

August 4, 2023

MIDWEST

disaster relief • education



MISSION

health • micro business

SENDING HOPE AND EMPOWERMENT AROUND THE WORLD AND AROUND THE CORNER



Shipment to the American Indian Christian Mission

On Friday, July 28, Midwest Mission sent a shipment to the American Indian Christian Mission (AICM) in Show Low, Arizona.

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. (To learn more about AICM, go to aicm.org)

This is the third load of supplies Midwest Mission has provided for AICM. During COVID, we sent a semi full of needed medical supplies such as masks as well as items like toilet paper — you probably remember the vast need for toilet paper during this time in your own communities!



We were very excited to send more supplies to this mission-minded organization. As the process for planning the shipment began, the first step was to find out what their needs were. We never want to fill a truck with unneeded supplies that could be used somewhere else, so we are very intentional about exploring specific needs.

When the truck pulled up to Midwest Mission, our operations team quickly loaded the semi-truck with 25,790 lbs of supplies.

This included:

- **3 sewing machines**
- 50 mattresses
- **2,800 Rice Meal Bags**
- **560 Student Kits**
- 600 bath towels — the God moment from last week's newsletter!
- 458 blankets
- 266 cases of cleaning wipes
- 178 gallons of laundry detergent
- 84 cases of disinfectant wipes
- 700 lbs of cleaning supplies
- 782 lbs of hygiene items
- 4 air conditioners

This shipment was **valued at \$61,657.32.**

On Monday, July 31, the semi truck arrived at AICM in Arizona!

Please be praying for AICM and the people they reach, and that God would bless their ministry and continue to provide the things they need.

Katy was our Summer Intern once again this year, working as the Volunteer Coordinator Assistant. She helped Barb, our Volunteer Coordinator, with different tasks, was a master of kit-making, and was a pro at putting volunteer pictures up on the wall!

If you visited during the summer, you were probably met with her sweet smile!

All good things come to an end, so we have to say goodbye to Katy as she heads back to college.

Thank you, Katy, for your hard work and servant's heart.

We will miss you!



SAVE THE DATE

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

MIDWEST  **MISSION**
SERVING **SUNDAY**
celebrate the joy of service

THE GOAL: 2,023 PEOPLE SERVING WITH MIDWEST MISSION IN ONE WEEKEND

VISIT [MIDWESTMISSION.ORG/MMSUNDAY](https://midwestmission.org/mmsunday) TO LEARN MORE

Current Needs

You can purchase these items at your local store, or make them, and take them to Midwest Mission or a Collection Site near you. You can also buy items online and have them shipped right to Midwest Mission.

****These items must be new****

[Click here to learn more!](#)

Work Gloves
two pairs go in each Tornado Kit

Day Pads
for the Feminine Hygiene Kit
midwestmission.org/patterns

Mission in Motion Calendar

Every week, staff members are on the road, speaking at churches, picking up from collection sites, and facilitating off-site events. We want to see you when we are in your area! Whether you have donations, or you want to hear us speak, this Mission in Motion Calendar will help you know when we are in your area.

[Click here to see the Mission in Motion Calendar to know where we will be in the next few weeks!](#)

Prayers to Lift Up

This week, we pray for the ministry of the American Indian Christian Mission. We pray for those who are serving and those who are being served. We pray everyone will come to know Christ in a deeper way, and that their needs will be met.

"Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent."

John 17:3

Midwest Mission Weekly Projects Work of the Mission Volunteers

Work Done

- Assembled desks, polyurethaned
- Refurbished sewing machines
- Cleaning
- Groundskeeping
- Counted items into inventory
- Made Plarn
- Packaged wipes
- Sorted linens

Disbursements

- **Maryville and GlenEd Food Pantries**, Maryville, IL: Redirect hygiene supplies **Value: \$116.00**
- **First UMC**, Watseka, IL: Redirect school supplies, disinfecting wipes **Value: \$1,520.00**
- **CICIM**, Decatur, IL: Assorted towels, cloths, sheets, pillows, and hospital blankets, furniture, home care bed, hospital mattress, wheelchair **Value: \$3,020.00**

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!

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 happier place.

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

Ready to Get Involved?



Volunteer at Midwest Mission
Dates are available in 2023, 2024, and 2025

Need a Saturday option for team volunteering or assistance in booking? Contact **Pat Wright** at pat@midwestmission.org or 217-697-4063

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

[Volunteer Reservation Calendar](#)

2025 Volunteer Calendar is now open for dorm reservations!

Go to our [Reservation Calendar](#), log in, reserve your rooms, and submit payment for your Non-refundable Reservation Fee via credit card or electronic check. We will email you the Access Code to reserve Volunteer Shifts for your team. You must complete this step for your team to volunteer at Midwest Mission.

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Thank you for your patience as we try to improve the reservation experience for both local teams and those staying in the dorm.

Volunteers at Work

July 31 - August 4, 2023





Volunteer Leaders



Chuck and Karen Porter
Brighton, Illinois



Russ and Tony Debonis
Waterloo, Iowa

Volunteer Teams



Howard Family and Friends
Winchester, IL



Simpson Group
Springfield, IL



First UMC
West Allis, WI



Clarence Harms
Brillion, WI

Not Pictured: SPARC Summer Program, Springfield, 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!

Click Here for the UMVIM
NCJ Newsletter



[Visit our website](#)

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August 11, 2023



Guatemala to Receive Needed Supplies!



On Thursday, August 3, Midwest Mission sent a shipment to Guatemala.

This shipment was particularly exciting, because it included 180 school desks. These desks are made at Midwest Mission using bleacher wood that has been donated from schools or churches that are replacing their old bleachers. We are able to take the wood and repurpose it for those in need.

In developing countries, many schools do not have desks for children to sit at and do their work. Many kids sit on the ground, or use a table that is not meant for school work. Having a good, purposeful surface for school work creates a conducive learning environment, empowering these students to create a better future for themselves.

If you know a school or church that is replacing their wooden bleachers, please reach out to our Operations Manager, Brad Walton, at brad@midwestmission.org



This shipment also included:

- 20 Layette Kits
- 490 Birthing Kits
- 2,240 Student Kits
- 6 treadle sewing machines
- 110 Little Boy Outfits
- 336 Little Girl Outfits
- 17 bikes
- 30 hospital mattresses
- Other handmade items
- Tools
- Medical supplies

Weight: 23,865 lbs

Value: \$190,064.00



This summer, Hannah Curtis worked at our Iowa location. She played a vital part in getting our new location up and going in Iowa!

She worked in the Iowa gift shop, trained volunteers, and took on different projects.

Hannah also was key to making our new loom project a success.

Unfortunately, this is her last week working with us. As she heads back to college, pray blessings on her.

We will surely miss her, but look forward to seeing her around the Iowa location!



CURRENT NEEDS – STUDENT KIT SUPPLIES

Right now, you can purchase these items cheaper than we can in bulk!

- 3 Notebooks - 1 Subject spiral 8" x 10 1/2"
 - 1 Box of 12 Colored Pencils
 - 1 Ruler - 12" long with metric
 - 1 Box of 24 Crayons
 - 6 Pencils - unsharpened
 - 1 Pair of Student Scissors
 - 1 Pencil Sharpener
 - 1 Handmade One-Handled Bag
 - 1 Pencil Eraser - 2" or larger
- (pattern at midwestmission.org/patterns)

ALSO NEEDED: Diaper Cream - 2 oz. - it must be cream, not ointment

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Prayers to Lift Up

This week, we pray for all of the students who will soon return to school. Pray for those who do not have access to the tools and resources that would help them to succeed. Pray that items will reach those who need them most.

"Show me your ways, O Lord, teach me your paths; guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long."

Psalm 25:4-5

Midwest Mission Weekly Projects

Work of the Mission Volunteers

Work Done

- Desks built and polyurethaned
- 13 Bikes repaired
- Sewing machines repaired

- Items counted into inventory
- Painting
- Sorted linens
- Sorted medical supplies
- Sorted outfits
- Cut sheeting for Birthing Kit

- 8 Treadle Sewing Machines
- 10 Birthing Kits
- 50 Personal Dignity Kits
- 51 Tornado Kits
- 660 Student Kits

Offsite Packs

- 1208 Rice Meals - Port Byron UMC, Hudson, IL
- 400 Personal Dignity Kits - St Matthew UMC, Belleville, IL
- 100 Student Kits - Orion UMC, Orion, IL

Disbursements

- **Midwest Food Bank**, Normal, IL : Great Value Duster Refills Case of 4 12- packs; twin hospital bed mattress **Value: \$76,100.00**
- **Lakeside Christian Church**, Springfield, IL: bike **Value: \$90.00**
- **CICIM**, Decatur, IL: Assorted towels, cloths, sheets, pillows, hospital blankets **Value: \$2,496.00**
- **Bidwell Food Pantry**, Des Moines, IA: Redirected hygiene items **Value: \$606.00**

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Volunteers at Work

August 7 - August 11, 2023







Volunteer Leaders



Rus and Tony Debonis
Waterloo, Iowa

Volunteer Teams



Athens UMC
Athens, IL



Willmar UMC
Willmar, MN



Community Fellowship
Jamestown, IN



Lighthouse
Rochester, IL



Waverly First UMC
Waverly, IL



Winchester UMC
Winchester, IL



Christy + Friends
Springfield, IL



Sabrina Barlow, Noah Barlow
Bloomington, IL



**Douglas Avenue UMC
Springfield, IL**



**Monticello UMC
Monticello, IL**



**Evangelical UMC
Bonfield, IL**



**Grace UMC
Jacksonville, IL**



**Cynthia and Jeff Nelson
Sioux Falls, SD**



**Clarence Harms
Brillion, WI**

Not Pictured: SPARC Summer Program, Springfield, IL

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Midwest Mission is preparing to respond to the wildfires in Maui.

[Donate](#)

A Beautiful Connection with Jamaica Angels of Hope Shipment



One of the unique qualities of serving with Midwest Mission is that you are serving and impacting people that you might never meet. We get to hear stories from and see pictures of those who have been blessed by Midwest Mission items, but we are not the ones handing out relief, or sitting with those in crisis. Instead, we equip organizations with the materials that will meet the needs of those they serve. By sending requested items to local, national, and international nonprofits, we work

together to send hope and empowerment to those who are in the midst of crisis. We do our part, and they do their part, so we can better serve the Kingdom of God in partnership.

But once in a while, we get the priceless opportunity of seeing the entire process in action. This might be an Early Response Team member who is cleaning out disaster-stricken areas using UMCOR Cleaning Kits that were assembled at Midwest Mission. Or a local church that has previously volunteered at Midwest Mission, handing out Midwest Mission Tornado Kits to their community after a storm passes through.

Back in March, three of our staff members had that priceless experience through a trip to see Food For The Poor in action in Jamaica. Getting to see the faces of those who receive our items makes each shipment we send a little more personal and real.

On **Friday, August 11**, a shipment valued at **\$46,420.00** went to **Spanish Town, Jamaica**. This shipment was for the **Angels of Hope** program, so all of the items will go to children's homes around Jamaica.

"Right now in the container, a 20-foot container, there are **Home Care Kits, Personal Dignity Kits**, and disinfecting wipes," Ramon Ortiz, Operations Specialist, said while everyone was circling up to pray over the shipment. "That's what they wanted, that's what they requested, and so we are sending it."

Whenever we send an international shipment, whoever is in the building surrounds the container, and prays over it, because we truly believe in the power of prayer for the people who will receive the items.

Karen Porter, Volunteer Leader, led the group in a prayer.



As Chantel Corrie, Executive Director, listened to the words Karen spoke over the shipment, her heartstrings were pulled. Chantel was one of the team members that traveled to Jamaica, and felt a **deeply personal connection** to this particular shipment.

"Karen said 'people we will never meet' in her prayer," Chantel said to the group after they had prayed. "But Barb, Mallory, and I got to meet some of the people in Jamaica who have received this stuff."

“To see the faces on the other side was pretty special,” she said, fighting back the tears, remembering moments from the trip. After a pause to get words out, she continued: “There was lots of joy. I wish they were all still braiding my hair right now, saying ‘auntie, auntie, I’m going to be a hairdresser when I grow up.’”

“There is so much hope and joy and excitement there. It is such a privilege that we get to do this and support these children's homes that are doing such great work. The people that are doing the work are there because they *want* to be there and *want* to give these kids the best experience. The compassion and love the leaders had was overwhelming.”

The work we get to do here at Midwest Mission is important and such a blessing — both to those who are served and who serve.

You may never meet those you have helped, but we hope you deeply understand the impact you are making for Christ when you assemble a kit, cut a pattern, fix a bike, or anything in between. These items change the lives of those who receive them — some are blessed to witness this firsthand.

May the stories you hear and the pictures you see be an encouragement to you as you continue sharing God’s love in practical ways around the world and around the corner.

If you would like to watch the video of this shipment and prayer circle, and hear more from Chantel about the trip, [click here.](#)

August Church Bulletin Insert

We now offer monthly church bulletin inserts that you can slide in your church's bulletin. These inserts keep your congregation up-to-date on our current needs and upcoming events!

[Download August PDF](#)

CURRENT NEEDS – STUDENT KIT SUPPLIES

Right now, you can purchase these items as cheap as we can in bulk!

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Notebooks - 1 Subject spiral 8" x 10 1/2" | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Box of 12 Colored Pencils |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Ruler - 12" long with metric | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Box of 24 Crayons |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 6 Pencils - unsharpened | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Pair of Student Scissors |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Pencil Sharpener | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Handmade One-Handled Bag |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Pencil Eraser - 2" or larger | (pattern at midwestmission.org/patterns) |

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Prayers to Lift Up

This week, pray for Hawaii. Pray for those who have lost loved ones, those who have lost everything they own, and those who are yet to be reunited with loved ones. Pray for the search and rescue process and for the recovery process.

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God."

2 Corinthians 1:3-4

Midwest Mission Weekly Projects Work of the Mission Volunteers

Work Done

- 450 UMCOR Menstrual Hygiene Kits
- 70 Layette Kits
- 72 Desks
- 70 Personal Dignity Kits
- 10 Layette Kits
- 120 Student Kits

- Bag disinfectant wipes
- Sewing
- Cleaning
- Counting into inventory
- Refurbish sewing machines
- Trace and cut patterns
- Cut plan
- Polyurethane Looms
- Sort medical supplies
- Refurbish Bikes

Disbursements

- **Michael's Mission**, Metropolitan UMC, Maryland: 2,520 Student Kits, 1,200 UMCOR Hygiene Kits, 840 UMCOR Menstrual Hygiene Kits **Value: \$76,080.00**
- **St. Martin de Porres**, Springfield, IL: coffee filters, hygiene supplies, linens **Value: \$2,556.00**
- **First UMC**, Whitewater, WI: redirect food **Value: \$833.00**

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Volunteers at Work

August 14 - August 18, 2023



Volunteer Leaders



Stan and Jennie Lowrey
Pattensburg, Missouri



Chuck and Karen Porter
Brighton, Illinois

Volunteer Teams



Whitewater WI Area Regional Ministries
Whitewater, WI



Springfield First UMC Sewing Group
Springfield, IL



Lighthouse
Rochester, IL



Taylorville UMC
Taylorville, IL



Wesley UMC
Macomb, IL



Lincoln First UMC
Lincoln, IL



St. Luke Union Church
Bloomington, IL



Quilting Friends
Jacksonville, IL



Kevin Davis
Springfield, IL



Tom Lambie
Springfield, IL

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[Donate](#)

Students in Honduras Receive Student Kits and another shipment leaves for Honduras



"There was so much joy among the children,"

Heydy, Food For The Poor's in-country partner representative for Honduras said. She was describing the moment **Student Kits** were distributed to kids at the

Francisco Morazan Elemenary School in the impoverished community of El Tambor, Marcovia, municipality in Honduras.

For some children who have grown up living in poverty, school is not a priority. Many have to leave school to enter the workforce at a young age. Others have to make caring for their siblings a priority. And for others, school just isn't their priority - because it hasn't been for generations.



This school was built by Food For The Poor and its in-country partner, with the purpose of allowing children living in poverty to have more opportunities and improved education.

The students are provided with the tools they need to succeed, encouraging them to get an education — one of the biggest keys in breaking the cycle of poverty.

"Children become more interested in learning and look forward to attending school when they have the supplies they need," Heydy said. "Thank you for this wonderful donation that will serve to motivate our children."

School supplies that seem so simple and available to us could make an impact that changes the course of a child's life.





On Thursday, August 24, another shipment left Midwest Mission's facility en route to San Pedro Sula, Honduras.

There are more school supplies on this shipment to supplement a year of learning for many children in this country.

Volunteers gathered around and prayed over the container and the items in it. The prayer was for safe arrival and that as people opened the gifts inside, they would know they are loved by God and His people.

This shipment contained:

- 20 Layette Kits
- 100 Feminine Hygiene Kits
- 60 Birthing Kits
- 101 Cover Them With Love Quilts
- 28 Electric sewing machines
- 68 Tarps
- 12 Bikes
- 840 Student Kits
- Medical supplies
- Redirect school desks (donated chair + desk combo)
- Linens

Weight: 18,905 lbs

Value: \$121,718.00

NOMADS arrive at Midwest Mission

The NOMADS, Nomads On a Mission Active in Divine Service, are back on the Midwest Mission campus! We welcomed the group of seven dedicated volunteers to Pawnee last weekend. They will be serving with us for three weeks, working on several construction projects around the grounds.

Read more about NOMADS [here](#).



**Midwest Mission Serving Sunday
is under a month away!**



Midwest Mission Sunday is a day to reinvigorate your congregation by getting them excited about serving and making a difference around the world and around the corner. Join people around the Midwest for a day of serving!

[Click here](#) to see how you and your church can get involved with Midwest Mission Serving Sunday.

Midwest Mission Serving Sunday Church Bulletin Insert

We now offer monthly church bulletin inserts that you can slide in your church's bulletin. These inserts keep your congregation up-to-date on our current needs and upcoming events!

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Current Needs

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****These items must be new****

[Click here to learn more!](#)

Receiving Blankets

must be 28" x 28" to 32" x 32"

Day Pads

**for the Feminine Hygiene Kit
midwestmission.org/patterns**

Diaper Cream

2 oz – we don't accept A+D brand

Mission in Motion Calendar

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2 Corinthians 1:3-4

Midwest Mission Weekly Projects

Work of the Mission Volunteers

Work Done

- 100 UMCOR Menstrual Hygiene Kits
- 80 Student Kits
- 150 Student Kits - Lincoln FUMC, Lincoln, IL
- 440 Rice Meals - La Moille UMC, La Moille, IL
- 600 Rice Meals - Macon UMC, Macon, IL

- Work on Quonset Hut
- Refurbish Bikes
- Refurbish Sewing Machines
- Build Desks
- Polyurethane Desks
- Count into inventory
- Sort medical supplies
- Stuff Summer Mailer

Disbursements

- **Autism Clinic**, Springfield, IL: 1 Bike **Value: \$90.00**
- **First UMC**, Gowrie, IA: Redirect hygiene items **Value: \$22.00**
- **San Pedro, Honduras**, FFTP: See Story Above

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Volunteer Leaders



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Pattonburg, Missouri

Volunteer Teams



Ramsey Life Group
Tremont, IL



Union Reunion
St. Louis, MO



St. Joseph UMC
St. Joseph, IL



Calvary UMC
Normal, IL



NOMADS

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