

2020 Annual Report

# Miracles and Milestones



ICM

The Global Church Developer™

# Our Vision: A healthy church within walking distance of everyone in the world.



“I honestly think that ICM has the most inspiring vision statement of any Christian organization.”

— Lee Strobel, author of *The Case for Christ*



2020 is a year that we will all remember...  
but probably  
not in the same way.

At ICM, we will remember it is a year God did amazing things through your generosity.

Near the end of 2015, ICM’s board of directors discussed where we thought God was leading our ministry. We wanted to make a strategic plan that would guide us through the next five years. Before us stood a chart with three lines on it. The first line, somewhat flat, showed the benchmarks we would reach if ICM maintained its current rate of activity. The second line, rising higher to the right, showed what we would accomplish with an industry-standard 10 percent increase in our capacity year over year. The third line, which rose steeply across the chart, was called “the miracle zone.” The growth represented by this line was impossible to achieve by human effort alone. Only God could make a way.

It was on that third line that ICM set its 2020 goals: 10,000 church projects, 60 discipleship languages, and 1 million disciples trained to share the Gospel.

Reaching these goals meant that ICM would achieve in five years what had taken nearly 30 to accomplish beforehand. So when the COVID-19 pandemic struck and entire countries went into lockdown, we assumed we would see the goals reached on a different timeline. But God worked through YOUR faithfulness to achieve the impossible!

As I look over the pages of this report, my heart overflows with gratitude. Not only did God move mightily through His Church across an aching world, you courageously—and more generously than ever—supported His work during a time of great uncertainty. For that, you have my deepest thanks.

May you be richly blessed as you see the miracles God did through you in 2020.

For His glory,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Janice".

Janice Allen  
CEO & President

# 100 Countries

5 New countries/  
partnerships in 2020

Syrian Arab Republic ●  
Morocco ●  
Guinea-Bissau ●  
Spain ●  
Mauritania ●



## 100<sup>TH</sup> COUNTRY Mauritania

### POPULATION

4 Million

20% Enslaved

90% Desert climate

### MAIN RELIGION

Islam

### CHRISTIAN

>1%

### LITERACY

50%

A desert country situated on the western shore of North Africa, Mauritania seems almost frozen in time. Nomadism thrived in Mauritania until 1960, when the country gained its independence from France. Since then, Mauritania's capital city has grown into a major urban center, but progress in the rest of the country remains slow. Today, most of the population still holds traditional subsistence jobs. Only a third of Mauritania's roads are paved, only half its citizens can read and write, and a racially stratified society keeps up to 20 percent of the population enslaved in spite of multiple bans.

Mauritania is an extremely difficult place to be a Christian. Ninety-nine percent of the population is Sunni Muslim, and the government forbids evangelism and church planting. However, with two-thirds of Mauritians under age 29 and clustered near the capital, unique opportunities exist to share the Gospel with those who are willing to hear. Pray that God will allow the Good News to spread in this country! ■





“Thank you so much for giving us the opportunity to reach our goal: the possibility for each believer to attend a Bible study or a worship service.” — An ICM partner in North Africa



*Who is the King of glory? The Lord, strong and mighty; the Lord, invincible in battle. — Psalm 24:8*

## Historical Growth in Church-Building Countries

(cumulative)



**At year end 2020:**

**251** indigenous partnerships | **2.3** million total church members  
**46,610** church plants committed

# 60 Languages

## 60<sup>TH</sup> LANGUAGE Falam

Falam is the heart language of about 69,000 people in the Chin State of Myanmar. Thanks to the work of missionaries, about 90 percent of Falam speakers profess to follow Christ, and most are Baptist. For decades, however, they had no Bible in their language. Only in 2009 did they complete a translation of the New Testament into Falam. The rest of the Bible was finished in 2018—with great celebration.

Now, ICM is working with its indigenous partners to translate our discipleship content into Falam. This will give Falam speakers a way to study the Bible in depth and understand the context of Christ's teachings. Twenty-four lessons covering the Sermon on the Mount have already been finished and launched. We anticipate that the remainder of the translation will be completed by the end of 2021. Please pray for the success of this vital work! ■



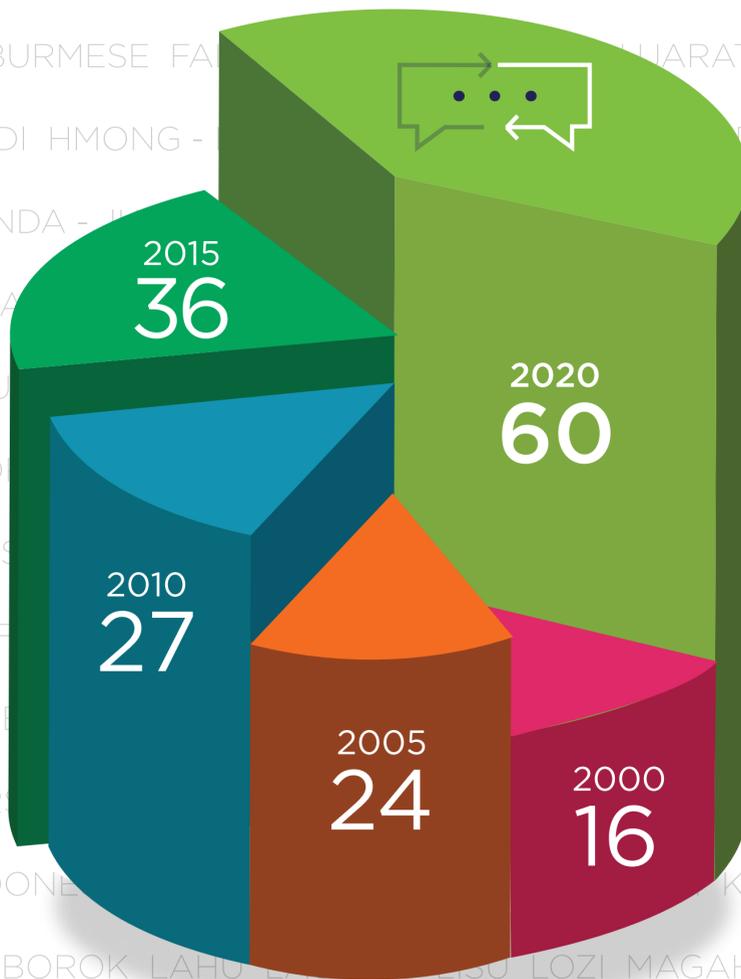


“Thank you for the opportunity to know the Bible and its author.” — Carlos Avelar | A disciple in Latin America



*Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.* — Matthew 5:16

## Historical Translation Pace (cumulative)



**At year end 2020:**

**2 translations started | 4 languages launched  
149 countries impacted**

# 1.9 Million Disciples

## A Double Harvest

In 2015, we set an audacious goal of 1 million disciples trained using Foundations - ICM's curriculum - by the end of 2020. At the time, we were just over halfway there. So imagine our surprise when we ended 2020 with nearly 2 million! Part of our impact came from supporters like you making bigger investments in our discipleship program. The other part came from new initiatives designed to share the Gospel with younger, more tech-savvy audiences. In 2020, these included:

### Social Media Pages and Library Sites



Working with our indigenous partners, we set up social media pages to promote our Bible study content in various languages. Partners administering the pages encourage users to study, ask questions and connect with local Christians, thereby creating a supportive online faith community. On the Library sites, users can access our discipleship lessons, workbooks, digital Bibles, and other approved content.

#### Languages:

Russian, African English, Urdu and Arabic

#### Platforms:

Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, Messenger, WhatsApp and Telegram

### Learning

#### Management System (LMS)



The LMS is an online classroom that allows students to study our discipleship curriculum with the support of seasoned Christian mentors who answer questions and provide guidance. The LMS was launched in Spanish, Portuguese and Urdu. It quickly grew to host over 20,000 students.

#### Animated Teaching Videos



In 2020, we began turning our discipleship lessons into 15-minute animated videos that can be viewed and shared on social media. The lessons are explained by native speakers who appear on camera with the animated scenes. Production began in Spanish, Farsi, Arabic and Hindi.

#### Wi-Fi Access Points



Installed at select churches in Africa and Latin America, these access points allow cellphone users to connect to a digital library of discipleship content, download the material, study it, and share it with others. Thousands of downloads were recorded after the initial launch.



“

“My prayer and desire is that people will get into God’s Word and God’s Word into people, because when they do, wonderful and miraculous things happen.”

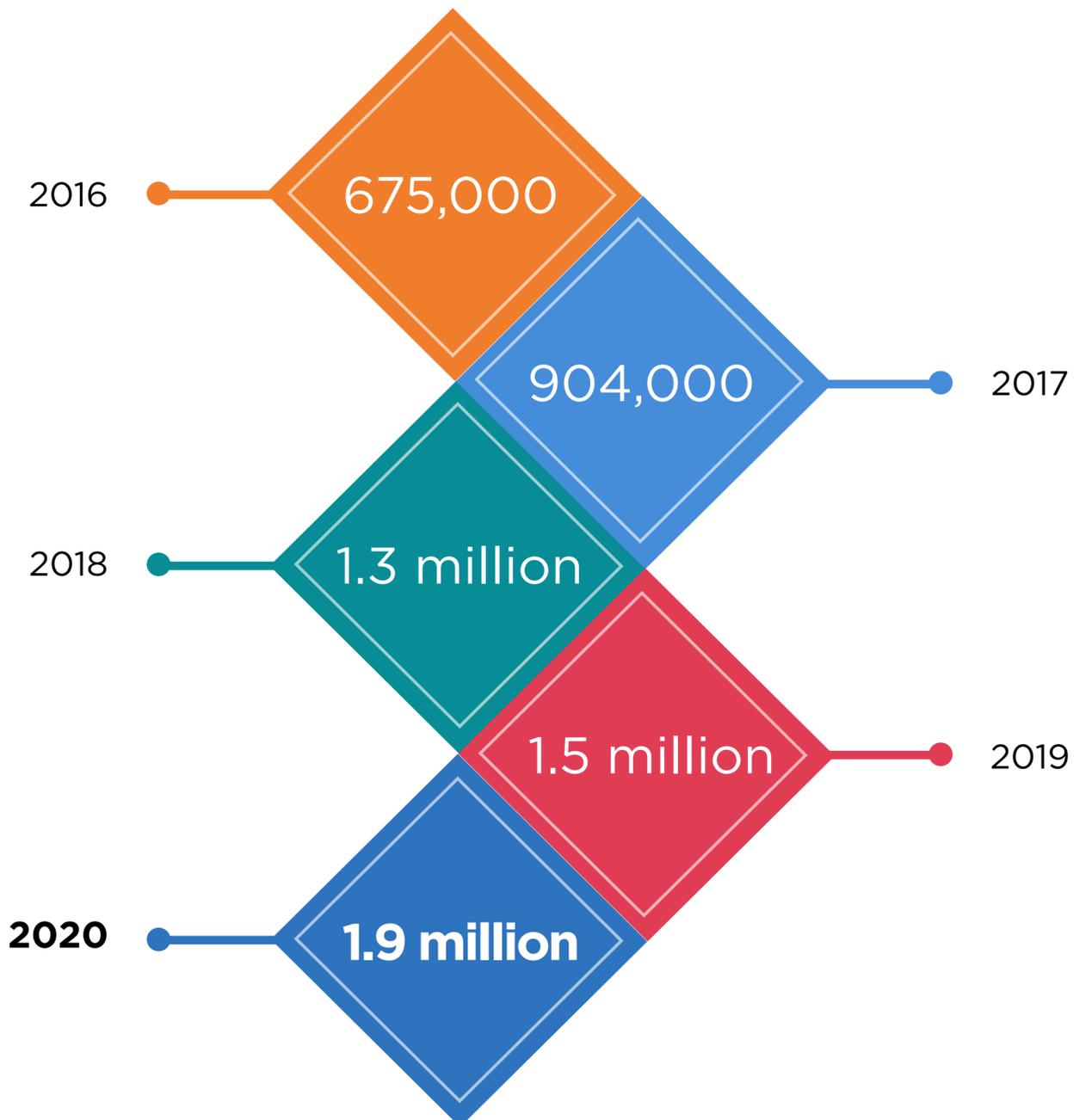
— Dick Woodward, author of ICM’s survey of the Bible



“

“The whole Bible study really opened up new things to me as a child of God. I am so grateful.” — Yolene Visagie | a disciple in Africa

## Disciples Trained (cumulative)



At year end 2020:

**37,779** audio players distributed  
**45,067** Bible Study Groups

# 10,000 churches

## 10,000<sup>TH</sup> PROJECT

### Building the House of God in Uganda

Tucked into the wilds of Uganda's Gulu region is a tiny village called Lajwaaokok. By all accounts, it's the village that shouldn't exist. Lajwaaokok has no store, no school, no medical clinic, no electricity, and no paved roads—not even a working well. Yet 1,000 people have chosen to settle here. And they have a church in a grass hut called Bethel Latwong: the “House of God.”

As its 10,000th church development project, ICM will provide funding for Bethel Latwong's members to build a strong, permanent church building and have discipleship content for oral learners. The new church will not only facilitate worship services and Bible study groups, it will also house a women's empowerment program that will provide local women with Christ-centered vocational training to improve their lives. Please pray for this project as it gets underway! ■



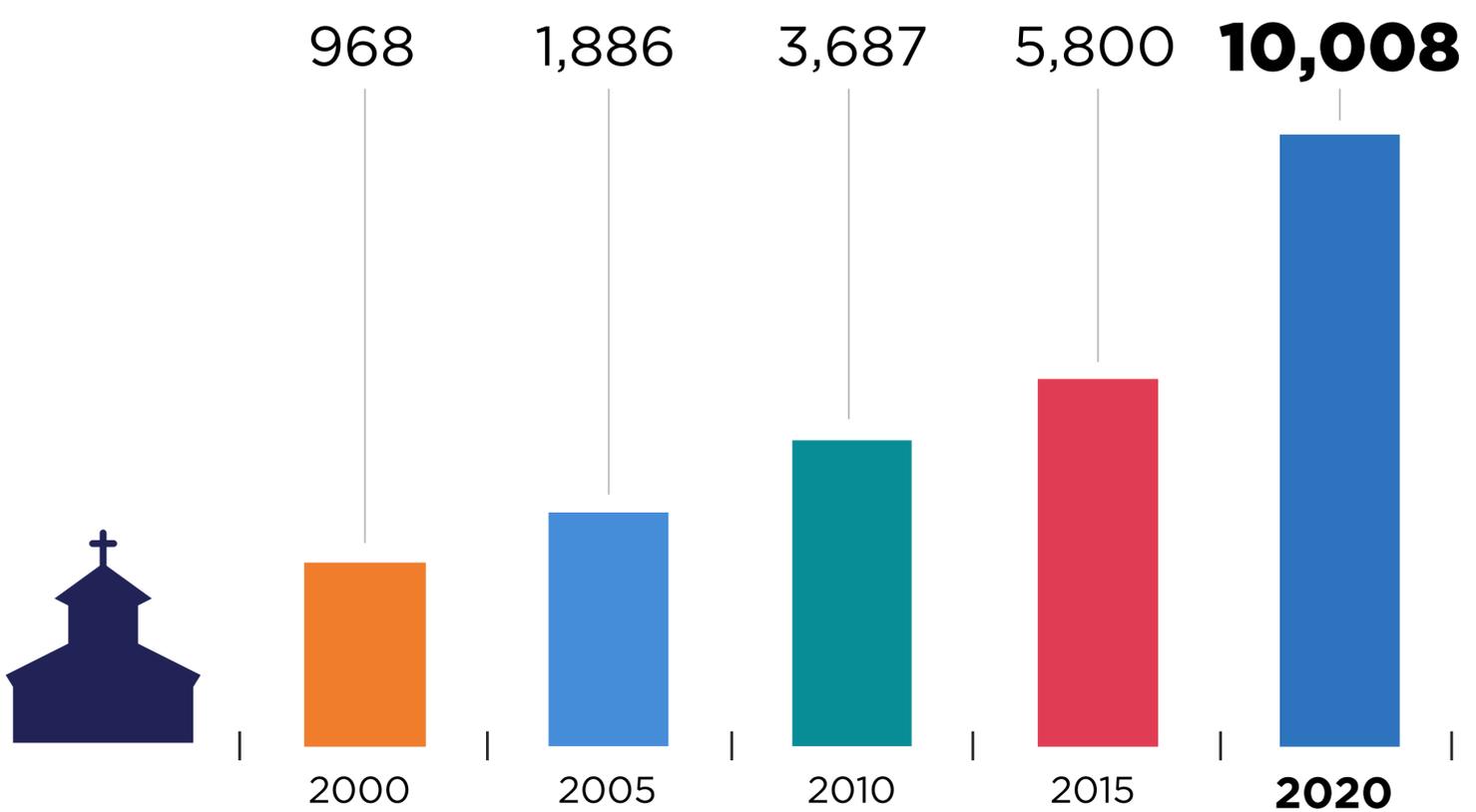


“I feel that the Lord is prompting to build more and more worship halls to fulfill His vision of preparing places for the harvest.” — Rev. Dinesh Chand | an ICM partner in Asia



*Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. — Matthew 28:19*

## Growth in Church Projects (cumulative)



**At year end 2020:**

**952** churches started | **165** Hope Centers & Orphanages built  
**777** projects dedicated | **2,335** congregations planted

# Stewardship

## \*Statement of Financial Position

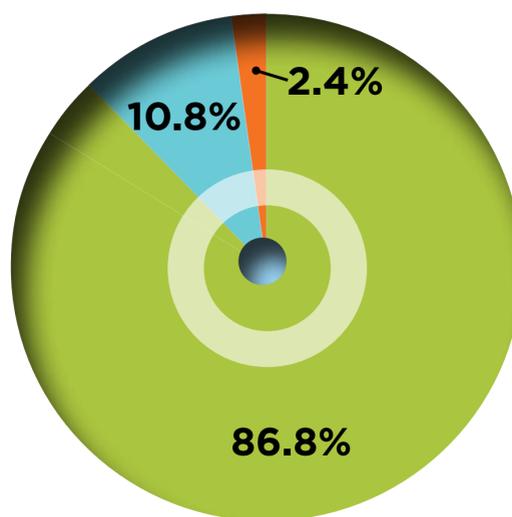
December 31, 2020

Assets:	\$	11,772,268
Liabilities:		1,078,455
Net assets:		<u>10,693,813</u>
Total liabilities and net assets:	\$	<u><u>11,772,268</u></u>

## \*Statement of Activities

December 31, 2020

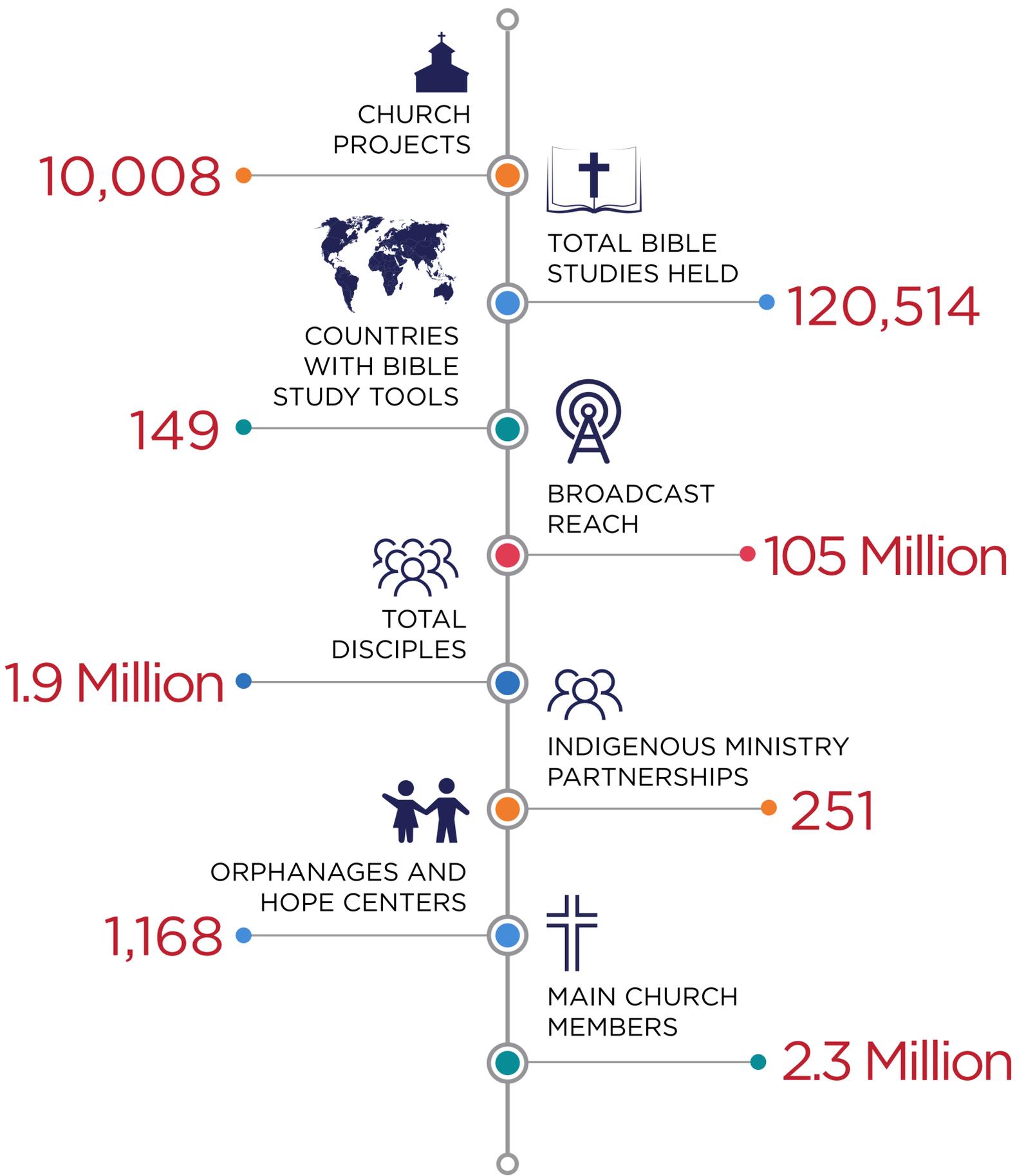
Support and Revenue:	\$	24,773,673
Disbursements:		
Program services:		24,706,657
Support services:		<u>3,770,155</u>
Total disbursements		<u>28,476,812</u>
Changes in net assets		-2,389,390
Net assets, beginning of year		<u>13,083,203</u>
Net assets, end of year	\$	<u><u>10,693,813</u></u>



- Programs
- Ministry Advancement
- General & Administrative

\*To see a full disclosure of ICM's 2020 financials visit: [icm.org/auditreport2020](https://icm.org/auditreport2020)

# Milestones at Year's End





## Looking Ahead

As ICM's leadership began seeking God about ICM's next visionary goal, we experienced another "miracle zone" moment: the potential to engage millions more people in the study of God's Word. The digital discipleship strategies that we adopted before and during the pandemic now set the stage for a global "nurturing of believers" on a scale we couldn't have imagined only a few years ago. As we look back on our work in 2020, it seems that God was all along preparing us for this new vision: 25 million disciples trained by 2025.

As we often say, the church isn't just a building. It is Christ's Body, made up of healthy believers. These faithful followers of Christ are the true "building blocks" of every healthy church—whether that church meets online, in someone's home, or in a building with a steeple.

We believe God is calling us to prepare His people to faithfully steward the Gospel for the growth of His Church: the Bride of Christ. This means reaching people with our content wherever they are—from oral learners in rural villages to tech-savvy young adults in large cities—using the formats, platforms, and languages most familiar to them. It also means employing a more integrated strategy in each geographical region that still features the physical development of churches and Hope Centers at its core.

As we prepare to take on this new challenge, we pray that you will continue to journey with us. Together, we will see a healthy church within walking distance of everyone in the world. ■



**Thank you** for being part of these miracles in 2020!



**ICM** The Global  
Church Developer™

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