

2025

ANNUAL REPORT

Light in
the Darkness



unfoldingWord®

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A LETTER FROM
CEO DAVID REEVES



THE LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. — JOHN 1:5 BSB

As I look back on 2025, the one word that comes to mind is 'incarnation.' Some people come to Christ after reading the gospel in their language. Some meet him in dreams. However, most people meet Christ because they encounter him incarnate in his people. You, my friends, through your gifts, prayers, and support for unfoldingWord, are integral to our mission. You are accelerating the growth of the church in every people group with the Bible in every language, and for that, I am profoundly grateful.

This year has felt like a time of increasing darkness. Wars, persecution, voodoo, and political violence are on the rise. Truly, "our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this world's darkness, and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms."

But the darkness is not overcoming us.

Everywhere, the light of Christ, the Word of God, is penetrating that darkness. Not only the Word in the printed pages of a Bible, but the Word incarnate in the body of Christ in all its global expressions. The church—always God's first plan for reaching the world—is taking his gospel to the ends of the earth. The greater the opposition, the greater the resolve we've witnessed among our global partners. And because of your generosity in 2025, unfoldingWord was there to help.

Inspired by our partners' determination and your faith in us, we're committed to pressing through the challenges and finding ever more creative ways to help them. In 2025, we:

- Enabled exponential growth by training indigenous Bible translation trainers.
- Began equipping church planters with AI-powered, user-friendly technology.
- Turbocharged our partners' outreach to unreached peoples with Strategic Language Resources.
- Catalyzed the Bible translation community to embrace open licensing and the church-based translation model.

Jesus is "the Christ, the son of the living God," said Peter, and God continues to build his church on that great confession. Our privilege, as his sons and daughters, is to help him build it; to penetrate the darkness with the light of Christ until every tribe and nation has heard. "And the gates of hell will not prevail against it."

We deeply appreciate your support and the vital role you play in this work. Thank you for joining us in this mission!

Serving with you for the gospel,



WHOLE BIBLE
WHOLE NATION

CHURCH-BASED BIBLE TRANSLATION IN SUDAN

From zero to amazing in less than four years

Have I not commanded you to be strong and courageous? Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go. — JOSHUA 1:9 BSB

Sudan and South Sudan together have 63 million people speaking over 280 languages, with 189 people groups classified as unreached. Together, they are a perfect example of one of the most challenging places in reaching unreached people groups: how to provide scripture in minority languages in regions characterized by war, political instability, religious hostility, and limited access for foreign translators.

unfoldingWord's Sudanese partner is the disciple-making and church-planting ministry, Greater Reach Alliance (GRA)—their goal: to plant churches in every corner of Sudan. GRA's ministry includes evangelism in Sudanese refugee camps, a six-month discipleship program, trauma healing, food relief, and, starting in 2021, Bible translation.

Beginning in 2021, unfoldingWord conducted twenty-three two-week intensive training sessions. From a small unfoldingWord training team, the program grew to engage more than 120 unique individuals representing eleven distinct language groups. It successfully developed fourteen qualified local trainers and checkers by 2024. Significantly, the Sudanese team developed the capacity to translate and quality-check their work without external oversight, meaning the translations are less expensive, take less time, and are immediately available for evangelism and teaching.

By providing unfoldingWord Tools, Training, and Strategic Language Resources, you have turbocharged their ability to translate the Bible for Sudan's unreached peoples, all without waiting for Westerners to help.



A Sudanese translation workshop

The results? GRA has translated unfoldingWord Open Bible Stories® into eleven languages and has active New Testament and Old Testament translation projects running in seven languages. Once equipped with unfoldingWord's complete Strategic Language Resources, they will be able to translate the Whole Bible for the Whole Nation®.

Most importantly, because you believed in and gave generously to the vision of Church-Centric Bible Translation, people from all corners of Sudan are meeting Christ, becoming disciples, and planting churches. For that, we thank you and give glory to God for your faithfulness. 🙏

AT A GLANCE

Since 2017

- 7 | Whole Bible Whole Nation® projects on three continents
- 193 | Open Bible Stories completed
- 37 | New Testaments completed

More than forty people came to Christ in a Sudanese refugee camp through Scripture translations shared by our Sudanese partner. Seven churches in Sudan are also using these translations.





CATALYZATION & COACHING



The most important text in human history will soon be available to everybody. No exceptions.

THE GREEK NEW TESTAMENT

A world-class resource built to serve the global church for the generations to come

The Bible is the most influential book in human history—but did you know that until now it was not so easy to get your hands on a reliable source text of the New Testament?

Thanks to your generosity and vision, a high-quality version of the Greek New Testament will be available in the next few months to serve the Bible translation and resource development needs of the global church without any restrictions!

The Greek New Testament (GNT) is a world-class, openly licensed edition of the Greek New Testament, designed to serve the global Church for generations to come. Backed by unfoldingWord, Biblica, and illumiNations and developed by a team of expert textual critics at The Center for New Testament Textual Studies at New

Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, it brings together rigorous scholarship and open access to address a long-standing challenge in global Bible translation. Built from the earliest available manuscripts and reviewed by a diverse international team, the GNT is a reliable foundation for translation, teaching, discipleship, and digital innovation worldwide.

We believe this resource will have a powerful impact on Bible translation, critical study, and theological development for the global church for decades to come.

The most important text in human history will soon be available to everybody. No exceptions. None of this would have been possible without your farseeing generosity and friendship. Thank you!

Learn more about the Greek New Testament by visiting NT.Bible.



AT A GLANCE

- The Center for New Testament Textual Studies examined hundreds of manuscripts over 20+ years to create the database for the GNT.
- Each New Testament book is handled by at least two editors and reviewed by 30–40 global experts.
- Peer review is anonymous to maintain integrity and avoid bias.
- Tools include manuscript comparison, translation alignment, and AI-powered features to support translators.

FROM SEMINARY TO DMM

Equipping both ends of the church-planting spectrum

Disciple Making Movements (DMM) are the most flexible and adaptive outreach ministries in the world, developing millions of Christ-followers in places few thought possible. Seminaries are known for their commitment to biblical exegesis, and many are mission-minded, committed to reaching as many unreached people groups as possible. In the global south, both recognize the need to translate God's Word for their people as soon as possible.

Because of your partnership, unfoldingWord has the special privilege of serving both kinds of ministry. In 2025, God opened doors for us to work with an underground DMM and a well-respected seminary, all in the same country, which we call Islands-Asia.

The DMM — name withheld for security reasons — serves unreached people groups in high-risk areas. The seminary, located in a province with lower religious sensitivity, trains pastors and teachers. Both are dedicated to reaching all 238 unreached people groups and over 250 million people in their country who have not heard the gospel in their heart language. Thanks to your generosity, both participated in their first church-centric Bible translation workshops with unfoldingWord in 2025 and eagerly anticipate taking the next steps.

Even though they are PhDs, the seminary professors were humble, joyful, and super invested. They were so excited that they didn't want to wait for the next workshop. "How can we start a translation project with our students now?" they asked.

One of the DMM leaders reported, "This is the best training I've ever been to."

unfoldingWord can serve these brothers and sisters because you chose to be trailblazers with us. Your faithful prayers and gifts have empowered unfoldingWord to catalyze DMM and seminary professors to believe that they can meet the Bible translation needs of their people, and they are more than ready to do it! Thank you for helping equip them to reach the least reached in Islands-Asia.

Seminary students roll-play Matthew 5:25 in translation exercise.



Pearl – Quiet Strength

Pearl comes from one of the most hostile regions to the gospel. Outwardly, her appearance is that of a devout Muslim woman; yet, inwardly, she is a disciple of Isa (Arabic for Jesus). She is young, a college graduate, shy, and soft-spoken. But when it comes to her work, Pearl shines with focus and diligence.

During the workshop, she listened intently, digesting every detail from the mentor. At one point, she raised her hand and said with a smile, "Wait... stop... slow down." It was a gentle reminder that translation requires time for reflection. For her people, thinking deeply and responding thoughtfully takes space—and that space must be respected.

Her story reminds us: if we are to walk alongside local believers, we must be patient. The translation project belongs to them. We outsiders need to step back, slow down, and simply cheer them on.

AT A GLANCE

Since 2017

- 215 | training events held globally by unfoldingWord
- 2506 | least-reached people groups engaged by regional teams
- 20,160 | man-hours invested in training others



TYNDALE WOULD APPROVE

Finishing the Old Testament Book Packages

At a polite English dinner table in 1522, William Tyndale, who translated the Bible from the original languages into English, argued with a Catholic bishop. "If God spare my life ere many years, I will cause a boy that driveth the plow, shall know more of the Scripture than thou dost."

The rest, as they say, is history, but what a history!

Thanks to your foresight and faithful giving, unfoldingWord's Strategic Language Resources (SLR) team is closing in on another goal of historic significance: a comprehensive set of open-licensed Bible translation Book Packages of the whole Bible for the whole world!

A Book Package includes a literal translation, a simplified translation, a verse-by-verse translator's guide, definitions of key terms, and short articles on handling various Bible translation issues. All

of these are linked to the words in context, each other, and the original languages, making the art and science of Bible translation accessible to the average church.

The team completed all twenty-seven English New Testament Book Packages in 2023. Since then, they have finished twenty-six Old Testament Book Packages, and with God's help, will finish the remaining thirteen in 2026.

Once these resources are complete, they will constitute the most comprehensive, user-friendly, high-quality Bible translation resources available. And because of your generosity, they are all open-licensed and free of charge, equipping the global church to reach every tribe and tongue with the Word of God.

We think Tyndale would approve. 📖



AT A GLANCE

The unfoldingWord Strategic Language Resource team has completed English Book Package entries for 21,102 verses, or 67% of scripture. Their 2026 goal is to finish the remaining 10,000 verses.

Since 2017

- 453 | Total languages engaged
- 27 | English New Testament book packages completed
- 26 | English Old Testament book packages completed
- 193 | Open Bible Stories translations completed
- 7 | Strategic Language teams engaged in book package translations



THE POWER OF OPEN BIBLE STORIES

Our first open-licensed resource was unfoldingWord® Open Bible Stories (OBS). OBS is fifty carefully crafted, illustrated stories covering Genesis to Revelation. Designed as a disciple-making tool and translation primer, it touches lives around the world every day.

OBS has been translated into 197 unique languages, including many in South Asia. A children's ministry

there operates seventy centers, serving more than 4,000 children aged fourteen and up. The children come from diverse economic, social, and faith backgrounds.

The ministry had struggled for a long time to find effective ways to introduce the children to the gospel, with little success. But everything changed when they discovered OBS. 📖

Rishabh

“I grew up in a Delhi slum in an idol-worshipping Hindu family, trapped in poverty and failure. I was introduced to Jesus through **OBS**. The first story I read — **The Story of the Farmer** — helped me realize that my heart was like rocky soil where God's Word could not grow. As I began to listen and obey God's Word, He transformed my heart into good soil that bore abundant fruit. Now, I lead **five Gospel Centers**, discipling over **250 students** to let God's Word take deep root in their lives. “I was like the rocky soil, but when I obeyed the Word, God made my life fruitful.

— Rishabh, Delhi



FOUNDATIONS OF BIBLE TRANSLATION

Innovative tools for indigenous disciple-makers

Something profound is happening in church planting around the world: the Holy Spirit is pushing the gospel out to the last lost peoples, and you are part of it. Your gifts and prayers empower unfoldingWord to equip these pioneering indigenous disciple-makers with innovative tools that make their message accurate and effective, even in oral contexts where there is no written language.

Our latest is the Foundations BT (Foundations of Bible Translation) suite of resources. The suite is tailored to the needs of primarily oral language groups. It includes a set of six videos, a simple Bible

translation framework, and AI-powered access to unfoldingWord's basic translation guides.

Like the scene recorded in Nehemiah chapter eight, Foundations BT helps these modern-day disciplers understand, translate, and check translations into enduring written order to produce trustworthy translations for the unreached people groups they are discipling.

These small people groups may never have a written version of the Bible, but because of you, they can still hear God speak to them in their own language.

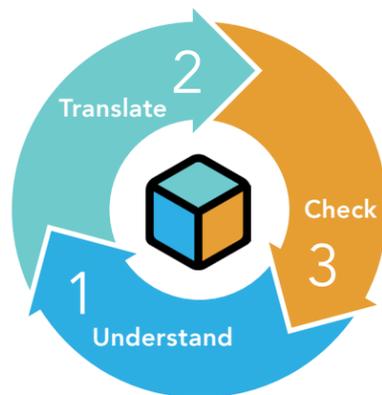
The Foundations BT Framework

Foundations BT introduces first-time translators to a simple, visual, and oral learning tool that orients new teams around three foundational principles of Bible translation:

- **Understand:** grasp the meaning of the source text in community with easy-to-use tools.
- **Translate:** express the meaning faithfully in the target heart language.
- **Check:** ensure accuracy, clarity, and naturalness through Church and community review.

Each step includes simple guiding questions that help teams think deeply about how to apply these principles in their own context. In 2025, unfoldingWord developed and tested this simple process in 17 countries. In 2026, we plan to scale its use to 25 countries. 📖

Visit foundationsbt.com for more



FoundationsBT videos available on YouTube.



The BT Servant Engine

BT Servant is a multilingual, AI-powered assistant designed to support Church-Based Bible translation teams across core translation functions such as Understand, Translate, and Check.

What sets BT Servant apart is its human-in-the-loop model, where trained contributors shape and refine responses to ensure accuracy and theological integrity. This unique approach enables contextual, curated help while minimizing AI hallucinations.

Built on unfoldingWord's curated Biblical resources and training, BT Servant is designed to deliver bite-sized, trustworthy insights in multiple languages.

The engine powers conversational interfaces like WhatsApp, Telegram, and other low-tech platforms, making translation support available even in areas with limited internet access. BT Servant was piloted in training workshops in Kenya and Indonesia this year, where it received highly positive user feedback. 📖

AT A GLANCE

2,702 | translators worldwide use unfoldingWord tools



GLOBAL
IMPACT

OUR GLOBAL IMPACT



AMERICA

Least Reached People Groups **178**
 Least Reached Population **34M**
 Total Population **863M**
 Total Language Engagements **23**
 Completed Translations **15**
 Active Translations **8**



AFRICA

Least Reached People Groups **189**
 Least Reached Population **153M**
 Total Population **330M**
 Total Language Engagements **130**
 Completed Translations **27**
 Active Translations **66**



MIDDLE EAST

Least Reached People Groups **76**
 Least Reached Population **1.69B**
 Total Population **1.71B**
 Total Language Engagements **25**
 Completed Translations **22**
 Active Translations **6**



ASIA

Least Reached People Groups **2071**
 Least Reached Population **1.80B**
 Total Population **1.85B**
 Total Language Engagements **186**
 Completed Translations **175**
 Active Translations **35**



SOUTHEAST ASIA

Least Reached People Groups **94**
 Least Reached Population **200M**
 Total Population **288M**
 Total Language Engagements **88**
 Completed Translations **11**
 Active Translations **29**

Because of your generosity, unfoldingWord is making a global impact, equipping our field partners to reach 452 languages, including 2506 connected to least reached people groups! 📖



The Church in Every People Group The Bible in Every Language

TRAINING ENGAGEMENTS

20,160 | Total training man-hours since 2017
215 | Total training events since 2017

LANGUAGE ENGAGEMENTS

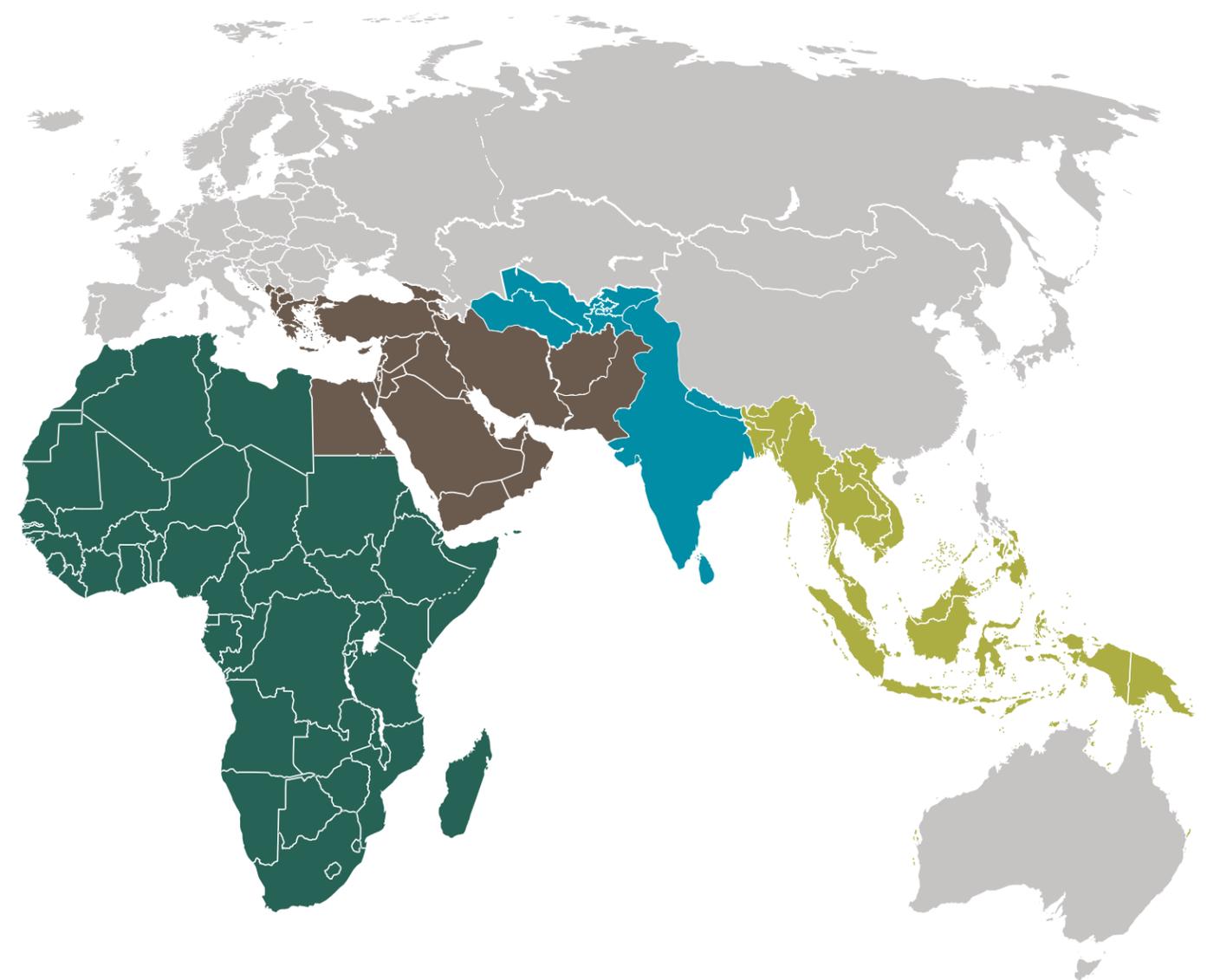
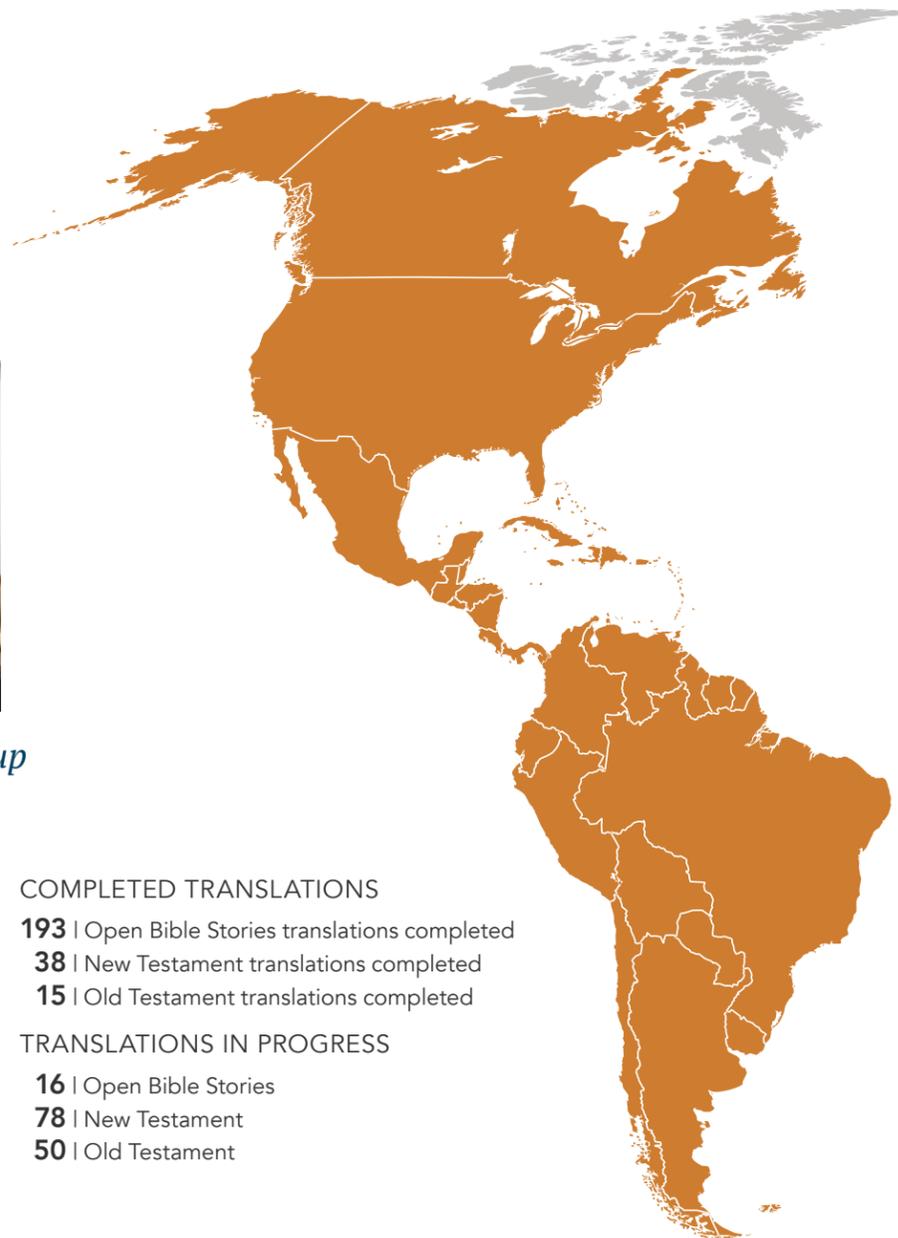
34 | Strategic languages engaged
452 | Total language portfolio
2506 | Least reached people groups
50 | Countries with unfoldingWord engagement

COMPLETED TRANSLATIONS

193 | Open Bible Stories translations completed
38 | New Testament translations completed
15 | Old Testament translations completed

TRANSLATIONS IN PROGRESS

16 | Open Bible Stories
78 | New Testament
50 | Old Testament





BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Welcome

Damian Gerke

MEMBER

unfoldingWord welcomes Damian Gerke to its Board of Directors in 2025. Damian is an executive coach, author, and learning and development professional. He resides in St. Petersburg, Florida, with his wife, Cheryl, and enjoys cycling and writing as hobbies.



David Reeves

PRESIDENT/CEO

David Reeves leverages the best in people and technology to accelerate the global Church-Centric Bible Translation movement. David has more than 40 years of international leadership experience. He and his wife, Jane, have two children and one grandson.



Michael Vos

CHAIRMAN

Michael Vos is the CEO of BILD International, which has been developing and empowering indigenous leaders for over twenty years. Michael and his family reside in Des Moines, Iowa.



Dr. Max Anders

VICE CHAIRMAN

Max is the author of more than 20 books, including the bestselling "30 Days to Understanding the Bible." He is the founder and president of The 7 Marks Resource Group and is the creator of the Brave New Discipleship System. He lives with his wife, Margie, in Indianapolis.



Aaron Erickson

TREASURER

Aaron has worked in the technology industry in sales, business development, social media, and marketing. Aaron has also provided computer software training and business research for Christian radio stations in many parts of the world.



Al Anderstrom

SECRETARY

Al spent 26 years working in the areas of finance and business consulting and serves on several ministry boards. Al and his wife, Joyce, live near the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul, close to their four sons and their wives—and their 10 grandchildren.



Dr. Joel Hunter

MEMBER

Joel is a nationally and internationally known advocate for the poor, victims of human trafficking, and many other humanitarian causes. He is the founder and chairman of Community Resource Network, focusing on helping homeless families.

2025 GENEROSITY IMPACT

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." John 8:12. Because of your generosity in 2025, hundreds of thousands of people have the opportunity to see Christ's light and follow him out of the darkness.

Thank you for your prayers, your shared vision, and your financial partnership! Without you, none of what we've reported in these pages would be possible. Through your gracious giving, we get closer every day to the Church in Every People Group and the Bible in Every Language. God bless you!

TOTAL 2025 GIVING: \$9,771,384

GLOBAL PROGRAMS IMPACTED: \$8,192,307

- Whole Bible Whole Nation: **\$4,044,175**
- Catalyzation & Coaching: **\$534,158**
- Strategic Language Resources: **\$2,863,167**
- Tools & Technology: **\$750,807**



"I learned about your ministry from Mission Network News. I have researched your ministry and been praying for guidance. With so many to choose from, I am most impressed with so many of your attributes. To name a few:

- Your financial stewardship
- Open-source, non-copyrighted material to share with the world
- Your Whole Bible for the Whole Nation mission

There are so many more I could name, but you get the point why I feel led to become a monthly partner in your mission. Being on a fixed income, I wish I could do more.

May God continue to bless your ministry as you get out His Word.

— Rodney M.

[1] Unaudited financials

The Gospel

Produces fruit when children hear it in their heart language.



Nisha from Delhi was born into a Brahmin family. After repeated academic failures, her family rejected her. Then, through unfoldingWord® Open Bible Stories, she heard that Jesus came to transform the weak and broken, including her!

God restored her confidence and gave her a new purpose. Now, she leads two Gospel Centers, discipling over 100 young women to find hope and identity in Christ.

Discouraged children find hope in Christ when they hear the gospel in their heart language. That's why we equip churches worldwide to translate the gospel into the languages they speak at home.

Bring the light of Christ to the darkest corners of the globe!

Give today!



Scan the QR code or visit unfoldingword.org/2025AnnualReport



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