

Dear Friends,

We hope this letter finds you well. I hope you all had a great Thanksgiving. We spent our first Thanksgiving without Claire. She had the day off, but flew to Alabama for the NAIA soccer tournament Friday so she is spent Thanksgiving with a teammate's family.

Thank you very much for being a part of what Ambassadors is doing.

We are excited to share some of the developments that have taken place here and around the world in & through Ambassadors. Check out the links & the attached for more details.

MODELING Soccer Ministry:

- **Club:** Over **480** kids are playing in our club now.
 - We have been able to provide over \$50,000 in [**scholarships**](#) to more than 80 boys and girls.
 - More than 20 boys come from refugee families from Congo, Nepal and other countries that now live in the North Hill area of Akron.
 - We took a girls high school team to N. Ireland and a boys team to Mexico.
 - Men's & women's programs have been developed that impacts college, semi-pro & pro players and allows them opportunities to serve & give back as well.
 - The arena where our teams train and other orgs use, sees over 50,000 people visit annually.
 - We are seeing similar clubs developing in **Pittsburgh, Mexico, Peru, N. Ireland and the Czech Republic.**
- **Camps:** Over **1500** kids attended our camps.
 - We are thankful that our camps program has built back up since COVID.
 - **64 coaches from 20 countries.** It has been difficult for people to get visas since COVID so we still had 24 coaches that could not travel over because of visa issues.
 - Camps took place in **Nepal, Holland, England, South Africa, Colombia & several other countries.**
- **Community:** We are developing a program called [**Junior Ambassadors**](#) for churches to run in their community.
 - After-school program at Scranton Elementary School in Cleveland in conjunction with a partner church.
 - Working with a local church that is planting 2 churches to help them reach families in their communities through Jr. Ambassadors.
 - Community programs being developed in **Brazil, Kenya, England** and several other countries around the world.

- Our hope is that this program can be used by churches, other organizations & whole denominations in the U.S. and around the world.

MOBILIZING Soccer Ministry:

- **TREC:** We have been training people around the world through our TREC program since we returned from Spain. Over the years we have trained over 6000 people from more than 60 countries.
- Pray as we help our offices globally to train churches & coaches in their countries & regions.

MULTIPLYING Soccer Ministry:

- TREC has helped us to train individual churches and coaches. What has developed in Rwanda is a **partnership with a denomination** so that a whole country can be reached. While we were in Peru, I went to **Rwanda** to train 75 coaches from schools around the country. Those coaches now work with over 6000 kids and their families in 52 schools around the country using our Toward the Goal curriculum to get a Christian worldview, memorize scripture and seeing many committing their lives to follow Christ. All this is going on with just 1 Ambassadors staff in the country.
- **Watch** a short 8 minute video to get a glimpse of what is going on: [Rwanda Year 2 on Vimeo](#)
- We are working with other groups in **Kenya, Chile & Liberia** to see if we can replicate what is happening in Rwanda. We're hopeful that partnerships like this will allow the Church to reach the next generation around the world.

Your support has enabled me to be a part of organizing Ambassadors so we can launch and support more ministries like the ones above around the world.

- **Outside Input:** I have been able to be involved with a number of outside groups as they come alongside us to strengthen & develop the ministry (31 countries & counting): Good Place Institute, Lifeshape & The Center Consulting Group.
- **Curriculum** that is being used to disciple kids globally. Maybe you've heard of it: [Toward The Goal \(ambassadorsfootball.org\)](#).
 - See the video episodes here: [Toward the Goal on Vimeo](#) (7 of the 9 episodes are done. The whole series taking a child from Genesis to Revelation will be done by late spring next year).
 - *Getting Ready for Global Distribution! in 2024:* Working with the company that helped us with our re-branding to Ambassadors Football from Ambassadors in Sport. They have worked with Airstream, the Indy 500 & Sea World among others.
- **World Cup 2026:** The next World Cup is here in North America (U.S., Mexico & Canada). We are putting plans together so that we can help churches minister during and long after the World Cup. I have been meeting with our staff in

Pittsburgh, Dallas, S. Florida & Puebla, Mexico to pray & plan for this opportunity. We are also working on a project that will give resources to churches to use the World Cup for outreach. Please pray for us in those efforts.

We believe the Lord has prepared Ambassadors to be **a resource to the Church** around the world to impact kids and their families around the world through soccer. We are excited about what He is doing in and through us.

We appreciate you being a part of the team.

Happy Thanksgiving.

Matt, Laura, Claire, Alyssa & Braeden



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