



MISSIONS DOOR

2023

Annual Report



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

News cycles are full of stories that can cause an overreaction. Like Chicken Little, we start screaming, “The sky is falling,” when the sky isn’t falling at all. When we hyperbolize current events, two obstacles grow: 1) a lack of alarm when the sky really is falling, and 2) a lack of recognition when God is moving. This last year, Missions Door saw God moving in big and small ways. New churches were started on public university campuses, in international communities, and among castaway groups. Lives were changed as people were introduced to Jesus and the power of the Gospel. Unhealthy churches took major steps towards health. Healthy churches not only thrived but increased in generosity and intentionality. New Missions Door missionaries were commissioned in the world, and our pipeline for deployment was strengthened. Our attrition rate (retiring missionaries versus incoming missionaries) was halted for the first time in six consecutive years.

At 75 years young, Missions Door celebrated its history and future by gathering together in the Dominican Republic. President Emeritus, Rick Miller, our Strategic Leadership Team (SALT), and our Regional Team Leaders (RTLs), worked together throughout the year towards clarity and continuity. We sharpened our communication and embarked on an organizational fundraising campaign. We created tools and resources to further help our missionaries be as healthy as possible, including the creation of a Missionary Care Team. We’ve continued in our close relationship with Venture Church Network (VCN), while developing relationships with Tailored Fundraising and Crown Financial.

There are many great mission organizations in the world. Many compete in cross-cultural missions sending. Others compete in curriculum or program development created in one context and then taught in others. Their idea is, “Do this, and it will succeed” - and there are many great curriculums and programs that circulate. But Missions Door is unique. Rather than send missionaries cross-culturally, we begin with missionaries from the local context to the local context. If we do send cross-culturally, it’s to support rather than lead the ministry there. Instead of handing out a program or course to be multiplied, our local missionaries are entrepreneurial, finding what works in their culture and context effectively. We coordinate across three spheres of society: on campuses, in communities, and among castaway groups to see the kingdom of God expand everywhere.



Missions Door is at the future of missions work today. Being a first mover has its advantages, but it also challenges old ways of viewing missional engagement. Thankfully, we have partners who see the critical nature of what we do and why. One of our values is, “We’re Better Together.” In 2023, we saw just how much our unity not only reflects the heart of Jesus (John 17), but also our witness in the world.

Dr. Derek Webster
President, Missions Door

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A YEAR IN REVIEW

2023 was a year full of clarity, continuity, and momentum. One highlight of the year was our 75th anniversary celebration. Because we are a global organization, it is rare (and costly) to have a single event where all of our missionaries can attend. But 75 years is a milestone, and we were glad to worship and connect as a Missions Door family in the Dominican Republic. An Annual Report serves a couple of purposes. First, it reminds us of what God has done. Second, it inspires us to see what God can do.

What God Has Done

In the first three months, we clarified our core communication. What we had previously was Scriptural and good, but not necessarily memorable. We knew that for us to unify and build momentum, everyone needed to be able to repeat our vision, mission, and values. Today, our vision is **to see a world full of healthy, local churches**. Our Mission is **to be the world's best at identifying, resourcing, networking, and encouraging local multipliers everywhere**. Our core values are: **Love Changes Everything, Begin Where Others Are, We're Better Together** and **Leaders Serve First**. Our areas of focus were also expressed alliteratively into three areas: **Campuses, Communities, and Castaways**. Campuses refers college campuses. Our college ministry distinctive is that we begin with a strong emphasis and relationship with the local church. Where there is no healthy local church, we start one. Communities are cities and towns globally. We plant new churches through a variety of platforms to connect with communities everywhere. Castaways are marginalized groups (socially or situationally). We minister within a variety of marginalized communities everywhere.

None of the core communication changed from the previous year. But the way it was expressed was simplified. Now we have a message that is easier to explain to others, and others responded positively throughout the year because of it. People, partners, and those coming into Missions Door have all expressed appreciation for helping them understand who Missions Door is and what we do that is distinct and important in the world.



CAMPUSES



COMMUNITIES



CASTAWAYS

Our commercial "We Are Missions Door" (view [here](#)) illustrates how clarifying our communication and branding has helped us focus on the mission ahead.

Missions Door's three areas of foci. Look for these logos at the top right corner of our video content on YouTube.

Missions Door also revitalized our storytelling through media production. This has helped us better connect with donors, partners, and those who weren't aware of Missions Door. We clarified our communication pipelines and efforts, and began sharing some of the incredible stories of our missionaries.

April-June was focused on preparing for our Annual Gathering. This required a lot of logistics, planning, and coordination. For four days we met, prayed, worshiped, celebrated, connected, and challenged each other. We celebrated the long tenure of President Emeritus, Rick Miller, along with his retirement and the retirement of others. There were reflections on the organization's history, current challenges, and future opportunities that were filmed each night, and paired with their corresponding keynote addresses (the full talks and videos can be viewed on the organization's YouTube Channel, links provided below). New friendships began, accomplishments were celebrated, retirees honored, ministry resources shared, and a renewed sense of identity and unity reinforced throughout Missions Door.

Missions Door staff and teams worked hard to serve well. In an event where (ideally) those who typically serve would only be served, the missionary spirit of jumping in and joyfully serving was evident throughout the event. Though not all of our Missions Door family could join us, most were able to attend. One of our local missionaries serves in Ukraine, which has been in a war. Hearing of how he was following Jesus and utilizing the unique opportunity to share the Gospel (despite having his house upended and family relocated, he and his wife have remained and taken on a larger region of responsibility). God is at work in Ukraine and using Missions Door to be light in dark places there! We were reminded that though our safety is not guaranteed, our call to follow Jesus remains, and our future is secure.

Click the thumbnails below to view each of the 75th Anniversary Celebration's keynote addresses and media..



The start of the third quarter saw God bless long-term efforts across the width and breadth of our organization. In September, missionaries working with international students in Connecticut saw planted an **international student church**. Campus ministries in general felt a new ministry wind. One veteran of campus ministries in New York commented it was one of their most successful outreach years ever. All of this is the result of many years of prayer and work.

A missionary couple in Honduras launched a **new church plant** after twelve long years of prayer. San Diego saw the birth of **a new church** to the Japanese diaspora by a Missions Door missionary, with the formation of **multiple bible study groups** and **baptisms** in just a few short months after his arrival from Japan. Native American outreach to the Shoshone, Arapaho, and Crow nations (among others) saw **wildly successful youth ministries** coalesce into a large summer celebration event. Meanwhile, our organizational reach and points of connection were also increasing via social media. Regular videos of missionaries highlighting their stories, ministries, challenges, victories, and ways for people to partner with them began to flow regularly onto the internet. Word was getting out that God was doing something in and through Missions Door.

As 2023 began to close, The final three months saw additional victories and high points to round an already spectacular year. After six years of missions force attrition, we halted and **began growing again**. We also launched our **Multiply Your Impact Campaign** which would provide new support opportunities for partners everywhere, as well as continue to raise global awareness of the organization. By year's end, we had achieved nearly **296,000 views** on Meta (Facebook & Instagram), and an additional **55,000 hits** on YouTube – all clicks to unique Missions Door media promoting our mission, our vision, our values, and most importantly, our missionaries around the world.

With **more people saved, more churches planted, more missionaries recruited and commissioned, and more people the world over aware of who we are, what we do, and why we care** we praise God for His work in and through Missions Door. Missions Door is more than just our missionaries. Our partners, prayer, financial, and personal support are key to the expansion of the kingdom of God. We're better together! It was a year of deeply felt grace and joy for the many ways God was working. As we launch into 2024, let us hold onto these victories and move forward with grace and courage to faithfully share the Gospel in all the places we live, work, and play. For, *"... I have heard of your fame; I stand in awe of your deeds, Lord. Repeat them in our day, in our time make them known."* (Habakkuk 3:2a NIV)



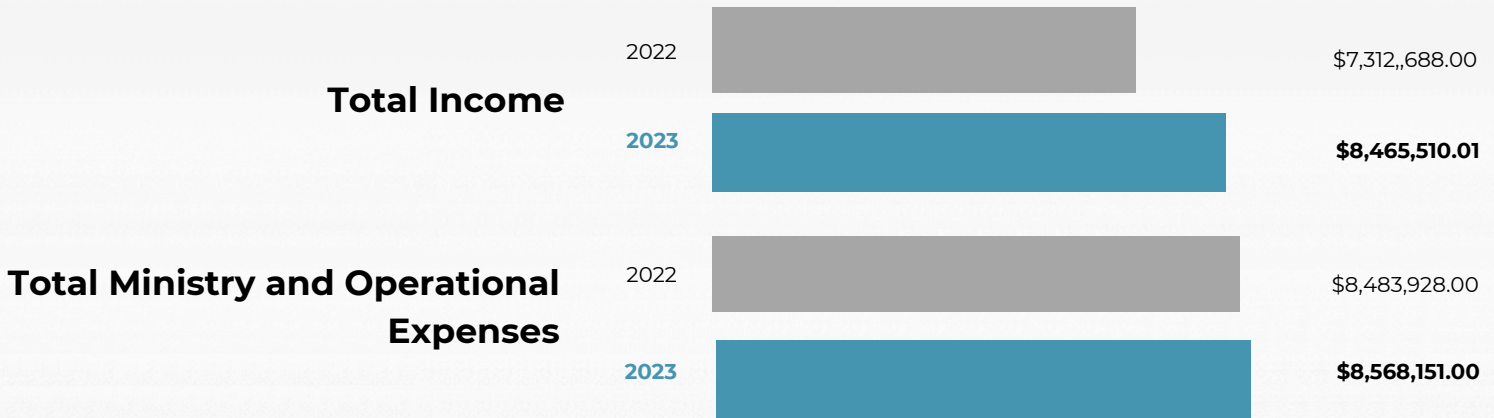
David Webster
Director of Storytelling



Next: **2023 Financial Recap**



2023 FINANCIAL RECAP



We celebrate this year as Missions Door was awarded accreditation from **ECFA**. ECFA works with non-profits from all over to provide financial accountability for organizations. Missions Door is committed to the highest levels of integrity and transparency. Our 2023 audit revealed that **89.79%** of our total organizational expenses go to core ministry functions, with only **9.8%** going towards Admin/Overhead Expenses, and **0.41%** to Fundraising Expenses. The number of financial partners increased and total income has increased showing a good trajectory for Missions Door’s global operations.

More celebration in our partnerships being developed with **Crown Financial Ministries** and **Tailored Fundraising**.





HOW GOES THE MISSION

How the Mission was advanced, persons impacted



2023 New Believers

2,261



2023 New Churches

52



2023 New Leaders In Training

2,516



2023 New Baptisms

772



Campuses



Communities



Castaways



JAMES FLAMM

Campus Ambassador
Arizona State University

Born into a religious household, James learned early in life about God in a spirit of fear and obedience vs. love. It wasn't until he was preparing to receive his first communion at his local Catholic parish that God began to captivate his heart. When a neighbor presented him with the Gospel, James was ready to place his entire faith in the free gift of salvation that Jesus grants through faith, rather than his own works. Grace radically transformed his life, and it is this same grace that James regularly shares with young men and women at Arizona State University.



Click the thumbnail above to watch James Flamm tell his story on YouTube

Incomprehensible Grace

ASU has an extraordinarily diverse student body. Many young adults travel from all over the globe - Asia, Africa, South and Central America, etc. - to learn at this prestigious institution. The values and perspectives they bring with them often run dramatically counter to those familiar in Evangelical circles. "I think there is a general pushback from a student with any other worldview or religion, in that grace is incomprehensible," said James during an interview. Many of these cultures have a shame and performance-based culture that makes the concept of the gift of grace foreign. Coupled with the risks of losing one's family and friends if they were to come to faith, there is a significant challenge in presenting the Gospel on this campus - but the need is endless.

The Harvest is Plentiful

The COVID-19 pandemic had an incredibly negative effect on young men and women everywhere. More reports of loneliness, poor relationships, and mental health issues exist now than ever before, and James was keenly familiar with this sting in his ministry. However, James also sees the opportunity that COVID has afforded for the Gospel to spread: with many of the old barriers now broken down, more and more international students are expressing interest in the story of Jesus. In fact, in the months after the pandemic, James has reported such a strong influx of new students to bible studies and small groups held across campus that he is having trouble keeping up with everyone to build those deep roots necessary to grow in the Word. "Students just need a sense of life with people," he says, and he asks for anyone interested to volunteer with him in bringing the love of Christ to them through time and consistent service.

You can reach James for more information via social media or at his missionary profile page below!

James Flamm
Missionary Page



James Flamm
Instagram



“I have always been impacted by the call of Jesus.” As a boy, Felix desired to know and serve God as well as he could at the time and in his context. What does a young man do with such aspirations? In the Dominican Republic, the answer was simple: you join the Roman Catholic Church.

Growing up Catholic, Felix believed his calling to be clear, and soon enrolled in a local seminary to become a priest. However, during his studies, he was impacted by a deep void in his life brought on, ironically, by the neglect of the study of Scripture, and disillusioned, he soon dropped out. But through the grace of God, he soon found a Bible Study where the book of John captivated his heart, and he surrendered his life to following Jesus.



Click the thumbnail above to watch Dr. Felix Abreu tell his story on YouTube

A chance encounter

As a young believer, Felix encountered a man who was working to plant a church in Santo Domingo. Joaquin Vargas had been with Missions Door for several years and joyfully poured into Felix’s life. He served in every capacity possible, and the church grew - but Felix knew his calling lay not just in service, but in church planting. After receiving counsel, he and his wife attended seminary in Guatemala and formally joined Missions Door in 1990.

After thirty years with Missions Door, Dr. Felix Abreu oversees the entirety of mission operations in the Dominican Republic and is a leading figure in encouraging and strengthening churches all across the Caribbean. He is as passionate as ever as he and his team look for new ways to share the hope and love of Jesus with their country, invariably making their local cities better in the process.

“How can we seek the welfare of the city?”

From water purification projects to establishing new schools and community centers, Dr. Abreu has a keen eye for the needs in his locality, and his many church plants across the country are positioned to meet the physical needs of their fellow men and women as well as their spiritual ones. Dr. Abreu also keeps an open invitation to all who wish to join or learn about what God is doing in the Caribbean and invites you to partner with him as he now looks to plant another church in the second-largest city of the country (Santiago).

You can reach Dr. Abreu and learn more about his ministry at the QR code below!

Dr. Felix Abreu
Missionary Page





Native Americans have long been a marginalized castaway group in US society. The 2022 Census determined that of all demographics, Native Americans have the highest ratio of poverty to total population (see [here](#)). Reservations everywhere are fraught with drug use, gang and domestic violence, alcoholism, and homelessness - and yet very few are aware of this silent epidemic.

Allen and Mirjam Peil are among the few who have made the plight of the Shoshone and Arapaho tribes their own. Living in Riverton, WY on the Wind River Reservation, they serve their community daily with outreach to those suffering, forgotten, and downtrodden.

Fated to meet

Allen and Mirjam's story might have been scripted out of a classic Hollywood romance film. A local to Riverton, Allen grew up in the church and from an early age was impacted by the plight of Native Americans around him. A native of Switzerland, Mirjam accepted Christ at an early age and dreamt of being a missionary for as long as she could remember. By a stroke of divine providence, both met when Allen joined a team from Riverton to visit Mirjam's church and told them of what God was doing across Wyoming. Inspired, and through a series of events, their paths crossed again years later, where they fell in love, married, and took up the challenge of ministering to these mistreated tribes for their own.

The work bears fruit

It is difficult to break into a closed society as an outsider, but time, patience, and consistency have earned both Allen and Mirjam the respect and love of their community. Both are often called upon in times of crisis, and both have seen immense fruit in their ministry. Small groups of believers dot the reservation, where the couple pours fuel on the fire of their faith through regular outreach to the city. Multiple house churches have been birthed over the last several years, with one itinerant consisting of and serving the homeless population in the summer months. Allen and Mirjam regularly share in the joys and heartbreak of their neighbors and are intensely invested in the spiritual development of the youth on the reservation. They invite anyone interested in serving marginalized groups everywhere to come visit and be a part of the work God is doing to reach the Arapaho and Shoshone tribes.

You can reach the Peils and learn more about their ministry at the QR code below!

Allen & Mirjam Peil
Missionary Page



Click the thumbnail above to watch Allen & Mirjam Peil tell their story on YouTube

2023 ORGANIZATIONAL SUCCESSES

Mission Door's organizational theme for 2023 can be summarized into two words: **Clarity** and **Continuity**. With the change in presidential leadership from **Rick Miller** (1995-2022) to **Dr. Derek Webster** (2023 - present), Missions Door strove to be consistent and clear. No structural changes to the Mission occurred this year. We celebrated a plethora of organizational successes that flowed from our desire to remain consistent with our past and we clarified how we communicated who we are, why we matter, and where we are going.

Here are some of the items that Missions Door **clarified**, to the benefit of her missionaries, staff, and partners around the globe:

- Our Vision, Mission & Values were clarified and made more memorable
- Our Information & Giving Brochures were clarified and made more accessible
- Our Onboarding & Offboarding Processes were clarified, so that all now know our 3 Onboarding Phases - Applicant, Candidate, and Missionary - what they mean, and where they themselves are at in the process
- Our Positions on the LGBTQIA+ movement and Predestination were formally clarified
- Our Human Resource Policies were clarified
- Our Online Forms & Automation processes were updated and clarified
- Our Ministry Reporting processes were clarified across a consistent format
- Our Financial Reports & Portals were updated and clarified, resulting in our ECFA certification
- Our Missionary Care was clarified and made more accessible
- Our Storytelling processes and media were clarified and made readily available
- Our Communication Processes were clarified
- Our Quarterly Reporting Processes for Office Staff were outlined and clarified
- Definitions & Terms were clarified
- Our Website Accessibility (English, Spanish & French) was updated and expanded
- Our Communication with our Latin American Family was clarified and updated
- Our Expansion Opportunities were outlined
- Our Organizational Partnerships were clarified
- Our Care & Service policies and processes were clarified
- Our Partner Relations were updated and clarified

Missions Door maintained **continuity** in its operations and leadership in celebrating its 75th Anniversary in an organization-wide event hosted in the Dominican Republic, where our past and our future were honored together. We **halted our attrition rate** for the first time in six years and worked closely with the **Venture Church Network** to foster health in our local churches. We also built upon and expanded the **culture of encouragement** at Missions Door that makes us such a unique and formidable force in the world.



REVIEW OF MINISTRY PARTNERSHIPS

2023 Ministry Partners

Our **3,954 partnerships** with individuals, organizations and churches are vital components to Missions Door's continued success in advancing the Gospel across Campuses, Indigenous Communities and Castaway Demographics throughout the world. We are proud to stand united with so many in that mission, and we thank you for your continued prayers, volunteer contributions, and financial support!



3,295 Individual Partners

Individuals and families make up the highest percentage of partnerships with Missions Door. These supporters share our heart for building and expanding networks of healthy, reproducing churches, and are often directly connected to an individual missionary or project! We thank every one of you for your continued support. It is our privilege to advance the kingdom of God through your generosity and faithfulness.



659 Churches and Organizations

Missions Door has long partnered with churches and organizations across the globe in various capacities! Many churches have partnered with us financially, with volunteers in missions, and many through other unique and kingdom-expanding outreaches. Many organizations across a diverse range of industries and spheres of influence have come alongside us to advance the reach and impact of our missionaries as well, ranging from for-profits to educational initiatives, church associations, and entire industries! We are proud to stand with you in our mission to seek and save the lost!

We are thankful for how God has knit our stories together in such beautiful ways, and we look to the future eager for all that He will work through us!





PARTNER WITH US

You are invited to partner with us as we seek to introduce college campuses, indigenous communities, and castaway groups everywhere to know, follow, and grow in Jesus Christ. A partnership may include prayer, financial support, or serving in a variety of projects and/or ministry efforts. If you would like to learn more, we'd love to enter into a conversation together! Please visit <http://www.missionsdoor.org/contact-us/> or email us at Giving@MissionsDoor.org.

If you are a current partner, *Thank You*. God takes our faithfulness and multiplies it (like loaves and fish) in a multitude of ways. Consider increasing your support and involvement. There are many ways to give (<https://www.missionsdoor.org/partner/give/>). Let others know about Missions Door. Provide feedback about how we can better partner with you. All of us working together can do far more than any of us could alone.

Subscribe

Subscribe to our newsletter and follow us on social media. We routinely update our social media feeds with current news and events that you can connect with. Many times we will ask for prayer regarding immediate needs and challenges our teams are facing in different parts of the world. Social media is a great way to stay connected with all that God is doing in and through our organization.

Visit <https://www.missionsdoor.org/pray> to learn more.

Pray

Partner with us in prayer over the following:

Guidance: that our Lord Jesus will lead us clearly, that we will be fearless in obedience to his call, and that this work will bear much fruit.

Unity: no matter how the Enemy would seek to divide us, we would remain unified in our efforts to advance the Gospel across the globe.

Focus: We live in a time when so many voices demand to be heard and prioritized. However, we believe the focus of our mission - the advancing of the Gospel - needs to remain our highest priority.

Safety: Many of our teams live and operate in highly dangerous areas. These men and women are committed to seeing the Gospel spread under the very threat of death. Pray that God would protect and preserve them as they continue His work!

Celebration: It can be easy to grow discouraged or cynical by all the brokenness in the world. Pray that we might keep our eyes fixed on Christ, and would readily recognize and celebrate the amazing things we are privileged to be a part of as God works in and through us!

Click on the icons below to be redirected to one of our Social Media channels.





giving opportunities

Level One STABILITY SUPPORT



Support Specific Missionaries

Your monthly support enable our missionaries to focus on ministry, share the mission, and expand God's kingdom.



Multiply Your Impact

Missions Door is doing something that can change the world, but we're limited by the structure needed to facilitate that change. By giving through Multiply Your Impact you help Missions Door multiply its impact furthering global expansion efforts.

Level Two GROWING SUPPORT



Reach the Future

Students are increasingly opting to become "nones." Our campus ministries are tied in with local churches and future church plants. By giving to Reach the Future, you help fund avenues for missionaries to focus on reaching students for Jesus while connecting them to a local church.



MD Communities

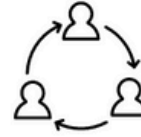
There are places in the world where the sickness of sin dominates entire communities. Many communities globally need healthy, local churches to reach the majority of people living there. They need a doctor (Mark 2:17). By giving to MD Communities, you facilitate missionary church planting in dark communities needing the light of Jesus.



Bring Them In

Marginalized groups exist because they are so often ignored. By giving to Bring Them In, you enable Missions Door bring the marginalized into the family of God (Isa. 56:3-5) by facilitating ministries targeting marginalized groups so that they may know Jesus and become churches bearing witness to the family of God.

Level Three THRIVING SUPPORT



MD Tomorrow

Mentoring is often a key to process God's call. Internships provide a context for mentoring that involves ministry. By giving to MD Tomorrow, you help launch the ministries and passion for vocational service as future generations explore missions.



Connect the Called

Many missionaries are limited by access to travel and tech. Giving to Connect the Called helps connect Missions Door missionaries connect for increasing impact organizationally and locally.



MD Launch

Initial capital for a new church or ministry platform is often crucial to the work. Many costs are upfront, like Bibles, flyers, chairs, etc. By giving to MD Launch, you provide scholarship funds for Missions Door missionaries to launch new churches and ministry efforts globally.



Healthy Missionaries

Many missionaries globally work tirelessly through physical health issues for one reason: they can't afford medical care. By giving to Healthy Missionaries you provide Missions Door missionaries the opportunity to receive medical care so that ministries can continue to thrive.

Let me help!



www.missionsdoor.org/partner/give



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