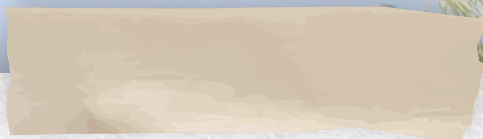


impact REPORT

2026





This summer, we watched God do incredible things through GenSend.

Across North America, college students stepped into cities and church plants to display and declare the gospel. The stories and impact in this report are a testimony to God's faithfulness and to the many students, leaders, churches, and partners who made this summer possible.

We are deeply grateful for our **City Mobilizers**, who led students with wisdom and care, and for our **Cohort Coaches**—church planters and ministry leaders—who opened their lives and ministries to invest in the next generation. To every **GenSender**, thank you for saying yes to this opportunity and serving with humility, courage, and faith. We are also grateful for the **pastors**, **college leaders**, and **sending churches** who encouraged students to go. Your partnership is helping shape the next generation of disciple-makers and church planting laborers.

GenSend would not be possible without the faithful generosity of Southern Baptists through the **Cooperative Program** and the **Annie Armstrong Easter Offering**. Your support fuels church planting and helps students experience more than a summer. It also helps create pathways for students to take next steps through second summers, marketplace internships, and after-college opportunities serving with church plants.

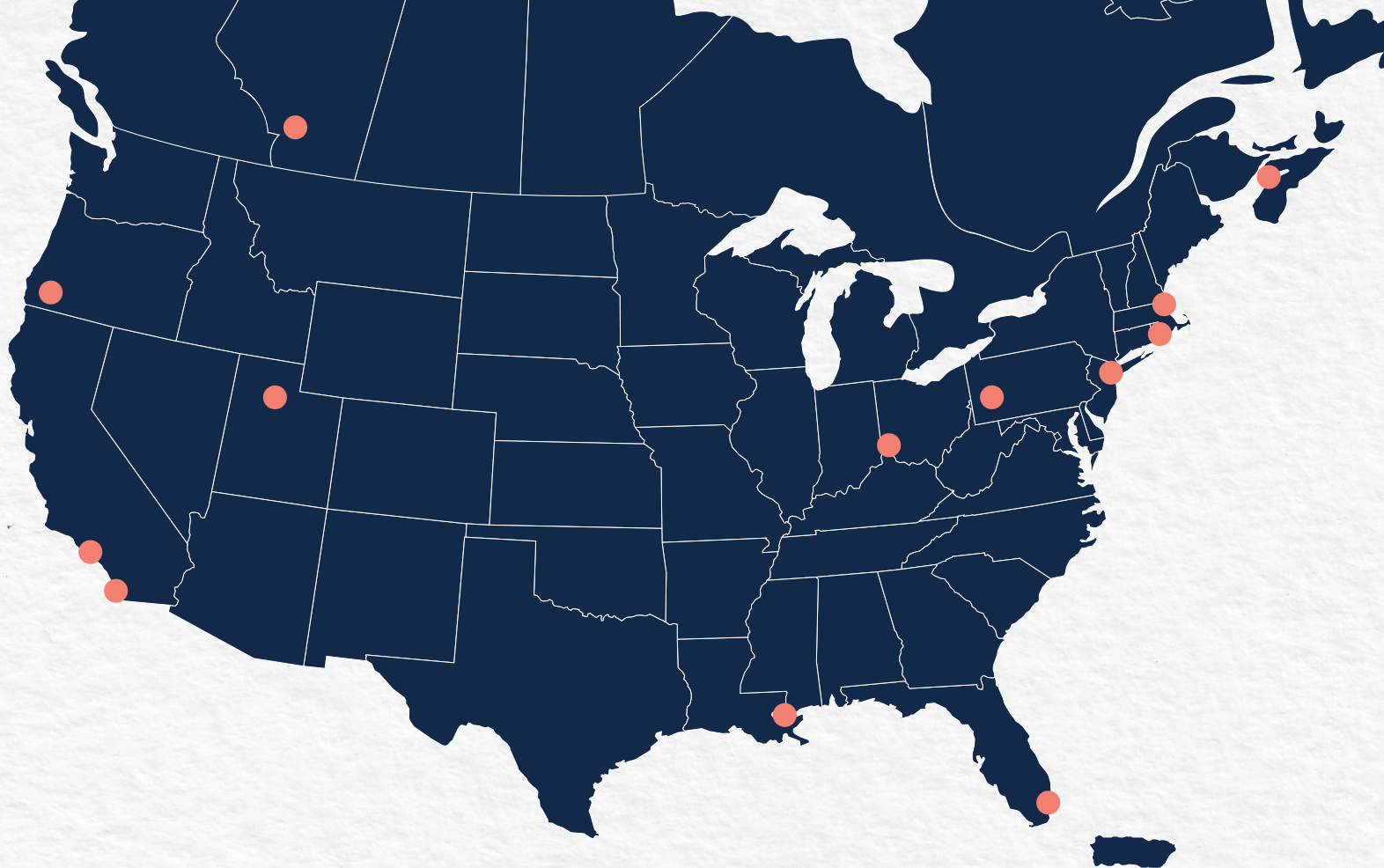
As you read this report, I hope you will celebrate what God has done and be encouraged by the stories of lives shaped by the gospel and the mission of God. Thank you for being part of this movement.

With gratitude,

Jon Chasteen

Director of Next Gen Mobilization





A Year in *Review*

Just over **200 college-aged men and women** spent time as missionaries this summer. These missionaries were spread throughout **13 different locations** as part of the North American Mission Board's (NAMB) GenSend program.

All told, the summer missionaries recorded more than **5,000 spiritual conversations** and more than **2,000 gospel conversations**. An exit survey asked participants to gauge their level of interest in returning to the mission field.

This year, roughly half of all GenSenders, said they were open to relocating to live on mission, with **98 percent** of all GenSenders saying they were open to serve a church plant in the future. More importantly, **74 percent said they were interested in returning to their GenSend city to serve alongside a church plant for at least two years after college.**

THE STATS



46,130 MISSIONAL HOURS
(Prayer walking, spiritual conversations, etc.)

212
PARTICIPANTS

CHURCH PLANTS SERVED
37
CHURCH PLANTS SERVED

IMPACT at a GLANCE

137
sending
churches

74%
LONG-TERM
INTEREST

2,000+
GOSPEL
CONVERSATIONS

13 locations

Each conversation, each hour, and each 'yes'
tells the story of a generation learning to live sent.

PARTICIPATION FEEDBACK

9.1

**Overall
Satisfaction
with the
GenSend
experience**

9.3

**How likely to
recommend
GenSend to a
friend**

9.0

**Overall
experience
with GenSend
City Mobilizer**

9.3

**Overall
experience
with GenSend
City Coach**

8.2

**Interest in
joining a
church plant
team**

8.6

**Openness to
relocation
for God's
mission**

9.4

**Overall value
of GenSend
relative to
time & cost**

TESTIMONIALS

OF GOD'S WORK THROUGH GENSEND



“

We were able to have a very good conversation with a junior in High School during park outreach. We got to share the gospel, and the kid came to realize he wanted a relationship with God.

“

A student said that something he wants to take from this summer is how to be a good church member. Witnessing the active mobilizers of our plant has inspired him to be a member like that in whatever church God calls him to.

“

Met a man at a bus stop who was hurting, and out of work because of a leg injury. He had been out of contact with his family for some time. The team stopped, listened, and got him on the phone with his family. They prayed over the whole family together. Gave him a Bible and an invitation to church. His family expressed gratitude that strangers in Halifax would pray over their son.

“

Our students have become regulars at various places in the down city area where they can have consistent touches with local workers and consumers. As a result, they've been able to leverage that time to meet and invite people. One girl that works at a coffee shop came to their weekly bible study, and three more came to church on Sunday. Their love for people in this city and has compelled them to share the gospel. I've been so pumped about how unashamed they are in their faith.



RAISING UP STUDENTS TO LIVE SENT

Temple Baptist Church in Ruston, Louisiana, has long carried a heart for missions. So, when GenSend, Send Network's summer missions experience for college students, launched in 2013, working with the program felt like a natural extension of who they already were.

For Casey Casady, Temple's college pastor, GenSend wasn't simply another summer opportunity. It aligned with what Temple was already trying to build in its student ministry.

"Disciples making disciples was some of our core DNA that we were trying to express in our collegiate ministry," Casady said.

"It was a great avenue to equip, empower, and encourage our college students." GenSend gave students a new way to imagine their future and discover how God could use their lives after college—potentially moving to a large city to join a church planting team or simply learning to live sent wherever God called them.

Since GenSend's earliest days, the church has consistently sent students to serve alongside Send Network church planters across North America, including 17 students this year alone.

"I think college is the foremost formative years in a person's life," Casady said. **"That's why I've given my life to it."**

Temple believes students need opportunities to step outside the familiarity of their own communities and experience what God is doing in other places. Through GenSend, students serve in cities they may have never otherwise considered and see God at work in ways that stretch beyond their own understanding.

A Bigger View of God's Mission

Ruston is home to Louisiana Tech University, where many students are preparing for careers in engineering, technology, architecture, healthcare, and other STEM-related fields. While most of them will pursue careers outside vocational ministry, Temple wants them to understand that their careers are not separate from God's mission.

Students are challenged to ask different questions about their future. Not simply, "Where can I get a job?" but "Where can God use my life, my skills, and my vocation for the gospel?"

For Mallory Blackmon, that shift began when she arrived at Temple Baptist.

"I had always known about missions, but it's never been something that I thought was feasible," Blackmon said. "I never knew missions in the U.S. was a thing or even a need. It wasn't really talked about."

That changed quickly.

Temple regularly offers vision trips that give students a glimpse of what serving in a GenSend city could look like. Blackmon participated in a fall vision trip before serving with GenSend Summer in Boston.

For Blackmon, that first summer was difficult, but it became the beginning of something much bigger. She returned to Boston again. Then again. This summer, she is serving as an assistant mobilizer.

"GenSend has completely changed my life and shaped me into who I am," Blackmon said. "I would not have even been introduced to that if it wasn't for Temple, so I am forever grateful for that."

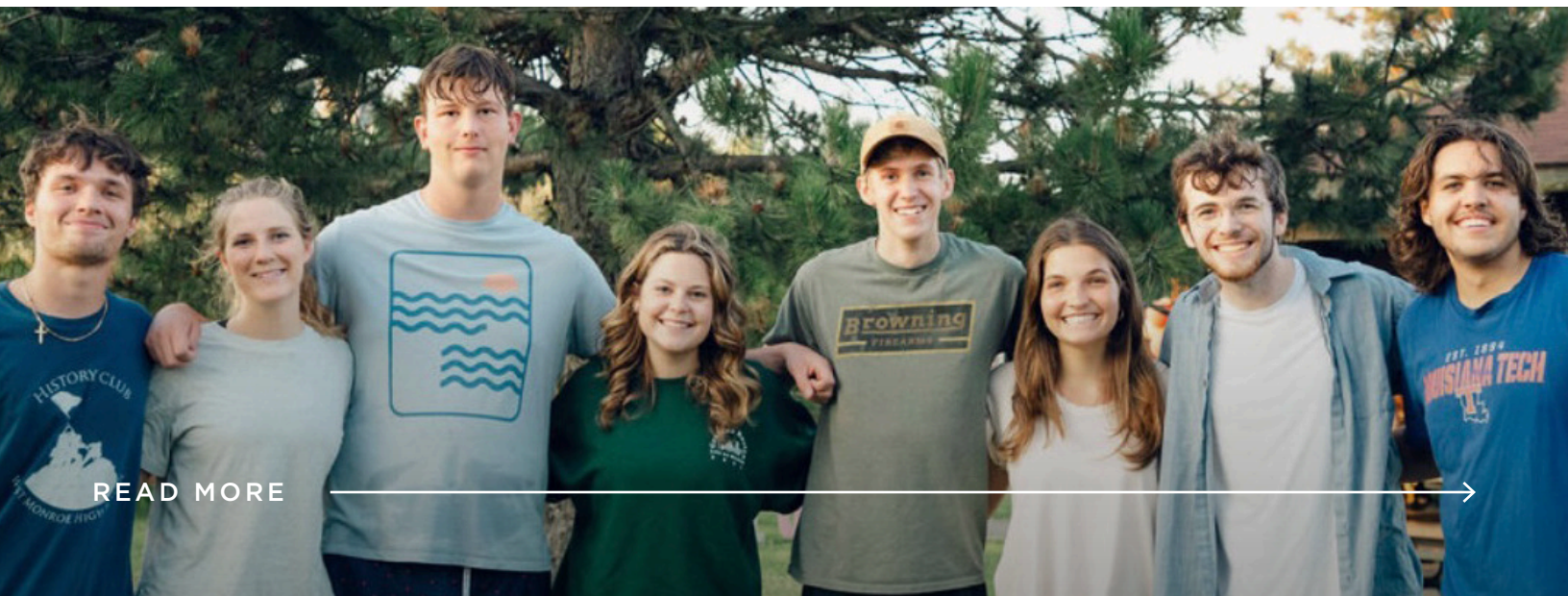
That transformation is part of what Temple Baptist has seen over time.

"It completely changes the way you think," Blackmon said. "It's going to affect you. It changes the way you go on mission, the way that you love people, and the way you view the church."

A Churchwide Impact

Students leave Ruston and serve alongside Send Network church planters in cities where the need for the gospel often looks very different from what they have experienced at home. They return with a broader worldview, a deeper burden for the lost, and stories that encourage the entire church.

"It's so encouraging for all of the generations to see the Lord moving," Blackmon said. "You see all these young people who are just on fire for the Lord and so willing to go. That's something that the whole church can get excited about."



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Church planting is not something the congregation supports from a distance. Students and families come to know the people and places they are praying for.

Casady remembered one GenSend student whose family joined the church mission trip to the city where she was serving. In the end, four generations of the same family were serving together.

What began as a student opportunity became a shared experience for an entire family to see God at work beyond their own community. The impact continued even after they returned home.

“When they’re sitting around at family gatherings and say their prayers, they pray for that missionary and everybody at that table knows exactly who they’re talking about,” Casady said.

Church planting becomes a family mission.

“You’re taking disciples making disciples not only at the individual level, but at the family level,” he said.

Living on Mission

The church isn’t simply sending students away for a summer. It’s helping raise up a generation that understands every follower of Christ has a role to play in God’s kingdom and encouraging students to take their next step of faith.

“Take the chance,” Blackmon said. **“Lean in on the Lord and be uncomfortable. Go places. Don’t stay home. Push yourself. Do hard things.”**

You don’t have to wait until after college to live on mission.

GenSend helps students grow as disciples, serve alongside Send Network church planters, and discover how God can use their lives wherever He leads them.

Learn more about GenSend Summer and apply today.



the GENSEND PATHWAY



For many students, GenSend Summer is only the beginning. As they continue growing as disciples and serving alongside church plants, some begin asking where God may be leading them next. The GenSend Pathway provides opportunities for continued growth, ministry experience, and deeper engagement in God's mission.

Whether a student is just getting started, returning for another summer, or joining a church plant after college, this pathway helps young adults keep living on mission while discovering their role in church planting and taking their next step.

[Learn more](https://GenSend.org/pathway) about each opportunity in the GenSend Pathway at GenSend.org/pathway

1 GenSend Summer

Every summer, students step into cities across North America to serve alongside church plants, grow as disciples, and learn what it means to live on mission every day. Through life together, intentional discipleship, and gospel engagement, GenSend Summer helps students develop a deeper love for the communities they serve, a greater burden for people far from Christ, and a clearer understanding of God's mission.

For many, the experience becomes a defining season of spiritual growth that shapes the way they live, serve, and engage in a life on mission long after the summer ends.

[Learn more](https://GenSend.org/Summer) about GenSend Summer and apply at GenSend.org/Summer

READ MORE



2 Second Summer

For many students, one summer creates a desire to go deeper. Second Summer provides returning GenSenders with opportunities to continue growing as disciples while taking on greater responsibilities and serving in new ways. Whether helping lead future cohorts or gaining ministry experience through an internship, students continue developing as leaders while discovering new ways to live on mission as they prepare for whatever God has next.

Each opportunity builds on the foundation of a student's first summer, preparing returning GenSenders to influence others and deepen their investment in church planting.

[Learn more](#) about Second Summer and apply at GenSend.org/second-summer.



3 After College

As one season ends, a new opportunity begins. After College helps GenSend alumni and other young adults continue living on mission by connecting them with Send Network church plants as they enter the next chapter of their lives. Whether pursuing a career, serving in ministry, or continuing their education, participants are encouraged to make strategic decisions that strengthen church plants, serve local communities, and advance the gospel.

By helping young adults thoughtfully discern where to live, work, and serve, After College helps them make intentional decisions that establish a lifelong pattern of living sent.

[Learn more](#) about After College and apply at GenSend.org/after-college.

Where a Summer Can Lead

A GenSend Story Still in the Making



In 2022, Matthew and Katie Asplund and Jeffrey and Taylor Wills joined GenSend, Send Network's summer missions experience for college students, to serve alongside church planters in Boston.

Four years later, both couples are moving back to Boston to begin church planting residencies with Life Community Church, the same church they served alongside during GenSend summer. Their long-term vision is to help plant churches with Send Network in the region.

Their story offers a glimpse into what GenSend was designed to do:

help students discover how God may use their lives for His mission long after a summer experience ends.

Seeing the Need

Like many GenSend participants, neither couple arrived in Boston expecting it to shape the course of their future.

What they encountered, however, left a lasting impression.

"There was such a great need in Boston," Matthew Asplund said. "There was so much lostness, far beyond what you can imagine is possible in America."

Jeffrey Wills experienced many of the same realities while serving in local community ministries.

"It's such a different environment than where we're from in Alabama. The lack of interest in religion was startling. It made it very difficult. We had to find unique inroads into conversations to share about Jesus," Jeffrey said.

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Rather than discouraging them, those experiences opened their eyes to the need for more gospel presence in Boston and challenged them to consider how God might use them in that work.

More Than a Summer

For both couples, the impact of that summer continued long after they returned home.

For years, they remained connected to Life Community Church through a partnership between First Baptist Church Opelika and the church planting work taking place in Boston. Matthew and Katie even returned for a second summer in 2024, serving in an internship role that further strengthened their sense of calling.

The ongoing relationship gave both couples a front-row seat to church planting and the opportunity to continue learning from pastors, church members, and ministry leaders in Boston.

“It really showed me the power of a church in the South partnering with a church plant where there’s such a great need for the gospel,” Matthew said. “Partnership isn’t just collecting a paycheck. It makes a congregation more missionally minded because people get to see the need and what it looks like to live on mission.”

Over time, what began as a summer assignment became something deeper. The church members they served alongside in Boston became friends, mentors, and eventually like family.

“GenSend is a really cool way of learning how to love a city,” Katie said. “There are so many opportunities to connect with the local church community and build real relationships.”

For Jeffrey and Taylor, GenSend also changed the way they viewed everyday mission work at home.

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“It really opens your eyes to your own community and the gospel need there,” Taylor said. “You come back with fresh eyes and realize there are things you can be doing at home, too. It’s not just for the summer; it’s not just in Boston. We can do it in Auburn, Opelika, and anywhere else the Lord calls.”

Their perspective shifted from seeing mission work as a short-term experience to understanding that living on mission could shape every season of life.

The Next Step

Now, both couples are taking that next step.

Over the next two years, they will participate in residencies designed to equip future church planting couples through hands-on ministry experience, mentoring, discipleship, and leadership development. Their hope is that this season will prepare them for future church planting opportunities in the greater Boston area.

But they are careful not to see residency as a finish line. They know that church planting will require perseverance.

“I’m ready to grow and be challenged,” Jeffrey said. “Church planting is a really hard version of ministry, but it’s a really fruitful one.”

Their story is a reminder that GenSend is not simply about a summer in a city. It is about helping students learn to live on mission wherever God leads.

As Matthew reflected on the impact of GenSend, he described it this way: “It’s a lifestyle. You spend the summer in GenSend, and it equips you to see everything as an everyday, Spirit-led missionary. And it gets you thinking about how you can move somewhere strategically for the gospel.”

For the Asplunds and the Wills, that journey began during a GenSend summer in 2022.

Today, four years later, it has led them back to the city where God first expanded their vision for ministry.

And if the Lord continues leading as He has so far, the seeds planted during those eight weeks may eventually result in new churches and new gospel communities throughout Greater Boston.

That’s the long game of GenSend.

And this story is
still being written.





MAYBE *your* STORY IS JUST *beginning.*

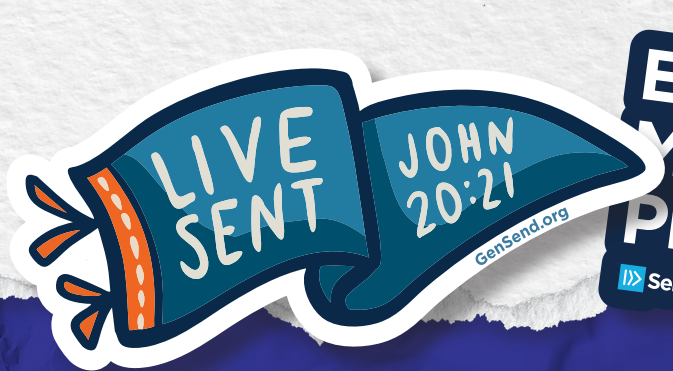
GenSend helps students serve alongside Send Network church planters, grow as disciples, and explore how God may be leading them to leverage their lives for His mission.

Learn more about the [GenSend Pathway](#) and apply for GenSend.



WHAT IS GENSEND?

GenSend, a program of the North American Mission Board, offers students opportunities to join God's great story in some of North America's greatest cities! It is an immersive exploration of what it means to live intentionally in community while sharing the gospel in a new city and serving alongside a Send Network church plant. The focus of GenSend is to help students grow as disciples, learn to live on mission, and discover God's kingdom calling. Tangibly, GenSend teaches students to be faithful in the small things, to keep showing up in the community and engaging the people they meet, building bridges to share the gospel as they do so.



As students consistently invest
in their communities, friendships
grow—even across different faiths—
and those relationships often become
the pathway to spiritual and gospel
conversations that change lives.

GenSend



The GenSend Team:



JON CHASTEEN, NATIONAL DIRECTOR



JUDY CAPE, PROGRAM COORDINATOR

City Mobilizers:

NIC MCGEHEE

📍 BOSTON

MATT BRICHETTO 📍 NEW ORLEANS

JOHNNY THIESSEN

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KIRK KIRKLAND

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DAVID DOMALSKI 📍 PITTSBURGH

MIKE ESA

📍 HALIFAX

JORDAN ANDERSON 📍 PROVIDENCE

GARRECK DURATO 📍 LOS ANGELES

BOBBY WOOD 📍 SALT LAKE CITY

SHAWN SNYDER

📍 MEDFORD

JEREMY AYLETT 📍 SAN DIEGO

DANNY RIOS

📍 MIAMI



GROW AS A *DISCIPLE.*
LIVE ON *MISSION.*
DISCOVER YOUR *CALLING.*



LEARN MORE AT [GENSEND.ORG/SUMMER](https://gensend.org/summer) ➔

