

Special Guest Speakers
**Kevin and
Mary Kneisl**

Sunday, March 3rd



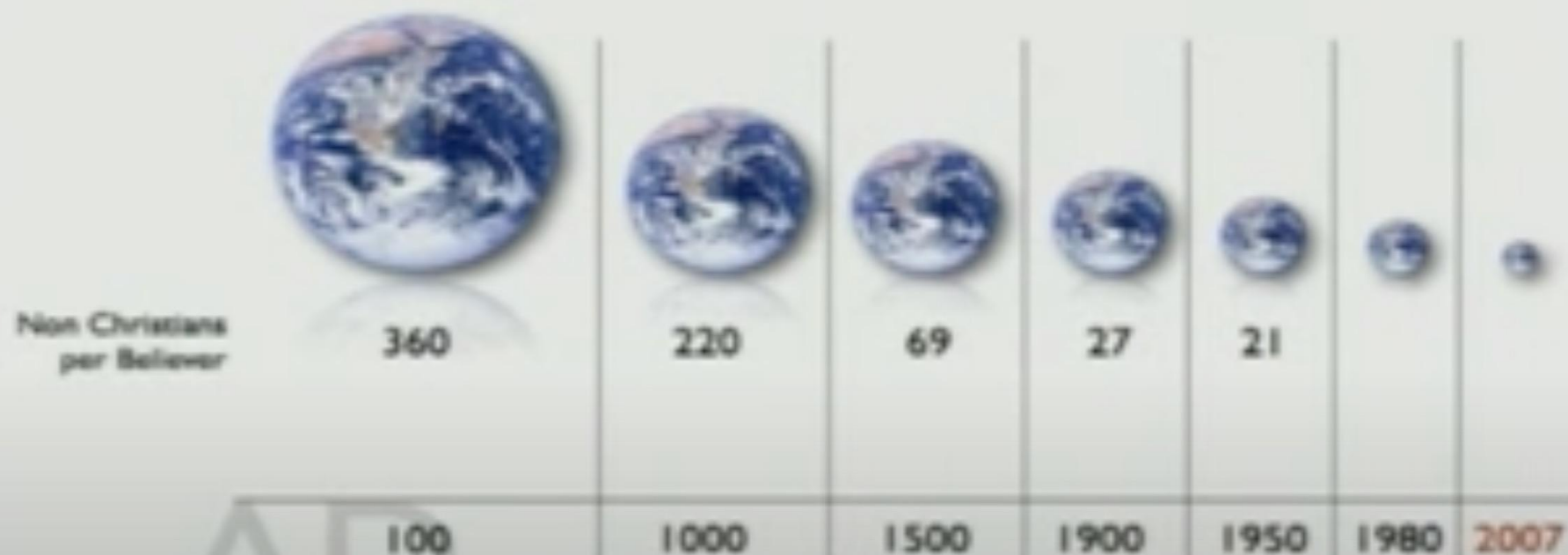


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Harvest Statistics

- 1 Billion never heard of Jesus
- 2.4 Billion more have no or limited gospel access
- 7278/17313 people groups unreached
- 1268/7394 languages still need bible translation
- Rise of religious Nones in the West

The Diminishing Task



AD





Prayer Requests

- Fruitfulness in our ministry
- Wisdom in parenting our kids to love God
- YWAM Tanzania tragedy
- Provision in next step for housing

Campus Worship & Outreach

Fri 1/26 7^{pm}-10pm

Sat 2/17 2-5pm

Sat 3/16 6-9pm

Sat 4/20 6-9pm

602 Langdon Street

Contact Tony Grotjan
tgrotant@gmail.com

Join in for worship and gospel
sharing on the UW campus!



Application:

- i. when you hear about great needs, what is your response?
With what great need is God asking you to engaged in faith-filled prayer?
- ii. Where is Jesus calling you to go to fulfilled GC? Is there anything stopping you from a whole hearted yes
- iii. Evangelism: Do you see Verona as a ripe harvest? Which non-yet-saved person would Jesus like you to be reaching out to? How can you leverage hospitality or other types of evangelism for reaching people?

Audio file

[Kneisl Audio.mp3](#)

Transcript

OK. So today we're gonna describe a little bit about our ministry with why Wham. And of course, why Wham is YWA AM, which stands for young women after men or young warriors after maidens?

Like the.

Warriors after maiden. Most Christian group, there's always more. Than there.

Are men the live stream? It's like, what do you? I'm sorry for everybody in the live. Stream. Or youth youth without any money. Or or or yes, yes, we accept Mennonites, which is one of my favorites.

Or whatever you choose.

So with that, I tarnished what we're gonna share here. Alright? So yeah, it's it's why Wham is youth with a mission. That's what. That's what it stands for. And we like to make acronyms out of everything. So forgive me if I make an acronym, you know, call me out. And Wylam is a missions movement with a goal to send missionaries from everywhere to everywhere. So and it's amazing because Wylam is mostly majority world. So our staff are mainly non Western. So the whole idea of kind of the white savior complex, the the white missionary movement, that's like, that's just debunked. It's it's over. Missions is a global thing. In fact, over 10% of our staff here are Brazilian. So there's lots of in case you want to know this, there's lots of Brazilians who want to do missions in the US and we say yes, God send the Brazilians to do to do mission work here.

Their spirit is very vibrant.

Yeah, you could use it. Yeah. Yeah. And they bring the message of the gospel, which we, which we need here. Why? When does long term pioneering type ministry? And. And we also do short term mission trips and teams. And we love and celebrate kind of all the different ways of doing ministry in the sense of missions. We think they're all good and you know, short term missions sometimes gets Flack. But we found it to be fruitful in our long life and and in fact, Jesus was into short term missions. If you knew that. So let's let's

maybe pull that wheat field there. Beautiful wheat field. Reminds me of the croissants that are. Freshly I did. I did the the letter, the letter turn. They call it the letter fold. And did my last rollout. So now I'm going to make them into a morning buns later. OK, so we're wondering. So shortly after Jesus's Transfiguration, he goes on the mountain and he appears in a glorified glorious state shortly after. That. Moment in the in his. Ministry. He appoints 70 of his disciples, so you know there's more than 12 people following Jesus. There's a big, big group of people following Jesus. There's at least at least 70 people you know, and likely more than that. There's a moment in his ministry where he takes 70 of them. And appoints them. And he says, OK guys, he kind of does what Tony and I do at our outreach nights. He, he says, OK, find a buddy. And get together with buddy can be someone that you like or maybe something you don't like doesn't matter and get together and raise your hands when you have a buddy. Alright, so they raise your hands and he said OK, I'm going to send you guys on some mission trips and we're going to go to a bunch of cities in Israel. And as they're going out, he tells them something interesting. Before they leave. He says. Guys, there's a huge harvest. Can we let's everybody say huge harvest? But there aren't enough workers say aren't enough workers aren't enough workers. OK, so Jesus says, therefore passionately pray. To the Lord of the Harvest. To thrust out workers to gather it in. So we want to share some things today where we have in fact seen that the harvest. The harvest is big. There's a big harvest. It's plentiful. And a bit about what we do in response to the fact that the workers are few. I want to pull up some statistics. Here. And UM. These are the there's a global task still at hand, and it's good to be reminded of these. Sometimes these are so big, it's just like it doesn't even mean anything when you start talking the in the billions. But let's be reminded here of of of that, that big harvest field. All right, so. 1 billion people and this is an estimate. 1 billion people have never heard of the name of Jesus before. Like the name, they don't even know if you said Jesus, they'd be like, who's that? You know, they would know. 2.4 billion more did I say 3 on there, I said four. OK, good. 2.4 billion more on top of that. Just have really limited, you know, gospel access to where they wouldn't have any context of knowing really what. Jesus. Did or does or the fact that he saves or that he's got or anything like that? And then this these are amount the people groups that are still unreached in the world. There's about 1200 languages that still need translation. Still need Bible translation? And of course there's the rise of the religious nons in the West, which which means people that would tick like a box if on a survey like I'm non religious. So really spiking in the West and we of course know that, you know, in our culture it's it's easy to. To see that and I didn't put this on the slide, but in Madison. We have 10% of the student body is international. So if you take 50,000 students and 10% of them, you get 5000 international students. And a a sizable percentage percent, I don't know the exact amount, but a sizable, sizable percentage of those. 5000 are from nations that restrict the gospel. And so these are nations like China, Afghanistan, other Middle

Eastern nation. And why Madison, actually our location here, we started to reach the World through the campus and we've always had a huge heart for for China. And if you like, if you're ever just downtown, tons of Chinese folks on our streets. So I just wanted to ask some questions about this. So what's your reaction when you see these statistics? It's like boring missionary stuff, you know, what's your reaction to these? When you when you see these these kind of things. Yeah, yeah. Yeah. So I'll, I'll give you. I I think what happens with me, I can only speak for myself is there's a few different responses. Sometimes I have different depending on the day. One is just apathy. You know, and apathy because sometimes the defense mechanism. It's you just feel apathetic because you just don't even know what to do with it all you know. And similar to that, maybe pre apathy. You might feel overwhelmed or or fear feel afraid. And then you know, if you're having a really good day, you might feel kind of activated, you know, activism. And you're like, yeah, let's go. Let's get after it. OK. And so I'm, I'm here to say like I'm not the the third one, I'm not going to like talk to you about that in case. You're. Afraid so? Jesus doesn't say any of those. You know, he looks at the harvest. What does he do? The first thing he says to everybody is. Is you have to pray. The first thing to do is you pray. And it's interesting that Jesus, when he looks at the harvest, the, the, the harvest is plentiful. So you know get going like get out to those cities and and and take him for. And of course the the disciples they are, they're going to go out and like they're going to perform miracles. They're going to see people, you know, become followers of Christ. And it happened. But that's not the starting place. Conditions. OK, the starting place of missions is is in the place of intimacy with God. And it's in the place of prayer. But it's not just prayer, he says, pray. To the Lord of the Harvest. And so Jesus, he's trying to get us to see something that it's not just prayer in Al. Like kind of. I hope you do this. God. It's like pray because God is the Lord and not only that, he's the Lord of the Harvest. He's the God. Who can he? He created that harvest, you know. And he's able to bring that harvest in. It is a it is a prayer of assurance. So that's the other. Of assurance in the character of God. So prayer is is something always we we we root ours in the place of prayer we need to root ourselves in the character of God. Remembering who he is, remembering what he's done. It's not just prayer. Alright, so stop preaching here. So yeah, come on. Come, come, I guess. Come on now. All right, so our founder. Lauren Cunningham, awesome guy. He started the mission in 1960. Through a vision of waves of young people. Being sent. From everywhere to everywhere, crashing over the nations. And that's exactly what's happened. And because God is, God is faithful, he passed away in October, and he was supposed to pass away that he had a cancer diagnosis, and he was supposed to pass away in like 2 months or like, maybe in like. Like 6 weeks and then of course like with extreme. And God extended his life six months, and he had no pain. The whole time and through that whole time, he's like talking about how, you know, we're going to end Bible poverty by 202033 and traveling all over the place and doing zoom calls and so

honored that we have that we have just an incredible founder who's with Jesus now. But Lauren Cunningham, he used to say he used to say Jesus is winning. So why you guys to say that? Jesus is winning. So when we feel overwhelmed, especially in the West, I think it's easy. We feel really overwhelmed because we look around us and we feel, you know, we go on State Street and like. Who's loving Jesus? You know who's loving Jesus around me and it feels overwhelming. It feel we feel the darkness, and we feel the spiritual atmosphere of living in a western city, especially a city like Madison. You know as much as I love it, you know, I'm not blind, but I want to pull up this slide. This is from Ralph Winters, I believe, and I like. I like really blurry slides so I'm into blurry slides. And this is for Ralph Winters is of course, a missiologist and Lauren Cunningham uses this in his in in one of his messages about the fact that Jesus is winning. So this is the the numbers on top represent the amount of people per one Christian. So in the year 100 AD. There were 360 people, unbelievers per believers. OK, so in 1000, that number goes to to 220. So there's 220 unbelievers per, you know, one person. Then in 1500, it's 69. In 19127 in 1950 it's 21 and then in 2007 the the recent stat is one out of seven, so 7. So this is called the diminishing task. OK, Jesus is winning. And you're like, OK, how can that be? And like, isn't the trend since 2007 like a duck crazy downward spike? That's what I thought. Not really. It's a little bit more. Later than that, is it OK if I just go into this a little bit? So the reason I'm saying this stuff guys is because it's about remembering the faithfulness of God when we when we see the need, when we see the harvest, we need to remember that he is still the Lord of the harvest. He's been harvesting. Amen. OK, what I want to say here so Christianity is booming in the majority world. OK. That's why the majority of our staff are from the majority world, you know, non Western, that's what majority world mean. And and Bible translation efforts right now are being pursued with vigorous zeal because I like to to be redundant. It it. There's so much speed right now with Bible translation that there are predictions that by 2020, 2033, which is 2000 years after the resurrection. That every translation on Earth could be started. And a lot of these and and at least orally. And if that if we continue with the progress like we'll see the knowledge of the glory of God cover the earth as the water covers the seas with with regards to Bible translation, it's amazing. And there's so much push right now with ending ending Bible poverty, which is what we call it a web. OK. And this is amazing. There is now a fellowship of believers in every nation on the Earth. There is not a nation that does not have a fellowship of believers. That could impact that nation. Now, of course, that doesn't mean every people group has believers, you know. But Jesus said that that's gonna happen. Every tribe, every tongue, every nation will have a representation before the throne of God. That's gonna happen before Jesus comes back. But it's cool that, at least in every political nation. That, that there's there are, there's a fellowship of believers. So God's faithful, but it's still a sobering reminder if you go back to the last slide. That that there's a huge harvest, you know, it's OK to be sobered by the

statistics of a billion people not knowing Jesus. OK. And so what's your response? You know what's our response? Of course, Jesus says, pray, and we've been over that and then Jesus says go. So pray know who I am. You gotta know who God is. You know, you gotta know that he's faithful. You gotta know that he's able. You gotta know that he feels with his spirit. But then Jesus says all authority in heaven and have been given to me, so therefore go into all the world and make disciples of every nation, baptizing them in the name of the Father, son, and Holy Spirit. Teaching them to do everything that I've commanded. Matthew 28, right? So that's the Great Commission. And in Mark 16, Jesus says it a different way. He says Jesus says go into all the. And preach the gospel to every creature. So sometimes when I pass ducks or something. I'm. Like Jesus loves you or I go to. I see a banana and. I'm. Like, you know, like, yeah. Jesus made you banana. Alright, just kidding. All right. It's probably talking about people, but I think there is a fact that Jesus redeems all creation, right? So one of our beloved Joy Dawson. She one of our beloved Yammers, also passed away within last year. She used to say you need a word of the Lord. To not go. OK, Jesus said go. So you need a you need a word of God to stay. So Mary and I asked God, what is our goal? What does it look like to go? And as Christians, that's that's that's the that's the question, you know, God, what is my goal? Romans 10, verse 14 and 15. It says this. We don't have it on the screen. But. Just listen with your ears. We're gonna be oral culture today, alright? How then? And Paul is talking about missions, actually. And Paul says how then can they call on the one whom they haven't believed in? And how can they believe in the one they have not heard? How can they hear if unless someone preaches to them? And how can anyone preach? Unless they are sent. So Mary and I have responded to, we're doing our best to respond to the Great Commission. And Paul says that there's a need for folks to be sent. So when you think about going. All of us need to be sent. Jesus needs to send us groups of believers need to send us, and not only that, we need to be trained. OK, Jesus doesn't send people haphazardly. Those 70. They had been walking with Jesus. They had been seeing his miracles. Those 70 people had been, you know, they testified to Jesus's teaching. They've been walking with him and and and growing in their in their connection and relationship with Christ. So before you go, you need to be sent. And so that's the need that that Mary and I have responded to. We are not in another nation right now. God did send Mary from a warmer place, North Carolina to a much colder place here in Wisconsin. So. She has. She's going to get more, more kudos in heaven or, you know, more crowns or something. But I did. So, yeah, I actually, I leveled up. I moved from from Minnesota, did a little warmer. It is a little warmer here than in Minnesota. And our goal is, of course, to come here to Madison. But of course, we're still in our own context. We haven't gone to another nation and we are we are in Wylam because we can send and mobilize. Folks to go. And that's that's our goal. Our goal is to help others go. OK. So we we want to show a video of why WAM and just give you a 30,000 foot view of WAM, alright.

So what is information information for why the global? As a way to get young. People involved in this. We still do that today, but we're. Involved with every kind of outreach. Ministry we currently have over 18,000 staff with locations in over 180 countries way. When's many ministries fit into three major categories? Evangelism. Training. And mercy ministries. We do evangelism because we believe that everyone in the world has the right to hear the message of Jesus. Training to equip people to use their. To do that. And everyone in these permission does an intensive path for your discipleship course called discipleship training. Our third focus is Mercy Ministries, where our staff are giving. Hope to the. Poor, sick and those suffering from injustice. Ryan has a place for everyone and endless opportunities you can find out more about what we're doing and ways to get involved at our website.

Alright, so that's the big picture real quick, alright, so why Madison is one of those locations? We started in 1986 and we do a whole host of different kinds of ministry here in Madison. We, of course have college ministry, we have Bible schools that run regularly. We have the discipleship training program. That trains about 30 students a year. We have about 200 high schoolers that get trained in a a week long missions intensive every year here. And we also have 47 full-time missionaries at Wylam in Madison doing all sorts of work all over the world. And so there is really an opportunity for a lot of folks to be sent and a lot of mobilization to happen. And so that's why we feel called here, one of the major ways we do the training we do is through evangelism, we do evangelism training. And so I'm going to throw a slide here. This is a group of discipleship. School students from a year or two ago. And here they are, learning one of our evangelism tactics. It is very formulaic and hardly anyone likes it, but I like to train it anyway. It's called the one minute witness. It's a way to share your testimony with someone in one minute. And. This girl's Sophie. She's on the couch to the right. She's from the UK and she came here and she said Kevin. Evangelism is my worst nightmare. She said that's the literally is my worst nightmare. Don't make me do it. I said OK, come with me. As I don't to do anything, just stand here and and. And so we went out one day to the mall. We didn't get kicked out. We almost did, went to West West Town mall and we took some clipboards, some surveys, and we did survey evangelism, survey evangelism really effective. What you do is like, you make a religious studies survey. I was like, hey, my buddy is doing a religious study. Survey. He's doing some research and we want to ask you a question. A few questions and you start talking about hey, like, do you have a family background in faith? Do you believe in a God? And then finally, it kind of ends with a like, would you be open to someone evangelizing to you on a scale of one to 10? And then if they're like, sure, whatever, and you're like, well. Actually that and like is that a bait and switch? Not really cuz my friend actually was gathering data and. And also, yeah, it's just that way of kind of engaging intellectually with

folks. And share the gospel. And we also do so anyway. Sophie. She also gained confidence in just conversational skills. So part of evangelism is she's gotta learn how to talk to people, right. And so conversational skills and. Sophie, she came into the program just totally, totally hating it and worst nightmare. And then the last week she comes back and she's like, yeah, I talked to a few people. I'm like, what? Like I said, never talked to anyone. The whole TS, she's like, I talked to a few people, and God just gave you this idea to just compliment people. So I go down the street and I say hey, like you just like, that's a beautiful hat. Or like, that's an awesome shirt or like, you have a great smile. And then people be like, wow, thanks. You noticed me, you know. And of course God notices them. And so she's joining God and and bam, it opens up the door. They're like, you know, what do you do? Like, I don't know. About whatever. Clearly I need to work on my conversational skills, but yeah, you can. Like conversation flows out of, you know, just starting, starting up, chatting with someone. Another way that we do this is through. It's. It's what Tony and I do at out of the 1st house. We call it treasure hunting. So you take time to just listen to the Holy Spirit and where he might wanna send you. And sometimes you get impressions of where to go. So like, I just feel like, yeah, we need to go to the capital and you meet someone at the Capitol building and you pray for them, you know. So that happens a lot too, and we can have even more kind of supernatural story. So somebody get like a name of someone. The other day someone got I just in prayer before we we would pray before we go out in prayer. I. Got. The name Michelle and I feel like she's like out of counter. She's. Telling something so I'm like, OK. And this is Tasha. I guess Tasha just operates in the spirit like a little bit more than we do or something. And Tasha goes down to to to Memorial Union and she goes in to the Ratskeller. And she asked this that there's a Chinese woman selling stuff. And she asked, like, hey, like, what's your name? And the girl tells her name. And it's like her Chinese name. And she's like, OK, she's like, do you, do you have an American name? Because Chinese often have an American. She's. Like my name is Michelle and like OK. And it's like Michelle. I got your name in prayer. Like, how can I pray for you? You know, I should pray for Michelle and preach the gospel. OK, so God does that kind of stuff. It happens. It happens frequently. Seems like in this moment and we want to invite you to some of that stuff later, but we also do hospitality evangelism. That's another way. So if you pull up the next slide, Jeff. We set up this table outside of the folks house. That's those house lovely. Are those dork columns there, Mary? Or. OK, anyway. Oh, they're not. They're not ionic. OK? Anyway, the Greek columns is what Josh was learning about in school. All right, so that we set up a table outside of the folks house and say, hey, like we just make fresh baked cookies. And I found a great recipe on Reddit and make some fresh bread, cookies and hot chocolate. And we say, hey, come get some free stuff. And people come and free stuff and they just like, hey, you want some? You want some free stuff. And of course, they're college students. So everybody comes. And they get the

free stuff and they take it. And well, like and like. Yeah, no strings attached. You can just take it. And like, do you need prayer? What? What's going on in your life? Can we pray for you? And sometimes people receive prayer. Other times we have Bible set out and they're like, what is that because it says like the story of God? On. Front we're like, that's a New Testament and they're like, OK, why do you have that here? So we talk, we talk about the Bible and we give Bibles away a lot of times we pray for folks that. Prayer. Highly effective hospitality. Really effective. Do you wanna share anything about hospital?

I don't know. We have time just.

Snippet to slip out what we're doing.

One of the ways God's recently stretching out so hospitality we can think feed a meal, all sort of stuff. And honestly, God's given me a fresh definition of hospitality and it's creating unrushed space for people and so that can be a conversation with your neighbor that can be over a cup of coffee. That can be over something longer, like a meal, but in the last three years, God's really opened doors for us with our neighbors most our non believers. And it's been amazing. I was really as we were preparing for this, I said to Kevin, I was like, oh, Easter is approaching and you know, the last three years we have had. Unprompted, like unplanned Easter meals with our neighbors in our backyard, it happens to be a beautiful day and suddenly we're having a meal. I was like, let's, let's hear, let's do it intentionally. And God's been speaking to us about like. Hospitality doesn't. Real hospitality isn't just accidental. Now there is. There is that where we we're willing to slow down with the Lord and talk to my neighbor who lost her dog of 16 years two months ago. And we haven't seen her for the last two months. And she actually opened up. No small talk within 10 minutes. I knew like, how she's really been doing. But I'm like, OK, now the Lord is challenging us to weekly set aside, pick one night a week and that we will commit to the Lord inviting someone into our home intentionally. Now it could be coworkers that we want to connect more with. It could be friends from Verona. It could be our neighbors. But to actually say we believe hospitality moves the heart of God. And God uses that to move through us and to witness to others. And are we willing to commit a piece of our schedule to that to create unrushed space for people? And we're we like our time. Right, guys? They're like our evenings. And with kids like all schedules and uh, but God's challenging. That's our that's our goal. That's a piece of our sacrifice to the. Word that does not return void. It's not, has not returned void.

Yeah, highly effective. Use hospitality. It's everybody's gift. And and I know that this church loves to cook food and eat food, so come on, somebody's preaching. Somebody's preaching today. OK. So, yeah, other things we do, we do one-on-one, mentorship with our staff. We have 47 staff. We have tons of students that come through. So we do a lot of

mentorship. We also do I do a lot of worship ministry, so leading worship in various training schools and then we do sometimes worship nights where we'll invite the local church to come through that's been. Amazing. And then a lot of community community building type stuff with with, why Madison? So that's I serve on the leadership team. Mary does some kind of like HR type stuff welcoming our new staff, giving them, making them acclimated. We we've been getting a lot of new stuff lately. And then I help train people on fundraising, which is a lot of fun. I actually I really like, I like, I like that training. So little fun. OK, so I'm just gonna show some prayer requests here. We're moving along. Pray for these things, fruitfulness, wisdom in our parenting. Please pray for. Please pray there was a tragedy in Wylam last week, last Saturday actually, and it was a bus accident and several of our leaders. Died. How many, 11?

11 of our significant leaders, like starting new ministries in Africa, especially like the French.

Yeah.

So really it's.

Yeah. And and many of our staff knew these people personally. So there's there's a lot of God grief. Let's pray that God would. Yeah, like I would move. And and do something out of it. OK, last night I wanna plug this. This is what with my friend Tony and I, we, we, Tony, Tony pioneered this worship and outreach night out of the folks house and this is we we actually welcome a lot of local church. This is mainly it's been the local church actually sometimes yammers we have our discipleship schools coming now the next one is on the wing. Right. So, you know, pray pray about which one you should go to. I'm just kidding. Go to the wing night. But then in we want to see you out in April. Come on. Come on. April 20th 6 to 9. And we do we do worship and and then we we go out two by two. And we trust God and we do the treasure hunt style. So normally, I mean, unless God prompt something else, we just we listen to God. God, what are you saying? Where should we go? And then we trust him and and you know, even if we don't know where to go, then we just go out and trust. God's gonna be with us. OK. So just some application quickly go here. OK. When you hear about the great needs of our time. OK, what's your response? Is it, you know, apathy, afraid activism? Or is it assurance with what great need is God asking you to be engaged in faithful prayer? OK, how do you? How should you stand on the wall right now? How should you be praying to the Lord of the harvest to what this. Right. Where is Jesus calling you to go? To fulfill the Great Commission, what's your goal? OK. Is anything stopping you from a wholehearted yes? OK, what's what's, what's getting cut up? Pray with somebody about that right evangelism. Do you see Verona as a ripe harvest? Do you? Do we see the the the fields when we go out? Rona, which not yet saved person, would Jesus like you to be

reaching out to. Your life. And how can you leverage hospitality or the other types of evangelism that I mentioned for reaching out to folks in your life? Mary, you want pray.

Yeah. So, God, we just, we thank you that regardless. Of the broader picture that we are bombarded with in the news and in social media, we thank you that you have the final word and God, you say the harvest is plentiful, that hearts are ripe and the enemy would seek to blanket that and say because there are some voices that seem louder. That that is not true and God, we thank you that there are those in Verona and in Madison and in the surrounding area that are longing for someone to see them. God, that are searching and longing to be loved. Someone to walk with them, to know that they are seen and known and pursued by the one true God. So Lord, we thank you that you. You are pursuing with all all of your being. And that you have unrushed space. Lord, there is more than enough space in your arms and in your heart and in your Kingdom for the things that we carry, and for the things that those around us carry that don't know you. So, Lord, I pray this morning that you would, that you would be the one that shows each of us what our go is. We can start small and say, God, what's my go today? Lord, show me where there is a heart. Ripe today. Where is there a heart that is right for this week, one that is long and God. Loneliness is so big and it look God help us to not overlook it. It is such a pandemic in our society, but God, we thank you that there is more than enough for him and you say come, so God, would we be the hands and the feet and the voice that makes people see and to know the invitation of the Lord. God, would we not take this lightly? Will we not let any ear or heart? Go untouched by like the true the truth of who you are. Yes, to come, Lord Jesus.