06	25 YEAR ANNIVERSARY
The history of Overland and how far we've come since 1999.	

12	RAPID 14 LOGISTICAL BASE
Overland's flagship logistical base as a launching pad for missionaries and the future revival center.	

36	GLOBAL EXPEDITIONS
The expedition department brought 386 team members into 16 countries in 2023 to share the Gospel in remote regions.	





WHO WE ARE

Overland Missions exists to take the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the most remote people in the most forgotten places on earth. We are pioneers. We fly, drive, boat, or walk to the furthest corners. We are evangelists. We minister by personally sharing the good news of Jesus Christ and administering the power of the Holy Spirit through miracles, signs, and wonders. We are pastors and teachers. We disciple by instilling the power of the New Creation Life until the Gospel has reached its full-effect and a culture has been transformed. We are Apostolic. We develop teams and indigenous leaders and create a sustainable, viral move of God.

PIONEERING EVANGELISM DISCIPLESHIP LEADERSHIP



OVERLAND



THE HEART OF THE TEAM

Our missionaries want this report to be read like a modern day chapter of Acts. Be encouraged by these stories from the field and be set on fire by the possibilities available for anyone who partners with the Holy Spirit in obedience and faith.

The missionaries who serve with Overland Missions have walked obediently into the unknown because they heard the Lord say, “Go.” In this obedience, they have seen the lost come into the kingdom of heaven, made disciples, been granted audiences with high-level government and traditional authorities, and have ultimately died to themselves that others may live. The tagline of Overland Missions is, “Whatever It Takes” and it is the joy of our missionaries to embody that principle. What a freedom to live outside of the considerations of convenience, comfort, and material gain. What a blessing to live in abundance as we hand all things over to the trustworthy hands of Jesus.

The Overland Team

06 25 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

The history of Overland and how far we’ve come since 1999.

08 OUR FOUNDERS

The doors are swinging open and workers are being mobilized.

10 SECTORS AROUND THE GLOBE

Established ministry strategy out of the book of Acts.

CONTENT

12 RAPID 14 BASE

Overland's flagship logistical base as a launching pad for missionaries and the future revival center.

18 MIDDLE EAST NORTH AFRICA

In the midst of calamity, the Gospel continues forward throughout the region.

24 ANGOLA HIGHLIGHT

Update on expansion into the Muhakaona tribe in the Huíla Province of Southern Angola.

36 EXPEDITIONS AROUND THE GLOBE

The expedition department lead 386 team members into 16 countries in 2023 to share the Gospel in remote regions.

42 TRANSFORMATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Approaching the real economic and physical need of people throughout the world.



25 YEARS OF OVERLAND

DRIVEN BY VISION AND GRIT

In early 1999, Philip and Sharon, commissioned by Dr. Leon van Rooyen and other pioneers, incorporated Overland Missions as a 501(c)3 in the state of Florida. Philip had traveled throughout Africa for his whole adult life. He was first a conscripted soldier in the South African army, fighting on the front lines of Cuito Cuanavale in Angola. Then, as an evangelist, set off as a hitchhiker, determined to preach the Gospel amongst remote people deep into the interior of Africa. A few years later, Philip met and married Sharon, a daughter of missionaries to Brazil. She held the same zeal to reach the unreached, and had already traveled the nations as a worship leader. Together, they birthed a vision to mobilize the Church into these remote regions.

Overland Missions started in the late 90s, because interior flights in Africa were rarely available and 4x4 driving was the best option. Driving had its drawbacks and still does. The roads were difficult and unpredictable. Communication from these locations was hardly existent. However, the secular German tourists were overlanding Africa for their holidays. And the truck drivers were driving the same roads to transport goods to the capitals of these nations. But the church, the most equipped and enduring of all institutions, was not often seen far from the tar road. The church was settling in capital cities, mainly, and reaching the people who were nearby.

When the sanction on GPS systems was lifted in 2003, and Google Earth became available for civilians, it became possible to find and navigate to these remote village locations more easily. It seemed like Google maps was invented for the missionary. Suddenly, villages and compounds, far from the reach of the tar road, could be seen from above in the comfort of a living room internet connection.

Phil and Sharon experienced an authentic move of God in every village and saw the possibilities of teams going all around the world producing a sound. They wanted to travel, like the apostles of old, feet shod with the Gospel of peace. They had a vision that came from the book of Acts: To preach Jesus to all and reconcile cultures and tribes who were living without the hope of the King of kings. The first Overland expeditions were trekked in a “homemade” truck, outfitted by Phil and the team in a warehouse in South Africa. That first truck packed 24 short-term team members into it and drove from Capetown to Nairobi, taking five weeks to get there. Everywhere they could, they stopped and preached the Gospel. There wasn’t a formula or a strategy, outside of the early church.

As those trips continued, Overland acquired property outside of Livingstone, Zambia in 2005. Efforts and resources went into building and preparing a strategic location that would launch teams all over the world. Two decades later, Rapid 14 is one of the most forward-thinking mission bases in Africa. The expedition department ran 41 teams in 16 nations in 2023. Zambia boasts 8 Overland bases in total throughout the nation, with more to come. The work has expanded to 17 other nations, all with full-time missionaries planted in at least one location of every country. The first team of a half-dozen has grown to over 350 total, adding 75 new missionaries in this year alone.

The beginnings were never small. The beginnings were a simple obedience to the command given by Jesus when he said, “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations.”

















THE VISION HAS REMAINED THE SAME, YET THE HARVESTERS HAVE INCREASED AND THE DOORS HAVE FLUNG OPEN WIDE. HERE'S TO THE NEXT 25 YEARS, OR UNTIL THE WHOLE WORLD KNOWS.



“You and your revelation of Jesus can change the world.”

– PHILIP SMETHURST



"There is enough space in the grace of God for all of mankind and it is sufficient for you."

PHILIP & SHARON SMETHURST

Founders of Overland Missions

There is nothing more thrilling than engaging with a tribe that has been lost in time, forgotten by progress, and neglected by the world, but are wide eyed to the knowledge that God exists and that He had a human son whose name is Jesus. I have looked into those wide eyes and heard from those open hearts, and I have been changed.

A strategy for missions that produces pedestrian participants in the Kingdom no longer has appeal. Rather, we the current generation, long for a strategy that empowers the believer to take hold of what God has created them for. The glory of human applause fades away, and the Word of God resonates in our spirits, compelling us, "I must return to these people. I must navigate this land. I must refill the jerry cans just to go back and look into their eyes and speak of the only thing that truly satisfies."

Overland Missions has seen the doors of continents swing open. Traditional Kings and Queens are calling for us. Conflict zones are looking to us. Failing economies are seeking us. Like Paul on the island of Malta, it may seem like our hands don't have much to give, yet the answer has been cultivated in our hearts and is resounding from our mouths. There is enough to satisfy every person. We are like the disciples, feeding the five thousand with a basket, all the while knowing there is enough to go around for every appeal.

This year, I looked over our team of over 350 Western employees, hundreds of local missionaries, and thousands of volunteers and am overjoyed at the reality of a cohesive team with the same DNA. The same sound reverberates through our Overland Missions Music, our social media presence, our missionary endeavors, our administrative solutions, and from the preaching in pulpits all over the world. The message is clear:

There is enough space in the grace of God for all of mankind and it is sufficient for you. Every tribe and tongue, every human born on earth is qualified to be a partaker of it.

We began 25 years ago and have increased every year and doubled in size every three years. All testimonies in this report are only a small sample of the everyday work of gospel-centered missionaries and are to the glory of God, Yahweh.





Fred and his wife Memory teaching in a Sekute village.



SEKUTE BASE

Fred Malambo of Nsongwe Village, began ministering alongside the Overland team nearly ten years ago as a translator for the expedition department. Over time, he took on more responsibility and became a sector missionary. Eventually, the oversight of the entire region of Sekute and the several hundred villages it contains was handed over to Fred and his family to continue to pioneer for the Kingdom of God. He has diligently preached the Gospel in every village of Sekute and many villages in the neighboring Musokotwane chiefdom.

In 2020, Fred was given land for Overland by the Chieftainess of Sekute and began to develop a full satellite base in the chiefdom. Over the course of ten years, Fred went from translator to sector manager, and is now building a mission base complete with a water well and permanent structures. Fred has been faithful and committed to the work when he had only a bicycle, and then a motor bike, and finally a 4x4 SUV to carry his family and ministry partners all over the region. It is this level of empowerment and local ownership of the vision that we believe will take place in remote regions all over the World.



SECTOR

EXPANDING LONG-TERM DISCIPLESHIP

The blueprint for our sector management strategy is the book of Acts. We recognize that the preaching of the Word of God under the power of the Holy Spirit will always be the genesis of great Kingdom movements around the world. It has been our endeavor to maintain the simplicity and authenticity of Kingdom expansion as demonstrated by the early church.

Sector Management is the system we have employed in the nations to manage the ever-growing network of believers in remote communities around the globe. Within this system, we employ international missionaries into remote and neglected parts of the world to evangelize, disciple, and empower individuals that will become an enduring fellowship, just like Ephesus or Galatia of 2000 years ago.



Often times, these individuals are first discovered through evangelistic opportunities such as night meetings, soccer games, and home-to-home visits. Men, women, and children who come forward during these events to be prayed for and to commit their lives to Christ are given weekly opportunities to grow in their devotion to Jesus through revival meetings conducted by our missionaries.

The components of transformation in each sector are taken straight from Acts 2:42-47. The early church devoted themselves to the apostles teaching, prayer, fellowship, and the breaking of bread. These sacred devotions, when done with a daily expectation of signs and wonders along with the revelation of the finished work of Jesus Christ, lead to complete and total transformation as a society. As lives are touched by the love and power of God, communities come together and experience the same transformative qualities that we read about in the scriptures.

The ultimate vision for these remote sectors is to see a team of local men, women, and children who have experienced personal transformation. Becuase of this transformation, they lead the rest of their people into the revelation of Jesus Christ through the preaching of the Word and the administration of the Kingdom through signs and wonders.

Sector management not only serves to birth brand new Christian communities in areas that have never had an authentic expression of Christ, but also serves to strengthen existing communities. This is accomplished through our interdenominational approach in the villages. Because we seek to work with established churches as often as possible, existing Christian leaders are able to receive practical and theological training to aid in their own church growth and expansion.

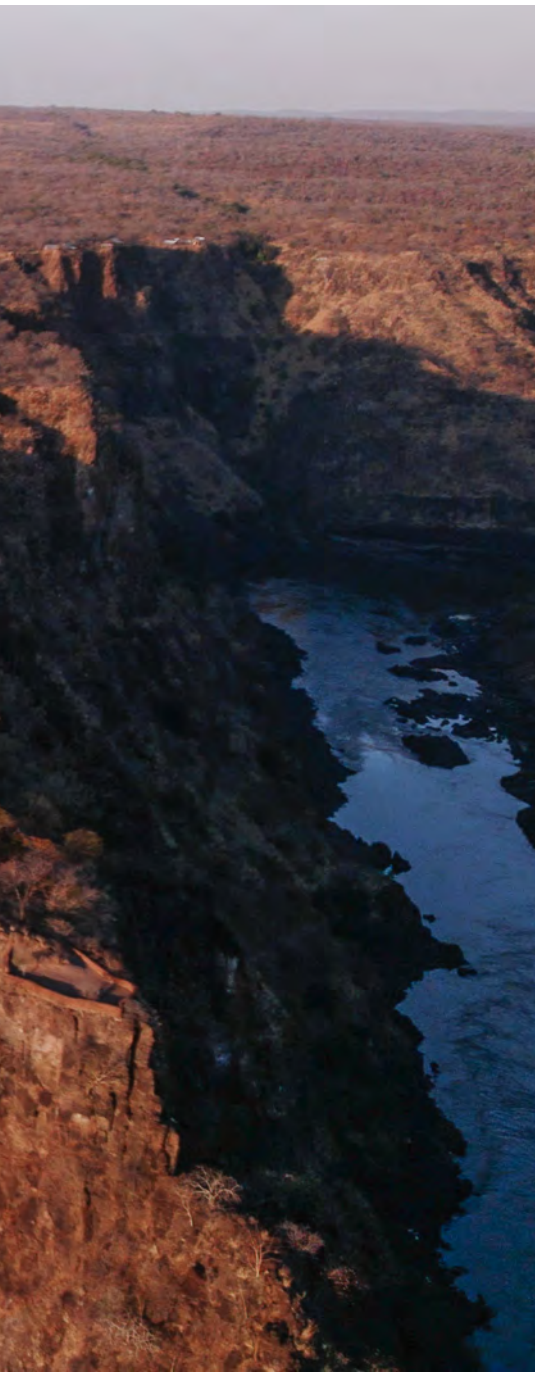
Ultimately, the culmination of these basic principles set forth by the early church produces a sustainable expression of the Gospel in power that radiates into remote parts of the world, previously isolated from the knowledge of the truth.

ZAMBIA
RAPID 14 BASE

RAPID 14, A MISSION BASE ON THE EDGE OF THE ZAMBEZI RIVER, NURTURES A GLOBAL COMMUNITY, FOSTERING GROWTH, RESILIENCE, AND PROFOUND IMPACT.



Overland's flagship logistical base



The Rapid 14 base is the logistical center of our work in the nations and the definitive hub for Africa. It is also the "home away from home" for many of our missionaries as they pass through for revival week gatherings and visits.

In 2005, when the property was acquired, it was just "bush" on the edge of the beautiful Zambezi gorge. It boasted rocky soil, little water availability, and was particularly hot in the summer. Those early years were spent cooking dinner in a thatched kitchen, camping under the stars, and showering in a primitive stone shower on the gorge edge.

Almost twenty years later, hundreds of thousands of people have had their lives forever impacted by the message coming from this unique mission base, which is tucked away from the town and the tar road. The ministry footprint of the thousands who have visited, ministered on an expedition, trained in AMT, or become a part of staff is actually impossible to weigh at this point.

In 2023, the team at Rapid 14 began by building extra lodging for the flood of AMT students. We trained two of our biggest AMT classes yet and hosted two revival weeks of 300+ people. We equipped and onboarded almost 100 new missionaries to our full-time staff and assigned them throughout the nations.

In the rural missions world, the efficacy of the movement of the ministry cannot be measured by traditional metrics because of difficult roads and terrain. One of our metrics is counting the equipped vehicles on the ground. There are currently 220 vehicles and trailers registered and running on the ground in Zambia, representing movement that is shaking the nation.

To prepare for the influx of missionaries and the harvest of souls in 2024, a fleet of MAN trucks from the Netherlands have been purchased and will arrive in February for renovations and rebranding. Tens of thousands of miles will be driven in these trucks that will enable our expedition teams to travel faster and further to reach more rural communities.

A revival center is on the horizon for the Rapid 14 base. In 2024, ground will be broken for an 800-seater facility that will allow us to continue to invite our staff from international locations for our revival meetings and also host pastors and bishops within Zambia. Currently, our meetings are closed to the public because we don't have enough seats. The impact of Rapid 14 is well-known throughout the nation of Zambia. The reality of the continued influence is immeasurable, but it will always be a "home away from home" for our whole missionary team.

ZAMBIA
RAPID 14 BASE

Construction in Zambia is not as simple as hiring a contractor and handing over the blueprints. Since the Rapid 14 base launched in 2005, our missionaries and skilled Zambian workers have become the architects, the contractors, the plumbers, the electricians, the welders, the designers, the engineers, and ultimately, the solutionists.

By building a tower that is constructed and welded in-house, we pump water from one reservoir to an entire mission base that regularly hosts 300 people. We accomodate the ever-increasing flow of students and visiting missionaries from far-flung locations here at Rapid 14 by building dormitories and constructing furniture. We maintain vehicles that have driven thousands of miles over difficult terrain by installing a vehicle lift and becoming trained mechanics.

One need that our team has observed throughout decades of work in Africa is a need for neutral ground for traditional leaders to be poured into spiritually and seek wise counsel. Therefore, our team resolved to provide this space by building our own Kings Center.

Many people have dreams and visions. These dreams and visions are actually realized by serving in a team whose members fulfill their unique function in the body of Christ. They become reality when grace and grit combine to create a unified team that sweats, bleeds, and acquires blisters...together.

The Rapid 14 logistical hub is an example of years of sacrifice from both international missionaries and Zambian staff. It will continue to function as a lighthouse for the nation for the generations to come.



The Rapid 14 main center, the central gathering place for dining, worship, and work on our 120 acre base.



The Kings Center at Rapid 13 gained height and ground in 2023. All steel and roofing structures were manufactured and welded in house by our staff. The Kings Center will launch in 2025 as an epic boutique lodge for traditional leaders. It will be the first of its kind in the world.





Renderings of the Kings Center at Rapid 13 show the scale of the project and the vision for what the Kings Center will look like once completed.



THE WORK IS PLENTIFUL AND VARIED FOR OUR 70+ MISSIONARIES ON THE GROUND IN ZAMBIA. WE NEVER COULD HAVE IMAGINED THAT THIS WAS POSSIBLE 25 YEARS AGO!

MOBILIZED WITH TRANSPORT

In 2023, our three mission bases in the Northwest Province of Zambia equipped 30 ministry partners with motorbikes of their own, which catapulted 30 evangelists into sustainable full-time ministry. In Simwatachela, eight area managers now have transport with their own bicycles to continue visiting their disciples. The Chipepo team alone covered nearly 75,000 miles in 2023, consistently driving to disciples in extremely rural villages. In the Western Province, the Sioma team equipped five ministry partners with transport in the form of bicycles and motorbikes, and discovered new areas of ministry by traveling to far-reaching villages. The footprint of Overland in Zambia expands every year as more Zambians become empowered to reach their own people.

ZAMBIA
OUTLYING BASES

All over Zambia, our bases and sectors are thriving, expanding, and bearing fruit. This April, we gathered our Zambian leaders from all over the nation. In attendance were 300+ Zambians who are actively involved in ministry. They represented four provinces, a dozen tribes, and just as many language groups. It was an amazing opportunity to further equip these committed ministers in their mission to their OWN people.

Each missionary in Zambia drives tens of thousands of miles every year, over difficult terrain, to reach remote villages. They evangelize, going after "the one" in rural villages that receive very few visitors. They disciple, traveling the same road over and over to cultivate the Word in those who have come hungry. They train leaders, often translating Bible school materials and theological studies into the local language so that disciples become ministers who make their own disciples.

Our team in Zambia, spread over eight mission bases, ran headmen's conferences, ministered to traditional leaders, and preached at gospel crusades. They ran kids' ministry meetings and trained kids' ministers. They gathered pastors and equipped them further with the Word of God. They hosted expedition teams and followed up after the initial evangelism. They drilled wells and installed electricity. They distributed Bibles and baptized their disciples in water. They made their home amongst the people and saw lives changed.



MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

MENA

This year in the Middle East and North Africa was one of devastating catastrophes and simultaneously, unique opportunities. From war to natural disasters, the region has faced unprecedented challenges that have only further accentuated the expediency with which the Gospel is needed in the most unreached areas of the world.

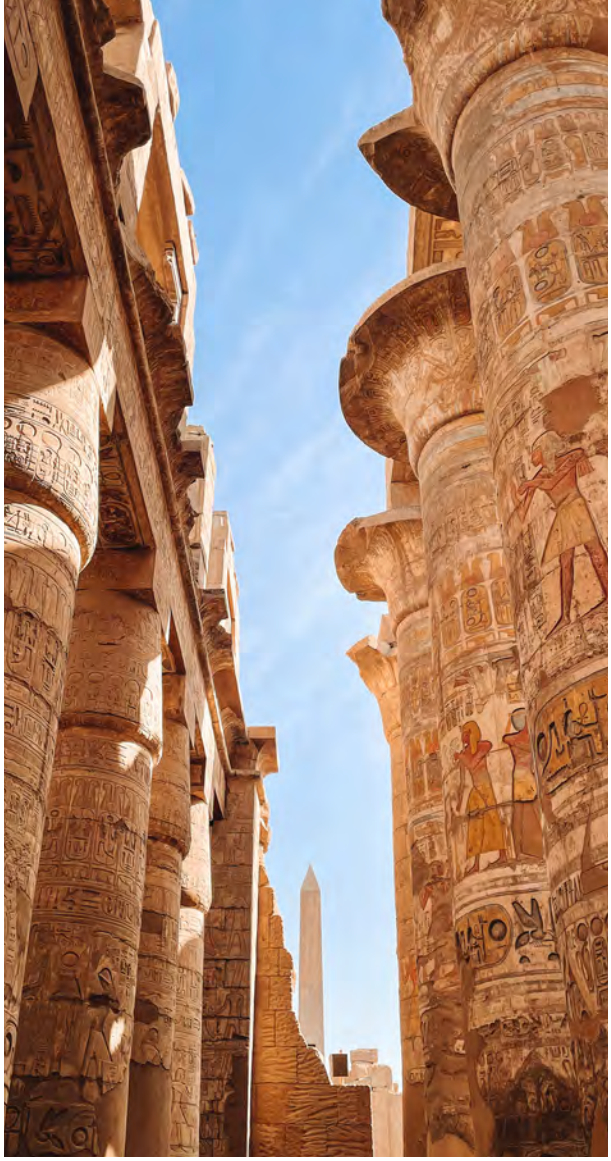
First, in February, an earthquake of 7.8 magnitude struck merely hours away from one of our bases in the region. Official numbers reported more than 50,000 dead, while hundreds of thousands were injured and millions were left homeless. Only seven months later, another earthquake of 6.8 magnitude struck a different country in the region just hours away from another one of our bases. Within an eight month span, two of the most unreached nations in the region experienced devastating natural disasters, both within a short driving distance of our bases. Further, as the world has watched, neighboring countries to our bases in the region have descended into a tragic war resulting in thousands of lives lost.

Tragedies such as these do not simply come and go. The aftermath and trauma can span years. However, the impact of the Gospel in such desperate situations can also change future generations. Not only did both of these disasters present opportunities for our teams to reach new areas and people groups for the first time, but also left many of those affected in search of hope. In the months following the earthquake, our team was able to partner with a local church to build a tent city, which housed approximately 75 families. Many of these families made the decision to follow Christ. Using this location as a base camp, our team was able to reach more families in rural villages with essential aid and the Gospel.

The miraculous stories from these tragedies are numerous. Our team was witness to numerous reports of dreams and visions of Jesus during this time. There were at least four accounts of victims who were trapped under the rubble claiming they were sustained by “a person of light” who “fed them, gave them water, and kept them warm” until help arrived. Various other new believers gave testimonies of encounters with Jesus through dreams in which they were led to follow Jesus.

John 21:25 states that the works of Jesus were so numerous that the world would not have enough books to record them. Truly the work of the Lord in the MENA region is boundless and every nameless testimony precious.





EXPANSION AND TRAINING

Despite the calamities happening around the region, our team has continued to expand and see substantial growth of the Kingdom throughout the MENA region. In 2023 alone, Overland launched two new bases in the region totaling a long-term presence in five MENA countries, while also seeding new reconnaissance trips into Arabian Gulf and North African countries. The local evangelism and discipleship training school hosted by the MENA team graduated 25 students from four different nations who continue to work with our teams around the region to reach the unreached. Further, this year, Overland held two AMT classes in the region totalling 19 graduates.



Graduates of the local ministry training school ministering to a Turkmen tribe.



WORLD HEADQUARTERS



We call our logistical mission base in Livingstone, Zambia "Rapid 14" and we affectionately call the Overland Missions World Headquarters in Cocoa, Florida "Rapid 1."

The WHQ in Cocoa Village is the brain of our international operations. Without the systems, the policy, the procedure, and the support of the team who operate the mission from the inside, we would not have missionaries who are sitting amongst the Himba of Angola or the Turkmen of the Middle East.

The human nervous system is responsible for coordinating every movement the body makes. Likewise, our U.S. office team is responsible for coordinating and tracking the movements and the finances of over 350 team members. They do this job at a standard that is above reproach and sustainable as we build toward the future. In 2023, the WHQ saw expansion in all departments as the team continues to prepare for our growth of missionaries and of nations reached.

Also based out of the World Headquarters is the Overland Missions Media department. All reports, social media posts, photos and videos, and documentaries come out of the media wing at our Cocoa office. The media department also includes our software coding team, who are always working to increase the capacity of the internal systems, which is what allows us to steward the partnerships of tens of thousands of faithful givers.

As our team grows, so do the responsibilities required to administrate a large multi-national operation with 350 missionaries on the ground in 18 nations. Our finance department regularly deals in over 30 currencies, accepting donations from countless nations and sending that money where it needs to go in order for the boots on the ground to be operational.

This team exists to ensure that our missionaries can focus on the person in front of them and not the logistics that it takes to operate an organization at a high standard.

D.R. CONGO

NAVIGATING POLITICAL PRESSURES



November 2023 marks the beginning of election season in Congo, which provides some extra challenges and problems to solve. Election years can be a complicated time to form new relationships, but our team hosted their second chaplaincy training, graduating 13 new chaplains. This opportunity to speak the peace and love that comes from the true Gospel is a benefit to the nation in this time of potential turbulence. These newly trained chaplains have had an amazing reception by the chiefs they are serving and have been a benefit to the traditional leadership of the nation. Because of the difficult history in Congo, trust has been something that is necessary to gain slowly and faithfully. As we approach our eighth year with a full-time presence in the nation, we consider it a victory to be trusted and loved by the people.

UNLOCKING THE NATION OF CONGO

A team of full-time Overland missionaries have been living and working in D.R. Congo for seven years. They have carried on through election seasons, Covid-19 border closures, food shortages, and military coups. They have seen amazing fruit in the areas they have worked in. During this seven year period, the legal and administrative paperwork that establishes our team in the country has been submitted, delayed, lost, and reapplied for. The victory of 2023 is that the FINAL approval has been granted by the government for this official paperwork. This paperwork provides us with the ability to travel widely in the regions of Haut-Katanga and Lualaba. Up to this point, the team has been focusing on consistent ministry and discipleship in the regions that we knew were safe to travel in, despite not having official registered status in the nation. Now, the whole nation has opened to our team!

When the paperwork came through, the team started to move in a different capacity, focusing on pioneering and evangelism. They released their team of trusted Congolese disciples to hold down the consistent ministry that previously held their total focus and moved into the new regions where they now have permission to operate. The team of international missionaries are currently focusing on new areas; going door-to-door to share the Gospel and starting relationships in these regions.

One felt need in Congo is for educated and unified churches. Some churches are formed because of disagreements between pastors, many of which are not educated in the Word of God. Our team is engaging in intentional discipleship of these pastors using curriculum written by the director of the Overland board. These meetings allow for discussions between denominational pastors and have created unprecedented unity.

DR Congo has been known for many things in the international realm. Few of those things have spoken of the spiritual hunger and potential within the Congolese people. The grace of God is heavy on our team that sees this reality everyday and walks it out in faith as they serve the Congolese people.

MADAGASCAR

HECTIC ROADS LEAD TO OPEN DOORS



The Madagascar team, small but mighty, greatly expanded their ministry footprint in the nation in 2023. They explored many more regions and ministered in remote locations throughout the country.

Madagascar was settled by Polynesians, colonized by the French, and is geographically close to Africa. The nation is a beautiful mix of cultures, ethnicities, languages, and people who are not Asian or African—they are Malagasy.

Only 11% of the roads in the whole nation of Madagascar are paved. Amid extremely challenging travel, our team trekked approximately 4,000 miles by road for ministry in 2023. To accomplish these grueling distances, they traveled in 4X4 vehicles, switched to motorbikes when the roads became too narrow, went on foot when the motorbikes got stuck, and got into boats when the roads became rivers. In these ministry journeys, over 14,000 people heard the Gospel and over 500 decisions were made for Christ. Many people were healed, delivered, and filled with the Holy Spirit.

When not traveling the hectic roads of Madagascar, our team collaborated with, trained, and encouraged over 160 local pastors who are ministering in their own rural locations. These pastors initially showed caution in wanting to work with the team because they have been taken advantage of by ministers in the past. They have now voiced a desire to work together with us and with one another in reaching the lost of Madagascar.

In August, Overland hosted a pastors conference. We worked with a local coalition of pastors to bring approximately 100 leaders together to impart identity in Christ and cast vision for working together outside the four walls of the church to evangelize and reach the lost. We were told an interdenominational pastors meeting of this size has never taken place in this region. This work resulted in unprecedented invitations to preach in and work alongside several denominations in the Central Highland region of Madagascar.

Looking ahead to 2024, Team Madagascar will begin work in their first sector. This area is largely unreached, hard to travel to, and without a solid church or missionary presence. This strategic move allows the team to best serve some of the most neglected areas of Madagascar.

MALAWI

ZOMBA AREA REACHED

In March 2023, Cyclone Freddy devastated the region of southern Malawi. The Overland team stepped in immediately to provide physical and spiritual support in the midst of this natural disaster. Through the donations of a church and several individuals, the team supplied sources of protein and enriched porridge to nourish many vulnerable people, including 100 orphans.

We hosted a short-term expedition in June of 2023. The objective was to reach people in the Zomba area by focusing on evangelism. Over the course of seven days, there were over 2,000 reached with the Gospel and many experienced the miracle of salvation and healing in their bodies.

We are confident in the move of God in this nation and in the future missionaries being prepared to reach Malawi.

Getting established legally in a nation is always a massive undertaking and a work that we pursue diligently. This year, the Overland team in Malawi received the official Certificate of Incorporation that approves us as a registered non-profit ministry. This is a blessing to the team as it opens governmental doors and provides ease with immigration.

The people of Malawi are open, friendly, and hungry for the Word of God. This nation is a true example of the harvest being plentiful and the laborers being few. We are confident in the move of God in this nation and in the future missionaries being prepared to reach Malawi.





ANGOLA IS A NATION RIPE FOR THE HARVEST AND FILLED WITH THOUSANDS OF TRIBAL PEOPLE WHO HAVE TRULY NEVER HEARD THE NAME OF JESUS.

A historical development in 2023 in Angola has been amongst the Kuvale women near Namibe. There is now a group of 12-15 women who walk for hours to gather together to discuss the Bible, pray, and fellowship. They come to the gatherings testifying of the people who have been healed since they last met. These women are joyfully depending on the Lord in the midst of circumstances that would lead others to despair. They are receiving the same Gospel that everyone receives, but they have been given a space for their individual voices to be heard and valued. In that space, faith has taken hold and spilled out radically to those around them. As far as we know, there has never been a consistent discipleship strategy for Kuvale women. This is history in the making.

ANGOLA

THE MUHAKAONA ARE NOT FORGOTTEN

The nation of Angola has always been an exciting place to pioneer because of the structure of the nomadic people groups within the country. It is a dream come true for a spearheading mission because of the sheer volume of people spread sporadically throughout the Namib desert who have truly never heard the name of Jesus.

For over seven years now, our missionary team in Angola has ministered amongst the Kuvale tribe in the southwestern part of the nation. This year, the doors flew open for our team amongst the Himba and Muhakaona people in the Huíla Province.

Our team discovered this tribe through a Kuvale ministry partner who has walked alongside our missionaries as a powerful evangelist throughout the last six years in Angola. Through him we learned about the Muhakaona people. Even many of the missionaries currently working in Angola were not aware that the tribe existed and no one knew anyone who was working amongst them.

The team traveled to the Muhakaona tribal area recently and discovered that there were no functioning churches even in the least remote area, which means that as we move further into the center of the tribe, there is no record of previous exposure to the Gospel.

The Muhakaona have been neglected and forgotten by their own nation, and even by their fellow tribes, as they have been treated as the “outcasts” amongst the other nomadic tribes of Angola. What a privilege to get the opportunity to be the first to share the hope of Christ and our value as sons and daughters of God with these precious people.



BRAZIL

ESTABLISHING ROOTS AND GROWING DISCIPLES





The Amazonas region in Brazil is the largest state in the nation and is completely covered in rainforest. The Amazon river is like a highway running through the state; branching off from it are many inroads with people groups waiting for the message of hope, freedom, and redemption.

Our Brazilian team of missionaries traveled at least 6,000 miles in 2023 along two of these tributary rivers to minister consistently in five communities. Teams of three to four missionaries travel out every week to live with and walk alongside their disciples and evangelize in some of the most rural communities in the world. They are seeing countless salvations, water baptisms, and Holy Spirit baptisms.

The excitement is growing amongst these disciples who are beginning to make their own disciples. Branco, a young Brazilian from a rural area along the Paracuna River has been discipled by our team for the last year. Branco has won many teenage boys in his village to Christ and is sharing the Word of God with them.

Fortaleza is a village that the team has been working in for a year. There has been weekly evangelism and discipleship within this community. Within the year, the culture of Fortaleza has shifted in a major way. There has been such a change that people traveling back to the community after being away for several years had questions when they returned. “Why is everyone getting along so well?” “We have never experienced this kind of unity and peace in this village, where is it coming from?” God has been at work in this village and the culture is changing in such a way that it is clearly observed by outsiders.

In 2023, three more full-time Brazilians started working alongside the already existing team and were joined by two new families of Western missionaries. The Western missionaries graduated from language school speaking conversational Portuguese. The work they are beginning is exploding along the rivers of Amazonas.

We acquired property along the Popunhal River outside of Maues and have begun to construct a mission base. The team decided on the lofty goal of carrying on with ministry responsibilities even amidst full-time construction. They have been able to fulfill that goal. The base construction has been progressing with several structures already going up. This base will be the launching point for a team of over a dozen missionaries into three rivers in the area, touching several people groups.

The team is running their first Overland Missions Training on the base property where they will train Brazilians who have a heart for the rural people of Brazil and then release them into that ministry. One way these trained Brazilians are getting released into rural ministry is by breaking through with a fundraising effort in Brazil. This is groundbreaking because it means anything is possible as Brazilians are funded from within the country to carry the message to those who so desperately need to hear.



TANZANIA



Traditionally, the Maasai people have been suspicious toward outsiders and resistant to the Gospel. After the 2022 expedition amongst the Maasai people, our missionaries in Tanzania established a great relationship with the people and they became very open. The team came with a gospel that brought freedom, respected their leadership structure, and honored their culture. This established a very close relationship of trust.

In the beginning of 2022, the Maasai of this particular kinship group engaged in a war and there were casualties on both sides. Shortly after the fighting, there was a drought that affected a vast area of land and left the cattle suffering. The people explained to our team that the leaders of the community were going to meet together to decide how to engage the spirits and deal with the drought. The team was invited to come and pray to open the meeting. As they prayed, they spoke over the land according to 2nd Chronicles, asking God to heal the land and bring the rain.

By the next day, the sky had darkened. The team prayed again. The next morning, the rain came so heavily that everyone had to take cover. A phone call came through with this testimony: "We now believe in your God, because our grass is green and our cattle are fed."

Church plant on Bushengere

After two and a half years of a one-man missionary team in Tanzania, we welcomed two new missionaries in late 2023 to Team Tanzania and more are planning to launch in 2024.

In 2023, the "one-man" Tanzania team planted a church on Bushengere Island, one of over 39 islands in the Lake Victoria archipelago. Most of the islands in Lake Victoria have no churches whatsoever, but this church body is building their own church structure independently and their pastor is being trained in Overland's three month OMT on Zanzibar Island.

ZANZIBAR
REACHING THOSE IN CAPTIVITY



Our team in Zanzibar, a small Muslim island off the coast of Tanzania, is making substantial strides in ministry with a dedicated team comprised of ten international and 17 local missionaries. We've made it our mission to openly evangelize and minister on this traditionally Islamic island, and the impact has been significant, with over 300 salvations in 2023 alone.

One of our significant initiatives, 'Kids on Fire,' has witnessed dozens of children actively participating in our weekly kids' ministry meetings. Remarkably, 25 of these children, despite their Muslim backgrounds, have decided to follow Jesus and have been baptized in the Holy Spirit. The team continues to invest in their spiritual growth and discipleship.

The 'Sober House' program in Zanzibar is another vital aspect of the ministry, and is currently supporting and ministering to eight individuals in their journey of recovery from addiction. The Sober House provides a safe environment for recovery and growth. Several graduates from this program are now actively working alongside our team in ministry.

A compelling testimony of transformation is that of "Khadija," a former sex worker struggling with alcohol addiction, and raised as a Muslim. Through our women's meetings, she found faith in Jesus and subsequently renounced her destructive habits. Her transformation has been awe-inspiring; she has become a beacon of hope within her community, inviting family members to join her in attending church. She has also embraced a new profession.

Furthermore, the Zanzibar team has been dedicated to local missionary training through our 'OMT' program. This training emphasizes understanding and hearing the voice of God, a crucial aspect in their ministry efforts. The program has already seen 13 new students enrolled in 2023, highlighting its effectiveness.

Looking ahead to 2024, we are thrilled to announce our plans for growth and permanence. We are in the process of acquiring land and embarking on the construction of a permanent missions base in the southern part of Zanzibar Island, solidifying our dedication to this transformative ministry.

CAMBODIA

AQUIRING LAND FOR FUTURE EXPANSION



After eight years of groundbreaking and important ministry in the nation of Cambodia, the team acquired their first Overland property in 2023 and started to build a mission base of their own. The strategic placement of this property opens up a new area of ministry and gives the team a permanent place to call home.

Gaining property provides the team a new freedom of ministry expression that they haven't had previously. The building of infrastructure and the designing of facilities that support the mission allow us to host trainings for rural Cambodians who are hungry for discipleship. Classrooms on the property allow us to run an AMT class for future missionaries who want to commit their lives to the nations. Fertile land allows the team to implement Sustain disciplines that will support local disciples moving into the future.

The missionary team in the Oddar Meanchey sector has run full steam ahead this year and equipped over ten Cambodian disciples with ministry training. Those disciples are now out in the rural areas making disciples of their own. This approach is what the core vision of Overland and the sector strategy is all about; seeing rural people eternally impacted with the Gospel message and equipping them to run with that passion throughout the region.

Viroth is a Cambodian man who has been learning about Jesus from our team. During a season where there was no one visiting him, he married a woman named Lida. Lida did not have a relationship with Jesus yet, but Viroth continued to share the truth of God with her, and they started to attend our revival meetings together. During one of the meetings, Lida had a radical encounter with Jesus where He appeared in front of her and her life was changed in that instant. She rushed to the team and demanded to be baptized in water. The team baptized her that night. Viroth and Lida have been set on fire for Jesus and have been hearing from the Holy Spirit so clearly that they are receiving words of knowledge as a sign to their community. They have also been testifying to others about the power of hearing from the Lord. Viroth has recently baptized his first disciple, a neighbor whose life has been changed by God.



SOUTHEAST ASIA

UNDISCLOSED NATIONS

The team has ministered in places where they have been told no foreigner should ever go out of fear that they would be discovered and kicked out of the country. The underground churches they minister in are located deep in the jungles and high up in the mountains. During one event in the mountains, many people were ministered to that had never heard the name of Jesus. The power of God swept through the crowd and men and women began to weep as they felt God's presence for the first time in their lives. These men and women surrendered their hearts to Jesus in that meeting and became the first fruits of the harvest in that region.

TAKING NEW GROUND

Since 2018, one of our teams in this region has been working diligently to learn one of the most difficult languages in the world, all while functioning with caution and secrecy under an oppressive regime. They have held jobs teaching English in order to maintain their visas and even delivered babies at home when the borders were closed down.

However in 2023, the Lord's favor created oppportunities with the provincial government and they were able to open a business based on our sustainable agricultural tool, Farming God's Way. This business will open doors into many new locations and will provide a way for the team to live on long-term visas without having to hold secondary jobs. The agricultural program was communicated to the government officials as a biblical way to address poverty through subsistence farming. It was made clear that the farming techniques cannot be applied without addressing the spiritual roots. Not only was permission given despite this Christian language and intent, but the business paperwork was processed in record time.

There have been three churches planted this year as a direct result of the team's work in this nation and the members have stood in their faith despite heavy persecution. Not only have the leaders remained faithful, as they are discipled and taught by our team, but the churches are growing and the members are ministering to their neighbors and friends.

In another location in Southeast Asia, the team has been on the ground for only 18 months. In that time, the team has seen over 500 decisions for Christ in a nation that has no cultural Christian background. God truly accelerated the work and has a plan for all that He wants to accomplish in the nation. Local pastors and fathers of the faith, often persecuted and isolated from fellowship, have connected with our team and the same sound is coming from all of them: "Enough is enough! We are ready for a viral move of God!"



32 OMT STUDENTS WERE TRAINED IN 2023, BOTH ON THE MAIN MOZAMBIQUE BASE AND IN SUMBURANE VILLAGE.

Entire Island Reached

Last year, the entire Island of Inhambane was reached with the Gospel by our team. They personally shared the Word of God in every home, with every person. We have since been fighting for governmental permission needed to continue weekly ministry. As we are waiting, we are eagerly anticipating the increase of disciples on the island of Inhambane.

Looking toward 2024, the team is planning a sector launch in Vilanculos, four hours from the Barra base. This launch is the direct fruit of our expansion and momentum in Mozambique. As a result of deep-rooted connections with OMT graduates and the local church, our team has been able to expand into these new territories at a rapid pace; reaching more villages than in the previous years combined.

MOZAMBIQUE

LOCAL DISCIPLES RISING UP TO LEAD

For the past nine years, the Overland team in Mozambique has faced challenge after challenge just to stand their ground and stay in the nation. However, with prayer and much persistence, they have seen the favor of God released in a new way in 2023. Through various miracles and governmental approval, our team of twelve is seizing more opportunities and mobilizing more Mozambicans than ever.

The largest ministry focus in Mozambique is the Overland Missions Training (OMT). Traditionally, OMT has taken place at our Overland base in Barra, the training hub and home to our missionaries. This year, the team expanded its reach by making OMT mobile. Past OMT graduates have been recruiting students and word is spreading. In response, they began to run OMT classes in the rural villages surrounding the base. In November, they ran the first week of OMT in Sumburane village, a location that hosted an expedition earlier this year. There were 17 students and it was a phenomenal success. By making OMT mobile, we can equip and mobilize more Mozambican leaders in remote areas. Through partnership with past OMT graduates, the team will run 12 OMTs in 12 different villages in 2024.

In Jangamo village, three of our missionaries are meeting weekly to address the spiritual stronghold of religiousity and communicate the true freedom available through a personal relationship with Christ. This has resulted in a locally-led expedition; the product of a two-day evangelism training that equipped disciples to share the Gospel with their neighbors. This multiplication effect is seen throughout scripture and is the heart of Overland's sector strategy.



KIDS ON FIRE

EMPOWERING THE NEXT GENERATION



Kids on Fire is Overland's strategy to reach and disciple the young generation in the nations. Across all cultures and people groups, children between the ages of 4 and 14 are the most ready and reachable with the Gospel. For many of the developing nations we work in, children under the age of 14 form half of the population. This is a massive opportunity to reach a portion of the population often overlooked, but ripe for the harvest. Kids on Fire ministers give children the meat of God's word, equip them for real ministry, and teach them how to spend time in the presence of God.

Collectively, Overland missionaries minister to more than 5000 children in seven nations every week. These numbers include almost every sector in Zambia, as well as countries like D.R. Congo, Malawi, Zanzibar, Brazil and Cambodia.

ZAMBIA

Every year, our team takes 20-30 children from Kids on Fire, ages 10-17, into the bush of Zambia for a kids expedition. These kids and teenagers share the Gospel, pray for the sick, and minister to everyone they come across. One morning an older man walked up to the campsite. He carried a bag of fresh maize and popcorn seeds—a gift for the kids who came on the expedition. "I don't know what you people have done," he said, "but I know that after these kids laid their hands on me and prayed for me, I became sober and lost my desire to drink alcohol. It's been two full days now, and I am still sober. I have not been sober in years!"

DR CONGO

Just over a year ago, two Zambian Kids on Fire leaders traveled to DRC to do their first ever Kids on Fire training. Since then, kids ministry has exploded. The team raised up many adults leaders and more than 1000 kids are now engaged in weekly meetings. In one village, parents are amazed by how much their kids have changed and say that illness and disease is leaving their families!

CAMBODIA

The Cambodia team ministers to approximately 150 kids in five villages. There has been such growth from the kids who have been coming to the meetings regularly. For many of these children, experience with "ghosts" are normal and evokes much fear. Recently, two of the kids had this type of encounter on their way home. At first, they were terrified, but then they remembered their faith in Jesus and that His name is above all names. They said, "Go away in Jesus' name!" and it immediately left. They were filled with awe and couldn not stop talking about it.

BRAZIL

Our team in Brazil has been discipling over 75 children in five villages. The kids are so enthralled by the ministry that they want to help with everything. They join in the soccer games, beg to come on the boats, and regularly lead the missionaries to homes for house-to-house ministry. They sit and listen intently as the Word is shared with adults and nod with their approval. Many of these precious children have given their lives to Jesus and are eager to grow more and more in the knowledge and presence of God.

"Children can and should be equipped for ministry."

– LIEZL PIENAAR
Kids on Fire Director





Most mornings start around the campfire with a cup of coffee, reading the Word, and prepping for the day ahead.



In 2023, Overland's Expeditions department mobilized 41 teams of short-term missionaries into 16 nations. That is a total of 386 boots on the ground, ready to share the Gospel in rural communities. Some of these teams ran in nations where we cannot disclose the details, but we can disclose that the Gospel was preached openly and with efficacy, regardless of government guidelines or cultural taboos.

In every nation, the teams saw salvations, healing miracles, deliverances, and signs and wonders that accompany the preaching of the Word. In many places, they were welcomed into schools, churches, the homes of traditional leaders, and government buildings.

An expedition team is made up of individuals who sacrifice their own agenda for an opportunity to travel to a rural location and preach the message that has changed their life for the better. These individuals are sometimes timid, and sometimes confident, but over the course of a week of ministry, they always see God change lives and leave changed themselves. Join us on an expedition in 2024.



Expeditions church to

EXPEDITIONS

386 BOOTS ON THE GROUND

Traveling to the most remote places with the Gospel requires a team equipped with a knowledge of navigating difficult terrain and a willingness to do whatever it takes. Overland's Expedition department does just this in order to demonstrate the power of the Kingdom to the neglected and unreached people groups of the world.

With 25+ years of experience and millions of miles traveled, Overland's Expedition department brings the church with them to expand the Gospel message to the lost, the neglected, the remote, and the forgotten people. We mobilize the church to get to the places that need to hear from believers who have a testimony, a message, and a love for the Lord. With this mobilization, we take on this task of the Great Commission together.



The Expedition department exists as the tip of the spear in the evangelistic strategy of the ministry. The teams that we bring into any area create a wave of movement and supernatural work in that place that is long-lasting and life-changing. Overland's sector strategy follows up those waves of evangelism and creates long-term relationships in many of the places where short-term teams have been.

These relationships become the initial foundation of discipleship, leadership, transformational development, and sustainability. This strategy forms our blueprint for sector, a unique and effective method of stewarding a powerful move that shakes nations and people groups.

Expedition team members will fly, drive, and walk to reach the people. They will ride in trucks, ox-carts, and canoes. They will sleep in hammocks, tents, and tiny lodge rooms. They will speak to those who have never heard and they will encourage those who have had exposure, but not yet understood the fullness. They will pray for the sick and see many healed. They will sing and dance longer and later than they planned. They will encounter the principalities of Islam, Buddhism, and Animism. They will watch as the Gospel opens blind eyes–both physically and spiritually.

Our leaders pour into their team members faithfully, but they also have high expectations for them. They expect them to share the Gospel, to pray for the sick, and to handle the difficult elements with grace and endurance. Many of Overland's staff members have come to AMT and joined full-time staff because of the call of God they experienced on their first expedition.

If you follow Jesus and know the Word of God, you know that you are called to participate in taking the Gospel to those around you and those far away. We know how to get you there. Join us on a two week expedition in 2024 to partake in the Great Commission and never be the same again.

Scan here to sign up for an expedition!

EXPEDITIONS

serve as a vehicle to mobilize the local remote regions with the Gospel.



OVERLAND CHURCH VENUES

Overland Venues began in 2021 to support western churches and pastors in mobilizing their congregations into the nations. When an American church hosts a venue, they are inviting full-time expedition department missionaries to travel to their church and minister for the weekend with the platform of missions as the focus.

When hosting a venue at your church, you can expect our missionary team to come equipped to host an evening service that focuses on identity in Christ, empowerment of the Holy Spirit, and the call to the nations. We lead the church in a day of local evangelism, first training in how to share the Gospel and then immediately going together into the community. We will be there to join your regular Sunday church events, to share testimonies, and encourage the body about what God is doing in the nations.

Through the Eyes of an Expedition Leader

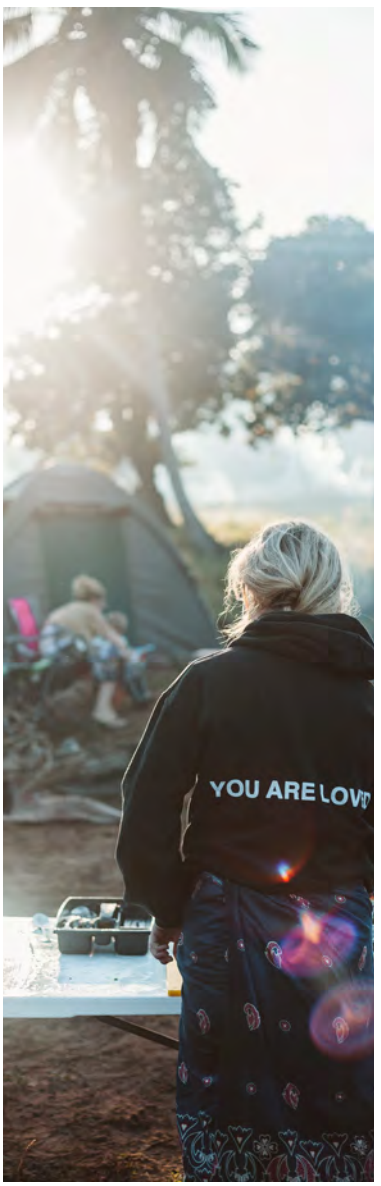
"I started my year in central Africa, meeting with kings and queens to strategize how the Gospel will be mobilized to their people. Quickly, I found myself ministering Jesus to people in high places.

By early April, I was flying to Cambodia in Southeast Asia to prepare for the expedition season. Starting in May, I led two expeditions to a northern province of Cambodia. Day in and day out, we sat in houses telling people about Jesus for the first time, and watching our team that came from western churches grow into ministers before our eyes.

After two successful expeditions in Cambodia, I flew to Cameroon to lead another expedition. On that trip, we saw rural people literally bow before Jesus after getting healed by the power of the Holy Spirit. Then, I hopped over to Angola to bring an expedition team to the tribes of the Kuvale people deep in the Namib desert.

Finally, the expedition season was coming to a close and all of the expedition leaders gathered back in Zambia. Together, we embarked on a trip through Zimbabwe and poured into chaplains that Overland has trained in the area.

Through the fall, I have been with my team in Pittsburgh, stewarding what God is doing there and recruiting people for 2024 expeditions. We spend our time in this season encouraging people to take part in the Great Commission and awakening the church to its full potential!



EXPEDITIONS

RECONNAISANCE INTO CAMEROON

Pioneering a new nation takes much more than just sending permanent missionaries to live there. It takes months, and sometimes years, of work ahead of time to pave a way for relationships and ministry to thrive. An important part of our overall vision and mission is to scout out these nations and bring a good report of how to be established in them.

Near the beginning of every year, our expedition department divides and conquers into a half dozen nations to gather information and make relationships that will benefit our team as we open up new nations and plant full-time missionaries there.

This year's trip to Cameroon was a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Every moment was full of supernatural connections and divine opportunities. When the team entered Cameroon, they already had meetings set up with several traditional leaders that had traveled to Zambia for the King of Kings event in 2022. These kings of Cameroon were the initial contact and open doors in the nation. This is not always the case, but it is becoming more and more common as we gain favor in the continent and throughout the world.

First, the team spent time with these traditional leaders, who graciously showed them around the chiefdoms and spoke with love of the people they serve. We shared about the potential for a chief chaplaincy ministry in Cameroon, similar to the movement sweeping the palaces of Zambia; where almost all of the 288 chiefs have chaplains trained to advise them according to the Word of God. Every king in Cameroon showed great excitement and asked countless questions about how to establish the chief chaplaincy movement in their country. Our team was also offered 50 acres of land from one of the traditional leaders who is eager to see a team of missionaries planted in his chiefdom.

Reconnaissance proves to us over and over that the harvest is plentiful and the workers are few– creating endless opportunities for those who follow the Holy Spirit.



ADVANCED MISSION TRAINING

Building capacity for student growth

At least six weeks of every AMT class will be spent at our international flagship base of Rapid 14. Over the past two years, our class sizes have doubled and we are predicting for this trend to continue as we believe for 1000 missionaries by 2030. To logistically meet this need, we have broken ground on the corner of our base for a brand-new classroom. This classroom will seat 100 people with a view of the Batoka Gorge. It will be a multi-purpose building outfitted with a state-of-the-art sound system. This new classroom will be in function for the May 2024 class.



Advanced Mission Training (AMT) is Overland's three-month intensive bootcamp that serves as the bridge between a dream of ministering in foreign lands and the reality of a career in discipleship to the nations. AMT has been intentionally crafted by our veteran staff to spiritually and physically mold the next generation of missionaries.

The trend of forward movement and growth continued this year as we graduated 92 students, the most in the history of the program. There were 42 students in the May class and 50 in the August class. These numbers are thrilling because each student who accepts a career with Overland upon graduation equates to a remote village reached, a people group engaged with the truth, and ultimately, a nation transformed.

The AMT program has been running consistently since its first class in 2007. In the last 17 years of this training, the core of the curriculum has remained the same. Some classes have been revamped and all have been improved, but the spirit of the training has remained the same. We train those with a heart for missions with the topics that

a missionary needs. Another unique component of our training is that we are excited to receive married couples with children, as well as young adults during their college years. Overland Missions greatly believes in the ability of young adults to be trained and mobilized as nation shakers. We also believe that children serve to enhance the overall mission and are never a reason to delay considering a career in missions.

In 2023, 73 of the students who graduated the program chose to fundraise towards an assignment, committing to the nations in courageous faith and obedience to the Holy Spirit. These graduates have filled countless positions across existing sectors, further strengthening the teams on the ground and expanding the outreach within those sectors. Some of them joined teams being built to pioneer into two brand new nations, one in the Middle East region, and one in Southeast Asia. The need of the nations awaits us, and this program continues to expand. The Overland team will expand with it as we intentionally disciple those who commit to carrying the Gospel full-time.

Historically, AMT has taken place on Overland's international logistical base located off the 14th rapid of the Zambezi River in Livingstone, Zambia. In 2021, we split the three-month program into two phases, each six weeks long. This gave students the option of spending the entire three months in Zambia or spending six weeks in Zambia and another six weeks in other locations worldwide with our veteran teams. Until now, AMT phases have been offered in Zambia, the Middle East, and Mozambique. Starting next year, AMT will expand into Southeast Asia and Zanzibar. These phases allow students to be immersed in diverse active mission bases and in various cultures, which aids them in their career decisions.

If you are reading this and carry a conviction for the call, we implore you to give your yes, prepare yourself, and learn from those that blazed the trail before you. Join us in AMT and ultimately in fulfilling the Great Commission.

Scan here to sign up for AMT and learn more!



What happens after AMT?

AMT is a sending program with a specific end goal. Upon graduating AMT, students who accept a career with Overland Missions begin Ministry Partnership Development (MPD). This season begins with an MPD training led by our missionaries at the World Headquarters in Cocoa, Florida. After the training, every missionary sets out to raise a team of monthly partners, which ensures their financial stabiilty and longevity on the field. They complete this season under the guidance of our in-house fundraising coaches. Then, they launch into their fully-funded assignments on the foreign field.

WATER PROJECTS

EXPANDING ACCESS TO CLEAN WATER



Over the past few years, a key goal of our water projects has been to continue to train and develop our well repair team. It's important to instill and empower one of the greatest gifts in the world—clean water—to those who have the understanding behind the importance of that gift. Those knowledgeable people are the local Zambians who serve alongside us in the rural areas.

The well repair team pours into our local ministers to equip them with the tools and hands-on knowledge needed to repair and install hand pumps. This is done during a three-day intensive training on hand pumps, the most common type of water well in Zambia.

This year, 10 more Zambians were trained in well repair, bringing our total to 50 trained well repair technicians, spread out over 16 chiefdoms. Every week, reports of completed water projects flood in with testimonies of how clean water has been introduced for the first time. Many reports state that water has been restored to the community after a long period of a broken well.

These water projects use a holistic approach to ministry. Water is foundational to all sustainable development in rural areas. It keeps communities healthy, kids in school, and creates opportunities for economic growth. What sets Overland Missions apart from other non-government organizations or non-profits, is that we speak the Gospel first and trust the Holy Spirit to transform hearts in every place we work.

This year, we saw hundreds of people surrender their lives to the Lord and many healing miracles. In addition, many local leaders chose to commit to studying the Word of God in area Bible studies after being exposed to the Gospel during a water project outreach. When our team arrives to repair wells, they first minister the Gospel, speaking to those who would not normally step foot in a church or a Bible study. These community members often leave the repair with a revelation of the reality of LIVING WATER — in addition to having access to a repaired borehole and clean water for their families.

The vision and purpose behind these projects is to show those in remote places the heart of Jesus, while meeting their physical needs and introducing them to the well that never runs dry.

SUSTAIN

How does Overland Missions approach the very real economic and physical needs of rural and remote people throughout the world without compromising the strategy of the Great Commission?

The Sustain department focuses on evangelizing and training those in subsistence farming areas who would not be seen within the walls of the church by engaging them in their fields and in their areas of felt need. The team intentionally disciples those who are hungry for the Word of God and shows them how to take the teaching of the church into their daily lives. This creates a sustainable movement of blessing and increase and eradicates the need to rely on harmful traditions or practices of witchcraft.

The godly practices and strategies that the Sustain team promotes are used as tools by the Overland team throughout Zambia.

The curse over the land has been broken by the blood of Jesus and the people that we serve in economically depressed areas deserve to know the authority and abilities that are available to them because of the New Creation---THAT is true sustainability.

For example, in 2023, all of Zambia's provincial tribal chaplains, who are trained to minister to the traditional leaders of Zambia, received sustainable farming and business training giving them the tools necessary to expand their ministries.

Also in 2023, the Sustain department saw progress in locations outside of Zambia like never before. Sustain became recognized in an undisclosed Southeast Asian location and allowed the team to push into unreached villages that were previously impossible to enter. The tools and strategies being taught within this departmental focus are invaluable to Overland's continued expansion in the nations and the training up of disciples and leaders who carry the work of the Kingdom.



MEDICAL INITIATIVES

THE HEALING HANDS OF JESUS





Overland's medical team is small but mighty, staffed by missionaries with a high level of education and experience in the areas they serve. In 2023, four different areas of Angola and many villages in Congo were impacted with the work of our qualified missionary practitioners who saw patients from all over the nation and from the most neglected areas.

In the rural villages of D.R. Congo, there is often inadequate equipment and education to respond to basic medical emergencies. As a result, many people turn to witchcraft in desperation. Julie, a midwife in Congo, was able to train 133 medical students and current healthcare providers in 2023. She teaches classes that include the specifics of helping mothers survive the complications of childbirth and resuscitating babies who are born with breathing complications.

In Angola, Rachel, a nurse practitioner, runs weekly clinics at a missionary hospital outside of the provincial capital, Lubango. She also works monthly at a rural farm clinic and assists yearly at a mission station where she completes daily consults and hospital rounds. In 2023, Rachel and her team had the almost unbelievable opportunity to set up a clinic for the day on top of a dormant volcano, where there is a sparsely populated but highly neglected group of people who do not receive visitors or aid. Much of their time was spent identifying and treating things like tuberculosis, which becomes a death sentence when left untreated, but when diagnosed, treatment allows for patients to recover and function again. Many of the people who visit these clinics travel for days, walking incredible distances to receive help and answers to their medical situations.

A story from Rachel:

"This year, I sat with a mother and daughter and explained to them, for the first time in their lives, what Down Syndrome is, and what it meant for the little girl, who was developing slower than expected in some milestones. We spent a long time talking about the beauty in how her daughter would see the world and the challenges she might encounter. We prayed together and believed for the family to embrace the full value of this little girl and seek to enable her with opportunities."

CHAPLAINCY

MAASAI CHIEF EMBRACES CHAPLAINCY



This year, time and time again, the Lord provided divine connections and clear direction to the traditional leaders that opened their hearts to receiving a Christian chaplain. In August of 2023, the chaplaincy team met with an influential Maasai chief in Tanzania who had a dream the day before the team arrived. The chief said that he woke from the dream knowing that he needed to accept whatever was brought to him by visitors. When we sat before him, he remembered the dream, eagerly embraced the chaplaincy movement, and directed the 70 chiefs that serve underneath him to also choose a Christian chaplain to advise and pray for them.

IMPACTING CHIEFS WITH THE GOSPEL

The vision of chief chaplaincy is to reach every palace in Africa and see every traditional leader come into a relationship with Jesus. Ultimately, our goal is for that leader's relationship with Jesus to influence the people and establish the Kingdom of God in their regions.

This vision is accomplished by asking the traditional leader to assign a spiritual advisor, or chaplain, to walk alongside them. This chaplain prays for, reads the Word with, and provides godly council to the chiefs and Kings that choose them. Once a chief chooses a chaplain, Overland's chaplaincy team gathers them for training where they are discipled in the Word of God, ministry ethics, godly leadership, and more.

Currently, there are over 250 chaplains serving amongst the 288 chiefs in the nation of Zambia. In 2023, the team saw many of these chiefs surrender their lives fully to Jesus for the first time. Several of them condemned the practice of witchcraft in their chiefdom, and many also read the Word of God publicly, openly preaching amongst their people. This is an amazing testimony because many people consider the traditional leaders to be the "centers of witchcraft" and assume it would be impossible for them to walk in the way of Jesus Christ.

In 2023, the chaplaincy team spread the movement into Botswana, Angola, and Tanzania, establishing relationships with over 50 traditional leaders who will have chaplains trained in 2024. In D.R. Congo, the team trained eight new chaplains to the chiefs for a total of 24 chaplains in the nation. In Zimbabwe, we partnered with 14 of our existing chaplains during three short-term expeditions and they functioned as evangelists in their chiefdoms.

The tribal chaplaincy movement in Zambia is almost completely sustained by the Zambian missionaries on our team, in addition to the 10 Zambian provincial managers, and a national chaplain.

2024 will bring further development and sustainability in Zambia as well as bringing the movement to the traditional leaders in the five surrounding nations who are eager to have chaplains in their palaces as well.





OVERLAND MISSIONS MUSIC

In 2023, the Overland Missions music team wrote 15 songs, 11 of which will be released throughout the year in 2024. The team of musicians and writers are all full-time missionaries functioning in various international ministry assignments. They focus on writing lyrics that uphold solid new creation theology and melodies that carry a strong corporate anointing. These missionaries are inspired by God's heart for the people groups they are living amongst and they write to express that heart in a unified sound, spread out throughout the world. In 2023, they gathered faithfully once a week to write and worship together, often rolling out brand new songs during team worship the next day. The music team also released, "Twasumbule," our first music video featuring a Zambian local language, recorded on our property at Rapid 14.

At the time of this report's release, the music team will be together to record the new music in a live setting with missionaries who have traveled from far and wide. 2024 will be an exciting time of continued writing, recording, and releasing of new music to the world.

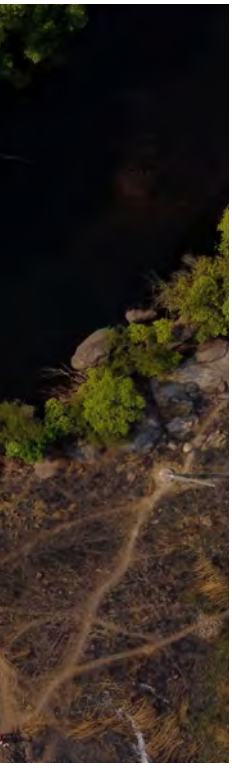


"Our hearts beat
of Jesus

MEDIA
AMPLIFYING OUR FOOTPRINT

"When we arrived amongst the Himba of Angola, the stark reality settled in. That reality is this: It is God's highest priority for people to be reached. There is no other project or effort that should take precedence or be seen with a greater importance. There is no greater importance than reaching the people that He loves.

The people of this region will not have the opportunity to hear the Gospel over and over on the radio waves, the TV channels, or the mega-churches. They will either hear it from a person who has been willing to face the hardships, a specialist who knows how to handle the elements…or they will not hear it.



It is as easy as that understanding. But we have been given a responsibility and a carry in torch in our generation to make sure that they DO hear. And we are the specialists who are willing to go." **–Phil Smethurst**

The tribes of Angola are different than anywhere else that we work. They are more isolated than in almost any other nation. In 2023, our team traveled with a film crew to a particular Kuvale community to celebrate the relationship that we have.

In this celebration meeting, five warriors from the opposing Himba tribe arrived. They arrived with the intent to take revenge on those who had stolen some of their cattle. While the warriors were there, we developed a relationship with them and the warriors made peace and a reconciliation plan with the Kuvale tribe.

With this new relationship amongst these Himba warriors, the team began to push south into the Namib desert, towards Himba land. It took two days on impossible roads to reach Ochivango, which was a town only 74 miles away. The doors opened in that community. The team, with cameras drove for the next 100 miles, and continued to find hundreds of thousands of traditional Himbas along the way. All of them fully embrace their tradition and intentionally turn away from the influence of the West.

The reason we decided to document this journey to these traditional communities, is to showcase to the viewer who Overland Missions is. This classic expedition will show the type of person it takes to complete these missions. The documentary will show the types of locations we serve in, the type of training required, and the type of vehicles that allow us to get there. We will show the difficulties, the endurance, and the way that God opens doors. We want to show an authentic mission and invite you along with us.

Look forward to the first episode of this docu-series during the first quarter of 2024.

Scan here to go to our YouTube

for one thing: To hear the sound proclaimed throughout the nations."

– LIBBY MYSZKA
OMM Director

ANY ROAD
ANY LOAD
ANY TIME

www.overlandmissions.com