



CHRISTAR[®]

The
CHURCH
is *Still*
the Next
Chapter

We aren't living in an afterthought to God's plan. From the beginning, His purpose has been to draw people from every corner of the earth to Himself. The glory of His salvation is unfolding around the world as the good news of Jesus arrives in communities that have been outside of the reach of this life-transforming message until now. And the Church is at the center.

As the Body of Christ, we're integral to God's eternal purpose of reconciling people from all nations to Himself. Our Lord has equipped His people for this moment, divinely gifting and preparing not only those who go to proclaim the gospel but every believer. The Great Commission is the mission of the whole Church, calling all members to invest themselves, guided by His Spirit, in a symphony of worship-driven service that He uses to bring about transformation in least-reached communities.

God works in the present tense. He is the great I Am. From the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost till now, He has been filling the earth with His glory through His people—the Church. And He invites us, today, to come alongside Him in His global work.



Sharing the Treasure,

R Stephen Coffey

Dr. R. Stephen Coffey
Director, Christar U.S.

The vision of Christar is to cultivate *Christ-honoring transformation* in communities where He is yet to be worshiped.

Our Values

Godliness • The Body of Christ • People Effectiveness • Creativity

At the center of our vision is **the Body of Christ**. The Body is composed not of flesh or bone but of **people** created in the image of God: redeemed worshipers filled with God's Spirit, growing daily in **godliness**, gathered, gifted and commissioned to proclaim the glory of God's salvation throughout the whole earth.

In a world of broken sinfulness and obstacles, the Body of Christ is fueled by diversity and **creativity** for fruitful work and **effectiveness** in cultivating Christ-honoring transformation in communities where His Body isn't gathering, growing and celebrating His glory in flourishing worship ... yet.

“ And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us.”

– 2 Corinthians 5:19b-20a



Our Next Chapter



It all started with an invitation. An elderly worker in the Far East was seeking someone to take her place when she retired. A young, single woman read that prayer letter. She sailed across an ocean and arrived in the Far East and catalyzed a movement of workers to share the treasure of the good news and the compassion of Christ. Together they established 35 churches among marginalized boat communities previously unengaged with the message of Jesus.

The story continued with a foreign Christian businessman living in South Asia with a powerful vision to see the knowledge of the gospel planted in the hearts of the communities around him. Unsatisfied with the coastal-focused missions efforts of his own organization, which refused to push further inland with the good news, he returned to the United States to start a second organization. This ministry focused on mobilizing the Church to go to those in South Asia who would remain without access to the gospel until someone took it to them.

As the Second World War raged, a third thread in the story emerged. A soldier saw Middle Eastern communities in need. But he also witnessed the impact of a local ministry's pioneering model of community development bringing hope amid a crisis. After the war he returned, aligning his faith with a desire to implement sustainable transformation that addressed physical and spiritual needs. Now thousands of Persian believers trace their spiritual heritage back to this first initiative.

Three ministries, woven into one organization, have matured to become a global network of mobilization centers that come alongside the Body of Christ to continue moving the Church forward, outward and into the places where God is at work.



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LEAST-REACHED:

Those without access to a church that preaches the gospel in their language and worships in a way that's relevant in their culture.



Looking Forward

Christar continues to seek out strategies and tools to serve effectively in the present and as we look ahead to the future. This motivation leads us to prayerfully adapt, so that cultivating Christ-honoring transformation in least-reached communities will be part of not only our heritage but also the legacy we continue to build for future generations.

As we witness what God is doing right now to bring people everywhere to a saving knowledge of Himself, we strive to adapt and develop. To reflect this, Christar has adopted a new look.



As an illustration of our vision and values, our new logo combines four arrows all focusing toward a central point: **the Body of Christ**. The arrows' edges radiate outward, symbolizing the transformative role of the Church.

The arrow at the bottom represents **godliness**. A growing relationship with Christ embodied in worshipful service is the foundation for a healthy believer and a flourishing church.

The arrow on the left represents **people**, the members of the Body. As it points inward, the arrow's tips radiate from the center to remind us that God uses people not only to minister within the Church but to communicate His glory to those who aren't yet in the Body.

The arrow on the right represents **creativity**. Its unique color reminds us that God has created and gifted His Church with diverse individuals. Innovative solutions to challenges emerge as we creatively labor together toward Christ-honoring transformation.

The arrow at the top represents **effectiveness**. Through the Spirit, the Body of Christ seeks to serve the Lord and live out His commands. The tips of the arrow point outward and upward, illustrating a living, growing fruitfulness.



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“Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.”

– Romans 12:11

The Body of Christ

Sending

Every Part Essential

Seeing the gospel transform lives and communities isn't the responsibility of a select few. The Great Commission was given to the Body of Christ as a whole, and each member has a role to play.

God works through the global Church, as it sends, prays, goes and gives, to transform people as they gain access to the gospel. He blesses every believer with talents, skills and resources that are designed not only for our personal benefit and the edification of the local church but also to fulfill His purposes around the world. He uses these diverse gifts in harmony to expand and strengthen His kingdom in places where His grace and salvation aren't yet known.

We each have the joy of being part of what God is doing to make Himself known among the least reached! As we are compelled by His love to give our whole selves in the unique ways He calls each one of us, we work together with Him so that "the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God" (2 Corinthians 4:15).



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Through sending, the local church, as part of the global Body of Christ, plays a unique role in God's plan to make Himself known among the nations. Local churches commission workers who serve as transplanted extensions of these sending fellowships in least-reached communities, living out and proclaiming the gospel.

Sending is a responsibility that entails far more than providing needed funding. It's an investment and sacrifice as a congregation commissions one or more of its members to take the message of Jesus to a community where He isn't worshiped yet. And it's an opportunity for every member of the local church to be engaged and involved alongside those they send through prayer, encouragement and practical support.

A Church on a Mission

For over a generation, Christar workers Ronald and Kay* have been blessed by the support of a large church in the Midwest. Over the decades, this fellowship has gone far beyond merely providing financial resources to offer personal support at every stage of their ministry.

But Ronald and Kay are far from the only cross-cultural servants that the church stands behind. They're just two workers among the dozens of individuals, couples and families sent out by this fellowship as ministers of the gospel.

Celeste, the church's Mercy & Missions Team Leader, sees this massive undertaking through the essential lens she has embraced, learned from her experience in serving cross-cultural workers: "None of this is our work, it's God's work."



[READ THE STORY](#)

We can't accomplish the work God has called us to do in our own strength or ability. As Christar partners with the Church to cultivate Christ-honoring transformation in least-reached communities, we need the faithful intercession of the Body of Christ.

We are dedicated to encircling every aspect of our ministry in prayer. As a symbol of our reliance on the Lord, each Christar worker must have a team of at least 100 people committed to praying for them on a daily basis. This reminds us of our dependence on God and of the vital role of the Church.



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CMCUS Circle of Prayer

Every part of our efforts to cultivate Christ-honoring transformation in least-reached communities requires God's provision, guidance and strength. This includes the ministry of the Christar Mobilization Center U.S. (CMCUS) as we recruit and equip new workers and serve those already on the field.

The CMCUS Circle of Prayer is a group of individuals committed to pray for our efforts to mobilize new workers and serve them through every stage of ministry. Members of this circle receive updates, requests and praises via monthly emails, enabling them to engage in regular, focused prayer for the mobilization center, its activities and staff. Will you pray with us?

To join, go to christar.org/circle.



Drawn to the God Who Answers

"Every single thing you've prayed for me, God has answered! When you pray, God listens." Before Suzi,* a Kurdish Muslim immigrant, met Christar worker Natasha, she wasn't accustomed to hearing someone bring her needs before the Lord. But as Natasha faithfully prayed with her and for her, Suzi began to see that the Lord hears and answers. This realization served as a significant steppingstone as Suzi counted the cost of following Jesus.

Now, as a young believer in Christ, Suzi has begun to ask God to bring her husband and children to faith as well. And, as Natasha nurtures and disciples her new sister in Christ, she continues to fellowship alongside her in prayer.



READ THE STORY

God works through the diverse gifts, talents, skills and vocations of His people to demonstrate the gospel and establish the Church in least-reached communities. As Christar workers go, commissioned by their sending churches and upheld by the faithful prayers of their support teams, they seek to live as part of the community, meeting needs and representing Christ's Body. They put down roots and serve as access points for the gospel in places where few know Him.

Christar workers SERVE IN **33** countries among MORE THAN **60** people groups throughout the world.



Christar workers invest their gifts, talents, skills and vocations to cultivate *Christ-honoring transformation* in communities through means such as:



BUSINESS



HEALTH CARE



EDUCATION



RELIEF



RESOURCES



RELATIONSHIPS

An Art Career With Eternal Purpose

God created Ian* to be an artist. And when the Lord called him to serve among the least-reached in the Far East, he never considered leaving that identity behind.

"It's about living out the truth of Christ's love every day so that it can't be ignored," he says, whether that's in a career or in some other aspect of life. And it's about authenticity—being able to demonstrate, through who he is and what he loves to do, that eternal hope is found in Jesus. "You can do your business in a way that shows people the gospel."



READ THE STORY

Through their generosity, financial partners water the seeds of the gospel sown by workers across the globe. Whether through providing resources faithfully and steadily like the morning dew over many years to keep a worker on the field, or through offering a one-time investment that opens floodgates to change the course of a ministry, their participation is a vital part of fulfilling the Great Commission. As donors joyfully steward the treasure of the gospel, they partner with the Lord of the Harvest to accomplish His purposes among the nations.

Explore this year's annual report at christar.org/annual-report.



Christar Projects: When the Opportunity is Bigger Than We Are

Christar projects represent needs too big for one worker or team to meet alone. They're born when obstacles and challenges are re-envisioned as open doors for transformation. Sometimes projects emerge to address an ongoing need such as education or training, or to provide workers with an avenue for more effective connection in their communities. Others are created in response to disaster or tragedy. In all cases, they are conduits for the Body of Christ to give toward focused initiatives that enable Christar workers to cultivate spiritual, emotional and physical blessing in least-reached communities.



Explore all Christar projects at christar.org/projects.

Faithfulness Delivered

"Every time the Lord blesses us, I feel how He is faithful." Over the 21 years Rebecca* has served with Jordan Evangelical Theological Seminary (JETS), she's seen God continually provide. And just recently, she and all the students at the school experienced His goodness in an especially powerful way.

Donations given to JETS through the 2021 Christar Giving Catalog enabled the student body to take an overnight retreat where they could be refreshed amid their vigorous studies. But that was just the beginning. God prompted one generous partner to cover the entire cost of a new bus—a gift that is allowing students to enjoy fellowship during their daily commute, while greatly reducing their travel time and preventing them from spending their limited budgets on public transportation.

Through gifts like these, donors partner with JETS in accomplishing its purpose: to equip spiritual leaders to strengthen churches in the Arab world. "These tools enable the students to focus wholly on the main goal," Rebecca says.

JETS is just one of 14 selected projects that has experienced God's faithfulness as His people responded to the Giving Catalog. Through this generosity, ministries are meeting needs in ways that wouldn't be possible without the partnership of the Body of Christ.



READ THE STORY



Coming Alongside, Going Together

As the Body of Christ participates in the Great Commission by sending, praying, going and giving, Christar comes alongside the Church to help it multiply and thrive in communities with little gospel witness. Christar was formed by followers of Jesus who were passionate about serving in seemingly inaccessible regions of the world to creatively and effectively offer least-reached communities access to the good news, lived out through the Body.

Serving as counterparts to those visionary field workers were men and women who ministered at home, encouraging local churches to stretch beyond their immediate contexts to minister in new places where God was opening doors. Local fellowships responded. And generations of believers have seen the gospel take root in pioneering fields as they have sent and supported their own transplanted members serving across cultures.

Today, workers who serve in the Christar Mobilization Center U.S. (CMCUS) continue to recruit, train, equip and care for U.S.-based workers sent out by local churches. The CMCUS team partners with a diverse network of congregations to mobilize the next generation of Christ-followers to invest their lives in becoming access points for the gospel in hard-to-reach places.

Christar U.S. in Context

Christar is an international organization with mobilization centers on several continents. While Christar began in the United States, as churches were established and grew to maturity, they embraced the calling to send out their own workers. Over time, additional mobilization centers, each with local boards, leadership and staff, were created to serve these churches in sending out their own members to become part of diverse teams serving the least-reached together. As part of this wider network, Christar U.S. benefits from the wealth of perspectives and insights from its membership worldwide.

Leadership

Christar Mobilization Center U.S. (CMCUS) Executive Team

Dr. R. Stephen Coffey, U.S. Director	Mark Ciliberti, Director of Operations
Richard Barron, Director of Finance	Natalie Mubita, Director of Engagement and Advancement
Mark Burkholder, Director of Personnel	

Christar U.S. Board of Trustees

Christar U.S. is blessed with a board of committed believers who bring a wide range of experience and involvement in cross-cultural ministry, as well as expertise in areas such as business, education and law. We're grateful for the depth and breadth of wisdom they bring to their leadership roles.

Dr. Jeff Adams, Chairman	Mr. Eric M'Barine
Mr. Keith Carlson	Dr. Marvin Newell
Dr. Scott Horrell	Mrs. Ruth Nystrom
Mrs. Nancy H.	Dr. Greg Parsons
Mr. Carl Jaedicke	Mr. Durwood "Woody" Thompson, Jr.
	Mr. H. Eugene Williams, III



MEET THE BOARD

Training: Equipping for Effectiveness

Christar is committed to equipping its workers for effective service in least-reached communities at every stage of their ministries. In addition to the pre-field trainings listed below, Christar partners with other organizations to ensure that every worker is well-prepared for the challenges and opportunities of cross-cultural ministry in his or her prospective field.



[LEARN MORE](#)

BLAZE: Equipping for Short-Term Service

“BLAZE prepared me to enter the short-term field. ... The information presented and the content shared was so beneficial in helping me be confident in the Lord and what I believe He has called me to do for this season.”

– Christar short-term worker completing an internship in the Middle East

New Personnel Orientation (NPO): First Steps in Worker Development

“I expected NPO to teach me about Christar and give me an overview of things like finance, communication, etc. What I didn’t expect was how much it would stoke my desire for Christ and for missions. I’m leaving NPO with a great desire to move forward with our task of planting churches among the least-reached.”

– Christar appointee preparing to serve in Southeast Asia

Pre-Departure Orientation (PDO): Final Steps to the Field

“PDO was a wonderful opportunity to be supported as my family prepares to leave for the mission field. We received numerous tools to help us be effective in our walk with Jesus, family life and ministry as we get ready for our first term.”

– Christar long-term worker commissioned to serve in the Far East

Coaching: Walking Alongside

When a potential mid- or long-term worker begins the application process, he or she is connected with a Christar pre-field coach. Our team of coaches brings field experience and a passion for discipleship to walk alongside candidates and appointees through four key aspects of their path toward cross-cultural service.

**Biblical Foundation • Personal Development
Support-Team Development • Departure**

Member Care: An Ongoing Commitment

We invest in, support and love those who take the gospel to least-reached communities not only because we see the image of God in each worker, but also because we recognize that the members of Christ’s Body are the messengers of His good news. Our Member Care team provides support for workers’ emotional and spiritual needs and offers debriefing opportunities for those on home assignment through RENEW retreats.



[LEARN MORE](#)

“We came away from our time with practical tools to help us slow down and reflect. We learned about healthier rhythms of life that allow for rest and recreation. We needed encouragement, and we got it. We needed to laugh, and we did.”

– Christar worker on home assignment participating in RENEW debriefing retreat

Church Partnership: Supporting Churches in the Joy of Sending

The local church’s role in missions is multifaceted, involving the entire Body not only through going and sending but through prayer, giving and practical assistance. This partnership benefits not merely those serving across cultures, but also supporting fellowships as churches broaden their understanding of what the Lord is doing around the world and become more engaged in Great Commission efforts, needs and opportunities. Our Church Partnership Team helps local fellowships extend their ministry to least-reached communities around the globe, come alongside those they send and be truly blessed as they embrace this multidimensional role in bringing the gospel to those who don’t yet know the love of God through His Son, Jesus.



[LEARN MORE](#)

“The joy of sending involves responsibility,” explains Art, a Christar Church Partnership representative. He and his team apply their firsthand understanding of cross-cultural ministry to help churches carry out this commitment well. As he affirms, “The fulfillment of the Great Commission requires the whole Body of Christ, and we are thrilled to be on this journey of making Christ’s name known to the ends of the earth with them.”

Resources for the Body of Christ

In addition to training workers, Christar equips members of the Body of Christ through guides and tools to help them better understand the needs of the least-reached and how they can be involved in what God is doing among the nations. Visit christar.org/resources to learn more!



[LEARN MORE](#)

Partnerships expand our potential. The efforts of the Body of Christ to bring the good news to the least-reached are more powerful when the parts of the Body work together to accomplish what no single entity could accomplish on its own. Christar cooperates and collaborates with numerous organizations to strategize for greater effectiveness, to creatively engage challenges, to mobilize, train and care for workers and to adapt and respond to evolving needs and opportunities.



Partnering to Record the Story of Salvation

Until 2021, the Roma in Albania had no recorded accounts of Scripture in their language. As an oral people group, the Roma communicate and think in stories; yet the vast majority of them have never heard God's great story of salvation.

But through the collaborative efforts of three organizations over the course of a monthlong project, the Roma now have over 30 recorded Bible stories communicated not only in their unique dialect but in a form that's relevant in their culture. Christar workers James and Dawn* partnered with cross-cultural workers from Pioneers and a visiting Libretto team from the United States to produce these stories, all of which were translated and recorded by native Roma speakers who have very few opportunities to hear the gospel.

James, Dawn and their Pioneers coworkers now hope to turn these stories into videos that will provide powerful tools for sharing the gospel widely among the Roma—resources that others seeking to reach this people group could utilize as well.

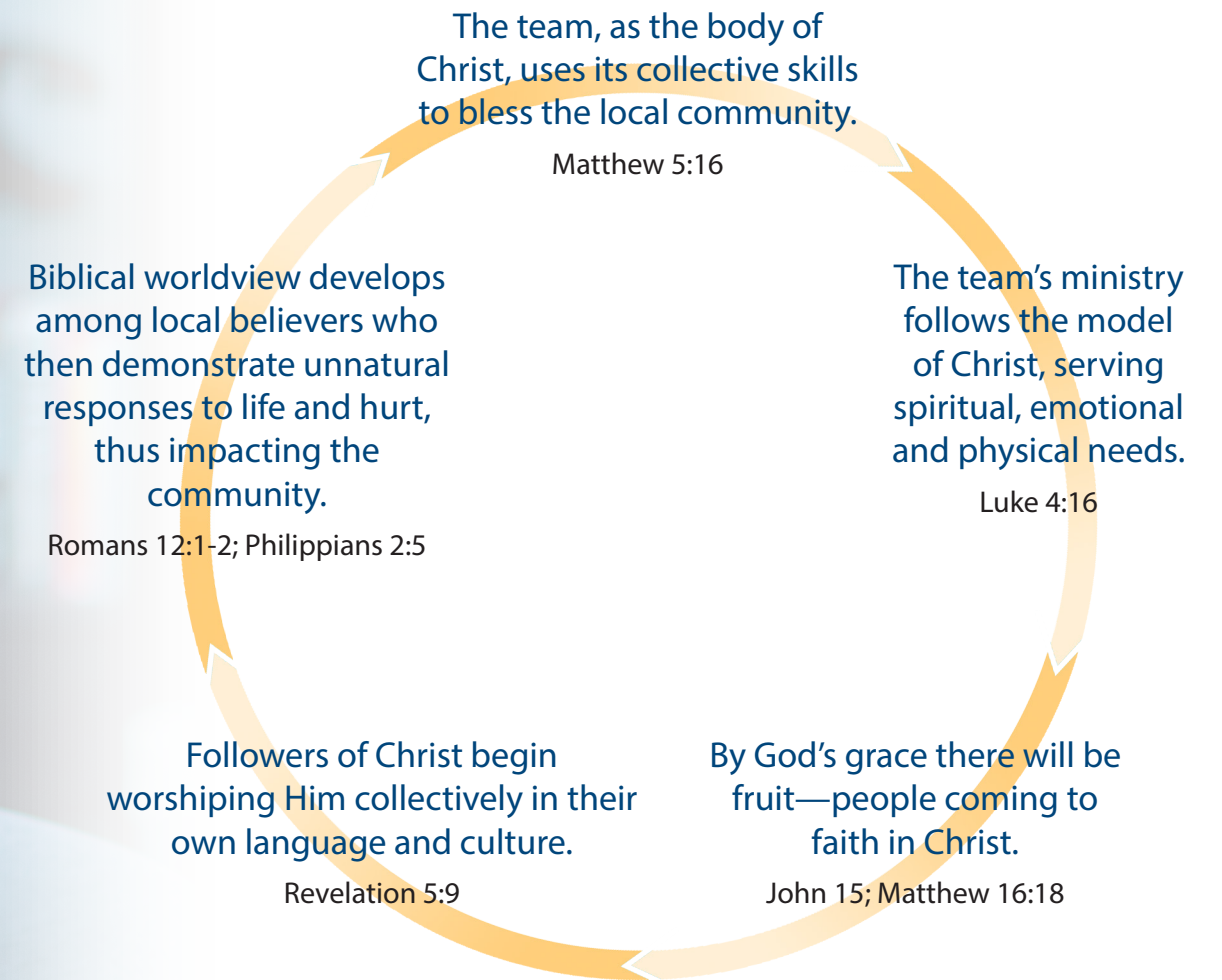


READ THE STORY

When the Body of Christ is established in least-reached communities, the work of cultivating Christ-honoring transformation continues.



SEE THE CYCLE



Established for Engagement

When refugees from Myanmar began pouring into one community in South Asia, two Christar workers in the area were ready to demonstrate God's compassion and care. These workers are part of the legacy of believers that has resulted from Christar's ministry in this region, which began over 90 years ago. Many of the churches established by Christar workers have, in turn, planted additional churches, and believers from these fellowships are beginning the Cycle of Christ-Honoring Transformation anew as they serve among the least-reached.



READ THE STORY

What's YOUR ROLE in *bringing the gospel to the least-reached?*

It might have caught your attention on the news. You might see it in a worker's prayer letter. Perhaps it came up in conversation around the dinner table. God is at work. Today, right now, as much as in any other point in history, God is making Himself known among the more than 3 billion people worldwide who don't have access to Him, His gospel or His Church. And He's calling every member of the Body of Christ to be part of it.



*How will you be involved in what
GOD IS DOING among the nations?*



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