



ONWARD

The Newsletter of the Moravian Mission Society, Southern Province

March 2020

Volume XL Issue 2

MUSINGS FROM THE MISSION SOCIETY—

HOME CHURCH HOLIDAY STORE SPREADS JOY

For years Home Moravian Church has partnered with Diggs Latham Elementary School, located in south Winston-Salem, providing volunteers and support for students, parents, and staff. Three years ago a group of Home Church members, sponsored by the Home Missions Ministry Team, organized the “Holiday Store” at Diggs Latham. Because the school is located in a low income area of town, most students do not have the opportunity to purchase a Christmas/holiday gift for a significant adult in their life. The Holiday Store provides gifts, at no cost to the students, from which they can choose an item to give to their parent or other adult for the holidays.

Diggs Latham has approximately 540 students so 600 gifts were needed. The request was made to members and friends to donate new, handmade, or gently used items that an adult might like and the response for the last three years has been overwhelming! In Acts 20:35 we learn “it is more blessed to give than to receive.” The generosity has indeed been a blessing to all, providing enough gifts for each student, all staff members (teachers, cafeteria workers, custodians), and even the principal.



Working with the principal, Rev. Ted Burcaw, the school provides us with a room and tables for three days just before the December break. The first day is used to set up the room, organizing items onto different tables. For the next two days classes come, at their scheduled time, so students can shop, have their gift wrapped, and their gift tag attached. Staff members come all through the day when available. After all have chosen, items left are stored for the next year or donated to Sunnyside Ministries.

What a joy it is to watch the excitement on the faces of the students as they pick a gift! Their smiles tell all - we are embracing the true gift of Christmas, serving and bringing joy to others.

Chris Leinbach Puryear

HMC member and coordinator of the Holiday Store

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Greetings in the name of our lord Jesus Christ, We are all back home as a family, and we are not forgetful of how each one of you has impacted our lives during our visit in the states.

The Ray of Hope family is doing well with an increased number of children, with the largest percentage from the Maasai community. Meet the entire God-given family below:



Ray of Hope Academy at this date is serving 134 students from pre-primary one to 4th grade and has 8 teachers.



The computer lab is being furnished with all the required installations to ensure safety for both computer and learners.



Join us in this year's theme "LISTENING TO THE VOICE OF GOD." Thanks for serving us so well for the expansion of God's Kingdom. May the love and tender care of our heavenly Father be with you forever and ever Amen.

Prayer point:

Pray for our big project of water filtration.

With gratitude, Michael, Cecilia, Blessing, and Love Tesh

HAYLEY GEIS USES VETERINARY SKILLS IN ALASKA



God is using my passion for animals, Alaska, and mission in a big way!

My mission is to share the love of Christ through veterinary medicine - working to build relationships with others through the use of veterinary medicine so that lives are transformed. Animals are a bridge to relationships and strong relationships are formed over the care of an animal. Trust is built, hearts are shared, and a seed is planted for the Kingdom of Christ. Above all, our relationship with Christ compels us to love and serve others with the talents, skills, and experience He has given us and in so doing, to introduce others to Him. In less than 30 days, at the end of February 2020, I will be starting my 15 months of clinical rotations and will need to trust in the Lord's provisions. I will be completing most of my rotations at the University of Georgia Veterinary Teaching Hospital, but thanks to His faithfulness, a couple weeks during my clinical year will be spent in Alaska. During the two veterinary mission trips I will return to the small fishing villages of southwest Alaska. I will be returning through the organization Christian Veterinary Mission and the NCSU College of Veterinary Medicine's Christian Veterinary Fellowship group for one week in March 2020 and for one week in

March 2021. The goal of the trip is to serve the people and animals of the villages by sharing the gospel, praying for people, and providing veterinary care to the animals. The Lord could not be any clearer that I need to return to Alaska and serve God in the midst of finishing my veterinary schooling. Though there is no question that the Lord will provide, I would greatly appreciate your support in prayer or in any other way according to your means. All the best,

Further Information:

Christian Veterinary Mission is a Christ-centered, Bible-based group created to provide training for animal health in a developing world. Through this group, veterinarians, veterinary students, and veterinary technicians can apply to be sent on short-term or long-term missions, and there are also local ministry groups for students and veterinary professionals.

I would encourage you to watch the video I have listed below and to read the blog posts from recent trips for a good idea of the work that I will be doing in Alaska.

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q1rvsTwVBxM>

Blog: <https://ncsucvmmissions.wordpress.com/category/alaska/>



Donations:

I am in need of raising support for the trip. So far, I have raised \$1,550.00 of my \$7,000.00 goal to cover the cost of both trips!

- **How to give by check:** Make the check out to Christian Veterinary Mission and put **UCVSTM5182** on the memo line. Mail checks in to Christian Veterinary Mission, STM Office, 19303 Fremont Ave. N, Seattle, WA 98133

- **How to give online:** [Click the link \[cvm.org/give/short-term-missions/give-to-an-individual\]\(https://www.cvm.org/give/short-term-missions/give-to-an-individual\)](https://www.cvm.org/give/short-term-missions/give-to-an-individual) Within the "Find A Field Worker or STM Participant" box, select Type: Short-Term Mission

Participant and enter "Hayley Geis" in the appropriate boxes - Click Find. The search result should return my name along with my account number. If you do not see my name, simply complete the [general donation form](#) and add my name and/or account number to the Gift Comments section. The CVM Team will be sure to designate it to my account

All the best,

Hayley Geis,

hayley.geis@uga.edu

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WUPPERTHAL RECOVERS FROM DISASTEROUS FIRE

Photo by AJ Van Brandt, Face book



One Year after the Great Fire: TV team Visited Wuppertal, South Africa

Almost one year after the fire disaster that happened in the night of December 30th to 31st 2018 in the traditional Moravian mission settlement of Wuppertal in the South African Cederberg Mountains, a team of the TV station "South African Broadcasting Corporation" was on site to show a larger audience how the church looks eleven months after the big fire and how the inhabitants are doing. The short report recalls the loss of life that had to be mourned and shows the temporary shelters on the rugby field and a large construction site. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jced-RPXR3s&feature=youtu.be> It interviews Barend Salomo, a member of the local aid committee, and three affected residents. The video explains the problems involved in rebuilding the site in accordance with the preservation order and dares to say: "Wuppertal will rise from the ashes. It will be more beautiful than it was before the fire disaster."

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Recap—Timeslive, 31 Dec 2018

A fire has destroyed the town hall, the school and an estimated 45 homes in Wuppertal, near Clanwilliam. An estimated 200 people are left homeless after their homes were destroyed," said City of Cape Town official Wilfred Solomons on Monday, December 31, 2018. The fire broke out on Sunday, December 30, 2018. The blaze that swept through to Wuppertal Moravian Mission Station also destroyed the clinic and parsonage of the minister.

Emergency personnel from the Western Cape government and Department of Health assisted victims throughout the night and have been placed on standby to assist where required, said Solomons. An emergency meeting with the West Coast District Municipality, Fire and Disaster Management Services, the Moravian Church and the community has been organized for Monday, December 31, 2018. Aerial assessments will determine the extent of the damage. Relief aid to source clothes, tents, food, and other basic supplies for the community is being organized by government entities, charities, such as the Red Cross Society, and individuals.

NEWS FROM SIERRA LEONE

The Brothers and Sisters in Luawa Yehun, Kaihlun, Sierra Leone send heartfelt thanks for your prayerful and financial support. They thank God for His blessings, grace, peace, and mercy as exemplified through your generosity and care in joining God in His Kingdom Building.



In 2019 Safiatu Braima was installed as Provincial Acolyte at Little Church on the Lane. It was quite a celebration, with Safi officiating her first Holy Communion service. She will oversee the ministries of the five churches: Luawa Yiehun, Morfindor, Mbaoma, Kaihalun, and the newest fellowship, Yandohun! The pastor, members, and construction teams are working tirelessly to finalize the church building at Kaihalun. Safiatu organized a quarterly workshop for representatives from the congregations to learn and have fellowship.

The Senior Secondary School has received the official written government approval! Salaries for qualified teachers are covered by the government and tuitions for students are provided. In 2019, the enrollment was over 400. The Junior Secondary School has realized the highest end-of-grade examination results in the district. Your past support helped install the solar power for electricity in the Moravian School several years ago.



Teachers at the Moravian School

The newest project for the Sierra Leone Ministry is the building of additional classrooms and teachers' quarters. We can help transition new instructors to their new surroundings until they can construct or purchase private housing.

With your support of the Sierra Leone Ministry, much needed supplies for the churches, school, and villagers have been purchased. One special shipment in 2019 included new equipment for use in evangelism activities in other villages and tribes.

To provide additional administrative support and guidance from the Worldwide Moravian Church, the Sierra Leone Mission Area Board has been formed. This resulted under the auspices and combined efforts of the Worldwide Unity, The SP of the Moravian Church in America, The Board of World Mission, and Little Church on the Lane Sierra Leone Ministry Committee. On February 5, representatives from around the world and from the churches of the ministry met to worship, plan, define leadership roles, and plan for the future.

Again, thank you for your support during 2019. We thank God for His constant care and provision as we follow Him in His great work in the spread of the acceptance of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior in Luawa Yiehun, and the other towns and villages in Sierra Leone. Your Brothers and Sisters in West Africa pray for you and send thanks for your support of this important Mission Area of the Moravian Church.

In Jesus Christ,

The Sierra Leone Ministry Committee, Little Church on the Lane

UNITY WOMEN'S DESK HOSTS OPEN HOUSE

Greetings from the Unity Women's Desk. We would like to invite everyone to stop by our Open House on Sunday March 15, between 1-4 PM, to celebrate International Women's Day. Come and learn about what the UWD is doing in many Moravian provinces this year, sample some international foods, and enjoy fellowship.

Rev. Cicely Athill-Horsford of Barbados will be our special guest for the afternoon. We'll also have a preview of our Spring Moravian Women's Market. Come help us liven up Cedarhyrst for a festive afternoon.

Cedarhyrst Building, 459 South Church Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27101, 336-725-6413 julie.unitywomen@gmail.com

RSVP Appreciated - not required



Special Guest: Rev. Cicely Athill-Horsford, East West Indies, pictured here with Rev. Angelica Regalado (L) and Rev. Tania Sanchez (R)

Julie Tomberlin, Coordinator

Unity Women's Desk

PRAY EVERY DAY—MARCH 2020

1. Sunday - Be glad in the Lord and rejoice. Pray for Steve and Ann Marx with MAF, ID.
2. Let your light shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. Pray for the Armando Rusindo Foundation.
3. God has destined us for salvation through Jesus Christ our Lord. Pray for the Teshes Ray of Hope, Kenya.
4. You who fear the Lord, trust in Him. Pray for the Thiessens in Mexico.
5. Keep the commandments of the Lord your God. Pray for the Suttons with WEC, Int., Singapore.
6. The eyes of the blind will be opened, the ears of the deaf unstopped. Pray for the BWM Spring Meeting in W-S.
7. Love does not rejoice in wrongdoing but in the truth. Pray for Star Mountain Ministry, Palestine.
8. Sunday- Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you. Pray for Heather and Brian Marx, MAF, Indonesia.
9. Your sins have deprived you of good. Pray for Safie Braima and the church in Sierra Leone.
10. The Lord is the strong hold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? Pray for the Harrisons, Greek-InterVarsity, Clemson.
11. All His works are truth and His ways are justice. Pray for the Raifords in Mexico.
12. Lord, plead my cause and redeem me; revive me according to your word. Pray for BWM Staff.
13. Bear one another's burdens, thus fulfilling the law of Christ. Pray for Michael and Brenda Brent in Croatia.
14. Whoever has the Son, has life. Pray for Hayley Geis and veterinarians flying to Alaska today.
15. Sunday - Come let us worship and bow down before our maker. Pray for the Unity Women's Desk and their Open House 1-4pm today.
16. The one who endures to the end will be saved. Pray for the growing church in Lima, Peru.
17. Train yourself in godliness. Pray for the Alaska Bible Seminary, its students, and teachers.
18. You have tasted that the Lord is good. Pray for Andrew and Jenna Craver in Bethel, Alaska.
19. The gifts and the calling of the Lord are irrevocable. Pray for Moravian outreach in Nepal.
20. The Lord will hide me in his shelter in the time of trouble. Pray for the Kilangala Health Center, TZ.
21. The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your heart and mind in Jesus Christ. Pray for the Hoffmans in HIV/AIDS ministry.
22. Sunday- In Christ are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. Pray for Kevin and Charity in the Middle East.
23. God alone is Lord. He made the heavens and all that is in the earth and seas. Pray for Adopt-A-Village in Tanzania.
24. The Lord is just in all His ways and kind in all His doings. Pray for Mission Societies, leaders, and volunteers.
25. All of you must clothe yourself in humility. Pray for Charlie and Vicki Brent in Texas.
26. I confess my iniquity; I am sorry for my sin. Pray for political unrest & violence in Myangas area of Nicaragua.
27. I the Lord test the mind and search the heart to give to all according to their ways. Pray for the economic crises in Curacao.
28. Whoever does the will of God is my brother, sister, and mother. Pray for all those suffering the effects of natural disasters.
29. Sunday—I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in His word I hope. Pray for Moravian Mission Areas and Mission Provinces.
30. Anyone who returns to me, I will never drive away. Pray for Christians suffering because of their faith.
31. In Jesus you are built together spiritually as a dwelling place for God. Pray for the Moravian church and clinic in Honduras.



Just a quick prayer update to pray for:

1. This week missionaries from the field have met in Littleton for HART (Home Assignment Reunion and Training). We have 12 adults who have served across Asia with different levels of experience.

The one couple that sticks out is the family who traveled to Thai-

land for a conference a few weeks ago and were not allowed back to their ministry country because of the coronavirus. They have 4 kids who arrived in CO without any winter clothes and don't know when they will be permitted back overseas.

2. Pray for all our missionaries affected by the coronavirus. Thankfully no one in OMF has been infected, but it is proving to be very challenging for everyone.

3. Naomi got an MRI of her neck yesterday, and we are pursuing a different form of treatment.

Thanks and let us know how we can be praying for you,

The Woos



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