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magazine

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LIVES  
FOR BIG  
DESTINIES**



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**Photographer:** Natthaya Rungsiriphiphat

**Location:** Chiang Rai, Thailand

**Equipment:** NIKON D7100,  
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**Situation:** A picture of Wasana on Sports  
Day in Chiang Rai, Thailand.

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# Contents/

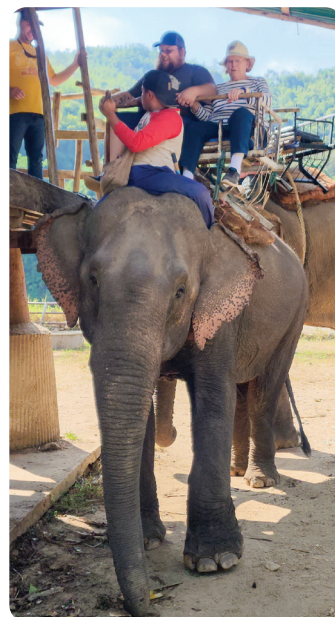
Spring 2023

## features

- 05 Change Without Changing**  
New life-changing opportunities as we continue to fulfill the calling of God  
*by Travis Rutland*
- 06 Blessed To Bless**  
Find out what happens when you mix gratitude, and generosity together  
*by Fay Inman*
- 08 Hope And A License To Dream**  
Your generosity is moving mountains  
*by Tyler Ellis*
- 12 Without Limitations**  
Mission trips, elephant rides and experiences that last a lifetime  
*by Dorothy Poe*
- 14 This Changes Everything!**  
Small decisions that change everything, forever!  
*by Dr. Mark Rutland*

## ad features

- 10 Educational Resources To Ghana**
- 11 Well At St. Monica's Senior High School**
- 11 Empowering Kids With Early Education Support**
- 13 Finding Freedom with Travis Rutland**









# Change Without Changing

New life-changing opportunities as we continue to fulfill the calling of God

BY TRAVIS RUTLAND

In life, most change is gradual. Change is usually an expansion at the edge of things that you were already doing. Occasionally, a person or group of people will make a radical shift in their life. However, this is not true for the vast majority of humanity. Most doctors do not just quit and become DJ's. Instead, they try and discover new avenues in the medical profession to do new work or focus on a new specialty. In the same way, DJ's usually look for new opportunities to express their craft within the confines of music.

With that in mind, I am personally experiencing new levels of change in my life. I am writing this article the day before I preach my final message as the lead pastor at Restoration Church. However, I am not leaving to become a rhythmic gymnast or a bail bondsman. Instead, I am continuing to fulfill the calling God has placed on my life but in a new opportunity. I recently became the lead pastor of The Church at Liberty Square in Cartersville, GA. My family will be moving to Cartersville in March and we are excited about this change. In some ways, it is a huge change but in other subtler ways, it is what I have spent my life doing. I will continue to preach and teach, serve others and tell the world around me about the love of Jesus. It will be in a new church, in a new town and among new people but the change is not really as radical as it might first appear.

The same thing is true for our work at Global Servants. We have begun to develop several new initiatives recently. While these initiatives are a change, they are not a profound departure from what we have always done. We are still committed to helping others and empowering underequipped people and communities to achieve their God-given destiny. So, keeping that in mind, we have recently launched our backpack initiative. We first raised money for

this program on Giving Tuesday in November 2022. This program allows us to send backpacks full of supplies to students in West Africa and Thailand. This will give them the resources they need to succeed in their education. You can read more about these backpacks and how they will help students and teachers in this edition of WeServe.

You will see more of these types of changes as Global Servants continues to move forward. These are new ways to help others that are different than what we have done but still dedicated to the core values of Global Servants. We exist to empower, endow, educate and evangelize. There will be changes to how we implement these values but we will never depart from these values. Our purpose is to serve and educate others, to help rural villages and to tell people about Jesus. Our methods may change but our commitment to the world around us never will.

We are grateful to each of you for all that you do. From village wells to our Houses of Grace to the backpack initiative, none of that is possible without you and your support. We are honored to partner with you. I pray that God will increase your calling. I pray that He will give you new and exciting changes that will expand your destiny. ◀

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TRAVIS RUTLAND has worked for Global Servants since 1997. He currently serves as the President of Global Servants. In addition to his role at Global Servants, Travis is the Lead Pastor at The Church at Liberty Square in Cartersville, Georgia. A native of Georgia, Travis holds a Bachelor's degree and a Master's degree from Southeastern University. Travis has been married to his wife, Courtney, since 1997 and they reside in Cartersville, Georgia. They have three sons, Mark, Owen and Liam.





Parita Pianglae  
(Bu-nuu)



A-mee Batu, Buaban Mayer, Wasana  
Chuntrakundee



Ratree Yersaw



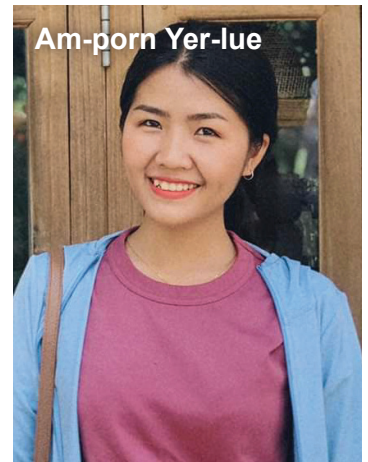
Seesuda Wengsakul



Mayura Mayer



Meechu A-yi



Am-porn Yer-lue

## Blessed To Bless

Find out what happens when you mix gratitude, and generosity together

By Fay Inman

It is one thing to break the curse of poverty but quite another to fill it with a spirit of generosity. Being blessed to bless others is a lesson that must be demonstrated. The sponsors and supporters of Global Servants have consistently manifested the spirit of generosity, and the girls at the House of Grace-Thailand continue to bless others. One thing that every girl has in common that comes to House of Grace, either in Thailand or Ghana, is a homelife of abject poverty. So, when you come from an environment where one has to choose who will eat, not what will you eat, that is the level of poor the girls at House of Grace have experienced. You would think this mindset of lack and deprivation would be prevalent throughout the home. However, the opposite is the case; the

spirit of generosity rules in both houses.

The sponsor families' relationship with the girls at House of Grace demonstrates genuine love. The families give to meet the girl's needs—without the motive of personal reward. They give without expecting or needing to receive in return. The love in their heart is even more important than the gift in their hands; it gives meaning to their actions and strengthens their relationships. Their relationship is a tangible example of God's love for us. We do not deserve it or earn it, "For God so loved the world, that he gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16)

When girls leave the House of Grace as independent young women, they carry the blessing of generosity

in their hearts. Every year, the girls at House of Grace enjoy pizza parties, ice cream celebrations, and KFC feasts paid for by alumnae. We tend to think of alumnae as women in their late thirties or even forties as the benefactors of these celebrations. The truth is, graduates in their twenties are blessing the girls at House of Grace, not from their left-over income, but as a sacrifice and priority. Their gratitude is demonstrated in their desire to bless their younger sisters. They are setting the example of a life lived well. The girls are excited to share what they have with others. We are grateful to our sponsors and donors who have demonstrated this generosity. Thank you for your witness of God's love. Your generosity and example of making financial priorities for others is being repeated generationally.



## GIFTED ORANGES FOR STOCKINGS



**Meechu A-yi** completed the logistic management program at the vocational college in 2016; She is employed as a manager at Chiang Saen, Chiang Rai District, at an orange garden. **Am-porn Yer-lue** completed the accounting program at the vocational college in 2015; She currently works on the Subdistrict Administrative Organization staff at Chiang Saen, Chiang Rai District.

## GIFTED SNACKS FOR STOCKINGS



**Parita Pianglae (Bu-nuu)** graduated from Chiang Rai Rajabhat University with a Bachelor's degree in English Linguistics in 2019; She is currently working in Malaysia. **Mayura Mayer** attended Chiang Rai Rajabhat University; she is currently working in Korea. **Ratree Yersaw** graduated from Chiang Rai University with a Bachelor's degree in Social Development in 2015; She is currently works in Korea.

## PROVIDED AN ICE CREAM PARTY FOR THE ENTIRE CAMPUS FOR CHILDREN'S DAY



**Buaban Mayer** completed her High vocational certificate in fashion design at the vocational college in 2019; She works as a nanny for a family in Bangkok. **A-mee Batu** completed her High vocational certificate in fashion design at the vocational college in 2019; She works in her hometown. **Wasana Chuntrakundee** completed her High vocational certificate in food and nutrition at the vocational college in 2019; She works at a restaurant in Chiang Rai.

## PROVIDED A SPECIAL MEAL FOR ALL THE GIRLS AND A SEAFOOD FEAST FOR THE STAFF



**Seesuda Wengsaku** graduated from Chiang Rai Rajabhat University with a Bachelor's degree in English Linguistics in 2017; She is currently working in Australia.

## PROVIDED SNACKS FOR CHILDREN'S DAY



**Jinda Yepo** completed her certificate in food & nutrition from the vocational college in 2019; She is married, has a beautiful boy, and works in Chiang Rai.

These are just a few of the gifts bestowed by our alumnae, we are grateful for God breaking the curse of poverty and replacing it with the blessing of generosity in the hearts of so many. ◀

*FAY INMAN is the Advocate at Global Servants. With over 25 years of experience as an advocate nationally for girls. Fay has been married to Kenny for over thirty years, and they have two daughters: Kennedy, Gussy and grand-baby Ophelia Fay.*



# Hope And A License To Dream

Your generosity is moving mountains

By Tyler Ellis

For anyone who has followed Global Servants for the past several years, you know that Giving Tuesday has become a staple holiday event for us. We look forward to rolling out new initiatives every year with passion to help and serve even more people around the globe. 2022 was our best yet! This year we decided to build upon an initiative that has been at the core of who Global Servants has always been, Education. This year, we decided to mobilize our efforts and take education resources to those who desperately need them but have no way of obtaining them.



In partnership with our teams in Northern Thailand and West Africa, we have successfully purchased and are distributing educational materials to more than 900 children in rural villages. These are children who go to school every day, some walking miles through harsh terrain, with no materials and sit on dirt floors trying to gain as much knowledge as possible. It is for these students, these bright young lives, these children that God has given a destiny to that called us into action. From the lives of these beautiful children the village backpack program was birthed.

For \$50, we can resource students in rural villages with: a backpack, water bottle, pencils, chalk, personal slate, books, Bible, and other essential items for effective learning. The pictures you see here are of my last trip to Thailand where I had the pleasure of distributing backpacks in a rural village school just north of Chiang Rai. The children were so happy to receive such a gift that they acted as if it were Christmas morning. For many of them, this was their Christmas present as it was just three days after Christmas. I spoke with a young lady who was in 7th grade.

With tears in her eyes she thanked Global Servants because this was the first backpack and books she had ever owned. This is much more than just a backpack, it is hope and light. For most of these kids this is the biggest investment into their educational future they will ever receive. The backpack is a symbol of hope and a license to dream.

Due to the overwhelming success of Giving Tuesday, Global Servants has decided to make this initiative a permanent program. After passing out these items, we have seen firsthand the impact this has on these students, teachers, schools, and communities. We are also seeing the local governments rally behind this initiative opening doors for our teams to witness in places that have been closed off to them previously. A team from Restoration Church in Bethlehem, Georgia, joined Ronny



© Tyler Ellis





and I as we handed out the first round of backpacks in northern Thailand. I watched as this team felt the joy of blessing young lives and being blessed by the awesome experience of seeing lives changed and empowered right in front of them.

Visit our website and learn more about what you can do to help give these same life changing resources to children in rural villages around the world. If you are interested in taking a group trip like Restoration Church, please email [tyler@globalservants.org](mailto:tyler@globalservants.org). For corporate or church partnerships, please email our Chief



of Staff Ronny Brannen at [ronny@globalservants.org](mailto:ronny@globalservants.org) to learn how your organization can get involved and possibly even do a trip together. ◀

*TYLER ELLIS comes from a background of sales in corporate America. He has been in ministry for more than 10 years now in various positions. He currently serves as not only the Chief Operations Officer for Global Servants, but also as the Family Life Pastor at Restoration Church in Bethlehem, Ga. Tyler has been married to his beautiful wife, Megan, for over 10 years and they have three children; Regan, Zeke, and Willow.*



**"THANK YOU TO ALL OUR GIVING TUESDAY PARTNERS"**



**Educational Resources To Ghana**

**Estimated Arrival**

**4/15/2023**





## Well At St. Monica's Senior High School

When Afia, an original House of Grace girl, enrolled at St. Monica's Senior High School, the school needed a new water source. Global Servants stepped in, funding a new

well and reservoir. We are excited to assist in the education of girls in many ways. Because of generous supporters like you, we can say yes to community outreach as the need arises.



# EMPOWERING KIDS WITH EARLY EDUCATION SUPPORT

## WHAT YOU CAN DO

**RESOURCE 1 STUDENT PER YEAR**  
(\$300/annually)

**RESOURCE 1 CLASSROOM (40 Students)**  
(One-time gift of \$1,000)

**RESOURCE 1 SCHOOL (200 Students)**  
(One-time gift of \$5,000)







## Without Limitations

Mission trips, elephant rides and experiences that last a lifetime

By Dorothy Poe

I believe mission trips are for individuals with a heart and compassion for other human beings and not just the young, energetic, and strong.

When I was quite a bit younger, I had the privilege to go on several mission trips to Central America as a registered nurse. We did surgery on the poorest women I have ever seen in the worst possible conditions. We also stayed in unique accommodations living among the people of Central America. It was one of the most rewarding experiences of my life.

We support Global Servants and sponsor a lovely young lady at House of Grace-Thailand. When the December trip to Thailand was announced, I had to consider my age and possible limitations. Signing up for the journey to Thailand meant long flights, preparation for those long flights, and traveling halfway around the world. I had never been to the Asia,

but the thought of visiting another part of the world, seeing the House of Grace, giving a hug to our sponsored child, and letting her know we love her was all I needed to say YES, where do I sign?

This trip was amazing. Not only did we get to see the wonderful House of Grace, stay in very nice accommodations, and eat amazing Thai food but we were able to witness the love, care, nurturing and compassion afforded to each young girl living there. I was able to shop for school supplies for backpacks and distribute them to the schoolchildren of the Akha village, sew buttons on little girls' clothing, and even play board games with a group of giggling girls. In addition, we accomplished our primary goal of setting up a dental office for the next team arriving.

We experienced Thailand's beautiful country in the cities of Chiang Mai, Chiang

Rai, and visited the border of Myanmar (Burma). Visiting the Akha villages in the mountains gave us an authentic view of the hill tribe people of Thailand. Coffee plantations and pineapple fields were abundant. You could see coffee beans drying on the roofs of many homes. We also visited the Elephant Village and did something I never believed I would do, ride an elephant.

Looking back on this amazing trip, I can only say *Khob Khun Ka* (Thank You) to the wonderful people of Thailand. ◀

*DOROTHY POE has been a Global Servants sponsor for a little over a year. She learned about Global Servants through Restoration Church. Dorothy and her husband, John, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary this year. They enjoy camping with family and friends but spending time with their seven grandchildren is their favorite thing to do.*



# FINDING FREEDOM

*with Travis Rutland*



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# This Changes Everything!

Small decisions that change everything, forever!

BY DR. MARK RUTLAND

**T**HIS CHANGES EVERYTHING! Have you ever heard the phrase? Think back over your life. Think of those huge moments, those nerve-wracking decisions that changed everything. College; if and where. Marriage; if and to whom. That big job in another state. Whether to buy that first house and when to plunge out there and start that business. If you had made different decisions at such complex intersections it might very well have altered the course of your life.

In fact, the smallest of decisions, even those we make without a moment's thought, can have the same life-changing effect. If you had crossed some long-forgotten street a moment earlier, you might have been killed by that gravel truck that came out of nowhere going far too fast. If you had gone to convenience store A instead of B, you might have met girl B instead of girl A who became your wife. Every day we make a thousand small decisions, each of which has the capacity to change everything. Of course, we cannot live our lives thinking like that. Shall I take this bite? What if I choke on it? Shall I drive to the post office? Maybe this is the very car trip I will someday be glad I didn't take. Such thinking would paralyze us or drive us insane.

A New Year is full of hope and promise and I pray that 2023 will be a year of blessings for you and yours. Believe me, I pray that same prayer for the Rutland's as well! Yet we know it will also be a year of challenges, changes and complicated decisions. That's not intended to scare anyone. It is to say we go into this new year trusting in the same good God who was with us in the last year and all the years behind us. As He has been so shall He be; worthy of our praise, our worship and our trust.

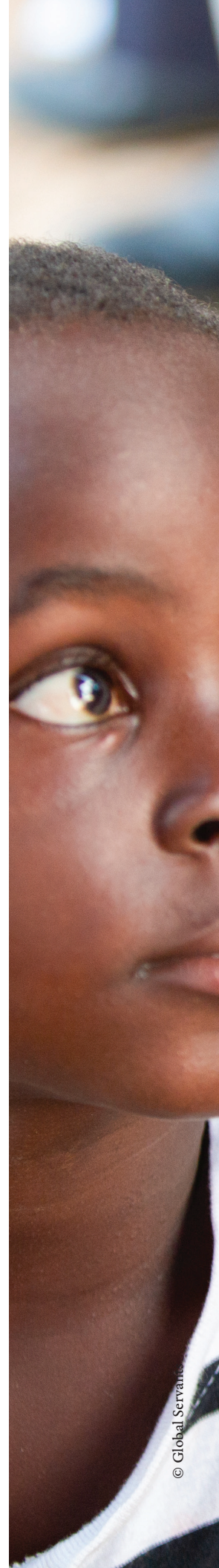
This year there are big changes ahead for Global Servants and for our family. Travis and Courtney are moving to Cartersville, Georgia to assume

the leadership of The Church At Liberty Square. **THIS** changes everything. Alison and I are also moving to Cartersville. **THAT** certainly changes everything. Last year I turned 75! For those of you not yet thus educated, let me tell you *that* did change everything. So, the Rutland family is changing... again! Of course, in the midst of change in our personal lives, we remind ourselves not to forget what Global Servants is really about, which is changing everything for others. That is what Global Servants has been about from the very beginning... even when it was called Trinity Foundation. By the way, that was another big change.

When I think about changing everything for others these questions come to mind. What about a little boy in some remote village in Ghana who has no real hope of getting educated, of being anything, of having any life except that of an illiterate laborer doing back-breaking work for a pittance? What about the day Global Servants says, we are going to help you get educated? We are going to take on the job and the expense of your schooling. We are going to buy your supplies, and your books and help you stay in your village school and go on for further education? We are going to help you make something of your life. What do you think that boy says? He says, **THIS CHANGES EVERYTHING!** ◀

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DR. MARK RUTLAND is the Founder of Global Servants. He is a New York Times Best Selling author, educator, charismatic leader, businessman and a nationally recognized figure in Christian higher education. Dr. Rutland has been married to his wife Alison for more than 50 years now. They reside in the greater Atlanta area. For more information about Dr. Rutland please visit ([drmarkrutland.com](http://drmarkrutland.com)) and follow him on Twitter ([@drmarkrutland](https://twitter.com/drmarkrutland)).





A close-up photograph of three young African children. The child in the center is a boy with short, dark hair, looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. He is wearing a dark blue polo shirt. To his left is another boy, partially visible, wearing a white shirt with black horizontal stripes. To the right is a girl, also partially visible, wearing a green shirt. The background is slightly blurred, showing what appears to be a white plastic chair.

**“ THIS  
CHANGES  
EVERYTHING!”**





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