

# BVVB

January 2018

Editor Janelle Daum

Volume 15, Issue 9

## UPCOMING EVENTS FOR JANUARY AND BEYOND

### **Birthdays:**

#### **January 2018**

- 1 Justin Tiffany
- 3 Delores Olson
- 14 Scott Sittig
- 18 Paul Osmanson
- 25 Mike Frost
- 26 2D Gerdes
- 28 Joshua Onnen
- 30 Hailey Skogen

### **Anniversaries:**

#### **January 2018**

- 31 Peter & Alice Haan

### **Nursery:**

#### **January 2018**

- 7 Ginger & Katrina Nelson
- 14 Dee Olson & Dan Hanson
- 21 Aaron Skogen
- 28 Scott & Nora Sittig

#### **February 2018**

- 4 Justin & Sara Tiffany
- 11 Olivia Digatono
- 18 Aaron Skogen
- 25 Pam Osmanson & Hailey Skogen

#### **March 2018**

- 4 Theresa Friesen & Cade Fox
- 11 Erica Skogen
- 18 Ginger & Katrina Nelson
- 25 Dee Olson & Dan Hanson

## **Children's Worship:**

### **January 2018**

- 7 Trevor Skogen & Andrea Skogen
- 14 Sara Tiffany & Hailey Skogen
- 21 Matt Murphy & Cade Fox
- 28 Barbara Young & Kyle Skogen

### **February 2018**

- 4 Judy Preston & Andrea Skogen
- 11 Doris Conradson &  
Maegan Questad
- 18 Theresa Friesen & Cade Fox
- 25 Barbara Young & Kyle Skogen

### **March 2018**

- 4 Pat Lacey & Hannah Frost
- 11 Erica Skogen & Hailey Skogen
- 18 Matt Murphy & Cade Fox
- 25 Barbara Young & Kyle Skogen

## **Scripture Reading:**

### **January 2018**

- 7 Theresa Friesen
- 14 Kyle Skogen
- 21 Joan Murphy
- 28 Hannah Frost

### **February 2018**

- 4 Pat Lacey
- 11 Kelsey Frost
- 18 Justin Tiffany
- 25 Matthew Questad

## **Greeters:**

### **January 2018**

- 7 Doris Conradson
- 14 Aaron & Erica Skogen
- 21 Gene & Judy Preston
- 28 Justin & Sara Tiffany

### **February 2018**

- 4 Paul & Pam Osmanson
- 11 Dan & LaDell Hanson
- 18 Lindy Johnson & Pat Lacey
- 25 Scott Sittig & Brad Sittig

## **Ushers:**

### **January 2018**

- 7 Dave James
- 14 Gene Preston
- 21 Scott Sittig
- 28 Paul Osmanson

### **February 2018**

- 4 Mike Kresak
- 11 Doyle Young
- 18 Gene Preston
- 25 Justin Tiffany

## **Events Calendar 2018:**

**Monday, January 1 - Wednesday, January 31, Alpha Center World's Largest Baby Shower (all month)**

**Monday, January 1, New Year's Day**

**Wednesday, January 3, 6 p.m. - 7 p.m., Journey 24/7 - High School**

Awana

**6:15 p.m. - 8 p.m.,** TREK - Middle School Awana

**6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.,** Awana - ages 3 years thru 5th grade

**Thursday, January 4, 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.,** Women's Evening Bible Study (at various homes to be announced)

**Sunday, January 7, 9:30 a.m.,** Worship Service - White Cross Love offering, Video and Bandage rolling/potluck

**10:30 a.m.,** Fellowship

**10:45 a.m.,** Sunday School for the Whole Family

**5:30 p.m.,** Congregational Prayer Service

**Wednesday, January 10, 6 p.m. - 7 p.m.,** Journey 24/7 - High School Awana

**6:15 p.m. - 8 p.m.,** TREK - Middle School Awana

**6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.,** Awana - ages 3 years thru 5th grade

**Thursday, January 11, 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.,** Women's Evening Bible Study (at various homes to be announced)

**Sunday, January 14, 9:30 a.m.,** Worship Service

**10:30 a.m.,** Fellowship

**10:45 a.m.,** Sunday School for the Whole Family

**Monday, January 15, Martin Luther King Jr. Day**

**Wednesday, January 17, 6 p.m. - 7 p.m.,** Journey 24/7 - High School Awana

**6:15 p.m. - 8 p.m.,** TREK - Middle School Awana

**6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.,** Awana - ages 3 years thru 5th grade

**Thursday, January 18, 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.,** Women's Evening Bible Study (at various homes to be announced)

**Saturday, January 20, 7 a.m.,** Men's Bible Study at BVBC

**Sunday, January 21, 9:30 a.m.,** Worship Service

**10:30 a.m.,** Fellowship

**10:45 a.m.,** Sunday School for the Whole Family

**5:30 p.m.,** Congregational Prayer Service

**Newsletter Articles are Due**

**Wednesday, January 24, 6 p.m. - 7 p.m.,** Journey 24/7 - High School Awana

**6:15 p.m. - 8 p.m.,** TREK - Middle School Awana

**6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.,** Awana - ages 3 years thru 5th grade

**Thursday, January 25, 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.,** Women's Evening Bible Study (at various homes to be announced)

**Sunday, January 28, 9:30 a.m.,** Worship Service

**10:30 a.m.,** Fellowship

**10:45 a.m.,** Sunday School for the Whole Family

**Wednesday, January 31, 6 p.m. - 7 p.m.,** Journey 24/7 - High School Awana

**6:15 p.m. - 8 p.m.,** TREK - Middle School Awana

**6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.,** Awana - ages 3 years thru 5th grade

## **AMANDA BENSON**

(Please see Missionary Board for Pictures)

December 1, 2017

### **SOLDIERS**

The military is a very important part of our world. They have a goal of protecting the people, keeping them safe or bringing them to safety. Many soldiers fight for their countries overseas, but many also stay home. Some recruit new soldiers. Some train soldiers. Some lead soldiers. But all of them have the same ultimate goal: to protect the people.

Being a soldier isn't easy. It often means being called away to a place that is unfamiliar. It means long hours. It means intense training. It means experiencing trials. It means being away from friends and family, often without much communication. It means eating strange things or getting little sleep at times.

But it also means building deep relationships with other soldiers. It means knowing your life has a purpose. It means knowing you're helping protect other people. It means fulfilling the mission you've been assigned. It means being in great shape (haha). It means new experiences.

Being a Christian is like being a soldier. In fact, the Bible says that we are God's soldiers (2 Timothy 2). Some of God's soldiers are placed overseas, while others are assigned at home. Some train other soldiers, while others lead other soldiers. God puts us exactly where He wants us so that we can accomplish our orders from Him: to go and make disciples of all nations (Matthew 28:19-20).

Being a soldier of God isn't easy, and there are times when it is harder than others. Being a soldier placed overseas can make the holidays especially hard. It's hard to

not be able to just pick up and go home when we want. It's hard to not get to meet new family members or participate in family traditions. It's hard when the stress of living in a different culture meets the stress of the job that is assigned. Being a soldier often means many different trials.

But being a soldier also is great. It means that we have deep relationships with other soldiers who are on the same mission as us (no matter where we are in the world!). It means knowing our lives have a purpose beyond ourselves. It means knowing God has called us to help Him in His ultimate goal. It means that we will have experiences beyond what we can imagine.

There is something very different between being a soldier for God and being a soldier for a country, however. As soldiers of God we know that there is something beyond this life that we are living for. We know that the difference we are making is a difference that will last for eternity, since that difference relies not just on us, but on God working in and through us.

One thing that God reminds me when I'm struggling with being away from home is what Jesus told the crowds that were following Him in Luke 14:26, 33: "If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple... So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple." The words "cannot be my disciple" always strike a chord in my heart. Obviously I don't hate my family, but God has asked me to give up being with them for now. This is the task to which He has called me. If I would choose to give this up and go back simply because of that, I cannot be His disciple. Wow. The implications of that are huge.

Not every soldier is deployed overseas, but these are my orders. Most of the time I love this life. Other times it is hard. But it is always worth it. I can follow no other. Thank you for your prayers, letters, emails, encouragements, gifts and support as I serve overseas. They mean so much to me.

May God bless you richly this Christmas season as you fight the good fight, right where He has assigned you.

Amanda

Praises

· I've been able to have some great times with the girls in my Bible study. We have

been studying 1 Peter, and it is neat to see how they are making connections to different aspects of their lives. It is great to see God working in their hearts!

- It has been neat to see God provide for my needs in just the right way - whether it be through strength, rest, friendship, gifts, letters, or other means.

- My parents send me an annual Christmas box with my gifts as well as many gifts from other friends. It came this week, earlier than I expected! It is so great to have a taste of home!

- I have been working on improving the way I grade, and it has been going well so far! It has also helped me free up a bit of my time!

#### Prayer Requests

- There are two 8th graders leaving at the end of this semester. Please pray for their transition to different countries and for those of us who are saying goodbye to them.

- I am planning to visit another missionary family in SE Asia this Christmas. I still don't have my visa, though the company I'm working with was either supposed to apply for it today or will do so Monday. Pray that I get the visa I need to go this Christmas.

- Pray that all of us at Faith (staff and students) would finish the semester strong. We have two weeks left!

- Pray for the many staff openings we have for the coming school year. Pray that God would work now in the hearts of the people that He wants to bring here to fulfill these positions.

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## **RICK & DEBBI BARDIN CAMEROON**

(Please see Missionary Board for Pictures)

November 2017

Dear family and friends,

We are writing you from Franklin, Tennessee, today where we are enjoying time with our family! We departed from Cameroon at the end of August for a four-month furlough to report to our supporting churches and to be present for the birth of Mia Grace, our fifth grandchild, born to Jeanna and Ryan (their first child). Mia came to us on Sept 12. Nonnie and Poppie have been truly blessed to be present for this event and we are loving the time we are having with Mia, Jeanna, and

Ryan; and with Jess, Faryn, and their sons, Caleb, Josiah, Daniel, and David.

We have just returned from a month on the road, traveling through 8 states to report to supporting churches in Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Iowa. We were also able to attend the Global Missions Health Conference in Louisville, KY. We arrived back in Franklin in time to celebrate Thanksgiving with our family.

There has been some coverage for Rick in Mbingo by volunteer pathologists, for which we are very thankful. During uncovered times, Rick has been able to help some by receiving images via email from one of our lab staff that he trained to take pictures with his microscope. Most of the cases, however, require having the slides. Thanks to volunteers going and coming to Mbingo to help with the CIMS or PAACS residency programs, it has been possible to get slides back to the US where a few other willing pathologists have been generous enough to read the slides and send reports to Mbingo by email. Through this network of dedicated people, patients in Mbingo have continued to receive service during Rick's absence. The month of December is mostly covered by 2 volunteer pathologists going successively to Mbingo.

After celebrating Christmas and New Year with our family in Franklin, we plan to return to Cameroon on Jan 3, arriving in Bamenda on the 5th for the last two days of the annual CMF (Cameroon Missionary Fellowship) conference. We should be back on seat in Mbingo on the 7th, by God's grace.

We are very happy to announce that, after at least two years of prayer and multiple attempts to find a position in a qualified program in Africa, Dr. Mbanga has been accepted in to a pathology residency at the University of Nairobi in Kenya! He is there now with his wife and three children. He will be in training for three years with plans to return to Mbingo and assume duties as a pathologist at our hospital. He receives no salary while in training, so we are promoting a fund established by the NAB to support him and the family during this time. We are trying to raise \$30,000/year for the next three years. If you can play a role in this effort, please see the information below.

Wishing you all a wonderful celebration of our Savior's birth and a New Year blessed by His presence!

Debbie and Rick



# THE REEDS IN BELIZE

December 13, 2017

Dear Friends, Family & Partners,

We have an urgent need for prayer from the jungle of Guatemala.

As of the time of writing, the story is still unfolding and some facts are unclear but here is what we know so far.

On Monday, December 11th Jon departed from our home with his jungle truck to head deep into the jungle with two current KBI students and Pastor Pedro. Pastor Pedro is a graduate of Kekchi Bible Institute and now a pastor in a distant unreached village working on planting a church. He had come back to the institute to attend ordination services and graduation of his peers and get supplies.

Jon volunteered to take Pastor Pedro, his wife and small child back to the village, where they live and serve, with his truck. Going up into the village they experienced no difficulty. They had the pastor's wife and small child with them and we are praising the Lord the trip to the village was successful. Jon and the students were able to bring up and install a small corn mill and a small solar panel and battery pack so the family would have lights and be able to grind corn.

Yesterday, Jon and the two students attempted to return home but due to the rains the dirt road was a mess and the river flooding as normal this time of year. There was an accident while trying to cross the same trail they had come up on. As they were passing through a river, the truck hit a tree stump that was hidden under the water. They attempted to use the winch to move the truck, but a cable broke and the winch was inoperable.

5 men with horses came along and attempted to pull the truck out of the water, but were unsuccessful. The truck continues to be stuck in the river. Severe water damage has effected the engine and the extent of the damage can only be assessed once Jon is able to get the truck back to our town 6 hours from were it is now sitting.

Without transportation and due to their remote location there is no traffic on the road, they decided they would have to walk out of the jungle. They walked for two hours to a nearby village, and then continued on to a military base. Neither the village or the military base were able to offer any help. Jon and two of the students spent the night on the porch of a pastors house wet and muddy while temperatures



dropped to 50 degrees.

As most of you who know, Jon still fights with his chronic chikengunya and this accident has been very difficult on his body and the pain he's experiencing right now is intense.

Our most recent update is that Jon and the two students made it back to our house via van and truck rides this afternoon. The truck is probably totaled but sits 6 hours away in the Jungle. We are working on connections to see if we can hire a tractor to pull back our truck to a place where we can tow it back and see if it is repairable. We are so thankful that it was just a vehicle damaged and possibly lost and not people. God is Gracious!

Here are the specific and immediate prayer requests we are asking for:

- 1) That God would continue to strengthen Jon physically, mentally and spiritually.
- 2) That God would provide wisdom and a way for the truck to be pulled out of the jungle if it's salvageable.
- 3) That the truck and all the valuables that had to be left in it will be left untouched.
- 4) That God will provide the funds and a way to either have the jungle truck pulled out and repaired, or a new truck will be provided so that Jon can continue the work he's doing in supporting the village pastors in church planting and the work being done at Kekchi Bible Institute.

Thank you!

Jon & Jessica Reed and Family

December 19, 2017

Dear Prayer Supporters,

Thank you very much for your response to our request for prayer! We were encouraged by your caring words and our great prayer team! God has answered and is answering your many prayers and we ask that you would join us in giving Him thanks!

Praises: Jon made it safely home and though exhausted, God is sustaining us and graciously giving us wisdom through each circumstance.

God provided trucks, horses, and a team of men to get the truck out and we were able to tow it back home.

Nothing was stolen off the truck! Everything, including the tools in the truck were

covered in mud but left untouched!

The body of the truck is scraped up but not too bad! Jon is currently diagnosing the mechanical problems. Though it's in rough shape, the motor, appears to be salvageable and all the other broken parts look like they will be fixable given time and parts and God's continued answers to prayer!

Again, thank you to all who were praying! God is good and may He be glorified!

Following God's Trail,

Jon & Jessica Reed

& Kezia, Maggie and Kate

## **MISSION NETWORK NEWS**

Bringing the Gospel to every home in Belize

By Anna Deckert December 1, 2017

Belize (MNN) - "Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours." Mark 11:24 (ESV)

In early November Jason Woolford, Executive Director of Mission Cry, and his team stepped off a plane in Belize. They were armed with the Gospel and thousands of Bibles and Christian books to give to families there.

Acting in faith

It began with a simple question: what if every home in all of Belize had a Bible or Christian resource?

Mission Cry (formerly Christian Resources International) has supplied Christian resources to people who need them since 1956, but this situation was unique. Instead of focusing on a small area, the team was taken on a whole country.

The dream was big, but Woolford believes in setting goals that only God can accomplish. So, with their calling in hand, Mission Cry began a time of prayer and acting in faith. They pleaded that God would provide the money and books needed to reach the country of Belize.

With every step they took, they asked God to lead. And they followed his guidance, even when it went against what everyone told them would be best.

A big dream, a small city

God called Mission Cry to San Ignacio to kick off their ministry, but many people had doubts.

## Handing out literature

San Ignacio was too little of a town. There wouldn't be enough people. The team would get a better response somewhere else.

But Woolford knew where God wanted them. As he explains, "Well against much pressure, and my own flesh, and other people, we stayed true to going to where God told us to go. And that night, not only did almost 700 people show up, we also had favor with secular broadcasting companies. They came and they broadcasted our event throughout the entire nation of Belize on secular TV."

God exceeded their wildest expectations. In a small city, the Lord gave people open hearts and minds to not only hear the Gospel, but spread it on national TV.

Far more abundantly than all we ask

It was more than they hoped, but God was only beginning to show his power and blessing for the mission.

The team that went to Belize had both former and current members of the armed forces involved. This gave them a special compassion for military men and women.

So, they planned to visit the Belize Coast Guard to share the Gospel.

However, as they got breakfast the morning before they left for the base, Woolford got a call. There was a mix-up and the team no longer had an audience to minister to. Their visit was canceled.

But God was not done with Mission Cry. As the team considered their next steps, Woolford's translator spoke up. The Prime Minister's son had just walked in.

Woolford asked his translator to introduce them and then walked up to the son of Belize's Prime Minister and explained the situation.

Woolford said, "He pauses. He looks at his phone, says let me call the Minister of Defense. He calls the Minister of Defense, says he's not available, but let me finish my eggs and I will give you a personal escort to BFD to the Belize main military base and I will get you access to one of these platoons."

When he had finished his breakfast, the Prime Minister's son escorted the team to the base.

## Ministering to the Belize Military

God was opening doors and the team was ready to see him open hearts. They were given time with a platoon of about 40 guys.

"We ministered to these guys. They were emotional. They were crying," says

Woolford. “Seven people raised their hands to ask Jesus into their life. As a matter of fact, while Michael Maher was doing praise and worship a British soldier who was on this base in Belize was walking by, heard the music, came in and gave his life to the Lord.”

Through miscommunication and a surprise visit with the Prime Minister’s son, the Mission Cry team saw God change hearts.

Creature Feature Storytellers in Arabic will get the Gospel to refugee kids

By Lyndsey Koh December 5, 2017

Middle East (MNN) - When you’re a kid living in a refugee camp in a foreign country, so much change can be disorienting. Listening to something in your own language is comforting. And if the thing you’re listening to is sharing stories from the Bible, it has the power to change your life.

That’s where Keys for Kids’ Creature Feature Storytellers come in. The Storytellers are little stuffed animal holders with an mp3 player. The player has around 30 hours of Keys for Kids devotionals and the whole Bible in audio. Greg Yoder with Keys for Kids says they are currently working on Storytellers in Arabic which can be distributed to kids in the Middle East and refugee camps.

“Many [refugee] kids haven’t been able to go to school so maybe they’ve forgotten how to read. These Storyteller devices could be what could not just lead a child to Christ, but lead a whole family and maybe even start a church!”

Even one single Storyteller has a ripple-effect of impact. An average of 144 kids will listen to a devotional or Bible story on one Storyteller, according to a Keys for Kids partner.

And Yoder says they’re not stopping at Arabic. “We’re hoping Spanish will be available sometime in January. But we also have Albanian, Greek, [and] Macedonian. We have Mandarin – both traditional and simplified – underway. We also would like to do Hindi and Tamil and Bengali. So there are a lot of other languages that we’re either just beginning talks on or they’re in some way, shape, or form in the process of actually being translated.”

Plus, if you’re still working on your Christmas shopping, Yoder points out a Creature Feature Storyteller makes a great gift.

“Maybe you’d like to get one for your own child! Well, when you do that, you

actually buy one for yourself, but also place one somewhere else and invest into the ministry of the Keys for Kids Storyteller program.”

And one thing everyone can do? Pray for this project: “Pray that there will be protection for our translators as they’re working on these in-country. Pray that people will catch the vision and the passion for this, not just here in the United States but abroad so that they would begin investing in this with their lives.”

Open Doors presents UN with Hope for the Middle East

By Julie Bourdon December 11, 2017

Middle East (MNN) – Yesterday was Human Rights Day which has been around for nearly 70 years. It marks the day when the United Nations established the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Today, Open Doors USA is drawing attention to a specific instance where human rights need to improve.

Over the last few months, the organization has been collecting signatures in their “Hope for the Middle East Campaign.” As of last week, they had gathered well over 800,000 signatures. The petition urges support for Christians in the Middle East, particularly Syria and Iraq, especially in light of the major rebuild that is just beginning in the war-torn nations. They will present the signatures to the UN Secretary-General and his office.

“So many Christians have been displaced and pushed out of their homes in the Middle East. And we want them to be part of their communities. What we’re really asking is that Christians have the same rights in civil society as everybody else, are part of the restoration and reconciliation within their countries—Iraq and Syria. Christians need to be part of that. And that they have a right to housing, you know, the basics of life and that they should not be discriminated upon in Iraq and Syria and the Middle East just because of their faith in Jesus.”

More specifically, the petition asks three things:

The right to equal citizenship

Dignified living conditions

Involvement in reconciling and rebuilding their society

Why it matters to be a voice for the voiceless

The petition was created after Open Doors surveyed Christians in the Middle East on what their greatest needs were going forward.

Curry says the petition is not just about creating a bill and establishing international pressure on the issue, but also to create awareness of the situation and draw the Body of Christ into advocacy.

He explains that if we miss this opportunity to direct change going forward, we'll be feeding into a negative cycle of oppression in the Middle East. Now is the time for action. But, he says, this isn't just a calling for some portions of the Church, but all.

“The entire Body of Christ has been called to pray for and to reach out and care for people who are in prison for the name of Jesus. So it's a universal calling; I think it's important to recognize that. And so, when we are advocating, caring for, speaking out for people who are followers of Jesus, we are doing what the Lord has asked us to do. We are being obedient.”

While there is time

Another factor that can seem far away in the west is our own connection with persecution. Curry reminds us that it doesn't take much stretching of the imagination to see how persecution could quickly hit home.

“Eventually this persecution may come to you and some of your family. And we need to recognize that we wish somebody would speak out on our behalf, this is our chance to do it for our brothers and sisters around the world.

“And it's not a long stretch to imagine that persecution could increase in the west, that laws could be passed... all kinds of things which are going to be used to paint Christians as intolerant and all these sorts of things. That's only going to grow. Aggressive secularism is going to impinge upon the rights of Christians over time, certainly.

“Wouldn't you like to know that people around the world are going to be thinking and praying and lifting you up when your time comes? Absolutely, you would. That's why we need to reach out and care for our brothers and sisters around the world.”

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Bringing the Gospel to unreached peoples

By Anna Deckert December 20, 2017

MNN (International) – There are over 16,000 unreached peoples around the world, more than two billion individuals who have never heard the Gospel of

Jesus Christ. Yet only one percent of money given to foreign missions goes to bring the Word of God to these unreached people groups. In fact, Christians seem to be largely unaware of this massive need.

However, a small group of ministries has banded together to help Christians hear about these unreached peoples and fulfill Jesus' command to make disciples in all the world. Their combined ministry is the Alliance for the Unreached and together they champion the International Day for the Unreached.

The theology of "and"

The International Day for the Unreached, or IDU, seeks to put practical feet on the theology of "and". Larry Andrews, from Partners International and the Alliance for the Unreached explains that the theology of "and" really centers around Jesus' commands given in Matthew 28 and again in Acts 1.

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8)

Jesus does not ask his disciples to choose one of the places to go, Jerusalem, or Judea or Samaria, or to the ends of the earth. He expects them to preach his good news in every part of the world, even to the remotest unreached peoples.

Andrews put it this way, "He intentionally uses the word 'and', which again is reflective of the same command that we see in the book of Matthew when he leaves us the Great Commission. So Jesus' heart is to be witnesses in Jerusalem for sure, and in Judea and Samaria, and to the remotest parts of the world. The theology of 'and' is really around this encompassing nature of Jesus' heart to reach the uttermost parts of the world."

Working out the command

The Alliance for the Unreached helps bring this command to life through the International Day for the Unreached. It is a concrete day where people can turn their attention to the spread of the Gospel. Fittingly, it is always on Pentecost Sunday. This year that is on May 20, 2018.

Unreached praying to Buddha

To help churches and individuals double down on their efforts, the Alliance for the Unreached has put materials on the IDU website which you can find [here](#). There, Christians learn of the great need of the Gospel around the world and how they



can obey Jesus by bringing the Gospel to all people groups.

Andrews explains, “We’ve explicitly put together a ‘how do I get involved’ hand-out. How do I talk to my pastor? How do I approach my missions committee to get more advocacy within your own heart, within your own church to be part of putting hands to feet and fulfilling what God’s asked us to do in obeying this command?”

Start today

According to Andrews, understanding God’s grace is the starting place for all of this. Seeing Jesus’ great love is the only way Christians will feel passion for the unreached peoples of the Earth. When that passion is cultivated, Andrews encourages individuals and groups to learn more about unreached peoples and get involved.

He listed off several ways to begin extending the Gospel wherever you are now.

1. Pray that God will show you how to use your unique gifts and passions to spread the Good News of Christ.
2. Consider supporting the members of the Alliance for the Unreached: Reach Beyond, Bibles for the World, Operation Mobilization, Missio Nexus, World Mission, Partners International, Mission Network News, and ZimZam Global.
3. Pray that God would open your eyes and your heart to be moved by the Great Commission.
4. Encourage your church and your pastor to teach about missions on the International Day of the Unreached on May 20.