



STRUCTURE STRATEGY SUPPORT

for Establishing Churches
Among the Least-Reached



Our Savior is worthy of worship.

*The vision of Christar is to cultivate
Christ-honoring transformation
in communities where He is yet
to be worshiped.*

But over 40% of the world's people *can't glorify His name* because they're cut off from the good news of Christ.

Why? Because their communities don't yet have churches that proclaim the gospel in their language and in a way that's relevant in their culture.

God's plan to bring people from every nation into His family is centered around local bodies of Christ. Churches send some of their own to share the gospel and establish fellowships of believers in communities that previously lacked a gospel witness. ***By God's grace, these new churches repeat the cycle, expanding the reach of the good news.***

It's a process that's worth doing well because Jesus is infinitely deserving of glory. So, as we pursue our mission of establishing churches among the least-reached, we partner with local congregations to see workers sent "in a manner worthy of God" (3 John 1:6). This involves ***structure*** that facilitates effective service, ***strategy*** that guides their efforts and ***support*** that helps them thrive.

Since 1909

Christar is anchored in a rich heritage spanning many countries, several agencies and numerous kinds of ministry. The earliest branches of our church-planting efforts reach back to 1909, and since then Christar workers have proclaimed the good news of Jesus in places where His name wasn't yet known. Our common passion has been to see least-reached people follow Jesus and gather to worship Him in their communities. This same purpose continues to motivate us today and into the future.

christar.org/heritage

Christar workers serve on more than 80 teams in over 25 countries.

We focus on the least-reached:

those without access to a church that proclaims the gospel in their language and worships in a way that's relevant in their culture.

christar.org/why-least-reached



Structure

As an international organization, Christar has mobilization centers around the world that partner with local churches in their regions. As part of this global network, Christar U.S. provides structure and strategy that support churches in the United States in sending workers who establish churches among the least-reached.

Helping Churches Send Well

Based on the model in Acts 13, we believe it is the role of the local church to send and support the ministry of cross-cultural workers. It is our joy to come alongside congregations, helping members participate in the Great Commission in ways that align with their approaches to cross-cultural ministry. Drawing from nearly 120 years of experience, Christar provides a proven framework that helps churches navigate the complexities of sending workers internationally.



Church Ministry Residencies

Christar Church Ministry Residencies bridge the gap between education and effective, real-world service—whether in the United States or across the globe. Through hands-on experience, mentorship, theological training and cross-cultural exposure, they offer churches and recent college graduates a framework for developing effective ministry skills, all in the context of relationships.





Recruiting and Equipping Workers to Go Well

Christar equips workers so they are ready to face challenges on the field and serve effectively. We provide training in cross-cultural life and ministry, support raising, communication and more, all designed to prepare them for thriving life and ministry in least-reached communities.

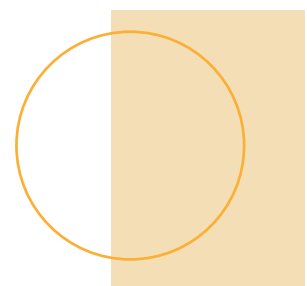
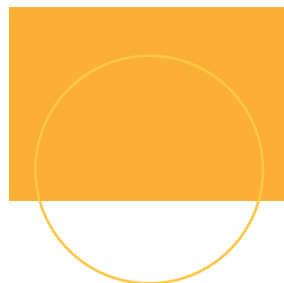
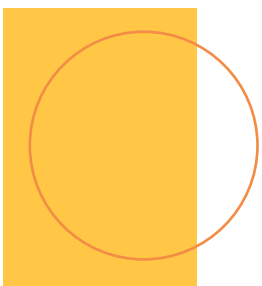
This isn't a one-size-fits-all process. In addition to required pre-field conferences, we consider each person's experience and desired area of service, and we use assessments to help us create his or her personal development plan. Throughout the process, Christar pre-field coaches come alongside each individual with personalized support.



Facilitating Effective, Enduring Cross-Cultural Service

Once workers reach the field, Christar continues to serve them and their sending churches by providing financial and IT services, as well as administering benefits and human resources services.

Our field structure is designed to help workers minister effectively and in community. The vast majority of Christar workers serve on teams: small groups of people with complementary gifts who are committed to the goal of planting churches among the least-reached through an agreed-upon ministry plan, mutual care and mutual accountability.



Strategy

A Model for Effective Ministry

Christar workers are trained in a model, known as Polaris, which helps teams create strategies for establishing churches that fit their ministry contexts. It's not a one-size-fits-all structure but a framework that equips teams to evaluate methods, principles and tactics and to form an approach in light of the culture and worldview of the people they're seeking to reach.

The Polaris model includes distinct stages:

1 Prepare
Equip for effective ministry through training and building a support team

2 Survey

Empathize with least-reached people by learning the local language and culture

3 Proclaim
Enfold people in a plan for sharing the gospel

4 Contact
Engage people in spiritual conversations

5 Disciple
Establish new believers in their faith, discipling them to serve

6 Gather
Empower believers to gather and form into a church

7 Equip
Empower local leaders by equipping them through discipleship and biblical training

8 Send
Extend and exit as local believers share the gospel locally and cross-culturally while the church-planting team carries out their exit plan

These stages don't represent a strictly linear process. For example, workers don't stop engaging new contacts while discipling those who have believed. Rather, these activities that build upon one another and that provide guidance for cross-cultural workers in moving toward a fully established church.

christar.org/polaris

Room for Creativity

Creativity is one of our key values. We've seen how innovation in ministry has enabled Christar workers to reach people who would otherwise remain cut off from the gospel. So, we view the needs of people as opportunities to serve and encourage our workers to initiate new ministries using their unique gifts and skills.

Christar helps cross-cultural workers use their talents and vocations to minister through means such as:

- Business
- Resources
- Education
- Crisis Relief
- Healthcare
- Relationships





Helping Workers Serve Well for the Long Haul

From the hurdles of adjusting to an unfamiliar culture to the ongoing stress of ministry in difficult places, cross-cultural service is challenging. At every stage, we come alongside workers, offering support in language learning in their early years on the field as well as personalized fundraising materials, ongoing training and opportunities for leadership development.

Our Member Care team invests in workers' physical, emotional, mental, social and spiritual well-being, seeking to help them and their children thrive in ministry and relationships. This team provides support and encouragement through promoting healthy soul care practices, debriefing those on home assignment and resourcing field needs upon request. And, when workers' time on the field comes to an end, member care staff help them through the transition and assist them in reentering ministry in their sending country or retiring well.



Involving Congregations in the Great Commission

The Christar Church Engagement team exists to help local congregations participate in expanding the reach of the gospel across the globe. This team is comprised of workers with years of experience on the field and serving in local churches in the U.S.: individuals who intimately understand the needs of those who serve overseas as well as the realities of ministry stateside.

Our Church Engagement representatives offer training and resources that equip congregations to more intentionally engage least-reached people, launch new church-planting initiatives and send not only individuals but entire teams to serve cross culturally. Our staff also works with churches to ensure that they are prepared in the event that their workers face a crisis.



Support

Your Role in God's Global Work

Pray

We can't accomplish the work God has called us to do in our own strength. In recognition of this, we require every worker sent through Christar to have **100 daily prayer partners**, and we open each workday at Christar U.S. with a time of prayer. Those who pray with us for our workers, partners and the least-reached have a vital ministry role as they join us in seeking God's provision and enablement to carry out His work.

To help those who partner with us through prayer, we publish two monthly prayer guides:

"Call to Prayer" includes requests from Christar field workers, sending and supporting churches, Christar U.S. and individuals and organizations that partner with us in the Great Commission.

"Circle of Prayer" helps you more specifically lift up the ministry of Christar U.S.

christar.org/pray



Give

Your gift to the **Christar Church-Planting Fund** enables workers to share the hope of Christ through a wide range of creative outreaches, train believers around the world for ministry and establish local bodies of Christ in communities where they don't yet exist.

christar.org/church-planting-fund

Send

Ministry in least-reached communities begins in and is continually sustained by local churches. From the moment believers begin to gain a vision for cross-cultural service to their time on the field and when they return, they depend on their local body of Christ to actively participate with them in ministry. Beyond sending their most valuable resource (people!), **congregations provide numerous forms of crucial support**. As they invest in global outreach, they have a critical role in advancing God's Kingdom in places where few have been introduced to the hope of the gospel.

christar.org/send

Volunteer

Christar partners with Switchboard, an organization that connects believers with diverse skills to needs in global ministries, enabling them to make a difference without leaving home. Through the Switchboard platform, they can volunteer time and expertise to help cross-cultural workers overcome obstacles and embrace new opportunities.

globalswitchboard.io



Learn

Read

Learn how God is working through the Body of Christ to mobilize the gospel to least-reached communities.

christar.org/stories

Get tools and tips for fulfilling your roles in the Great Commission.

christar.org/resources

Listen

Tune in to the *Mobilizing the Gospel* podcast for thoughtful conversations about opportunities and challenges in the Great Commission and to learn about ways to be involved.

christar.org/podcast

Go

Christar connects those who want to serve cross-culturally with ways to use their unique gifts and skills in least-reached communities. Learn more and take a no-obligation first step at christar.org/go.

EXPLORE Christar

EXPLORE Christar is an extended weekend experience designed to help you discover how you fit into God's plan of salvation for all nations. Through interactive sessions, time with experienced global workers, dynamic group activities and guided reflection, we'll help you gain clarity about your next step in the Great Commission.

christar.org/explore-christar

Our Values

Godliness

We value a growing love for God, a humble dependence upon His Word and a serious commitment to prayer.

People

We value our people as individuals, families and teams.

The Body of Christ

We value the importance of the Church in its diverse expressions.

Effectiveness

We value the equipping of workers to minister fruitfully.

Creativity

We value innovation in ministry.