

HANDS TO SERVE

SERVING MISSIONS WORLDWIDE

≡ since 1966 ≡

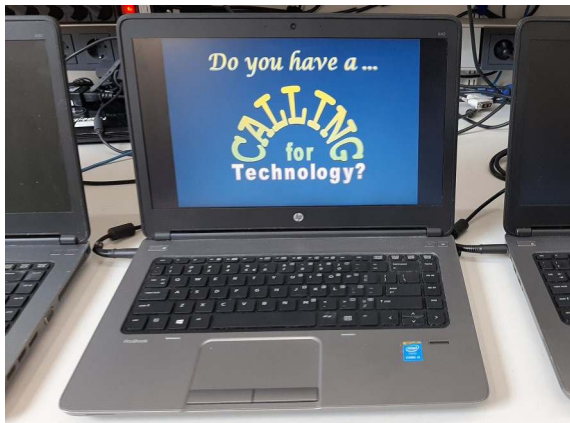
Summer 2021

**Trust in the Lord with all your heart.
Never rely on what you think you know.
Remember the Lord in everything you do,
and he will show you the right way.**

(Proverbs 3:5-6 Good News Bible)

Is everything okay? A common way to greet friends you haven't seen in a while in the Netherlands. I often respond with "There is a lot to deal with, but most of it is good." It is an answer most people do not really expect. Yet, Solomon tells us in Proverbs to "remember the Lord in everything you do." Not just a little, or just once, but in everything. The result is that "He will show us the right way". How does that work in practice?

I had to think about the time, when I walked through the warehouse on a Friday, and saw that a certain type of computers, that were in high demand, were running low. God must have heard my thoughts because that next Monday the school that had given us the computers, called to say they had another 40 available. Coincidence? I don't think so. God is really involved in the details.



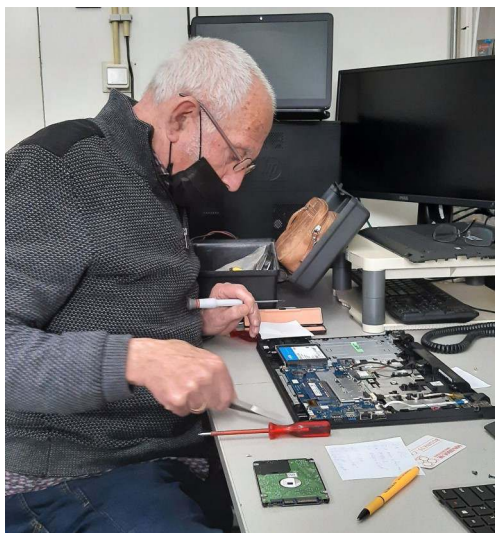
In April, it was our pleasure to have an intern who came to help in the Computer Department for two weeks. I was trying to find him a larger project that he could work on. A few days before he came, someone called to see if I could use a crate of hard drives and a stack of laptops. They were brought in that same week. The intern immediately started safely erasing the hard drives and preparing the laptops to give to missionaries and their projects. If anyone thinks this is a coincidence.....

In May the next intern came and again I went looking for useful work that he could do. A few days before he arrived, a missionary from Angola called. She had gathered laptops from her circle of friends that needed to be prepared for transport. A while before I had offered help before she sent the laptops to Africa, in checking the laptops thoroughly first and to make sure they were ready for use. And now she had a big pile that allowed this intern to get straight to work.

It became a project that required everyone in the computer department. Peter (the intern) started replacing the hard drives and installing the Portuguese Windows 10.



One of the laptops would not open because it was closed with a screw that did not want to come out and Wim went to investigate how this could be solved.



Bert helped to find unknown drivers, to check the camera, sound, USB ports and other hardware details.



Frans took care of a screw hole from another laptop that needed to be glued and reinforced.

When all laptops were almost ready, one of them showed signs of a broken display cable, so ...



Frans had to take the computer completely apart and replace it with a new cable.



We replaced all the laptop batteries with new ones. A Portuguese Bible, a typing course, and much more software was installed. In the end Piet packed the laptops, each in their own laptop bag. It resulted in 11 well-functioning laptops for the project in Angola. This way we can be sure

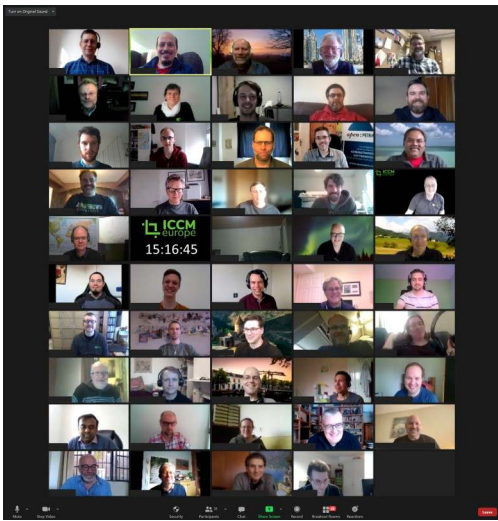


that it is worth the effort to transport all these laptops 10,000 km to the Eye Hospital in Angola. We were delighted to work on this together and thus contributing to God's Kingdom.

Now that people can travel a bit more, all our cars have also been lent out again. It is a busy time in the Hands to Serve garage to be able to help all the missionaries. Several team members, who work in the garage, cannot come due to illness. Randy was almost on his own. Fortunately, Lennart who is a mechanic, regularly comes to help a day in addition to working his full-time job. For this we are incredibly grateful.

The food and clothing distribution continues at full speed. Last year many people were at home, so we were given a lot of clothes. After that it was quiet for a while. However, as soon as the sun appeared, people donated lots of their winter clothes. So now a lot of sorting needs to be done. A large part of these clothes is donated to other foundations who take it to countries where it is needed. But we also help various missionaries who come here to get clothes for themselves.

Last February we held a virtual ICCM conference. More than 80 technical workers working in missions came together in an online world where we could pray, sing, and connect with each other.



The main meetings were on Zoom, but in between these meetings we also used software that allowed you to walk (by moving your own character in a virtual world on your screen) to another person to start a skype discussion with him or her.



See online:
gather.town

A missionary from England said afterwards that he had invited someone from his church to participate in ICCM. Because of the conversations that took place there, he changed his job and he now works for the MAF. It is encouraging to see that God is using ICCM for His Kingdom and that we can do our part.

God is certainly working with us daily, and we are really trying our best to involve Him in every aspect of our work. Even so, we are still severely short of full-time staff and several of our team members are seriously ill with cancer. We continue to pray and ask God for His care and healing. We are thankful to see that improvement is occurring in several situations.

We keep asking for God's presence in all these situations. Please pray with us? We will hold monthly Hands to Serve prayer meetings to underline that we can do nothing without His help. Because we are sure of one thing in this world, and that is that God can be trusted in everything. Hence the bible text at the beginning of this newsletter.

We thank you for your support through prayer, concern and your gifts, which we value.

Paul on behalf of the Hand to Serve Team

Randy, Ruth & Paul, Aart, Albert, Arjan, Gerben, Maurice,
Ed, Karen & Gerrit, An & Bram, Rhea, Eddie, Diana, Frans,
Wim, Bert, Piet, Ronie, John, Jacob, Diman,
Steve and Helen in England, Lee and Michelle in America

Stichting Hand / Hands To Serve
Spui 40, 3291 EV Strijen
Tel +31(0)78 674 1509

www.HandsToServe.org
info@HandsToServe.org
NL47 RABO 0361 8065 90
