UPDATE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

RICHARD HANEY

Each year, I ask my staff to reflect on how their work fulfilled our two-fold goals of mobilizing the Church and fostering frontier mission partnerships. 2021 brought a second year of pandemic interruptions. Church visits were limited, vision trips canceled and our 40th Anniversary celebration postponed. However, in reading our mobilizer’s reflections, I was encouraged by the flexibility, ingenuity, creativity and courage of a team undeterred in its calling to see the Good News reach all peoples.

Our newer mobilizing staff represent Frontier Fellowship’s future as they mobilize wider to engage college students, churches of color and other new friends in frontier mission. Despite pandemic obstacles, they initiated relationships with over 60 churches or ministries in 2021.

Our staff are leaning into this vision to mobilize wider, keeping our promise to help more churches know and care about the frontier. In this report, we highlight four new mobilizers who joined our team through a “rapid on-ramp experiment.” In a time of uncertainty, finding new friends who are willing to co-invest in such an important work is an extraordinary privilege.

In the months ahead, we anticipate a strong return to our typical travel routines. However, we will carry forward the lessons learned in the digital space, our new networks and a renewed spirit of ingenuity in frontier work. Though the world faces many new challenges, I am convinced that now is the moment for the global Church to come together in partnership for the sake of making Jesus’ name known.

THERE HAS NEVER BEEN A BETTER TIME TO TELL THE WORLD, AND REMIND OURSELVES, OF THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS CHRIST AND HIS KINGDOM COME!
THE GIFT OF NEW MOBILIZERS

Frontier mission mobilization is a complex and fascinating ministry. Many of our mobilizers have served with us for decades. As they grow older, we are increasingly aware of the need to inspire, equip and launch a new generation of mobilizers who can faithfully carry frontier mission mobilization forward.

In collaboration with our Board, in 2021 Frontier Fellowship launched an experiment designed to help us explore ways to make progress in this important area. We call it the “rapid on-ramp experiment.” We would like to introduce you to four new mobilizers who joined our team through this program, and share how they were impacted by it.

REV. BRADLEY LONG

When asked what words he thought best described the rapid on-ramp experiment, Bradley said:

“HELPFUL, GENEROUS + ENERGIZING!”

He explained, “The rapid on-ramp experiment has been extremely helpful for me in terms of beginning my work as a Frontier Fellowship mobilizer. It enabled me to jump into the work immediately. While raising support can be a good way to ‘mobilize’ others by sharing my ministry vision, it can be an overwhelming task to raise what is needed to do this ministry full time."

“The rapid on-ramp experiment helped with momentum and also signaled to prospective donors an amazing level of support for me from Frontier Fellowship. That kind of support is energizing and gives a great impression that what we are doing as an organization has a big impact that my donors want to be a part of!”

Bradley is in a PhD program and has expertise and interest in helping churches link and engage in frontier mission in Southeast Asia and Central Asia.

GEORGE + PAMELA PENDERGRASS

Two words came to George’s mind as he thought about the rapid on-ramp experiment:

“COVENANT + COMMITMENT!”

He felt the experiment signaled that Frontier Fellowship cared about their well-being. He said, “We knew beyond the shadow of a doubt that we were not alone on this journey. Raising funds and developing a source of consistent support can be an arduous task. The journey is often filled with plenty of ups and downs, triumphs and setbacks.”

“There are times you may feel like you want to give up and quit. Frontier Fellowship’s assistance and guidance allowed us to see that they were more like a family. They were committed to us and would not give up on us until we were able to stand and journey successfully without their assistance.”

When asked what words came to her mind regarding the rapid on-ramp experiment Pamela said:

“APPRECIATION + EXCITEMENT!”

She said that becoming mobilizers as a couple meant this would now be their entire household income. The rapid on-ramp experiment provided financial stability through the transition as they built their full support team.

George explained that it also became a “credible source of encouragement for some of their key donors.” It sent a strong message that Frontier Fellowship was serious about helping them to succeed.

George and Pamela’s work is incredibly strategic, mobilizing churches of color that historically have been underrepresented in frontier mission engagement. They are now regularly called upon to visit and help a variety of ministry leaders in different denominations because of their unique level of giftedness in this area.

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**REV. DR. JIM TRUESDELL**

When Jim was asked what words came to his mind when he thought about the rapid on-ramp experiment he said:

**“TRUST!”**

He explained, “The process of raising support—gathering a community of financial supporters—signals my trust in God’s purpose and call. But the rapid on-ramp experiment signaled that Frontier Fellowship trusted God’s purpose and call, too!

“It was as if Frontier Fellowship was saying, ‘We believe in you, your gifts and what God wants to do through you with us.’ The process of gathering a community of financial supporters and financing the day-to-day mobilizing work is an exercise of faith. The rapid on-ramp experiment shortened my runway.”

As a result, during Jim’s first six months as a Frontier Fellowship mobilizer, he was able to travel hundreds of miles meeting with twenty-three congregations and dozens of individuals. He had opportunities to preach, make presentations to mission committees and have countless informal interactions with people over meals. He also had the opportunity to visit with students at Houghton College and Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary. He said, “I feel it is important to engage the next generation and invite them into the work.” With each of these opportunities, Jim was able to highlight how people can engage with frontier mission and help the 2+ billion unreached people have access to the Good News about Jesus.

**WE THANK GOD FOR THE IMPORTANT LESSONS WE ARE LEARNING THROUGH THE RAPID ON-RAMP EXPERIMENT, AND CELEBRATE THE WAYS HE IS INCREASING OUR CAPACITY TO ENGAGE THE FRONTIER!**

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2021 **FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

Frontier Fellowship uses 5% of each contribution donated for a project to help towards operating expenses. Additional support for our operating expenses comes from contributions designated for our Frontier Fellowship Ministry Fund by churches, individuals and foundations committed to our ministry. What follows is a brief snapshot of our financial picture. If you would like copies of our audited financial statements, [click here](mailto:info@frontierfellowship.com) or contact our national office at info@frontierfellowship.com or 612.869.0062.

**COMPARING FISCAL YEARS:**

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**THANK YOU!**

We deeply appreciate your generosity and partnership in this important work so unreached peoples can hear and have the opportunity to respond to the Good News of Jesus.

Frontier Fellowship is a member of good standing with the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability.