



EFM Summer 2020 Update

How can you be involved in what God is doing through Evangelical Friends Mission?

“ Jesus said: 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

”

Where is his harvest field today?



His harvest field is still the whole world. According to the Joshua Project, there are around 7,000 people groups on planet earth that have either not had a significant part of their people hear the good news of Jesus Christ or have not had enough become disciples in order to reach the rest of their group. There's about three billion of these folks. They need missionaries to live among them, sharing the good news in word and deed and making disciples of those who respond. The harvest is indeed plentiful and the workers few.

What would the Lord of the harvest have EFM do about the lack of workers?

10 NEW MISSIONARIES (households) from North America

5 NEW FIELDS

by **2025**.

Are **YOU** one of those **10**?

EVANGELICAL FRIENDS MISSION

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Who is Evangelical Friends Mission (EFM) and what do we do?

EFM is the global missions arm of Evangelical Friends in North America. It has existed since 1963. The yearly meetings/regions who are currently part of this joint effort are:

- Alaska Yearly Meeting
- Evangelical Friends Church - Mid America Yearly Meeting
- Friends Southwest
- Iowa Yearly Meeting (Associate Member)
- Northwest Yearly Meeting
- Rocky Mountain Yearly Meeting
- Evangelical Friends Church - Eastern Region
- Indiana Yearly Meeting (Associate Member)

EFM's purpose and passion is to fuel a worldwide movement of people who seek first the kingdom of God, planting churches that live and die to carry out the Great Commission in the spirit of the Great Commandment.

What is the Lord currently doing through EFM?

A story of transformation from Romania as told by Voicu and Ana Marian

We see the Lord's footsteps daily in the lives of our students. We've seen his miraculous transformation in the lives of orphan girls and in young women being a part of our family. However, we chose a story that we haven't shared before, and not for the "worldly success," but because we've seen Jesus being glorified through it.

We first met Iulia at the Orlat public school in the 5th grade English class. She was tall, beautiful, and extremely bright. A couple years later she attended our summer camp and she's remained close ever since. Iulia's hard work earned her maximum scores in her high school entrance exam. Throughout high school she continued to study English with Ana and attended weekly youth meetings. After one such meeting at our apartment, Iulia gave her life to Christ.

The battle only then began. Having won the high school beauty pageant, she was hard pressed by one influential professor to transfer to Bucharest and pursue modeling. Iulia's temptation was great, but she asked us for advice and prayer. She chose to remain in Sibiu, and later on was elected president of student council. (She wrote a letter at the time, praising God for saving her and encouraging us to witness boldly to other teenagers as well.)



Iulia (front right, 2007)

Iulia graduated valedictorian and enrolled at "Lucian Blaga" Sibiu University. She did part of her graduate studies in Beijing, China. Today Iulia Gita is a faculty member (Chinese-English Department) at her Alma Matter, and a PhD candidate. She's remained affectionate whenever we happen to meet. We trust

God entirely with Iulia's life and future impact in the community.

EFM has 23 missionaries (households) on 19 mission fields in 13 countries.

In a recent 3-year sampling, EFM fields were blessed with 6,000 new professions of faith.

EFM is currently working on starting new fields in five countries through the Luke 10 Initiative, and EFM is currently seeking persons interested in exploring Friends Missions service!

Who is serving with EFM right now?

Asia (Serving in Security-Sensitive Areas)

D. G.*
M. and K. L.
I. S.*

Bhutan

Rupak and Pramila Tamang

Hungary

Tony and Agi Frei**

Ireland

David and Tricia Howell
Molly Morton
Kathi Perry

Philippines

Roy and Jinky Twaddell

Rwanda

Brad and Chelsea Carpenter

Missions Mobilizer for Hispanic Friends

Maria Giron

Bangladesh

Albert and Metali Adhikari

Haiti

William and Marie Bertrand**

India

Babir and Lalita Gautam (Bihar)**
Arun and Shobha Massey (Karnataka)**
Gabriel and Suzana Massey (Madhya Pradesh)**
Benson and Annie Sam with Danson Matthew (Kerala)**
D. K. and Choity Sarkar (West Bengal)

Nepal

B. and D. A.
Samson and Priscilla Retnaraj

Romania

Voicu and Ana Marian**

Thailand

Ben and Charity Kibbe**

Whole-Life Discipleship Mentor

David Thomas

*Recently added to EFM umbrella by Northwest Yearly Meeting.

**Recently added to EFM umbrella by Evangelical Friends Church - Eastern Region.

How can you be involved in this Great Commission work?

That's what the next three sections are about. Please keep reading!





PRAY

as a prayer partner for a missionary and EFM

SUBSCRIBE TO MISSIONARY NEWS: EFM publishes a monthly prayer letter and missionaries provide news and updates periodically. Sign up at www.friendsmission.com/pray to be a prayer partner and help EFM update our new data base.



Prayer is not just making our requests known to God, it is also giving him thanks and praise for what he is doing. We invite you to practice both by praying through the following:

Praises

- For lives that are being transformed by the gospel of Jesus Christ (like Iulia's).
- For the unity of the EFM Board in committing to ten new missionaries (households) from North America to launch five new fields by 2025.
- That the Lord has protected the health of the missionaries and national leaders as they do their best to support those they work with during this worldwide health and economic crisis.
- For the generous donations made to our emergency fund for helping meet some of the needs created by the spread of COVID-19. There was also a generous response to our request for help when a flood swept through the city of Uvira, Congo. The recipients of all this aid are very grateful!
- That Brad, Chelsea, Sarai, Gideon, and Ian Carpenter, who serve in Rwanda, Africa, were able to return to the U.S. for deputation.
- That Indiana Yearly Meeting (IYM) has become an associate member of EFM. Welcome aboard, IYM!

Prayer Requests

- That the Lord of the harvest would raise up ten new missionaries (households) from our regions/yearly meetings in North America and cast them out into five new fields during the next five years.
- For the EFM Board and staff as we complete the strategic plan for the five-year goal and implement it.
- That the situation caused by the spread of COVID-19 would create a spiritual hunger all around the world that would help people be more receptive to Jesus' invitation to take his yoke and follow him.
- For the wisdom and strength missionaries and national leaders need to guide their ministries through the coming months.
- That our local churches, regions/yearly meetings, and EFM will see the provision of the Lord in the midst of economic difficulties worldwide.
- For the Carpenter family as they try to do deputation in the U.S. the best they can in the midst of the restrictions due to COVID-19.



GIVE

as a financial partner to a missionary, project, or general fund

EFM has been blessed over the years by regular giving from the yearly meetings/regions, local churches, and a host of individuals. Such giving has enabled us to support the ministry of EFM's missionaries as well as respond to emergencies and special projects on the fields. We are grateful for this faithful giving. At the same time, EFM has underfunded ministries that need supported both in the office and overseas, and, in light of the current economic situation of the world, we, like you, are looking to our heavenly Father to provide for our needs. Since he often provides through the body of Christ we will continue to keep you informed of our needs and invite you to respond as the Lord leads.

Here are some giving opportunities that we invite you to prayerfully consider:

- Several years ago EFM created an initiative called "Luke 10" to help us identify where to start new fields. It is based on Jesus' instructions in the Gospel of Luke, chapter 10, and involves visits to unreached areas, consultations with our brothers and sisters in Christ closest to these areas, and discernment with future missionaries God may be calling to pursue these opportunities. If you would like to support the starting of new fields in this way you can do so online at <https://catalog.friendsmission.com/onlinegiving> (make sure to designate "Luke 10").
- Much of the growth that EFM has experienced over the years has been in Asia, right in the middle of a multitude of unreached people groups. One might think that these exciting ministries are the easiest ones to fund, but that is not always true. Contact our office (303-421-8100) for the most recent information on underfunded fields in Asia to support.
- Three years ago, EFM formed a partnership with Mexico Yearly Meeting to help them send out their first missionaries, Jaime and Lupita Leon. Jaime and Lupita are from Aguascalientes, Mexico, and are currently serving in the state of Sinaloa in northwest Mexico. Churches and individuals in Mexico Yearly Meeting made a commitment to cover the Leon's salary. EFM offered to cover their ministry expenses as well as ongoing training for missionary service. We could use your help with those expenses. You can contribute by giving online at <https://catalog.friendsmission.com/projects>.
- For many years EFM has been partnering with yearly meetings in Rwanda, Burundi, and the Congo to train leaders. We see much fruit from these training efforts, but as these yearly meetings continue to grow the need for more leaders also grows. Income for EFM's yearly contributions to the training has been dropping off in recent years, so we invite you to help us turn that trend around. You can do so by sending gifts for the Great Lakes Leadership Training initiatives. The amount needed for 2020 is \$26,500.
- Whenever our missionaries come to the U.S. for deputation they always need to raise funds for their own support and sometimes for special projects as well. A really good way to encourage the missionaries is by responding to their requests for both prayer and financial support. In the next few months you will have the opportunity to do that for the Carpenter family. You can visit all of our missionary pages at www.friendsmission.com/missionaries.

For a full list of our Special Projects that you can support, visit <https://catalog.friendsmission.com/projects>.



GO
as a missionary with EFM

We are currently looking to send missionaries to the four areas listed below. More destinations will be added as we complete the strategic plan for the five-year goal (ten new missionaries [households] from North America to launch five new fields by 2025) and do the Luke 10 trips.

What areas of the world are we focusing on currently?



There is one EFM missionary family left in Africa. We've had to wrestle with the question: "Does this mean that God is done with EFM in Africa?" As we've prayed and talked about it we've become convinced that God would have us rebuild our team in Central Africa. We believe he wants us to be part of keeping the whole-life discipleship, church planting movement crossing borders through tools like Discipling for Development. He also wants us to be partners with Africa Friends in sending missionaries to their own continents and beyond. They are sensing that call already and are asking for our help in responding to it.



The state of Sinaloa is in the northwest part of Mexico and is one of the areas of that country that has the fewest evangelical Christians. We Friends have had a tiny foothold there in a village called Siete Ejidos but have lacked the personnel to make disciples and plant churches in the surrounding villages and cities. Thanks be to the Lord, Jaime and Lupita Leon responded to the call and are working in that area right now. But one missionary unit is not enough. Who will go and join them in this work?



Several years ago the Lord called Russell and Sarah Badgley and their family to go to the southeast corner of Ecuador and share the good news of Jesus Christ with an underreached tribe called the Shuar. Badgleys were able to spend the equivalent of two years in Ecuador building relationships that will help make this kind of work possible. Now that they are back in the States to stay, who will go and build on the foundation they have laid?



According to the Joshua Project, India is the country with the most unreached people groups in it. More than two thousand! It's a tough country to get into, and a tough country in which to carry out the Great Commission, but God still opens doors and sustains those who are working there for his purposes. M. and K. L. recently completed their first term pioneering a new work. Who will step through the next door he opens?

How do you know if God is calling you to serve him overseas? You can start a process of discernment by completing our [Missionary Interest Form](#), under the GO tab at friendsmission.com. Other steps in the process can include things like a short-term field experience or a Future-Missionary Trip to an EFM field with an EFM missionary. There will also be Luke 10 trips to identify new fields.



PRAY. GIVE. GO.

Three ways to be involved in what God is doing through EFM.
Which one(s) will you start putting into practice today?