



is far surpassed by the growth of international records. Projects are emerging from a variety of countries as more governments and records custodians become aware of the services provided by FamilySearch, Brother Ericson said.

To begin, FamilySearch employees take records and digitize them. These copies are then gathered into small groups called “batches,” available to volunteers online. Volunteers log into FamilySearch, download a batch, and enter the data they see on the screen. That data is later made available more widely to family history researchers.

FamilySearch indexing volunteers might include people whose native language is not English (the site is currently available in 11 different languages), but it could also include people who have language skills from missionary service, school, or other training.

The Church owns some 2.4 million rolls of genealogical microfilm, totaling some 15 billion records to be indexed. Countless other physical records exist throughout the world.

“We need more people engaged in indexing,” Brother Ericson said, “and we are asking people to share this program with their friends and family members, whether or not they are members of the Church.” ■

#### BEGIN INDEXING NOW

**G**et started by going to [indexing.familysearch.org](http://indexing.familysearch.org).

Select one of seven languages to work in from the drop-down menu.

Click on **Get Started**. The indexing software will automatically download and launch the application.

Practice with a training batch to become familiar with the software.

Start indexing! You can select a batch from any project, organized by countries. ■

*FamilySearch indexing coordinators have a new goal for volunteers: indexing in languages other than English.*

## IN THE NEWS

### Mormon Tabernacle Choir to Tour East Coast

This year the Mormon Tabernacle Choir will tour a section of North America’s east coast, opening the tour on June 20 in Norfolk, Virginia.

On Wednesday, June 22, the choir will perform in Vienna, Virginia.

They will perform in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on Thursday, June 23.

On Saturday, June 25, the choir will hold matinee and evening concerts in Chautauqua, New York.

On Monday, June 27, the choir will hold matinee and evening performances in Toronto, Canada.

Tickets for all concerts are on sale. More information can be found online at [mormontabernaclechoir.com](http://mormontabernaclechoir.com) and on the choir’s Facebook page.

### Mormon Channel, Your Channel

In May 2009, the Church launched Mormon Channel, a 24-hour-a-day, 7-days-a-week radio program found at [radio.lds.org](http://radio.lds.org). Since then, this official Church media channel has grown to include Mormon Messages on YouTube and a



podcast site on iTunes, all accessible from [mormonchannel.org](http://mormonchannel.org).

## Thousands Find Synergy at RootsTech Conference

Some 3,000 genealogy and technology enthusiasts from around the world—with thousands more participating online—participated in the first annual RootsTech Family History Conference, held in Salt Lake City, Utah, USA.

The three-day conference, hosted by FamilySearch—a service provided by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints—was designed to bring together those who are involved with family history work and those who create the technology they use.

Conference participants chose from more than 40 classes on various genealogical and technological interests. Vendors featured the latest products, tools, and services. ■

## WORLD BRIEFS

### Local Church Members Respond to Disasters in Australia

Between December's flooding that continued into January and Cyclone Yasi making landfall in northern Queensland on February 2, Australia has been hard hit by natural disasters in early 2011.

Local Church members in southern Queensland have assisted with cleanup, fundraising, assembling cleaning kits, and distributing relief supplies. Local Church leaders began coordinating relief efforts with government officials.

### "One in a Million" Shares Children's Stories

As the Church reaches one million Primary children, the *Friend* is sponsoring the "One in a Million" project featuring photo and audio slideshows of individual Primary children around the world.

The slideshows are made to create a sense of community among the worldwide Primary. They will be added to throughout the year and can be viewed at [lds.org/friend](http://lds.org/friend).

### Distribution Services Merges with Deseret Book

To improve efficiency and better serve Church members, Distribution Services

has expanded an agreement with Deseret Book to provide Church-produced materials through Deseret Book outlets. Under the new agreement, Deseret Book will offer Distribution materials according to prices and policies established by the Church.

Visit [Newsroom.lds.org](http://Newsroom.lds.org) for more details and information.

### Latter-day Saint Charities Provides Clean Water

Nearly a billion people on the earth lack access to clean water, often resulting in water-borne diseases such as cholera, diarrhea, and typhoid. But since 2002, the Church has helped seven million people in more than 5,000 communities obtain access to clean water sources. "Water Is Happiness," available on [news.lds.org](http://news.lds.org), shows the story of LDS Charities bringing clean water to a village in Sierra Leone. ■

**"Water is Happiness" on [news.lds.org](http://news.lds.org) tells about clean water coming to Sierra Leone.**

