

MISSION MESSAGE

Official Newsletter of the Board of World Mission



A Note From the Executive Director

As I reflected on what to write for the introduction to this Fall Newsletter I took a look back at my calendar and have discovered that "summer vacation" is a misnomer at this point in my life and work with the Board of World Mission. While fall is not yet complete, the projects we have completed this fall demonstrate just how much planning and preparing we accomplished over the summer, thus negating any real use for the term "summer vacation." A few examples:



In September the BWM hosted 50 people from 10 countries at our Moravian Resources Conference in Panama. This followed over a year of planning team meetings and Zoom video calls with participants. Our staff, board, and partners worked together to ensure that themes discussed were relevant to all present and to handle each small (but significant) logistical detail so that all arrived safely and without issue.

In late October and early November, Bishop Chris Giesler (our Director of Mission Engagement) and I traveled to Tanzania, visiting both the Northern and Western Provinces. In the Northern Province, the trip was an introduction to many ministries and an invitation into a potential future partnership. Our time in Western Tanzania was a chance to visit long-standing ministries supported by the BWM through the generosity of our donors and to see firsthand the impact these donations have on evangelism, education, and medical efforts. Again, this trip came together after months of discussions and planning, reviews of project proposals and reports, and setups of international wire transfers for funds.

So.. while our newsletters and social media are full of things "accomplished", I realize in each season, we are simultaneously planning and preparing new projects. As we come to the close of the year 2022, already we are preparing for things which will be New (in the) Year ahead. As we form plans for a busy year in 2023, I pray you will consider support of a BWM project through an end-of-year gift to our education fund.

Even as we know winter is coming... Don't worry, the BWM does not hibernate; we have a lot to do so we can "spring" ahead in our ministries!

COMING SOON...



Introducing our Education Fund

Universal education has been a Moravian core value since the founding of the Church in 1457. As 2022 comes to a close, the Board of World Mission is pleased to announce the launch of our Education Fund, which will continue to grow and be a source of funding for Moravian education ministries for years to come. We invite you to be part of this effort by including the Board of World Mission in your end-of-year giving.

Go to MoravianMission.org/Education to learn more about the specific education efforts of the Board of World Mission, including Christian education, youth education, and vocational training.

To give you an idea of the blessing your gift will be for a Moravian educator or student, here are some impact examples based on our current projects!

- \$25 → one week of schooling for a student in Kyiv, Ukraine
- \$75 → one month of instructor certification training for a teacher in Ngiehun, Sierra Leone
- \$150 → one week of speech therapy for all students at Star Mountain Rehabilitation Center in Ramallah, Palestine
- \$2,000 → an international BWM conference for one church leader
- \$5,000 → one year of training for a future doctor, nurse or medical support staff at the Moravian clinic in Ahuas, Honduras

Donate online at: MoravianMission.org/Give or mail a gift in the enclosed envelope.

Please indicate that your gift is for education using the fund options on our giving page or by writing "Education" in the memo line.



Moravian Resources Conference

In September, we were blessed to gather in person with representatives from all of our Spanish-speaking partners in Panama City, Panama. The Board of World Mission hosted a Conferencia de Recursos Moravos (Moravian Resources Conference), where participants discussed a variety of topics, including Unity structure, how to plan a Synod, financial administration in the church, leadership as servanthood, and more. We also distributed copies and provided guidance on how to use the Church Order of the Unitas Fratrum and Our Moravian Treasures, which we recently translated into Spanish for the first time ever. A group of 45 delegates and presenters spent four days studying these topics, worshiping together, and enjoying fellowship time, including a group tour of Casco Viejo and the Panama Canal's Miraflores Locks. Participants expressed their gratitude for this opportunity to build relationships, gain resources, and discuss current challenges with Moravians in their region who may be experiencing similar joys and concerns.

Moravian delegates representing the Ahuas Clinic, the Costa Rican Province, the Cuban Province, the Honduras Unity Province, the Honduras Mission Province, the Nicaraguan Province, and the Mission Area of Peru were present, as well as guests from Brazil and Bolivia.



We are overwhelmed with gratitude for the presenters and planners who made this Conferencia de Recursos Moravos a meaningful experience for our delegates. Thanks to Rev. Dr. Jørgen Bøytler, Unity Business Administrator; Bishop Armando Rusindo; Bishop Sam Gray; Bishop Kingsley Lewis; Brother Rick Nelson; Rev. Dr. Betsy Miller, President of the Northern Province PEC; Brother Leo Pixley, Chair of the Provincial Board in Costa Rica; Rev. Dr. Dion Christopher; and Sister Julie Tomberlin, Unity Women's Desk Coordinator.



Lay Leadership in Labrador

This summer, the Moravian Church in Newfoundland & Labrador celebrated the commissioning of six new lay ministers in Happy Valley/Goose Bay and Hopedale. The Mission Area has recently suffered a shortage of pastors, which led Rt. Rev. Chris Giesler, BWM Director of Mission Engagement; Rt. Rev. Paul Graf; and Rev. Jason Andersen to develop a lay minister training program, which was held via Zoom this past spring. Upon the completion of the program, Bishops Giesler and Graf traveled to Labrador in August for the commissioning services of Sam Saunders, Dieter Holeiter, Sophie Ford, Sarah Jensen, Sybil Hunter, and Doris Boase. In addition to the recently commissioned lay ministers, the Moravian Church in Newfoundland & Labrador looks forward to the future leadership of three candidates for ordained ministry from the area: Linda Saunders, Darlene Winters, and McKinley Winters.



2022 ADVENT CALENDAR



Counting our blessings so that we may bless others.

This holiday season, as we celebrate the launch of our Education Fund, we have created an Advent calendar to encourage Moravians throughout the U.S. and Canada to allow their blessings to be a blessing to those accessing education through the ministries we support. Follow along with the calendar by downloading the printable version, which is available at MoravianMission.org/Advent or have the daily prompts sent through email or text. Follow the Board of World Mission on Facebook and Instagram for daily updates there, too!

To receive email prompts, email sylvie@moravianmission.org and include "Advent calendar" in the subject line.

To receive text prompts: Text +1(920)495-8995 and include "Advent calendar" in the text.

Moravian Mission Coffee

The perfect holiday gift!

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!