

“Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.”

—Psalm 91:1

I Will Give You Rest



**ReFrame
Ministries**

is the new name of
Back to God Ministries International



A Ministry of the
Christian Reformed Church

Letter from the Director

In July 2024's *Today* devotional series, "Sleep and Dreams in the Bible," Rev. Selles shared meditations about rest and dreams in the Bible.

Because of our partners across North America, these devotions reached hundreds of thousands of online subscribers and print-devotional readers, including new readers and long-time readers like Mia.

"Your writings reach my mind and heart," Mia wrote. "In this sometimes sad world that we live in, your writings make me remember that Jesus is there to help us along the way. I'm praying that God's goodness, peace, and love spread across the globe and that people follow Christ's teachings."

You can find Rev. Selles' devotions at TodayDevotional.com/sleep

The picture on the front of this report was taken by high school student Ainsley Mick and is based on her reflection on the Dec. 16, 2023, *Today* devotional reading.

"Just as the noise and busyness with which we fill our lives disrupts our peace and stillness," Ainsley wrote, "so the ripples of the water disrupt the perfect reflection of the trees. Psalm 46:10 says, 'Be still, and know that I am God.'"



Director Kurt Selles (second from right) with (L to R) Arliyanus Larosa (Indonesian Ministry), Huascar de la Cruz (Spanish ministry), Masao Yamashita (Japanese Ministry), Jessica Fox (Donor Relations Manager), and Daniel Budilaksano (Indonesian Ministry)

Years ago, during our time as missionaries in China, our family experienced a troubling incident. When a thief entered our daughter's room through the window, it left us feeling exposed and anxious about our safety. Our daughter even asked us to close her window off with bricks.

Yet we found solace both through physical security measures—a watchdog joined our family shortly after the incident—and through the faithful protection promised in Psalm 91.

This psalm assures us that God shields and protects his children from harm and delivers them from their troubles. This promise has been a source of strength and reassurance during times of adversity.

As you read this annual report, I hope you'll see ways in which your support has provided not only physical protection offered in faith-based communities around the world but also renewed faith in God's unwavering care. I pray it reminds you that, despite the challenges you and your Christian brothers and sisters faced this past year, God is with us. He's ready to answer our prayers and guide us through difficult times.

Thank you for your steadfast support and prayers. Your kindness has made a lasting impact on seekers and believers around the world, and we are truly grateful for each one of you.

Rev. Kurt Selles, Director

P.S. Your support has offered rest to people who were weary, ensuring that in Christ we can face each day with renewed hope and trust.

2024 Arabic



IN EGYPT many Sunday school teachers and church leaders work countless hours to prepare for summer. It's one of the most important times of the year for forming the faith of young Christians who grow up in the Muslim-majority culture of Egypt. Many churches host a popular series of events similar to vacation Bible school.

This year your support made this preparation much less difficult. You helped to provide new Arabic Sunday school materials that will be used in churches throughout the Presbyterian Church of Egypt.

ABOUT 2,500 WOMEN have joined a private Facebook group facilitated by our English ministry program team at Family Fire. In the group, women can openly and safely share their deep struggles in abusive marriages, with addictions, and about other family-related issues. Because of your support, they receive pastoral care from *Family Fire* team members and prayers from their peers.

"Thank you so much, Family Fire, for everything you do for us," wrote one Facebook group member, "giving us a platform where we can come and bring our prayers to God, and to him alone. It is a privilege to have leaders like you walking with us and praying and encouraging us on this path, on earth, which is called life. I love your ministry and all your prayers for all of us."



2024 English

2024 French



AS PEOPLE in the Muslim majority country of Burkina Faso continue to suffer from violence and displacement, they look for answers to why they are suffering. With your help, many are finding the good news of Jesus through new radio programs that your support helps to produce. As listeners hear the good news of hope in Christ, they begin to experience a sense of peace and rest despite their tragic situation.

"My soul was longing for God," shared one listener named Bazie, who visited our discipleship staff. "I did not know what to do; the sermon on the radio enlightened me, so I decided to give myself to him."

2024

Your Impact

10 major languages

Reaching **53** countries through radio, TV, and print

6,377 donors and **402** volunteers

24 ministry websites and **73** social media pages

47 audio programs and **49** video programs

331,031 devotional emails sent daily

7,800 prayer warriors

2024

Be the first to know—with media ministry news and stories from around the world!

God is doing amazing things around the world with your support. You can receive prayer requests for brothers and sisters living in tough places, updates and stories of God's work through media ministry, and resources for your own spiritual growth—all directly from your partners around the world—by visiting ReFrameMinistries.org/subscribe.

GIVE MORE BY GIVING SMARTER

Donating noncash assets can be a great tax-wise alternative to donating cash. You may be able to increase your potential impact—and experience significant tax savings—by giving stock, real estate, or other noncash assets to ReFrame Ministries.

Benefits of Giving Noncash Assets

- **Tax-wise.** Receive a fair market value deduction for your gift and avoid tax liability on the sale of appreciated assets.
- **Eliminate hassles.** Give assets you no longer need or want to manage (such as rental properties or vacation homes) for the benefit of ReFrame Ministries.
- **Capacity to give.** Give from your excess resources without restricting cash flow.
- **Estate planning.** Eliminate potential taxes or complications for your heirs by giving complex or burdensome assets.

By considering all the resources God has entrusted to you, you can multiply the impact of your generosity **AND** eliminate unwanted costs and stress.

You have complimentary access to trusted planning support through our partnership with Barnabas Foundation (United States) and Christian Stewardship Services (Canada). For more information visit: BarnabasFoundation.com (US) or CSServices.ca (Canada).

Audited Financial Statements Available Online

We believe that everything—all of creation—belongs to the Lord. That includes our time, talents, and treasures. Because of this conviction, we strive to steward every donation in a way that honors and glorifies God. You can trust that we'll use your gift effectively and efficiently to reframe lives with God's story.

To this end you will be able to find copies of our most recent audited financial statements at ReFrameMinistries.org/about/stewardship.



2024 *Hindi*



HINDU NATIONALISM continues to be on the rise in India's political system, leaving Christians to feel weary and fearful for their well-being—and even for their lives in many areas. That's why you and other partners have faithfully prayed for and supported media ministry there.

This year your support has reached new people through growing social media groups, YouTube videos, and traditional radio messages. All of these media resources have the potential to reach people like Ahlad who do not have the support of a faith community. The only believer in his family, Ahlad found ReFrame's programs after searching online for messages of strength and conviction to help guide him in his newfound faith.

INDONESIA HAS MORE

Muslims than any other country in the world. But your gifts are helping seekers hear the good news through new social media gospel programs and equipping Sunday school teachers with new resources to disciple young believers.

"Thank you so much for the teachings, pastors," shared one YouTube viewer. "The ideas you share are very helpful for Sunday school teachers like me who are running out of ideas. God bless your ministry."



2024 *Indonesian*

2024 *Japanese*



JAPAN HAS MADE HEADLINES recently because of its aging and shrinking population. Yet believers in Japan have a deep faith that comes with a deep hope. That hope is evident ReFrame's online videos featuring the people, sights, and sounds of communities of believers in Japan. Meanwhile, radio listeners share a similar enthusiasm for the gospel messages they hear.

"I listened to your broadcast with great excitement," shared one ReFrame listener. "I am grateful to Jesus for leading me to church after half a century, and to everyone at the church who accepted me. If you are a listener who is unsure about going to church, why not take this opportunity to go to church?"



Be Still and Know

When Jerry An visited China last fall, it was the first time he set foot on his home country's soil in four years. His goal as the Chinese ministry leader for ReFrame Ministries is to share the gospel with Chinese speakers around the world using media.

As your Chinese ministry partners mark 50 years of ministry in partnership with you, Jerry recently reflected on his return to China and what he saw as opportunities and challenges in this rapidly changing mission field.

"The first thing I noticed was that everything seemed quieter," Jerry said. Yes, quieter.

"At first, I thought this quietness might be due to the popularity of electric vehicles. But it went beyond that—people's faces seemed to lack the confidence I had seen in the past. The quiet may be related to the oppressive political environment, or it could be from the trauma of the pandemic, or from concerns about China's economic downturn."

Chinese churches also seem to be extraordinarily quiet, Jerry said. He spoke with young pastors in many cities, and he learned that under today's harsh and comprehensive control and surveillance, churches are mostly forced to organize themselves into small groups and keep a low profile. With online

gatherings giving people more choices for worship, many churches are rapidly dying out or downsizing their buildings.

But Jerry recognizes this as a sign of maturity in the church.

"The Chinese church may be passing through its adolescent phase," Jerry said. "Believers have started moving away from focusing on the relationship between church and state and are now turning their attention to broader public concerns."

Your support for ReFrame has allowed Jerry and the rest of your Chinese ministry partners to adapt to these changes as well. Our printed books and online components—when available to publish safely—offer theological leaders an opportunity to dig deeper into what it means to be a Christian in today's society. They help Chinese speakers answer tough questions about their faith, and they offer biblical responses to current events in China and the greater world.

Psalm 46:10 says, "Be still, and know that I am God." The word for "still" here can also be translated as "quiet," "calm," and "relaxed." In quietness we can let go of our worries and fears and refocus our faith and hope on the almighty God.



ReFrame Ministries

2023-24 Giving \$6,402,000*

Individuals and Organizations—\$2,540,000

Gifts from individual donors, foundations, or other organizations.

Planned Gifts—\$1,870,000

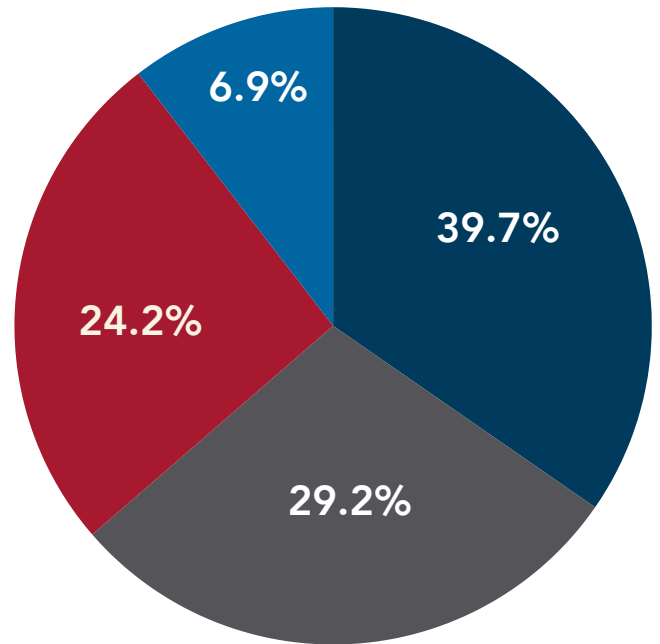
Gifts designated through wills, trusts, appreciated stock, etc.

Ministry Shares—\$1,552,000

The Christian Reformed Church uses ministry shares to fund a variety of ministries including ReFrame. Currently, about 10% of every ministry share gift goes to ReFrame.

Church Giving—\$440,000

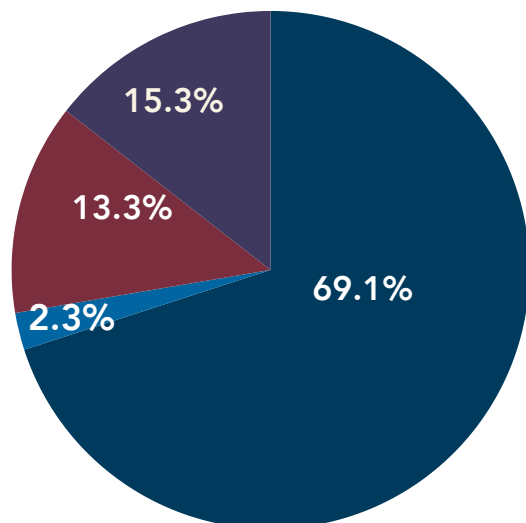
Gifts from church offerings taken for ReFrame and other donations from churches



*Not including investment income or other revenue of \$1,157,000

2023-24 Expenses

\$7,027,000



Ministry Programs—\$4,854,000

Church Relations—\$160,000

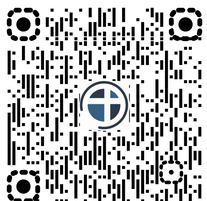
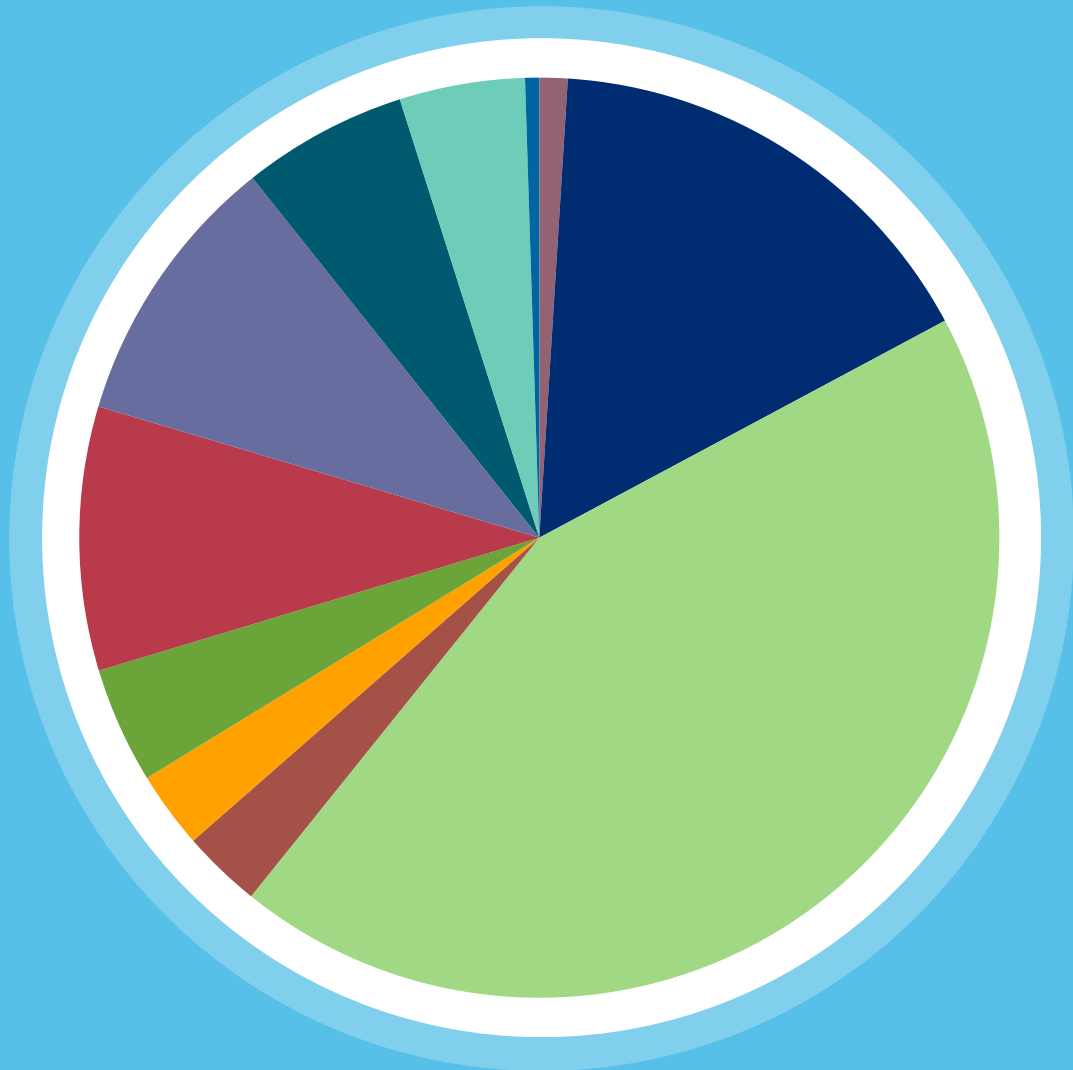
Administration—\$938,000

Fundraising—\$1,075,000



Ministry Expenses by Language \$4,854,000

- Arabic—\$48,000
- Chinese—\$786,000
- English—\$2,116,000
- French—\$135,000
- Hindi—\$131,000
- Indonesian—\$198,000
- Japanese—\$450,000
- Portuguese—\$470,000
- Russian—\$282,000
- Spanish—\$214,000
- Other—\$24,000
includes special Korean ministry project



Scan the QR code or visit
ReFrameMinistries.org/stewardship
to view our audited financial
statements.



2024
Portuguese

ABOUT 1,500 mothers, fathers, and children gathered for a retreat, renewal, and practical learning about how they could apply biblical principles in their family life. The annual family conference hosted by your Portuguese ministry partners is restoring marriages and families for people like Fábio.

“My relationship with my wife was not very good,” Fábio shared. “But now I want to tell you that God is doing something very wonderful in our home. I changed my attitude, and my family has changed. Actually, the problem was me, and I thank God he made me see that. Thank you, pastor, for your advice, which helped me a lot.”

THANKS TO SUPPORT FROM generous donors like you, your partners in Russian language ministry began a new call-in program this year for people who are weary from the ongoing war in Ukraine.

2024
Russian



2024
Spanish

BETWEEN EXTREME HEAT waves, gang violence, and political unrest in Mexico, many Spanish speakers there seek rest in the Lord. Your support makes it possible to access the gospel anywhere on smartphones and radios, along with the print devotional guide Cada Dia.

“Thank you for encouraging our hearts and bringing us closer to God’s Word,” said a woman named Juanita. “May God bless you always.”



**ReFrame
Ministries**

God's Story. Today's Media.

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