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# GLOBAL RECORDINGS NETWORK USA **ALERT**

April-May 2022

## Passing the Baton

*Those of us who work at Global Recordings Network are here because God has blessed us to see the vision of using audio messages in every language to spread His Gospel to the ends of the earth. How do we pass that vision on to the next generations?*



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## PASSING THE BATON

Those of us who have had the opportunity to serve with GRN know a well-kept secret: we are part of the greatest adventure in the world.

For field staff, the adventure may include travel, personal sacrifice, meeting those from all walks of life (from lepers to chiefs, from the homeless to royalty), and always includes the “unknown.” For home base workers, life’s

adventure may include more home comforts and less “unknown,” but also includes the difficulties associated with trying to explain what exactly we do!

Wherever we are, the journey includes a close walk with the God of the Universe. Because we are essentially a faith mission, He Himself calls us, equips us, leads us, provides for us. The Lord keeps us here as long as He wants. The pathways He has us walk may be dark and scary or full of warmth and sunshine. They may be rocky or grassy. We may be surrounded by church, family, and friends, or we may tread a lonely path. We may be well-supported or scarcely surviving financially. We may enjoy health or we may have to learn to live with suffering. Through what He brings into our lives, He teaches us more of His ways. We are blessed to be where He leads us.

How do we pass on to the next generations the glory and the wonder as well as the challenges inherent in this adventure? “Deputation” has been impossible for the past two years. Maintaining contact with our supporting churches has been a challenge, while sharing our vision with new people — students, retirees, home-bound missionaries, and the wider Church out there — has been even more challenging.

As in a relay race, if the “hand-off” is bobbled, the team is unlikely to win. How can we “pass the baton”? We are asking for your help in this. Pray that the Lord of the Harvest will send us choice laborers. Pray that He will call younger people to this work. Tell your kids, grand-kids, neighbor and church young people about this race — life-and-death for so many out there — and pray that we may pass our batons on to them and see them “Go” — wherever He may lead them.



Ralph with son Nathaniel and Larry

## TELLING THE STORY OF JESUS IN EVERY LANGUAGE

*Live from 2022's outreach project in Culiacan, Mexico:* with 3 vans for transport, we had 48 volunteers the first week, and have visited about 25 camps over the first 2 weeks. Most are open to the Gospel and our presentation, but some not allowing entrance for fear of covid.

Several of our volunteers have been sick with head colds and respiratory problems, diarrhea etc. We have been near crop dusting planes this morning too. A few nights we have heard automatic weapons and gunshots in San Pedro, but camp ministry goes as usual. Pray for salvation, healing, and family problems.

One couple told us that they had been praying for more young people to get involved in this work because they are aging like many other people on their team. Since 2020 we've noticed there are no teens or 20s involved. Then this couple saw me driving up with 11 young guys. Some of them are volunteers from Oaxaca and some from California. The couple said, “Oh, this is a real answer to prayer with these young men coming here for this outreach.”  
— Mike Hendricks



Young volunteers from Oaxaca and California

During Project Culiacan 2022 it was possible to visit at least 57 agricultural camps where some thousands of families live. We found people of 70 different native languages and in turn these represent 291 towns or communities. Hundreds of audio and video downloads were received on the cell phones of these indigenous families.

The various testimonies of what God did again for His salvation to be proclaimed and His name to be glorified have been shared by this means and by social networks. Hundreds of new believers have expressed their acceptance of the Good News and have recognized Christ Jesus as their Lord. To God be the glory!  
— GRN Mexico Team



## NEW FIELD WORKERS PICK UP BATONS

Larry's two-year international assignment is to record unrecorded languages and to train new field workers in many countries – new language investigators and recordists who will then carry on the work in their countries. At the time of this printing, Larry and Nathaniel (possibly joined later by another recordist or two) travel soon to other continents to learn more technical skills and then train others. Pray for country borders to open and for safety in travel. Two new young field workers, Francisco and Marcos, will remain in Mexico at this time, committed to work with other team members (Chuy, Ullis, Ariadna, Joel, and others) to finish capturing languages in that country. Pray for these young people, and for God to inspire others to join them. New funds are available on our website (<https://www.globalrecordingsusa.org/serve/browse-current-projects/>) created to receive donations from those who would like to help support these newly-fledged missionaries. Please also pray for their safety and health as they experience many new cultures and challenges. Pray for God to keep them close to Himself, through it all.



Francisco surveying a language



### Greetings. I'm Nathaniel Loper.

Last year Larry asked me to join him as an intern field recordist. I prayed about it and realized that God had been preparing me for this from a young age. My interests in languages and maps came together with my love of audio recording and editing, all valuable skills for this area of service.

Through God's leading and prayer, the Mexico team has now recorded over 30 previously unreached languages since June. Glory to God! Please pray that He would open doors for the Mexican field teams to continue capturing 60+ more, and for hearts opened to the message.

God willing, I will be in Australia into May for technical training. We are looking forward to replicating our Mexican experiences in several Asian and African countries that are not friendly to believers. We trust the Lord's guidance to lead us in training Christian nationals to record their own area's languages. Pray for God's protection and provision as we head to the front lines of the Gospel battlefield.

Hello, I am Marcos Mejia – a  
recordist of Bible stories.

I became part of this work thanks to Mike H inviting me to mission events. All my life I have wanted to serve God. In this beautiful ministry of recording languages we are made aware of God's provision at all times for health, economy, and daily food. I see how people need to hear the Gospel in their own language. When they listen to messages they truly understand, and their joy is made complete by our sharing with them that way. We are blessed to get to know different cultures and different ways of doing things! It's a wonderful job.



When people hear God's Word in their dialect, they feel joyful and also more important. Many of them are illiterate. After hearing the recordings and having happily accepted Jesus in their hearts, they share with family and friends. They may be rejected, expelled from their homes, stripped of land, animals, and even their own houses. Sometimes they have to leave their family lands and start life over for following God and talking about His love. But they remain faithful to the Lord. No matter what they go through, their spirit is strengthened.

It is so important for all to hear God's Word in their own heart language!

Hello! God bless you, My name  
is Francisco Guzmán.

I am a missionary serving with Buenas Nuevas (GRN) in Mexico, I learned about GRN about 4 years ago, and recently joined them as a recordist. What motivated me was a call God placed on my heart, a call to serve and to make known the Word of God to those who still do not know the Good News, because the Gospel is not yet available in their mother tongue.

During this time as a recordist, I have been touched as we visited small towns where we have met and talked with many different people, shared the Word of God, and recorded Christian messages in their languages.

I've also used GRN/Buenas Nuevas resources in evangelistic outreaches and have seen God working through these tools that were made years ago. There is still so much work to be done, often in remote, even hidden, places. There are souls ready to receive Jesus, but the question is – how will they understand the Good News if it isn't in their own language?

It makes me very happy to be part of this great mission and this important work.

"So faith comes by hearing ... the Word of God" (Rom. 10:1).



## PASSING ON OUR BATON

Moses had no option. He had brought the children of Israel a long way, but God told him it was time to hand the baton to Joshua who would



lead them into the promised land. Joshua proved to be the best person for the job. Under his leadership walls fell and the people conquered the land.

In 1939 God led Joy Ridderhof to use phonograph

records, a very novel idea at the time, to spread the Gospel to other language groups. From our vantage point, the technology of that day looks crude. But God used it to reach countless souls with the Good News. Today we've been joined by many ministries who now use the best available technology to further that same goal. We ourselves are seeking others to join us in this worldwide task.

But how do we pass the baton, and to whom do we pass it? In an Olympic relay race, it is transferred from one swift runner to another. In the race to spread the Good News, it has to pass from many participants to many others, each doing their part, large or small. Joy passed the baton of vision to leaders in different countries and Gospel Recordings transitioned into a network of inter-dependent country centers, each working toward the same goal.

As we get older, we naturally see the need of younger people who can accept the baton and shoulder the burden. There are still remote areas to reach, inaccessible places to enter, and physical barriers to cross.

**TAKE FIVE (updated)** – pray for these unrecorded languages:

Mixteco Guerrero de Itundujia  
Mixteco de Don Luis Pinotepa  
Zapoteco de San Bartolo Yautepec  
Zapoteco de Santa María Yalina  
Mazateco de San Francisco  
Huehuetlán

These three:

Mixteco de San Juan Pinas  
Zapoteco de Las Delicias  
Chinanteco de Yolox

...have been recorded,  
praise the Lord!

When covid hit, people were locked down and the concept of working remotely from home grew exponentially. Even retired people realized they could seize the baton and use their computers to help GRN advance the Gospel without having to travel to an office. For instance, volunteers working from home have added thousands of items to our language database.

God uses different skills in the Gospel race. We must pass the baton to sprinters as well as marathon runners, to high jumpers as well as long jumpers. In GRN terms, that translates to those who can lead and inspire, make recordings in remote areas, copy a list of names into a computer, program complicated code, introduce church groups to our ministry, research languages on the Internet, pray for the teams, and a host of other activities.



We have a selection of batons we'd love to hand off. Are you ready to grab one?



*Allan Starling leads the Global Mapping Team and works with the Language Tracking Dept and the Publications Team.*

## DIRECTOR'S CORNER

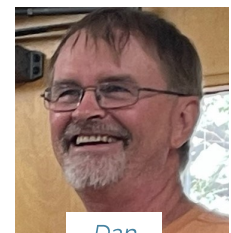
While on his two year assignment overseas, Larry DeVilbiss remains our GRN USA executive director. But his shoes are big ones to fill. Two men are sharing those home responsibilities – Dan Rulison (facilities) and John Steinmetz (administration).

Dan is married to Joan, with two married daughters and a new grand-baby. John and wife Rosa have three grown children. Both men have recorded languages overseas. John is already our Language Tracking team leader and manages the Orders Department. Now he has become Assistant Director of the USA work.



John

Please lift up in prayer both these men, who form the backbone of our home Administrative Team. Ask for wisdom and energy and discipline and the ability to lead others in a godly way.



Dan