

link map



Where are
Crosslinks
partners serving?

/ Running the race / Opportunities to serve

Running the race

It is tempting to look for numbers and success stories as we seek encouragement in our work for the Lord, but the Apostle Paul gives us a different reason to keep going.

'I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.'
2 Timothy 4:7

According to the Times¹, the middle of April is peak running season in the UK. Countless joggers hit pavements and parks in the warmer weather. Some square up to the 'couch to 5K' challenge, while others make the finishing touches in preparation for their marathons.

This Lycra clad army of fitness enthusiasts put in the effort to run their races – yet some of them, despite their sweaty preparations, I imagine will not finish.

2 Timothy 4:7 is a well-known verse. The Apostle Paul writes what are thought to be some of his final words to his dear friend and apprentice Timothy. As Paul looks back on his life, he essentially declares 'mission accomplished', and he now looks forward to the victor's crown (4:8). Yet we know from elsewhere in the New Testament (as well as from within 2 Timothy) that his race has not been an easy one. In fact, in verse 7 Paul likens his race to a boxing match. Paul has been in a fight: a fight for the gospel, a fight for Christlike character, a fight against all the schemes of the evil one, a fight for souls and no doubt a fight against his own sinful nature.



The men and women who serve cross culturally as Crosslinks mission and project partners are also in a fight as they run their races. And the map overleaf is just a snapshot of the hard ministry work being done all over the world.

... as you enjoy this publication, will you pray for these men and women and their ministries?

Whether it's the Lord empowering Graeme Innes to preach 36 times in 36 days and see 10 non-Christians come to Christ, or Janet who has spent the past 14 years of 'retirement' from being a teacher in southeast London to devotedly teaching English and sharing Jesus with Thai students. Or Alun and Debbie Burt's steadfast commitment to the township communities in South Africa whose lived reality is a daily struggle of gang violence and drug addiction. These are just to highlight four 'fights' and four races happening right now. Our mission partners, wherever they serve, are fighting and running as they seek to take 'God's word to God's world'.

Yet what is true for Crosslinks mission partners and project partners is the same for all disciples of Christ. Whatever the nature of our ministry, just 'staying in the fight' and 'putting one foot in front of the other' is sometimes the best that any of us can do. To remain trusting and leaning on Christ, to simply keep holding on to him, requires endurance.

The sports app Strava has unleashed a virtual competitiveness amongst runners with times, distances and stats shared and compared seemingly universally. It's tempting for churches, parachurch ministries, and mission organisations to do something similar. To publish numbers and trumpet good news stories of growth and victory. And by God's grace, Crosslinks has many we could share – alongside a fair share of disappointments, setbacks and struggles.

But encouraging stats and stories only get you so far. And they're not where Paul goes. 2 Timothy 4:7 is the encouragement we need to simply remain in the fight and to put one foot in front of the other when it would be easy to give up in the marathon of the Christian life.

So, as you enjoy this publication, will you *pray* for these men and women and their ministries? We commend to you our prayer diary – a few sentences each day that gives not only a window into God's work all over the world but is a spiritual discipline that nourishes our souls – and *People & Places* on our website which gives more detail.

I'm not sure how many runners across the UK will finish their races this summer, but pray for us and for our partners that we will finish ours.

Rupert Shelley, Director of Mission Partnerships

1 The Times, 15 April 2025, 'How to run a marathon – without injury', Peta Bee



💧 **Mission partners** – seconded to a church or Christian organisation overseas for at least three years, our long-term mission partners are sent by their local church and supported by churches and individuals. Crosslinks mission partners go wherever Bible-based ministries are needed and are passionate about making Jesus known. They serve by training gospel workers, in church planting and strengthening, and in frontline evangelism.

💧 **Project partners** – Crosslinks supports local partners running gospel projects in their own countries. These projects are all involved in training Bible teachers and church leaders, or in evangelism. Full details of all our project partners can be found at **crosslinks.org/project-partners**

Opportunities to serve

The global church has highlighted three varied opportunities to serve alongside established mission partners in Asia, Africa and South America. As you explore where Crosslinks partners are serving, why not consider whether you, or someone you know, could answer the call of our brothers and sisters across the world.

Read stories of current mission partners on our blog and get in touch at contact@crosslinks.org to find out more.



Join us in **prayer**

Join us at our online prayer meetings with supporters on Zoom. Hear from and pray for Crosslinks mission partners. Sign up at **pletters@crosslinks.org**



21 July, 7pm

Andrew and Bethanie Walker,
serving in Argentina



15 September, 7pm

Alastair and Elise Donaldson
serving in Ireland



**8 September,
7.30pm**

Helen Sheridan,
serving in Ireland

Europe

InterAction Camps, Belgium, France, Germany
Youth ministry & evangelism

Belgium

Robbie and Lizzie Bellis, Louvain-la-Neuve
Church leadership

James and Lou Clark, Louvain-la-Neuve
Student ministry

Steve and Dawn Orange, Brussels
Church leadership

Charles and Frances de Roemer, Binche
Church leadership

Czech Republic

Jirka and Keira Kralovi, Olomouc
Student ministry

France

Sena and Jane Ounate-Lare, Caen
Church leadership

Hungary

Andy and Zsófi Oatridge, Budapest
Training youth leaders

Sam Bronsdon, Budapest
Training youth leaders

Ireland

Alastair and Elise Donaldson, Loughrea
Church ministry

Simon and Abigail Donohoe, Dublin
Church planting

Helen Sheridan, Castlebar
Women & children's ministry

Italy

JP and Sue Aranzulla, Bologna
Church leadership

Chris and Lizzie Brown, Bologna
Student ministry

Jonny and Ruth Pullar, Modena
Church ministry

Mark and Jane Oden, Naples
Church leadership

Luigi Palombo, Milan
Church & student ministry

Moldova

Matt and Sarah Gurtler, Chişinău
Church ministry

Graeme and Bequi Innes, Chişinău
Church ministry

Serbia

Riste and Tea Micev, Novi Sad
Ministry training

Brada (and Yatz) Radanovic, Novi Sad
Church leadership

Spain

Julian and Nicky Milson, Valencia
Church leadership

Chris and Rosy Redfearn, Valencia
Church ministry

Sweden

Chris and Lotta Strajnic, Stockholm
Church leadership & ministry training

Trevor and Andrea Watson preparing to return to Sweden
Church ministry

Portugal

Joe and Rachel Clarke, Coimbra
Church leadership

UK

Gillian Pegler, South Wales
Prison chaplain

Thorsten and Kerstin Prill, Edinburgh, Scotland
Mission consultants

Josh and Cathy Hooker preparing to return to Namibia
Theological training

Pāradaugava Reformed Church, Riga, Latvia
Church ministry

Asia and Australasia

Janet, Chiang Mai, Thailand
TEFL & student evangelism

John and Gillian Robinson, Bangkok, Thailand
Children's ministry

Neil and Sharon Watkinson, Sydney, Australia
International ministry training

David and Rachel Williams, Melbourne, Australia
Training mission partners with CMS-A



Kantipur Church, Kathmandu, Nepal
Church ministry

Kenya

Gerald and Louise Mwangi, Nairobi
Training youth workers

Alison Talbert, Kilifi
Nutrition intervention research

Jomo Nderitu, Marsabit
Youth ministry & evangelism

Ken Irungu, Kikuyu
Youth ministry & training

St Julian's Centre, Limuru
Bible-handling & ministry training

Opportunities

TEFL teacher evangelists in Southeast Asia

The Lord is using TEFL teachers to share the gospel with many people. There are opportunities to serve in Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam and Laos, short-term or long-term

Across Africa

Rick and Alanna Creighton, Jos, Nigeria
Theological training

Jem Hovil, East Africa
Ministry training

Andy and Rachel Symons, Mkushi, Zambia
Working relationally with church leaders

Portia Yiadom, Accra, Ghana
Student ministry

Africa

Uganda

Andrew and Eunice Moody, Yumbe
Refugee ministry training

Rachael (and Bernie) Muluuta, preparing to return to Uganda
Youth ministry

Ethiopia

Nekemte School for the Deaf, Nekemte
Children's ministry

South Africa

James and Lucy Buchanan, Johannesburg
Church leadership

John and Jenny Miller, Johannesburg
Theological training

Nat and Helen Schluter, Johannesburg
Theological training

Alun and Debbie Burt, Cape Town
Church leadership

Janet Webb, Villiersdorp
School Bible worker

Adam and Nomfundo Tomalin, KwaZulu-Natal
Church ministry

Christ Central Soweto, Johannesburg
Church ministry

Opportunities

Theological trainers in Sub-Saharan Africa

Bible colleges are growing rapidly, seeking mature, theologically strong trainers who can work under African leadership and minister with the challenges cultural diversity brings.

Mission partners and project partners who are serving in sensitive locations or ministries are not included for their safety. Please don't let that stop you praying for them - see our prayer diary for more detail.

Opportunities

Spanish-speaking (or willing to improve) Anglican clergy in Argentina

The Bishop of the Diocese of Argentina has highlighted the need for trained Anglican clergy who can teach the Bible faithfully. There is spiritual appetite but many churches are without clergy.