

A large photograph of a rural landscape in Wales, featuring rolling green hills, a large mountain in the background, and a few buildings in the middle ground. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds. A semi-transparent white shape on the left side of the image frames the text.

LAUNCH

TWO YEARS ON MISSION IN EUROPE

PENNYGROES, WALES

**with Trey and Amelia
McCain**

Program Overview

Three Years to Make an Eternal Impact

The Launch program is specifically designed to expose participants to all aspects of what is required to be an effective cross-cultural Gospel worker. It accomplishes this by deploying cohorts of three to six people for 2 years to work alongside some of GEM's most effective missionaries in a variety of strategic locations. You can expect to receive customized training in support raising, discipleship, church planting, community development, and in some cases language learning. In addition to the structured training programs and curated ministry opportunities, each cohort will be hosted by a dedicated mentor couple or team whose goal is to personalize the experience for you and help you become as effective as possible. While this program is designed as a structured 2-year missions experience, those who feel God's further call on their lives can transition to full time service at numerous points along the way.

Program Snapshot:

Year 1: Application, orientation, support raising training, and coaching

Year 2: Launch to Europe, cultural and language training, discipleship training, active participation in ministry

Year 3: Transition from training to more focused ministry in a variety of settings

Discover Wales



In a picturesque coastal valley in northwest Wales lies a series of villages that are often overlooked and underestimated by the world at large. But God has not forgotten them, and neither have we.

The postcard-perfect mountain views can hide the spirit of economic and spiritual hopelessness that pervades the area. **Those who live here fight to preserve their culture and language in this strategic valley.**

Reaching this people group requires becoming part of their community. That is why ministry here requires living life with them, learning the Welsh language, and embracing the rhythms and values of this hidden culture. **In a very real sense, ministry here embodies the spirit of Jesus leaving the many to pursue the one.**

If you feel drawn to the Celtic spiritual history and rhythms, this opportunity will immerse you in the world through both the training you will receive and the ministry you will join.

What makes Wales unique?

Pioneer

The heart of the Great Commission is the command to take the Gospel to the ends of the Earth, accompanied with the knowledge that Jesus will go there with you. The people who live in these picturesque valleys have a desperate need to experience the hope and love of Jesus. Ministry here requires a pioneering spirit and a willingness to humbly go and serve.

Hiraeth

This untranslatable Welsh words embodies a blend of homesickness, nostalgia and longing, "hiraeth" is a pull on the heart that conveys a distinct feeling of missing something irretrievably lost. We identify with this yearning that people express for a home and a belonging that seems just out of reach. For us, it's the coming Kingdom of God and the perfection and justice that it will bring to the world, and we in turn yearn to see Welsh speakers take hold of God's promises.

Accompany

In GEM we often talk about the "With God Life," that sense of going through your day with the keen awareness of the presence of God. Much of the ministry in the valley aligns well with that same mentality – the desire to be with the people and experience life – both the highs and the lows – among them. This spirit results in doing ministry in community and not on our own, which is the model of discipleship that Jesus demonstrated so perfectly in the Gospels.

Program Specifics

Program Cost Breakdown

Monthly Costs

Salary/Housing - \$3090

Insurance/Benefits - \$180

Mission/Ministry - \$630

Total Per Month - \$3900

Launch Fund

Housing/Set-up - \$7500

Training/Language - \$4500

Travel/Moving/Visas - \$6500

Total Launch Fund - \$18500

- Cohorts of 5-7 people
- Training in the Welsh language through a B2-level
- Ministry with our partner in this region, Linguae Christi
- Cultural and historical education into Celtic and Welsh Christianity
- Opportunities for Community Development
- Young adults and kids ministry
- A personal mentoring relationship with one of our leaders
- Opportunities to experience relational evangelism and discipleship

Meet

Trey and Amelia McCain



Trey and Amelia met in Wales twenty years ago, and both were incredibly blessed by God through the people they met, the places they explored, and the stories they heard. Both knew little about this small nation, and they describe their experience as “finding a treasure in a field.” They exulted in the sweeping mountain views and the choppy seas. They rejoiced in both the late-night gigs and the hushed stillness of the chapel. They listened to the pensioners who shared how they were punished for speaking Welsh as children and to the young artists expressing themselves in new, creative forms. God spoke to them during that summer and revealed the richness of his creation and his great love for all peoples, great and small. And through their new love for Wales, God brought Trey and Amelia together.

In 2015 they joined Greater Europe Mission and Linguæ Christi and moved to Wales a year later. Since then, their family has grown to include three young children, a boy and twin girls. They live in a rural valley that has experienced the same ill-effects of post-industrialism and under-investment that have been felt across much of the country. Their small community of faith values time spent around the table with friends and neighbors, service in the community, and telling good stories about Jesus. They are drawn outside of church and chapel walls to be prayerful and hospitable ambassadors of God’s kingdom.

Their vision is to see Welsh-speaking communities of faith sprout up within the different villages of their valley and beyond. They’re searching for a team of people who will bring their passions and giftings to bear as the body of Christ. Team members will be challenged to pursue Jesus and grow in Christ’s character, and they will be shepherded through adversity and celebrated in victories. Trey and Amelia long to welcome new teammates and share what they’ve learned, reveal what brings them joy in ministry, and encourage others who are pursuing the call of Jesus wherever it takes them.