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The Story Behind Two CONTEMPORARY Hymns

"Praise You In This Storm"

Co-Written by Mark Hall, of Casting Crowns, and Bernie Herms 2005

*"And I'll praise You in this storm,
and I will lift my hands,
for You are who You are,
no matter where I am."*

Since it first aired on the radio in 2005, **"Praise You In This Storm,"** by Casting Crowns, has meant a lot to me over the years.

The inspiration for this song came about when the band met with a little girl named **Erin Browning** before one of their concerts on Valentine's Day 2004. Around that time, 10-year-old Erin found out she would have to battle cancer once again. In the weeks and months that followed, her mother, Laurie, emailed **Mark Hall** frequently to update the band on Erin's condition. In June of that year, Mark emailed Laurie and told her he was writing a song for Erin (yes, this song) but sadly Erin never got to hear it. Her life here on earth ended on November 1, 2004. The song was finally completed and released in Casting Crown's album "Lifesong" in August 2005. Throughout Erin's cancer journey, her trust in God and love for Christ grew stronger, inspiring many people by her persistent faith.

Ten years after the song's release, Mark Hall found himself in a **battle for his own life**. A mass on his right kidney was found to be an aggressive form of cancer. Suddenly the songwriter and worship leader who led others to turn to Christ in hard times was now put to the test. After learning of his diagnosis, Mark turned once again to songwriting and wrote the song entitled **"Oh My Soul"**, inspired by Psalm 42:5. He understood in a personal way why people tend to question God's goodness in relation to suffering, and now he had his own story to tell. After having the tumor and right kidney removed, the cancer has not spread and as of 2017, Mark has been cancer free, going back only for regularly scheduled scans.

My son-in-law recently underwent 12 weeks of chemotherapy, and during that time I discovered a renewed appreciation for these songs. I think Erin would be delighted to know that her story, through Mark's first song, has touched many lives and will continue to touch many more with words that remind us that, although things may seem difficult now and we may not understand what God is doing, we can trust His heart and His promises!

- Written by, Anita Souder, MPF

<https://unbreakablejoy.blogspot.com/2008/05/praise-you-in-storm-story-behind-song.html>
<https://faithit.com/casting-crowns-mark-hall-speaks-out-cancer-battle/>

"Oh My Soul"

Written by Mark Hall of Casting Crowns

*"Oh my soul, you are not alone;
there's a place where fear has to face
the God you know."*

UPDATE on Completed Project #658 for: **United Indian Mission**
Sharing the Gospel In the “Great White North”

Photo by [Dan Hawley](#) from [Pexels](#)

Canada - United Indian Mission has operated a Bible camp in Houston, British Columbia, since the 1970s called *Rock Nest Ranch* <https://www.rocknestranch.org/rentals.html> which serves as a meeting place for both First Nation (indigenous) people of BC and for UIM missionaries, bringing the gospel of Christ to youth and adults through camps and conferences throughout the year.

In 2019, construction was completed on a **new lodge** to accommodate campers year-round instead of only during the summer months. The director of the camp had contacted MPF asking for help in funding beds they would need for the campers. When this project was completed several months later, the camp ordered **three Queen beds and nineteen bunkbed frames** from *Buckley Board and Beam*, another Christian ministry in BC that provides work experience to local, unemployed indigenous men, teaching them the craft of woodworking. Along with beds, they learn to make sheds, play houses, benches, and more.

“Thank you from the bottom of our hearts! This project has allowed us to bring people into our building and to house them with dignity, comfort, love, and a beautiful place to sleep.”

— Daniel and Geneva Koster, Camp Directors



Beautiful new beds!



The New Lodge

PROJECTS COMPLETED IN 2021

- #676 **REFUGE FOR THE POOR**
(Cambodia) Ministry van
- #678 **ANANIAS HOUSE**
(North Africa) Ministry van
- #680 **INT’L COOPERATING MINISTRIES**
(Africa) Hotspot Program
- #681 **Christian Aid Mission**
(Peru) Three-wheeled Vehicle
- #682 **Indopartners Agency**
(Southeast Asia) Laptop Computer
- #683 **Empower Hope**
(Kenya) 8 Sewing Machines and 8 Laptops
- #684 **Child Evangelism Fellowship**
(Romania) Used vehicle
- #685 **Bold Hope**
(Haiti) Six refurbished laptops
- #686 **Trans World Radio**
(Cambodia) Studio equipment
- #687 **ORPHANetwork**
(Nicaragua) Eating utensils, tools, & fishing nets
- #688 **Christian World Outreach**
(Zimbabwe) Ministry van
- #689 **Christian Mission for the Deaf**
(Nigeria) Framework, cinderblocks, & roofing
- #696 **Mission Eurasia**
(Siberia, Russia) Snowmobile, tent, & sled

UPDATE on Completed Project #670 for:
The Mailbox Club

Photo by [FWStudio](#) from [Pexels](#)

Nicaragua - A Toyota Hilux truck was purchased last year by The Mailbox Club for their Discipleship Coordinator in Nicaragua, “Ms. Evelyn,” to deliver Bible lessons to children. Even during the pandemic closures last year, Evelyn made deliveries in the new truck to area churches and even crossed the border into **Costa Rica** and **Honduras** so children there would not miss out on learning about Jesus!

*“On behalf of the ministry of The Mailbox Club in Nicaragua, we wish to express our **sincere gratitude and joy** to the ministry of Mission Projects Fellowship for their **valuable contribution** in donating funds for the vehicle that were needed for the ministry’s movements in our country.*

May the Lord always bless your love and generosity in helping others.”

- Evelyn A. Sequeira,
 Discipleship Coordinator, Nicaragua



CURRENT PROJECTS

~ These projects are dependent on the financial support of God's people ~

690 UIM-AVIATION (MEXICO) <https://www.uimaviation.org/>

Project Cost: \$4,996

UIM Aviation exists for the purpose of establishing Native American, First Nations, Mexican, and Hispanic churches. Their Tucson, AZ aviation department works with a number of mission agencies in Mexico where they transport supplies, Bible translators, missionaries, pastors, and people requiring medical treatment. Their airfield is in need of a **variety of tools** which relate directly to the safety and efficiency of their aircraft for maintenance and inspection purposes.



691 THUNDERZOLL, INC. (INDIA) <https://www.thunderzoll.org/>

Project Cost: \$2,500

ThunderZoll, Inc. works to care for orphans through their local partner in India by helping provide for the physical, emotional, and educational needs of the boys. In the past, MPF has donated funds for bunkbeds for the *Peace Children's Home*, but it has come to our attention that there are still boys who must sleep on mats on the floor. This isn't the best situation, especially when rodents and snakes sometimes get inside! MPF will fund **ten bunkbeds** for \$250 each. Maybe you could help fund one today!



692 HOPE'S PROMISE (NORTH VIETNAM) <https://www.hopespromise.com/christian-orphan-care/>

Project Cost: \$3,633

Hope's Promise believes all children deserve to grow up in a loving, stable family. Since starting work in south and central Vietnam in 2008, they've expanded north and found it open to the gospel. They now have two homes which house six children but there are four other children who need a home. Hope's Promise lacks the funds for **start-up costs** for furnishing this new home with a washing machine, refrigerator, air conditioner, microwave, bunkbeds, mattresses, blankets, and a computer.

We could **fund** this with 10 donations of \$365 each! That's only \$1/day for one year!



693 AVANT MINISTRIES (GUATEMALA) <https://avantministries.org/latin-america>

Project Cost: \$5,500

AVANT plants and develops churches among the unreached. Through the Central American Theological Seminary (SETECA) in Guatemala, they have trained men and women for over 90 years. Even during the pandemic, students numbered over 700, both online, in-person, and through extension centers. Since many of their computers are over 10 years old, they are seeking a grant to replace them with updated versions. This project will fund **five new computers** for a cost of \$1,100 each.



694 SAT-7 (CYPRUS & ME/NA REGION) <https://sat7.org/>

Project Cost: \$4,209

SAT-7 produces and broadcasts Christian satellite programs into the Middle East and North Africa regions and produce programs for both adults and children in Arabic, Farsi, and Turkish. They are in need a **Windows Desktop editing computer** which will be used in their Limassol, Cyprus, studio since the current computer is outdated and is essentially slowing down the productivity of their editing staff.



695 RISHAMA INTERNATIONAL (NIGERIA) <https://www.rishama.org/>

Project Cost: \$8,000

Rishama is an orphanage and Christian academy in Nigeria that owns several acres of land near the school where they raise food for themselves and use extra as cash crops. Unfortunately there is an ongoing problem with hostile groups invading open farm and pasture land with their herds, laying claim to the land and occasionally becoming violent. Due to this danger, Rishama has already begun building a **3-foot high concrete brick wall** to keep these herds out. Since they have no extra funds to pay for the materials or local workers, they have asked MPF to sponsor the more than 3,000 linear-foot wall.



We have a MATCHING GIFT OF \$4,000 for this project! Please help us raise the balance for this protective wall!

697 **ONE COLLECTIVE (ALBANIA)** <https://www.onecollective.org/>

Project Cost: \$4,570

Missionary and Audiologist, Dr. Tricia Towle, has been working through One Collective in Tirana, Albania, for two years. This is a large city with good medical facilities, but many rural people find it difficult to get to her clinic. Tricia has been traveling each month, up to four and a half hours away, to provide hearing clinics and to share the love of Christ with those who don't know Him. To continue this work, she needs funding for portable hearing equipment: **Inventis Piccolo Audiometer** (\$2,000) and the **Inventis Timpani Tympanometer** (\$2,520); plus \$50 for shipping.



698 **CHARIOTS FOR HOPE (KENYA)** <http://www.chariotsforhope.org/childrens-homes/mukaa/>

Project Cost: \$9,438

Chariots for Hope runs six children's homes and two baby homes in Southern Kenya. At the *Mukaa Children's Home*, there is an immediate need for **renovations to staff housing**. Two on-campus homes are deteriorating and will eventually be unfit to live in.

The manager, **Amos**, and his family live in a house that has developed vertical cracks along the building (see photo) and whose front room needs to be redone before it breaks off from the rest of the house. The assistant manager's house currently has only a single room, with no separate kitchen. The renovation will give her and her family a living room, kitchen, and bathroom!



699 **HORIZONS INTERNATIONAL (LEBANON)** <https://www.horizonsinternational.org/>

Project Cost: \$7,409

Over 30 years ago, this non-denominational Christian organization began to evangelize, disciple, and train Christians from Islamic backgrounds. Several years back they planted a church in Beirut which has experienced steady growth. In 2020, they moved to a new place of worship to accommodate their growing membership and since then have been using a borrowed **sound system**. Our project will provide them with their own equipment to benefit in-person worship and enable high-quality online broadcasts of their Kurdish Christian services—they have over 15,000 followers on FaceBook!



700 **CLC MINISTRIES (PERU)** <https://clcusa.org/>

Project Cost: \$14,290

The Christian church in Peru has grown rapidly since the 1990s. Unfortunately, Christian literature is still unavailable in large areas of the nation. CLC took over management of three bookstores from another ministry in 2013 but found they were unable to open the other five stores due to feasibility. A **bookmobile** will fill the gap in Christian literature in these areas.

The Quechua, along with at least 50 other indigenous people groups, will benefit from this new book service. CLC plans to use the funds provided by MPF to purchase a **Toyota Haice cargo** van for this use.



Gifts in Loving Memory of:

Albert Armbruster
Daria Skowronski

Pastor George W. Hampshire
Marilyn Hampshire

Dean Rich, MD
Daria Skowronski

Everett & Florence Chantelau
(Wedding Anniversary 6/21/41)
Rev. & Mrs. David Chantelau

Elizabeth H. Hewitt
Mr. & Mrs. Barry Hewitt

August & Florence Schilling
Carol J. Schilling

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<https://www.thrivent.com/making-a-difference/living-generously/thrivent-choice/>



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