



2024



FREE METHODIST WORLD MISSIONS

ANNUAL REPORT



Free Methodist
World Missions
makes disciples
by **mobilizing
the global
church** and
**empowering
international
leaders**
to **establish
transformational
churches.**





Our work is not done

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“The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into about sixty pounds of flour until it worked all through the dough.”

— Matthew 13:33 (NIV)

This parable of Jesus, though brief, would have been easily understood by everyone in His day. Bread-making was a daily activity in every home, and yeast was either grown naturally from the air or borrowed from a neighbor. Everyone knew the yeast would grow and work through the dough when given the proper moisture and temperature. This process of taking from what you have to invest in the new is a powerful metaphor for the growth of the kingdom of heaven.

Today, we witness this kind of generous multiplication in the kingdom of heaven. As people choose to take the little they

have, move into another culture, and knead themselves into the lives of those who soon become their new friends and family, the Kingdom spreads like yeast in dough.

For many, the move is not intended. They would prefer to stay home or go back home, but persecution scatters believers to new countries. Still, they carry the yeast of the Kingdom with them, and the Kingdom grows.

Now, in 106 countries with over 1.6 million members worldwide, the Free Methodist Church continues to expand. Whether by choice or by circumstance, the Kingdom spreads when believers leave the comfort of

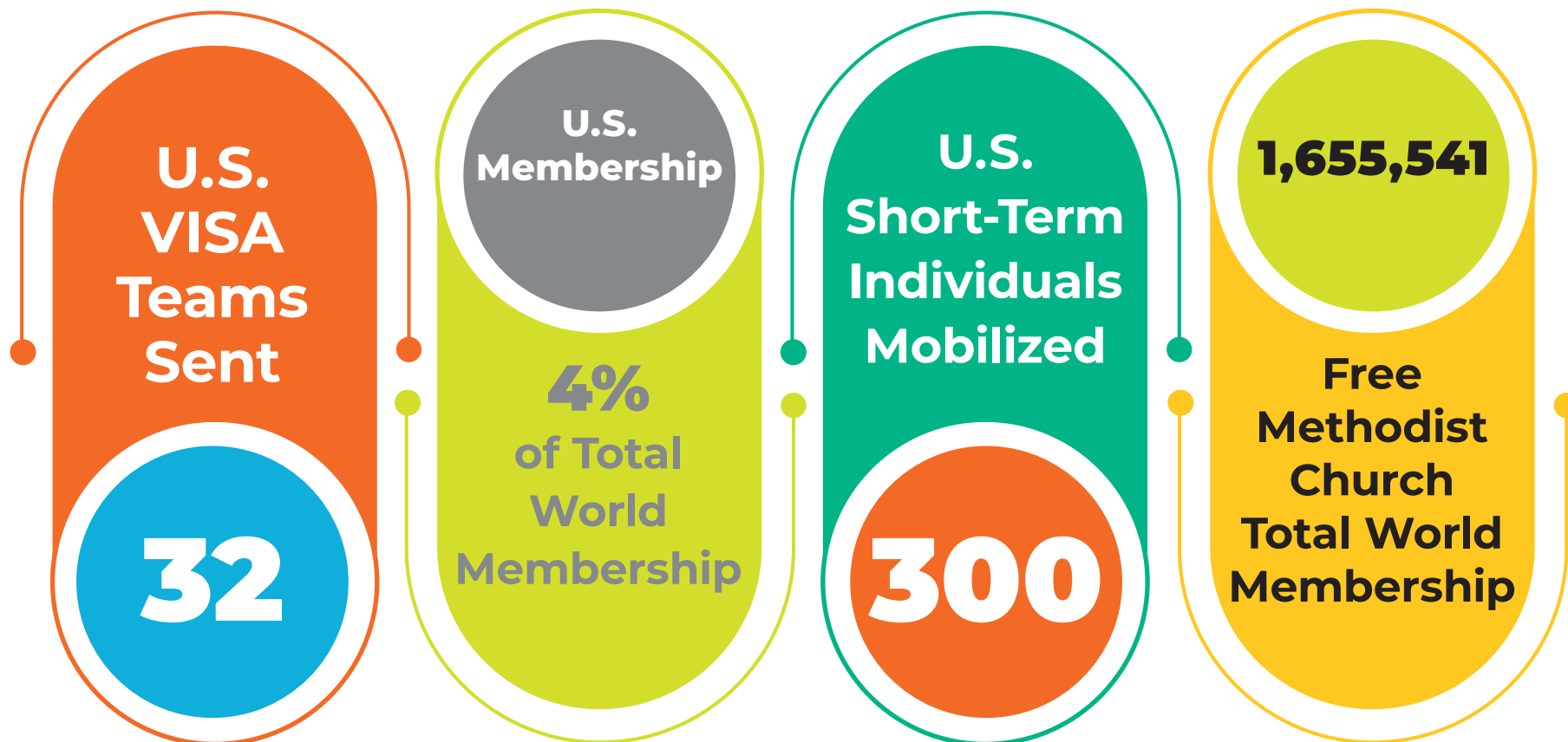
home and engage in a new culture. Still, there are 3.42 billion people who do not have access to the gospel. Our work is not done.

The expansion of the church reflects workers going to new fields, but it also reflects those who send them with support in prayer and giving. We are grateful for a 3% increase in donations in 2024 over the previous year. Thank you for your faithfulness in prayer. We are gratefully dependent on Jesus through your faithfulness to Him.

— **Rev. Gerald Coates,**
Director of Global Engagement

Giving to Free Methodist World Missions

Missionary Support Accounts	\$4,863,054
Church Planting and Development	\$1,163,627
Extra Mile Projects	\$1,464,492
International Child Care Ministries	\$6,337,186
The Set Free Movement	\$457,179
Missions Resource Team	\$397,210
TOTAL	\$14,682,748



The World at a Glance

Because there are still **3.4 billion unreached people*** in the world, we must continue sending those who would proclaim Christ to the nations.

North American-supported missionaries are serving in five world areas. They work in megacities, remote villages and refugee camps, serving people's physical, social, psychological and spiritual needs while bringing the transformational message of the gospel. But the face of missions has changed. Free Methodists from all over the world have joined in sending. New partnerships have developed. Free Methodists from other countries serve cross-culturally and partner with our North American missionary team to bring the gospel to new places and people groups. Free Methodists affiliated with other organizations are also partnering with the FMWM team. Church-planting movements cooperate with other denominations to plant churches wherever people are open to the good news of the gospel. Together, we are stronger and more fruitful. Together, we are fulfilling the Great Commission!

**The Joshua Project*



USA/CANADA

Countries: **2**
U.S. Teams Sent: **32**
U.S. Short-Term Individuals Mobilized: **300**
Global Missionaries: **4**



Membership: **70,983**

AFRICA

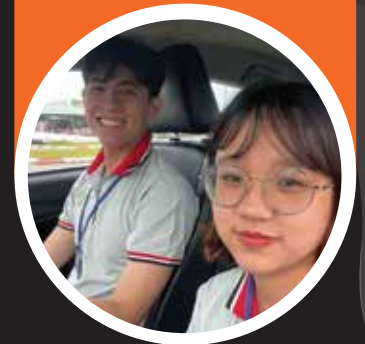


Countries: **29**
Missionaries: **10**
International Missionaries: **1**

Membership: **1,097,219**

ASIA

Countries: **23**
Missionaries: **27**
U.S.-Based Partners: **7**
International Missionaries: **4**
Affiliate Missionaries: **5**



Membership: **357,674**



EUROPE

Countries: 16
Missionaries: 11
U.S.-Based Partners: 2
International Missionaries: 12
Affiliate Missionaries: 9



Membership: 5,400

LATIN AMERICA

Countries: 23
Missionaries: 19
U.S.-Based Partners: 4
International Missionaries: 9
Houses of Peace (House Churches): 876
Church Plants: 74



Membership: 93,445

MIDDLE EAST

Countries: 9
Missionaries: 4
International Missionaries: 40
 (in Partnership with Impact Middle East)



Membership: 30,820





Over the past year, our African church has been hammered by hurricanes, draughts, roof-lifting high winds, pillaging rebel forces, mudslides, Marburg virus and runaway inflation. These have not all been in one country, but the continent has faced a wide range of challenging experiences. In these hard moments, followers of the Lord rallied around the most desperate and hurting, weeping with those who wept. As in Paul's testimony, through these difficulties, people have become "hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not (left) in despair." To the glory of God, many have also said with Paul, "So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen" (2 Corinthians 4:18a - NIV).

Although the African church is facing such difficulties, the apostolic spirit persists. New groups and churches have been started this year by graduates of the Wesley Missionary Institute and by many other church planters across the region. We repeatedly find ourselves humbled before the Lord at every baptismal

service, communion service, ordination and public outreach event (I could go on), witnessing the presence of the Lord. Lives are touched, and new believers and longtime believers in Christ experience the kingdom of God.

The women in one of the Malawi conferences held their annual women's retreat. There were speakers, as usual. But unlike other years, this time around the speakers' impact so stirred the women's hearts they committed themselves to planting two new churches in their conference. Their superintendent has been working with them in follow-up, establishing the two new groups, which, by God's grace, are even now being formed as church plants.

In the early years, church plants often meet in a temporary structure, sometimes a rented place, sometimes a simple construction of sticks, mud and thatch. But our aim is certainly to see them having a permanent building. We are so glad several new constructions were



part of this past year's developments. For most of those, we are grateful to the partners who helped make it happen.

Thanks be to God for all He accomplishes, no matter the obstacles!

— **Rev. Mike Reynen, Africa Area Director**





Life for the poor in Asia comes with incredible challenges; yet God's light is breaking through in remarkable ways. Many people struggle with low-paying jobs, limited access to education and health care, and unsafe living conditions that make them vulnerable to disasters and pollution. Corruption and lack of support often worsen these hardships. Yet even in the face of these obstacles, Psalms 67:1 reminds us of God's grace and blessing: "May God be gracious to us and bless us and make His face shine upon us."

Asia, excluding the Middle East, is home to about 4.8 billion people, with over 7,500 distinct people groups. Only a fraction of these groups has been significantly reached with the gospel, showing both the magnitude of need and the beauty of the opportunity. Psalms 67:2 inspires us: "That your way may be known on earth, your saving power among all nations."

FMWM-Asia is working alongside national leaders to create shared, sustainable solutions.



Through micro-grants, we provide tools that bring dignity and long-term healthy ministry. These efforts allow leaders to serve their communities in practical and meaningful ways. Ministries of compassion touch lives in extraordinary places – brick kilns, neighborhoods of extreme poverty and among children at risk. God's love is reaching the most vulnerable through these acts of sacrifice and care.

An enthusiastic group of emerging leaders



is stepping up to serve. One young man is planting a church for young people in an urban area, while others are reaching peers on campuses and in their communities. The Free Methodist Church in Asia is also maturing, developing the structures needed to support annual conferences and prepare for at least two future general conferences.

Bibles are being distributed not only as tools for outreach but also as powerful resources for discipleship. As Psalms 67:3 declares, "Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you!"

This mission is carried out by leaders across more than 20 countries – faithful servants like Hieu, Penh and Sokleap, who shine the light of Jesus in word and deed. Together, we echo the prayer of Psalms 67:7: "God shall bless us; let all the ends of the earth fear him!" Join us as we partner with Jesus to see lives transformed and Asia filled with His glory!

— **Rev. Dr. Eric, Asia Area Director**



The Free Methodist Church is working to reignite the flame of faith across Europe. Since the late 1990s, our mission has been to equip national leaders, engage communities with the gospel of transformation, and establish multiplying transformational churches. What began with outreach in Greece, Hungary, Portugal and Spain has since expanded to Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark, France, Malta, North Macedonia, Sweden and Ukraine.

Leaders are the foundation of any lasting movement. In 2022, we launched a Ministry Resource Team dedicated to developing European pastors and leaders. This team organizes pastoral formation conferences, leadership summits and other tailored training programs. Through these efforts, we empower local leaders to navigate their unique cultural and spiritual contexts effectively.

In addition, we have established biblical seminaries in Portugal and Spain. These institutions serve as critical hubs for theological education and leadership development. They ensure that pastors and lay leaders are grounded in sound doctrine and equipped to



address the complexities of modern European society.

Our commitment to engagement goes beyond church walls. We focus on helping the poor and marginalized, believing that the gospel calls us to serve the least of these. This mission includes:

- Refugees and immigrants: education, crisis support and community-integration initiatives for those fleeing war, persecution and poverty.
- Human trafficking: partnerships with local and international organizations, combating human trafficking, offering hope and restoration to victims.
- Humanitarian aid: relief efforts in Ukraine, addressing the devastating impacts of war; support of orphanages and education programs in Hungary.

Transformational change begins with strong local congregations. Our social-justice ministries aim to establish churches that care for their communities holistically. Highlights include:

- Ukraine: supporting the elderly and vulnerable amid ongoing conflict.



- Bulgaria and North Macedonia: planting congregations among the Roma community, fostering inclusion and empowerment.
- The Nordic countries: engaging Congolese refugees in church planting and creating vibrant multicultural congregations.

These efforts are more than programs; they express Christ's love in action, bringing hope and renewal to diverse communities.

Looking ahead, the sustainability of our mission depends on raising a new generation of leaders from each country. Every prayer, every gift and every partnership brings us closer to a Europe where faith once again thrives as a transformative force in society. Together, we can write a new chapter of hope and renewal in the story of Europe's Christian heritage.

Thank you for standing with us on this mission. Your support and prayers make all the difference for our Free Methodist family in Europe!

— **Rev. Josué (Josh) Fajardo,**
Europe Area Director



LATIN AMERICA

One of the most exciting things about participating with God in the restoration of Latin America is seeing God's faithfulness to fulfill this vision. While FMWM serves 19 countries, He has united us to bring about the transformation of individuals, families and communities! Of course, God could do it without us, but He chose to invite our participation! Here are a few things God has done through us in 2024:

- God expanded our efforts to develop healthy leaders, serving pastors, leaders and church planters, even beyond our regional borders.
- The *Raíces* (Roots) children's discipleship materials now impact over 3,000 children.
- In March 2024, we kicked off a youth-formation program with an international youth summit attended by 150 young people from 11 countries.

- More than 132 pastoral care groups are now meeting throughout the region, providing avenues for mutual accountability and support.

The Church in Latin America continues to expand. By October 2024, there were 1,114 Free Methodist houses of peace meeting weekly. In conjunction with Impact Latin America, we hosted four regional summits to provide Community Church Planting (CCP) training to key leaders. People of every ethnicity, education level, economic stratum and age share God's peace with people in their circles of influence, and God is transforming lives! God is raising new leaders through these houses of peace; the newly elected superintendent in a creative-access country became a believer and began being disciplined through the CCP movement just 15 years ago.



Human trafficking in our region has increased 20 to 30% in the past two years, but our churches are beginning initiatives to protect the most vulnerable among us and combat trafficking. The task is enormous, but we know God is at work through us to bring about restoration! There are currently 90 initiatives – ranging from medical to agricultural to educational and beyond – facilitating the holistic transformation of communities served by our churches and houses of peace.

God invited us to participate in the restoration of Latin America. We continue His mission by developing healthy leaders who multiply disciples, groups and churches and empower them for holistic transformation.

— **Rev. Dr. Ricardo Gómez,**
Latin America Area Director



The headlines from the Middle East tell a story of war and terror. Peace seems impossible, while each side claims: “God is on our side.”

But there is a story you won’t see in the news. In the center of these conflict zones, missional communities of believers are living out the grace and truth of Jesus in word and deed. They may not have political solutions, but they carry on an eternal hope that defies despair. Quietly, they declare what one theologian proclaimed:

“Every evil at every level is a defeated foe.”

Through acts of radical love and service, they reflect the kingdom of heaven:

- Caring for refugees and the displaced
- Offering hospitality and generosity to even historic enemies
- Running sports camps and trauma care groups
- Supporting mothers and newborns in desperate need

- Proclaiming the gospel of ultimate restoration and peace

In these moments, Jesus is present. His light shines through the darkness, offering a glimpse of true peace.

Outcomes in 2024 have been:

- 2,896 leaders were trained to serve, share Christ and plant missional communities.
- 500-plus children experienced Jesus through sports, trauma counseling, prenatal care and education.
- 3,000 people chose to follow Jesus.
- 3,755 faith communities now meet regularly to study God’s Word and reach the unreached.

Thank you for partnering with our mission in the Middle East. Your partnership empowers national leaders and faith communities to be beacons of hope amid the conflict. Together we are:

- Equipping leaders to serve with courage and compassion



- Planting and sustaining missional communities that live in winsome contrast to the world
- Sharing the gospel with those who long for true peace

Let us declare together that evil is a defeated foe. Your gifts, prayers and partnership are having an eternal impact.

— *An Impact Middle East Worker and Area Director Rev. Dr. Dale*

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