

January 6, 2023

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SENDING HOPE AND EMPOWERMENT AROUND THE WORLD AND AROUND THE CORNER

## Last Shipment of 2022 Left Midwest Mission and is Headed to Belize



On Thursday, December 29,  
needed supplies were loaded  
into a container and shipped off  
to Belize.

This shipment was our 48th and  
final international shipment of  
2022. It was coordinated  
through our partner, Food For  
The Poor.

Belize is located in Central

America. There, more than 41% of the population lives below the poverty line. Food For The Poor has worked in Belize since 1986.

This shipment included:

- 20 sewing machines
- 280 Feminine Hygiene Kits
- 320 Layette Kits
- 280 Student Kits
- Orthopedic boots, splints, and braces
- Medical supplies
- Hospital blankets
- Other redirect items



Value: 209,971.29

## Personal Dignity Kits Give Hope in Guyana



When a container is shipped to Food For The Poor, it goes to one of the Latin American or Caribbean countries they work with. Once it arrives in the country, Food For The Poor's in-country partners receive items to disburse within their nonprofit or organization.

One of the in-country partners of Food For The Poor Guyana is **The Outdoor Library**. The Outdoor Library provides help and support to the people in their community.

On November 25, they had an event for the International Day of Elimination of Violence Against Women and Girls. They united together to discuss ways on how to stop violence against women and girls in the Uitvlugt community where they live.

They had fun playing twister, sharing a meal, and having discussions. Midwest Mission Personal Dignity Kits were given to each of the women who came to the event.

You could see the excitement on the women's faces as they received their kits. They put on their bags, and squeezed in together for a picture.

# Current Wishlist

## We are in need of Twin Bedsheet Sets

If you would like to donate these items, you can drop them off at Midwest Mission or your nearest collection site.

If you would like to make a monetary donation, go to [www.midwestmission.org/donate](http://www.midwestmission.org/donate)

### Prayers to Lift Up

This week, we pray for the coming year. We pray God will continue guiding our steps, and that we will be able to serve people in the best way possible this year. We pray for each person who serves with us, that they will feel the joy of serving that only comes from God.

*"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil, or fade."*

1 Peter 1:3

### Share some GOD news with those you love!

Do you have family or friends that need some GOOD News - GOD News - to uplift them? If so, please click on the button below and share the link provided. The more we can spread the word about the work God is doing here, the more we can make the world a more joy-filled place.

[Link to Share the Midwest Mission Newsletter](#)

### Ready to Get Involved?

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Dates are available in 2023 and 2024

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or 217-697-4063

Click below to check calendar openings and to  
reserve your spots.

[Mission Journey Reservation Calendar](#)



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**January 13, 2023**

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**SENDING HOPE AND EMPOWERMENT AROUND THE WORLD AND AROUND THE CORNER**

## New Year Begins with Two International Shipments

In 2022, we sent 48 international shipments, surpassing the 33 we sent in 2021. We are excited to see how many shipments God will call us to send around the world this year.

We started right out of the gate, sending two shipments to Honduras in the first week of the year.

The first shipment left Midwest Mission on January 4.

It contained:

- 384 Home Care Kits
- 560 Personal Dignity Kits
- Disinfectant Wipes
- Antibacterial Hand Cleaner

**Value: \$55,490.00**

The second shipment left Midwest Mission on January 5.

This shipment contained:

- 100 lbs of fabric
- 6 Treadle sewing machines
- 62 Cover Them With Love Quilts
- 119 Little Girl Outfits
- 320 Birthing Kits
- 8,397 lbs of Fire Equipment

**Value: \$197,452.00**

Because of your dedication to Midwest Mission, together we are able to provide needed resources to people in need. Thank you!



# Student Kits Heading to 10 Countries for Disaster Relief Pre-Positioning



Each year, Midwest Mission works with Food For The Poor to help pre-position disaster relief supplies in 10 Latin American and Caribbean countries. Midwest Mission provides Student Kits, while other organizations provide blankets, hygiene kits, and water filters. This allows relief to quickly get to those in need when disaster strikes. Many times, transportation is disrupted during disasters; this alleviates that barrier.

Disasters make a traumatic impact on a person's life. Our Student Kits are sent as a way for children to handle their traumatic environment and process their situation. Coloring or journaling can be great outlets during times of high stress. Children can color on the coloring sheet prayer card, write in the notebooks, and get creative with the scissors and paper. It also provides them with resources they might have lost in the disaster, so they are able to attend school with the appropriate tools.

This shipment is headed to Coconut Creek, FL where Food For The Poor will begin preparing the relief supplies and then ship them to 10 countries who regularly experience devastating disasters.

At Midwest Mission, we try to be as efficient and effective as possible. We fit as much as we can on containers so as many supplies as possible reach those who need it. The container arriving to pick up the Student Kits had more room available than anticipated. This gave Brad Walton, Operations Manager, an idea: he could include more supplies to help with Hurricane Ian relief in Florida.

"The container was already heading to Florida, and we had space in the container and the stuff to fill it," Brad said. "I called Food For The Poor to see if they could accept supplies to help with Florida on this shipment as well. They thought it was a great idea, so we set up all the details and got ready to ship."

Our previous shipments for Hurricane Ian Relief were coordinated through Food For The Poor's domestic disaster relief program and Catholic Charities of Florida. Once this shipment arrives at Food For The Poor's head quarters in Coconut Creek, FL, Catholic Charities will take the supplies to Bonita Springs, FL.

This shipment included:

For Disaster Relief Pre-Positioning

- 5600 Midwest Mission Student Kits

**Value: \$89,600.00**

For Florida Disaster Relief

- 288 UMCOR Cleaning Kits

**Value: \$21,600.00**



<b><u>2022 SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS</u></b>	<b>December</b>	<b>YTD 2022</b>	<b>FY 2021 Jan-Dec</b>
<b>VOLUNTEERS</b>	128	2,218	1,826
<b>VOLUNTEER HOURS</b>	916	29,315	25,296
<b>SUPPLY DONATIONS RECEIVED (\$)</b>	\$347,571	\$6,543,391	\$6,318,010
<b>SUPPLY DONATIONS RECEIVED (Pounds)</b>	24,864	711,530	1,005,606
<b>SHIPMENTS - International</b>	1	48	33
<b>SHIPMENTS - Domestic</b>	14	299	256
<b>DONATIONS DISTRIBUTED (\$)</b>	\$501,196	\$7,987,848	\$5,981,161
<b>DONATIONS DISTRIBUTED (Pounds)</b>	97,131	1,379,222	1,080,497
<b>MILES TRAVELED</b>	6,158	73,706	77,239

# Current Needs

**We are now accepting Sewing Machines and Adult Bicycles**

- Treadle Machines
- Electric Sewing Machines in **GOOD, WORKING CONDITION**
- **ADULT** bicycles in **GOOD, WORKING CONDITION**

We have a saying: "No junk for Jesus." If your item seems like "junk," please do not give it to Midwest Mission.

If you would like to donate these items, you can drop them off at Midwest Mission or your nearest collection site - find more details at [midwestmission.org/collect-donate](http://midwestmission.org/collect-donate).

If you would like to make a monetary donation, go to [midwestmission.org/donate](http://midwestmission.org/donate).

# Prayers to Lift Up

This week, pray that the disaster relief supplies will safely reach their final destinations.  
Pray that in the event of a disaster, they will bless those who need it.

*"I will give thanks to you, Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds."*  
Psalm 9:1

## Midwest Mission Weekly Projects

### Work of the Mission Volunteers

#### Projects completed

- 1020 Student Kits
- 48 Home Care Kits
- 40 Personal Dignity Kits

#### Other work done

- Bikes - repairing
- Desks - processing wood, polyurethane, building
- Sewing Machines - repairing
- Sewing
- Counting into inventory
- Rice Meal preparation
- Cleaning

#### Disbursements

- **Sew Much Joy**, Glen Carbon, IL: redirected fabric **Value: \$17.00**
- **Our Saviour's UMC**, Schaumburg, IL: redirected fabric **Value: \$5.00**
- **CICIM**, Decatur, IL: redirected furniture **Value: \$788.00**
- **St. Martin de Porres**, Springfield, IL: 35 UMCOR Hygiene Kits **Value: \$420.00**
- **Love Packages**, Butler, IL: reading material **Value: \$1,790.00**
- **Food For The Poor**, Coconut Creek, FL: 5,600 Student Kits, 288 UMCOR Cleaning Kits **Value: \$111,200**
- **Food For The Poor**, Honduras: See above for details

*\*Redirected items are those items received that do not fit into the parameters of our kits and projects.*

Midwest Mission is able to do this work because of your generous donations  
and willingness to volunteer. Thank you!

## Share some GOD news with those you love!

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Click below to check calendar openings and to reserve your spots.

[Mission Journey Reservation Calendar](#)

## Volunteers at Work

January 9-13, 2023





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## Volunteer Leaders



Jeff & Jane Johnson  
Glen Carbon, IL



Chuck & Karen Porter  
Brighton, IL

## Volunteer Teams and Individuals



Our Saviour's UMC  
Schaumburg, IL



Chris and Terry Escoria  
Springfield, IL



UIS Rising Stars  
Springfield, IL



Clarence Harms  
Brillion, WI

Patrick Richardson (not pictured)  
Champaign, IL

We are so grateful for all our regular volunteers, and the time they give towards volunteering at Midwest Mission. We appreciate their passion and dedication to the ministry!

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January 20, 2023

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SENDING HOPE AND EMPOWERMENT AROUND THE WORLD AND AROUND THE CORNER

## Underdog Sports Donates Soccer Cleats for Ukraine



Before the war, a day in the life of a Ukrainian child would likely include watching or playing in a soccer (called football in Ukraine) match. Soccer, the most popular sport in Ukraine, brought joy to a lot of Ukrainian children and teens. But, as the war began and survival became the focus of each person's life, their beloved sport was left behind. Soccer cleats and balls became just another piece of the dirt and rubble that reflected their life before the war. There was no time or mental energy to play or think about soccer. Safety and family were all that mattered.

As the war continues on, many have found solace away from their homes, their belongings, and their friends. Children had to experience unthinkable trauma, and their lives are nowhere near back to normal.

But, there is at least one piece of normalcy that is possible: soccer.

While they make new friends with new neighbors in their temporary homes, children and teens need the joy that comes from the sport they love – all they need is the equipment.

Paul Layton, owner of Underdog Sports in Springfield, IL, came to Midwest Mission with a desire to get involved in our efforts for Ukraine.

“With the news about what’s going on in Ukraine, we’ve seen a lot of kids and teens struggling, so we wanted to try to do something,” Paul said.

After researching, Underdog Sports found that soccer (football) was the #1 sport played in Ukraine. They quickly prepared a donation that will be included in the next shipment to Ukraine.

Paul and the staff at Underdog Sports knew that being able to play soccer would allow these children who have experienced high levels of trauma to just feel like kids. They would be able to play like they used to, running through the grass with their friends chasing after them.

On Wednesday, January 18, Underdog Sports donated 31 pairs of soccer cleats that will be sent to Ukraine. Like everything in their store, the donated cleats are washed and bleached in detergent, so they are clean and sanitary, ready to be worn and played in.

“We put together this small donation, we’ll see how this goes. And then we will try to do... no, not try to do... we WILL do more! We’ll call upon our customers, and we will get an official soccer drive going for Ukraine,” Paul said.

Thank you, Underdog Sports, for your generous donation. These cleats will be a big blessing for the children and teens who receive them. You are not only giving the gift of a sport, but also the gifts of joy and peace in a time of crisis.

## New Midwest Mission Website

One of the newest projects we have been working on is an update to our website. Now, it should be easier to find what you need, and easier to share about Midwest Mission, what we do, and how you can be involved.

Share the new website with someone you want to serve with!

Go to [midwestmission.org](http://midwestmission.org) to see the changes.



We send tangible resources to those in need to make an intangible difference in their lives through hope and empowerment.

[get involved](#)

[donate](#)

MIDWEST MISSION  
DISTRIBUTION CENTER  
[midwestmission.org](http://midwestmission.org)

Around the world and around the corner people are lacking simple resources that could improve their circumstances.

[help make a difference](#)



# Kit Changes

Changes are made due to feedback from recipients and changes of supplies in the marketplace.

\*Changes are in red



## Tornado Kit

- 1 2-gallon resealable plastic bag
- 2 pairs work gloves
- 24 1-gallon resealable plastic bags
- 2 permanent markers
- 1 roll duct tape (color preferred)
- 2 dust masks (no surgical)
- 24 heavy duty trash bags - 33-45 gallon size
- 24 clear/white trash bags - 20-33 gallon size
- \$20 donation for 2 totes



## Personal Dignity Kit

- 1 shampoo - **12-19 oz.**
- 1 hand towel (no kitchen towels)
- 1 washcloth (no dishcloths)
- 1 toothbrush (no multipacks)
- 1 bar soap - 3-4 oz.
- 1 deodorant - 2-3 oz. (stick, roll-on, or pump)
- 11-gallon resealable plastic bag
- \$2 donation for razor and toothpaste



## Feminine Hygiene Kit

- **1 hand towel (no kitchen towels)**
  - 1 washcloth (no dishcloths)
  - 1 bar soap - 3-4 oz.
  - 3 pairs of underwear (child size 10-14 or women size 5-8)
  - 6 day pads\*
  - 3 night pads \*
  - 1 drawstring carrying bag\*
  - 1 waterproof bag\*
  - 1 one-handled cloth bag\*
- \*handmade - patterns on website



## Birthing Kit

- **1 hand towel (no kitchen towels)**
- **1 washcloth (no dishcloths)**
- **1 piece cotton string - 36" long**
- 1 bar soap - 3-4 oz.
- 1 pair gloves - medical exam gloves
- 1 square-yard clear plastic sheeting - 4 mil thick
- 1 razor blade - single edge - cover in paper or cardboard to prevent injury
- 2 receiving blankets - 28" x 28" to 32" x 32" (no fleece or thermal)
- 1 1-gallon resealable plastic bag



## Home Care Kit

- Liquid household cleaner - **56-80 oz. total** (no pump or spray bottles)
- Dish soap - 42-64 oz. total
- Liquid laundry detergent - 100-150 oz. total
- 1 Scrub brush - with or without handle
- 15-gal round bucket with resealable lid



## Bed Pack

- 1 twin-size fitted sheet
- 1 twin-size flat sheet
- 1 pillow case
- 1 bed pillow
- place all items in an unscented trash bag

We added this Bed Pack because it was a constant request we received after disasters this year.

Every year, we make changes to our kits. It is important that you get rid of any old kit lists that you have so that you can stay up to date on what we are currently putting

in our kits. The list only changes once a year. Above are the changes for 2023.

For a new 2023 Kit Brochure, go to [midwestmission.org/promotional-material](https://midwestmission.org/promotional-material)

# Current Needs

## We are now accepting Sewing Machines and Adult Bicycles

- Treadle Machines
- Electric Sewing Machines in **GOOD, WORKING CONDITION**
- **ADULT** bicycles in **GOOD, WORKING CONDITION**

We have a saying: "No junk for Jesus." If your item seems like "junk," please do not give it to Midwest Mission.

If you would like to donate these items, you can drop them off at Midwest Mission or your nearest collection site - find more details at [midwestmission.org/collect-donate](https://midwestmission.org/collect-donate).

If you would like to make a monetary donation, go to [midwestmission.org/donate](https://midwestmission.org/donate).

## Prayers to Lift Up

This week, pray for the volunteers who will come to Midwest Mission this year. Pray they will arrive safely, have the energy to serve with all of their heart, and that they will feel the joy that comes from service.

*"Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!"*  
Psalm 32:11

## Midwest Mission Weekly Projects

### Work of the Mission Volunteers

#### Projects completed

- 1850 Student Kits
- 10 Feminine Hygiene Kits

#### Other work done

- Bikes - repairing, cleaning shop
- Desks - polyurethane, building
- Sewing Machines - repairing treadle machines
- Counting items into inventory
- Cleaning

#### Disbursements

- **Sew Much Joy**, Glen Carbon, IL: hand towels, washcloths, and medical exam gloves **Value: \$1,425.00**
- **Maryville Food Pantry**, Maryville, IL: redirect cleaning and hygiene supplies **Value: \$204.00**
- **Kentucky Mountain Mission**, Beattyville, KY: redirect clothing **Value: \$11,450.00**
- **CICIM**, Decatur, IL: redirect hygiene supplies **Value: \$3,068.00**
- **St. Martin de Porres**, Springfield, IL: redirect hygiene supplies **Value: \$3,068.00**

Midwest Mission is able to do this work because of your generous donations and willingness to volunteer. Thank you!

## Share some GOD news with those you love!

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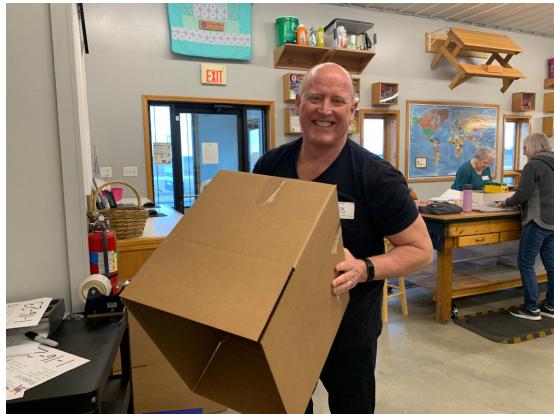
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[Mission Journey Reservation Calendar](#)

## Volunteers at Work

January 16-20, 2023







## Volunteer Leaders



Jeff & Jane Johnson  
Glen Carbon, IL



Chuck & Karen Porter  
Brighton, IL

## Volunteer Teams and Individuals



Troy UMC Youth  
Troy, IL



Grace UMC  
Jacksonville, IL



Simpson Group  
Springfield, IL



Taylorville UMC  
Taylorville, IL



Douglas Avenue UMC  
Springfield, IL



Monticello UMC  
Monticello, IL



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Frazees and Friends  
Chatham, IL



Clarence Harms  
Brillion, WI

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January 27, 2023

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SENDING HOPE AND EMPOWERMENT AROUND THE WORLD AND AROUND THE CORNER

## Two Shipments Leave for Guatemala; One Shipment to Honduras

In 2022, we sent 48 international shipments to help people in crisis around the world. Brad Walton, Operations Manager, has aspired to send even more international shipments in 2023. We are only four weeks into the year, and six international shipments have already left our warehouses.

On Thursday, January 26, two shipments left for Guatemala.

The first shipment was a general in-kind (GIK) shipment heading to Mixco, Guatemala. This means that it contained supplies that will be distributed by Food For The Poor (FFTP) to their partner organizations in-country. Those organizations will then distribute to those in need.

This shipment included:

- 16 Bikes
- 1,120 Student Kits
- 26 Waiting room chairs
- 50 Student Desks
- 638 Redirect cloth bags
- 2,741 Tarps
- 26,000 Disposable shoe covers
- 2 Exam tables
- 9,490 Hospital gowns
- Folding or stacking chairs
- Redirect School Supplies



Value: \$151,049.40

The second shipment was an **Angels of Hope** (AOH) shipment. We send 10 AOH shipments every year through FFTP. The items on these shipments are distributed to children's homes and orphanages that FFTP sponsors. We send Personal Dignity Kits, Home Care Kits, and cleaning supplies - like hand sanitizer and cleaning wipes - to these homes. These kits assist children in learning about good hygiene practices, and help keep the homes sanitary.

This shipment included:

- 384 Home Care Kits
- 560 Personal Dignity Kits
- Disinfectant wipes
- Antibacterial hand cleaner

Value: \$55,710.00

On **Friday, January 27**, we sent a shipment to Honduras.  
This was also a GIK shipment.

**The Student Kits on this shipment are the last Student Kits made in 2022 that we have in the warehouses.** Now, all Student Kits in our warehouse are from 2023. We move things in and out of our warehouses as fast as possible.

This shipment included:

- 1,120 Student Kits
- 40 Bikes
- 61 lbs of fabric
- 20 Electric sewing machines
- 6 Treadle sewing machines
- 45 Cover Them With Love Quilts
- 41 Pillowcase dresses
- 2,327 Tarps
- 5 Home care beds
- 3 Hospital mattresses
- Stacking chairs
- Canes, crutches, and walkers

Value: \$103,107.50



## Two Rice Meal Packs in Minnesota Make for an Impactful Weekend

This past weekend, Gene Turner, our Mission in Motion Manager, traveled 11 hours to Northern Minnesota to deliver ingredients and equipment and assist at two Rice Meal Packs.

Both of these events beautifully encapsulated our mission: bringing the hearts and hands of God's people together to transform resources into humanitarian relief.

The first event, in Park Rapids, was hosted at a local middle school. This event was spearheaded by three churches: **Riverside United Methodist, Calvary Lutheran, and Hubbard United Methodist**. This event united the local community, encouraged cooperation between denominations, and made a huge impact for Ukraine.

In total, they brought in 150 volunteers and raised \$12,000. They packed 6,000 Rice Meal Bags within three hours.



The second event was in Plymouth at Messiah United Methodist Church. They worked hard to pack 3,600 Rice Meal Bags on Sunday afternoon.

This is what they had to say about the event: "What a great afternoon of ministry with all ages and stages gathering together to make an impact."

Over the course of the weekend, 57,600 individual meals were made.

It's amazing what can happen when you bring people together of all backgrounds who have open hearts and willing hands ... that impact is felt around the world.



### Interested in hosting a Rice Meal Pack for your community?

Visit [midwestmission.org/off-site](http://midwestmission.org/off-site) to learn more.

Contact Gene Turner, our Mission in Motion Manager, to schedule your event:  
email [gene@midwestmission.org](mailto:gene@midwestmission.org) or call 217-697-4680.

# Current Needs

## We are collecting these items for our next shipment to Ukraine:

- Men's, women's, and children's socks
- Men's, women's, and children's underwear

*All donations must be new.*

If you would like to donate these items, you can drop them off at Midwest Mission or your nearest collection site - find more details at [midwestmission.org/collect-donate](http://midwestmission.org/collect-donate).  
If you would like to make a monetary donation, go to [midwestmission.org/donate](http://midwestmission.org/donate).

## Prayers to Lift Up

This week, pray for God to work in and through all of us as we show His love in practical ways to His children.

*"For it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose."*

# Midwest Mission Weekly Projects

## Work of the Mission Volunteers

### Projects completed

- 12,300 Rice Meals
  - 2,700 1st Free Evangelical, Ballwin, MO
  - 3,600 Messiah UMC, Plymouth, MN
  - 6,000 Riverside UMC, Park Rapids, MN
- 130 Layette Kits

### Other work done

- Bikes
- Desks
- Sewing Machines
- Counting items into inventory
- Cleaning
- Sewing
- Stuffing mailer

### Disbursements

- The Moore Wright Group, Aberdeen, WA: 120 UMCOR Hygiene Kits Value: \$1,560.00
- Fairbury FUMC Food Pantry, Fairbury, IL: Redirected cleaning and hygiene supplies Value: \$82.00
- Academic and Career Education Academy, Midland, MI: Redirected hygiene and school supplies Value: \$356.00
- Personal Community Services, Mayfield, KY: 24 UMCOR Hygiene Kits Value: \$312.00
- Chatham Micropantry, Chatham, IL: Redirect hygiene and cleaning supplies Value: \$78.00
- Ball Chatham, Chatham, IL: Redirect hygiene supplies Value: \$86.00
- Food For The Poor, Guatemala: See above story
- Food For The Poor, Honduras: See above story

*\*Redirected items are those items received that do not fit into the parameters of our kits and projects.*

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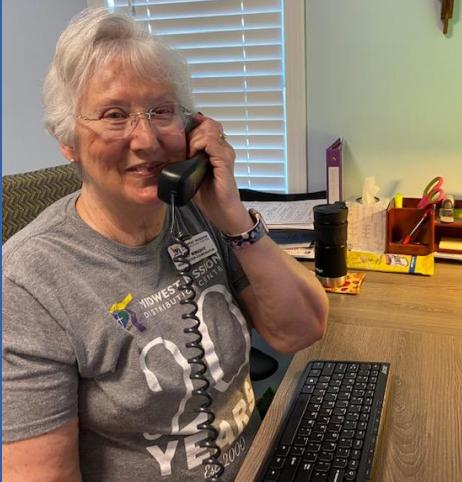
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## Volunteers at Work

January 23 - 27, 2023



## Volunteer Leaders



Ron & Sharon Monroe  
Fairbury, IL



Chuck & Karen Porter  
Brighton, IL

## Volunteer Teams and Individuals



Lebanon High School Interact Club  
Lebanon, IL



Murrayville UMC  
Murrayville, IL



Centenary UMC  
Jacksonville, IL



Clarence Harms  
Brillion, WI

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