



Will you be a CMS Global Edge Church?

Come to the edges with us



CHURCH
MISSION
SOCIETY

Empower people pushed to the edges of life to reach their God-given potential

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 partner **Martin Gordon**, working in Goma, eastern DR Congo, will share regular updates about what God is doing in his context and introduce you to inspiring stories from others in this wider area of work. Meet **Martin**:



Location: DR Congo



What I do:

Peacemaking, church planting and building up the body of Christ



Empowering people pushed to the edges of life to release their God-given potential

Goma city has a population of two million plus nearly a million people displaced by conflict. Most of eastern DR Congo has seen significant violent conflict over the last 30 years. Many people live with intense trauma. The country is desperate for peace.

As Bishop of Goma, I work with local groups and denominations to help bring reconciliation and peace. We start by discovering peace with God in Jesus. With this hope of peace, we are sent out, in the strength of God, to seek reconciliation, mend broken lives, unite divided families and heal fractured communities. Together we are building a movement of peacemakers and different communities are working together more.

After one workshop, four influential youth leaders from different ethnic communities, who were previously sworn enemies, joined hands in public and vowed an end to their hostility. Having understood peace with God they had the courage to take a risk for peace with others.

Alongside peacemaking, as a diocese we aim to plant 35 churches by 2027. We praise God we are well on the way to reaching this goal through encouraging evangelism campaigns, training church leaders and helping communities to buy land for church buildings.

Meet more people who, with your support, are empowering at the edges:
churchmissionsociety.org/empower

**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 Martin 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 Martin and CMS's work to empower people to reach their God-given potential.
- ▶ **Written updates** from Martin three times per year, with news and stories from DR Congo and from his 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.

Come with us to the edges:
churchmissionsociety.org/empower

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With each other
To the edges



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