

NEWS & NEEDS

of our Missions



Spring 2024

A quarterly publication of the **Mission and Outreach Ministry Council**

Updates provided to Julie Robie, Missions Coordinator

Asociacion Civil Cristiana Congregational, Argentina

From Rev. Dr. Harding Stricker,

Director: The year started with new hope and new uncertainty. Hope that the new government will save the country's wrecked economy. Will it turn out to be for the better? We still hope so. The Annual Meeting of the mission took place on February 9, 2024. The assisting members confirmed the present board member and approved the balance sheets of the past year. It was agreed that as long as the monthly inflation is still high and the overall status of the country's economy is still unstable, funds should be destined to priority areas which include the health service at the mission's clinic, soup kitchen, gardening, and assistance to children and teenagers by providing needed school supplies. We trust God and His unfailing love to move on and thank all our donors for their prayers and faithful support. www.accc-ja.com



Supplies for the children

A Christian Ministry in the National Parks, Colorado



Worship Leadership

From Amy Kennedy, Co-Director: Our national office team just returned from visiting several of our winter ministry teams. We were blown away by the intentionality of each team in their community. It is clear that the love of Christ is extending through them into their community and that they are making safe spaces for their coworkers to

feel cared for and to belong. The team in the Everglades recently invested their own money to help provide clean

water to coworkers during an outage, the team in the Great Smokies has worked to care for the international coworkers transitioning into their jobs in a new country, the Zion team has worked to navigate relational conflict and point people towards unity, and the other teams all have similarly inspiring stories of the ministry taking place in their parks. We are actively recruiting our summer teams and are preparing for training next month! Thank you for your continued support and prayers! www.acmnp.com

Fishers of Men, Mexico

From Julie Claassen, Director: Blessed beyond measure by the body of Christ describes the last month here at Refuge Ranch! Life can be tough...especially when trauma, abandonment and other such issues touch a child's heart.



Building raised beds

For nearly a week, Mark and Debbie Hawkins, Canadian missionaries in the Mexican state of Veracruz and whom the Lord uses effectively in the ministry of restoration, accompanied and guided us through stories, nature walks, impactful movies, laughter and some tears, as we sought the Lord's healing work in each of our hearts. Then, the blessings continued with the weeklong service of a work team from Whiteford Wesleyan Church (Whiteford, MI). Besides moving a tool shed (aka CARRYING the tool shed to its newly prepared location, constructing two container garden beds, sorting, sorting, and sorting some more, the team also built very meaningful relationships with each of the kids, impacting our lives forever!

www.fishersofmenmexico.org

Happy Life Children's Home, Kenya

From Rev. Peter and Faith Ndungu (Kenya) Happy Life Directors: The year 2024 started with uncertainties for most in Kenya and at Happy Life due to high inflation. With many children to feed and educate, we felt much pressure. But aren't we so grateful to God who always leads us in triumphal procession! Happy Life has rescued 20 children since January; four adopted into *forever families* and nine reunited with their families. 11 toddlers joined pre-school this year, with excitement and apprehension in equal measure. I love to see them settle into our Juja Center and struggle to fit into their oversize school uniform! Four of our older children joined high school. Our schools also started the year with energy as new students joined us from pre-school to high school. The Health Pillar is growing and providing medical care to more people in the community. The recent medical outreaches done in collaboration with Liberty University Nursing faculty brought much help to almost 600 people who received free checkups, medicine and much more. We request prayers for good health and for continued provision. Some of our pressing needs include baby formula, a school bag for our students (\$270 per child), and computers for our schools.

www.happylifechildrenshome.com



Really big toys

Hosanna Industries, Pennsylvania

From Katie DeJournette, Director of Fleet and Grounds and Church Relations: During the Christmas season, Sara lost her husband very suddenly to a severe stroke. She is now a single mother who cares for her two sons, one of whom is autistic. Hosanna will be answering the cries of this family by building an addition on their home in Delta, PA, on April 16-18. Please keep us in your prayers as we assist this well-deserved family.

www.hosannaindustries.org

Love Worth Sharing, Haiti

From Rev. Jim Owens, Director: As we navigate the violent multifaceted crisis in Haiti, Ezechiel (Love Worth Sharing Administrator in Haiti) reports that the police station in his village was burned to the ground and 4 police officers killed.



Ezechiel

Ezechiel was held up and robbed by the gang members; they took his phone and backpack. He is okay, but really concerned for the safety of his family; there is nowhere safe for them to go. There is still no timetable for the countries that have promised help for Haiti under the United Nations resolution to get troops on the ground. This means that we still have two shipments stuck in port that can't be delivered, because due to the gangs it is not safe for anyone to travel across Port-au-Prince. The good news is that the "Good News" is still being proclaimed each and every week. Please keep our teachers, cooks, and children in your prayers; pray for their safety and that their work will continue to produce fruit for the Kingdom. www.jesusloveshaiti.org

Morgan Scott Project, Tennessee

From Crystal Tompkins, Director: From Morgan Scott Project, serving rural East Tennessee, Morgan and Scott counties. We ended 2023 by serving 330 families with a total of 992 children Christmas gifts. It was a blessed year. We started the New Year looking forward to being able to serve those in need. The New Year quickly brought on a snowstorm with more snow than we had seen in years. Morgan Scott repaired several water leaks after the storm lifted. We have hosted our first mission team in 2024, completed a wheelchair ramp, painted a park playground, spread gravel, and repaired drain on a walking track at the same park, then worked at a local volunteer fire department replacing bathroom sinks, painting, cleaning and moving items. We are currently getting ready to hand out garden seeds, plants, and fertilizer. The thrift store is doing well, Friday food line is growing we are thankful to have plenty of food to give out. We are looking forward to summer and working with our mission teams to meet the needs in our communities.

www.morganscottproject.org

Seafarer's Friend, Massachusetts

From Rev. David Hulse, Director: We here at Seafarer's Friend are very excited about 2024. We have added more chaplains and ship visitors to our staff as well as hiring two new positions, a volunteer coordinator to manage our volunteers and a social media manager to help us spread our message. We have received a large increase in requests for parcel service. Many of these seafarers are unable to order things from sites like Amazon, Best Buy or Walmart because they lack an address to ship the package to. We have agreed



Women at sea

to do package service for these cruise ships. We will need to rent out a larger space in Portland, ME, along with building out the infrastructure necessary to facilitate this operation. We will need to purchase a Point-of-Sale system that can track incoming and outgoing packages. Our goal is to begin providing this service this cruise season. We anticipate serving the crews of over 140 cruise ships. Most of the ships we currently support have a crew of around 30 seafarers, some of the cruise ships have well over 1000 and we plan on being available to support them all. Like the other vessels we serve, the crews on cruise ships are away from home for six to nine months out of the year and have very little support from outside organizations. To make this work we will need a whole lot more volunteers than in previous years. We have begun reaching out to our local church partners to share our plan and ask for volunteers to help support the day-to-day operation of our package service. We are currently writing grants to help with the costs associated with our expansion in Portland and our vehicle needs across the organization. We are extremely grateful for the support we have received.

www.seafarersfriend.org

One Great Hour of Sharing

The National Association of Congregational Christian Churches (NACCC) is monitoring the catastrophic loss of life and destruction caused by global natural disasters. The Mission and Outreach Ministry Council, on behalf of the NACCC, is gratefully receiving funds to assist with relief efforts. Any contributions to the NACCC should include the notation OGHS-General. We are grateful for your generosity and concern.

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

NACCC Webinar: When Change Pounds On The Door April 24, 2024 ~ 2:00-3:00 PM Central Time

The Interim Ministry Network joins with the NACCC to talk about navigating the crisis of change – pastoral vacancy, sudden loss of church income, a group leaves the church, etc.

This webinar is organized by the NACCC Director of Programs, Dr. Gerry Brannon Krupp. There is no cost to attend. [Please RSVP on our website](#). A zoom link will be emailed prior to the event. Limited to 20 people. In the event that the webinar fills, a waiting list will be available. Due to the sensitivity of the material this webinar will be live only, no recording. Questions? Contact [Rev. Gerry Brannon Krupp, Director of Programs](#)



Contact Us

All mission partners are reviewed and evaluated. The needs are genuine, and the projects worthy of your prayerful and generous support.

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

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.

**National Association of Congregational Christian Churches
Missions and Outreach Ministry Council
PO Box 288, Oak Creek, WI 53154**

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.