are passionate for the gospel.
- God to call Christian professionals from East African countries to serve Him globally.
- young men and women to take decisive action in response to God's leading for them to serve in missions.

East Asia

Prayer Notes

7



Vision

We envision churches in East Asia glorifying God by partnering with the global Church, SIM and our supporting constituencies in sending missionaries to the least reached, while also receiving missionaries in certain countries of East Asia. Together, as God's people, we commit ourselves willingly and joyfully to be involved in furthering the cause of the Great Commission through praying, giving, mobilising, going and receiving missionaries.

Ministry

The staff of the East Asia Office coordinates and supervises the efforts of constituent sending and receiving entities, and provides services in the areas of:

- Promotion
- Mobilisation of churches and individuals
- Candidate screening and selection
- Mentoring and orientation
- Information coordination
- Church-mission partnerships
- Administration, supervision and development of receiving contexts
- Crisis management and contingency
- Care for children of cross-cultural workers
- Pastoral care and prayer

As you go, proclaim this message: 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received; freely give.

MATTHEW 10:7-8

Communities where Christ is least known

Bugis tribe

Members of Bugis, the largest tribe inhabiting the island of Sulawesi in Indonesia, have long been known as tough sailors and tenacious traders. The Bugis, with an estimated seven million people, can be found throughout Indonesia and even in Malaysia, Singapore, and the southern Philippines.

Islam is the main religion of the Bugis tribe. However, the Bugis also believe in the tradition of the ancestors and the power of occult spirits. Mission work has been done amongst them since the beginning of the 19th century, primarily by Dutch missionaries, but with little success. The number of Bugis Christians is estimated to be less than one per cent.

7

Pray for

- Efforts to reach the Bugis tribe, through missionaries from around the world and within their own countries.
- SIM East Asia to send 280 missionaries by the year 2021 to the least-reached places in the world.
- God to supply the needed funds for our projected growth, operation, ministries and projects.
- wisdom and resources in developing the capacity in the region to receive missionaries.
- the process of affirming the newly-identified candidate to replace our regional director, that all will go through smoothly according to God's will. A new regional director is required from April 2021.

Ecuador

Prayer Notes



7

Vision

As a team of Christ's ambassadors, SIM Ecuador exists in love to proclaim and to live out Christ's message of reconciliation. We do so in the power and for the glory of God. In partnership with the Church, we want to make disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ in communities where He is least known.

Ministry

- Waves of Hope radio station
- Equipping church leaders (Equipping Servants theological education programme, Growing Pastors bookshop and training conferences)
- Compassion ministries (medical aid, finance management, business as mission, counselling and trauma healing)
- Planting and strengthening rural churches (evangelism, discipleship and training)
- Youth ministry (sports, creative arts, university outreach, Bible studies and discipleship)
- Mission mobilisation
- Missionary Kids (academic and spiritual growth)
- Internship training programme

All this is from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And He has committed to us the message of reconciliation.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:18-19

Communities where Christ is least known

Rural population of the southern province of Loja

We thank God for Church growth, as more urban churches in the city of Loja are planting churches in remote rural areas. Our strategy is to work alongside these churches to raise the number of believers in rural areas from the current 0.1 per cent.

Nearly all 300,000 living in rural communities remain in bondage to an animistic Catholicism that combines idolatry, shamans and superstitions. Town priests usually lead the opposition to gospel work, while families and communities persecute those searching for truth outside their traditional beliefs. Persecution varies but often includes public shaming, beatings from parents and disownment.

Leaders are being trained to share the gospel and testimonies of its impact on their lives. Still, there remains a great need for workers to continue church planting and to train leaders.

Vulnerable populations

Women and children are Ecuador's most vulnerable people, and as such, face the highest risk of violence and abuse. A national survey reports that 60 per cent of women have experienced some form of violence, and three fourths of the time, this violence comes from family members or other people they know. Almost half of Ecuador's children are regularly exposed to violent physical abuse at home.

Also, most of the one million Venezuelan immigrants who came to Ecuador in 2018 are now homeless and begging, without hope of finding work or housing. SIM's compassion ministry is working to connect with these groups and other vulnerable people, such as those with disabilities, by offering trauma healing, a finance management course and other resources.

Pray for

- Radio Hope to receive government approval for its FM frequency and to broadcast gospel messages that would have an impact throughout the province.
- our compassion ministry to effectively open doors to new communities through tangible expressions of Christ's love.
- our equipping leadership ministries to develop stable, maturing leaders, especially in rural communities, through training programmes and ongoing discipleship.
- more teachers for our MK study centre.
- workers to join our growing ministries.

Eritrea

Prayer Notes



8

Vision

SIM first entered Eritrea in the early 1950s but was expelled in July 2004. All SIM ministries have been closed, and evangelical Christians in Eritrea are undergoing severe persecution.

Today, SIM supports a radio ministry, broadcasting to Eritrea and Eritreans in the diaspora in the Tigrinya language. The vision of this ministry is to see the current generation of Tigrinya-speaking youth in Eritrea, Ethiopia and beyond reached through radio and other media. Our vision is to set them on a discipleship journey where they enjoy personal fellowship with God, express an increased commitment to Him and his church, actively participate in making disciples and become leaders with integrity.

Ministry

Radio Outreach

I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.

ROMANS 8:18

Communities where Christ is least known

Tigre

Most of the Tigre, descendants of the ancient Egyptians, converted to Islam during the 1800s. Although they profess to be Sunni Muslims, most practice Folk Islam, which is a blend of Islam and animistic beliefs. For example, they offer sacrifices of livestock or corn when they think their sins are numerous, believing that the sacrifice becomes the scapegoat for their sins. The Tigre also believe in Zar, an evil spirit that possesses people and causes illnesses and sometimes death. They depend on shamans to communicate with spirits, cure sickness and control events.

The Tigre are traditionally nomadic shepherds, and although many are still nomads, most are semi-nomadic. Others have become settled farmers. The Tigre in Eritrea have suffered from recent droughts, famine and civil war.



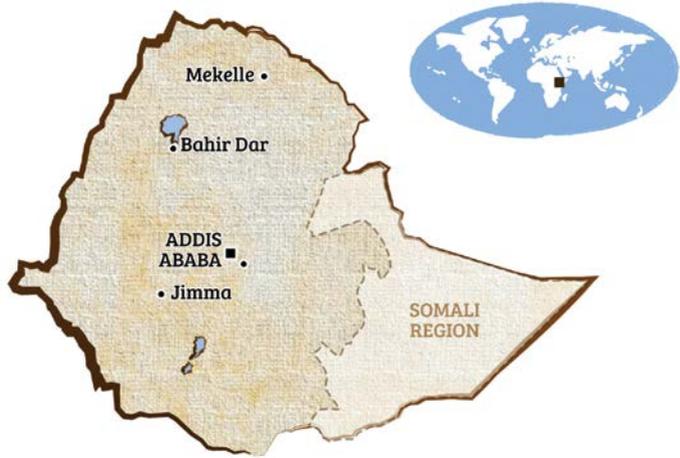
Pray for

- peace and stability in Eritrea.
- more Tigrinya-speaking workers to help produce effective audio broadcasts to Eritrea and beyond.
- the listeners of the broadcasts, especially the youth, to fully commit to life in Christ and journey with Him faithfully.
- believers, especially church leaders, who are imprisoned for their faith, and also for their families.
- God's provision for the families of those imprisoned, and that they will continue to see God as almighty and loving.
- the few known Tigre Christians in Eritrea, that God would strengthen, encourage and protect them, and that they would be bold to speak of their faith in Jesus to those who do not yet know Him.

Ethiopia

Prayer Notes

8



Vision

Compelled by God's love and by the reality that millions of people live and die without knowing Christ, we strive to expand the Church's capacity to make disciples and multiply churches in communities where Christ is least known, so that the triune God alone may be genuinely worshipped by every person.

Ministry

We strive to expand the Church's capacity in:

- Reaching children and youth
- Caring for the vulnerable
- Engaging with community influencers
- Mentoring and training in Orthodox communities
- Outreach to Muslims
- Medical ministry
- Discipling and equipping church leaders

We strive to resource ministry efforts through:

- Effectively communicating SIM's vision and mandate to provide a clear, shared focus for all who are part of SIM Ethiopia
- Missionary Kid education
- Print and radio media

God our Savior desires all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.

1 TIMOTHY 2:4

Communities where Christ is least known

Children and youth

Well over half of Ethiopia (approximately 102 million people) are under the age of 20. As a result of rapid population growth, migration to urban areas and the availability of technology and the Internet, most of these young people have limited opportunities to come to know Christ and become his followers.



Vulnerable

The urban population has increased to around 20 per cent in this primarily rural country and the rate of change is increasing. Poverty and abuse remain major issues, especially among newcomers to urban areas. Girls and homeless street boys are at risk of being trafficked.



Pray for

- business leaders, community leaders and church leaders who have significant roles in their contexts and are strategically placed to have an impact where Christ is least known.
- children and youth ministries in Ethiopian churches, communities and projects, that they will have sufficient people and resources to serve families needing biblical discipleship.
- recruitment of excellent teachers who can serve at Bingham Academy with a passion for making disciples among students and advancing missions outreach.
- greater interdependent teamwork and healthy ministry relationships.
- churches and their leaders to become more willing to care about and show Christ's love to neighbours in their communities.
- teaching, disciple making and mentoring initiatives in Orthodox communities.
- healthier church partnerships and ongoing effective disciple-making initiatives.
- churches empowered for missional outreach.

France

Prayer Notes



9

Vision

By faith, we see God mobilising his children to share the good news of salvation with those whose hearts have been prepared by the Holy Spirit.

SIM France is called by God to:

- mobilise Christians and inform the Church of opportunities in missions.
- train those called to serve.
- facilitate their task.
- support them through prayer and care.

We rejoice in the Lord each time God entrusts someone to us. We desire to be facilitators and encourage men and women to serve Christ when He calls them.

Ministry

- Mobilising for God's service
- Equipping for ongoing ministry
- Sending missionaries to communities who live and die without Christ
- Maintaining contact with missionaries in all corners of the globe
- Planting churches
- Ministering to international students

It has always been my ambition to preach the gospel where Christ was not known, so that I would not be building on someone else's foundation.

ROMANS 15.20

Communities where Christ is least known

Foreign students

There are about 280,000 foreign students in France. The Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Development for France declared recently that France intends to double this number by 2020.

In recent years, Chinese students have become the largest group (more than 50,000), followed by Moroccans (23,000), Algerians (17,400) and Tunisians (8,900). Almost 45 per cent of foreign students come from Africa, including the Maghreb region.

Foreign students are often open to the gospel, but more workers are needed. Currently, only one SIM worker ministers among them.



Muslim community

The Muslim community in France is approximately 8 per cent of the total population. This figure includes all the immigrants coming from predominantly Muslim countries. Studies give an estimate of 70,000 to 110,000 Christian among this group. A large part of the community is second, third or even fourth generation immigrants.



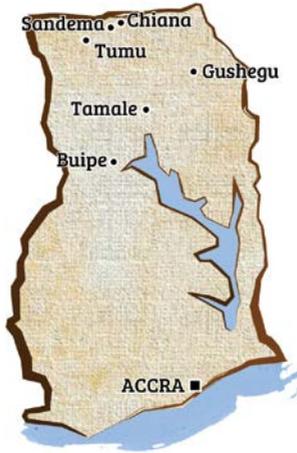
The 2016 influx of refugees is challenging European Christians to find ways to show Christ's love. Following terrorist violence in 2016, the Muslim community has begun to question Islam. Muslim background believers are often persecuted by their families and relatives, but the terrorist incidents have led to more opportunities to discuss our Christian beliefs with Muslims.

Pray for

- revival of the missionary vision in French churches.
- partnerships with church denominations, Bible institutes and other mission organisations.
- sincere and ongoing commitment to missions amongst French Christians.
- the development and autonomy of SIM Belgium ministries, which SIM France supports.
- an effective training programme for spiritual growth.
- strength in prayer, good relationships with churches and potential missionaries and fruitful ministry for those whom God sends.

Ghana

Prayer Notes



9

Vision

The vision of SIM Ghana is to see a witness to Christ's love where He is least known in Ghana, disciples of Jesus expressing God's love in their communities and Christ-centred churches spreading the gospel in Ghana and beyond.

Ministry

- Outreach ministries
 - Outreach to Sisaala, Dagomba and Fulani communities, where many live and die without hearing God's good news
 - The Way of Righteousness radio broadcasts for Muslim communities
 - Outreach in partnership with Challenge Enterprises of Ghana
- Serving and equipping the church in mission
 - Marriage and family ministry
 - Sports Friends
 - Equipping church leaders for effective ministry
- Mobilisation for mission
 - Collaboration in mobilisation with like-minded organisations
- Leadership and services
 - Serving and equipping the SIM Ghana team through the provision of efficient services and courageous leadership

*Declare his glory
among the nations,
his marvelous
deeds among all
peoples.*

PSALM 96:3

Communities where Christ is least known

Muslim people of northern Ghana

The Dagomba and Sisaala people of northern Ghana are predominantly Muslim. SIM Ghana partners with churches encouraging one-to-one discipling relationships amongst these people groups, in order that many might hear the gospel and grow in their understanding of God's Word. More and more churches amongst the Dagomba and Sisaala are holding mid-week children's clubs, enabling many Muslim children to hear God's good news. Broadcasts of The Way of Righteousness on local radio in both the Sisaali and Dagbani languages continue to be well received.



The Fulani

The Fulani people in Ghana are another predominantly Muslim group. As migrants from other parts of West Africa, they have never had a recognised homeland in Ghana. They live in scattered settlements on the outskirts of villages and are often treated as outsiders and viewed with suspicion and hostility. In the last year, SIM Ghana has welcomed three missionary families to work amongst the Fulani. Through language and culture learning, they are building relationships of trust and friendship.

Pray for

- personnel to work in marriage and family ministries. We praise God for the growth of our team over the last year.
- the three new families who are working amongst the Fulani. Pray for the building of good relationships.
- perseverance and encouragement for those engaged in language and culture learning.
- our Sports Friends ministry team, as they train coaches to reach children and young people through sport.
- opportunities to partner in mobilising the Ghanaian church for mission.
- our new personnel coordinator and business manager, as they settle into their new roles and support the team in these important areas.

Guinea

Prayer Notes



Vision

By faith, we see:

- the peoples of upper Guinea having the opportunity to hear the good news of Jesus in a way they can readily understand.
- the Holy Spirit bringing many to salvation through Jesus.
- a vibrant, maturing Church overflowing with Guineans of all ethnicities, bringing Jesus' transformation to upper Guinea and beyond.

Ministry

- Children and families
- Youth
- Outreach and disciple making
- Leadership
- Audio media production

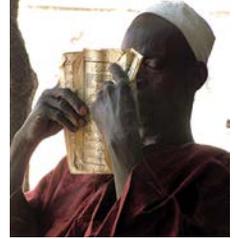
*With joy you
will draw water
from the wells of
salvation.*

ISAIAH 12:3

Communities where Christ is least known

Children

Guinea is full of children; 42 per cent of the population is 14 years old or younger. In Upper Guinea, nearly all families are Muslim, although animistic beliefs and practices remain. Most children have access to some schooling, although the quality is low. It is difficult for children to reach higher grades without the support of a literate family member or additional tutoring. Schooling is in French, while children usually speak a local language. Polygamy and domestic violence are common. The frequency of marriage breakdowns or the death of a parent means that many children grow up separated from one or both parents. Pressure is strong from the extended family, and the cost of following Jesus is high. SIM workers, collaborating with local Sunday school teachers, have after-school clubs and science camps during school breaks.



Fulani

The Fulani are Muslim. Numbering about 40 million across 20 countries of the Sahel and West Africa, Guinea is the only country where the Fulani are the largest ethnic group (41 per cent of the population). Rather than being nomadic cattle owners, many Guinean Fulani are settled farmers, business owners and merchants. Others in Guinea view the Fulani as very religious. Tensions and distrust often stem from political differences. Praise God for calling two missionary families to work with the Fulani in Upper Guinea.

Pray for

- the Holy Spirit to prepare the Fulani to hear the gospel.
- those seeking the truth to encounter Jesus followers, both Guineans and expatriates alike.
- new SIM workers as they live among the Fulani, learn their language and culture, and share the good news of Jesus.
- a peaceful political environment in the buildup to presidential elections in 2020.
- the children's ministry team as they offer educational support and spiritual truth through after-school programmes and science camps for primary school children. Praise God for the increased numbers of children participating.
- Guinean Christians seeking to grow the ministry to children. Praise God that some have started after-school clubs in their neighborhoods.
- local Christian teachers and nurses assigned to villages. Pray for grace and strength as they teach large classes with limited resources.
- direction as we plan strategically for the future of the audio media ministry.

India

Prayer Notes



Vision

SIM India sees the kingdom of God extending beyond all barriers, as we partner with Indian ministries to fulfil our global mandate.

We focus on loving our friends from other faiths as they come into the kingdom and on engaging with specific populations (children, youth, leaders and the marginalised) as they are discipled for mission work.

Ministry

- Learning Indian languages and culture while being mentored by local leaders
- Discipling Hindu, Muslim and Buddhist friends as they follow Jesus within their communities
- Helping transgendered people and trafficking survivors grow into Christ's freedom
- Loving people affected by HIV
- Discipling university students and teachers
- Shaping businesses that transform people and society
- Developing young leaders for India's future
- Training local church leaders
- Mobilising North Indian churches to send workers globally
- Providing community health interventions for the poor and marginalised
- Working with special needs learners and their families

Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and exalt and glorify the King of heaven, because everything he does is right, and all his ways are just. And those who walk in pride, he is able to humble.

DANIEL 4:37

Communities where Christ is least known

Rajasthan

To the west of Delhi and Haryana lies the desert state of Rajasthan, known for its ancient fort palaces, puppets, colorful clothes and camels. Though some tribal people groups have come to understand their identity in Christ, most descendants of the ancient Hindu Rajput warriors (Marwars and Mewars, from two respective regions) and wealthy Jains have yet to receive all Jesus has for them. Pray that the people groups of this “land of kings” will encounter Jesus, the King of kings.



10

Pray for

- daily progress in the Spirit for those who have received biblical teaching throughout the year. These include third culture kids (TCKs) from summer camps, grassroots pastors from regular Ezra seminars, and young leaders from coaching and training sessions.
- creativity and good connections for those inside or outside India who seek viable business or non-profit structures that will enable them to live and work in the country long-term.
- fruitfulness of the Incredible India programme beginning in February. This is a way for volunteers to serve for three to 10 months with our expanding network of local churches, non-profits and businesses, while receiving teaching on missions work from Indian leaders.
- boldness for local churches to speak up for the voiceless and vulnerable (including Muslims, Christians, low-caste and tribal people), given current nationalistic, right-wing fervour and possible violent persecution.
- growth in godly marriage and parenting habits by local church members and those working in missional activities, in a society in which violence against women, child sexual abuse and phone/porn addictions are widespread.
- wisdom for our leadership council as we explore and expand pathways for North Indians to be sent abroad, collaborating with the Northeast India Office and groups such as India Evangelical Mission.
- guidance as we consider how to start new ministries in the Rajasthan state, as well as among Tibetans living in India.

Indonesia

Prayer Notes



Vision

We envision Indonesian Christ followers reaching out with the gospel in word and lifestyle to communities without Christ, presenting opportunities to receive Jesus, and then discipling them to go and do likewise.

Ministry

- Enhancing and equipping churches, seminaries and schools
- Missional business and tentmaking
- Equipping and training pastors and church members for cross-cultural ministry
- Ministry to children, youth and young adults
- Church planting in partnership with local workers
- Community development

*Let the peoples
praise you, O God;
let all the peoples
praise you! Let
the nations be
glad and sing for
joy, for you judge
the peoples with
equity and guide
the nations upon
earth. Selah.*

MALACHI 1:11

Communities where Christ is least known

Muslims

With approximately 87 per cent of Indonesia's 267 million people registered as Muslim, there are numerous communities throughout Indonesia where Christ is not known.

Yet, many non-Muslim background churches, being fearful of persecution, are hesitant to share Christ with people of the majority religion.

Praise God that growing numbers of contextualized house churches are being planted, and most are started by expatriate groups or by Muslim-background believers.



11

Pray for

- a growing desire amongst Christians to share Christ with their Muslim neighbours and other pre-believers.
- boldness to live out the gospel in the face of persecution.
- better understanding amongst Christians about God's plan and desire for the Church.
- Muslim-background believers to be strengthened in the Lord to reach out to their families.
- like-minded seminaries or charitable groups that might be able to legally sponsor SIM workers for visas.
- financial resources to develop our team of SIM workers from various countries.
- humble dependency on God for all SIM workers.

Kenya

Prayer Notes



Vision

As we passionately pursue our divine calling, we see... through our ministries:

- mature disciples making disciples of Jesus Christ among least-reached communities.
- Christian leaders influencing Kenya with integrity and biblical truth.
- missional churches partnering with us to proclaim Christ and express his love and compassion.
- Kenyan missionaries engaging in cross-cultural ministry locally and globally.

within SIM Kenya:

- flourishing, prayerful missionaries practicing disciple making and accountability.
- multi-ethnic, multi-skilled teams serving in unity.
- flexible, effective structures empowering missionaries for ministry.

Ministry

- Discipleship of vulnerable children
- Youth disciple making and mentoring
- Outreach and disciple making among Hindus, Muslims and communities still practicing traditional religions
- Investing in Kenyan churches through leadership training, Sports Friends training and Banda Health Medical care

Don't you have a saying, 'It's still four months until harvest'? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest.'

JOHN 4:35

Communities where Christ is least known

Gujarati

The Gujarati people number nearly 200,000, and primarily live in Nairobi, as well as along the coast. Originally from the western state of Gujarat in India, they are stereotypically considered good at business. In Kenya, roughly half of Gujaratis are Hindu, 13 per cent are Muslim and one-third belong to other small Indian-based religions. While only 0.1 per cent of this community call themselves Christians, an even smaller (0.02 per cent) are evangelicals. The Gujaratis' close-knit family structure make it difficult for members to accept new ideas from those outside their community.



East Pokot

Just under 800,000 Pokot live in Kenya. They are semi-nomadic and semi-pastoralists who herd cattle and sheep, and they live off the products of their stock. Wealth is measured by the number of cattle one possesses. They worship the god Tororot and other deities and communicate with these deities through prayers and sacrifices. The Pokot greatly fear death, as they do not believe in an afterlife. Many of their religious rituals involve warding off illnesses or affecting cures.

Some Pokot, especially West Pokot, have become Christians, but the East Pokot communities living in Baringo County are still not reached by the gospel. This is due to many barriers, such as a lack of roads, poor transportation and the harsh climate. The majority of East Pokot have not had formal education and do not speak or read Kiswahili, the national language of Kenya. Most are unable to read or write the Pokot language. Even though the Bible is translated into Pokot, it is currently inaccessible to the East Pokot.

Pray for

- more workers to minister among communities where Jesus is least known, especially in the difficult areas of Kenya.
- more opportunities to partner with churches in Kenya to make disciples in least-reached communities (some groups are very resistant to the gospel).
- business workers to reach out and disciple Hindus in urban places.
- Kenyan churches to be mobilised and empowered to reach communities for Christ, both in Kenya and internationally.

Korea

Prayer Notes



Vision

By faith, we see:

- strong partnerships with Korean and Chinese churches in sending, networking, equipping and supporting missionaries to fulfil the Great Commission.
- more Chinese and Korean missionaries, standing firm with the global body of Christ, training missionary candidates and developing missional churches.
- well-trained and well-equipped young people going out with the gospel and serving with their gifts and skills, those who need to listen and understand the gospel in their everyday life settings.
- foreigners in Korea coming to know Jesus Christ, experiencing life transformation through him and returning home with a new life goal: to be an ambassador for Christ in their communities.

Ministry

- Developing new ministry opportunities and equipping people to serve in North Korea as peace develops between South Korea, North Korea and other countries
- Creating and developing Chinese ministries in China, Korea and beyond
- Training candidates through programmes based at home and in the field
- Providing member care and administrative services

God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:21

Communities where Christ is least known

Refugees

With a rapidly increasing number of migrants, Korea now faces a new challenge: receiving refugees from Yemen and other countries experiencing war or similar situations. The Korean community is divided on whether to accept them or not. We see this challenge as an opportunity for the Korean Church to serve and share God's love with refugees. In this sensitive situation, we need God's wisdom as we make disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ.



Young adults in crisis

The young people of Korea (ages 20–39) are both a least-reached community and a source of potential missionaries to the world. Many young Koreans struggle with life issues that hinder their ability to go deep in their faith and even consider pursuing missions. SIM Korea, along with partner churches and other mission agencies, desires to communicate the gospel and its life-changing power in ways young people will understand.



12

Pray for

- wisdom and strength for Korean churches to serve migrants and share God's love with them.
- wisdom and partnerships for new ministry opportunities for North Koreans in other countries and North Korea.
- the Holy Spirit to work in Muslim refugees, that they may come to know Jesus Christ and his love for them.
- new spiritual formation and effective strategies for SIM Korea's next 20 years.
- the field-oriented training programme, "Let's Be," scheduled to start in January, and that Christian young adults may be effectively recruited for global mission.

Latin America

Prayer Notes



Vision

By faith, we see:

- fully trained and supported missionaries from Latin America serving in various countries throughout the world.
- Latin American churches prayerfully and financially supporting those they send.
- the Latin American Church and its missionaries fulfilling their role in the Great Commission.

Ministry

- Mobilisation: In order to effectively serve such a large continent, SIM Latinoamérica needs to discover and train mobilisers in each country.
- Partnerships: SIM Latinoamérica desires to build strong partnerships with local sending entities and churches to facilitate the sending of Latin Americans to the mission field.

*Therefore go and
make disciples of
all nations.*

MATTHEW 28:19

Communities where Christ is least known

Most of our Latino candidates have a passion to go to the least-reached areas of the world. We are convinced that Latin American missionaries will contribute to the completion of the Great Commission. Some of these people will come from parts of society that have not fully heard or understood God's call to missions and the part they can play. These include rural communities, universities and businesses.



SIM Latinoamérica is proud to support Latin Americans who serve in Angola, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia, Ecuador, Greece, Guatemala, India, Kenya, Mali, Mexico, the Middle East, Mozambique, Nepal, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, South Africa and Uruguay. After sending out an additional 14 people in 2019, we anticipate many more in 2020.

12

Pray for

- the 135 Latin Americans, including children, who currently serve the Lord with SIM.
- the Latin American Church as it comes to understand the vital role it has in sending people into missions.
- trust-filled partnerships between SIM, churches and missionaries.
- the development of new partnerships with non-SIM sending agencies across the region.
- the provision of prayer and financial support, particularly for those from countries and contexts with extreme financial difficulties, such as Cuba and Venezuela.
- creativity in how the SIM Latinoamérica team shares God's call to missions amongst young people.
- creativity as SIM teams around the world work to receive Latin Americans.
- an increase in the number of people hearing God calling them into missions.
- VAMOS and Movilecemos, which are key programmes and resources that aim to challenge and support the Latin American church in missions.
- the streamlining and flexibility of well-established systems within SIM to best serve those coming from new communities and regions.
- the SIM Latinoamérica team as they seek to work seamlessly across more than 35 countries.

Liberia

Prayer Notes



Vision

By faith and through prayer, SIM Liberia sees growing and mature disciples of Jesus loving their neighbours through healthcare, education and service ministries and loving God in worship and obedience.

Ministry

- Equipping and training leaders in SIM partner churches
- Pastoral and theological education
- Trauma healing training
- ELWA Radio and media services
- ELWA Hospital
- Bible translation
- Trinity Dental Clinic
- ELWA Academy (which has 850 Liberian students from pre-school through grade 12)

So, we have not stopped praying for you since we first heard about you. We ask God to give you complete knowledge of His will and to give you spiritual wisdom and understanding. Then the way you live will always honour and please the Lord, and your lives will produce every kind of good fruit. All the while, you will grow as you learn to know God better and better.

COLOSSIANS 1:9-10

Communities where Christ is least known

Mandingo (Manya)

The Mandingo people are located in northwestern Liberia, near Guinea. They are farmers growing rice, peanuts, beans and vegetables. Trading is important for them, causing many to travel far from home to trade. Many Mandingo in urban areas work as shopkeepers or auto mechanics.

Today, the majority of Mandingo are Muslim; however, their Islam is mingled with their traditional African beliefs. The Mandingo belief that spirits are good, evil or mischievous is derived from Muslim teachings. Also, Islam approves the use of magic to obtain healing from disease, prevent misfortune and assure prosperity and success. Only a few of the Mandingo are Christian believers, and there is no indigenous church established yet.



Pray for

- God to call more missionaries to Liberia, especially to add capacity to ministries with our partner churches.
- Liberian church leaders to be equipped through theological and pastoral training to withstand the onslaught of false gospels that cause confusion and dissension within the churches and society.
- the expansion of ELWA Hospital to strengthen the healthcare system in Liberia while giving a gospel witness to Liberians who are suffering.
- ELWA media services to creatively spread the gospel through radio, Internet streaming and other mass media to communities where Christ is least known.
- God to provide adequate resources to support and sustain the ministries of SIM Liberia.
- peace and stability in Liberia.

Madagascar

Prayer Notes



Vision

By faith, we see:

- SIM missionaries thriving in their ministries, as they grow in their walk with God and cross barriers to proclaim the crucified and risen Christ.
- well-equipped church leaders serving their congregations and making disciples.
- united churches fulfilling Christ's Great Commission, as they reach out to those who live and die without hearing God's good news in Madagascar and beyond.

Ministry

- Medical ministry
- Community development
- Theological training
- Supportive ministries, including administration and teaching missionary children
- Outreach and church planting

And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast.

1 PETER 5:10

Communities where Christ is least known

Comoros

The Comorians live on a chain of islands in the Indian Ocean between Madagascar and Mozambique. Each of the Comorian groups takes its name from the particular island on which the people live, but the official name of the islands is the Federal and Islamic Republic of the Comoros.

Major challenges on the Comoros Islands include poverty, disease and hunger. Educational levels are low, and less than half the population is literate. Although French and Arabic are the official languages, the Comorians speak their own Swahili dialect. Children are expected to help with the farming, fishing and animal care. Polygamy is an acceptable practice among the Comorians.

The Comorians are Muslim, but occultism and spirit possession are mixed with their Islamic practices. Traditionally, they have been resistant to any kind of religious change; however, they are gradually becoming more receptive to other ideas. Christian resources are limited, and as a result, the number of Comorian believers is very small.

Pray for

- unity and reconciled relationships between the evangelical denominations, that they would work together to reach those living and dying without Christ in Madagascar and beyond.
- more missionary doctors for the Good News Hospital.
- the Lord to call out missionaries to establish a local SIM administration that serves our missionaries with financial, administrative and personnel services and leadership.
- SIM's local co-workers at the Timothy Centre to continue the activities (theological education, community development, outreach and discipleship) after the departure of the missionary currently leading the centre.
- a clear and courageous vision for SIM Madagascar, as mission strategies are developed.

Malawi

Prayer Notes



Vision

SIM Malawi is dedicated to sharing Christ's love in Malawi in word and deed. We do this through the following ministries.

Ministry

- Pursue the least-reached: plant churches among the Yao people and in stronghold areas of animistic society, equip pastors and church leaders for Muslim ministry and reach out to Chinese and Indian communities in Malawi.
- Build the Church: partner with the Africa Evangelical Church, the Evangelical Bible College of Malawi and others through providing training and teaching materials.
- Reach children and youth: expand Sunday school teacher training, youth and children ministry co-ordination, develop ministries and leaders (including Sports Friends) and partner with the Kids in Need Deserve Love and Encouragement (KINDLE) Orphan Outreach and the Sunday School Teachers United Movement.
- Impact the HIV and AIDS crisis: work with Hope for Life, partner with medical organisations, assist in community programmes and support medical centres to develop HIV and AIDS services.
- Advance mission: develop and send missionaries to and from Malawi, encourage mission engagement in the Church and include missions in theological training.

You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals because you were slain, and with your blood, you purchased people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation.

REVELATION 5:9

Communities where Christ is least known

Yao and other Muslims

SIM has been working amongst the Yao people of Malawi since the late 1980s. The Yao are almost exclusively Muslim and are spread across eastern Malawi, northern Mozambique and southern Tanzania. In partnership with the Bible Society, the Scriptures were translated into Yao, and the full Yao Bible was published in 2014. Many missionaries have come and gone during this time – it is a difficult area in which to minister.

SIM also partners with OM in the ministry of Radio Lilanguka (“light” in the Yao language), a community radio station based in Mangochi, and with GZB, a Dutch mission organisation in a ministry called Mthenga Wabwino (“good messenger” in the Chichewa language). Mthenga Wabwino provides resources and training to help churches throughout Malawi engage with the Muslim communities around them.



Pray for

- the blessing of God’s Word in the heart language of the Yao people to impact this people group.
- the ministry of Radio Lilanguka, that many Yao would hear the gospel and respond.
- missionaries and ministry workers to courageously declare the good news of Jesus in the face of spiritual warfare and opposition.
- the work of Mthenga Wabwino in training and mobilising churches for outreach to Muslims.
- fellowship groups of Yao believers to grow and be courageous witnesses in their own communities.
- more kingdom workers to be sent to minister among the Yao.

Mali

Prayer Notes



Vision

We desire to see relational transformation of our community by intentionally pursuing the lost and increasing the number of growing, reproducible Christ followers.

Ministry

- Evangelism and disciple making
- Church planting
- Bible and literature distribution
- French and culture learning
- Leadership development
- Trauma healing
- Feeding street boys and other children, as well as the homeless, in both the urban and rural community settings

And everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved; for on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there will be deliverance, as the LORD has said, even among the survivors whom the LORD calls.

ROMANS 13:11

Communities where Christ is least known

The deaf community

In 1956, Andrew Foster founded Christian Mission for the Deaf. His vision was to break the many barriers deaf people face in hearing the Word of God, including illiteracy, isolation, stigmatism, stereotypes, communication barriers and people who are cruel and mean. In Mali, deafness is considered a divine curse.

All these factors hinder the integration of deaf people into communities. Foster knew education could achieve his vision, so he introduced American Sign Language and established schools across Africa. He understood that this would usher in the gospel for the deaf people in Mali.

However, government authorities wanted it reduced to a simple association for the deaf called AMASOURD. In order to fulfill his dream, Foster looked at other countries of the sub-region, including Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana and Nigeria. Unfortunately, Foster died in a plane crash in 1986. Today, AMASOURD exists in Mali, but it has nothing to do with Christ's redemption story.

The deaf population in Mali is little known at the national level, despite the presence of AMASOURD. Sources estimate the population at 40,000 to 70,000. Among them, the percentage of Christians is minimal. No church denomination in Mali has a sign language translator who can share the elements of the message, worship or any other activity, with the deaf in the pews. Also, no known mission agency is prioritising the deaf in Mali.

SIM has been raising awareness within the Body of Christ about the need for a ministry among this least-reached group. The first workshop on bringing the gospel of Christ to the deaf took place in August 2015 in Bamako, and all the denominations were invited. In December 2017, a team of six young people, under the direction of Moody Bible College, travelled from the United States to Mali, for a one-week teaching programme at Jigiya Kalanso, a school for the deaf in Bamako.



Pray for

- pioneer workers in the city reaching the Muslim community.
- workers among the deaf.
- workers for a unique ministry among deaf students.
- church denominations in Mali to see the need to reach the deaf community.
- a manager and a team for the development of a café-student centre.
- workers engaging students through sports.

Mascarene Islands

Mauritius, Reunion, Rodriguez

Prayer Notes



Vision

By faith, we see:

- competent pastors and leaders rooted in the truth of the Bible, as they lead and teach their congregations.
- vibrant churches reaching out to those living and dying without Jesus in Mauritius and beyond.
- evangelical denominations united as they fulfil the Great Commission of Christ.

Ministry

- Discipleship and leadership training in churches
- Ministry to children and adolescent girls
- Outreach

To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some.

1 CORINTHIANS 9:22

Communities where Christ is least known

Hindus

The least-reached people groups of Mauritius are Muslims and Hindus. Hindus in Mauritius originate from India. Many hierarchical and economic sub-groups exist among them, with the best known being the Brahmins, the priestly community. The Brahmins form the religious backbone of Hinduism. The Bhojpuris are an ethnic sub-group and make up the majority of Indians in Mauritius. Hindus represent nearly half of the population in Mauritius.

Some scholars say that the number of Hindu gods exceeds 35 million. Most of the deities are believed to be both good and evil in nature. Hindus believe in reincarnation. Only the gospel of Jesus Christ has the power to break through the religious barriers that have kept the Hindus in Mauritius bound in both spiritual and physical poverty.



Pray for

- Praise for the faithfulness of Assembly of God Churches that are celebrating their 50th anniversary this year.
- unity among the various evangelical church denominations, and a common vision for those still needing to hear and understand the good news.
- the evangelical churches of Mauritius to rise to the challenge of supporting missionaries and missions work.
- those attending discipleship and leadership training to grow in their knowledge of God and in their faith.
- new missionaries to join the SIM team, entering the country as businesspeople and university lecturers.

Middle East

Prayer Notes



Vision

SIM Middle East aims to:

- encourage Christians in the region to continue to minister to their neighbours with the love of Christ and the message of the cross.
- see our teams flourish under local leadership, modelling genuine Christian faith across our area.
- encourage and support local church planting networks.
- motivate churches in our homelands to pray effectively as they ask the Holy Spirit to open eyes and bring fullness of life in Christ to those seeking Him.

Ministry

We're looking for resilient colleagues who can keep a biblical perspective, live in complex environments and build our teams, as we:

- learn languages and sensitively acquire culture, engaging people in conversation to build bridges
- serve displaced people alongside local churches
- engage in church life and ministry
- reach out with compassion
- provide education at all levels
- equip local believers through theological education and training
- operate businesses as a Christian witness
- participate in Bible translation and distribution

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains.

COLOSSIANS 4:2-3

Communities where Christ is least known

Majorities

Islam is the majority faith, and many Middle Easterners only know caricatures of Christian faith. Conversation is easy for those with the time and willingness to invest in relationships. As we work with local churches, education and church-based compassion, care and witness are our major strategies. We're also exploring more business opportunities. People are asking questions as never before, and they need to connect with Scripture and with Christians who can explain it. This is why we emphasise language competency.



Outreach

Significant churches and networks are equipping their members to witness to Christ. They are sending Arabs to work both in the Middle East and to European churches where refugees and migrants reside.

Prisoners

Prison visits are a key ministry, bringing opportunities to share Christ. Gifts of food, clothes and the Word of God help prisoners find freedom in Christ and form fellowships within the prisons.

Refugees

Displaced people are in every area and impact every ministry. As churches adjust their programmes, train their people and reach out, people respond to Christ's love and ask questions. Syrians are preparing for the day when they can return to their cities to minister again. Educating refugee children sows seeds for eternity and brings the gospel to the children's families.

Pray for

- stamina and grace, as our team builds language skills and cultural understanding.
- wisdom and insight for local churches, agencies and their leaders, as they witness to Christ.
- theological and practical training to equip leaders to build Christ's Church in unsettled and sometimes volatile circumstances.
- people to pray, give and consider serving in the Middle East.
- new people arriving to live and serve in the Middle East.
- those who are inquiring, exploring and raising support to come.
- those reaching out to foreign maids.

Mongolia

Prayer Notes



Vision

The vision of SIM Mongolia is to glorify God by reaching the people of Mongolia with the gospel and making disciples in the Mongolian churches, so they become mature, evangelistic and engaged in missions work.

In response to God's love, SIM Mongolia desires to serve the Mongolian Church through loving and compassionate relationships.

Ministry

- Church planting and disciple making
- Training next generation leaders in counselling, pastoral leadership and mentoring
- English teaching
- Youth
- Medical outreach
- NGO training and administration
- Nomadic community outreach
- Urban outreach
- Shadow pastoring

See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.

ISAIAH 43:19

Communities where Christ is least known

Nearly half of the total population of Mongolia lives in the capital city, Ulaanbaatar. Culturally and practically, the city is very different from the sparsely populated countryside.

The city is divided into two groups – those who live in apartment buildings and those who dwell in the ger district which rings the city. Gers are the traditional tent homes of the Mongolian nomads. Each year, the ger districts are expanding, as nomads leave the traditional way of life to move to the city and establish new homes on small plots of land.



In the mid-1990s, Mongolia opened, allowing missionaries to enter the country to share the gospel. The Lord opened the hearts of many people, and the Mongolian Church experienced rapid growth and wide church planting. The Mongolian Church is still very much in its first generation and faces challenges. Its members continue to seek to grow and develop a God-honouring identity. The nation faces the challenges of balancing the rapid growth of secularisation with the traditional underpinning views of Buddhism and shamanistic faith.

The greatest need of the Mongolian church today is to develop a strong foundation of biblical truth. SIM Mongolia seeks to walk alongside the Mongolian Church to strengthen its foundation, to disciple and mentor local leaders and to facilitate both urban and rural outreach.

16

Pray for

- the leaders of the Mongolian Church. Ask the Lord for leaders who will grasp the responsibility they have been called to. The Mongolian Church needs servant leaders who proclaim the Word in and out of season and who serve with a heart for the Kingdom, seeking to grow the Lord's Church, not just their congregations.
- our acting country director, newly appointed to serve for two years. Pray for the team as they seek to listen to the Lord, set strategic goals and establish key partnerships over the coming years.
- the Mongolian churches to grab hold of the vision to disciple and train the youth of the nation and help the youth understand what it means to live as true followers of Jesus Christ.

Mozambique

Prayer Notes



Vision

SIM Mozambique's vision is to reach the least-reached people in the rural northwest area of Mozambique. We long to see communities reconciled to God, participating in Christ-centred churches and living as God's ambassadors throughout Mozambique and across the globe.

Ministry

SIM works in northwest Mozambique, among many who still live and die without Christ. Our ministries include:

- church planting in the Lichinga area
- Bible translation
- theological training at Instituto Teológico de Lichinga (INTEL)
- children's work in Lichinga and Cuamba
- literature distribution
- agriculture in Lichinga
- youth work in both Lichinga and Cuamba
- disciple making
- ministry to the marginalised of Lichinga
- sports ministry in Cuamba
- Business Startup Initiative at Cuamba
- church networking for Lichinga
- Teaching English in Lichinga

*The people walking
in darkness have
seen a great light;
on those living
in the land of the
shadow of death a
light has dawned.*

ISAIAH 9:2

Communities where Christ is least known

Yao

It's said that to be a Yao is to be a Muslim, and for centuries, the Yao people have been mixing traditional African beliefs with Islam to form a syncretic belief system. The Yao people were once the fierce slave hunters of the north. Today, most of the 500,000 Yao in northwest Mozambique are subsistence farmers, and many are illiterate, with a low life expectancy.



Recently, the Yao have begun to respond to the gospel. In the past four years, the number of Yao Christians in Mozambique has grown from around 300 to over 1,000. So, there is no better time than the present for evangelism and discipleship ministries.

Makuwa-Metto and Makuwa-Chirima

There are about one million people in each of these groups. The Makuwa peoples are matrilineal, tracing their family lines through their mothers. Most people are subsistence farmers, working their fields with only handheld implements, but there is a trend towards Makuwas moving to the towns and cities.



Most adhere to Folk Islam or Folk Catholicism. In urban areas, where some small churches exist, well-trained leaders are needed. A translation of the Bible into the Chirima language is almost complete, which will facilitate evangelism and discipleship.

16

Pray for

- a fruitful harvest of new believers among the Yao and for new believers to be disciplined in their new faith.
- more people to hear and accept the good news of Jesus Christ in northern Mozambique.
- more churches to be planted in urban and rural areas.
- the new church plant and youth outreach in the city of Lichinga.
- Instituto Teologico de Lichinga (INTEL), a new Bible school that opened in February 2019 in Lichinga.
- the children and sports ministry in Cuamba, as the missionaries teach and plant seeds of God's truth and love.
- the health and safety of missionaries.
- new missionaries to work on the administrative team.
- the Lord to send more labourers into northern Mozambique.

Myanmar

Prayer Notes



Vision

By faith, we see vibrant, healthy and reproducing churches growing in communities where Christ is least known and crossing ethnic, language and hierarchical barriers to worship Jesus together in Myanmar communities.

Ministry

- Reaching communities amongst the Bamar where Christ is least known
- Community outreach
- Missional businesses that benefit least-reached communities

*The people walking
in darkness have
seen a great light;
on those living in
the land of deep
darkness a light has
dawned.*

ISAIAH 9:2

Communities where Christ is least known

Buddhist majority communities

The main ethnic group in Myanmar lives primarily in the Irrawaddy River Basin and speaks Burmese, the official language of Myanmar. The majority are Theravada Buddhists. They practice Buddhism along with a form of spirit worship called “nat worship,” which predated Buddhism. They try to appease the “nats” in order to gain protection from other evil spirits.



Urban young adults

An estimated 2.1 million young adults live in the commercial capital, comprising 30 per cent of the population. This city is ethnically diverse, with residents from various religious backgrounds: Muslim, Hindu, Christian and Buddhist. The majority are Buddhist. Young people migrate to the city from all over the country, looking for jobs and higher education to improve their family’s way of life. They are open to new ideas and technology and eager to learn English. Unfortunately, many are unable to obtain jobs after furthering their education.



Pray for

- Myanmar’s people to embrace the truth of Christ.
- more local and global kingdom workers to come and make disciples in Myanmar’s least-reached communities.
- creativity and wisdom in establishing missional businesses.
- the development of effective leadership, teams and ministries in Myanmar, which is a newer entity of SIM’s.

Namibia

Prayer Notes



Vision

Convinced that no one should live and die without hearing the gospel, we are partnering with churches and other organisations to reach children and youth with the gospel. By faith, we see people being disciplined both inside and outside of churches. By faith, we see Namibians called to be missionaries.

Ministry

- Children
- Youth
- Evangelism in Muslim communities
- Making disciples amongst the 90 per cent of Namibians who call themselves Christians
- Networking and encouraging co-operation between churches and other partners
- Mission mobilisation

*God our Saviour
wants all people
to be saved and
to come to a
knowledge of the
truth.*

1 TIMOTHY 2:3-4

Communities where Christ is least known

Children and youth

Young people are increasingly drifting into a secular lifestyle. SIM works in community development with disadvantaged children.

Through the Namibia Evangelical Theological Seminary (NETS), SIM is equipping church leaders to reach children and youth with the gospel.



Muslims

Namibia's Muslim population is currently small, but it is growing. At this stage, the Muslims are primarily embassy personnel and businessmen.

Many Christians do not know what to say and how to witness towards people of another faith. SIM Namibia would like to train local believers about Muslim-Christian interactions, so that church members can confidently engage with their Muslim neighbours.



Pray for

- God to send more workers to Namibia.
- our team, as we look into new areas of outreach, especially amongst Muslims.
- the churches in Namibia to hear God's calling to send out workers and support missions both inside and outside of the country.
- African Strategic Discipleship Movement (ASDM), a discipleship programme run in the northeastern part of Namibia.

Nepal

Prayer Notes



Vision

SIM Nepal exists to glorify God by partnering with and empowering local churches, organisations and communities through diverse ministries. As Jesus followers and as life-long students of language and culture, we:

- commit to partner with one another, local churches and organisations in order to promote the goal of Nepalis experiencing fullness of life through positive transformation.
- seek to humbly represent Christ in character, word and action as a multi-ethnic and multi-skilled team, prayerfully serving as He leads, in order to glorify Him through health, education, development, disciple-making, training, equipping and other ministries.
- cross barriers to demonstrate Christ's love in communities where He is least known.

Ministry

- Health
- Education
- Rehabilitation
- Disaster response
- Community development
- Mentoring and disciple making
- Training and equipping

*He has shown you,
O mortal, what is
good. And what
does the LORD
require of you? To
act justly and to
love mercy and to
walk humbly with
your God.*

MICAH 6:8

Communities where Christ is least known

In Nepal, approximately 80 per cent of the people are Hindu, 10 per cent are Buddhist, 5 per cent are Muslim, and 1.4 per cent are Christian.



People living in the Terai

The southern plains of Terai are home to more than half of the country's population, with a variety of languages, castes and ethnic backgrounds. Agriculture is the main occupation. Challenges include poverty, inequalities between the genders and castes, disasters (especially earthquakes, floods and fires) and health and hygiene issues.

Of the nearly one million Muslims in Nepal, 97 per cent live in the Terai. SIM is reaching out to Nepalis from a variety of backgrounds in the Terai, demonstrating God's love through various transformative and empowering ministries.

People living with disabilities

More than half a million people are known to be living with disabilities in Nepal. The actual number is higher, because many are segregated from society due to stigma and shame. The spiritual beliefs of Nepalis have traditionally regarded disability as a punishment for bad deeds in a previous life. People with disabilities are often treated as objects of pity; some are neglected and abandoned.



People with disabilities have more health problems, lower education levels and higher unemployment than the rest of the population. They also experience higher rates of abuse, discrimination and social exclusion.

Through partnerships, SIM is reaching out to those affected by disabilities, by providing treatment, rehabilitation, vocational training, advocacy for inclusion and social participation and psychosocial care and support.

Pray for

- work permits and visas; it is not easy to get these documents.
- Christians, as persecution has been increasing.
- Muslim people living in the Terai to experience fullness of life in Christ
- political stability and safety.
- our various ministries, with the goal that Nepalis will be empowered and experience positive transformation.

New Zealand

Prayer Notes



Vision

Our vision is to facilitate Christians to join God's work around the world. We desire for our mission partners to be empowered to thrive and make a difference in communities where Christ is least known.

Ministry

- Encourage longer-term participation in mission
- Help our mission partners tell the story of what God is doing worldwide
- Strengthen current church partnerships and build relationships with new churches
- Empower the New Zealand Church for involvement in cross-cultural and overseas missions work
- Ensure that mission partners are equipped and thrive in their ministries for as long as God desires them to serve
- Partner with like-minded organisations and churches in promoting SIM New Zealand's priority projects
- Provide next-step opportunities for Christians to explore their call to missions

He told them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

LUKE 10:2

Communities where Christ is least known

A country distancing itself from Christ

About 150 years ago, 93 per cent of New Zealanders identified themselves as Christian. Just 17 years ago, New Zealand was fourth in the world for missionaries sent per capita. In popular culture, it was called “God’s own country,” both for its history of belief in Christ and its stunning beauty. But New Zealand’s Christian heritage is disappearing.



In 2013, less than 50 per cent of New Zealanders identified as Christian. If this trend continues, Christianity will cease to be the dominant identified religion within the next few years. New Zealand is already the most secular English-speaking country in the world. Today, an estimated 10 per cent of New Zealanders attend church somewhat regularly. According to a recent survey, almost one out of every 10 people don’t know any Christians.

New Zealanders today are more apt to say they are spiritual but not religious. Most people see spirituality as a safe topic to discuss with friends, and they are open to exploring faith in the context of relationship. They also see the positive impacts of the Church and are curious to see Christians living out their values. This is a country distanced from God but open to discussion.

Immigration is one of several tremendous opportunities for the Church. New Zealand is one of the most ethnically diverse countries in the world. Migration brings a wide variety of people to us.

SIM New Zealand and our mission partners work alongside local churches to help them engage in missions. New Zealand needs a consistent presentation of biblical Christianity. We recognise that opportunities exist, both here and overseas. As members of their local churches, our partners have the opportunity to model their faith and help the churches in their journey to understand a culturally diverse world and engage with their local communities.

Pray for

- our 13 existing prayer groups to grow and attract younger generations.
- ten new potential mission partners to be sent out.
- God’s direction to implement country review recommendations.
- SIM New Zealand’s continued flourishing and ability to offer services.
- mission partners to come to New Zealand and help us understand what it means to receive overseas mission partners.

Niger

Prayer Notes



Vision

Our vision is to make disciples where Christ is least known.

- We live in a world permeated by an evil that has invaded and corrupted every aspect of life, leaving humankind separated from the Creator and trapped in sin. We are convinced that the gospel changes everything and sets us free. God has called SIM to help bring this life-changing message to Niger.
- We are convinced no one should live and die without hearing the good news. Yet, more than 17 million people are living and dying without Christ in Niger.
- We believe we are called to mobilise Christ's servants to bring the message of salvation to Niger. We are called by God from all corners of the earth to serve as a diverse ministry team.

Ministry

Outreach: university outreach centre (Foyer Evangelique Universitaire), literacy, sports, people group focus, translation, media

Community services: Galmi Hospital, Centre de Sante de Leprologie et de Fistule, Sowing Seeds of Change in the Sahel

Education: training Christian teachers, ESPriT Seminary, Sahel Academy, Maza Tsaye Conference Centre

Leadership and services: administrative services, SIMAIR, guest houses, leadership, church-missions relations

The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because He has anointed Me to preach Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.

LUKE 4:18-19

Communities where Christ is least known

Fulani

Fulani are one of the largest ethnic groups in West Africa, stretching from Senegal into parts of Central Africa. While they have a common language, there are many dialects that can make the Fulfulde spoken in one area almost incomprehensible in another area.



Fulani are traditionally nomadic herders, and while many still are, a significant number are now settled in villages and towns as farmers, artisans and merchants. However, owning cattle is still key to their ethnic identity, and many count their riches by the number of cattle they own. Islam, the most prevalent religion among the Fulani, is also a key part of their ethnic identity. Fulani culture highly values self-control and does not allow any demonstration of weakness.

In Niger, the New Testament is now available in two dialects. There are small groups of believers among the Fulani. Missionaries working with the Fulani people use a variety of tools to share the gospel: radio broadcasts, literacy support, Bible translation, friendship evangelism and the ongoing nurturing of new believers.

Pray for

- the Fulani who have responded to the gospel, that God will give them courage to remain faithful to Him, despite much opposition from their families and society. Pray that many more will respond to the gospel.
- God to raise up more Fulani to be evangelists to their own people. Pray for God's protection on those already involved in evangelism and discipleship.
- administrative and management personnel for our institutions. This includes directors for the Danja Health Center, the Danja Fistula Centre, Galmi Hospital and Sahel Academy; a high school principal for Sahel Academy; a finance manager for Galmi Hospital; a facilities manager for Galmi Hospital and a second treasurer for SIM Niger.
- patients at our three medical centres, that they will hear the good news and follow Jesus. Pray for courage when they return to their villages. Pray that follow-up visits can be made to former patients who are now believers.
- Nigerien teachers working in Christian schools. The majority of their students are not Christian, so pray not only that these schools provide an excellent education, but also create an open atmosphere to share the gospel with students and their families.
- SIM Niger, as they navigate the security tensions of the Sahel region. Pray that doors will continue to be open so that Nigeriens can respond to the gospel.

Nigeria

Prayer Notes



Vision

By faith, we see:

- a response in faith to the gospel message from the over 75 million Muslims and others living and dying without Christ in Nigeria.
- missionary teams in each of the 12 northern Sharia states expressing Christ's love and compassion in word and deed.
- strengthened churches with equipped Christians carrying out Christ's mandate to make disciples in one of Africa's most influential and populous countries, making a major impact in global missions this century.

Ministry

- Proclaiming the gospel, particularly to Muslims in the north
- Supporting and strengthening persecuted Christians and others affected by oppression and hostility
- Bringing holistic healing to marginalised and vulnerable communities and mentoring others to do the same
- Empowering and making disciples amongst the vast numbers of youth in Nigeria
- Equipping an enthusiastic Church through theological education and other disciple-making endeavours

*As long as it is day,
we must do the
works of him who
sent me. Night is
coming, when no
one can work.*

JOHN 9:4

Communities where Christ is least known

Fulani

There are 16 million Fulani in Nigeria. More missionary workers are needed in this Muslim community, which shows openness to friendship evangelism and Christian media. We collaborate in meeting needs for animal husbandry, primary schools and medical outreach to Fulani encampments. Recent attacks by some Fulani herdsmen against Christian farmers have affected attitudes toward this people group. We pray for effective outreach, for Christians to reach out to this community in love instead of retaliation, and for opportunities to support and disciple Fulani believers.



Marginalised and vulnerable communities

Disadvantaged and vulnerable groups need to experience Christ's love through efforts that provide support and care. SIM Nigeria ministers to youth, orphans, widows and those with disabilities. We look to expand these ministries into the north where limited resources and few trained workers reside. Missionaries work to model the biblical value of caring for human life, to train in caring for people with special needs, to facilitate income generation, to minister to prisoners, and to engage in anti-trafficking.



Pray for

- the national Church to intensify its efforts to reach Muslims in the north while the door is open (John 9:4), and for more missionaries to join this task.
- millions of Muslims to be receptive to the gospel and for the discipleship of new Christians with a Muslim background.
- the formation of new missionary teams with suitable team leaders to begin ministry in northern cities.
- our internship programme to yield lasting fruit for world missions.
- community rebuilding efforts in the northeast, a region impacted by violence.
- peace and stability in troubled regions.
- persecuted believers to endure hardship and practice love and forgiveness.
- effective and expanded ministries to widows, orphans, people with disabilities, the abused, and other vulnerable communities.
- the Nigerian church to experience a powerful, Spirit-led revival.

North Africa

Prayer Notes



Vision

Of the 95 million people in North Africa, only a handful worship the Lord Jesus Christ. We seek to creatively cross barriers into the Muslim world, proclaiming the gospel where Christ is not known. We aim to accelerate placements of personnel where they are most needed by developing partnerships with like-minded organisations. We envision expansion through missional businesses, Professionals in Mission, and bringing in consultants for transformational development in the most vulnerable segments of society. Not only do we aim to establish ministries in coastal urban and rural centres, but we are trusting God to bring the gospel south to the peoples of the Sahara Desert.

Ministry

Disciple making and church development through:

- a language-learning business
- a recreation manufacturing business
- the music and recording industry
- a food processing business
- a tourism business
- refurbished computer sales
- a clothing rental business
- community development
- capacity building with vulnerable people
- third-culture kid (TCK) education

For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

HABAKKUK 2:14

Communities where Christ is least known

Urban unemployed youth

In one country, 33 per cent of those under 30 are unemployed and over 40 per cent of university graduates are unemployed. One graduate said, “An unemployed is not a person... Society itself does not accept him.”* We create businesses that hire young people, equipping them as productive members of society. We model and speak of Christ, demonstrating how Christ can transform lives in workplaces.

People in need

In North Africa, the poor are usually those most steeped in Islam. Education and capacity building can be keys to open minds to creative ideas, while love and encouragement open hearts to meet the Saviour. We partner with those whose vision is to be agents of transformation by coming alongside local initiatives.

The arts and media

We believe in the power of arts and media to impact society deeply. Truth that comes through popular music can be highly influential. We are exploring how music and visual arts can be avenues to glorify Christ.

Nomads

Among the 99 ethnic groups in North Africa, 25 are nomads or have segments of nomadic people. Very few workers bring the gospel to them. Working with nomads is challenging, requiring creative solutions in housing and ministry methods.

Pray for

- ministries to launch in two more North African countries this year.
- more workers from all over the world, including business people, professionals, interns and skilled labourers.
- the Holy Spirit to prepare hearts and give dreams and visions to many.
- that our workers will keep in step with the Spirit and remain undistracted by this spiritually hostile environment through the guidance of the Good Shepherd.
- creativity, perseverance, wisdom and investors for our business people.
- our workers in the south to find ways to reach desert tribes.
- war to stop and police states to become freedom, opening doors for workers.
- discovery of ministry opportunities and chances for recruitment.
- unity in the small Church spanning North Africa.
- perseverance and love for our workers, as they draw people from cultures of tension and jealousy to a culture of grace through discipleship.
- fellowship for our singles and protection for our families.

**Breaking the Barriers to Youth Inclusion*, p. 24, World Bank 2014

Pakistan

Prayer Notes



Vision

By faith, and looking unto Jesus, we strive to:

- see strong churches actively and sacrificially involved in missions within Pakistan and beyond.
- partner with these churches to see resilient fellowships established where Christ is not known.
- encourage and support Christian educators in raising educational standards.
- see poor and marginalised families better integrated into society, through education and medical assistance.
- see new workers become established in effective ministry in Pakistan.

Ministry

- Church planting
- Leadership training
- Rural education
- Rural medical assistance
- Disciple-making training
- Business as mission
- Bible college ministry
- Missionary children education
- Language and cultural learning
- Member care
- Welcoming new workers
- Christian schools
- Vocational training for youth
- Women and children

*For you, O LORD
have made me glad
by your work; at
the work of your
hands I will sing
for joy.*

PSALM 86:5

Communities where Christ is least known

Quetta Hazara

The Quetta Hazara are mainly Shia Muslims who have suffered greatly from terrorist attacks. Local Christians are reaching out, but SIM is still unable to visit this high security area.



Marwari Bhil and Mengwal

These people groups are mainly Hindu subsistence farmers, with limited access to education, health facilities and water. SIM has been ministering amongst these groups since the 1960s, but vast areas are still not reached.

The gypsies of Lahore

The gypsies often live in tents and make a living collecting rubbish. Gypsy children are poorly educated, and their parents often send them to work as garbage pickers. SIM partners with local Christians in ministry to reach the gypsies of Lahore.

Punjabis

The Punjab region is estimated to be 96.82 per cent Muslim. Christians make up around 2.6 per cent of the population. Pray for positive relationships amongst Christians and their neighbours.

Pray for

- visas for new personnel, visa renewals for existing personnel and good relationships with officials.
- SIM leadership and personnel development.
- ongoing training of Christian leaders.
- people from all ethnic backgrounds to come to know Jesus Christ.
- support for church ministries and outreach.
- safety for our teams and power and wisdom from the Holy Spirit.
- integrity and wisdom for government officials.
- those suffering through poverty, unemployment, lack of education and poor healthcare.
- police and security guards who are in difficult and sometimes dangerous jobs.
- new teachers and boarding parents for Murree Christian School.
- SIM children's friendships, education, health, safety and spiritual growth.
- more missionaries to join the following teams: business, Bible teachers, administrators, technical support and school teachers.

Paraguay

Prayer Notes



Vision

Convinced of God's love for all, we believe he has called us to be witnesses of his good news and to make disciples of Jesus Christ where he is least known in Paraguay and around the world. In pursuit of those goals:

- we bring God glory as multi-skilled, multi-national ministry teams.
- we demonstrate his love among those living and dying without him.
- we train believers to serve and lead local churches to grow and spread the Church throughout Paraguay's interior.
- we interact with many churches and organisations to help send his people to where He is calling them to serve.

Ministry

- Outreach to Paraguay's interior
- Rural church planting
- Educational ministries
- Serving and equipping the Church in Paraguay's interior
- Youth ministry and camping
- Leadership training
- First Nations (indigenous people) partnerships
- Optometry partnership and discipleship
- Legal advocacy and discipleship
- Multimedia production
- Missionary services

For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:14

Communities where Christ is least known

Rural families who are subsistence farmers

Nearly half of Paraguay's population live in non-urban, dispersed and subsistence communities. Oral learning in the Guaraní language is strongly preferred. Using oral methods, church planting teams can evangelise, disciple and train church leaders, regardless of the leaders' literacy levels, so that these leaders may know and teach God's Word.



Young churches with young faith

Nearly half of Paraguay's population are under 20 years old, and many evangelical churches are no older. With such a young faith community, it is critical that these churches be equipped to teach and disciple the next generation. SIM Paraguay is training both rural and urban church leaders in youth and camp ministry. In addition to local weekend youth activities, Paraguayan youth leaders organise summer and winter camps that bring together young believers from around the country.

Indigenous communities

Many of those who belong to Paraguay's 19 indigenous groups live and die in small, scattered communities without sufficient access to God's good news. SIM Paraguay is addressing this need by recording Scripture and Bible materials into local languages and partnering with those burdened for indigenous peoples. Also, a new SIM team of missionary families is answering a partnership invitation from the indigenous church leaders to unite in evangelism and discipleship efforts.

Pray for

- outreaches through Bible studies and education in communities where Bible-teaching churches do not yet exist.
- trained youth leaders to continue using what they have learned and be successful in their local youth ministries and regional camps.
- Paraguayan believers to be equipped to lead their churches and organise local ministries.
- Both new and old SIM Paraguay families to continue learning the local culture and language, in order to effectively demonstrate God's love and collaborate successfully with local partners.
- partnerships with many others to further mobilise Paraguayan churches to send Paraguayan workers nationally and internationally.

Peru

Prayer Notes



Vision

The purpose of SIM Peru is to glorify God by partnering with the Peruvian Church to fulfil Christ's Commission.

Ministry

- Oral Bible teaching
- Capacity building in churches through ministries tailored to men, women, children, youth and leaders
- Camp La Joya in Arequipa and in Abancay
- Missions capacity building, training and mobilisation
- Community service ministries, including a breakfast programme, homework clubs and water projects
- Dental work in a mission hospital and in villages
- University student ministry and student-focused English ministry
- Preparation of children's materials for Sunday schools and vacation Bible schools
- Sunday school teacher training
- Sports Friends
- Prison ministry
- Administration

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

EPHESIANS 2:10

Communities where Christ is least known

Foreign prisoners in Lima

Peru is the second-highest exporter of cocaine in the world. An estimated 200 foreign men and women are in prison, having been arrested as drug mules. Peruvian prisons provide the basics: a mattress and meals. Inmates must buy or rely on family to provide toiletries, towels and sheets for their beds.



Mary and her small team of volunteers visit the foreign, English-speaking women in two prisons and provide humanitarian support for these women who are far away from their homes and families.

There is only one English-speaking evangelical prison ministry in Lima, and it is more than 20 years old. Inmates often have had difficult lives, but they share a common need for Christ. We visit weekly, study the Bible together and meet with those on parole, sharing the gospel and offering a relationship of trust and friendship where Christ is the centre.

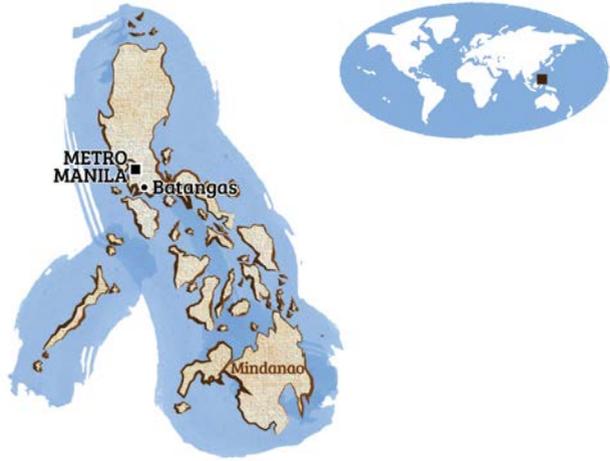
Every few years there is a shift in what countries the prisoners come from, as the women are targeted in their passport countries by the drug cartels. Recently, there has been a change from English-speaking to Spanish-speaking countries. There is a need for an evangelical Spanish-speaking prison ministry in Lima, as well as an English-speaking men's prison ministry.

Pray for

- Mary and her prison ministry team, and for more men and women to join them.
- the women inside the prisons to respond to the gospel message.
- spiritual growth in those who have been released and made a profession of faith.
- the ministry in the Apurimac region to reach those who don't know Christ and for new church plants in towns and villages where there are no churches.
- God to raise up godly and faithful leaders in the Peruvian Church and for the ministry of theological education to train and equip these leaders.
- the mobilisation ministry to awaken Peruvian churches to the gospel needs in their communities and across borders, so that Peruvians may reach those who don't know Christ yet.
- all our missionaries, as they partner with evangelical churches and Peruvian Christians. Pray that our workers will be effective facilitators and mentors, strengthening local believers in their faith and ministry.
- the many Peruvians getting to know Christ through our ministries, that they will grow in their faith and become faithful and responsible leaders, whose lives will be testimonies in their communities.

Philippines

Prayer Notes



Vision

In partnership with churches and organisations, we make disciples of Jesus Christ by engaging communities of Muslim faith and communities of migrants, among whom He is least known. We also mobilise and equip Filipinos for cross-cultural ministry.

Ministry

- Children's ministry, through feeding and education
- Women's ministry, through livelihood and missional business
- Youth ministry, through scholarships, sports and youth camps
- Disciple making, mentoring, counselling and member care
- Oral Bible storying
- Bible and literature translation
- Ethnomusicology
- Hospital visitation ministry
- International student ministry
- Christian academy and Bible school teaching
- Disaster response through relief, medical and psychosocial support
- Video production
- Promotion, mobilisation and recruitment in churches and with individuals
- Partnership and networking

Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

1 CORINTHIANS 15:58

Communities where Christ is least known

Muslim peoples in the southern Philippines

The Philippines is home to 14 Muslim groups, all originating from Mindanao. Each group has a unique culture, but all share the same faith, which is mixed with animistic practices.

For years, they have fought for autonomy from the government. Both the failure of past peace talks and terroristic activities have resulted in armed conflicts, causing death and the displacement of people. In July 2018, the Bangsamoro Basic Law (BBL) was signed by the Philippine president.

Pray that the BBL will lead to success for peace talks and a decline in terrorism. Pray that the BBL will not hinder the ongoing work in various communities. Pray for protection and wisdom for the SIM workers and Muslim-background believers reaching out to Muslims. Pray that through the ministries of SIM Philippines and our partners, more Muslims will come to know the Prince of Peace.



Migrant Muslim peoples

The establishment of the Islamic Centre in Manila in 1964 led to the building of several mosques and the formation of surrounding Muslim communities. Many Muslims fled to Manila and other cities following armed conflict in Mindanao.

In partnership with like-minded organisations and churches, SIM Philippines is serving in five urban poor communities in metro Manila and other communities in Batangas and Davao, through ministries related to children, youth, women and livelihood.

Pray for

- our team's disciple-making efforts and the maturing of a fellowship of Muslim-background believers. Pray that these believers will grow in the grace and knowledge of the Lord Jesus.
- the new community in Davao, which God has opened up to us through a women's livelihood ministry.
- the livelihood initiatives to bring holistic Christian transformation.
- creative ways to reach and disciple international students and other migrants.
- more workers and for the protection and fruitfulness of SIM Philippines' missionaries in various ministries.
- more Filipino churches and individuals to engage in Muslim ministries and in sending and caring for missionaries.
- ongoing efforts to mobilise, network and develop good partnerships.

Senegal

Prayer Notes



Vision

Compelled by God's great love and empowered by the Holy Spirit, the vision of the SIM Senegal team is to glorify God by:

- crossing barriers to proclaim Christ.
- living out the gospel among those who live and die without Him.
- expressing Christ's love and compassion through holistic ministry.
- discipling people into biblically healthy churches and through diverse ministries.
- working together with churches to fulfil God's mission across cultures, locally and globally.

Ministry

- Teaching English
- Medical ministries
- Sports Friends
- Leadership and administration
- Training centre offering employment skills and Christian literature
- Teaching and dorm parenting missionary kids
- Prison ministry
- Evangelism, disciple making and church planting
- Producing and distributing Wolofal Scriptures
- Agriculture and development

Heal me, LORD, and I will be healed; save me and I will be saved, for you are the one I praise.

JEREMIAH 17:14

Communities where Christ is least known

The Wolof

There are about five million Wolof in Senegal, and their influence is felt nationwide. However, only only about 200 follow Jesus among the Senegalese Wolof population, while the rest follow Islam, most commonly a form of folk Islam.



Wolof believers – There is a saying in Senegal that to be Wolof is to be Muslim. So, those who have decided to follow Christ face persecution. At times this is physical, but it is regularly social when they are excluded from their communities.

Pray for

- SIM's efforts to bring the gospel to the Wolof and to disciple those who show interest in Christianity. We attempt to help them understand sin and how Jesus brings hope and healing to this problem.
- many Wolof adults and children to come to believe in Jesus and for strong Wolof churches to grow. Many are attracted to the gospel but find the idea of leaving their religion to be overwhelming. Pray for the Spirit's work in their lives.
- Wolof Christians to persevere and witness, so that their faithfulness to Christ may point many others to Him.
- the Lord to give the SIM Senegal team wisdom and to bless and use each ministry of our team.
- God to answer prayers for both physical and spiritual healing among the Wolof.

South Africa

Prayer Notes



Vision

By faith, we see...

- Christ's love made known through his people to communities where He is least known.
- the people of Christ's church in South Africa proclaiming the Word and actively promoting reconciliation as they embrace diversity and cross barriers to obey God's call to reach the lost.
- many people trained and equipped to serve both locally and abroad.

Ministry

- Mobilisation and training for cross-cultural service
- Reaching children, youth and young adults
- Evangelism in Muslim communities
- Church planting in areas where Christ is least known
- Theological and leadership development
- Ambassador development
- Equipping workers
- Intentional discipleship

23 *For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.*

2 CORINTHIANS 5:14-15

Communities where Christ is least known

Muslims

The Muslim population in South Africa is growing. Some are new converts, often because of marriage, while others come from places such as Somalia, Pakistan and North Africa. We are hoping to develop programmes to help the church reach out to its Muslim neighbours and show Christ's love.

Hindus

South Africa is home to the largest number of Indians residing outside of India. Hinduism is their main religion, and very few Christian workers serve among them.

Prophetic movement

Many new churches are springing up in South Africa, but there is a trend in these churches toward false teaching. A blend of Christian and African religious practices is leading many people astray.

Pray for

- true reconciliation and transformation in South Africa.
- training for leaders to more deeply understand the Scriptures.
- an awakening among many South African churches, especially those without a history of sending missionaries.
- effective training for service in cross-cultural missions.
- workers to take the gospel to and minister among the least reached, including children, youth, young adults and Muslims.
- the development of an SIM ambassador programme in South African churches.
- a spirit of oneness in purpose and heart among all those who serve with SIM South Africa.

South Sudan and Sudan

Prayer Notes



Vision

By faith, we see:

- the Church in South Sudan committing to send missionaries.
- the 130,000 people in Mabaan's refugee camp reached with the gospel of salvation.
- refugee believers returning to their homes and taking the gospel with them.
- the people of Sudan coming to a saving faith in Jesus Christ.

Ministry

- Replicating missional churches
- Leadership and administrative services
- Discipleship and strengthening the Church

23

Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the festival. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, with a request. "Sir," they said, "we would like to see Jesus."

JOHN 12:20-21

Communities where Christ is least known

Refugee community

The county of Mabaan in South Sudan hosts 18 different tribes, who are all originally from Sudan.

Many of these tribes do not have any Christian witness around their home area. The refugees are being exposed to Christ and his Word in the refugee camps. Communities of faith are popping up in different places within the refugee camp.



Beyond borders

A Sudanese refugee who was in the camps in South Sudan was called by God to serve among his people in a refugee area in Ethiopia. In response, his host community in Mabaan, South Sudan, has now sent out their first two missionaries. This is a testimony that the church is looking beyond its borders and sending out workers into the Lord's harvest field.

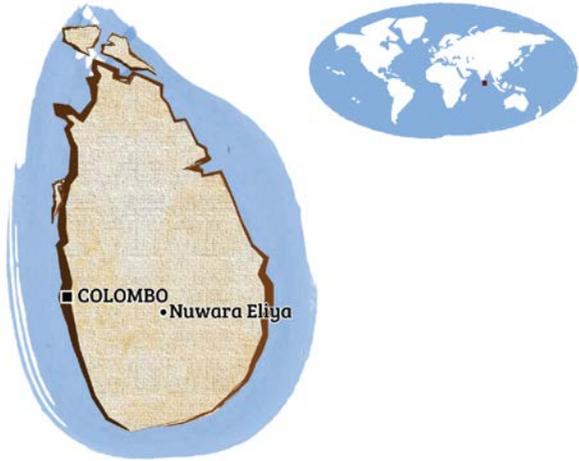


Pray for

- Sudanese and South Sudanese churches to send out more missionaries across cultures.
- each of the refugees hosted in South Sudan to come to faith in Jesus.
- God's shalom to overtake hearts wounded by decades of conflict.
- strength for our team and that we would not grow weary.
- our team to know that we are loved by God, not because of what we do but because we are his children.
- the Lord of the Harvest to send more workers into his harvest field.

Sri Lanka

Prayer Notes



Vision

To see communities transformed by the gospel and empowered in society.

Ministry

- Evangelism seminars and training
- Disciplemaking
- Tract ministry
- Counsellor training at Colombo Theological Seminary
- Seminary instruction
- English instruction
- Counselling women and couples
- Basic counselling seminars
- Marriage and family seminars
- Trauma healing training
- Local church-based ministries to build up the Body of Christ

*I have become
all things to all
people so that by
all possible means I
might save some.*

1 CORINTHIANS 9:22B

Communities where Christ is least known

Muslims

Muslims comprise almost 10 per cent (approximately 2.1 million) of Sri Lanka's population and their numbers are increasing.

The Moors, who make up a significant portion of the Muslim community, are mainly ancestors of the Arabs who came as traders. Muslim tradesmen who arrived from India are also counted in this group. The Malays, a smaller Muslim group found in Sri Lanka, are of Malaysian and Indonesian descent.



Muslim influence has grown due to intermarrying between these people groups and Sri Lankans, political leadership and economic sway. The influence of Muslims far exceeds their numbers. Even though a few hundred people among them have come to follow Christ, there are no churches with congregants or pastors from Muslim backgrounds.

In the last few decades, a small segment of the Church has become conscious of the need to share God's love with these neighbours. There has been little opposition or initiation of gospel work among Muslim communities.

SIM is part of a network whose goal is to reach these people through organising conferences, providing training and bringing awareness and direction to the Church about outreach to Muslims.

Pray for

- the Church, that it will become aware of the gospel need in Sri Lankan Muslim communities and will dispel inhibitions about relating to them and will learn how best to share the gospel.
- the salvation of the 2.1 million Muslims who live in Sri Lanka.
- God to send labourers from Sri Lanka and overseas to train the Church to reach this community.
- effective leadership of the Muslim Network in its efforts to come up with a common strategy for evangelism and church planting.
- more volunteers and unity in the network.
- new believers to become disciples and church planters among their own people.
- two church planters to come forward to plant churches in each of the 25 districts of the island.

Switzerland

Prayer Notes



Vision

Our vision is for people of all cultures to know God.

By faith we:

- live and serve as disciples of Jesus Christ.
- serve the churches.
- mobilise, orient, empower and accompany workers in cross-cultural ministry.

Ministry

The SIM Switzerland office is dedicated to:

- connecting with churches in the parts of Switzerland that speak French and German
- sending Christians into cross-cultural ministries.
- providing good administrative support and member care.
- raising spiritual and financial support.
- maintaining modern and relevant communication tools in German, French and, on occasion, Italian.
- facilitating the sending of missionaries from Austria, the Czech Republic, Italy and Romania.

*Shout for joy to the
Lord, all the earth.
Worship the Lord
with gladness;
come before him
with joyful songs.*

PSALM 100:1-2

Communities where Christ is least known

Switzerland's changing demographics

In the last 40 years, Switzerland has experienced changes on the religious scene. The group identified as “without any religion” has grown from less than one per cent to now 25 per cent of the population. Only the Roman Catholic Church currently has more adherents than it did four decades ago, with 37 per cent of the population identifying with this faith tradition. During this period, the Protestant Church lost many of its members and has been reduced to 24 per cent. About 5 per cent of the people in Switzerland are Muslims.



The number of evangelicals is growing but continues to remain at around 2 to 3 per cent. Recent studies have found that these evangelical churches reach only “institutionally-minded people,” and these churches make little impact on the population, particularly the younger generation. Faith is not accepted as relevant in modern Swiss society – a significant challenge for mission workers. Church leaders must imagine new and creative ways to connect with individuals and demonstrate the importance of the gospel. The same studies also revealed a lack of churches in rural and suburban zones, which shows the need for spiritual influence through the good news of the Saviour.

Pray for

- good networking and partnership with churches.
- a vision for cross-cultural work, especially among the younger generation.
- creative ways to mobilise people for mission work.
- an increase in the number of missionaries.
- development of SIM Switzerland's communication tools.
- the care and flourishing of our missionaries.
- God's provision of financial support.
- wisdom in facilitating the sending of workers from Austria, the Czech Republic, Italy and Romania.
- guidance for the renewal of the personnel in the Swiss office, as 50 per cent of the team will retire in the next three years.
- fruitful collaboration with our partner organisations.

Tanzania

Prayer Notes



Vision

By faith, we see the Church mobilised to disciple coastal people.

SIM Tanzania's motto is "the Coast for Christ, by the Church."

Ministry

- Outreach and church planting in villages
- Disciple making and training
- Training women through a small income-generating project to bake and handcraft
- Church-school teacher training
- Teaching the Bible at local schools
- Starting a Christian primary school with local churches
- Encouraging inter-denominational unity between churches
- Showing the Jesus Film
- Literature distribution

25

And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

HEBREW 11:6

Communities where Christ is least known

Those in mud houses

Mud houses are a common sight in southern Tanzania. In many of the villages where Christ is not known, the people are used to the constant maintenance that such houses require.

Paul's words in 1 Corinthians 3:13-14 are: "Whatever we build on this foundation will be tested by fire... We will be rewarded if our building is left standing." Without Christ, it will be impossible.

The Church is called to build. Together, let us build communities which will stand on the Day of Judgment. We build by witnessing, sharing from our own lives and giving of ourselves.

People in these communities go through the motions many times. They wake up, repair their fishing nets, go out on the fishing boat or dhow, and return with just enough to last the day. Help us by praying that they will want more – more of life and, ultimately, Life himself: Jesus Christ.



Pray for

- more people to hear the gospel of Christ and accept salvation.
- local churches to work together in unity to reach their neighbours who live and die without Christ.
- perseverance for leaders of newly-planted churches, as they struggle daily to sustain themselves and serve their churches.
- new believers to stand firm as they face challenges and discouragements.
- God's blessing as we open and run a Christian primary school in a dominantly Muslim town.
- short-term volunteers to assist and encourage the teachers at the new school.
- each missionary to be a disciple and a disciple maker.
- the possibility to start a youth centre where young people can be challenged and built into leaders.

Thailand

Prayer Notes



Vision

By faith, we see the least-reached communities of Thailand authentically responding to the gospel and being disciplined into biblically-based, community-transforming churches that engage in mission.

Motivated by Christ's love, we strive to make disciples where He is not yet known.

Ministry

- Evangelism and church planting
- University ministry
- Sports Friends
- Radical Grace, an HIV outreach ministry
- Missionary children education
- Leadership and administration
- English teaching
- Business for transformation
- Counselling

25

I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people.

EPHESIANS 1:18

Communities where Christ is least known

Ayutthaya

Ayutthaya, the former capital of Thailand is home to approximately one million people, and only around 700 of these people know Christ. Ten of the 16 districts in the province have no church that can reach out to the community.

A large Muslim community makes up 10 to 12 per cent of the population, but there are no known Christian workers reaching this group. SIM is forming a multi-skilled, multi-ethnic church planting team to bring the gospel to this least-reached area of Thailand.

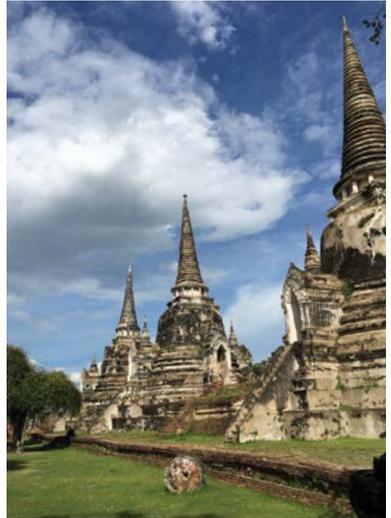


Isaan

Thailand's largest and poorest region is home to more than 21 million people, of whom around 0.2 per cent are evangelical Christians.

In recent years, Isaan's mainly agricultural economy has led people to move to bigger cities to seek employment. Often, this has meant that young children are left in Isaan and raised by grandparents or other relatives, resulting in family separation. This opens up an opportunity for SIM workers to bring hope and healing to broken families.

SIM is engaging in church planting and university outreach throughout regions that have never heard the gospel.



Pray for

- God to bring more workers to join multi-skilled church planting teams that are reaching the province of Ayutthaya and the Isaan region.
- God to give strength and patience to those already working in the many least-reached areas of Thailand.
- more workers willing to guide ministries through leadership and administration.

Togo

Prayer Notes



Vision

We see dynamic, interdependent partnerships and mutually nurturing relationships with Evangelical Church Winning All (ECWA), other mission organisations and churches. We respond together to spiritual challenges in modern Togo and beyond, beginning with a focus on several Muslim people groups.

Ministry

- Leadership and theological training
- Church partnerships
- Friendship evangelism and discipleship among the local majority people group, including use of media ministries
- Partnering with believers from the local majority people to reach and disciple their own
- Women's ministry

*Sing to the LORD,
praise his name;
proclaim his
salvation day
after day. Declare
his glory among
the nations, his
marvelous deeds
among all peoples.*

PSALM 96:2-3

Communities where Christ is least known

Nomadic cattle herders

Traditionally nomadic cattle herders of West Africa have migrated into Togo, coming south from Burkina Faso and west from Benin. Well over 100,000 of them are now spread throughout the country, with a larger concentration in the north. Some continue the nomadic lifestyle, herding their cattle over great distances in search of pasture and water.



Others have settled down, often living in small villages around those who practice the same religion. Many still have cattle and herd them over smaller areas, while others earn a living through farming, selling milk and cheese, or running shops. The majority hold to their distinct culture, but this is more difficult for those who live among other people groups and whose children attend school. Togolese tend to marginalise this people group, and there are frequent cases of conflict between the herders and neighbouring farmers.

Nomadic cattle herders are extremely resistant to Christianity. Usually, a gospel presentation from an outsider is rejected immediately. However, intentional friendships and the Holy Spirit's power can break through barriers, as in the case of Amadou, who came to know the Lord through the kindness of Christians during his brother's illness and eventual death. Before deciding to follow Jesus, those on mission among this people group undergo a long process of developing trust and confidence.

Pray for

- Togolese Christians to develop love and a burden for reaching their unbelieving neighbours.
- communities of Christ followers to be established within least-reached people groups, specifically the Met, the Tchamba, the Bago, the Koussountou, the Fulani and the Lokpa.
- funding for a farming and disciple-making project to assist new Met believers; wisdom during the start of the project.
- maturity in church planting, disciple making, mission outreach and leadership training for ECWA-Togo churches.
- the planning of leadership development initiatives for pastors, elders and missionaries, with particular attention to ECWA's new Bible institute.

United Kingdom

Prayer Notes



Vision

We work hand in hand with evangelical churches to send and receive gospel workers who are equipped for cross-cultural mission wherever people live and die without hearing God's good news. We do this by:

- mobilising prayer and churches in the UK and Ireland for cross-cultural evangelism, church planting and discipleship with SIM teams globally.
- strengthening churches and helping them:
 - in their Great Commission responsibilities, locally and globally
 - identify, recruit, train, orientate, deploy and care for cross-cultural workers from their congregations
 - receive missionaries from overseas with appropriate support, mentoring and training

Ministry

- Church-centred mission mobilisation
- Resource development for churches and leaders
- Promotion of prayer
- Selection and placement of mission workers
- Missionary development, support and care
- Receiving missionaries into UK churches
- Mission support services for church leaders
- Development of new mission opportunities
- Funding development

Remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

EPHESIANS 2:12-13

Communities where Christ is least known

Migrant and refugee communities

UK churches want to receive mission workers to help the churches reach migrants and refugees living in their communities.

After a successful pilot of our Engage programme, which brought Kenyan Daphne Kabeberi to a church in Scotland, we are now seeking to expand these opportunities to share the gospel cross-culturally.

Overseas workers can make connections with migrants and refugees, many of whom have no knowledge of Jesus. We would like to see multi-ethnic mission teams and healthy church life developing across barriers in UK society.



Pray for

- the number of mission workers sent from the UK to double from 150 to 300 by 2025 through the calling of the Lord of the Harvest.
- workers sent and received by UK churches to be faithful to God's Word and dependent on God's Spirit in the environments He has called them to.
- effective partnership between churches and our mobilisation and personnel support team.
- more people transitioning from short-term mission work to a lifetime of cross-cultural ministry service.
- good outcomes in our collaborative efforts with evangelical mission agencies in the UK and overseas, leading to many new believers and the formation of new churches in communities where there is little gospel witness.
- the #HowWillTheyHear campaign, a multi-agency collaborative mobilisation of prayer, Bibles, training tools and people equipped to share the gospel amongst migrants and refugees in Europe and the Middle East.
- God's favour in the relocation of our head office to Cambridge in 2019–20.
- Growth for churches and supporters as they engage diverse people for the extension of the gospel.

United States

Prayer Notes



Vision

SIM USA's mandate is to connect God's people to God's work in the world. Passionate to see the body of Christ in all places and among all peoples, we support SIM's efforts to make disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ in communities where He is least known.

Ministry

SIM USA serves as a catalyst for global missions, assisting evangelical churches and believers in the United States to:

- engage effectively in mission work,
- financially invest in SIM ministries and missionary support, and
- pray for SIM personnel, ministries and the people among whom we work.

Our goals include facilitating hundreds more people to serve long-term, and enhancing partnerships with donors and churches. We also prayerfully desire to see growth amongst our staff and capable leaders equipped to serve the ministry into the future.

In March of 2020, we welcome Randy Fairman as the new SIM USA director.

*As you help us
by your prayers.
Then many will
give thanks on
our behalf for the
gracious favor
granted us in
answer to the
prayers of many.*

2 CORINTHIANS 1:11

Communities where Christ is least known

Immigrants in urban centers

More than 44.5 million immigrants reside in the United States as of 2017 (Migration Information Source). Global movement to the US continues to grow, with large numbers of people settling in urban centers. Churches, SIM USA's Culture ConneXions team, and mission partners such as Global Frontier Mission minister among these neighbours to build relationships and share with them the gospel of Jesus Christ.



PHOTO: CHRISTOPHER BURNS

SIM/Asian Access Partnership for Japan

More than 99 percent of Japan's 125 million people do not know Jesus, making this the second largest population in the world that is living and dying without Him. SIM missionaries in Japan serve with Asian Access in cooperation with national partners in making disciples that will bless local communities in Jesus' name. Momentum is growing for a church multiplication movement, with the goal to see 2 per cent of Japanese following Jesus by 2023. The 2020 Olympics in Tokyo brings a fresh opportunity to reach new areas and identify new missionaries, thus building connections and capacity for further expansion.



Pray for

- churches, mission partners and SIM USA's Culture ConneXions team in urban centers as they seek to bring God's good news to people who've not heard it. Pray for a working of the Holy Spirit in these communities.
- increased SIM partnerships and long-term missionaries from among African-American, Asian-American and Hispanic churches. Pray that the whole Church in the US will be mobilised to fulfill the Great Commission, both locally and globally.
- Randy Fairman and his wife, Robin, as he transitions to the US director role.
- dozens of teams to be sent to churches across Japan for special outreach before the 2020 Olympics. Pray for lives to be changed and new missionaries to commit to longer-term service.
- for eight churches being planted in partnership with Japanese leaders to be established, and for the acceleration of church planting networks in new regions.

Uruguay

Prayer Notes



Vision

We are convinced that no one should live or die without hearing and understanding the gospel of Jesus Christ in Uruguay and around the world. For this reason, we believe that God has called SIM missionaries to this country to be instruments who reach, train and equip new generations of Uruguayans for Jesus Christ.

Ministry

- Church planting in least-reached areas
- Outreach to university students
- Outreach and Bible training for children
- Equipping the international population for local impact
- Youth Specialties: a leadership training and disciple-making programme
- Mentoring and cross-cultural skill building
- Todos Oirán: a missions and theological training programme
- Catalyst: a leadership training programme

Gently instruct those who oppose the truth in the hope that God will change those people's hearts, and they will learn the truth. Then they will come to their senses and escape from the Devil's trap. For they have been held captive by him to do whatever he wants.

2 TIMOTHY 2:25-26

Communities where Christ is least known

College-aged Uruguayans

Historically, Uruguay has been considered the most atheistic nation in the Americas, with nearly half the population identifying as “non-religious.” (This the highest percentage for any country in the Western Hemisphere.)

In the capital, Montevideo, where most of the population resides, entire neighbourhoods have no church presence. These neighbourhoods are home to various universities, with student bodies that have not heard the gospel living in nearby apartments.

As in traditionally religious nations, Uruguayan youth have begun to question their atheist upbringings and turn against the grain. Many young people have begun to reject the belief that the “natural” is all there is.

This new curiosity about spirituality means an increased interest in other faiths such as Mormonism (whose church membership has risen by 80 per cent in the past five years), Afro-Brazilian spiritism (the fastest growing religion in Uruguay) and New Age practices (which are syncretised into a startling number of people’s belief systems). However, it is also an unprecedented open door to proclaim Christ to this least-reached demographic.

Through church planting, leadership training and concerted efforts to pursue and mentor young people, the SIM Uruguay team continues to work in creative ways to see individuals find their hope in Jesus.



Pray for

- participants of SIM’s missions training programme to grow in their desire to know Christ more and make Him known globally.
- SIM Uruguay to reach and equip the next generation of Uruguayan disciple makers.
- increased and strengthened partnerships with mission organisations, local churches and other ministries to expand our reach to new areas and people groups.
- new church planting efforts, including those reaching low-resourced families.

Vietnam

Prayer Notes



Vision

Walking by faith in our loving Heavenly Father and empowered by His Holy Spirit, we trust God for:

- an established multi-ethnic team, vibrantly witnessing to the gospel through character, word and action in Vietnamese communities where Christ is least known.
- God's people in local, indigenous, mission-minded and growing churches to be and make disciples of Jesus within Vietnam and beyond.

Ministry

- Equipping: leadership development; theological and missiological education; training in missional business; sports ministry and training for biblically-guided relationships in homes, churches and communities
- Care for Vietnamese people dealing with surgeries, great loss, hospice and other traumatic circumstances by providing God's love and comfort through gospel-centred chaplaincy
- Engaging younger Vietnamese through missional businesses and campus ministries

...how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?

ROMANS 10:14

Communities where Christ is least known

Minority communities

An estimated 67 least-reached people groups live in Vietnam, some with members living in other countries around the world. Thirty of these groups have less than one percent professing Christianity, and 15 have no Christ followers at all. In communities like these, when one receives Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour, the new believer is eager to follow the biblical mandate to lead others to Christ, making disciples, baptising them and teaching all that God commanded (Matthew 28:19–20). Their response to the good news about Jesus is to tell others, and then plant and shepherd a church in their community.



These pastors have low education levels and almost no knowledge of the Bible. In fact, some do not even own a Bible. Their minority communities are compromised in many ways. As Christ followers, the risk of persecution is high. Their journey can be lonely with no one locally to encourage, guide and help them grow in their new faith.

Please pray for the pastors in these minority groups that have few or no Christ followers.

Pray for

- the nation of Vietnam, which is ambitious to become an industrialised middle-income country by 2020. Pray this will open opportunities to establish missional businesses, engage universities and introduce educational initiatives through which Vietnam's people will find their true purpose in the Lord.
- Communist Party members, government officials and military personnel to know Christ, because they serve as pillars in Vietnamese society.
- the Lord to provide new workers who will thrive in Vietnam and will be able to make disciples in culturally appropriate ways.
- believers and local churches to have a vision to reach those who have yet to hear of Jesus.
- approaches which will train Vietnamese to equip their own people and develop leaders, enabling kingdom growth and transformation, particularly among young people.
- communities in the north, south and middle regions that either have no church or a church that lacks sufficient pastoral leadership.
- minority communities that are minimally reached to hear the good news.
- courage and perseverance for those facing opposition and persecution.

WAMO West Africa Missions Office

Prayer Notes



Vision

Through the compelling love of Christ, the West Africa Missions Office:

- partners with the West African Church for greater synergy in global missions.
- mobilises and sends qualified, equipped missionaries from and through the West African Church all over the world to cross cultural barriers.
- enables the making of disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ in communities where He is least known by the missionaries sent from West Africa.

Ministry

- Mobilising in West Africa for the recruitment of new missionaries
- Partnering with local like-minded churches, mission organisations and other regional bodies in West Africa for global missions
- Training and sending missionaries from West Africa
- Mobilising for more prayer and financial support for missionaries

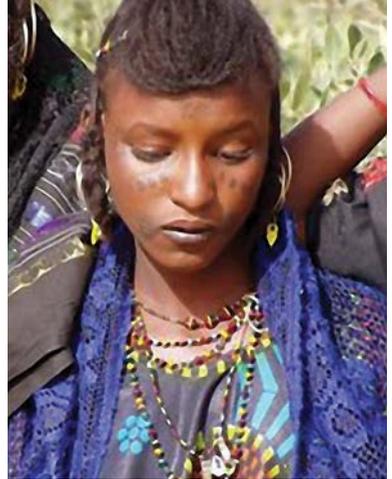
Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

MATTHEW 28:19

Communities where Christ is least known

The Fulani of Nigeria

The Fulani are nomadic people in Nigeria who speak a language called Fulfulde. They fiercely reject anything they perceive as contrary to their lifestyle of roaming with their cattle herds, including education and permanent homes. As a result of their strong rejection of education, most Fulani are not literate. They are found within the 10/40 Window.



Illiteracy among the Fulani is an obstacle for learning about Christ when the gospel is presented in written form. To reach the Fulani people, missionaries seek to assist them in their physical welfare and to build relationships and trust.

Among the Fulani people, Islam is the most dominant religion, with 99.65 per cent of the population adhering to it, while only 0.35 per cent profess Christianity. The population of the Fulani is approximately 15,972,000.

There is now a Fulfulde translation of the New Testament, so literate Fulani Christ followers can more easily access and study God's Word.

Pray for

- the few Christian believers among the Fulani to be teachers and disciples of Jesus Christ.
- the Fulani to experience Christ and the power of his love and grace.
- the Holy Spirit to give the Fulani a quick understanding of the gospel.
- the desire among the Fulani to prioritise education for their children.
- the government to find a stable solution to help the Fulani live peacefully among other ethnic groups.
- long-term labourers to live among the Fulani and share the love of Christ with them.
- faithful intercessors who will stand in the gap for the Hausa people.
- revelation through dreams and visions among the Hausa people.
- more churches to send and support of West African missionaries.
- missionaries to find and raise the necessary support.
- the leadership of the West Africa Missions Office.

West Malaysia

Prayer Notes



Vision

Our vision is to see every people group in this country reached with the Christ's love. So, our aims are for all the believers to be equipped with the vision, skills and resources to proclaim the message of reconciliation with God in word and deed among communities where Christ is not known.

- God's love be made known among the least-reached peoples, including migrants, refugees and international students in West Malaysia.
- God to establish a collaboration of churches, mission groups, and Christian leaders in making disciples of our Lord Jesus in communities where He is least known, ministering at home and overseas.

Ministry

- Humanitarian ministries among the migrants and refugees
- Friendship evangelism among the international students
- Partnership in theological education and leadership trainings
- Community-building programmes among the diaspora in the cities.

And should not I pity Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than 120,000 persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also much cattle?

JONAH 4:11

Communities where Christ is least known

Orang Asli

The Orang Asli, or “original people,” form only 0.6 per cent of the population, numbering about 205,000 in the West Malaysia. Officially, there are 18 tribes of Orang Asli in Malaysia, each with its own culture, religion and language. They are the oldest people groups of Malaysia, but are also the poorest and most oppressed in the country. Traditionally, the Orang Asli are animists who believe in many spirits. Although some have decided to follow Islam or Christianity, others continue to practice their traditional faith. They have retreated further back into the forest to avoid the demands to assimilate to majority culture or convert to another religion.

Migrants and refugees

Many people have come to Malaysia in search of a decent life and a better future for their families. There are an estimated six million migrants in Malaysia, but less than half of them are documented. The rest live and work in the country without proper work permits. As of end of October 2016, there were some 150,669 refugees and asylum-seekers registered with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Malaysia. Like undocumented migrants, refugees don't have legal rights. They are unable to make their voices heard, and their human rights are often violated. God is calling us all to reach out to them with Christ's love.

International students

International students continue to choose Malaysia as a preferred higher education destination due to the quality education offered in the country. At present, around 180,000 foreign students are pursuing their higher education in the country. Most of the international students originate from Southeast Asia, the Middle East, Middle Asia and African countries, with a minimal number also from Europe. International Student Ministry in West Malaysia seeks to engage students with the Gospel through various means, making disciples who can engage with their own culture when they return home.

Pray for

- the removal of barriers, so that God's love can be shared freely across the country to all.
- more trained workers to serve amongst the migrants, refugees and international students.
- increased participation and partnership with local churches to do God's mission at doorsteps.
- resources and staff to mobilise local churches and support incoming workers.

Zambia

Prayer Notes



Vision

The vision of SIM Zambia is to be a witness to Christ's love where He is least known, expressing God's love and compassion and teaching disciples to do likewise, resulting in Christ-centred churches across Zambia.

Ministry

- Youth ministry
- Health ministry
- Community development
- Disciple making and leadership training
- Primary and secondary education
- University campus ministry
- Prison ministry
- Library resourcing for Bible colleges, youth centres and churches
- Theological education

And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

COLOSSIANS 3:17

Communities where Christ is least known

Asian diaspora

The mainland Chinese diaspora is a very fast-growing community, which is entering Zambia to do business and construction.

Most are Mandarin speakers and see little need to learn any of the trade languages of Zambia (English or vernacular).

The small Chinese church in this community continues to receive training in evangelism from visiting pastors. They reached a significant milestone this past year, celebrating their 10-year anniversary.

The Indian diaspora is mainly in the business sector and has been in Zambia for many years. They tend to hold Muslim or Hindu beliefs.



PHOTO: SANDY ROBERTS

Pray for

- our new director as he leads the team in reviewing and refining the field ministry's vision and strategic plan.
- God to send the right people to fill key personnel needs within Zambia.
- the youth centres as they develop programmes to disciple and encourage youth to grow in their faith.
- our health workers, as they minister to the physical and spiritual needs of their patients.
- our community development ministries (such as Foundations for Farming) that help teach rural farmers better ways to grow food for their families. Pray that our workers will also have opportunities to make a spiritual impact in their trainees' lives.
- our disciple making and leadership training ministries, that they would impact individuals who will then be able to share their faith with others.
- students to learn and hear God's Word.
- more chaplains to serve in Zambia's prisons, schools and hospitals.
- the many Chinese people who need to hear the gospel. Pray that evangelism training will equip the members of the Chinese Church to share the gospel with others.

Zimbabwe

Prayer Notes



Vision

By faith, we see:

- Zimbabwe fully evangelised, so that no one may live and die without hearing the gospel and responding to it.
- believers disciplined to live out the gospel in word and deed.
- Christ's compassionate love shared among the poor, the marginalised and the hurting.

Ministry

- Leadership development and disciple making
- Children and youth ministries
- Famine relief, sustainable agriculture and horticulture
- Missions mobilisation
- Theological training
- Evangelism among cults
- Hope for Life, which addresses HIV and related issues
- Outreach geared toward disadvantaged girls
- Our Research Desk, which feeds into and contextualises all ministries

Communities where Christ is least known

The Coloured community

Zimbabwean Coloureds are a mixed-race people group of European and African descent. Making up 0.1 per cent of Zimbabwe's population, the majority live in urban areas.

They are affected by an identity crisis, due to historic tensions. During Zimbabwe's war for independence, Coloureds were conscripted to fight alongside the colonial regime, which made them unfavourable in the eyes of the post-independence government. Many Coloureds lost senior jobs in government, and when land was redistributed in the 2000s, they once again had no share.

Now, they continue to have difficulty getting government-supported loans for entrepreneurialships. They complain of being disenfranchised and viewed as foreigners in their country of birth. Many are bitter and feel misunderstood, and some have resorted to drug, substance and alcohol abuse.

They are generally uninterested in religion, aside from a few being nominal Catholics. Pray that the Lord sends missionaries to proclaim the gospel and make disciples amongst this people group. There are very few in the majority of churches in Zimbabwe.



Pray for

- the Zimbabwean Church to look outwards and take the gospel to people who have not heard it, both in Zimbabwe and beyond its borders.
- disciple-making ministries to take root in every church
- and strengthen believers.
- God to protect the nation and his Church against the increase and threat of Islam.
- all of SIM Zimbabwe's ministries to impact the surrounding communities.
- social, political and economic stability after the last elections.

Sports Friends

Prayer Notes



Vision

Our vision is to see a global movement of local church-centred sports ministries transforming lives and strengthening communities with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

We strive to:

- Stimulate a vision for local churches and church planters to use sports as a powerful ministry tool.
- Train Christian leaders to develop fruitful, church-centred sports ministries that make disciples of Jesus through sports.
- Equip coaches for effective service by providing ongoing support and encouragement to help them live, lead, minister and coach for the glory of God.
- Develop the leadership capacity of sports ministry coordinators, who will provide vision, guidance and management for the local sports ministry movement and develop coaches at the local church level.

Ministry

In 14 countries, Sports Friends is passionately training and equipping local church leaders and church planters to extend the love of God into their communities through strategic sports ministries. Weekly sports programmes and ongoing disciple-making are complemented by the Sports Friends camping ministry.

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.

1 PETER 4:10

The power of a coach

Billy Graham once said, “A coach will influence more people in one year than the average person will in an entire lifetime.”

There are now more than 12,000 Sports Friends-trained coaches ministering to over 265,000 young people on a weekly basis. These coaches seek to foster an environment of safety, nurture and love that often stands in stark contrast to the day-to-day realities for many youth around the world.

The love of Christ is so inviting, so comforting, so strengthening, and many are impacted for all eternity. This impact trickles down to families and communities, as young people live out the love they have received from their coaches. Parents will even call coaches to tell them of changes in how their child is handling certain life situations or responding differently to struggles at home.

These coaches are the very heart of Sports Friends and are catalysts for transformation not only in young people’s lives, but also in the lives of their families, friends and community members. Praise God for the thousands of youth coming to faith in Christ and growing as his disciples as a result of the example and witness of Sports Friends-trained coaches all around the world.

Thank you for joining with us in prayer for another exciting year of ministry. We praise God for his goodness and faithfulness!

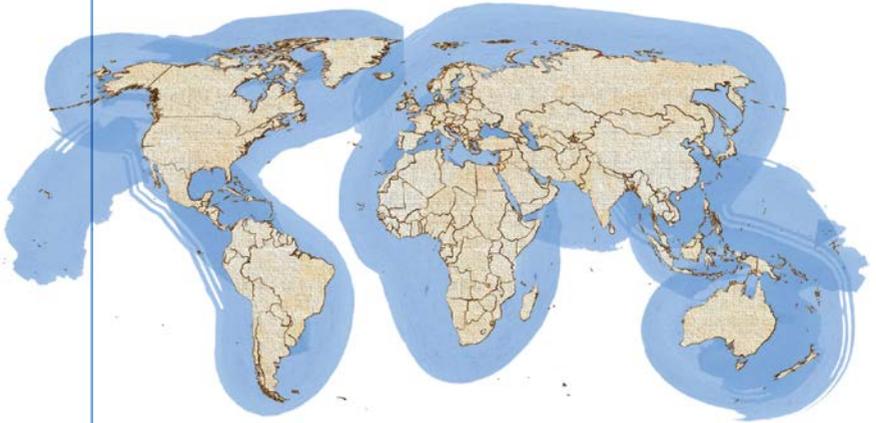


Pray for

- the more than 12,000 coaches who have been trained by Sports Friends. Pray they would be effective in making disciples of Jesus as they live, lead, minister and coach for the glory of God.
- the young people who are living out Christ’s love amongst their families and communities. Pray that families would recognise the positive impact of sports ministry in their children’s lives and be open to hearing the good news for themselves.
- Sports Friends’ pioneering sports ministry efforts in the USA as we seek to build deeper connections with the refugee population. Praise God for how sport is already building bridges and deepening relationships with refugee youth and their parents.

International Leadership & Services

Prayer Notes



Vision

The vision of SIM is to see a witness to Christ's love where He is least known, disciples of Jesus expressing God's love in their communities and Christ-centred churches among all peoples.

SIM's purpose is:

Convinced that no one should live and die without hearing God's good news, we believe that He has called us to make disciples of Jesus Christ in communities where he is least known.

Ministry

The ministries of SIM International Leadership and Services clear barriers for those whom God is calling to serve cross culturally. We achieve this by providing:

- global leadership and training.
- cross-cultural people and ministry development in more than 70 countries.
- worldwide personnel, financial and technical support to remote mission locations.
- direction and planning for the expansion and long-term sustainability of SIM priority ministries and projects.
- communications and multi-lingual resources.

For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:14

Communities where Christ is least known

Refugees and displaced people

More people have been forced to flee their homes by conflict and crisis than at any time since the second World War. Refugees are those who, fleeing war, persecution and political upheaval, have crossed borders to seek safety in another country. Internally displaced persons (IDPs) are those who have been forced to leave their homes for the same reasons but have not crossed a national border.

Although several crises around the world are driving the current displacement of people, the civil war in Syria has been one of the largest recent reasons for this global crisis. Currently, 65 million people are displaced worldwide, including 5.1 million who have fled Syria. With neighbouring countries no longer able to absorb uprooted Syrians after years of fighting, hundreds of thousands of refugees have fled to Europe. A report from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) estimates that one in every 113 people globally is now either an asylum seeker, internally displaced or a refugee. On average, 24 people are forced to flee their homes each minute.

Having been exposed to violence, abuse, risk and loss, many refugees and displaced people are subject to varying degrees of trauma, as they seek to start a new life and learn new languages. Pray that God would equip his Church to reach these communities living and dying without Christ, sharing the hope and peace that comes from the Lord.



Pray for

- unity, courage, wisdom and discernment for the International Director and his leadership team.
- effective people development, as we seek to be disciples who make disciples.
- effective mentoring and disciple making at all levels of leadership and especially for wisdom in encouraging SIM's developing leaders.
- good leadership and care for our teams, who do vital coordinating and support work in the areas of personnel, finance, projects, communications, archives, operations, administrative support and information systems.

Regional Service Centres

Prayer Notes

SIM's regional service centres offer vital support to SIM workers serving in a particular region. These strategic centres provide services in accounting and finance, health systems, human resources, project development, logistics, information technology and media. Specialised staff facilitate good practices and accountability for the countries they serve. With the service centres providing this critical assistance, existing ministries and new initiatives in ministry are able to thrive in their mission of proclaiming Christ to those who live without God's good news.

EASC – East Africa Service Centre



Serving: East African Sending Office, Eritrea, Kenya, South Sudan and Sudan, Tanzania

SASC — Southern Africa Service Centre



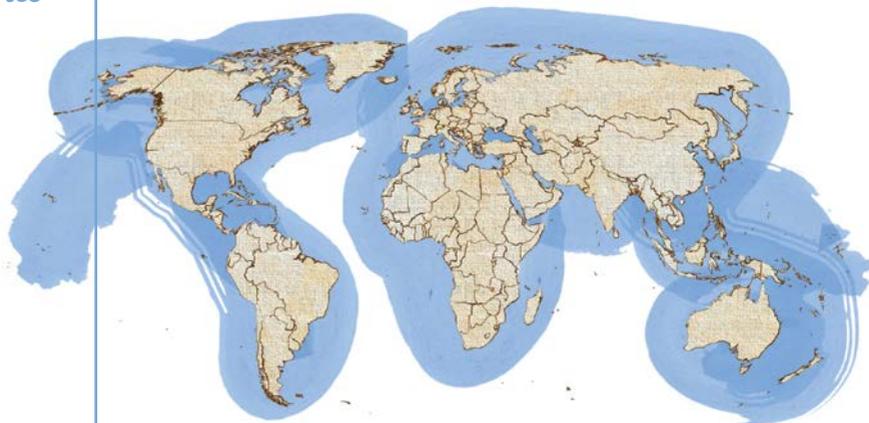
Serving: Angola, Botswana, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Reunion, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Pray for

- the services to be a testimony in the quality of their work, as they support the countries in the region in reaching those living and dying without Christ.
- those working in the service centre to serve Him faithfully and grow in Him daily.

Faithful Witness Initiative

Prayer Notes



Vision

Faithful Witness in Forgotten Communities is a new SIM initiative designed to facilitate ministry in places where there is no gospel witness or where the witness needs strengthening.

Faithful Witness will help fund workers from diverse contexts to go to new locations, provide training and mobilise a broad prayer network. We will build multicultural, multi-skilled teams who will, by prayer, help the gospel message take root in these communities.

We have launched teams in Chad, Mali and Ayutthaya, Thailand, and we plan to launch three more teams.

Communities where Christ is least known

The Hassaniya in Mali

Imagine you are one of the very few believers in your community. Your friends, family and neighbours do not know the forgiveness, salvation and beautiful promises of Jesus. How would you feel? This is the reality for Oumar*, a Hassaniya brother in Christ from Mali who has prayed to the Lord for his people for many years.



To his great joy, Oumar began to see the Lord move among his people last year. An exploratory mission team made the long journey from Bamako to the Kayes Region, and Oumar travelled with them.

Three Hassaniya villages, that had been visited previously by church and relief agencies, welcomed and honoured the team. The village chiefs greeted the guests warmly, and the people were interested in conversations and stories.

Many Hassaniya said they would be happy for workers to come and live among them, as these workers learned the Hassaniya language and culture. It became very clear to the whole exploratory team that this was a field ripe for harvest and in need of faithful witnesses about the goodness of Jesus.

Mali is one of the three key strategic locations for Faithful Witness in Forgotten Communities, alongside Chad and Thailand.

Pray for

- the Lord to raise up workers for his harvest that are needed for this initiative.
- the Lord to raise the resources needed.
- us to stay in step with Jesus all the way, led by the Holy Spirit and guided by God's Word and his love for a dying world.

*name changed

SIM Worldwide

Prayer Notes

Equippers for the Harvest

Lord, we pray that:

- Bible training campuses and programmes will nurture students in lifelong commitment to being and making disciples and will maintain a biblical, missions-integrated worldview.
- pastors will cultivate a passion for the gospel, locally and globally, in their congregations. Bless these shepherds with spiritual refreshment and empowerment in ministry.
- SIM workers will offer godly encouragement and counsel as people consider and prepare for cross-cultural gospel ministry.

Workers for the Harvest

Lord of the Harvest, we pray:

- that You will call and send workers from the global Church to form flourishing, multi-ethnic and multi-skilled SIM teams who will proclaim Your good news to those who live and die without it.
- that these workers' children will wholeheartedly follow Jesus. Develop in them resilience in the face of multiple farewells, cultural adaptations, physical and spiritual stresses and re-entry to their passport countries.
- for all our SIM teams to thrive in their relationships with You and with each other and to grow in ministry competency and effectiveness, well-being and resilience.

Partners for the Harvest

Lord, we thank you for:

- the many who sacrificially release their children and grandchildren to You for kingdom service, their finances to support those who go and their time to faithfully pray for SIM workers and ministries. Prosper them. Fill them with the joy of the harvest!
- Christ-centred churches with a vision to fulfil your mission across cultures, locally and globally, extending your Church to the ends of the earth.

Prayer for Renewal

Prayer Notes

As we sense our need for daily renewal and refreshing, let us look to the One who makes all things new.

And He who was seated on the throne said,
“Behold I am making all things new.”

REVELATION 21:5

Lord, we thank and praise You for Your work of renewal in our lives and in our communities. Lead us to Your places of restoration and refreshing, we pray.

The Lord is my shepherd;
I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures.
He leads me beside still waters
He restores my soul.

PSALM 23:1-3A

**Start with me, O Lord – renew my spirit, heart, and mind.
Restore to me the joy of Your salvation.**

Create in me a clean heart,
O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

PSALMS 51:12

Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,
and uphold me with a willing spirit.

PSALMS 51:10

But they who wait for the Lord shall renew
their strength;
they shall mount up with wings like eagles;
they shall run and not be weary;
they shall walk and not faint.

ISAIAH 40:31

**Renew and restore Your people, Your church, O Lord,
according to Your word.**

Restore us to Yourself, O Lord, that we may be restored!
Renew our days as of old.

LAMENTATIONS 5:21

So we do not lose heart.
Though our outer self is wasting away,
our inner self is being renewed day by day.

2 CORINTHIANS 4:16

Do not be conformed to this world,
but be transformed by the renewal of your mind,
that by testing you may discern what is the will of God,
what is good and acceptable and perfect.

ROMANS 12:2

**Grant us eyes of faith that we may see your renewing power
at work in and around us.**

Then he said to his servant, "Go and look out toward
the sea."

The servant went and looked, then returned to Elijah
and said, "I didn't see anything."

Seven times Elijah told him to go and look.

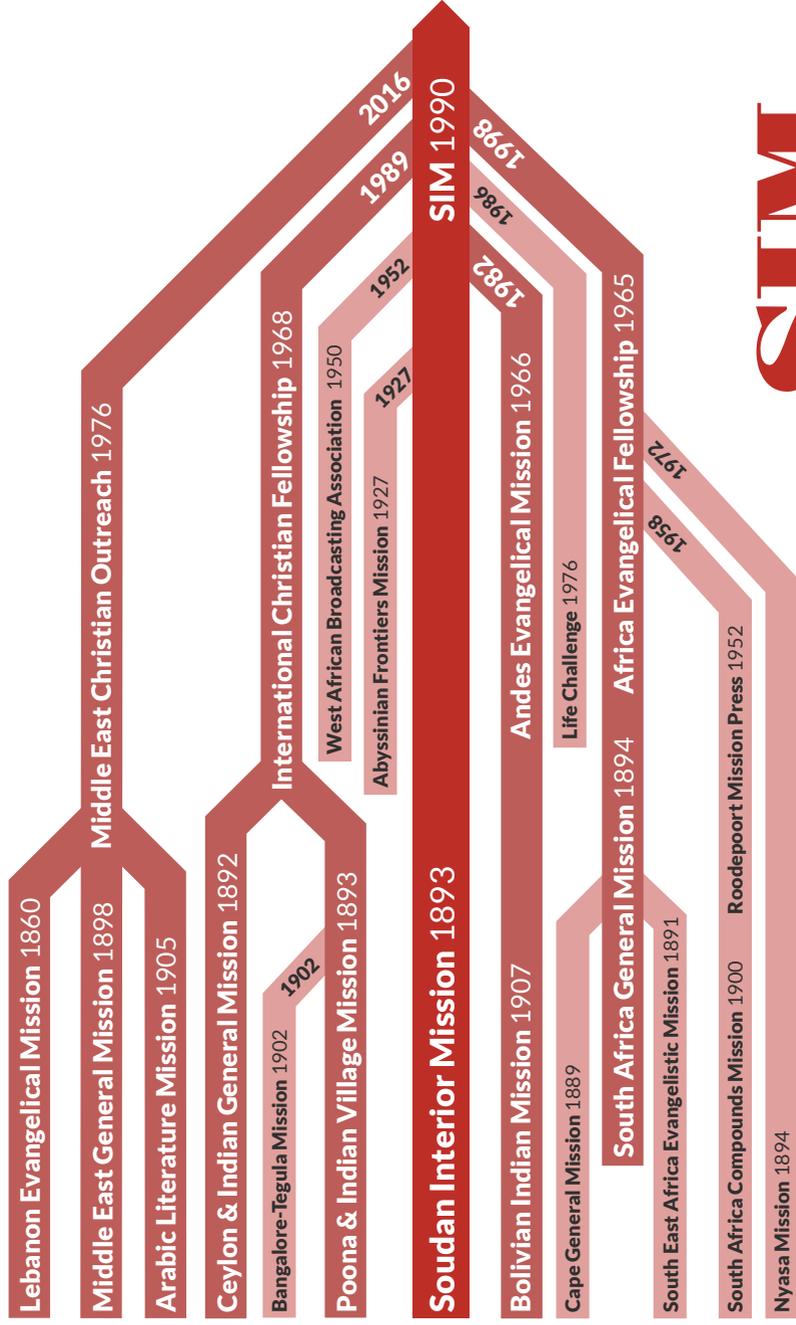
Finally, the seventh time, his servant told him, "I saw
a little cloud about the size of a man's hand rising from
the sea." Then Elijah shouted, "Hurry to Ahab and tell
him, 'Climb into your chariot and go back home. If you
don't hurry, the rain will stop you!'"

And soon the sky was black with clouds. A heavy wind
brought a terrific rainstorm, and Ahab left quickly for
Jezreel.

Then the Lord gave special strength to Elijah. He
tucked his cloak into his belt and ran ahead of Ahab's
chariot all the way to the entrance of Jezreel.

1 KINGS 18:43-46

**As we seek Your face, O LORD, renew us and grant us a
special strength, we pray. Amen.**



SIM
By Prayer

"For the love of Christ compels us." Corinthians 5:14

