



# ONWARD

The Newsletter of the Moravian Mission Society, Southern Province

May 2019

Volume XXXIX Issue 4

*Musings from the Mission Society—* **MISSION AWARENESS DINNER**

**COME TO HOPE MORAVIAN CHURCH JUNE 2, 2019—5:30p.m.**

**2759 Hope Church Rd., Winston-Salem NC 27101**



**JOE JARVIS WILL SHARE UPDATES FROM THE MORAVIAN CHURCHES IN CUBA**



**ENJOY CUBAN FOOD PREPARED BY MS DIRECTORS AND MEMBERS OF HOPE MORAVIAN CHURCH FOR \$10.00/PERSON**

**RESERVATIONS REQUIRED-LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE**

**MAIL CHECK PAYABLE TO MISSION SOCIETY TO  
500 S. CHURCH ST, WINSTON-SALEM, NC 27101 OR CALL  
336-773-1732 OR EMAIL [sbeaman@mcsp.org](mailto:sbeaman@mcsp.org)**

**By May 29, 2019 for Reservations**

## Articles

p. 2—Marx/  
AK Seminary

p. 3—Fairview

p. 4—Alaska

p. 5—Ahuas Clinic

p. 6—Magi-Land

p. 7—Pray Every  
Day

p. 8—Serve/Pray/  
Give

## JESUS HAS RISEN!

*To a world seeking faith, hope, and love, Easter's glorious tidings are  
God's timeless answer.*

Weather has patterns, but sometimes huge changes can occur even from day to day. The blizzard yesterday in South Dakota is one example, and our daughter and her family living in Denver yesterday had 80 degrees and today are prepared to receive five inches of snow. Here in southwest Idaho our late winter has been relatively wet with mild temperatures—but not snow. Today is sunny and our grass is already mostly green.

In our hangar here at MAF headquarters a new 10-passenger Kodiak is receiving its final modifications. The importation documents are in process, and its trans-pacific ferry flight has been scheduled for July. Please join us in praying that there will be no undue delays in issuing the paperwork so the aircraft can arrive and be put into service in a timely manner.

Our daughter Eileen and family drove over the 12 hours from Denver to spend the last week of March with us to help celebrate my 70th birthday. Daughter Cristi and her family from here in the valley joined us much of the time. Ann and I spent many hours of quality time with the parents and six of our grandchildren. A few remaining areas of sidewalk chalk still remind us of their delightful visit.

Thank you so very much for your generous, faithful support gifts! Your partnership in giving and praying mean so much to us; we are most thankful. Please join us especially at this Easter Season as we rejoice that our Savior not only died to provide forgiveness for our sin but also arose from the tomb to give us new Life. We praise Him!

Let us rejoice together, Steve and Ann Marx

*He died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.  
2 Corinthians 5:15*

## “THANK YOU” FROM ALASKA BIBLE SEMINARY

Greetings from the Alaska Bible Seminary,

Thank you for your wonderful support of our ministry here in Bethel, Alaska. The turn out for the Salmon Bake touched my heart as so many came to support our ministry.

The Seminary is the only native focused educational facility providing training for Christian leaders to the twenty-two Moravian congregations and other communities in the Kuskokwim Delta area. Without your support we would be hard pressed to provide these critical educational opportunities to local folks. Qyuana Cakneq (Thank you very much) for your support. Please continue to keep the Seminary and our students in your prayers.



Blessings, Ed Dehnert, Dean of Alaska Bible Seminary

*Fairview Moravian Church Sponsors  
Stella Brendle Mission Trip  
BBQ Chicken Dinner Fundraiser*



**SATURDAY, MAY 18, 2019**

**3:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.**

**Grilled BBQ Chicken with Sides,  
Dessert and Beverage—Eat in or Take out**

**\$10.00—12 yrs. & older / \$5.00 under 12**

**Tickets available from Women's Fellowship Members  
and in the church office**

*Come out and support one of our young adults as she goes out  
into the world and does good things for people in need!*

*Thank you!*

**Sponsored by the Women's Fellowship and**

**Kevin Krause, Chef**

# VETERINARIAN TEAM SERVES IN ALASKA



The opportunity to serve the people and the animals in the small Yupik villages of southwest Alaska through Christian Veterinary Mission was truly one pieced together by God. We went with the purpose of serving the people of the villages and sharing the gospel by using veterinary medicine and our love for animals to open doors in the community and people's hearts. The team I went with ended up being two 3rd year veterinary students from Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM), one 3rd year and one 4th year student from NC State's CVM, one 3rd year student from Mississippi State's CVM, two veterinarians, two volunteers that had been participating in this trip for years, and myself, a 2nd year veterinary student from the University of Georgia CVM (10 total team members!).

We went to a total of four villages with our entire team going to the first two villages, and then splitting in half in order to reach two other villages on the last couple days of the trip. As we arrived in each village, we set up a "home base" and set up a makeshift veterinary clinic with a reception area, a space to do physical examinations before the procedures, a surgery and recovery area, and also a children's station with coloring and crafts.

Once we set up the home base, part of our team would stay behind to help with the procedures, and the rest would go out in teams to knock on the homes and offer veterinary services, prayer, and fellowship. At people's homes, we administered vaccinations for rabies and distemper/parvovirus, dewormed all of the animals, and before we left, we would offer to pray for the families. Even if people didn't have animals, we would make sure to fellowship with them and pray for them.

We slept on the floor where we could, ate granola bars, gummy snacks, dried fruit, and MREs throughout the week, and would pause throughout the day to eat a snack when we needed one. We would stop working when the last dog was recovered from surgery, clean all of our supplies, eat dinner finally around 11:30pm (if not later), and then decompress with devotional time and sharing of our "highs, lows, and God moments" from the day. It was amazing that even though our days started at 7:30am and didn't end until the wee hours of the morning the following day, we were energized and filled with the Lord's spirit to keep us going. Truly I tell you, where our strength ended, His began and carried us through.



Though every day was filled with so many highs and God moments, there were definitely hard times, as both veterinary medicine and mission work test your empathy, compassion, and strength on so many levels. Through it all, serving the people of Alaska that I have loved for so many years, and serving the animals that are in such a great need and were my motivation to become a veterinarian, and doing so with the ultimate mission of sharing the gospel was truly an indescribable feeling. We saw God working in some amazing ways that I can't even begin to write down because I could turn them into a novel, but I would love to share further if anyone would care to know more! For those that have read thus far, just know that God is at work in Alaska, the group I went with, and certainly in me. I thank you so much for your time in reading this and supporting me in my endeavors. This story isn't over yet and I pray that everyone reading this finds hope in the fact that we serve an indescribably good and gracious Father.



By Hayley Geis

(Far right in the photo)

Here is a more detailed account for your reference and a link to our blog from the trip if you would like to share it with anyone! -

[https://ncsucvmissions.wordpress.com/category/alaska/?fbclid=IwAR0\\_zadNSPOGngF81ewa1h6d58PYZ31EBDgayzOeV04H01dzOV7kyhhe1uU](https://ncsucvmissions.wordpress.com/category/alaska/?fbclid=IwAR0_zadNSPOGngF81ewa1h6d58PYZ31EBDgayzOeV04H01dzOV7kyhhe1uU)

## UPDATE FROM THE AHUAS CLINIC



Several work crews have visited the hospital already in 2019. A group of students along with chaplain Jeff Buscher from William Jewell College in Liberty, Missouri, painted, assisted with births, fractures, outpatients, and the Infant Feeding Program. The Booth dental crew from Ohio returned to Ahuas for their fifteenth annual visit and spent over a week cleaning teeth and doing restorative dental work. A North Dakota crew led by Loren Jendro performed much needed mechanical repairs on generators and other equipment, helped with the Infant Feeding Program, and also inspected the new John Deere tractor that they had donated. Dr. Benno Marx visited for a few days with one of his interns. A large dental team recruited by Dr. Paul Feit pulled over 600 teeth, gave dental hygiene talks, and saw hundreds of medical patients (with North American and Honduran doctors and nurses) in Ahuas, Krupunta, Waxma and Wawina, repaired medical equipment, worked on computers, gave instructions on the ultrasound machine, and assisted with the Infant Feeding Program. In addition to all the important hands-on work performed by these volunteers, all of them also brought much needed medicines, medical supplies, replacement parts, tooth brushes, and gifts for patients and hospital staff.

Additional work crews will visit from Moravian Churches in Wisconsin Rapids, West Salem, and Friedberg during the months of May, June and July respectively. ***Would you like to come to learn and serve with them or with your own crew?***

During the month of April, I have made presentations at Lake Mills Moravian, William Jewell College, and the Sturgeon Bay United Methodist Church. A planned visit to Fargo, North Dakota was cancelled due to an untimely April snowstorm. We will visit the Wisconsin Rapids Moravian Church on the last Sunday of my stay in the States as that congregation prepares to send a crew to Ahuas.

The gas kitchen range failed at my home in Ahuas late last year and became dangerous to use. The Sturgeon Bay Moravian Church, learning of the need and the absence of funding to cover the cost, donated the money needed to purchase a new stove that is now providing meals not only for Dr. Kenneth and me, but also for the many visitors that pass through Ahuas each year.

A new washing machine was purchased for the hospital using "Equipment Replacement" funds held by the Board of World Mission.

Repairs to the doctors' house, initially intended to improve Dra. Cristina's living quarters, were completed in time for the arrival of Dra. Cristina and the visit of the Paul Feit dental crew. Unfortunately, Dra Cristina had to resign because of family medical concerns.

A new John Deere tractor and loader, purchased with donations from North Dakota Moravians, was finally transported to Ahuas after nearly a year of delays in obtaining a government issued tax exemption. Following a short ocean voyage from La Ceiba to Puerto Lempira, Evenor Manzanares, Selín Mejía, and I traveled across the Tilbalakan, Auratá, and Caratasca lagoons by night (to avoid the rough daytime weather on the lagoons) and had "interesting" experiences building wooden ramps in Puerto Lempira and again at the Torre near Ahuas to load and unload the new equipment. The new tractor has been helping with a variety of tasks around the hospital.

The agricultural project has undergone some changes. Originally designed to be an undertaking of the mothers of malnourished children, it now includes other community members as well. The garden continues to produce vegetables for the Infant Feeding Program and the Patient Kitchen, while the egg laying component was expanded in March with the purchase of 80 chicks which should be laying eggs by next month. Using seeds which I purchased late last year, watermelons were planted for the second consecutive year and yielded a bumper crop. We hope to begin a goat project in the month of May.

## AHUAS UPDATE

With the positive experience of building eleven Habitat for Humanity homes for disabled divers in 2016, Honduras Habitat for Humanity decided to renew the relationship with the Clínica Evangélica Morava and started construction of five additional Habitat homes in the communities of Ahuas, Paptalaya and Krupunata. The homes, which were begun in March, will hopefully be finished by June.

The week before I left Honduras (and after several weeks of communication with transportation company representatives, lawyers, a customs agent, a Honduran shipping company, and many others) the container of donated medical supplies was released by customs. I had made arrangements to move the container with Island Shipping from San Pedro Sula to Ahuas. With limited help available, I assisted two Island Shipping employees in transferring the individual boxes and crates to their container. Seeing the amount of donations and the work involved, I called Celán Alemán (the electrician who has helped so many times in Ahuas). He came with three others to help transfer the final boxes. Island Shipping provided a pallet Jack, but other mechanical equipment (such as a forklift) was not available. We worked from about 2:30 until about 7:00 p.m.

During the week of April 7<sup>th</sup>, three trips were made between Puerto Lempira and Ahuas to move all of the donations to the hospital by boat. Hospital staff is currently doing an inventory and distributing materials between the various hospital departments.

Dr. Paul Feit, Richard Wilde, Andy Starr, and Brian Stevens were instrumental in donating and/or arranging for the contribution of significant materials and supplies that went into the container. Vicki Detmers, Sue McMillan, and Ratish Kumar of Hospital Sisters Mission Outreach in Springfield, Illinois loaded the donations along with a long list of items that we had requested and coordinated all of the activities associated with administering the donations, sorting, packing and preparing the container for shipping. Mike Faircloth and Rick Preston of Hanes Brands communicated with Don Hire of Crowley to arrange international transportation. Crowley donated transportation services from Springfield, Illinois to San Pedro Sula, Honduras. The Sturgeon Bay Moravian Church, the Lititz Moravian Mission Gift Shop, Mears United Methodist Church, Our Savior's Moravian Church, Berea Moravian Church, Wisconsin Rapids Moravian Church, Mary Sloan, Christine Nelson-Stack, and Aden Ward either donated funds directly to the Project or were instrumental in obtaining financial contributions. Crowley personnel in Honduras and Mike Faircloth assisted in helping us to avoid the \$30,000 that Honduran Customs originally wanted to charge.

The process that began as a dream over a year ago following the visit of Andy and Brian to Ahuas, is now complete. The over 14,000 pounds of donations worth more than \$222,000 will allow us to improve services to our patients and will help us to avoid the cost of buying many of these supplies in Honduras.

Rick Nelson

## PEOPLE OF MAGI-LAND

The people are a peaceful and unhurried people, and you can often find them relaxing with a cup of tea and enjoying good conversation and community. Most social life revolves around the family, and most families are very large. They often identify themselves by their tribe and usually only marry within their tribes. In the cities, many families own small shops or work government jobs. In the villages, most of the people are farmers or shepherds, some even living a semi-nomadic life with temporary homes in both the mountains and lowlands.

### Prayer Concerns

Praise the Lord that there are local fellowships of believers. Ask God to multiply them.

Pray that the local church leaders would walk in love and unity and work together with grace and kindness.

There are many international workers in Magi-Land. Pray that they would work together well and love each other well.

Pray for wisdom and perseverance for those who are working to translate Scripture.

Pray for wide distribution and acceptance of the Jesus Film.

1. Give thanks to the Father who has qualified you to share in the inheritance. Pray for Safie Braima, Missionary to Sierra Leone.
2. Do nothing for selfish ambition or conceit, but regard others better than yourself. Pray for the Thiesens in Mexico.
3. I am with you always, to the end of the age. Pray for those suffering loss due to flooding and fires.
4. Give thanks to God the Father through the Son. Pray for the Teshes in Kenia.
5. Sunday. The Lord used to speak to Moses face to face, as one speaks to a friend. Pray for Alas de Socorro in Honduras.
6. Lord, to whom can we go? Pray for the Harrisons with Greek InterVarsity at Clemson.
7. I always thank my God when I remember you in my prayers. Pray for Moravians in Peru.
8. We have known and believe the love God has for us. Pray for Armando Rusindo Foundation.
9. Let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger. Pray for Justin Rabbach and BWM.
10. The Lord will send his angel before you. Pray for the Sineaths in Campus Outreach Global.
11. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace. Pray for Annie B Mission, Palestine.
12. Sunday. Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb. Pray for Steve and Ann Marx with MAF International in Idaho.
13. From the rising of the sun to its setting my name is great among the nations. Pray for Unity Women's Desk.
14. May you have full refuge from the Lord under whose wings you have come for refuge. Pray for the Hoffman's in HIV/Aids ministry.
15. If we confess our sins, He who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Pray for Brian and Heather Marx with MAF.
16. The Lord is wonderful in counsel and excellent in guidance. Pray for Jenna and Andrew Craver in Bethel, Alaska.
17. The Lord will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways. Pray for Mission Engagement efforts of the BWM.
18. Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead. Pray for the new tribe and village in Sierra Leone, building a Moravian Church and spreading the Gospel.
19. Sunday. I am the alpha and the omega, the beginning and the end. Pray for Dr Benno and Teresa Marx in Washington.
20. The Lord is your praise, he is your God. Pray for Moravian Disaster Response in TX.
21. The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free. Pray for Moravian Clinic and church in Honduras.
22. This is the Lord for whom we have waited, let us be glad and rejoice. Pray for the food program in Sierra Leone.
23. Blessed are those who hear the word of God and obey it. Pray for Allen and DeeDee lobst in Spain.
24. He sustains all things by His powerful word. Pray for Michael and Brenda Brent in Croatia.
25. Sing aloud to God our strength. Pray for Charlie and Vickie Brent in Texas.
26. Sunday. Peace I give to you, my peace I leave with you. Pray for Adopt A Village in Tanzania.
27. I will extol you among the nations, and sing praises to your name. Pray for 16 Mission Areas and 5 Mission Provinces.
28. Let us sing to the Lord, make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation. Pray for Moravian Ministers everywhere.
29. The counsel of the Lord stands forever. Pray for Kevin and Charity in the Middle East.
30. Sunday. You will not abandon me to the realm of the dead. Pray for R and B in the Sudan.
31. I will declare your power to the next generation. Pray for the leaders of our nation and our church.



BOARD OF  
**WORLD MISSION**  
of the Moravian Church • North America



Listed below are opportunities to serve, to pray and to give this month.

**SERVE:** Work has begun on rebuilding a home in Lumberton, NC that was severely damaged by floods last year. BWM is supporting these efforts with funds to help with building supplies, etc. If you are interested in serving on a building team, please contact Chris Giesler at [chris@moravianmission.org](mailto:chris@moravianmission.org) or 610-868-1732.

**PRAY:** Twenty-eight Moravian pastors and leaders in Cuba and Peru have taken Moravian courses thru our partnership with Moravian Theological Seminary. They are excited to share their knowledge with others in their congregations and beyond. Please pray for ongoing efforts in leadership development in our Mission Areas and Mission Provinces.

**GIVE:** The BWM has approved Mission Grants for seven projects in Peru, Honduras and Tanzania. The projects range from a guinea pig farm to a women's conference to an evangelistic outreach program and focus on mission outreach, leadership development and economic strengthening. Your gifts to the Mission Grant Program will help to make funds available for more and more projects in more and more places.

Donations may be mailed to BWM, 1021 Center Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018. Online, please visit

[www.moravianmission.org/donate](http://www.moravianmission.org/donate)

ONWARD  
500 S. Church St.  
Winston-Salem, NC 27101  
336-773-1732

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED