



**MIDWEST MISSION**  
Sending Hope & Empowerment



**MIDWEST MISSION IMPACT | 2023 ISSUE**

*Abundant* **JOY**

# A Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Midwest Mission Family,

2023 was full of many new challenges but more than anything, it was overwhelmingly full of JOY!

At Midwest Mission, we always work to show God's love in a practical way, but this year God made it clear that the JOY people get from serving their brothers and sisters in Christ is just as important.

God uses the JOY that comes from serving to draw us closer to Him, which in turn brings more JOY to our lives.

Serving is one of the best ways for people to experience Christian love and draw them in to want more. Serving can also help us as we grow complacent or feel like we can't do much. It refocuses us on the fact that every act has a ripple effect. We make the first drop and, before we know it, we've made a big impact in this world, making it a better place — one smile, act of service, and one relationship at a time.

Serving together brings people together and that is God's desire for us: to work together as one body. Pray about someone who needs some JOY in their life and invite them to serve alongside you.

This JOY of serving and the power it has, became abundantly clear in 2023 as we helped churches and organizations host over 100 Off-Site Events (and we know many did it on their own as well!). Our goal at Midwest Mission is to grow our Off-Site Events so we can reach more people. We are limited to the number of people that can come to our location, but Off-Site Events have enormous capacity. We love when teams come to us, but our hope is that when they return home, they'll get others excited about serving, and want to bring the Midwest Mission Experience to the entire congregation.

I have witnessed people come in with a sour attitude and leave with the biggest smiles, wanting to do more. People want to help but struggle with finding the "how." That is where we come in. Serving gives people purpose, and is the conduit for them to reach people around the world and around the corner in Christ's name.

Will you be a part of reaching more people for Christ in 2024?

In His Service,

*Chantel Corrie*

Chantel Corrie, Executive Director



# OUR MISSION

Bringing the hearts and hands of God's people together to transform resources into humanitarian relief.

# HOW

We send tangible resources to those in need to make an intangible difference in their lives through hope and empowerment. In times of crisis internationally and in the United States, Disaster Relief, Health, Education, and Micro Business supplies are given freely through trusted partner nonprofits.

# WHY

Around the world and around the corner, people are in need of basic resources that would give them a hand up in life. As Christians, our mission is to show God's love. At Midwest Mission, we show God's love in a *practical* way, sharing His love and helping those in need in the right way.



Personal Dignity Kits Distributed in Honduras

2

"And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work." 1 Corinthians 9:8

# A Look at 2023

Because of your generosity, people around the world and around the corner are filled with hope.

## SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS



**299**  
DOMESTIC  
DISBURSEMENTS



**\$6.45 MILLION**  
HUMANITARIAN AID SENT



**1,685**

ON-SITE  
VOLUNTEERS

**5,980**

OFF-SITE  
VOLUNTEERS



**44**  
INTERNATIONAL  
SHIPMENTS



**2.7+ MILLION**  
PEOPLE REACHED

**45,484**

VOLUNTEER  
HOURS

## DISASTER RELIEF



**672**  
TORNADO  
TOTES



**9,930**  
UMCOR  
HYGIENE KITS



**2,988**  
UMCOR  
CLEANING KITS



**5,760**  
UMCOR MENSTRUAL  
HYGIENE KITS



**76**  
BED PACKS



**369**  
SLEEPING MATS

## HEALTH



**189,577**  
RICE MEAL BAGS

**1.14 MILLION**  
INDIVIDUALS FED



**35,701**  
PERSONAL  
DIGNITY KITS



**3,948**  
HOME CARE KITS



**1,940**  
LAYETTE KITS



**1,694**  
BIRTHING KITS



**800**  
FEMININE  
HYGIENE KITS



**88K+**  
HANDMADE  
ITEMS



**1,765**  
COVER THEM  
WITH LOVE  
QUILTS

## EDUCATION



**558**  
DESKS



**23,670**  
STUDENT KITS

## MICRO BUSINESS



**360**  
BIKES



**539** SEWING  
MACHINES  
479 ELECTRIC  
60 TREADLE



**\$1.7 MILLION**  
WORTH OF MEDICAL SUPPLIES

# International DISASTER RELIEF



**44 SHIPMENTS**

**17 COUNTRIES**



**4**

Our Student Kits are part of Food For The Poor's Disaster Relief Kits that are pre-staged and handed out in disasters.

# Relief Supplies Sent After Earthquake in Türkiye and Syria

On February 6, 2023, a 7.8 magnitude earthquake struck Türkiye and Syria, impacting the lives of an estimated 15.7 million people (U.N. Refugee Agency).

While we watched the devastating scene unfold, thousands of miles away, we knew response was going to be needed.

Our relationship with North Star Foundation, and the path we already had into Poland while serving Ukraine, was a perfect opportunity to quickly get supplies into Türkiye and Syria. The items would stop at a relief hub in Poland, where supplies were split up and sent in different directions with different organizations. With one shipment, we could help people in Türkiye, Syria, Poland, and Ukraine.

Initially, they needed food. We worked with the Springfield Rotary Club and Baja Bridges to send a shipment full of Meals Ready to Eat. Meanwhile, we were working hard to make Rice Meals that we would eventually send to the area.

Then, they were in desperate need of hygiene items. When North Star heard about our Personal Dignity Kits, they were ecstatic! They immediately requested them, not only for the earthquake relief, but for refugees and survivors of the war in Ukraine as well. This would add almost 20,000 more Personal Dignity Kits than we normally send in a year. We couldn't get that much shampoo that quickly, so we called upon YOU. And you responded by leaps and bounds! We were able to send all the Personal Dignity Kits they requested over the six shipments we sent to the area in 2023.

## Continued Relief for Ukraine

The war in Ukraine is still ongoing. Millions are displaced from their homes, trying to build a new normal. We have been sending relief to Ukraine for almost two years, but unfortunately, many people in Ukraine are still in dire circumstances.

Many of us will never know the crushing reality of losing everything we've known. But those who have speak of devastating circumstances.

Although they might have a place to stay, *many people still don't have basic necessities*. The need is there, and we are dedicated to responding to this humanitarian crisis as long as needed. In 2024, we will continue working with North Star to provide needed supplies when requested.

**Please be praying for the people of Ukraine and for organizations who are working hard to provide needed supplies.**



# National DISASTER RELIEF

## Maui Wildfires

During the second week of August, wildfires sparked around the island of Maui. Those fires led to a devastating inferno that destroyed the historic community of Lahaina.

Lahaina was made up of local residents. This was their home – not their week of vacation or temporary living. Many people had to evacuate, and lost *everything*. They lost physical belongings, but also pieces of their culture, their historic landmarks, and a piece of the island that was their own.



Convoy of Hope, out of Springfield, Missouri was on the ground in Lahaina distributing disaster relief within a week of the fires igniting. They were working with our food supplier for relief supplies, but they needed more than the supplier had. They suggested contacting Midwest Mission.

After discussing what we had and what their needs were, it was decided that we would send Bed Pack Kits (sheet sets and bed pillows), Hygiene Kits, and Rice Meal Bags for Convoy to distribute.

We knew other needs would arise, so we opened a Maui Campaign so that we could provide needed assistance as soon as possible.

When we ask for funds after a disaster, we will *only* use that money for that specific disaster, or to replenish items we sent for that disaster.



On August 28, the container arrived that would go to one of Convoy of Hope's warehouses in Sacramento, California. Needed items would be flown to Maui. This was a special moment because NOMADS, Mark and Mary, had a son and daughter-in-law who were living in Lahaina and lost their apartment in the fire. They shared their son's story, and we prayed for them as we prayed over the shipment.

After that shipment, we still had funds left, so we worked with Convoy of Hope to find out other priority needs. We purchased two semi-loads of rice (that's a LOT of rice) that would go to Maui. All together, that is 77,200 pounds of rice!

Because of you, survivors were fed, and had hygiene supplies to keep a little normalcy in their life.

# Tennessee Tornadoes

On Saturday, December 9, seven tornadoes tore through Middle Tennessee.

Several communities were changed forever. Six people lost their lives, dozens more were injured, and thousands had to sift through what remained of their belongings.

We work with a group called VOAD (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster). It is an umbrella organization that works together in times of crisis to coordinate relief in an effective and efficient way.

Midwest Mission volunteers, and trained ERT's, Dave and Deb Gowdy, reached out to the Tennessee VOAD on behalf of Midwest Mission. After hearing what was needed, we quickly prepared supplies.

The Gowdy's graciously volunteered to drive from Tennessee to Midwest Mission, pick up supplies, and take the loaded trailer to the four VOAD Collection Sites that distributed relief.

We sent tornado totes, disinfecting wipes, body wipes, UMCOR Hygiene Kits, UMCOR Menstrual Hygiene Kits, and tools like shovels, rakes, and brooms.



## UMCOR – U.S. Disaster Relief Partner



9,930 HYGIENE KITS



5,760 MENSTRUAL HYGIENE KITS



2,988 CLEANING KITS

Midwest Mission has committed to being a part of the United Methodist Relief Supply Network. There are eight warehouses in the relief supply network. UMCOR Sager Brown is the only warehouse owned, funded, and operated by UMCOR (Midwest Mission is not UMCOR). We pledge to build, verify, collect, warehouse, and ship UMCOR kits at our own expense. UMCOR kits are only sent within the U.S. and mostly in response to disasters.

### Should I give money to Midwest Mission or UMCOR in a disaster?

Outside of UMCOR Sunday, 100% of the funds given to UMCOR goes to the Advance Fund you choose. During international disasters, UMCOR sends relief in the form of monetary grants. UMCOR no longer ships supplies internationally because shipping can be expensive and not as immediate.

However, Midwest Mission does not pay for shipping. We work with partners to receive information on the requested items needed for a disaster. Many times, these are items they are unable to find near the disaster site. Midwest Mission lets you know what the needed items are, and you can purchase them or send monetary donations for us to purchase products to be sent.

If you want to give requested, needed supplies in a disaster, Midwest Mission is your choice – whether you want to donate supplies or money. If you want to send monetary help to the disaster, then give funds to UMCOR.

We want to honor your wishes and be upfront with how we both work to complement the other's services. Our goal is always to steward your resources well, so that we can all work together to send hope and empowerment in times of crisis around the world and around the corner.

Learn more at [midwestmission.org/UMCOR](https://midwestmission.org/UMCOR)

# HEALTH



35,701 PERSONAL DIGNITY KITS



189,577 RICE MEAL BAGS SHIPPED



3,948 HOME CARE KITS



1,694 BIRTHING KITS



1,940 LAYETTE KITS



800 FEMININE HYGIENE KITS



\$1.7 MILLION WORTH OF MEDICAL SUPPLIES

## What We Learned in Jamaica

Visiting our partners, and spending time with people who have been on the receiving end of the work we do, has been something we've wanted to do for a long time. In March 2023, that finally came to fruition! We visited Food For The Poor in Jamaica, and learned *so much*.

At Midwest Mission, we always ask our partners what they need before sending anything; but, there is something *so special* about standing in the dining room of a children's home that has received our kits for years, holding the hand of Auntie, looking her in the eyes, and asking "what do you need?".

The people we serve alongside are some of the most selfless, caring, and servant-hearted people we have ever met. They sacrifice daily to bless those they are serving.

The work you do here in the states is *truly life changing* for those on the receiving end. We saw the buckets that you carefully packed and prayed over, sitting under sinks, in gardens, and throughout the houses. We heard the gravity of what receiving Personal Dignity Kits mean through choked up voices as they poured out their thanks. But, we couldn't take credit for it — it was YOU. Your time, resources, and prayer are changing lives *forever*.

When we came back to the States, we reflected on everything we learned. As we asked what they needed, we made notes of how we could change what we do to be more helpful to our partners. Because of this, we have made a few kit changes that you can see on page 20. We are an organization that *deeply cares* about the people we serve. When we ask what they need, we want them to know we listen.

8

You can learn more about our trip by watching our Jamaica video at [youtube.com/@midwestmission](https://youtube.com/@midwestmission)





# Angels of Hope Shipments Bring Abundant Joy

The Angels of Hope program is a collaboration with Food For The Poor that serves children's homes and less-fortunate families in 10 countries across Latin America and the Caribbean. In 2023, our Angels of Hope shipments contained Personal Dignity Kits, Home Care Kits, and disinfecting wipes.

In 2024, we will add twin mattresses, Cover Them with Love Quilts, and Bed Pack Kits to these shipments. In 2023, we sent Angels of Hope shipments to Honduras, Guatemala, Haiti, and Jamaica, totaling nine shipments.

Can you imagine not having the basic necessities to live a healthy life? Many families have to make *tough* choices about where they spend their limited income, and a lot of times they have to choose food over sanitary items. Because of your generosity, children and families in these countries have hygiene and cleaning items to make them and their environments healthier.

We received a Partner Report from an organization called CEPUDO in Honduras, which brought great feedback, and this *absolutely heartwarming* photo that is full of joy. This shipment contained 1,600 Personal Dignity Kits and 400 Home Care Kits.

"We are most grateful for these Personal Dignity Kits because they provide what the children need," Heydy, Food For The Poor's in-country representative said.

**"The children love them, too, because they know that each kit is their own,"** she continued.

"A total of 33 households throughout Honduras received the kits and both children's homes and impoverished families were especially happy to receive practical items for use in their daily lives."



## The Sleeping Mat Project

This year, our Sleeping Mat Project really began to take off in churches and communities around the Midwest. These Sleeping Mats are made out of plastic grocery bags using a loom. No matter who you are, or how old you are, you can be a part of this. This is a great project for churches and small groups! We offer looms for a \$100 donation, or you can make your own using the plans found on our website.

The Sleeping Mats are given to people who are sleeping in less than desirable conditions. It gives a dry, dirt-free space to get a good night's sleep. The mats are freely given both internationally and in the United States. To learn more, or to get a loom, go to [midwestmission.org/loom](http://midwestmission.org/loom) or contact [teresa@midwestmission.org](mailto:teresa@midwestmission.org).



The Merry Mat Makers at Sugar Grove United Methodist Church, Rushville, IL

# EDUCATION



558 DESKS



23,670 STUDENT KITS

## THE DESK PROCESS

### 1. Bleacher Wood Donation



### 2. Wood Preparation

Volunteers scrape the gum off, remove any metal pieces, and plane, sand, and cut pieces to size.



### 3. Desk Assembly

The desks are assembled, checked for quality, and labeled for re-assembly. Then, they are disassembled for shipping. Next, each desk is polyurethaned, and then individually wrapped with all the pieces necessary for one desk.



Assembly



Polyurethane



Wrapping

### 4. Distribution

Students around the world have a clean, hard surface to work on, providing a more functional learning environment.



## American Indian Christian Mission

In July, Midwest Mission sent a shipment to the American Indian Christian Mission (AICM) in Show Low, Arizona.

This is the third shipment Midwest Mission has provided for AICM. During COVID, we sent a semi full of requested supplies such as masks and toilet paper – you probably remember the vast need for toilet paper during this time in your own communities!

AICM's mission is to "Evangelize and Equip Native Americans for Christ." They help Native Americans become aware of God and teach them that through Christ and Christ alone they can be saved. They have three parts to their ministry: the boarding school, outreach to families of students, and their Blue Bus ministry.

This shipment came with a God Moment. They had requested bath towels, but at the time we only had about 30 in our inventory. Just a couple days later, a donation came in that had over 500 new towels on it! We were able to send 600 towels to bless the community in Show Low.

Included in the shipment was 178 gallons of laundry detergent. **You can see some of their students using the detergent in the picture below.**

We also sent hygiene items, cleaning supplies, 560 Student Kits, 2,800 Rice Meal Bags, 50 mattresses, three sewing machines, and four air conditioners.

Our goal is always to listen to our partners and send what they need. Thank you, GOD, for providing!



# PARTNER HIGHLIGHT

## U.S. SOUTHERN COMMAND



Since 2013 we have partnered with the United States Southern Command for their annual Humanitarian Aid Exercise.



11 YEARS



6 COUNTRIES



14 MISSIONS



## Every Child Deserves Needed School Supplies

This year, the U.S. Southern Command will be holding exercises in Peru for their humanitarian mission, Resolute Sentinel. They have asked us to provide Student Kits for elementary-aged children in 68 schools they will be serving.

**In total, we will send 4,260 Student Kits to Caballococha, Peru. The cost for these kits will be \$34,080.**



**\$8 MAKES 1 STUDENT KIT**



**\$80 MAKES 1 BOX OF KITS**



**\$1,120 MAKES A HALF PALLET OF KITS**



**\$2,240 MAKES 1 PALLET OF KITS**



Think back to when you were in school, or maybe your children or grandchildren. You grab the 64-box of Crayola Crayons with the sharpener in the back, the big box of colored pencils, the fun notebooks, and maybe even mechanical pencils. You see a back-pack with all the pockets and can't wait to load all the supplies into it! You excitedly strap on the back-pack with confidence and head off to use all of the supplies. Smiles everywhere.

Now think about the parent that can't do this for their child, and how that child isn't equipped to go to school. There are kids who really WANT TO GO TO SCHOOL! And they need the resources to help them with their education ... notebooks, pencils, colored pencils, crayons, erasers, scissors, rulers, pencil sharpeners and a bag to hold all of the supplies. You can help provide school supplies in Peru for Resolute Sentinel 2024.

Visit [midwestmission.org/kits-for-kids](https://midwestmission.org/kits-for-kids) to learn more!

Donate at [midwestmission.org/donate](https://midwestmission.org/donate) or mail a check to 1001 Mission Drive, Pawnee, IL 62558 with "Kits for Kids" in the memo.

# MICRO BUSINESS



539 Sewing Machines



360 Bikes

## Bikes to a Family from South Sudan

The Dengs are a beautiful family of seven from South Sudan. Ten years ago, the family fled scenes of Civil War and violence in South Sudan, and became refugees, living in a refugee camp in northern Kenya. Kenya was their new place — one of safety, but quite different from their home. The Dengs lived there for 10 years, knowing they would eventually relocate to America. The last week of September 2023, their relocation to America became real, leaving their second home, and landing in Springfield, IL.



One of their biggest challenges was transportation. How would they get to and from work and school and the grocery store? Thankfully, Beth, Community Pastor at Hope Church, knew just the place they could get transportation. On October 6, Beth brought several members of the family on a trip to Midwest Mission. They arrived and walked into the sprawling warehouses. In front of the group was our trailer full of refurbished bicycles, ready to be taken home. Each person looked through and picked out their very own bike! The Dengs loaded up their new-to-them bikes, and headed home with peace of mind that their transportation was taken care of within this new world.

“These bikes will be a real blessing,” Beth said. “Thank you, Midwest Mission!”

So, thank YOU! Your prayers, monetary support, donations, and time played a part in getting this family the transportation they needed. With this weight off of their shoulders, they are better equipped to live a fuller life in Central Illinois.

That’s why we do what we do here at Midwest Mission - to transform God’s resources into humanitarian aid, to send hope and empowerment around the world and around the corner. **And, sometimes, we can help people from around the world who have ended up just around the corner!**

## Sewing Machines to Honduras

Treadle sewing machines and fabric were delivered to “Manos Emprendedoras” (Enterprising Hands) in Honduras. This is a tailoring workshop, designed to teach interested young people the skill of sewing.

“Our vision is to create job opportunities for women with limited resources so they can have a better way of life and be able to support their families,” our in-country partner, Heydy, said.

This workshop is a model for other projects, making a better future for young people around Honduras. Because of the donation of sewing machines, and the opportunities Manos

**12** Emprendedoras gives, *lives are changed forever*, and hopefully for generations to come. Thank you for being a part of that impact.



# YOU ARE

MIDWEST



MISSION

1,685 ON-SITE VOLUNTEERS

5,980 OFF-SITE VOLUNTEERS

45,484 VOLUNTEER HOURS

2,264 DONORS

\$4,350,029 WORTH OF  
IN-KIND DONATIONS



LOOKING TO

2024

*The joy of serving and giving*



# 15 WAYS TO SUPPORT MIDWEST MISSION

## 1. Pray! Pray! Pray!

We need an army of prayer warriors! Pray for Midwest Mission, our volunteers, our partners, and for the people we serve to be uplifted and feel Jesus' love.

## 2. Use our Church Bulletin Inserts

Find them in our weekly newsletter *and* at [midwestmission.org/promotional-material](http://midwestmission.org/promotional-material).

## 3. Collect and Donate Items

Visit [midwestmission.org/collect-donate](http://midwestmission.org/collect-donate) to stay up-to-date on our ongoing and disaster-specific needs.

## 4. Host an Off-Site Event

This helps you get more people involved in serving. Learn more on pages 16-17.

## 5. Assemble Kits at Home

See our kits at [midwestmission.org/kits](http://midwestmission.org/kits).

## 6. Make Handmade Items

Every stitch helps bring comfort to a child. Find instructions and patterns at [midwestmission.org/patterns](http://midwestmission.org/patterns).

## 7. Talk to Your Fire Department

They may be able to donate fire gear and equipment they are no longer using.

## 8. Read the Newsletter

Subscribe to our weekly newsletter and share it with friends! Scan the QR code to join or email [mallory@midwestmission.org](mailto:mallory@midwestmission.org).



## 9. Donate Medical Supplies

Reach out to local medical facilities, nursing homes, VFWs, and American Legions about donating medical supplies and equipment. You'd be surprised what people have in their homes, too.

## 10. Reach out to Corporations

If you know a local corporation that might have overages they would donate, reach out and connect us with them! There are many things we can take if they're new. Contact [brad@midwestmission.org](mailto:brad@midwestmission.org).

## 11. Keep an Eye Out for Bleachers

Watch your local news for schools taking out wooden bleachers (or industrial wood shop equipment).

## 12. Share Our Social Media Content

Follow us on Facebook [@midwestmission](https://www.facebook.com/midwestmission) and on Instagram [@midwest\\_mission](https://www.instagram.com/midwest_mission) and share our posts.

## 13. Make Sleeping Mats with a Loom

Learn more at [midwestmission.org/loom](http://midwestmission.org/loom).

## 14. Highlight Midwest Mission

Ask your pastor or missions team about highlighting Midwest Mission. We have videos and more at [midwestmission.org/promotional-material](http://midwestmission.org/promotional-material).

# 15. Give This Impact Report to a Friend

(when you are done reading of course)

# BRINGING THE MISSION TO YOU

## RICE MEAL PACK

*1 bag feeds 6 people*

Hosting a Rice Meal Pack is a great way to get your group or congregation involved in serving, while building community at the same time. Whether you have a group of 10 or 100s, the Rice Meal Pack is a big blessing to those you will serve, and those you serve alongside. It is something everyone can do – all abilities and ages will enjoy participating in this hands-on event.

### The Rice and Soy Blessing Bag:

**Cost:** \$2 per bag + delivery costs

Each Blessing Bag is a nutrient-dense meal filled with

- Vitamins
- Dehydrated Vegetables
- Soy
- White Rice

The Meal was created to be self-sustaining, to give up to six people the energy needed to get through the day. Given in response to disasters, the Meal is a life-saving source of important nutrition, when someone doesn't know where their next meal will come from.



## PERSONAL DIGNITY KIT ASSEMBLY

Personal Dignity Kits provide hygiene items that give people dignity in their daily lives, and give hope for the future.

Hosting a Personal Dignity Kit Assembly is a great way to open the eyes of your volunteers to the reality that some people really don't have the basic necessities. Together, you can be part of the solution and help people in crisis.

**Cost:** \$8 per kit + delivery costs

A Personal Dignity Kit includes:

- 1 Hand towel
- 1 Washcloth
- 1 Adult toothbrush
- 1 Bar soap - 3-4 oz
- 1 Shampoo - 12-19 oz
- 1 Deodorant - 2-3 oz
- 1 Lotion - 8-10 oz
- 11-Gallon Resealable Bag
- Toothpaste



*hope within crisis*



# STUDENT KIT ASSEMBLY

*empowering a child*

Student Kits allow students the chance to excel in their education because they have supplies that will help them reinforce what they learn.

This is a great project to host, especially during back-to-school excitement, with school-aged children and their families. It's a great way to show that there are a lot of people who don't have basic resources many of us take for granted, and we can help with providing these tools.

**Cost:** \$8 per kit + delivery costs



## WHY HOST AN OFF-SITE MISSION EVENT?

We bring the mission to you! With three off-site event options that you can host at your church or organization, you can choose an event that is perfect for your group. **Off-site mission events connect congregations, grow teams closer together, and deepen discipleship.** Just like going on a mission trip, hosting an off-site event creates a space where community is shared and memories are made, all while actively being the hands and feet of Jesus.

We provide:

- All supplies and equipment
- How-to videos and training
- Planning assistance
- Feedback on when and where supplies are sent

You provide:

- Tables and space
- Set-up/clean-up volunteers
- Monetary investment

### SCHEDULE YOUR EVENT

Contact our Mission in Motion Team:

**217-483-7911** or

[missioninmotion@midwestmission.org](mailto:missioninmotion@midwestmission.org).

**For more info:** [midwestmission.org/off-site](http://midwestmission.org/off-site)



# MIDWEST MISSION EXPERIENCE

## LEARN MORE. BUILD COMMUNITY. IMPACT THE WORLD.

As an organization, our biggest area of growth in 2023 was **our off-site opportunities**. We believe this is because of the impact it makes in the churches and organizations hosting them. These opportunities allow us to bring the mission to you. Entire congregations serve alongside one another, new relationships are formed, discipleship happens over packing, and churches are revitalized with a renewed excitement for being the hands and feet of Jesus. Not to mention, so many resources are packed and quickly sent to people in need.

As we look ahead to 2024 and beyond, we want to invest our efforts in our areas of growth. **So, we are starting the Midwest Mission Experience at Midwest Mission Iowa, and on select days at Midwest Mission Illinois.** Midwest Mission Iowa opened in June 2023. With every new project, there are always transitions that occur. As 2023 was winding down, Midwest Mission leadership reflected on the first several months of Midwest Mission Iowa's operation. The new location was a success, but not without challenges. It became clear that this location could not operate like the main location in Pawnee, Illinois. As a result, leadership began to plan a new format for our Iowa location that would better suit the needs of Midwest Mission, the needs of those we serve, and the needs of the congregations we partner with. With this in mind, as we enter into 2024, Midwest Mission Iowa will be a training ground for off-site and at-home opportunities. We are calling it the "Midwest Mission Experience."



## THE MIDWEST MISSION EXPERIENCE

A team of people from a church or organization can come to Midwest Mission to experience several different hands-on, easy mission activities. They will learn about Midwest Mission, learn how they can make a greater impact in the world from right at home, and leave with the tools and knowledge to take this to share at their church or organization.

Maybe your church is excited about mission, but doesn't know how exactly to get the community involved, or you have heard about Midwest Mission, but need to show others what exactly you've been talking about. Or, maybe COVID really separated your congregation, and you need something that would bring everyone together and back in the building. Maybe there are people that want to serve, but need something that is easy, accessible, and can be done in homes or in small groups.

There are a lot of reasons you might be looking for a new mission opportunity, and there are ways for everyone to impact the world from right where they are. But, the problem is, many people just don't know what to do! **The Midwest Mission Experience allows people to try out several different hands-on opportunities with a group of volunteers, and learn for themselves what will be best for their community.** The best part is, as you are trying out different stations, you are still being the hands and feet of Jesus! The items you pack at Midwest Mission will be shipped to a person in need around the world or around the corner.

## HOW THIS WORKS

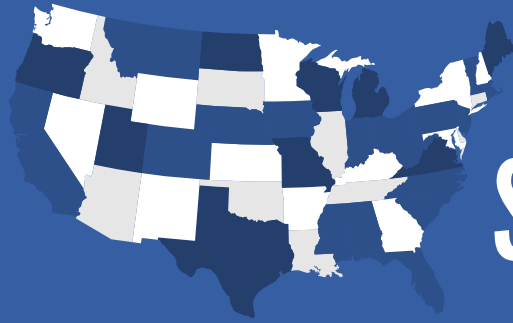
1. Gather a group of volunteers who are interested in learning more about mission projects.
2. Call our Reservations Coordinator at 217-483-7911 to reserve a date for your shift. **Midwest Mission Iowa is now solely hosting Midwest Mission Experience days. Midwest Mission Illinois will host Midwest Mission Experiences on select days, as well as regular shifts.** Call for availability. Watch the newsletter for upcoming days.
3. The cost is \$6 per person for a half-day or \$12 per person for a full-day shift.
4. You will come and try out Rice Meal packing, Student Kit assembly, Personal Dignity Kit assembly, making Sleeping Mats with a loom, and sewing projects.
5. When you return home, you should share your experience, and begin planning a mission experience at your location. This could be coordinated through Midwest Mission, or you can do it on your own! Either way, your community will be united, revitalized, and filled with joy from serving with one another. And we are ready to help!

# IN 2023, MIDWEST MISSION STAFF TRAVELED...



103,732  
MILES

TO



10  
STATES

## VISIT US AT ANNUAL CONFERENCE!

Every year, Midwest Mission staff members and volunteers travel to Annual Conferences of the United Methodist Church. We love seeing volunteers, donors, and friends, and meeting new people. In 2024, we will be exhibitors at most conferences in the North Central Jurisdiction. We will be holding collections (all items except for bikes are accepted) and hosting some Midwest Mission Experience events. At our booth, we will have Feminine Hygiene Kit, Student Kit, and Personal Dignity Kit "starters" to get your community involved in serving!

We could use assistance during our hands-on events, so let us know if you would be interested!

**Visit [midwestmission.org/annual-conferences](https://midwestmission.org/annual-conferences) to stay up-to-date on what we will be doing in your area.**



# KIT AND PROJECT CHANGES

The world is a changing place and change occurs more quickly now than ever in history. That is why we stay nimble to be able to quickly adapt. Every year, we take time to ask our partners to collect information on how the kits have been used, what the top needs are of the people they serve, and what might not be a priority anymore.

## 1. BIRTHING KIT HAS BEEN REMOVED

Originally, the Birthing Kit was an UMCOR Kit. In 2018, UMCOR stopped shipping internationally, and stopped making several of their kits. We decided to make the Birthing Kit a Midwest Mission Kit, and we received a lot of requests from groups doing rural medical missions. The kits were given to midwives so they could safely deliver babies. Those requests got much smaller, and now our focus has shifted to helping hospitals. Although parts of the Kit are helpful, the Kit is not being used in its entirety because of the tools they have at the hospitals. We have made the decision to stop sending Birthing Kits, and instead to send what is needed by hospitals. This is to steward your resources and Kingdom resources to the best of our ability.

## 2. PERSONAL DIGNITY KIT CHANGES

We have added an 8-10 oz bottle of lotion to the Kit. We are removing the razor from the Kit. This decision came after our visit to Jamaica. Many places we visited were removing the razor from the Kit before distribution due to safety concerns. While there, we were intent on asking what their needs were, and lotion came up several times – dry skin can crack and become painful, and can cause health issues and infection. The Personal Dignity Kit is our **#1 requested Kit**.

### Personal Dignity Kit List:

- 1 Hand towel - no kitchen towels
- 1 Washcloth - no dishcloths
- 1 Adult toothbrush - no multipacks
- 1 Bar soap - 3-4 oz
- 1 Shampoo - 12-19 oz
- 1 Deodorant - 2-3 oz - stick, roll on, or pump
- 1 Lotion - 8-10 oz
- 1 1-gal resealable plastic bag

Place all items in the resealable plastic bag. \$2 donation for toothpaste and carrying bag, per kit.

## 3. COVER THEM WITH LOVE QUILT SIZE

Originally designed for a hospital crib, the Cover Them With Love Quilt will now be size **42" x 72"** to fit twin beds. Other sizes will still be accepted but are not our priority. Any quilting pattern can be used.



# PERMANENT COLLECTION SITES

We have a network of Permanent Collection Sites across the Midwest that allow you to easily donate items without having to travel to Midwest Mission. Our Permanent Collection Sites accept anything that is on our lists. Visit [midwestmission.org/collect-donate](http://midwestmission.org/collect-donate) to see what is accepted.

**For site hours, contacts, and current information, visit [midwestmission.org/permanent-collection-sites](http://midwestmission.org/permanent-collection-sites).**

## ILLINOIS COLLECTION SITES

Coal City UMC  
6805 East McArdle Rd, Coal City, IL 60416

Forrest Hill UMC  
706 E Forrest Hill Ave, Peoria, IL 61603

Shiloh UMC  
210 S Main St, Shiloh, IL 62269

West Salem Trinity UMC  
4212 Broadway St, Mount Vernon, IL 62864

Carbondale Grace UMC  
220 N Tower Rd, Carbondale, IL 62901

Kankakee Trinity UMC  
936 S Third Ave, Kankakee, IL 60901

New Lenox UMC  
339 West Haven Ave, New Lenox, IL 60451

Lanark UMC  
405 East Locust, Lanark, IL 61046

Neighborhood UMC  
1817 Washington Blvd, Maywood, IL 60153

Glenview UMC  
727 N Harlem Ave, Glenview, IL 60025

Community Church of Fox River Grove  
400 Opatrny Dr, Fox River Grove, IL 60021

St. Joseph UMC  
205 N 3rd Street, St. Joseph, IL 61873

## INDIANA COLLECTION SITES

Emmanuel UMC  
16000 Cumberland Rd, Noblesville, IN 46060

First UMC  
1409 K Street, Bedford, Indiana 47421

## IOWA COLLECTION SITES

Midwest Mission  
219 N Chestnut St, Jefferson, IA 50129

Hornick UMC  
411 5th St, Hornick, IA 51026

## MICHIGAN COLLECTION SITES

First UMC - Warren, MI  
5005 Chicago Rd, Warren, MI 48092

Jenkins Residence  
4760 E Wackerly Rd, Midland, MI 48642

Pathway Methodist Church  
2950 Lakeview Avenue, St. Joseph, MI 49085

## MINNESOTA COLLECTION SITES

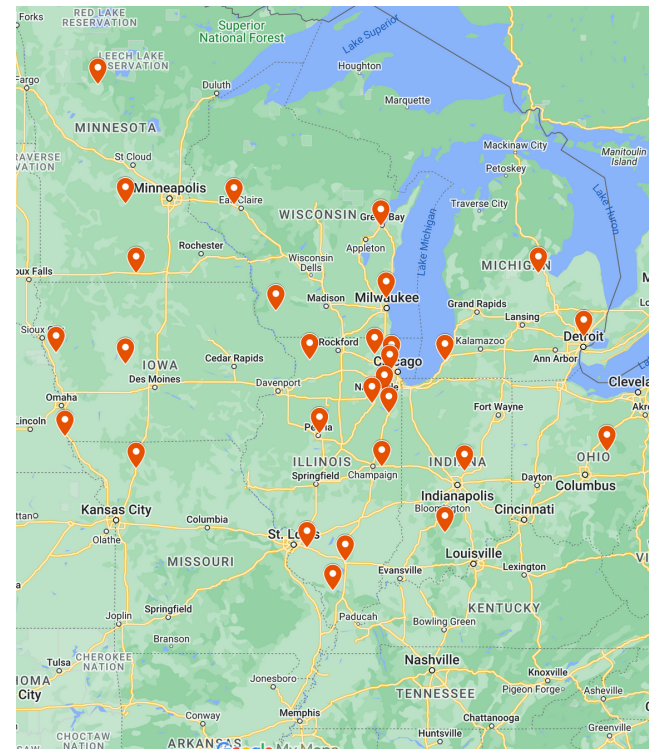
Bethlehem UMC  
665 Miller Avenue SW, Hutchinson, MN, 55350

Hope UMC  
12080 380th Ave, Blue Earth, MN 56013

Riverside UMC  
1005 Park Avenue North, Park Rapids, MN 56470

## MISSOURI COLLECTION SITES

Pattonsburg UMC  
101 1st Avenue, Pattonsburg, MO 64670



## NEBRASKA COLLECTION SITES

Nebraska City FUMC  
1023 1st Ave. Nebraska City, Nebraska 68410

## OHIO COLLECTION SITES

Gay Street UMC  
18 North Gay Street, Mount Vernon, OH 43050

## WISCONSIN COLLECTION SITES

Bethany UMC  
1110 Echo Lane, Green Bay, WI 54304

Fennimore UMC  
1450 2nd Street, Fennimore, WI 53809

Mequon UMC  
11011 North Oriole Lane, Mequon, WI 53092

Trinity UMC  
105 S Holly Avenue, Elk Mound, WI 54739

## YOUR CHURCH COULD BE A PERMANENT COLLECTION SITE

All you need is space to store items, availability to assist people when they drop off items, and willing hearts and hands! We will help coordinate getting supplies to Midwest Mission once your space is full.

**If your congregation is interested, please contact [teresa@midwestmission.org](mailto:teresa@midwestmission.org) for more information.**

# CURRENT NEEDS



## KIT SUPPLIES

The most requested kits are the Personal Dignity Kits and Student Kits. You can purchase pieces of the kit and send them to us, or make kits from home.



## MEDICAL EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES

Folding walkers, crutches, canes, wheelchairs, shower chairs, and orthopedic supplies.



## BLEACHER WOOD

Wooden bleachers are used to make desks that seat 2-4 students. Notify us of potential bleacher donations — [brad@midwestmission.org](mailto:brad@midwestmission.org).



## EMERGENCY GEAR & EQUIPMENT

We accept emergency gear and equipment, including fire gear, equipment, firetrucks, and ambulances. Fire gear can be expired. Contact [gene@midwestmission.org](mailto:gene@midwestmission.org).

Donate supplies by bringing them to Midwest Mission or a Permanent Collection Site near you.

Learn more at [midwestmission.org/collect-donate](http://midwestmission.org/collect-donate).



# MONETARY DONATIONS

We are funded almost entirely by donations from individuals and churches. Your donations keep this ministry running, allow us to quickly respond when disaster strikes, and give us the opportunity to be flexible when requests are made. Your gifts make life-changing differences.

Contact [lisa@midwestmission.org](mailto:lisa@midwestmission.org) for details on special giving opportunities.

Send a check to 1001 Mission Drive, Pawnee, IL 62558 or donate online at [midwestmission.org/donate](http://midwestmission.org/donate).

# SOLAR FACTS AND FIGURES

In 2023, we officially turned on our solar panels! After years of planning, fundraising, and praying, we can finally see the benefits financially and environmentally. **Each month we are saving an average of \$871.16 on our electricity bill!**



**SINCE AUGUST  
2023 WE HAVE...**

**22**



**SAVED 44,447 LB  
OF CO2 EMISSIONS**



**WHICH IS THE  
EQUIVALENT OF**



**336  
TREES PLANTED**

# JOIN OUR MISSION *of joy*



PRAY  
FOR US



SERVE  
WITH US



DONATE TO  
OUR MISSION



## CONNECT WITH US

Search **Midwest Mission**



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Newsletter



and share with  
others!



# MIDWEST MISSION

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www.midwestmission.org

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SENDING HOPE AND EMPOWERMENT  
*around the world and around the corner*



# JOYFUL IN HOPE

PATIENT IN AFFLICTION, FAITHFUL IN PRAYER. ROMANS 12:12