

MISSION MESSAGE

Official Newsletter of the Board of World Mission



A Note From the Executive Director

Greetings from the Board of World Mission!

It is always a bit refreshing to write a note about our work in the spring since it seems as the weather transitions, so does our work. In the early months of 2022 we have reflected on the work of 2021 to ensure we can intentionally plan for the year ahead. We have completed

our 2021 Annual Report (to be printed in an upcoming issue of the Moravian Magazine) and also completed our annual comprehensive financial audit. I was greatly encouraged by both of these "review" efforts as they are great reminders of our careful stewardship of the financial gifts of so many, and also our role as the direct mission contact for Moravian partners around the world.

For over two years it has been difficult or impossible to visit with our global partners in person. I am very glad to be able to write this shortly after visiting with Moravian partners in both Nicaragua and Cuba. At both of these encounters I was reminded of the tremendous value and life-giving energy present when you can sit face to face to talk. It is the "in-between" moments beyond the sometimes rushed letters and emails that are all business when true relationships can form and grow. Over meals of rice and beans (and garlic shrimp!) I was able to reminisce with pastors in Nicaragua about times when I had volunteered with other young adults to assist communities after hurricanes way back in 2008. Sitting in rocking chairs at night after long meetings I listened to personal stories of both joy and sorrow, gaining background and insight into different leadership styles and decisions being made in Cuba.

Each of these partners is moving forward with important ministries while also managing conflict. The BWM asks for your prayers and the Lord's guidance may be sought by all involved in these situations. Still, even in times of conflict (and maybe especially then) a personal visit brings so much value.

I am excited that the BWM is returning to travel (despite some COVID testing protocol issues... ask me about these adventures sometime!) and encourage any who wish to be more deeply involved in the relationships that are always being built with our partners, to reach out to the BWM!



Mission Service Award Nominations Open

The Board of World Mission has the honor of presenting the Ted Wilde Mission Service Award and Herrnhut Congregational or Organizational Affirmation to Moravians who have given of themselves for the benefit of others down the street or around the world. We invite you to submit nominations and learn more at MoravianMission.org/Awards.

COMING SOON...

Camp Hope Mission Camp

June 13-19, 2022

Come for as many days as you are able!

The Board of World Mission, together with the staff of our Moravian camping facilities, invites volunteers to join together in preparing Hope Conference & Renewal Center in Blairstown, NJ, for its summer programs.

There is no cost to attend the mission camp. Food and lodging will be provided to volunteers. This camp is open to ALL adults. Please register on CampHope.org. Select "Adult Mission Camp" under "Summer Camps 2022!"

We Want To See Your #MoravianServies

A servie: like a selfie, only better! In honor of the 290th anniversary of the first Moravian missionaries leaving Herrnhut on August 20th, 1732, we are collecting photos of Moravians participating in acts of service to others.

Please send photos (new and old!) from mission trips, community service events, and more to sylvie@moravianmission.org or (920)495-8995. We are grateful for any details you can share about who is in the photos, where they were taken, etc.

Ukraine Relief

Please continue to pray for our Moravian partners in Europe who are providing safe shelter and community for families fleeing the war in Ukraine. The Board of World Mission has sent funding to the European Continental Province and the Czech Province to support a number of congregations that are hosting refugees.

Among the Czech congregations providing support is the Moravian congregation in Nová Paka, which is renovating space in a hotel they own to house up to 15 families and allowing a Ukrainian primary school to set up classes for the children. Their community is also coming together to find additional housing throughout the town.

In Germany, the Herrnhut Moravian Church has welcomed over 100 women and children and is offering musical programs, schooling for the children, and German classes. They have created a cafe where Herrnhut community members and Ukrainian guests are invited to enjoy coffee, treats, and fellowship. The response in Herrnhut is particularly meaningful as 2022 is the 300th anniversary of the Unity of the Brethren's arrival in Herrnhut after being exiled from Moravia. Pastor Jill Vogt shared, "Just as the first families that came to Herrnhut found a place of refuge, safety, and freedom, so we hope to share that legacy today."

To date, generous donors have contributed over \$250,000 to Board of World Mission collection efforts. This funding will help congregations throughout Europe provide food, shelter, personal hygiene products, household essentials, school supplies, and transportation for the families. These are tangible ways that the love of Christ is being shared. In addition, refugees are being offered places to worship and a welcoming Christian community.



For ongoing updates, please visit MoravianMission.org.

Those in the US can send checks to Board of World Mission, 1021 Center Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018 or make a donation online at MoravianMission.org/Give. Please use the memo line to indicate that your gift is for "Ukraine."

Canadians can send checks to Moravian Church in Canada, 600 Acadia Drive SE, Calgary, AB T2J 0B8. Interac e-Transfer donations may be sent to treasurer@moravian.ca. In the comments section, please mark this donation as "Ukraine" and include your name and address to receive a tax receipt.

Moravian Resources Conference

Thank you for your support of our campaign to provide computers for our Spanish-speaking partners! With the help of this new technology, we held our first virtual meeting in preparation for our upcoming conference in Panama.

The goal of this effort is to provide participants with resources in their own language as well as to share experiences and strengthen our Christian relationships. The BWM is collaborating with the Unity to bring key topics to the conference, such as the Book of Order, role of Bishops, and more.



Let Us Come to You!

Did you know... that the Board of World Mission not only works with partners around the globe, but that we would love to engage you and your congregation or ministry in mission?

BWM staff members are once again available to hit the road! If you would like to have a mission speaker at your congregation or if you're willing to host an event for folks who are interested in serving, we would love to come to you! We would be happy to walk you through a process on how to discern the needs in your community or help you identify global ministries that you can be involved in. The BWM covers all of our travel costs to show up at your church's front door and be of service in any way we can.

Even if your interest is as simple as, "I would like to do mission work, but I don't know where to start?"... we can help!

If you want to get a head start yourself, visit MoravianMission.org and click on "Resources" to see a sampling of what we have to offer!

Moravian Mission Coffee

Order today at:
MoravianMissionCoffee.org



Each bag purchased enables the Board of World Mission to provide more Mission Grant funding to specific Moravian ministries and projects as they are identified by our partners around the world.

In addition to our original medium roast and decaffeinated blend, hazelnut coffee is now available!