


# MINISTRY REPORT

2024

*Look for the light*

**Resonate**  
GLOBAL MISSION

 A Ministry of the Christian Reformed Church



# From the Director

## Look for the light



**For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God's glory displayed in the face of Christ.**  
—2 Corinthians 4:6

Thank you for your faithful support in 2024. As we work to keep our missionaries on the field and our church plants' doors open, one simple truth stands at the heart of our shared faith—Jesus is Lord, and he calls us to live out and share the gospel. We can't do it without you.

I believe that Resonate and our Reformed faith are shining brightly in the world of mission work, and I want to thank you for being a part of this important work. As you thumb through this year's Annual Ministry Report, I hope you recognize your impact in every story, every quote, and every statistic—because the reality is, mission work relies on the generosity of people like you.

The majority of our work together through Resonate is funded directly by your gifts. Your partnership equips your Resonate church planters, missionaries, and campus ministers to share the love of Jesus as they walk alongside people in all seasons of life. You make shining the light of Christ

around the world possible!

Mission work isn't just for a select few; it's for all of us. When you give directly to Resonate, you can trust that your donation goes straight to the mission field. The report you'll read today is a testament to the ways you are transforming lives and communities through your blessings—and, right now, your support is more critical than ever.

If you believe that your missionaries, church planters, and campus ministers still have an important role in spreading the good news of Jesus, then I urge you to make a special gift today to reach more people in 2025.

Thank you for being a ray of hope for people who need Jesus. With your continued help, we can answer our shared call to carry the good news to the ends of the earth!

Serving with you,

Kevin DeRaaf  
Director

# Your Blessings Have a Lasting Impact

Resonate leadership team members share how they see the far-reaching effects of your giving in action.



"Donating to Resonate connects churches and Christ-followers to God's work in their neighborhoods and around the world. You help to equip, send, and support mission-focused leaders to follow the Spirit and share the life-giving, community-transforming good news of Jesus. Together, we are part of God's unfolding global story."

—Kevin DeRaaf,  
Director of Resonate Global Mission



"Loving our neighbors and sharing the gospel is our core identity, but many churches struggle in a post-Christian context. Resonate walks alongside them with practical and biblical tools to engage in this mission so that more people can become followers of Jesus."

—Amy Schenkel,  
Congregational Gospel Witness Leader



"Resonate has the privilege of walking alongside churches to provide places and opportunities for believers to explore and live out their mission callings. With your support, we have influence and spiritual impact beyond our numbers because we do the hard work of engaging missions together."

—Joyce Suh,  
Intercultural Gospel Witness Leader



"Resonate's learning programs—Global Coffee Break, Timothy Leadership Training, and Educational Care—serve churches with practical and accessible tools for their local ministry. These well-loved resources have stood the test of time because they are rooted in the Bible and can be personalized to fit a variety of contexts. Your partnership with Resonate helps to change lives by placing these programs in the hands of people and communities around the world."

—Sam Huizenga,  
Learning Programs Leader



"Resonate is on the leading edge of church planting, and we are witnessing how God transforms lives as a result. Together with you, we are reaching people across 12 languages and equipping leaders in more than 20 cultures in North America alone. Your giving brings renewal and hope to new communities around the world."

—Tim Sheridan,  
Church Planting Leader

### On the Cover:

Pastor Pavel preaching at Salt of the Earth Church, a church plant in Estonia that your Resonate missionary Gary Timmerman helps to support.





# Stories You Made Possible



## Western United States

"When we started the Church of Refugia, it was such a blessing. The love and acceptance that I get in Refugia is paramount. It doesn't wipe the slate clean, but it has really helped me feel that the church is there for me."

—David, member of Resonate church plant  
Church of Refugia in California



## Mexico

"Connecting with other people who are also followers of Christ makes me feel very good. It makes me feel like I belong to something. . . . I have a family I didn't even know was my family. I hope to know everything God wants for me. I see myself as a leader like Pastor James with the intention and objective of sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ."

—David, Bible study participant  
with Resonate missionary James Lee in Mexico



## Europe

"It was a great experience to be able to walk alongside someone as they decided to give their life to Christ. We had two students who had never had contact in their lives with Christianity hear about the gospel for the first time. It helped me grow as a Christian to be able to lead people in their own relationship with God."

—Isaac, Resonate volunteer  
at LCC International University in Lithuania



## Central America

"I have been able to see God in multiple ways, where people are valuable, but so is the entire creation, and our mission must be holistic. It was a year of a lot of learning. I hope not to stop here. . . . I want to practice the proclamation of the Word, fellowship, and community."

—Noemi, Cohort volunteer  
in Central America

## Eastern Canada

### When a Missional Community Meets a Public School

With the guidance of your Resonate partner Terence Schilstra, a group of mission-minded people in Thorold, Ontario, began hosting monthly community dinners at their Christian Reformed Church plant, The Village church. After a time, what started as a small gathering evolved into The Table—a thriving missional community that welcomes 80-100 students and families each week to share meals, study Scripture, and serve their neighbors. Read more about how you are equipping this community to shine the light of Christ at [resonateglobalmission.org/thorold](https://resonateglobalmission.org/thorold)



## Central United States

### Theology Breakfast on Campus

Your Resonate campus ministry partner Evan Tinklenberg noticed that students at the University of Wisconsin-Madison needed a place to discuss basic Christian theology. So Evan organized Theology Breakfast, a space for students to ask questions about God over a meal together. Calvin, a student who attended Theology Breakfast, shared that being a part of this campus ministry event transformed his faith. Now, Calvin invites and encourages other students to come to Theology Breakfast! Read more about how your support is helping to share the love of Christ with young people at [resonateglobalmission.org/breakfast](https://resonateglobalmission.org/breakfast).



## Eastern and Southern Africa

### A Spiritual Family

When Daniel was abandoned in Kitgum Town, Uganda, you helped to equip Pastor Julius to care for him. After completing Timothy Leadership Training and learning how to care for God's people, Pastor Julius felt a pull to help Daniel. He provided Daniel with food, shelter, and spiritual guidance, and he even helped Daniel to reconcile with his mother before her passing. Today Daniel lives with Pastor Julius in a supportive faith community. Read more about how you are equipping people like Pastor Julius to mobilize into action and share the love of God with others at [resonateglobalmission.org/daniel](https://resonateglobalmission.org/daniel).



## Middle East

### You Provided a Life-Changing Experience

All around the world, you are providing people with opportunities to deepen their relationship with Jesus. That's what your support gave to Aziza, a Cohort participant in the Middle East. Aziza didn't start out as a Cohort participant, but then she met Ann, your Resonate missionary to the Middle East. Ann invited her to apply for Cohort, and now Aziza dreams of becoming a missionary herself. You are helping to inspire and grow God's church through your support! Read more about how you helped to equip Aziza to share about Jesus with others at [resonateglobalmission.org/aziza](https://resonateglobalmission.org/aziza).



## Eastern and Central Asia

### A Stronghold for Christ

In Chichibu, Japan, your support of Resonate is equipping local leaders like Chieko Ishii to share the gospel. After rediscovering her faith, Chieko started a Bible study with the help of your Resonate missionaries Jeong and MiSook Gho. Now, in one of the largest unreached countries in the world, Chieko, Jeong, and MiSook have launched local outreach activities that are inspiring a new wave of church engagement. Read more about how you are partnering with your Resonate missionaries to creatively reach people with God's Word at [resonateglobalmission.org/stronghold](https://resonateglobalmission.org/stronghold).



## Southern and Southeastern Asia

### The Day Ms. Litha's Life Changed

Ms. Litha was a devoted Buddhist—until your Resonate missionaries in Cambodia, Ly Chhay and Navy Chann-Chhay, invited her to a Global Coffee Break Bible study. Surrounded by a community of believers, Ms. Litha started reading the Bible and witnessed God moving in miraculous ways. Ms. Litha has since dedicated her life to Jesus and is committed to studying God's Word using Global Coffee Break Bible study materials—resources that your support helps to provide. Read more about how your partnership helped to bring Ms. Litha to Christ at [resonateglobalmission.org/mslitha](https://resonateglobalmission.org/mslitha).





# Under the Shea Tree

Kang Heo joined the circle of pastors' wives under a big shea tree next to the village's grass-thatched church in Uganda. The sun blazed overhead, making the church stifling in the heat, but the shea tree nearby provided some much-needed shade as the group read from the Bible together.

A student at Calvin Theological Seminary, Kang was volunteering with Resonate Global Mission missionary Stephen Omoko to lead Timothy Leadership Training (TLT) sessions in Uganda. That day, the two had traveled for two hours over bumpy, dusty roads from the bustling city of Soroti to a rural village to lead this group of pastors' wives through TLT.

Women in Uganda, especially in rural villages, do not typically have the same opportunities as men for education and careers. Though it is uncommon for a woman to be a pastor, many women play crucial roles as leaders in their communities and churches. Pastors' wives in particular shoulder significant responsibility in their churches. So, to help supply them with opportunities to learn and grow, Resonate leads TLT trainings with them.

"They were very excited to listen and learn," said Kang about the participants he worked with. "They really have a curiosity about the Bible and its application to their lives. . . . We really wanted them to find freedom in Christ in the truth of the Bible, and they were really passionate about learning."

Kang hopes to be a pastor someday. While studying at Calvin Theological Seminary, he was able to participate in TLT himself. He also decided to volunteer with Resonate to see how TLT worked in a context that was different from what he knew growing up in South Korea and studying in the United States. Calvin Seminary also requires students like Kang to gain cross-cultural experience through an internship, so volunteering with Resonate in this way provided Kang a great opportunity.

"Resonate has missionaries all over the world and a good support system for volunteers," he said. "I was sure that if I worked with Resonate, I would have a good experience and maximize my cross-cultural experience."

Stephen took Kang under his wing as they traveled to lead TLT in the village. Kang stayed with a pastor's family while they were there. It was very different, he said, from what he was accustomed to at home and during his stay in Soroti. In the village there's no electricity or running water. But he valued the opportunity to engage in this experience and meet the people there, he said.

"They all welcomed me with their whole hearts," said Kang.

Some of the highlights of this trip, he said, were in experiencing the warm hospitality of the people he visited and being able to worship with them in a big community-wide prayer gathering.

"Their passions, their attitudes to listen to holy words, was really great. That was the biggest takeaway for me. In Korea and the United States, churches often have big buildings, but I don't always see that passion," said Kang.

Kang "was very quick to form friends in the church and the community. . . . He was also able to learn a few words in the local language," said Stephen.

At the end of the TLT session, each of the participants walked away with an action plan to work on a problem they were able to identify in their church and community. While Kang won't be able to be there for the next session when they gather under the shea tree, he is continuing his partnership by praying for the work and providing financial support for TLT in Uganda.

Kang "learned that poverty cannot be solved with only financial support," said Stephen, who referenced the wise saying "Give a man a fish, and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish, and you feed him for a lifetime."

This is one reason why Resonate's work with TLT is so important, and why Kang wants to continue supporting it. In 44 countries around the world, your Resonate missionaries like Stephen are equipping and empowering leaders to solve problems in their communities and make a difference in people's lives. Your support through Resonate makes an impact—not just for a day but for a lifetime.

# Your gifts are vital to the mission

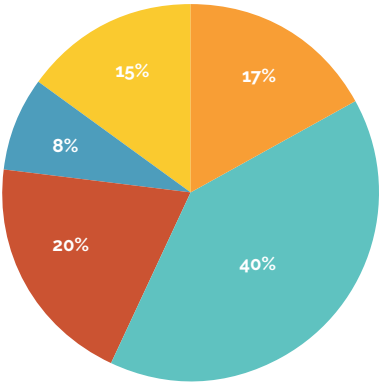
## Ministry shares cover a small percentage of Resonate's work

Our denomination's faithful ministry-share giving, including money you give through your church, builds a strong foundation for mission work—but the ministry shares program only provides around 17 percent of the revenue Resonate needs to operate. The majority of our work together is funded directly by your gifts. It's your partnership that provides stability and sustainability—that's why donors like you are so important!

## Missionaries and church planters are just one part of Resonate

Your giving through Resonate supports ministry around the world in a variety of ways. In addition to sending missionaries and church planters, we partner with national organizations, offer grants to partners, and support other ministry initiatives that align with our mission.

Thank you for your  
generous support of  
ministry around the world!

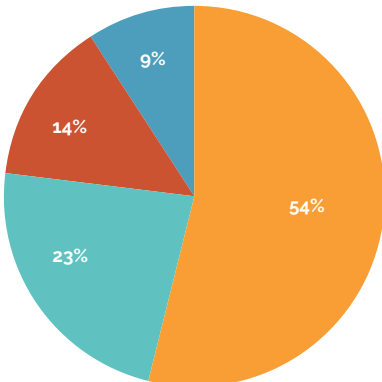


### 23/24 REVENUE

\$18.1 million (USD)

Percentages of each of the following categories that make up the total:

- Ministry shares: 3.1M
- Missionary support: 7.1M
- General Support: 3.6M
- Estates: 1.6M
- Other: 2.7M

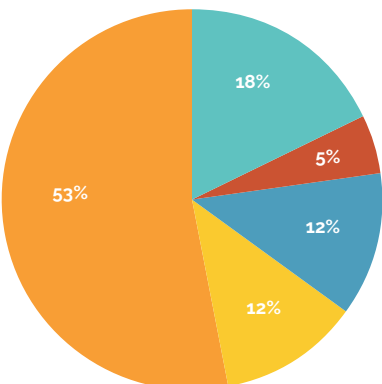


### 23/24 EXPENSES

\$21.8 million (USD)

Percentages of each of the following categories that make up the total:

- International Program: 11.7M
- Domestic Program: 5.1M
- Management and General: 3.1M
- Fundraising: 1.9M



### 23/24 INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM EXPENSES

\$11.7 million (USD)

Percentages of each of the following categories that make up the total:

- Partner Missionaries: 2.1M
- Volunteer Missionaries: 0.6M
- Grants: 1.4M
- Direct Ministry Expenses: 1.4M
- Career-Staff Missionary Program: 6.2M

Note: Overall expenses include the budget of Raise Up Global Ministries, which became a part of Resonate in 2023. International program expressed as a percentage of Resonate's budget only.

# By the Numbers

As your Christian Reformed mission agency, we support missionaries, church planters, and ministry leaders in 44 countries around the world—all of them raised, trained, supported, and sent by you. Your partnership helps to shine God's light to people and communities around the world!

Thank you for joining together in 2024 to respond to our call to share the good news. May God bless you as you join him on mission in the coming year!

**Countless stories of new life in Christ!**



MORE THAN  
**3,200**

**YOUNG ADULT LEADERS**  
PARTICIPATING IN MISSION  
WITH RESONATE



MORE THAN  
**7,100**

**LAY LEADERS**  
PARTICIPATING IN MISSION  
WITH RESONATE



MORE THAN  
**140**

**MISSIONARIES**  
SERVING IN **44** COUNTRIES



MORE THAN  
**250**

**INDIVIDUAL  
AND GROUP VOLUNTEERS**



MORE THAN  
**11,500**

**CHURCH LEADERS** IN 39 COUNTRIES  
PARTICIPATED IN THE TIMOTHY  
LEADERSHIP TRAINING



MORE THAN  
**242**

**PEOPLE PARTICIPATED**  
IN A GLOBAL COFFEE BREAK TRAINING,  
RETREAT, OR CONFERENCE



MORE THAN  
**60**

**PARTNER CHURCH PLANTS**  
IN NORTH AMERICA,  
THREE NEW IN THE PAST YEAR



MORE THAN  
**55**

**PARTNER CAMPUS MINISTRIES**  
AND 33 CAMPUS MINISTRIES ACROSS 42  
COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY CAMPUSES

## UNITED STATES

1700 28th Street SE  
Grand Rapids, MI  
49508-1407

P (616) 726-1144  
P 877-272-6205

## CANADA

3475 Mainway  
PO Box 5070, STN LCD 1  
Burlington, ON L7R 3Y8

P (905) 336-2920  
P 800-730-3490

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A Ministry of the Christian Reformed Church

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