

Mission Partner Updates

Dale & Janet Horst—Playas, Ecuador

Lifeline champions— Marge & Kevin Martin
"We are off to Peru on a bus for a long-anticipated family adventure: to Macho Pichu and beyond!!!!" You can read the latest newsletter from the Horsts on the Elevation website.

Nikki Horne—Guayaquil, Ecuador

"After a month of being sick with Dengue fever and pneumonia, I'm back home in Waterloo, enjoying my time with family and friends. I head back to Guayaquil at the end of September."

Nadine Feser—Tanzania, Africa

Lifeline champion – Michelle Farquharson
"I'm safely in LA, starting a slightly insane trip around North America. I could use prayer for safety, healing, wisdom, grace, travel ability, good fund-raising, and recruiting results. My health update is that my fibula is still very much broken. Please pray it back together. I'm beginning to walk with one crutch and my finger is gaining range of motion."

Brett & Grace Ostrander—The Philippines

Lifeline champions – Karl & Mary Gingerich
"Soon we will be re-applying for Grace to get a visa, and we ask for prayer for that. We really hope we can make it to Canada for the month of December."

Tyson & Carolina Malo—Cochabamba, Bolivia

Lifeline champion – Mel Martin
"Big news this month from Bolivia: our baby home (*Pedacito de Cielo*) is in an awesome new house, we hosted a team from the Seattle area, a new volunteer from Oregon arrived last week, and Caro's family came for a visit."

Terry & Brenda Martin—Niverville, Manitoba

Lifeline champions—Pending
"After our son Josiah's wedding in August, we had a tremendous five-day retreat of rest and relaxation. Terry's focus this fall is ministry development—finances and new ministry directions."

Trevor & Rebecca Gingerich—Humber College church

"We're presently gearing up for another amazing semester of ministry at Humber! Please pray with us for God's provision as we continue working in this mission field of 15,000 students. Thanks for your prayers and support!"

Craig & Leilani Bauman (International Teams Canada)

Craig, recently promoted to Chief Operating Officer, continues redesigning systems and agreements, and also oversees the management of international programs, as well as the Finance, IT, and HR departments. Neil Ostrander, CEO, says it is "a strategic move that I feel will help us build even greater capacity as we work together in our common goal of helping churches help the poor."

Karl & Mary Gingerich (International Teams Canada)

As we get closer to the "Ride" (Ride for Refuge) season, I will be involved in the more technical aspects of this event. Pray for a good turn out and for the fund raising this event produces.

Gord & Sharon Skopnik (International Teams Canada)

I am happy to announce that \$6,000 of the \$18,000 has been donated up to this point for the Logu School in Southern Sudan for the Impact Sudan Program. We are still looking to God for the balance. We are in the process of training 2 teams to go to Sudan in November of this year, and 3 interns for March of next year, one of which is from Elevation—Alyssa Skopnik.

Lessons worth learning

Students or not, we all experience the September culture of "back to school." For some in our community, student life provides learning opportunities outside the classroom through short term ministry projects. Fran Purvis, a member of our community, recently had the opportunity to serve with a team in Dhaka, Bangladesh with a ministry that reaches out to the student population there.

Fran remembers on the first day being "captivated by the

unfamiliar sights, sounds and smells: the colours of the women's saris, the fruit spilling over from street vendors and the noises of the packed streets..." Fran says at first it was hard to know how to respond to the obvious and overwhelming needs of the people around her, but soon she saw evidence of God's "goodness and faithfulness and the ways he works in and through his people."

At her placement at the Student Friendship Centre,

Fran spent time teaching students English, while having the opportunity to have meaningful conversations with them about their hopes for their own lives, and for their country. Welcomed as brothers and sisters, Fran says the team was able to experience a "taste of the kingdom" as they worked together and worshiped together. It was a picture of the "reconciliation, both ethnic and economic, that God has in mind for his people." Those are the type of lessons that are worth learning.
—Maria Elyse Vermeer



Raeka from Bolivia, on a field trip to the dentist. Many children arrive at Ninos con Valor with serious dental issues.

Wanted: Enthusiastic people with a heart for missions to serve on the Global Ministries Committee.



Fran, third from the right, with new friends from Bangladesh



The Global Update

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **The Embassy Humber**
- **Why The Embassy?**
- **Updates from our Mission Partners**
- **Short-term mission to Bangladesh**

Helping students follow Jesus

When Christian youth leave home for university or college, most leave their faith behind.

"Stats show that between 69 and 94% of youth lose their faith after high school," says Trevor Gingerich, pastor of The Embassy Humber. "Students don't have cars, they don't have money, they don't have time to search for a church. It's not about the church calling young adults back; we need to bring the church to them."

This fall, Trevor with his wife Rebecca will begin their third season of The Embassy Humber, bringing church right to the 15,000 students on the campus of Humber College in Toronto. Through church services, small groups, giveaways and socials, Trevor challenges students to consider faith in Jesus, and to make faith central to their lives.

It's a formative time, when young adults decide what they believe. Trevor points

to his own time at The Embassy in Waterloo, when he was finishing high school. "I was wrestling through a lot: am I following Jesus because this is something I've been taught, or is this something I'm taking initiative for myself?" The Em-



bassy helped him grapple with the hard questions of faith, and he also had the opportunity to learn leadership skills on the worship team.

He was soon off to Bible college and then working as a youth pastor, seldom able to come back to the church that had such a profound impact on his life. But when Brandon Malo emailed him

about starting a campus ministry, he knew this was what God was calling him to do.

The biggest challenge is fundraising. Trevor relies on area churches, but admits it is a slow process lining up support. And time consuming – he spends many hours communicating with churches, and wishes he had more time to spend with students.

Trevor had only a few short years to attend The Embassy in Waterloo, but it set the course for his life. And he hopes to bring the same gift to many students, helping them become life-long disciples of Jesus as they pass through the doors of Humber College.

"It's a huge mission field," Trevor says, "with tons and tons of our brightest young people, all under one roof, figuring out the rest of their lives. We have to invest in them if we have any hope of the church maintaining its course and becoming more relevant in society."

—Jeanette Duncan

Why The Embassy?

Twelve years ago, a small group of students and young adults started out on a venture of faith, planting a student church on the campus of the University of Waterloo. We called it The Embassy. Admittedly, not a typical name for a church, but to us, it was indicative of our calling – to be Christ's ambassadors, his representatives, in the midst of a foreign culture.

But wait a second, what's so foreign about a campus in your home town? The truth is, university can be a world of its own, and so the idea of planting a church in the midst of that world is every bit as significant as making inroads in a foreign land. That's why we established The Embassy in Waterloo, and that's why Trevor Gingerich has done the same thing in Toronto with The Embassy Humber.



We're proud to be able to celebrate the missional impact Trevor is having right here in our own nation, challenging the world's future leaders, preparing them to build Christ-centred lives as they graduate and spread out across and Canada and the globe.
—Brandon Malo

"When I first started school, I was nervous about losing my faith, but being a part of this church has made my faith strong. I believe that this needs to continue at Humber because God's work is only beginning."

- Kayla Sherman, graduating Social Services student