

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD U.S. MISSIONS GP REPORT

Malcolm Burleigh

This second year of service as the Executive Director of U.S. Missions has confirmed that the first and greatest work we participate in as a division is prayer. The heart of God is for people. For us to join Him in the work of the Kingdom, we must join Him with a heart for all people. It is, indeed, a unique assignment the Lord has called us to, and it is through prayer and His presence that He will guide us and reveal to us His agenda to reach the peoples of the world here in the United States.

The departments of U.S. Missions are as varied as the people groups of America. Jesus died for every person here. Scripture is clear, “Whosoever will, let them come.” And they are! They are coming from Jerusalem, all Judea and Samaria, and from the uttermost parts of the earth.

It is through the expertise and assignments of our missionaries, chaplains, and project volunteers that we will fulfill the assignment of our division to reach people with the gospel of Christ through partnership with the Church. During these first two years, we have defined and clarified our mission statement: To fulfill the Great Commission in the United States through partnership with the Church. This partnership enables U.S. Missions to equip and empower every believer through the work of reconciliation, exhibiting the love of God to a lost world.

Included in this report are the highlights of each department. While the work of each department is varied and strategic, it is within the whole of U.S. Missions that we make an impact for Kingdom growth through the salvation of souls. Dependence upon God, team work, integrity, servant leadership, and open communication are all working together to bring us to a place of strength and unity—for that we give God the glory.

Chaplaincy Ministries

U.S. Missions chaplains minister in a number of diverse areas. Like the apostle Paul, they seek to “become all things to all men” as they go out to minister in the name of Jesus. They take the gospel to our military personnel, to our prisoners, to bikers, and to those who are faced with certain death in hospitals, or at home under hospice care. While the fields of service may be very different, the need of every person encountered is the same. They need Jesus. Whether military chaplains, institutional chaplains, or occupational chaplains, U.S. Missions Chaplaincy’s mission is Spirit-empowered service to people at their point of need. This ministry is specialized and limitless. Its reach is as wide and deep as the love of Christ.

Chi Alpha Campus Ministries, U.S.A.

Everything U.S. Missions Chi Alpha does is processed through the lens of the prophetic word of the greatest student awakening in history. It commits to growing healthy U.S. Missions Chi Alpha groups, healthy leaders, and healthy disciple-making communities through Holy Spirit empowerment where ministry opportunities present themselves.

The number of U.S. Missions missionaries and chartered Chi Alpha groups continues to grow. There are currently 40 Campus Missionary-in-Training (CMIT) programs on 71 campuses. The 320 chartered Chi Alpha groups are working strategically with local Assemblies of God churches to assist in planting and implementing a healthy U.S. Missions Chi Alpha group where there are no missionaries. God is leading us to increase our campus ministry to 400 campuses and global ministry planting. Through partnership with Church Multiplication Network (CMN) and Missionary Church Planters and Developers (MCPD), Chi Alpha alumni take part in a church planting movement that will bring a new level of unity and a fully developed advancement team to campuses all over the United States.

Intercultural Ministries

There are more than 500 different cultural groups speaking some 600 languages right here in the United States. U.S. Missions Intercultural Ministries missionaries and missionary associates are specifically called to go into these culturally diverse communities and share the gospel with those who have never heard it. They come alongside specific people groups that are called to plant churches in a nation that is not their own. This has led to an increase in planting churches among Spanish and Burmese communities, and planting a new Farsi Assembly of God church in Texas. Many missionaries and missionary associates not only partner with local churches and districts to train and equip those who are called to ministry, but they also offer School of Ministry courses and Bible training to raise up the next generation of Native American pastors.

In addition to ministry in diverse communities, this new year brought about the relaunch of the Center for the Blind ministry under the umbrella of Special Touch Ministry, a ministry to people with disabilities and their families. U.S. Missions Intercultural Ministries has seen more than 40 children and young adults rescued from human trafficking in 2019 alone. More than 13,000 first responders, social workers, and educators, and more than 400,000 students in 3,500 schools have been trained about the warning signs of human trafficking. It is an exciting time to be involved with a ministry that looks to the future, joining God in the midst of such diversity, to see the lost won to Christ for the sake of the Kingdom that every nation and all peoples may hear.

Missionary Church Planters and Developers

The growth in U.S. Missions MCPD is visible not only in record numbers of personnel and account numbers but also through the measurable results of 1,075 new leaders in training, 9,245 salvations, and 2,912 pastors and churches served. Record numbers in 2018 got the department off to a great start in 2019 as strategies were adjusted for changes in finances and personnel placement; high quality pastoral care and national office service is provided to personnel; and the expansion of missionary networks gives way to increased support and effectiveness. The 185 personnel serving through U.S. Missions MCPD are on assignment to prioritize future shifts in culture and methodology, increasing future-oriented resources, training, and exposure, while strengthening vision and sustainable implementation.

Teen Challenge International U.S.A.

This has been a year of transition for Teen Challenge as President and CEO Joe Batluck announced his retirement and the board of directors elected his replacement, Gary Blanchard. Teen Challenge is a 60-year ministry focused on the transformation of lives struggling with life-controlling issues such as addiction. Through effective discipleship, mentoring, and life-skills training, U.S. Missions TCUSA and its affiliates have seen tremendous outcomes in life transformation through its faith-based programs.

Blanchard comes to the position with a diverse nonprofit and corporate executive background. He also served on the Teen Challenge board of directors the past four years, being elected as President and CEO in December of 2018 and stepping into the position on April 15, 2019.

The future looks bright as God leads an accelerated expansion of curriculum with marketing focused on churches, schools, and community groups. The expansion of the scope of ministry services offered in the 250 Teen Challenge centers will be focused on prevention, continuum of care, leadership development, and tracking outcomes through the development of a metrics tool.

U.S. MAPS

Already 2019 is proving to be a time of growth and empowerment in sending missionaries and project volunteers to partner with the church. Its impact on this fiscal year reporting is measurable.

The previous eight regions of U.S. Missions MAPS were multiplied into 20 missionary fields for better representation within the districts. There are now 18 field missionaries that are equipped to better serve this constituency. The RVers documented 76,992 working hours on 75 projects and have completed 26 projects for a savings of \$1,539,840. The 56 church teams that were deployed worked a total of 25,732 hours with a total missions giving credit of team expenses and hours worked of \$1,063,296. And 19 new missionary associates were placed in diverse positions ministering within the Fellowship.

Youth Alive

U.S. Missions Youth Alive missionaries reach one of the most strategic mission fields in the United States. They have the capacity to influence every walk of life for many years into the future by equipping students to share the gospel and make disciples. U.S. Missions partners with churches through Youth Alive missionaries to reach students in their community within the halls of the local school.

Campus Clubs and Prayer Zone Partners® are two ways U.S. Missions Youth Alive missionaries bridge the gap between the school, the church, the home, and the community. As a result, our students become missionaries, and their school campus becomes the mission field. With 67,000 junior high and high schools in the United States, our 33 missionaries and spouses serving in Youth Alive are busy about the

Lord's assignment to raise up leaders, equipping youth to share the gospel. The harvest is plentiful and U.S. Missions Youth Alive Coordinator Kent Hulbert believes the greatest injustice is for anyone to live and die without the opportunity to know Jesus. We are equipping students to reach students so that all may know Him.