

MESSENGER

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER & PRAYER GUIDE

2024

KINGDOM MULTIPLICATION VISION UPDATE



EMM's strategic focus is to identify, equip, and send missional leaders to serve on multi-generational and multi-ethnic teams who invite people to follow Jesus as maturing, multiplying disciples and nurture transforming communities of worship.

We primarily focus on least-reached people groups of Central Asia, Central Europe, Southeast Asia, and West Africa, and refugees in Lancaster, Pa.

In 2022, we set a new strategic focus for our work through 2028. This strategic focus, the Kingdom Multiplication Vision, is something with which we are diligently engaging to see people come to know Jesus. This issue of *Messenger* serves as a way to update you on the progress we are making, and also to highlight the room for opportunity that we have together in our work of sharing Christ's transforming love with the world.

MORE THAN 3 BILLION PEOPLE ...

... don't have access to the gospel or proximity to a follower of Jesus who can tell them about this good news. Another 2 billion people may have access to the gospel but have not experienced its life-transforming power. Very simply, our work is to share the good news of *Christ's transforming love* with people who don't know him.

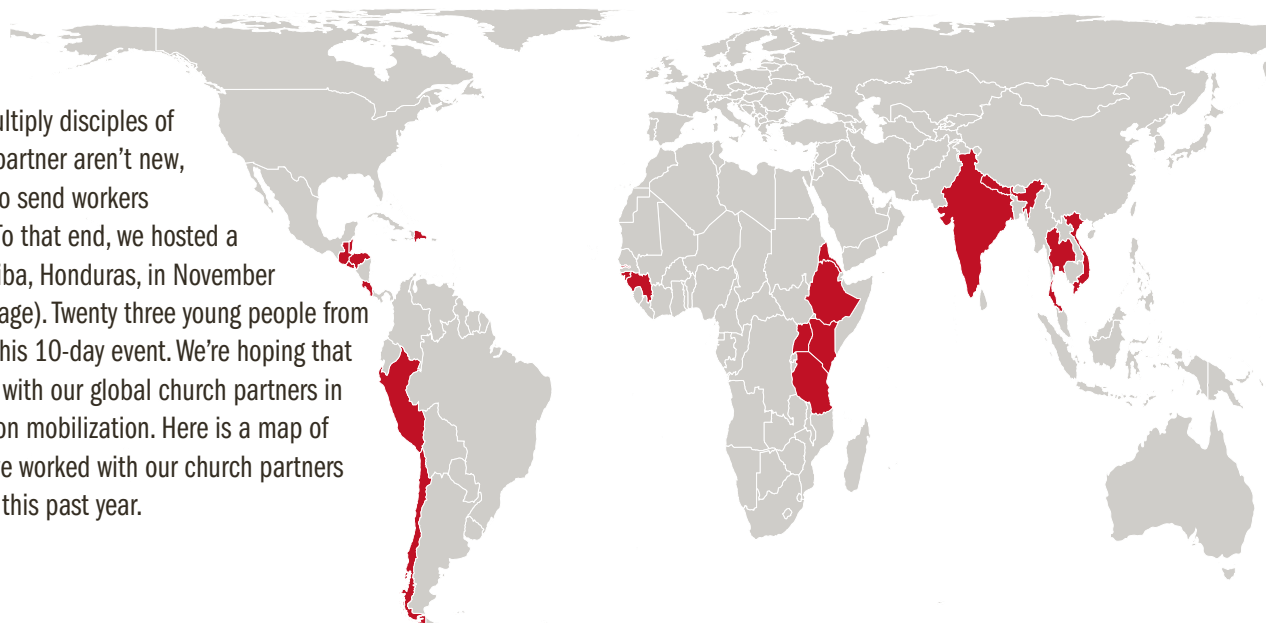


CHRIST'S TRANSFORMING LOVE

In 2023, EMM staff worked to develop a new document that highlights our mission, vision, values, and much more. We introduced this document at our 2023 fall banquets. If you'd like to read this document, you can view it online at [EMM.ORG/CTL](https://www.emm.org/ctl) or pick up a copy at our office or from any EMM event.

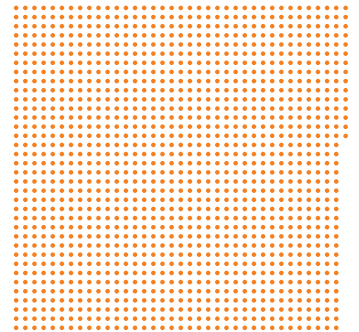
PARTNERING WITH GLOBAL CHURCHES

In the past two years, we've been working with global churches to help multiply disciples of Jesus. While our efforts to partner aren't new, our focus on finding ways to send workers together has a new focus. To that end, we hosted a missional training in La Ceiba, Honduras, in November 2023 (photo on the next page). Twenty three young people from seven countries attended this 10-day event. We're hoping that we will continue to engage with our global church partners in ways that encourage mission mobilization. Here is a map of the countries in which we've worked with our church partners regarding mission projects this past year.





375



NEW WORKERS SENT SINCE MAY 2022

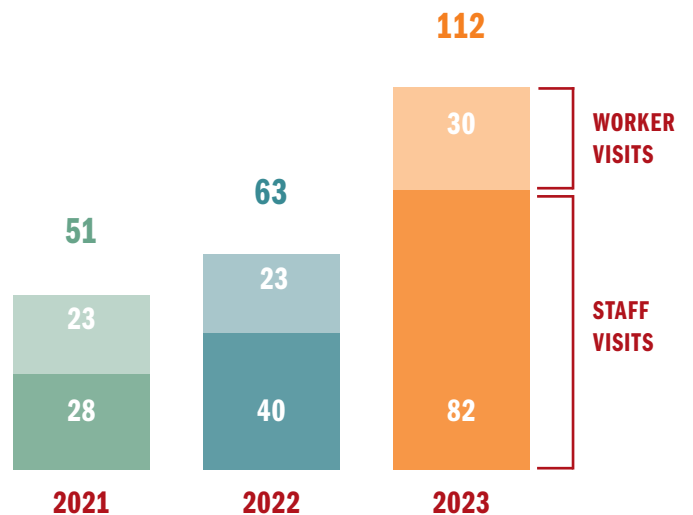
We walk with people through an extensive journey of exploring their call to missions. This means sending workers for short-term and long-term service.

RECRUITMENT CONTACTS SINCE JANUARY 2023

Our team has traveled to a number of events and had personal contacts with all of these people. While not every interaction results in a decision to serve with EMM, every engagement is important in helping us move toward our goal.

BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS WITH LOCAL CHURCHES

We encourage congregations to be active in making disciples locally as well as globally. We also hope all churches will become sending communities. Towards that goal, EMM staff and workers engage with churches regularly. This is a look at the churches our staff interacts with and also the data that we have for churches that workers visit during home leaves.

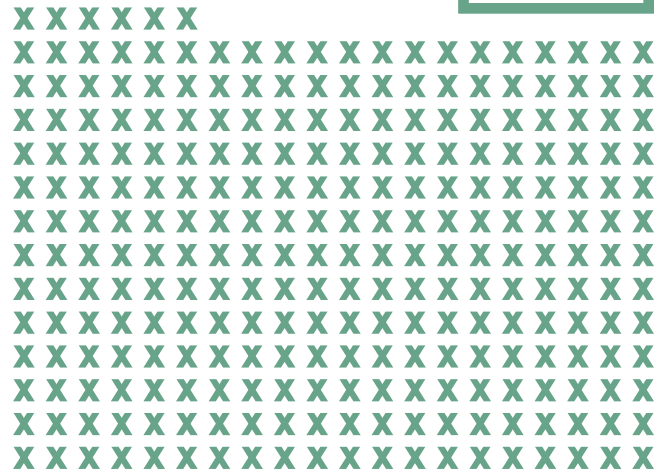


LEARNERS WHO HAVE TAKEN COURSES THROUGH RADIX **RADIX** SINCE APRIL 2023

266

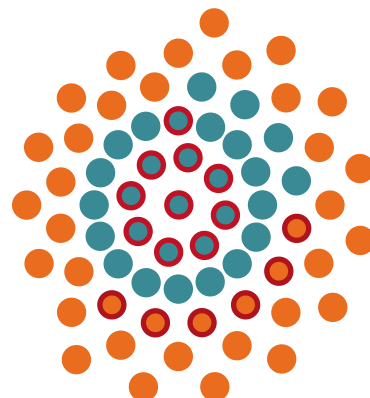
In the 16th century, the Radical Reformers – also known as the Anabaptists – looked to the “roots” of the church as their inspiration. The term “radical” comes from the Latin word “radix” which means “root.” The early Anabaptists wanted to see the kingdom of God restored to a kingdom that was not of this world – but a kingdom that transcended national, cultural, and linguistic backgrounds.

Following in this stream, we are passionate about equipping and training the church around the world with missional Anabaptist resources. EMM and LMC designed Radix as an online learning platform to fulfill this vision. It’s our goal that we’ll have 250 active ongoing learners engaged with a learning track in Radix. While we’re working to develop these tracks, we celebrate the 266 people who have taken at least one course through Radix.



MISSIONAL LEADERS TRAINED THROUGH THE KAIROS COURSE **KAIROS** SINCE APRIL 2022

This course guides participants to a biblical worldview and to live as a world Christian. It uses a unique combination of facilitated introductions, reading, videos, group discussions, special activities, and prayer for unreached peoples. Kairos is one of several mobilization tools produced by Simply Mobilizing, Inc., located in the Philippines. Kairos is for all Christians at any point in their journey with God. It is not a “missions” course. It is an opportunity for all God’s people to have their worldview transformed and aligned with God’s heart for the nations. He has called us all to play a part in His mission, and there are many different roles to fill.



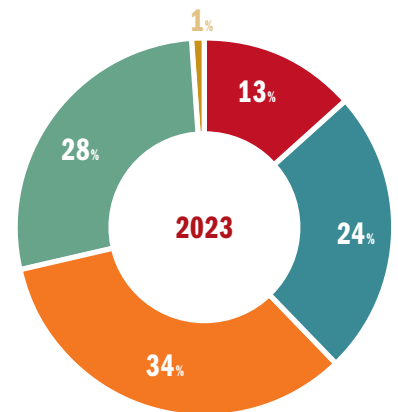
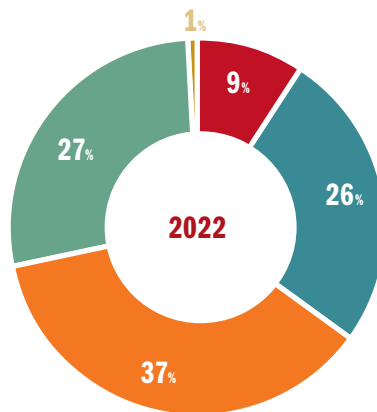
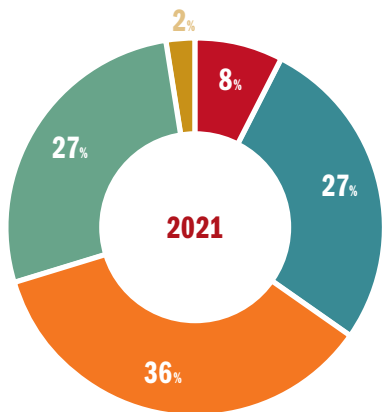
67

- 29 PARTICIPANTS IN 2022
- 38 PARTICIPANTS IN 2023
- 16 BECAME FACILITATORS



DEVELOPING MULTI-GENERATIONAL TEAMS

We believe that God’s call for mission includes all people to work together to share the good news with the people who have not heard this good news. This means that we desire to keep growing in the inclusion of followers of Jesus from multiple generations. Here is a look at the generations of all EMM staff and workers.



GENERATION Z
BORN 1997-2012

MILLENNIALS
BORN 1980-1996

GENERATION X
BORN 1965-1979

BABY BOOMERS
BORN 1946-1964

SILENT GENERATION
BORN 1928-1945

WANT TO GET INVOLVED? JOIN A VISION SUPPORT TEAM

Each of the five strategic priority regions will have a Vision Support Team (VST) to develop and encourage funding, recruiting, and related strategic projects. A VST is an advocacy and support group of people organized to provide support and encouragement to EMM initiatives in a country, a region, or a specific ministry.



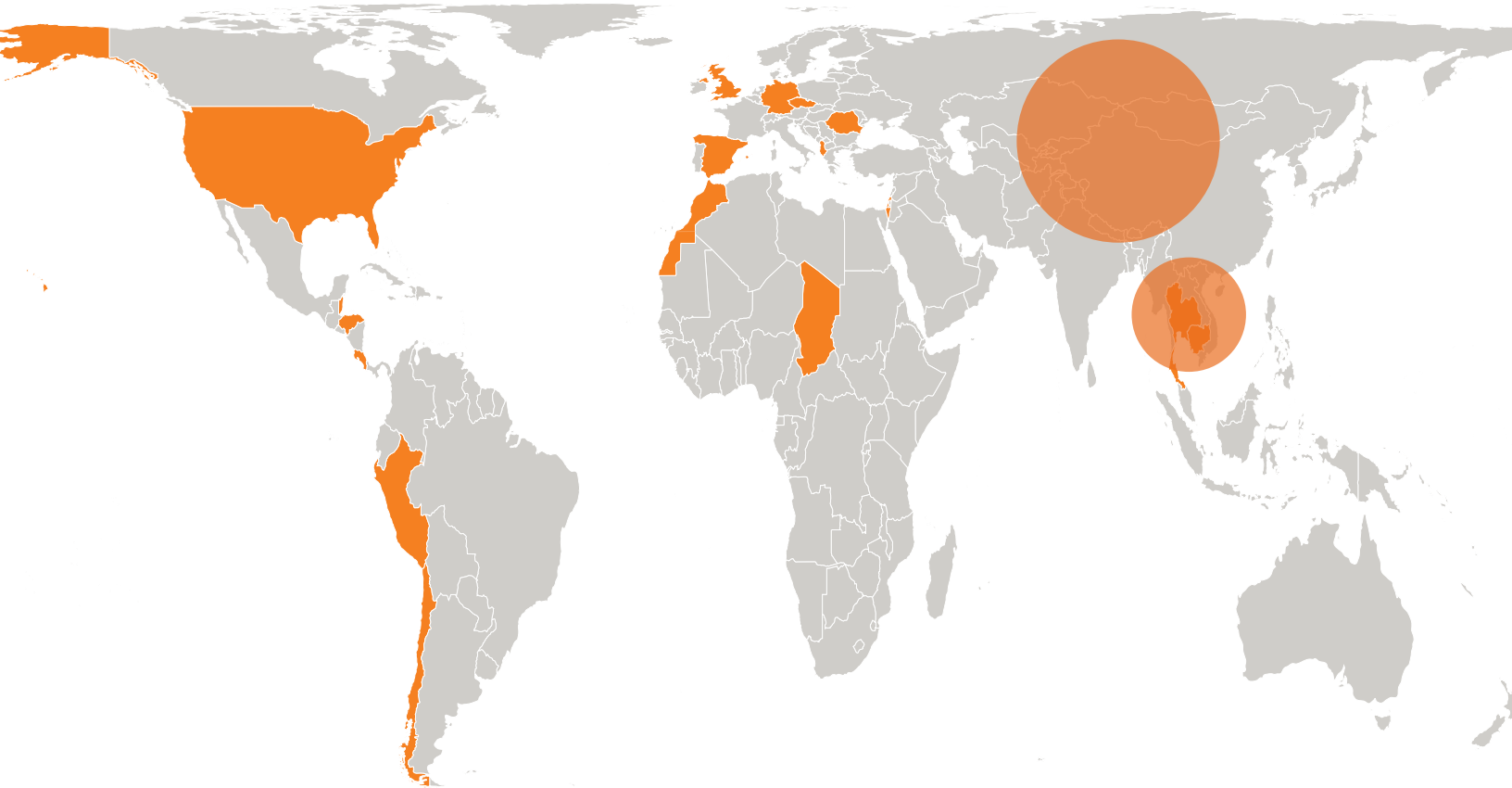
[EMM.ORG/VST](https://emm.org/vst)

EMM had 150 team members in 25 countries in 2023

5 countries/regions within shaded areas not named for security concerns

- 73 long-term team members
- 18 short-term team members
- 59 Kingdom Team participants

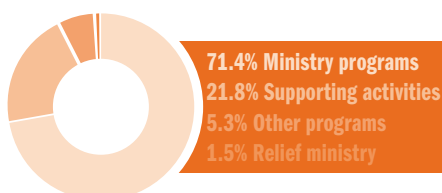
- 305 Missionary Support Team members
- 31 Staff members
- 13 Board members (who served at any point in 2023)



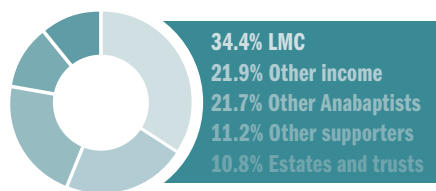
FINANCES 2023

We are grateful for the generous giving from congregations and individuals during 2023. If you would like a copy of the final audited report, please contact us. As we continue into 2024, we invite you to prayerfully consider how you and your congregation can continue to support the Impact Fund. You can support the Impact Fund at EMM.ORG/GIVE.

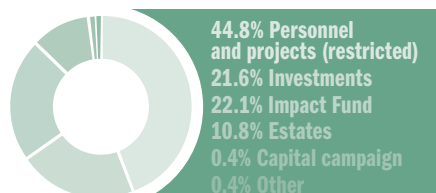
EXPENSES BY FUNCTION: \$5,913,691



INCOME BY SOURCE: \$6,331,544



INCOME BY TYPE: \$6,331,544



OPERATING FUND BALANCE SHEET

Assets

Cash and cash equivalents	\$4,290,760
Short-term investments	\$2,595,848
Receivables	\$6,484,635
Capital campaign pledges	\$53,775
Prepaid expenses	\$106,956
Interest in MASP reserve	\$145,510
Pension assets	\$184,973
Property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation	\$3,767,861
Total assets	\$17,630,318

Liabilities and net assets

Deferred revenue	\$2,952
Payables	\$264,501
Funds in custody	\$2,577,364
Designated net assets	\$1,339,677
Undesignated net assets	\$13,445,824
Total liabilities and net assets	\$17,630,318

Due to rounding, figures may not equal the totals shown.

APRIL DAILY PRAYER

1 MIDDLE EAST | Pray for God to continue to be Michael and Laura's* strength and joy. Pray that they can be God's messengers of peace and hope in the midst of a difficult environment and situation.

2 WEST AFRICA | Pray for individuals and families to be called to join the work of leadership development and church planting in West Africa.

3 PERU | Pray for Holly Hollenbach as she has concluded the outreach portion for the Advance program. Pray that she would have meaningful ways of connecting with her host family and others she has built relationships even after she has returned.

4 KENYA | Join us in prayer for Moses Munyoki's wife and children as they grieve his loss. Moses was a Kenyan missionary who was sent by the Kenyan Mennonite Church and was an active member of the Peacemakers Confessing Christ International network. He was recently located in the town of Garissa, near the Somalia border.

5 ROMANIA | Pray for Phil and Linda Gottschalk as they settle back into their routines and work with Ukrainian refugees. Pray for physical health and strength. Pray for Phil as he prepares for three teaching trips this fall.

6 U.S. | Pray for God to call volunteers for the programs at Neighbors Community Center at Hub450, our building in Lancaster, PA.

7 CZECH REPUBLIC | Pray for Jan Heindel as she continues to be a part of the church plant in Dobříš. Pray for the core team as they plan outreach events and seek God on how to reach the community.

8 KAZAKHSTAN | Ask the Holy Spirit to open the hearts of Kazakhs towards Christians so that they will be receptive to the gospel.

9 U.S. | Pray for wisdom and insight for Lea* in developing materials to engage Buddhists and to equip others to reach them.

10 U.S. | As the spring Kairos course wraps up, pray for participants to have clarity and courage for how to live as world Christians helping to share the Gospel with those who lack access to it.

11 CHILE | Pray for Michael and Nancy Hostetter as they continue to be a resource in helping train and develop house churches and networks. Ask God for wisdom as they give leadership to the developing ministries on Tenglo Island.

12 THAILAND | Pray for Jeremy and Jennifer* as they serve as regional representatives to the team in Southeast Asia. Pray also for their work in the red-light district of Chiang Mai, where they are involved at both a grassroots and a leadership level.

13 SOUTHEAST ASIA | Pray for Will and Nina* as they encourage and work alongside the team at a business for transformation. Pray for the children in their schooling and relationships with those in their community.

14 GLOBAL | Pray for God to call Advance Global participants for the fall of 2024, to the regions of West Africa, Germany, and Southeast Asia.

15 COSTA RICA | Pray for Wendell and Melanie as they mentor and make disciples as directors of VidaNet. Pray also as they serve as the regional representatives for Central America, giving oversight to EMM's programs and personnel in the region.

16 CAMBODIA | Pray for individuals to join our team in Cambodia and minister to young adults through a ministry of hospitality.

17 U.S. | Pray for Andre and Karen* as they have returned to live in Oregon. Pray for their time of transition. Pray for Andre as he continues to provide resources and training to the leaders in Thailand.

18 CAMBODIA | Pray for Lena Kauffman as she is in the last month of outreach for the Advance program. Pray that she would have meaningful ways of connecting with her host family and others she has built relationships with.

19 LAOS | Pray that the Christian believers among the Lao would fellowship together faithfully and nurture true teachings about the faith. Pray that Christ may dwell in their hearts through faith.

20 CHILE | Pray for mission interns to join the work of camp ministry in Tenglo Island, Chile.

21 THAILAND | Pray for Mark and Sarah Schoenhals as they walk alongside the Life Enrichment Church, encouraging the vision for multiplication. Pray for them also as they provide pastoral care to the church leaders.

22 SOUTHEAST ASIA | Please ask God to provide an executive director for a transformational business in Southeast Asia.

23 CHAD | Pray that God would strengthen Christy* as she works as a nurse and midwife in a hospital. Pray for wisdom for Peter* as he works in a seminary and an interfaith relations office of the local churches. Pray for good relationships for the children in school and their community.

24 INDONESIA | There are only a few Christian believers among the large Madura people group. Pray that they will abide in Christ, zealously serve him, and live in the power of His Spirit.

25 U.S. | Pray for Marty Sollenberger and his team as they build power supply kits for computers used for Bible translation. Pray for the provision of financial resources for Marty and Glenna to allow them to continue to serve with Wycliffe.

26 GLOBAL | Thank God for the strength of Impact Fund giving so far this year, and ask Him to release the resources needed to support his mission with EMM this year.

27 WALES, U.K. | Pray for Alan and Carol Wert as they lead their small group and also desire to disciple new co-leaders. Pray that Alan can be a beacon of hope to his co-workers. Pray for Carol to have creativity in managing her classroom.

28 GLOBAL | Pray for God to send workers to the field to work in business for transformation and teaching English.

29 U.S. | Praise God for the ways he has ministered through Mission Team Director Lorri Bentsch, and ask him to pour out his anointing on her as she receives ordination tomorrow.

30 GERMANY | Pray for Matthew Baugher as he is in the last couple weeks of outreach for the Advance program. Pray that he would have meaningful ways of connecting with his host family and others he built relationships with during his time in Germany.

**Names changed for sensitivity reasons.*



Eastern Mennonite Missions

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

GOD'S HEART FOR ALL NATIONS



Joe and Yvonne Garber are available to present "God's Heart for All Nations" in your local church. Their hope is for the Holy Spirit to inspire passion for the mission of God.

"For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all." – 2 Corinthians 5:14



SCHEDULE A SPEAKER AT
EMM.ORG/INVITE

CELEBRATING A LEGACY



Janet D. Kebede, 84, of Addis Adaba, Ethiopia, went to be with the Lord on

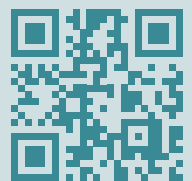
December 10, 2023. In 1960, Janet began serving with EMM in Ethiopia, and served a second appointment starting in 1968. For the many decades since then, Janet and her husband, Negash, faithfully served the Meserete Kristos Church in Ethiopia.

THE IMPACT FUND FOR 2024 NEED IS \$1,438,804

When you support EMM's Impact Fund, you enable us to recruit, equip, and send EMM workers around world.

\$353,651 RECEIVED AS OF MARCH 14

\$1,792,455 GOAL



EMM.ORG/GIVE

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