Check in on a few of our Foursquare missionaries who are making an impact around the world.

Southeast Asia
George Butron, area missionary to Southeast Asia, is seeing great ministry among construction workers from mainland China who come to work in Singapore. The weekly outreach to these migrant workers provides a place where they can make friends, enjoy food and hear the gospel, many for the first time. In the past year, almost 50 new believers have been baptized. They will return to China to win their families and friends to Christ and start house churches.

France
Daniel Lucero, national leader of France and area missionary to Francophone nations and West Africa, reports that four new churches in France have been officially chartered so far in 2010. There is a growing witness, he says, of God “breaking up the fallow ground” in this nation, evidenced in the increasing number of Muslim-born believers now turning to the Foursquare churches. Recently a terminally ill man from Nancy was healed after church leaders prayed for him.

Middle East
Scott Winter, area missionary to the Middle East, North Africa and Central Asia, shares exciting news about open doors in his region. In one country, a local believer has been able to share his faith with a regional leader of a Bedouin community, and they have had many fruitful conversations about the Bible. Through this relationship, believers have been invited to hold summer camps for the region’s Bedouin children. Around 70 children are expected to attend.

Trinidad & Tobago
Rob and Audrey Reasoner, missionaries to Trinidad and Tobago, have been busy during their first six months on the field. Since they arrived, there have been over 20 decisions for Christ, a marriage retreat and a miraculous healing. Rob went to the hospital to pray for a young man who had been shot and whose parents were told that, if he lived, he would never walk again. Following prayer, he not only lived—he is walking.

There are 500 million French-speaking people worldwide. More than 154,000 of them gave their lives to Christ in 2009 through The Foursquare Church in West Africa and Francophone countries.
West Africa/Francophone Nations

Daniel Lucero, national leader of The Foursquare Church in France and also Foursquare Missions International’s (FMI) area missionary to West Africa and Francophone (French-speaking) nations, got involved in cross-cultural ministry almost 30 years ago. He immediately knew his calling was to places around the world most unreached by the gospel. This calling would lead him to a unique focus—the French-speaking world—which the 48-year-old missionary says is among the least-reached people group on Earth.

“There are French-speaking people on every continent,” Daniel tells Foursquare.org, noting that the upper estimates of French-speaking people worldwide are 500 million. “Each has their own unique culture, even though they may be linked by a language.”

In Francophone Africa, Daniel oversees Foursquare’s ministry in the nations of Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic (CAR), Chad, Cote d’Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Guinea Conakry, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Niger, Senegal and Togo. In West Africa, he supervises Foursquare’s work in Gambia, Ghana, Liberia, Nigeria and Sierra Leone. His ministry is not limited to French-speakers; some of the regions in his area of oversight are English-speaking.

Such an astounding diversity of people groups represented in such a vast area creates unique ministry challenges. A standardized approach to reaching people with the gospel simply won’t work.

“French-speaking people are not a dispersed, uniform people group around the world, but a dispersed affinity of cultures that allows access to some of the most under-reached peoples of some 50 nations,” affirms Daniel. “Islam and poverty are major issues in the Southern Hemisphere, while secularism and post-modernism are issues in the Northern Hemisphere.” In fact, he notes, the 7 million French-speakers in Quebec are the most secularized French-speaking people group in North America.

Through the Global Missions Fund, Daniel says they were able to invest last year in training pastors who gathered in Central Africa. Funds also helped with leadership development in the Muslim countries of Senegal, Mali and Guinea of West Africa.

Why did you get involved in missionary work?

RHONDA For years, I have had a passionate desire to serve in an orphanage, but I wasn’t certain in which country I would land. After visiting the Foursquare orphanages in Central America, I strongly felt like the Didasko Children’s Home would be my home. The Lord has placed a desire in my heart to be a “mother to the motherless.”

What do you wish people knew about missions work?

RHONDA You can truly make a difference in someone’s life, regardless of the physical distance that separates you. When we think about missions, we frequently get so caught up in what we can do for someone, or what we can give, that we forget completely that it’s relationships that change lives.

Meet Rhonda Wilkinson

Rhonda Wilkinson has served for nearly 2 years as a missionary for Foursquare Missions International in Honduras, a nation of 7.8 million people that is the second poorest country in Central America. With 60 percent of the population living in poverty, the need is great, and opportunities for ministry are many.

Foursquare has 255 churches and meeting places in Honduras. There are 21 Bible institutes, three orphanages, and two ministry networks that help orphans. Rhonda lives in the town of Tamara.

Have any teams come from the U.S. to help out?

RHONDA Four teams have come this year. They began construction on a new girls’ dormitory for the children, rebuilt and remodeled a building that was destroyed in a storm in 2008, conducted Vacation Bible School (VBS) programs for our kids as well as the children in the community, and held medical clinics.

To read the full conversation with Rhonda Wilkinson, log on to foursquare.org/news/stories.