



YWAM MONTANA | LAKESIDE

# YWAM Montana

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# Annual Report

2024 | 2025

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# A Note From Our Directors

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## Know God & Make Him Known Together!

*“Then Jesus came to them and said, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.’”*

Dear Friends,

As we gather to celebrate 40 years of God’s faithfulness to Youth With A Mission – Montana, we want to take a moment to reflect on what He has done in and through our community this past year. What follows is a snapshot of the fruit we’ve seen, the prayers answered, and the mission advancing in every direction.

*“The next wave of what God is doing is beginning to rise. I believe it will be the most significant wave of mission activity we have ever see. A new generation of workers will be released, not only in the traditional, religious categories, but also into the societal spheres.”*

–Loren Cunningham, Founder of YWAM

## **Know God...**

At YWAM Montana, we believe training is the key to releasing this new generation of missionaries. For 40 years, we’ve been equipping young people to fulfill the Great Commission. Every quarter, students arrive from across the globe, hungry to discover who God is and how they can be part of bringing transformation to the nations through the Gospel.

This past year, we trained over 186 students through Discipleship Training School, secondary schools, as well as other focused programs. Whether they were digging into the Word in School of Biblical Studies, learning to share their faith in School of Missions & Evangelism, or discipling Generation Z in DTS, we’ve seen God spark a deep passion for Jesus and a willingness to go wherever He leads.

## **Make Him Known...**

We are now in year 2 of our “33 in 3” Initiative. This is a pioneering effort in partnership with YWAM Ships Kona aboard the *YWAM Liberty* in Papua New Guinea’s Madang Province. Together, we’ve committed to begin the translation of the Bible into 33 Bibleless languages over the next 3 years. These languages have no Scripture in their mother tongue...yet.

YWAM Montana has said yes to filling 7 key roles on board the *YWAM Liberty* every quarter during this partnership between all 3 YWAM campuses. This initiative captures the very heartbeat of YWAM, bringing the Word of God to the ends of the earth, and placing it in the hands of those who have waited a lifetime. This vision is greater than us, and it's worth our highest commitment.

### **Global Impact**

This year, our outreach teams brought the gospel to over 15 nations. From street evangelism to mercy ministries in our 6 Target Nations, our staff and students have answered the call to go into all the world. Time and again, we've seen miraculous provision, healing, and powerful testimonies that speak of God's presence and power at work.

### **Campus Development**

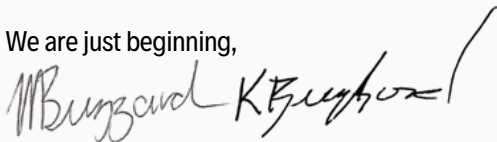
Thanks to generous donors and faithful volunteers, we've stepped into a new season. We are getting ready to clear the land for future couples' housing across Blacktail Road. At the same time, we have initiated the development of a new RV park to host Mission Builders and guests. It's a big milestone, as we have dreamed and prayed about this next step for many years. We believe that these are more than property developments; God is creating spaces for people to meet Him, extend hospitality, and be sent out into their callings.

We long to see both individuals and nations transformed by the Good News, and to awaken a new generation of young missionaries ready to give their lives for something bigger than themselves. This 40<sup>th</sup> year, we believe we are stepping into a season of great multiplication, and we are inviting you to be a part of what's next.

Whether you've been a part of YWAM Montana since the early days or just joined the journey this year...Thank You!

As we celebrate 40 years of God's goodness, we look to the future with deep gratitude and bold faith, confident that He who began this good work will carry it on to completion.

We are just beginning,



**Mariska & Keith Buzzard**  
Co-directors, YWAM Montana



# Our Students

This year we ran 14 schools, training and discipling 186 students from 14 countries all over the world! Here at YWAM Montana, we are considered a sending base, with the goal of training missionaries, and it's an honor and a privilege to train and send these students who are from the nations back out *into* the nations.



**Joy Brown**

Titus Project – 2024

*“Titus Project was invaluable for me in my desire to teach the Word of God to others. I simply loved the opportunities Titus gave me in my teaching and my walk with the Lord, such as: being surrounded by others dedicated to bringing Bible teaching to the nations, being given so much encouragement and clear training, and being enabled to fully step into teaching others for hours each week.”*



## Gideon Spencer

Endurance Discipleship  
Training School – 2024

*"I loved Endurance DTS because I could connect with God in nature so much more than inside a classroom, as I see God revealed through His creation. Along with that, I love to push myself physically & seeing God meet me where I was at through the challenges that I went through. These helped build the endurance I was looking for and strengthen my faith in God."*

Sweden

Ukraine

India

Australia

South Africa

**11** Outreaches

**19** Countries

**186** Students

# Our Schools & Programs

- Adventure Leadership Project Seminars
- Biblical Core Course
- Biblical Seminars
- Discipleship Training School
- Endurance Discipleship Training School
- DTS Equip
- Messengers
- School of Biblical Studies
- School of Dance Ministries
- Titus Project

## Adventure Leadership Project Seminars

SPRING | SUMMER

4

STUDENTS  
TRAINED

3

PROJECTS  
COMPLETED

25

OUTDOOR  
EXCURSIONS

108

HOURS OF  
OUTDOOR  
TRAINING

## Biblical Core Course

WINTER | SUMMER

15

STUDENTS  
TRAINED

4

GRADUATES SENT  
TO PNG

## Biblical Seminars

FALL | WINTER

4

STUDENTS  
TRAINED

2

SEMINARS  
COMPLETED

4

NATIONS  
REPRESENTED

8

ONLINE  
STUDENTS  
TRAINED

## Discipleship Training School

FALL | WINTER | SUMMER

85

STUDENTS  
TRAINED

8

INTERNATIONAL  
OUTREACHES

14,152

PEOPLE HEARD  
THE GOSPEL

239

BIBLES  
DISTRIBUTED

## Endurance Discipleship Training School

SUMMER

15

STUDENTS  
TRAINED

2

INTERNATIONAL  
OUTREACHESLEAVING ON  
OUTREACH THIS FALL

## DTS EQUIP

FALL | SPRING

24

PARTICIPANTS  
TRAINED

9

LOCATIONS  
REPRESENTED

## Messengers

SUMMER

3

STUDENTS  
TRAINED

1

INTERNATIONAL  
OUTREACHLEAVING ON  
OUTREACH THIS FALL

## School of Biblical Studies

FALL

41

STUDENTS  
TRAINED

1,250

HOURS STUDYING  
THE BIBLE PER  
STUDENT

330

HOURS OF  
CLASS

70%

RETURNING TO  
MINISTRY

## School of Dance Ministries

SPRING

6

STUDENTS  
TRAINED

2

COUNTRIES  
SERVED IN  
ON OUTREACH

8

DANCES  
PERFORMED IN  
MONTANA

990

HOURS SPENT  
IN THE STUDIO

## Titus Project

FALL

16

STUDENTS  
TRAINED

5

INTERNATIONAL  
OUTREACHES

1,024

TEACHING  
HOURS FILLEDFIRST STUDENTS  
SENT TO  
UKRAINE SINCE  
2022

# Our Volunteers

## Mission Builders

ALL YEAR

26

VOLUNTEERS

1,132

DAYS  
SERVED

5

DEPARTMENTS SERVED IN

## Trail Crew

ALL YEAR

26

PARTICIPANTS

6

DEPARTMENTS  
SERVED IN

7,680

HOURS  
SERVED

8

PARTICIPANTS  
CONTINUING IN  
MISSIONS

# Staff Outreaches

In the past year, our missionary members have taken many personal and group outreaches, with an increased effort focused on the *YWAM Liberty* in Papua New Guinea.



**Sidney Schock**

DTS Staff since 2024

*"To me the heart of outreach is the heart of God. He left His abundance to come and redeem us. When we go on outreach we get the honor of following in our Savior's footsteps, leaving our plenty to come face to face with the least and the lost. This both demonstrates and communicates the heart of God to them, the same love that saved and is saving us."*



**Lori Rietema**

33in3 Staff

*“In the village of Gial we had just watched the Jesus Film in the Waskia language, and this was the FIRST time anyone in their village had EVER seen any type of movie in their own language! The crowd was riveted. Even the children were sitting quietly, captured by the story of Jesus. Pullung and his wife are elders in their church and although they are familiar with the Bible in Tok Pisin, they kept exclaiming what a difference it made to hear and understand it in their mother tongue!”*



**43**

**Nations  
Represented**

**19**

**Member  
Outreaches**

# Dance Department



## ***The Heaven's Rejoice*** *A Christmas Show*

“The theme for the ‘24 Christmas show reflects largely on what Christmas would have looked like from Heaven’s perspective. By doing this, the show ended up being what we would consider ‘a deeper sense of worship,’ since humans wouldn’t know what would be coming, but the angels would have. Now a whole new light has been brought to the Gospel message, and we consider it a gift to be able to share something we love so much with people we see every day on campus and all around the Valley.”

–Kyla Praetzel, Co-Leader of SDM





# Vacation with a Purpose

In 2001, we started partnering with churches & ministries all over the United States to help restore parts of our campus and created what is now known as VWAP. Now in 2025, our VWAP teams do many projects all over campus!

## Projects 2024/2025

- INSTALLATION OF LIGHTS ON THE QUAD & NORTHSIDE OF READINESS CENTER
- CREATION OF TRASH ENCLOSURES
- ST. PATRICK'S CLASSROOM & KITCHENETTE REMODEL
- DORM 2 STONE WORK
- STAINED PICNIC TABLES & BENCHES
- PAINTING OF ALL NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSES
- FIRE HYDRANT REPLACEMENT
- DORM 3 BATHROOM DEMOLITION
- CONCRETE PATCH IN DORM 1 PARKING LOT
- LIGHTS INSTALLED ON CAMPUS SIGNAGE
- PAINTED THE GYM

85

Volunteers

56

Working Hours

2

Teams

# Music Ministry Institute

MMI is "An advanced music training school for those who want to use music as a mission field. We train artists in the word of God to step into culture without being uprooted, and engage into the music industry without getting washed away in it."

-Priscilla & Mark McDowell, MMI Leaders

This year, MMI led outreach to **Thailand** doing many different things, such as:

Live performances in jazz clubs & malls

Relief work such as: food distribution, cleanup, & fixing flooded houses

Partnering with Nightlight Ministries

Working with M28 Studios to set music with Oral Bible Translation

Workshop with The Seed & other ministries for prayer burns

Songwriting & intro to music workshops for kids that had never had exposure to musical instruments

Working with City Light coffee shop



*"The team was invited to share a teaching or testimony at a small youth group one evening. I had felt in my spirit that I should share about a time in my DTS outreach where I had played drums in a moment of heavy spiritual warfare. Afterward, the leader of the youth group shared with me how my testimony had encouraged him to pick up playing the drums again as he had previously felt discouraged and had given up playing. Never doubt your gifts can be used for God's glory!"*



**Nich Bliss**

MMI Staff since 2024

# Hospitality Department

*"The embodiment of gratitude & generosity as a lived value within our missional context."*

## Hospitality Seminar – England

"The hospitality seminar taught us that hospitality is, and has always been, the strategy of the kingdom of God to welcome the lost back to Himself. And more than that, He doesn't just love the lost like that; He loves me that way, and it completely changes the way I serve him."

*–Melanie Morel*



## Hospitality Seminar – YWAM Montana

"Hospitality is the strategy of a generous God to see the lost and lonely find a home in him. It isn't just for those with beautiful homes or lots of money or those who love to bake. It's for men and women who want to express the heart of Jesus for others, and a Biblical requirement for a leader (1 Timothy 3:2). It's an outpouring of the grace we've received from Jesus, and it quite literally changes lives."

*–Melanie Morel*

*Do you have a heart for making things beautiful & welcoming all people?*

- [hospitality@ywammontana.org](mailto:hospitality@ywammontana.org)
- When: Oct. 12 – 25
- \$630

# Ending Bible Poverty Now

Ending Bible Poverty Now, or EBPN, is the last YWAM legacy word from the Cunninghams. This started all the way back in 1967 when Loren encountered a woman in Mexico who didn't have a Bible in her own language. By 2014, the "Covenant to End Bible Poverty" was written; calling on Christians everywhere to pray, translate, publish, distribute, educate, and motivate people for Bible engagement\*. Here at YWAM Montana, we partner with outreach teams, Wycliffe Bible Translators, and ministries all around the world with the goal to make the Gospel accessible to every tribe, every nation, & every tongue!

## *What Did Our EBPN Department Do This Year?*

In 2024, the EBPN department went on a one month – long outreach to Nepal to support the OMT (Oral Mother Tongue) work that is happening there, and partnered with the Titus Department in sending OMT materials as well as OMT training with team that went to Nepal. Along with this, the EBPN department went to an OMT conference in Colombia in order to get more connected with different EBPN teams around the world and see what is happening with OMT globally!





# 33 in 3 Initiative

The 33 in 3 Initiative is a partnership between YWAM Montana, YWAM Ships Kona & YWAM Madang to engage in Bible translation for 33 remote languages in the Madang province of Papua New Guinea. The goal of this partnership is for all 33 languages to begin Bible translation in their native tongue in 3 years.

## *In The Past Year We've Seen\**

**26,233**

Medical Services Delivered

**7,435**

People Prayed For

**3,340**

People Watched the Jesus Film

**331**

Bibles distributed

**174**

Salvation Responses

**250**

Volunteers

**66**

Villages Engaged With

A big thank you to everyone who has volunteered on the ship, donated to help get the ship running, and to the countless people praying over the *YWAM Liberty*. Your prayers are being heard!

# Papua New Guinea

*“The Land of the Unexpected”*



“2024 did not go as expected at all as we did not fill our roles completely; however we did see the attitude and the heart begin to be carried on the YWAM Montana campus outside of the 33in3 Team. Last year was a time for us as united followers of Christ to really step into a place of prayer, intercession and spiritual warfare. There were multiple times where words that came out of intercession spoke directly to a situation or a decision to be made on the ship. That is how we as YWAM Montana have made the biggest impact on the 33in3 Initiative – *in active prayer*. We experienced spiritual warfare on our campus that became an opportunity for our whole YWAM Montana community to step into prayer, intercession and warfare. An opportunity to take seriously our yes to God; and we watched as the campus started to fully commit to this.

Now, in 2025, we have seen God do big things with OBT (Oral Bible Translation), the Medical Team, and the ship crew, both while they were all separated, and even more so as they have been together. 2025 has been the year of creating culture on the ship since the last few years this endeavor has been in “survival mode”. Now, we have seen many of the ministry opportunities available to us since the *YWAM Liberty* is out! We are creating a ship culture that doesn't look like Montana, or Kona, or Madang; but looks like the Kingdom! Pray that unity of vision and communication will continue this year.”

–Alana Jarvis, 33in3 Overseas Liaison



# Target Nations

In an effort to increase long-term effectiveness in our overseas outreaches & ministry, YWAM Montana adopted the concept of “targeting” back in 1999. We started with four countries: India, Nepal, Thailand, & Ukraine– and have since added two more: Taiwan & Cambodia.

We are partnering with YWAM ministries in these nations by coming alongside them in tangible ways to help them fulfill their vision and ministry goals. We do this by: building relationships, sending school outreach teams, sharing resources, doing Bible translation, & sending staff outreach teams to meet specific needs.

In the past, team sending was not limited to only the Target Nations, but since the last addition of Cambodia in 2014, YWAM Montana’s efforts have been more centralized to these six nations. In 2023, YWAM Montana entered a partnership with YWAM Ships Kona & YWAM Madang in Papua New Guinea (PNG) to see the Gospel be translated into 33 nations in 3 years, also known as the 33 in 3 Initiative. This partnership is fulfilled through the staffing of 7 core roles aboard the YWAM Liberty, a ship focused on medical outreach and Bible translation. These roles are: Purser, Housekeeper, Chief Cook, Media & Community Engagement Coordinator, Ship Director, & Chief Steward. While PNG is not a target nation, we are committed to seeing the Bible go out to all people of PNG, and creating a missions movement all over PNG through this initiative.

On the next few pages are a brief overview on each of our Target Nations and what makes YWAM Montana’s partnership with them significant.



# Ukraine *Europe*



38,980,000

40 TEAMS SENT\*

*Capital:* Kiev

*Major Religion:* Christianity  
(Primarily Eastern Orthodox)

*Target Nation Since:* 1999

WHAT MAKES UKRAINE SIGNIFICANT AS A TARGET NATION?

- Ukraine is pivotal in the region. There is a saying that says, "The way Ukraine goes is the way the rest of the region goes". Due to this and our previous work in Ukraine, YWAM Montana has an invitation to work not just in Ukraine but also the region.
- YWAM Ukraine's vision is Reaching Ukraine to reach the Nations." They are called to reach the nations through changed, trained, and equipped people from every generation through God inspired programs and practical ministries.



1,464,000,000

52 TEAMS SENT\*

*Capital:* New Delhi

*Major Religion:* Hinduism

*Target Nation Since:* 1999

WHAT MAKES INDIA SIGNIFICANT AS A TARGET NATION?

- India is 1 of the 4 original Target Nations that God gave us in 1999. At the time we had quite a few former YWAM Montana staff working there long term. We have sent many teams to India over the years & have helped pioneer SOW & Titus Project in 1 location, as well as several SBS's in various locations
- It's the most populous nation in the world and the outreach opportunities are huge!

\*School outreach teams sent since the founding of our campus in 1985

# India *Asia*





71,700,000

130 TEAMS SENT\*

*Capital:* Bangkok

*Major Religion:* Buddhism

*Target Nation Since:* 1999

WHAT MAKES THAILAND SIGNIFICANT AS A TARGET NATION?

- Thailand is the hub of A.S.E.A.N. (Association of Southeast Asian Nations): A governmental organization of nations working together in the region of southeast Asia.
- YWAM Thailand's vision and mission is "Living the Kingdom, Transforming Lives, Changing Nations." They are committed to expressing the Kingdom of God through training, evangelism, & mercy ministries in partnership with local churches and other organizations.



# Thailand *Asia*

\*School outreach teams sent since the founding of our campus in 1985



29,600,000

66 TEAMS SENT\*

*Capital:* Kathmandu

*Major Religion:* Hinduism

*Target Nation Since:* 1999

WHAT MAKES NEPAL SIGNIFICANT AS A TARGET NATION?

- Nepal is an ancient nation sandwiched between China to the north and India in the south, 2 of the most populous countries in the world respectively.
- Nepal as a nation is underdeveloped, remote, & very mountainous. Home to 10 of the world's tallest mountain peaks, this country is full of mystery, culture, & adventure.
- At this time, the Nepali government and people are open to the Gospel, & opportunities for ministry abound! It hasn't always been this open & there's no guarantee it will remain open.



# Nepal *Asia*



23,100,000

61 TEAMS SENT\*

*Capital:* Taipei City

*Major Religion:* Buddhism

*(Closely followed by Taoism)*

*Target Nation Since:* 2008

WHAT MAKES TAIWAN SIGNIFICANT AS A TARGET NATION?

- Of the nations in the world with a population over 10 million, Taiwan ranks as the 2<sup>nd</sup> most densely populated country. However 95% of the country is unreached.
- Because of common ancestry, culture, & language, Taiwan is an excellent launching pad into China.
- YWAM Taiwan's vision is to lead people into a saving relationship with Jesus, disciple them, & release them into missions. They're committed to working together to see a missions movement started in Taiwan as well as in East Asia.

## Taiwan *Asia*



17,800,000

49 TEAMS SENT\*

*Capital:* Phnom Penh

*Major Religion:* Buddhism

*Target Nation Since:* 2014

WHAT MAKES CAMBODIA SIGNIFICANT AS A TARGET NATION?

- 80% of Cambodia's population is under 40 years old which means it's truly possible to change this nation is ONE generation!
- Cambodia is becoming connected with A.S.E.A.N, which means impacting Cambodia will also impact the surrounding nations.
- U of N Battambang targets Vietnam, Laos, China, & Myanmar (the surrounding closed nations), & it's easier for Khmer to enter than Westerners. This means that there are strategic opportunities to train up those who can go into these closed nations & bring transformation.

\*School outreach teams sent since the founding of our campus in 1985

## Cambodia *Asia*

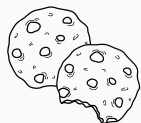


# Fun Stats from our Staff

We asked our staff for some fun stats from last fall to now, and here's what they said.



The Coffee House sold **19,658** shots of espresso



Hospitality baked **8,000** cookies



School of Biblical Studies ate **65 lbs.** of street corn dip



**2,920** baked goods were bought at the Coffee House

*(Scones were the most popular)*



The color palate in this report reflects all the colors combined from our target nation flags!



**The impact  
this campus  
has had is  
only possible  
with you**

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**Thank You!**