





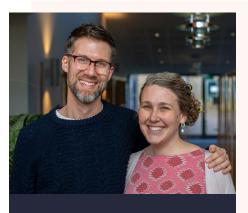


Violence, poverty and systems of oppression are constantly pushing people to the edges in our world.

CMS is called to follow Jesus to these edges and empower people to release their God-given potential. We do this, not out of a sense of pity – but of possibility. We know that every person is made in the image of God and deserves dignity, love and the chance to live life to the full. We have witnessed victims of violence becoming voices for peace. We have encouraged marginalised people to take up leading roles in God's mission. In all this, Jesus is our example. He welcomed people at the edges and invited them to play key parts in his story – and that's what we want to do, too.

The people you are supporting

As a Global Edge Church, you will be supporting CMS partners around the world empowering people at the edges. Mission partners **Elise and Jon Fletcher**, working in Thailand, will share regular updates about what God is doing in their context and introduce you to inspiring stories from others in this wider area of work. Meet **Elise and Jon**:



Location: Thailand



What we do: Immersing ourselves in the life of a vibrant slum community, sharing Jesus' love with people around us



Empowering people pushed to the edges of life to release their Godgiven potential

In Khlong Toei, the biggest slum community in Bangkok, 100,000 people live in material poverty, unaware of their God-given worth. We've made our home here to show Jesus' love for these people on the margins.

The most important aspect of our ministry is being present, investing in relationships and sharing in people's joys and sorrows. Day to day, this could mean taking someone to hospital, visiting a neighbour in prison, helping to fight evictions, supporting local leaders or just being a listening ear.

We also support local families to stay together, as poverty is the driver for a high number of orphanages in Thailand. We hope to see family crises averted, parents supported and children living stable and fulfilled lives. We hope to see people use their God-given skills, and the local church empowered to bless and include those on the margins.

We both grew up in Christian families and decided to follow Jesus as teenagers, knowing this commitment could take us anywhere! We met while doing A-levels, got married while at university and have three children. As we spent time in the gospels, we realised that following Jesus should take us on a journey towards the people and places others avoid – and in 2014 we moved to Khlong Toei.

Meet more people who, with your support, are empowering at the edges:

With Jesus
With each other
To the edges

The impact you're having

As a Global Edge Church, your generous gifts and prayers will help Elise, Jon and other CMS partners to empower people and see them meet Jesus...



People like Sandra in the Chaco region in northern Argentina. Sandra is an indigenous woman who went from losing everything to sharing the light of Jesus, with CMS partners Catherine and Mirna walking alongside her and helping her to put her faith into action.



People like Manasseh, who was a member of an armed militia in eastern DR Congo. After escaping the militia, he met CMS partner **Bisoke** who helped him to overcome his traumatic experiences, meet Jesus and begin working for peace.



People like Doris in Tanzania, whose opportunities were limited because of her deafness. After meeting CMS partners Ben and Katy, Doris now has the chance to learn carpentry skills to make a living, and is discovering her true value in Jesus

How we'll help your church connect with mission

- Through a welcome film introducing Elise and Jon and CMS's work to empower people to reach their God-given potential.
- **Written updates** from Elise and Jon three times per year, with news and stories from Thailand and from their colleagues around the world in this area of work.
- Inspiring stories and prayer points from people whose lives are being touched and transformed thanks to your generosity, and tips on how to share these with your church.
- **Display materials** for your church noticeboard.
- The opportunity to welcome **a CMS speaker** to share about work empowering people pushed to the edges of life to reach their God-given potential.



With Jesus. With each other. To the edges.

When we look at the life of Jesus, we see that he spent time with people at the edges, often to the astonishment of the establishment. Sick people, poor people, tax collectors, those who were often avoided due to their "sinner" status – Jesus welcomes them. He offers grace, healing, restoration, love – and he invites them to be part of his story.

Church Mission Society is likewise called to connect with people at the edges: the edges of church, the edges of society, the edges of our comfort zones. And we're always looking for others who will join us at edges near and far, to help share God's love in creative ways, knowing that person-by-person, community-by-community, this is how we will see our world made new.



With Jesus With each other To the edges



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