

# NEWS & NEEDS

## *of our Missions*



Winter 2022-2023

A quarterly publication of the **Mission and Outreach Ministry Council**  
*Updates provided to Julie Robie, Missions Coordinator*

### **A Christian Ministry in the National Parks, Colorado**

**From Amy Kennedy, Co-Executive Director:** As we close out the calendar year 2022, we look back with awe and gratitude at how we saw God move in and through our team members in the parks this past year. Lives were changed, hard work was done, and people came to know the love of Christ. We are already making plans for an impactful ministry season this coming year. As we move forward, please pray over the 18 young men and women serving in national parks this winter. If you'd like to be a prayer partner or send a care package their way, please let us know! We are beginning to place our summer 2023 teams and are actively recruiting. If you know of someone who might be interested, encourage them to apply at [www.acmnp.com/apply](http://www.acmnp.com/apply). Thank you for your ongoing prayers and support! We are beyond grateful.



*ACNMP Staff Retreat*

### **Asociacion Civil Cristiana Congregational, Argentina**

**From Rev. Dr. Harding Stricker, Director:**  
In conjunction with the Ministry of Education, the mission is offering its schoolroom facilities to give

classes of assistance for children with learning/comprehension issues. An inspection by a governmental office has successfully been completed. Such inspections will repeat quite often in the future because our mission is receiving funds from outside the country. We were able to adapt the performance of the mission to its financial possibilities without giving up any of its services. Please pray for encouragement for everyone participating in our mission activities, especially for the mission board.

### **Christ to the Villages, Nigeria**

**From Matthew Oladele, Director:** We thank God, who has blessed us with such a great responsibility to care for children. In rural areas, available teachers just try to keep the children busy so the adults can have "itch-free worship." When we are in the villages, we gather the children together and my wife Mary, who was trained by Child Evangelism Fellowship (C.E.F) a few years ago, teaches them. The children are always happy to receive us. They listen with much interest and ask questions a lot. Gifts, such as cookies, are given to encourage them. Some of the children only listen from afar because of their parents who are not Christians, or because they are shy. Our conviction is that Jesus loves and cares for all the children, and so do we.



*Children's Ministry*

## Congregational Church of Myanmar

**From Rev. Sa Do, General Secretary:** Our Grace school in Chakhai village has been running with 37 children. Yangon Grace Home children are doing very well in their education. Our outreach ministry of home cell churches actively share the Gospel every Saturday and Sunday evening. Bible Class for church children and Grace home children has been reopened and at least 28 children are joining to the class. The Mission Secretary was able to visit mission fields a number of times.



*Okkan Home Church*

## ECHO, Florida

**From Abram Bicksler, PH.D. ECHO President/CEO:** ECHO is eternally grateful for all the people who have volunteered their time and donated their resources over this past year! You have helped to tangibly improve the lives of small-scale farming families around the world. Thank You!

"Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever."  
Psalms 107:1 NIV



## Fishers of Men, Mexico

**From Julie Claassen, Director:** By God's grace, Fishers of Men was able to hold two Evangelistic Medical Mission Crusades during this last quarter! The first crusade attended to the needs of two villages in the state of Morelos, just a few hours south of our headquarters here at Refuge Ranch. Despite the crusade lasting only four days, the team was able to provide 596 attentions and 47 individuals prayed to accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior! The closing service was a joint service between several local congregations with whom we joined forces for the crusade and our team. What a beautiful time enjoying the body of Christ!



*Much needed dental attention*

## Morgan Scott Project, Tennessee

**From Crystal Tompkins, Director:** Morgan Scott Project serves the needs of those in rural Morgan and Scott counties providing services through generous donors and outstanding volunteers. The New Light Educational Support program helps offset some of the expenses related to continuing education whether it be vocational school, community college, or university (testing fees, uniforms, travel expense, equipment, books). This year we also awarded a \$500 scholarship to every high school in Morgan (4) and Scott (2) counties. We serve 8 to 10 students a month. Ongoing services include the Backpack Program, Camp in the Community, Home Repair, Good Earth seed program, Thrift Store, emergency help with utility bills, food pantry, food line help on Fridays (averaging 75 families per week), and gathering Christmas toys for 700 area children. God is good!

## Happy Life Children's Home, Kenya

**From Rev. Peter and Faith Ndungu (Kenya) and Rev. Jim and Sharon Powell (US), Happy Life Directors:** The third quarter of 2022 has been peaceful but busy at the Happy Life Mission especially for the children in our schools as they prepared for end-of-year exams. Some are in the last few months of Elementary School education. Others who are in the new Kenyan curriculum that is competency-based are about to finish Grade Six, waiting to get to the Junior Secondary School in January 2023. We have also continued rescuing more children while reuniting others with their relatives. The Jesse Kay Hospital has also continued to grow with more patients receiving services. As the effects of drought continue to be felt, we have noticed more older children being abandoned, some neglected, and abused physically and emotionally.



*School boys having fun!*

## Panamerican Institute, Mexico

**From Laura Ramirez, President:** Our School welcomed our students with joy as all of them are now attending in-person classes. Students and staff are taking care of themselves, we have had no recent COVID cases as we continue to wear masks and protect each other. Along with your cash donations and items donations, we have been able to continue helping our students and improving their lives. We appreciate your support through the difficult times.

## Hosanna Industries, Pennsylvania

**From Katie DeJournette, Director of Fleet and Facility and Church Relations:** As of September 2022, Hosanna Industries has completed 72 projects with a market value of \$650,000. In addition to our daily operations of completing home repairs for needy families, the Gibsonia campus offered a variety of creative and spiritual development classes for the community. Summer club lasted 6 weeks for youth ages 5 and up where they grew, learned, created, and imagined! Thoughtful Spot – in-depth discussions continue to be held on theological, philosophical, biblical, social, and cultural topics once a month. Cooking Class - every other Tuesday throughout the school year, students ages 8 and up will learn to cook and eat dinner together. They learn safety and skills in the kitchen, cooking basics, and dining etiquette, all while having fun!



*Home repairs for families in need*

## One Great Hour of Sharing

The Mission and Outreach Ministry Council (MOMC), on behalf of the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches, is gratefully receiving funds to assist with various relief efforts, such as ***Hurricane Ian and Fiona & Ukraine Refugee Relief Efforts.***

For more information and to donate online:  
<https://www.nacc.org/missions-outreach/oghs/>

## Love Worth Sharing, Haiti

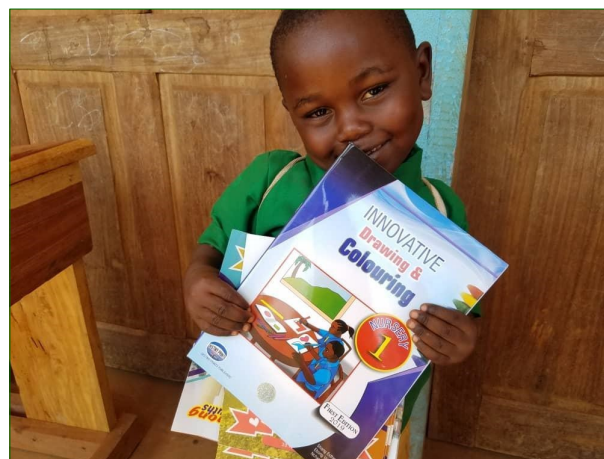
**From Rev. Jim Owens, Director:** Haiti has now been on lockdown for two months, with large demonstrations taking place almost every day, but the people who are desperate to find food have begun to challenge the lockdown. “We are the people who suffered the country’s lockdown” said a banana seller. “For several weeks, we—the poor—were stuck in our homes. But it’s with the day-by-day activities we carry out in the streets that we find our livelihood, that we survive.” Buses used for commuter transport were seen in smaller numbers. With gas skyrocketing in price and being scarce, a few drivers managed to get a gallon for 5,000 gourdes, about \$39 US. Still, some people said staying home was a sacrifice. “People were suffocating at home,” said a soft drink vendor at the Carrefour Airport intersection along the Delmas Road. “We are all waiting for this moment of calm to start running our little business again.” Through it all God is in control and His word is being taught even as the country struggles to survive. Please keep Haiti in your prayers. Blessings and love to you all.



*Little boys learning*

## Mission School of Hope, Cameroon

**From Rev. Charles Sagay, Director:** Schools resumed officially on September 5. In our community many of our Baka children enjoy spending time with their parents in the forest during the long vacation. They are quite at home in the forest as they enjoy climbing trees, eating wild fruits and herbs, imitating the sounds of wild animals, hunting, gathering, and more. Our teachers and staff have understood their way of life. Our intention is not to disrupt their lifestyle which is greatly attached to the forest but to educate them so they can maximize and positively use and preserve what they have and what God has blessed them with. Our teachers are very patient and give catchup classes to the late returnees. However, once school begins, classes also resume effectively. School supplies were distributed. New benches were bought to replace broken ones and for the new classroom. It was wonderful to see the children after a long time.



*New school supplies*

## First Congregational Church of Kingston, NH

**From Rev. Dr. W. David Thomas (Minister of Caring), Bob Morse (Pastoral Care chair), Gwen Citarella (Director of Youth Ministries):**

A Thanksgiving project at First Congregational Church of Kingston, NH brought ministry groups together to make Thanksgiving remembrances. The biggest plus was teaming up with the youth fellowship to share ideas, information (and pizza!), and the big job of putting together the fruit baskets. As the items were delivered by members of the congregation, time was spent visiting with each recipient. There were smiles all around!



*Teaming up!*

## Seafarer's Friend, Massachusetts

**From Ida MacRae, Executive Director:** Seafarer's Friend now offers "Get to know a Seafarer" which will be featured in our newsletters and on our Facebook page. Adonis from the Philippines is a 23-year-old seafarer with four years of experience who works as an Ordinary Seaman (OS) on the ship *New England*. His family consists of a mother, father, two brothers and a girlfriend. His goals/hobbies are shore leave, bicycling, and hanging out with other Seafarers. He chose this seafaring life because his uncle worked as a seafarer for thirty years. He misses his girlfriend and his brothers. His earnings help to pay for bills back at home. Adonis shared that on his second ship he faced turbulent waters which made him sick. In moments like those, he resorts to prayer. On average, an OS averages about \$1100 per month. His prayer requests are for his girlfriend and family.



*Adonis*

## Cherokee Impact Mission Trip

May 17-21, 2023

A Mission and Outreach Ministry Council collaboration with Cherokee United Methodist Church and A Christian Ministry in the National Parks.

For details: <https://www.naccc.org/news-events/>

## Word Alive Mission, Ghana and Ivory Coast

**From Rev. Charles Nyane, President:** We at the Mission give glory to God for the many years of service and are very grateful to the Lord for using the Word Alive Children's Home to accomplish great things for humanity. Raising and nurturing children and helping them develop into great individuals are hallmarks of the Word Alive Children's Home which falls under the Social Services Department of the mission. Currently, we have children from the Home that are in Senior High School, Technical Institutions, and Technical University. In the past few months, the Mission has received four new entrants into the home, all brought by the Social Welfare Department of Ghana. Every child brought to the Home becomes an opportunity to serve humanity, love a child, show kindness, and raise a child in the fear of God. We are grateful to all for helping us run the orphanage home to the glory of God.



*Exploring her new home*

*Serving Christ through Global Missions*

*To nurture fellowship among Congregational Christian Churches and to support ministries of the local church in its community and to the world, all in the name of Christ.*

## Grace Church of Columbiana, Ohio

**From Kim Davis:** Little did a small group of enthusiastic Grace Church members calling themselves GRO (Grace Reaches Out) know that an event they planned in September of 2008 would become a tradition that continues today, 14 years later! We called it the "After Parade Warm-Up Party." The title was more informative than creative.

The party would be held after the Christmas Parade that the village of Columbiana, Ohio held every year on a mid-November evening. The parade route ended directly in front of our church on Main Street where cold parade goers could enter our front doors into the warm dining hall where they immediately were welcomed with a smorgasbord of free Christmas cookies and cups of hot chocolate loaded with marshmallows.

The tradition has continued although the faces have changed, and other groups have stepped in to help. The number of guests varies from year to year too, but estimates are between 100 to 150 revelers. We are grateful to the congregation members who eagerly donate dozens of cookies. This year's estimate was 75 dozen. That is 900 if you did the math!

Despite some inclement weather and a year off for Covid, the party continues. The menu remains the same-cookies, hot chocolate and a warm and inviting church, a reminder for the Christmas season that God's love warms us. Open the door and come in!



### One Great Hour of Sharing

*In 2022, you have generously donated:*

- ◆ **\$81,141 for Ukraine**
- ◆ **\$24,063 for Kentucky Flood Relief**
- ◆ **\$24,468 for Hurricane Ian & Fiona Relief**

***Thank you!***

### Contact Us

For more information on NACCC missions, or to make a donation please contact Missions Coordinator Julie Robie at 800.262.1620 or 603.395.6159 or email at [jrobie@naccc.org](mailto:jrobie@naccc.org).

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**For a complete listing of NACCC Mission Projects or to donate, please visit our website: [www.naccc.org](http://www.naccc.org) and click on "Missions & Outreach"**