

Your connection with tribal missions

NEW TRIBES MISSION OF CANADA

NTM@WORK



Meet the needs
you see in faith

NTM@WORK

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In the face of massive needs, what can you do? Where do you start? One man did what he could — and trusted God for the rest. ➤

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14 CONSIDER THIS

Facing obstacle after obstacle, Dena McMaster never doubted that God is good, and never wavered in her commitment to serve Him wherever He put her.



Photo by Dave Forney

OVERWHELMED

By Ian Fallis

The needs appeared impossible to meet after a major typhoon swept through the Philippines.

Sunlight gilded the waves over the depth and breadth of his vision when Nonoy emerged from his home the morning after Typhoon Haiyan hit the Philippines. On that November morning in 2013, each ripple echoed like a thousand tiny voices singing the power and beauty of God's creation.

Then the surf thundered ashore, roiling the debris of hundreds of lives torn apart by the destructive power of the storm, and drawing Nonoy's eyes to the damage onshore.

Docks were splintered. Boats driven ashore, their hulls torn or even twisted. Trees uprooted. Homes and livelihoods shattered.

Worst of all was the human toll. And that would increase if help did not arrive soon. Treatable injuries would become life-threatening. Then exposure, disease, hunger, and thirst would sweep through the islands like a scythe, taking down all those left standing.

The needs were clear to Nonoy.

On the ocean, the calm after the storm was beautiful. On land, it was another matter entirely.

Photo by Dale Stroud

What could one man do in the face of such need? The better question is, How could any believer do less than all he could do?

Photos by Dale Stroud



You might ask, “What could one man do in the face of such need?” The better question is, “How could any believer do less than all he could do?”

He was equipped ... but not for this

His name is Gualberto B. Ortiz Jr., but everyone knows him as Nonoy. At the time Typhoon Haiyan hit, Nonoy, a native of the Philippines, lived on a remote island chain where few had the opportunity to hear God’s Word and respond to Him.

He was equipped for that need. Trained by NTM Philippines in cross-cultural church planting, his 24-year ministry was ongoing. Some had responded. In other places, entire villages and islands had turned their backs on his work. However, Nonoy never gave up. He rolled up his spiritual sleeves and went to work where he was welcomed.

The needs facing him in the aftermath of the typhoon were no less an opportunity to demonstrate God’s love to the people of these islands. He had no idea how all the needs would be met, but he knew where to start.



Doing all that he could do

Before the typhoon, friends had helped Nonoy move his boat deep into a mangrove swamp. It rode out the storm unscathed. Now he recovered it, and set off for a larger island.

There, he found relief supplies already trickling in. There wasn’t much available yet, but there was enough for his small boat. He took what he could fit in, and headed back. On the islands, he unloaded his meager cargo to thankful crowds.

Again and again he crossed the open water in his small boat. Again and again he delivered food and water, medical supplies and tarps. He wondered how long he could keep this up. He had little time to rest or eat, and no time to maintain his boat and its motor. On any trip, there or back again, he could become another statistic—another casualty of Typhoon Haiyan.

Worse, he knew the people of the islands needed so much more — more than he could bring across, and faster than his boat would allow.

The problem was not supplies. The church in the Philippines had responded generously from the minute the typhoon hit. As word of the enormity of the disaster spread, more aid poured in from the Philippines and around the world.

But Nonoy was only one man, stretched thin, with one small boat. He lifted his eyes to God — again — and asked for help. God already had the answer in hand.

A perfect fit for a specific need

In a different part of the Philippines, Brian Pruettt and his co-workers with NTM Aviation were wrestling with the same problem on a different scale.

“I remember getting emails from other mission organizations and churches who had people they knew in

top - Nonoy has taken time – in many cases, years – to develop relationships with the people of the islands.
bottom - Nonoy explains how fishing nets will be distributed.

DISASTER RELIEF BY THE NUMBERS

See the breakdown of payload, flight costs and hours that NTM contributed to the Philippines relief effort.

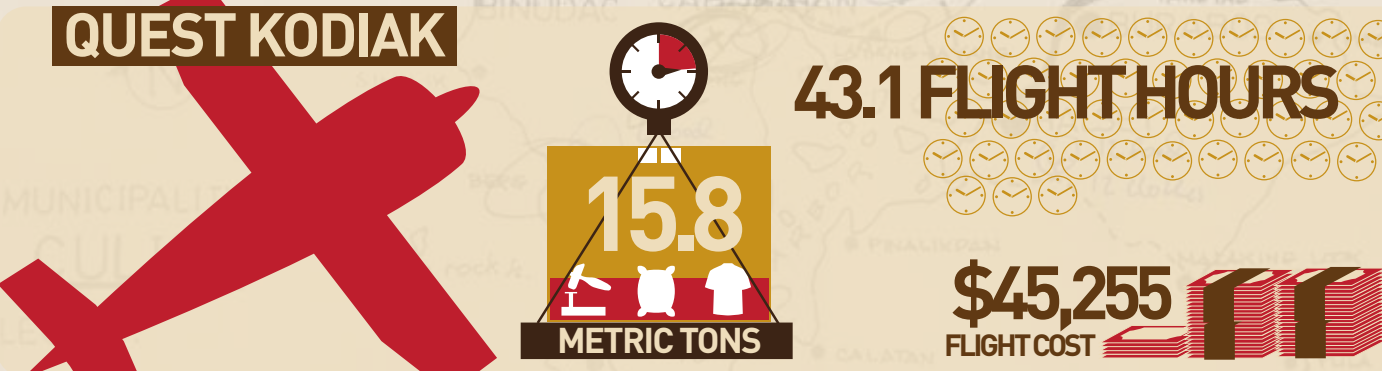
ROBINSON 44



CESSNA 185



QUEST KODIAK



BELL JET RANGER



Photo by Dave Forney

I remember someone told me that even though what we have might be small compared to the overwhelming disaster, it won't be small for the people we help.

the ground zero area," Brian said. "They were begging us to fly in and get their friends and families. It was such a sick feeling at first to know there were so many needs and we couldn't possibly meet all of them."

A couple of missionaries who work in a different chain of islands from Nonoy brought the situation in their area to Brian's attention. "There were tremendous needs... and there were no air agencies working in that area," Brian said.

People who lived on fish and rice had no way to get either. Fishermen could not fish. "Their boats were all broken," Brian said. "Literally, all of them were broken. Their incredible seaweed farms which they used to sell... to get money to buy rice had also been destroyed. Their homes were flattened, and for many, everything they owned had been swept out to sea."

"We saw a need that we were uniquely qualified and equipped to meet. We just didn't have enough equipment, people or finances to do it... We felt it was the thing to do and we needed to trust that God would provide."

A need that seemed too big

Even so, trying to meet these overwhelming needs with two tiny airplanes and one small helicopter brought to mind another crowd who needed feeding. A crowd that was fed — and even had leftovers — when a little boy gave Jesus his meager lunch of fish and bread.

"We decided to give everything we had to try and make a difference even though it seemed hopeless," Brian said. "I remember someone told me that even though what we have might be small compared to the overwhelming disaster, it won't be small for the people we help."

They began flying "from sunup to sundown."

And then it got harder. The area where Nonoy and others work came to their attention.

"We learned... that there were 14 islands where our [Filipino] missionaries were working that needed relief goods," Brian said. "These islands were ones that NTM was hoping to pioneer church planting efforts on in the future and we saw this as an open door."

"The problem was that we didn't have enough aircraft or people to handle it. Whatever we did we wanted to do it well and complete it, so it was hard to think of splitting our already small fleet to start another operation."

God provided resources

Nonoy and Brian saw God at work — abundantly.

"Once we stepped out in faith, God supplied all we needed," Brian said.

MAF sent a team experienced in disaster relief that provided vital logistical support. NTM Aviation could not have kept flying without their help obtaining fuel, providing a place for pilots and mechanics to sleep and food to eat,



Sacks of rice sustained young and old in the days and weeks following Typhoon Haiyan.

as well as arranging for the supplies themselves to be at the right places, helping with paperwork and more.

NTM Aviation brought NTM's only Kodiak airplane from another country in the Asia-Pacific region. The plane had about four times the capacity of the Cessna 185s that NTM Aviation had in the Philippines. A helicopter owned by Helimission and operated by NTM Aviation was also flown in from the same country.

This provided the capacity to serve both areas.

Nonoy himself was an asset to the NTM Aviation team. He helped them identify areas of greatest need, and went along on flights to pave the way into isolated villages.

And NTM USA's team in Sanford, Florida, helped raise more than a quarter-million dollars to help with relief efforts. They provided an online conduit for gifts, and kept stories flowing to illustrate the need and to show people how their gifts were helping. God's people responded, trusting that whatever they gave, God would multiply to meet needs.

The results God provided were astounding.

"As the flying picked up, God provided mechanics, pilots, logisticians, pastors, contacts, government officials, and everything else we needed when we needed it," Brian said. "We set out to help [one] island and the immediate surrounding islands, and we ended up taking care of all the needs in the Western path of the typhoon."

Relief becomes rebuilding

As the need for relief supplies tapered off, rebuilding began.

NTM Aviation brought in seedlings to restore the seaweed farms that provided a cash crop. New Tribes Mission also helped with house rebuilding and boat repairs or replacement.

ANI, an international relief and development organization, got further involved. Jody Crain of ANI asked Nonoy to check with local leaders to find out what they needed. "Fishing nets," was the answer. "We want to be able to provide for our families, and right now we are still dependent on food from the outside," Jody was told.

"This was seven months afterwards," Jody added. "There were islands where about 80 percent of the people on the islands were still



Photos by Dave Forney

dependent on outside food sources."

Rebuilding has also been spiritual.

Doors opened because Nonoy, New Tribes Mission and ANI had what Jody called an "open hand," sharing with any and all in need regardless of religious affiliation or interest.

After two or three months of aid and rebuilding, Nonoy began to hear a new message from village leaders who had previously told him he was unwelcome. "Well, next time you come, why don't you plan to stay a little longer and let's have Bible studies?" they said.

Today, three churches are well on the path toward being established, and Bible studies are taking place in two more villages.

Why? Because people were willing to step out in faith.

Will you step out in faith?

Our Western culture tells us to plan things out, and get all our ducks in a row before acting. Some believers take the parable of the tower (Luke 14:28-29) out of context and draw a similar conclusion.

... why don't you stay a little longer and let's have Bible studies?

Sometimes God does provide a way while you watch. That's what He did for the Israelites at the Red Sea (Exodus 14). But when they came to the Jordan River, God expected them to act first (Joshua 3). The priests waded into the river, and then God parted the waters.

God has probably shown you the way forward time and again. He has likely opened doors for you more than once, providing the means to move ahead.

Maybe this is a time you need to wade in, trusting God to act. Maybe you ought to hand Jesus your lunch, even though you don't seem to have enough to meet the need, and trust Him to multiply it.

He will act. He will meet needs when we act in faith.

What are you going to trust Him for today?

A Cessna 185 can't carry much, but it was what NTM Aviation personnel had to offer when they responded to God's call to help.

Graduating class of 2014
Photo by Karen Whatley



“God’s work done in God’s way will never lack God’s supply.”

— Hudson Taylor

An Appeal to Prayer

By Jason Bechtel

Together with you, NTM Canada has been praying that “the Lord of the harvest [would] send out labourers into His harvest” (Luke 10:2). Specifically, we have been praying that God would use NTM to mobilize, equip and serve an increasing number of cross-cultural church planters.

God is Answering our Prayers

At the NTM Canada home office and training campus in Durham, Ontario, there is no longer a room large enough for all the staff to gather for fellowship. Space for student chapels is insufficient. Challenging the hearts of visiting groups is limited as well. We need a new multi-purpose space.

Work is Underway

In order to improve our ability to mobilize, equip and serve the next generation of cross-cultural church planters, we have begun to convert an unused building, the old classroom building, into a multi-purpose building.

The Connection Centre will include:

- A fellowship hall large enough for campus-wide times of fellowship.
- Temporary additional classroom space for Emanate, NTM Canada’s missionary training program.
- A kitchen for preparing and serving meals to visiting church groups and work teams. With help from volunteers, the interior was gutted, opening up a much needed space for fellowship.

God is Providing the Funding

Praise the Lord with us. More than \$65,000 of the needed \$250,000 has already been donated. We’re trusting the Lord for the remaining funds. Please pray with us.

A Call to Prayer

Every Wednesday morning we have set aside time to pray specifically for this critical need. Would you please commit to praying with us in faith?

Learn more at canada.ntm.org/connection-centre



Photo by Katie Peterson

It’s More than You Think

By David Pierce

What does the word “missions” bring to mind? Do you think of accountants, network administrators or dental hygienists? The missionary team is full of such people. But where do they come from and how do they get their training?

A Member of the Team

Meet Jerry Lehman, the new Creative Director with NTM USA Communications. His career served as his training. “I spent 25 years in business as a graphic designer, creative director for a publishing company and most recently as creative production manager for an electronics distributor.

“It’s amazing how all of these different work experiences have each given to me skills that I brought here.”

His knowledge of video is one example. “Just days after I was interviewing [with NTM], my company said, ‘You need to know more about video. We need to send you to school.’ So they sent me to a couple seminars and workshops where I got to really experience video.”

God’s Preparation

Jerry’s skills and experience in the workforce were the perfect training for missions. *Your career skills can be used in the context of missions too.* Serve in missions in North America or around the world through education, IT, communications, business and administration, construction and maintenance, health care and more.

“It took 52 years for me to figure out you don’t have to be an evangelist or what we think of as ‘big jobs’ for God. You could just be the person that God has created you to be and you use your gifts.”

What training, skills and abilities have you acquired in your career? How has God been preparing you to serve Him in missions?

Find your opportunities at canada.ntm.org/go-on-the-journey/skilled-associates/

Photos by Craig Bauman & Jason Bechtel



Our people must learn to devote themselves to doing what is good, in order that they may provide for daily necessities and not live unproductive lives.

Titus 3:14 NIV

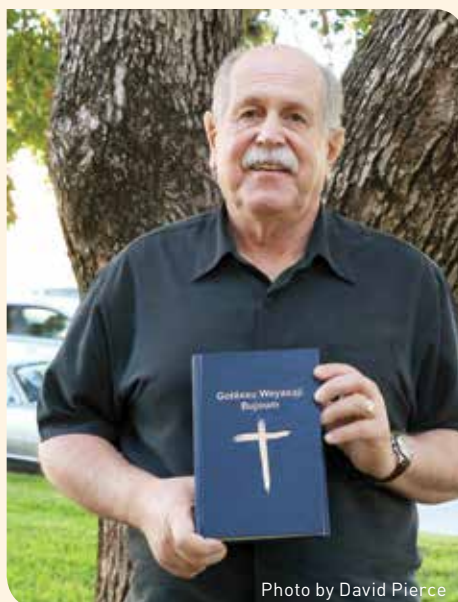


Photo by David Pierce
Greg Melendes, translator

Upcoming Waxe New Testament Dedication

Many have prayed and sacrificed financially for this day to come. Behind the scenes, support personnel have worked hard to make this day possible. But what day are we talking about?

We're talking about April 15, 2015, the day on which the dedication for the Waxe New Testament will be held. It's a monumental day for both translator Greg Melendes and the Waxe church.

Even now the logistics are being worked out. Besides visitors from the North America, believers from the among the Bisorios, YembiYembi, Mugumute, Mariama and the mountain villages of Malaumanda will all be in attendance. Even the Waxes' one-time enemies from Inaru will join in on the celebration.

But where do you house all those people — when motels are non-existent? What do you feed them — when there's no corner grocery store? They will do it in true Waxe fashion. They will harvest all the sago needed to feed hundreds of people. They will hunt wild boar, catch fish — and preserve it without the benefit of freezers. And the Waxe people will prepare shelters to house the many guests.

But no one's complaining.

This is a long-awaited celebration. Soon they will hold the entire New Testament in their own language in their own hands — and that is worth any inconvenience.

Pray for the Waxe church as they make preparations for the celebration—and for lives affected and changed by the Scriptures.



CONNECT WITH ...

Shane and Leila Edmond
Hayden and Sienna

Church Planting in Northern Canada
Sending Church > Osler Mission Chapel, SK

canada.ntm.org/missionaries/shane-leila-edmond/

At that moment, we were at a crossroads, Leila had called me at work to say that NTM Canada had emailed our acceptance letter and at that point we had a decision to make.

After years of being involved in youth ministry, we now had two kids, a dog, and a home out in the country on a chunk of property. We lived close to some family, had strong friendships and were blessed to be part of an amazing home church. Everything was perfect, right? This is exactly what we wanted, right? Well, yes... and no. No, simply because the Lord had been stirring in our hearts the things that He desired to lead us in. And how do you ignore the Holy Spirit's leading in your life when it's so clear, even as difficult as it was. Do we pack up, leaving family and friends, and head to the training center and begin the 18 month training program with New Tribes Mission? As painful as it was to move away, it was exactly all those relationships that have supported us along this journey.

As we were listening to an NTM missionary share about who NTM was and what they were involved in, the Lord challenged us to re-evaluate the direction for our lives. This missionary took a group of us to Wayumi and during the retreat, we were challenged to take our role in the body of Christ seriously. "When you do not fulfill your role in the body of Christ, you are hurting the ENTIRE body. So, seek what role the Lord has for you in His body and fulfill that role 100%". These words sank to the depths of our hearts and that night, as we sat in our room, we both knew that Lord was asking us to step out in faith.

We began the application process with NTM Canada and prayed that through this process the Lord would really make His way known to us. In the next weeks, so many things came together in a way that only God could have done and a few months later our family was packed up and heading to Durham, Ontario. The Lord has used this time to encourage and build us up as a family, and has guided us into the overwhelming task of joining Him in the work that He has already started in Northern Canada among the First Nation and Inuit people groups. We know that we can't do this, but every day we are more thankful that we follow our God who can.



CONNECT WITH ...

Ken & Debbie Dewar

Kendra, Kaylee and Austin

Supporting tribal church planting in Colombia
Sending Church > Campbell River Baptist Church, BC

canada.ntm.org/missionaries/ken-and-debbie-dewar/

In 2010, we sensed that God was asking us to trust Him by taking a major step of faith. He had plans for our lives, a plan that included full time missions, but that meant leaving our old lives behind. Our prayer became: "Whatever it takes Lord, our lives are yours", a prayer that we don't regret.

We are now headed to Colombia. God has burdened our hearts for the national training program there and He continues to lead the way so that we may assist in reaching tribes with the Good News of Jesus Christ. Our desire is to be obedient to Christ, testify to God's amazing faithfulness and encourage others to do the same.



Where can you get training for cross-cultural church planting?

Emanate is NTM Canada's training program for believers interested in church planting among unreached people groups. At Emanate, students are equipped as part of a community that is committed to sacrifice, excellence and urgency for the Gospel. Teaching from field-proven theory, our trainers have been there and teach from firsthand experience. Check out: emanatetraining.ca



emanate

EQUIPPING FOR CROSS-CULTURAL
CHURCH PLANTING

Meeting Needs When She Had Her Own

By Ian Fallis

Often, what I can do looks so small compared to the need. Sometimes the need looks too difficult. I need to be reminded that God calls me to do my part, while trusting Him to do the rest. And my former co-worker Dena McMaster is a vivid reminder for me.

I used to joke that I would not have been surprised to receive the following email from Dena:

*Ian,
I got hit by a bus last night. Broke both legs and one arm. So I'll be a little late in the morning, since I'll have to drag myself up the stairs with my good arm.*

*Dena
"For me, to live is Christ."*

That's the kind of dedication Dena brought to her work as part of NTM USA's Communications team before she passed on this fall.

"I'm convinced that Dena, with her numerous and serious health problems, lived longer than many of us expected because of her indomitable spirit," said Debbie Burgett, a writer and editor on our Communications team.

"She'd be in the hospital again and I'd think, 'Oh, dear. This is it.' But it wasn't. Not by a long shot. Until God clearly let her know, 'This is it,' she was going to keep right on working and serving and giving and reaching out and meeting the needs she saw in faith. And that's what she did. Her spirit trumped her failing body many times over."

More than once I suggested she could work from home

if that was easier for her. But she insisted on coming up the stairs to our third-floor office.

Chris Holland, probably her closest friend on our team, would tell you that coming to the office was often "more about being with everyone here." That's also why she kept a basket of candy on her desk. She loved having people stop by for a snack and a snippet — or more — of conversation.

And the tagline on Dena's emails always stood out to me. "For me, to live is Christ." I think if I had been her, I would have been tempted to make my tagline, "For me, to live is pain." But not Dena.

"Dena's life itself was writing chapter after chapter of what this thing of walking with God is truly all about," said Pam Rasmussen, who worked alongside Dena. "Over the years I knew her, she experienced, on separate occasions, the loss of two young-adult children as well as personally suffered from many serious and debilitating health issues.

"Yet, in the midst of her challenges and heartache, she would tell you without hesitation that God is good. I never, once, on any given day, saw Dena without a smile. She was not a complicated person, but rather one who had simple and consistent trust in her Lord, no matter what."



Dena with a Malinké friend in the 1980s

She continued to hope that she could get back to Senegal, where she and her husband, Jim, ministered to the Malinké people for ten years. "She had a heart for that," Chris said.

She also had a heart for serving where she was. She served for 17 years with NTM in Florida, the latter years as part of our Communications team. Health issues kept her out of the office

"... in the midst of her challenges and heartache, she would tell you without hesitation that God is good."

for months, yet Jim told me that even the day she died, she was talking about coming back.

"When God finally did decide, 'Dena, dear, this is it,' where did He find her?" Debbie asked. "At a prayer meeting. If anyone ever 'died with her boots on,' Dena did. May the same be true of us one day."

So keep your eyes open for the needs God wants you to address, and do what He tells you to do. Trust Him, and smile. Dena always found Him faithful, and you will too.

*The days were filled with sunshine,
The cloudless skies were blue;
The weather seemed so perfect,
No sign of rain in view.
But then I looked around me,
And all was desert sand;
The earth was parched and arid,
A dry and worthless land.*

*If life had only sunshine,
No stormy days or rain;
If everything were perfect,
No struggles and no pain;
It soon would be a desert.
So let us not complain;
The hard things make us stronger,
And growth comes with the rain.*

— Dena McMaster



Debbie Burgett, Dena McMaster and Rosie Cochran during a training session

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What are you afraid of?

99% of the people who consider becoming
a missionary let their fears stop them.

Be different!

canada.ntm.org/go-on-the-journey/fear-not/