

FALL 2021

MISSION MESSAGE

Official Newsletter of the Board of World Mission



A Note From the Executive Director

Greetings! I am excited that this newsletter can be a part of what's "new" (or re-new-ed) at the BWM. While BWM has been very busy throughout the pandemic meeting with partners, responding to disasters, and funding grants, we have not had the chance to be as

regular with a variety of our communications. However, now, as we find ourselves once again fully staffed (see "Staff Additions") we have been able to increase our communication. Our website is full of updates from our partners and the tremendous work they are doing sharing the Gospel in their contexts.

As we share this newsletter with greater regularity, we hope you will consider sharing it with others and help us connect with folks who are interested in keeping up with and supporting our fellow Moravian partners around the world. So often throughout the last year and a half, while not able to travel much, I have received messages from our partners asking about how we are, and how they can hold us in prayer. I hope, as you read about the ministries supported by BWM, you will also consider how you can connect and offer prayerful support of these partners as well!

Thanks for your interest and passion for mission work!

Staff Additions

We are excited to announce the addition of three new staff members to the Board of World Mission team. Angelica Regalado Cieza has joined us as our Director of Mission Outreach, Sylvie Hauser serves as our Director of Communication & Development, and Elizabeth Thiele is our Administrative Assistant.



COMING SOON...

BWM 2021 Advent Calendar

Some of you may remember the Advent calendar created by the Board of World Mission last year, in which we invited Moravians to count their blessings throughout the season of Advent and then respond to those blessings by blessing others through a donation to the BWM. This year, as we celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Clínica Evangélica Morava in Ahuas, Honduras, we are creating a new Advent calendar to encourage Moravians throughout the U.S. and Canada to allow their blessings to be a blessing to those receiving medical care through the Ahuas Clinic.

Follow along with the calendar by downloading the printable version which will be available on the BWM website or have the daily prompts sent through email or text. You can also follow along on social media!

To join via email:

Send an email with "Advent Calendar" in the subject line to sylvie@moravianmission.org.

To join via text:

Send a text message including "Advent Calendar" to (920)495-8995.



Fall Board Meeting

The BWM board of directors held its fall board meeting on October 1st and 2nd. It was a blessing to be back together in a hybrid setting -- some folks were together in person in Bethlehem, PA, while others joined virtually. Thanks to the hard work of our board, staff, and partners, the weekend was productive and meaningful!



Moravian Disaster Response

The Moravian Disaster Response has been very busy since the beginning of the Covid pandemic. Since then, Moravians from around North America have donated \$458,785 to the fund, and the Board of World Mission has distributed \$435,195. This is an amazing amount of money and represents overwhelming generosity, as well as incredible need. A significant chunk of this funding supported relief efforts in Nicaragua and Honduras after twin hurricanes struck in November of 2020. We have also sent aid to many of our global partners as needs arose from the Covid-19 pandemic.

Most recently, we sent \$24,500 to Haiti following the August 14, 2021, 7.2 magnitude earthquake. Our Haitian Moravian Church leaders are now using this money to support food distribution, assemble emergency shelters for those who lost their homes, and assist the two Moravian congregations most directly impacted by the earthquake. We thank the Armando Rusindo Mission Foundation for their generous gift to this relief effort.

In the past month, we also sent \$13,600 to the Moravian Institute in Rajpur, India, to help with various needs resulting from Covid-19. These funds are being used to mitigate the spread of the virus by ensuring that students and staff can receive Covid vaccines.

The Moravian Disaster Response Fund is the most effective tool to respond quickly to natural disasters that strike around our Moravian world. Give online at MoravianMission.org/Give or mail a gift in the enclosed envelope.

The Clínica Evangélica Morava Celebrates 75 Years

This year marked the 75th anniversary of the Clínica Evangélica Morava, in Ahuas, Honduras. One of the founders of the Ahuas Clinic, Werner Marx, wrote: "The 16th of June of 1946, we planted the corner post of the new clinic in Paptalaya." Since that time the Ahuas Clinic has provided much needed medical care, including maternal health, preventative medicine, and emergency surgeries, to the people of the remote La Mosquitia region of Honduras. On June 16th of 2021, clinic staff, community members, and visitors from the U.S. gathered in celebration of this special anniversary. The event included thanks to God for creating and sustaining the medical work, thanks to past and current medical staff, gratefulness to the Board of World Mission (BWM), the Reformed Church of America and other donors, and expression of the great need addressed by the work of this hospital.

In celebration of the 75th anniversary, we have created the "Ahuas Anniversary Fund". The goal of this fund is to continue to invest and grow it over time so that it can serve as sustainable income for the clinic. You can help us reach this year's special goal of \$75,000 for the 75th anniversary by making a donation to the "Ahuas Anniversary Fund" today! Contribute to this fund online at MoravianMission.org/Give (in the notes field, please include "Anniversary Fund") or mail your gift in the enclosed envelope.

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Each bag purchased enables the Board of World Mission to provide more Mission Grant funding to our partners around the world. Mission Grants are a great way for the Board of World Mission to address specific needs and ministries as they are identified by our partners.

Thank you to all who participated in the 2021 Moravian Day of Service!

