

A day in Nell's life

(Note: not every day is like this one)

One Tuesday morning I woke up at 6 a.m. to prepare for a morning of teaching kindergarten. Kayla, Elena, and I left the house at 7:10, picked up three Douglas kids, and arrived at school at 7:30. My students started straggling into the classroom at 7:40 a.m., while school officially started at 8. Three hours later, after two math lessons, one phonics lesson, library time, snack, recess, and Spanish, I said goodbye to 16 kindergarteners for the day.

After cleaning up the classroom and getting out materials for the next school day, I took off for the OC office. I arrived at the office at 1 p.m. and answered some e-mails about Short-Term Ministries. From 2:00-4:00



I ran a meeting with four OC missionaries from Brazil who wanted training in how to do short-term missions. Then, from 4:00-5:00 I coached a short-term missionary on how to present her project to her church.



Nell and some running friends run a half marathon.

I left the office a little bit after 5:00, drove to my friend Marcie's house, changed into my running clothes, and took off for downtown Colorado Springs. Every Tuesday night, an Irish pub sponsors a 5K (3.2-mile) race. After my run, I headed home to spend a "quiet evening" with Kyle. I arrived home at 7:30 p.m., just in time to help the girls take showers and tuck them into bed.

Fourteen hours after I woke up, I finally sat down to a peaceful, quiet house. What a FUN day!

I am so thankful for your prayers for me and my family. How can you pray for me?

- Pray that I would love God and others well.
- Pray that families and students would experience God's love through my teaching and relating.
- Pray that God's kingdom would continue to be impacted and expanded through short-term missionaries sent out through OC from the U.S.
- Pray that I can be fully available to my family while balancing two part-time jobs.
- Pray that I would meet Jesus daily and walk with him intimately.

Thank you for caring,

Nell



From the President...

During these challenging times, we can be encouraged that God is not limited by an economic downturn. He is moving forward in his mission of love to our world! Today Christianity has become a global faith with Christians present in every country of the world. The diversity and spread of evangelical Christianity is breathtaking.



Greg Gripenotrog
OC President

The World's Evangelicals



Graph source: Jason Mandryk,
State of the Gospel 2009
– Mission Exchange Webinar

The most exciting growth is occurring in the majority (non-Western) world. As the graph depicts, 74 percent of evangelicals today live outside of North America and Europe. They worship Jesus in literally thousands of languages and live for him within a rich mosaic of cultures.

Parallel to this growth has been the emergence of the majority world as a global missions sending force. Today there are more missionaries sent out from Asia, Latin America, and Africa than from North America and Europe combined.

This is good news! Majority-world missionaries are taking the gospel into very difficult places and communicating Jesus through the colorful prism of their cultures. Though often lacking finances, they are passionate, tenacious, and resourceful in their ministries. The witness of the church worldwide has never been more dynamic.

Over the years, OC International has been working to encourage and strengthen these movements. Our missionaries have played an instrumental role in the emergence of COMIBAM, a Latin American missions network representing 12,000 missionaries and 23 national mission movements.

The Lord has also enabled OC to play a significant role in the Movement for African National Initiatives (MANI), a network of national initiatives focused on mobilizing thousands of African churches for the Great Commission.

Today it is estimated that 3,000 Filipinos are being sent out as full-time missionaries, with an additional 100,000 Christian Filipino workers living out their faith through their jobs in restricted-access nations. OC Philippines has helped to facilitate this surge in missions sending and coached the formation of the Philippine Mission Association.

With trust built through years of service, OC is now helping to build bridges between majority-world mission movements. Two months ago, OC facilitated strategic discussions between the leaders of COMIBAM and MANI on the island of Malta. Both continental movements agreed to learn from each other and explored practical ways to cooperate in reaching least-evangelized peoples. As a next step, they've invited leaders from North Africa into the discussion. It is expected that exciting new forms of mission will take shape as a result.

Missions today is *from the whole world to the whole world*. OC has a strategic role to play in creating synergy between movements, encouraging key leaders, and creating space for innovation in ministry.

None of this would be possible without your partnership. Thank you for working with us to fan the flames of global mission!

Our Vision

Healthy churches
working
together to
disciple all
nations.



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