

MIDWEST

disaster relief ▪ education



MISSION

health ▪ micro business

SUMMER ISSUE

2023

HIGHLIGHTING JANUARY-JUNE - MIDWESTMISSION.ORG

MIDWEST MISSION IS NOW OPEN IN IOWA



We're thankful for the hard work and dedication of the many people who helped make the new location a reality. Because of their work, Midwest Mission (MM) has a second home in Jefferson. Holding the ribbon from L to R: Chantel Corrie (MM Executive Director), Bill Poland (Iowa UMC Director of Connectional Ministry), Kent Curtis (MM Iowa Volunteer), Bishop Kennetha Bigham-Tsai (Iowa Bishop), Danille Curtis (MM Iowa Coordinator), Hannah Curtis (MM Iowa Staff), Grace Curtis (MM Iowa Volunteer), Kristi Ahrens (MM Iowa Volunteer Leader), Alaire Willits (MM Iowa Board Member), Bill Ridgley (MM Iowa Volunteer Leader), Brett Ahrens (MM Iowa Volunteer Leader), Amy Milligan (Jefferson Matters).

On Saturday, June 17, Midwest Mission officially opened a second location in Jefferson, Iowa.

"God's plan is always greater than our plan, we just have to be open to hear His leading and obey our call," said Chantel Corrie, Executive Director.

Back in November 2022, Midwest Mission's board of directors and staff began to plan what it would look like to have a location in Iowa. Danille Curtis, Midwest Mission's Iowa Coordinator, was instrumental in making this happen, as she was excited to continue to grow the ministry opportunities available in Iowa. What began as a Permanent Collection Site at Jefferson First United Methodist Church evolved into hosting successful volunteer days at the church that brought passionate and excited volunteers from all over the area. With this information, the board of directors agreed to a feasibility study that would be discussed in May 2023.

But, God went to work providing the right location with the right terms at the right time, volunteers to assist, and a roar of excitement from anyone who caught wind of the plans. The staff and board of directors listened to the Spirit's direction, forced their foot off of the brake, and let God lead.

Iowa Bishop Kennetha Bigham-Tsai stated at the Grand Opening, "the Holy Spirit must have done the feasibility study because He knows the great work He wants to make happen in and through Midwest Mission."

As the time came to cut the ribbon, Bishop Kennetha stood side-by-side with Danille, and together they cut the ribbon, officially opening Midwest Mission in Iowa.

Over 200 people came to the Grand Opening event. They toured the Jefferson facility, learned about making plastic sleeping mats out of grocery bags using looms, packed Rice Meals, shopped at Midwest Mission Gifts (a Fair Trade gift shop), learned about serving opportunities with Midwest Mission, and celebrated the work God is doing in and through the ministry.

The Jefferson location will take in donations, make Midwest Mission Kits, Sleeping Mats, and Rice Meals, do sewing projects, and distribute some supplies locally. Most items will be driven to the Midwest Mission headquarters in Illinois for national and international distribution.

Midwest Mission Iowa volunteer shifts are available Monday through Thursday from 8:30am-4pm.

Visit midwestmission.org/iowa to learn more about Midwest Mission in Iowa or to sign up for a volunteer shift.

Scan to watch Grand Opening video



A LETTER FROM CHANTEL CORRIE

UPDATES



Little Girl Outfits and Feminine Hygiene Kits gifted in Jamaica.

Dear Midwest Mission Family,

When you work in disaster response, you appreciate the organizations that help, but when your staff and community members are on the receiving end of it ... *WOW*, do you realize it even more!

On Thursday, June 29th, Springfield, Chatham, and many surrounding communities were hit by an EF-2 tornado. Trees were down, roofs were damaged, and there was no power for extended days, including the nearly five days at the Midwest Mission (MM) campus. **But God is always with us, giving us beautiful reminders of how he is walking beside us.**

Without looking at the forecast, Chuck Porter, a volunteer leader asked staff Volunteer Coordinator Barb Hedinger if he could take a group from the Thursday team over to clean the storm shelter. An hour later, staff and volunteers rushed to that very shelter as the tornado hit. After the storm, this Dixon, IL team picked up limbs and debris from the Midwest Mission campus and next door at Sugar Creek UMC, where a stained glass window shattered, a lot of shingles were ripped from their roof, and they even had to cancel Sunday services due to the damage. Saturday, the team helped clean up at a local elementary school. To make it even more special, Midwest Mission Board Member, Jeff Koch, a member of Sugar Creek, during the Sunday, June 9 service shared his gratitude for the team's help and how special the connection to the team he had just met was, as they were from his hometown of Dixon.

Midwest Mission staffers, Ramon Ortiz and Gene Turner went to help Operations Manager Brad Walton with the tree on his fence and then over to Inventory Specialist Sarah Frazee's house to help her. Executive Assistant Sue Zellers took them all lunch. They met a Southern Baptist chainsaw crew that was at Sarah's house as almost all her mature trees were down and one on her home. Barb also needed tree help, and she was told she was #236 on the list. Miraculously they showed up the next day.

My family had travel plans the day following the storm, so I was not in town to witness all that had happened firsthand. But I had the fortunate experience of running into the volunteer chainsaw crew and was shocked to be overcome by emotions. **I could feel the Holy Spirit around these people, protecting and rejuvenating them as they worked.** I thanked them for helping our staff, family, and community and could not believe the depth of my gratitude and the excitement and relief I felt when I saw their trailer pull in. We know these other organizations as we work together on Disaster Relief through VOAD (Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster). You just

can't realize the profound impact you have when you show up for someone you don't know in a community you have no connection with to help people in their time of need. **I always knew what we did was important and valuable, but until you experience it yourself, you cannot fully understand the depths of it.**

We had this same experience in Jamaica when we met the lady the girls called "Auntie" at the girls' home. I got excited when I noticed a Rural King bucket getting used for watering a vegetable garden, and then heard her exclaim, "You are the bucket lady!" She was thrilled to tell us about how during the months and years following COVID they struggled to get laundry soap and cleaning supplies and how they would wash sheets and the floors with water alone. She said, "When we got the detergent and cleaner, it made this place smell fresh and clean like these girls deserve, and we want to keep it!" She went on to say how the hygiene supplies help improve the aroma of the facility, making it more pleasant for all 27 girls and three staff members who live in what is basically a larger two-bed, two-bath home. It was well organized, and each girl had her own bed. It really felt like a home.

We are so grateful for your hearts for the mission and for helping others in their times of crisis. We know a lot is happening in this world, and you choose to spread generosity and joy. We can celebrate the joy that comes from serving daily and continue to grow in our off-site packs. Our purpose is to continue showing God's love in a practical way. When you experience being on the other side of that, like we did with this recent weather crisis, or hearing firsthand from the locations we visited in Jamaica, the realization of the impact, again, is *WOW!* We ask you to continue to pray for the future of Midwest Mission, the people who will receive the supplies, the people who are serving, the people who need to be serving, and for the staff to listen to the still small voice of the Holy Spirit and move in the direction we are called.

Through your financial and in-kind gifts, service, and prayers, Midwest Mission is able to continue to make an intangible difference with tangible resources. Please use the enclosed envelope to impact someone beyond your imagination with Midwest Mission.

Yours in Mission,

Chantel Corrie

Chantel Corrie



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www.midwestmission.org

JANUARY-JUNE 2023

IMPACT

UPDATES

SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS



125

Domestic Shipments



\$3.83 Million

Humanitarian Aid Sent

1,364

On-site Volunteers



22,600

Hours donated by volunteers



26

International Shipments

3,161

Off-site Volunteers



1,621

Donors

EDUCATION



216

Desks



14,990

Student Kits

HEALTH



26,011

Personal Dignity Kits



2,112

Home Care Kits

84,771

Rice Meal Bags Shipped



508,626

Individuals Fed

1,114

Birthing Kits



1,050

Layette Kits

470

Feminine Hygiene Kits



DISASTER



2,988

UMCOR Cleaning Kits



2,994

UMCOR Hygiene Kits



4,020

UMCOR Menstrual Hygiene Kits



480

Tornado Totes



12,248

Lbs of Fire Gear

MICRO BUSINESS



139

Bikes



129

Electric

Sewing Machines

24

Treadle



5K+

Total handmade items shipped



90

Boy Outfits



806

Cover Them With Love Quilts



921

Girl Outfits

UNITED STATES DISASTER RELIEF

DISASTER RELIEF

Midwest Tornado Response

On March 24, more than 20 tornadoes swept through parts of Mississippi, including an EF-4 tornado that sadly took the lives of at least 26 people.

On March 31, more storms rolled into the Midwest, with tornadoes touching down in Iowa, Arkansas, Illinois, Wisconsin, Tennessee, and Indiana.

These deadly tornadoes left paths of destruction, and tattered evidence of a life before the storms.

On April 4 and 5, another line of severe weather barreled in, affecting several of the areas that had previously been hit by the March 31 tornadoes.

In the midst of the crisis, Midwest Mission's role is to provide needed resources so disaster relief can be given, clean up can start, and, in turn, healing can begin.

On Sunday, April 2, Brad Walton, Operations Manager, drove a box truck filled with bottled water, UMCOR Hygiene Kits, and storage totes to Robinson, IL. The Robinson area was hit with an EF-3 tornado that left many families without basic resources. Midwest Mission was the first organization to respond to the disaster. Robinson FUMC received the disaster relief supplies and served as a distribution center for their community.

On Monday, April 10, a semi-truck full of disaster relief supplies headed to Mississippi and Louisiana full of UMCOR Cleaning Kits and other supplies such as rakes, shovels, and totes.

The quick response from donors and volunteers allowed Midwest Mission to be equipped with the right supplies to send to those in need, and replenish the supplies that were sent out. Thank you to everyone who donated.



Brad Walton Operations Manager delivering supplies.



Unloading in Robinson, IL

US Disaster Relief Shipments

- 01/03 St. Martin De Porres, Springfield, IL: 35 UMCOR Hygiene Kits
- 01/11 Food For The Poor in Florida – Hurricane Relief: 288 UMCOR Cleaning Kits
- 01/24 The Moore Wright Group, Aberdeen, WA: 120 UMCOR Hygiene Kits
- 01/27 Heartland Continuum of Care, Springfield, IL: 105 UMCOR Hygiene Kits, redirect hygiene supplies
- 01/27 Personal Community Services, Mayfield, KY: 24 UMCOR Hygiene Kits
- 02/03 Cultivators, Rantoul, IL: 214 UMCOR Hygiene Kits
- 03/17 Midland Community FOAR, Midland, MI: 312 UMCOR Hygiene Kits
- 04/01 Sherman, IL – Tornado Relief: 96 18-gallon totes, 144 UMCOR Hygiene Kits
- 04/02 Robinson, IL – Tornado Relief: 384 18-gallon totes, 672 UMCOR Hygiene Kits, 2,304 bottles of water
- 04/10 United Way, Amory, MS – Tornado Relief: 864 UMCOR Cleaning Kits
- 04/13 Red Bird Mission, Beverly, KY: 312 UMCOR Hygiene Kits, 324 UMCOR Cleaning Kits
- 04/24 Richmond, IN – Fire: 360 UMCOR Cleaning Kits, 312 UMCOR Hygiene Kits, 100 UMCOR Menst. Hyg. Kits
- 05/04 Iowa Annual Conference – Disaster Preparedness: 144 UMCOR Cleaning Kits
- 05/11 Cultivators, Rantoul, IL: 312 UMCOR Hygiene Kits, 300 Student Kits
- 05/19 Cheyenne River Youth Project, Eagle Butte, SD: 456 UMCOR Hygiene Kits
- 05/31 Father Michael's Mission, Maryland: 3,920 UMCOR Menstrual Hygiene Kits, 7200 Rice Meals



Ukraine – Still in Need

For over a year, Midwest Mission has sent Rice Meals, hygiene and medical supplies, and other requested necessities to those affected by the war. In the midst of the chaos and destruction, there is difficulty in meeting even basic needs such as food. So far this year, four shipments have been distributed in and around Ukraine.

On Thursday, March 30 a container was filled to the brim with 10,360 Personal Dignity Kits (PDKs), more than have ever been included in one shipment, and 12,240 Rice Meal bags – all the Rice Meals in the warehouse! Supplies are quickly being turned around and sent out once they arrive in the Midwest Mission warehouse. That is how great the need is.

On April 15-21, a Rice Meal Pack was held at Midwest Mission in order to meet the need for Rice Meals. Through the week, a total of 24,880 Rice Meal Bags were packed that will feed 149,280 people in and around Ukraine.

Keep hosting those Rice Meal Packs!

Earthquakes Devastate Türkiye and Syria

In early February, earthquakes devastated Türkiye and Syria, affecting over 15 million people, and killing over 50,000. When a disaster strikes, Midwest Mission does not automatically begin sending items, we wait for a call from a partner. This is to avoid causing more chaos in someone's crisis, and to never assume what their greatest needs are.

After the earthquake, David Fowler, a Springfield Rotarian and Executive Director of Computer Banc, brought to Midwest Mission's attention a donation they had received and they wanted to get to Türkiye. Baja Bridges received a donation of roughly \$500,000 worth of military-style, ready-to-eat meals. Rotary knew these meals would be a great solution for those who were in desperate need of food and nutrients, and they knew Midwest Mission would be a great avenue for the meals to go through. But, at that moment, Midwest Mission didn't have a route to get the meals into Türkiye.

About an hour later, Brad Walton, Operations Manager, called Inna Razmady, North Star Foundation Executive Director, to coordinate the details of their March 16 Ukraine shipment. While talking, she mentioned her sister married a man from Türkiye and they had a contact through the Turkish consulate to get supplies into the country.



INTERNATIONAL
DISASTER RELIEF

DISASTER RELIEF



Within an hour, Midwest Mission and Springfield Rotary had a way to get the meals into Türkiye. Plans were quickly made to get pallets of meals from Arizona to Illinois.

"Coincidences" seem to be a common occurrence around Midwest Mission, where the right items seem to show up at the right time in the right way. These "coincidences" are what we call "God Moments" – moments where God has directed materials or situations or people in His perfect timing.

Inna later mentioned to Brad that one of the top needs was basic hygiene items. She was ecstatic to hear about the Personal Dignity Kits and explained that these would be very valuable to those in need, not just in Türkiye, but in Ukraine as well.

We asked you, our donors and volunteers, and you responded! Shampoo came flying in the doors of Midwest Mission, allowing over 20,000 Personal Dignity Kits to be made and shipped to the area. Your donations, volunteer hours, and prayer allowed a quick response to the call.

Through all of the destruction and chaos, we look for how God is working, and rely on the Spirit to guide us into action.

North Star Foundation sent us a letter they received from the Director General for EU and Foreign Affairs in Türkiye. The letter stated, *"On this occasion, on behalf of the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Türkiye and on my own behalf, I express my sincere thanks and heartfelt gratitude for your support and solidarity with us at this painful moment of our country. Your gestures and generosity will always be remembered."*



SEEING THE NEED IN JAMAICA

MIDWEST MISSION TRAVELS TO JAMAICA

At the end of March 2023, staff members – Chantel Corrie Executive Director, Barb Hedinger Volunteer Coordinator, and Mallory Webster Communications Manager – traveled to Kingston, Jamaica to visit places that receive Midwest Mission supplies through Food For The Poor (FFTP), and to witness the need firsthand. Jamaica is where FFTP started over 40 years ago, so this was the perfect country to visit for the first trip. FFTP is known by 90 percent of the country, and assists many hospitals, prisons, and children's homes.

As the staff members walked the halls of an open-air hospital, ventured down the road of a campus for disabled children and adults, looked into the eyes of prisoners ready to turn their lives around, and walked hand-in-hand with children who have been given hope through a children's home, the needs were evident. Importantly, so was God.

God was near to those going through pain and heartache in the hospital. He could be felt in the chapel of the home for the disabled. You could see him in the eye of the prisoner who would receive a sewing machine upon being released. God was at the forefront of the minds of the directors of the homeless shelter, the "aunties" at the children's homes, and the staff of FFTP itself. These servants of God not only care for the physical needs of those they encounter, but pay careful attention to their spiritual needs, and help to empower them in the future.



A sewing machine gifted to a prisoner that was released the next day.

Open Hearts & Eyes

One of the biggest blessings and eye-openers was to meet people who received Midwest Mission supplies in the past. The team traveled to several children's homes that are part of Food For The Poor's (FFTP) Angels of Hope program. This program sends specifically requested supplies to orphanages and children's homes across the Caribbean and Latin America. Midwest Mission partners with the program by sending Home Care Kits and Personal Dignity Kits.

One children's home was for girls who have differing levels of disabilities. "Auntie," the woman in charge, was sharing about how difficult it is to cover the cost of caring for over 30 girls, and that the items Midwest Mission provides through FFTP are vital for their organization. When the team shared with her that Midwest Mission is the one who provides the buckets (Home Care Kits are packed in 5-gallon buckets), she lit up with excitement. She went on to say that without the cleaning supplies Midwest Mission provides with the buckets, they would have closed by now. Her desire and purpose is to give the girls a great upbringing, just like she had as a young girl. The items Midwest Mission and FFTP provide meet the basic needs of the home allowing Auntie to use her limited funds for other items for the girls, so that she *can* provide a great environment for the girls to learn and grow.



Boys at Bethlehem Children's Home who were excited to spend time with the team.



"Auntie" at the children's home with Feminine Hygiene Kits



Chantel getting her hair braided by at least five girls at the children's home.

Midwest Mission is able to show God's love in a practical way in Jamaica because YOU listen to the nudge to pray, donate, and serve. You are part of God's plan at Midwest Mission.

Seeing the Need & Sending What is Needed

Whether at the hospital, care center for the homeless, or an infirmary for the "homeless, familyless, and friendless," one need was evident – mattresses.

Many times, one of the organizations might receive a bed and a mattress, but the mattress is used so much, and often soiled, that the mattress wears out, leaving nothing but a bed frame. Midwest Mission staff members witnessed people sleeping on cardboard laid on top of a hard bed frame, injured patients sitting in a crowded waiting room because of a lack of beds and mattresses, and dedicated caretakers asking for mattresses because of what they see on a daily basis.

The good news is, our God is a God who perfectly orchestrates His plan.

The staff members returned to Midwest Mission with hearts broken for what breaks God's heart, and a list of needs that they had witnessed, prioritized by those requesting assistance. Two of the top priorities were mattresses and medical supplies.

On the first Monday back at Midwest Mission, Chantel and Mallory walked to the third warehouse for break time. As they turned the corner, they could see piles stacked 10 feet in the air. They peered around the pallet racking to get a better look. There, in the middle of the third warehouse, were stacks and stacks of **mattresses**.

While they were in Jamaica seeing the vast need for mattresses, Ramon Ortiz, Operations Specialist, was traveling to Southern Illinois to pick up a load of donated mattresses from a senior living facility that closed in Albion, IL.



It was quickly decided that these mattresses would go to Jamaica to be distributed to some of the same organizations where they had seen the need for mattresses, and would **encourage those in need to keep asking because they were heard.**

On Wednesday, May 3, that shipment came to life.

Supplies that are sent are always asked for, but how much greater is it when the ask is heard in-person, and it is made possible just one month later.

SCAN THIS TO WATCH
A TRIP RECAP VIDEO



This shipment in response to needs seen in Jamaica contained 34 mattresses. It also included 25 bikes, 334 little girl outfits, 304 Cover Them With Love Quilts, 83 tarps from Lamar Advertising, medical supplies such as gauze, syringes, bandages, sanitary wipes, linens, gloves, masks, a phlebotomy chair, walkers, crutches, canes, wheelchairs, and so much more.

Chantel Corrie, Executive Director

"I am so impressed with the leadership at Food For The Poor, and every nonprofit they serve. They have such a passion to make the future of Jamaica brighter by helping those who are in need ... one person, one bed, one heart at a time."

Barb Hedinger, Volunteer Coordinator

"Being able to hear firsthand that what we send is meeting the needs of those receiving the items was wonderful. It was a privilege to ask what more is needed and then come home to gather and send those items."

Mallory Webster, Communications Manager

"It was beautiful to see the other side of the shipments we send. We are blessed to serve the people of Jamaica through organizations that deeply care about the people they serve. God is so evident in Jamaica."



STORIES OF HOPE & EMPOWERMENT

Students Receive Desks in the Dominican Republic

Almost 6,000 desks have been sent from Midwest Mission since the year 2000. Hours of work go into making a single desk. From taking down the old, wooden bleachers, to planing the wood, sanding, measuring, cutting, building, double-checking, labeling, triple-checking, disassembling, sealing, wrapping, and sending. Before the desk leaves the warehouse, many hands have touched the desk in a multitude of ways – all loving and serving Jesus.

A desk may fit as many as four children, so they can have a good, solid surface to sit at and write on.



Earlier this year, a shipment of desks arrived in the Dominican Republic.

Children from Santa Maria Children's Home, a day care and after school facility, were some of the recipients of the desks. Now, these children are able to sit and do their homework at a dedicated space meant for school work. They can learn and read and write at a desk that was made with them in mind, at a desk that was prayed over by hundreds of people before they sat in their seat.



"The magnitude of this donation is great, especially to the communities that we serve and the many children who benefited from it," said Food For The Poor's in-country partner representative in the Dominican Republic.

Medical Supplies to Grenada

Fourteen-year-old Jeremiah lives in Grenada, an island nation in the Caribbean that, although beautiful in landscape, struggles with access to basic necessities. Jeremiah is a ray of sunshine to everyone he meets. He also has a few physical limitations, having multiple surgeries since birth which left him with physical challenges. He needs a wheelchair for mobility, and also requires disposable diapers so he can enjoy life as a young boy.

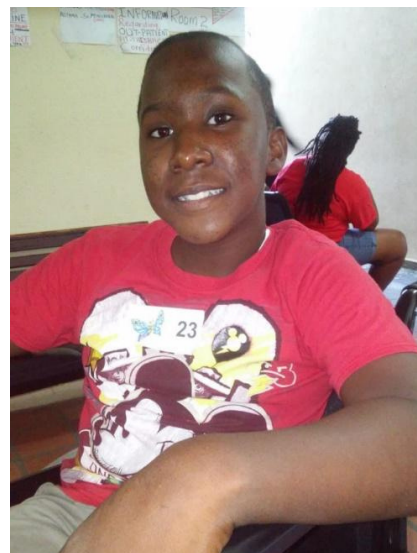
Nonprofits in Grenada distributed supplies Midwest Mission sent through Food For The Poor. During distribution, they stopped at a children's home. It happened to be the children's home Jeremiah lives in, where they distributed medical supplies and kits.

Jeremiah was given disposable diapers. His response to the donation? **"God really loves me."**

How touching, yet heart-breaking that these disposable diapers were so needed yet unattainable that this was his sign that God really loves him.

In the United States, most people have access to wheelchairs, crutches, and canes through borrowing them from a friend, or purchasing them from the doctor.

But for others? This is a luxury. What might be used some day, is desperately needed by someone today. That's why Midwest Mission collects medical supplies, such as wheelchairs, crutches, and canes, to give to those who are in desperate need today.



Do you have something you are ready to donate? Visit midwestmission.org/collect-donate for more information.

Sewing Machines Change Lives

The sewing machine is a recreational item for many in the U.S., but for many people in developing countries, access to a sewing machine could transform a family's life.

In the United States, sewing machines are often passed down from generation to generation, used as a fun hobby, a useful tool, or a means to create a gift to share.

In developing countries, many don't have access to sewing machines, and if they do, it can be their means for making a living.

Through our partners, we send electric and treadle sewing machines around the world, so they can distribute them to nonprofits who teach women and men how to sew.

In a recent partner report from the Dominican Republic, Food For The Poor's in-country partner representative shared:

"The sewing machines and fabric were provided to women whose lives have been transformed with the means to earn a living. They were ecstatic to see that they now owned their own machine."



Your sewing machine can make an impact like this. If you have one to donate, you can bring it to Midwest Mission, or a Permanent Collection Site near you. For more information on donating items, visit midwestmission.org/collect-donate

A Bicycle Brings Hope to a Family

Hope comes in many different forms.

Owning a bike can bring a sense of empowerment to a person. It allows people to get where they need to go without relying on others, to go further distances, and to haul more items with them. Bikes serve many purposes, and, for those living in places where a bike might be too expensive to own, receiving a donated bike could change their life for the better.



Sometimes, a bike simply brings joy.

Food For The Poor in Belize recently received a shipment from Midwest Mission. "With this generous donation of assorted items, many people in Belize received the gift of joy and hope in their lives," said Ruben Wong, Food For The Poor's in-country partner representative.

One of the recipients was a man named Preston. Preston is a father of three. Recently, he lost his wife, and is now the sole parent of the home.

"My family was the recipient of a bicycle," Preston said. "It was a blessing because a few months ago my children lost their mom and they have been sad, but the bike made them happy."

Now, these three kids can have some fun with a bike, and Preston has a new option for transportation.



Jamaica



Honduras



Guatemala



Dominican Republic

INTERNATIONAL SHIPMENTS

To date in 2023, we have sent

26

International Shipments

Our international shipments have included:

- 6 to Honduras
- 4 to Ukraine
- 3 to Guatemala
- 3 to Jamaica
- 2 to the Dominican Republic
- 2 to Haiti
- 2 to Mexico
- 1 to Ethiopia
- 1 to Grenada
- 1 to Türkiye
- 1 to Food For The Poor for disaster relief pre-staging



East Ohio
6,866 lbs



Illinois Great Rivers
3,517 lbs



Iowa
3,072 lbs



Minnesota
7,992 lbs



Michigan
3,645 lbs



Northern Illinois
6,345 lbs



West Ohio
3,134 lbs



Wisconsin
14,720 lbs

Conference season is a busy, exciting time at Midwest Mission. It was great to connect with volunteers in their context and meet new friends, hear stories of experiences at Midwest Mission, and see God working. Thank you to everyone who took the time to bring in collected items at each of the conferences. These are vital opportunities to get in-kind supplies needed for kits.

grand total:
49,291 lbs

of donated supplies

ANNUAL CONFERENCES

Many families around the world, don't have the financial means to purchase school supplies. That's why Midwest Mission has sent **14,990 Student Kits** so far this year, valued at **\$239,840.00**.

Midwest Mission, Food For The Poor, and their in-country partners all understand the necessity of education, and how fundamental it is in a country's development to grow the future workforce. We received feedback from two different communities in Honduras that received Student Kits.

The first community distributed 280 Student Kits to children at the local school. "The Student Kits were most popular among the children since they look forward to getting new school supplies for the new school year," Heydy Bu, Food For The Poor's in-country partner representative said. "With the items contained in the kits, I can tell you that their wish list was fulfilled. Thank you for these wonderful kits for our students!"

The second community was a rural area called La Esperanza Intibucá. "When we receive donations that contain school supplies, we try to reach children from families with limited financial resources, especially those who live in remote, rural areas," Heydy said. They provided Student Kits to 50 children in this community.

You can help provide school supplies to children like those pictured here.

Back-to-school season is coming, and school supplies will be on sale. You can purchase supplies cheaper than Midwest Mission can in bulk.



Here's your challenge: collect school supplies for a couple of weeks, then assemble Student Kits with your small group, group of friends, or your whole congregation!

1. Hand out empty grocery bags with the kit list (below) attached to them — people *love* to shop for school supplies!
2. Ask people to fill these bags with the school supplies needed for the kits . Give them a deadline!
3. Have people make one-handed bags (pattern found at midwestmission.org/patterns).
4. Once the grocery bags have been filled with supplies, bring all of the items together and get people together to assemble Student Kits.
5. Go to midwestmission.org/back-to-school-bags to learn more about getting involved in this project.

STUDENT KIT SUPPLY CHECKLIST

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



Collect and Donate

midwestmission.org/collect-donate



Hold a Supply Drive



Buy Items



Make a Monetary Donation



Get Items to Midwest Mission

Bring collected items to a Midwest Mission location or a Permanent Collection Site — midwestmission.org/permanent-collection-sites

Consider Being a Permanent Collection Site

If you have some space you're willing to dedicate to collecting supplies for Midwest Mission, consider being a Permanent Collection Site. If you're interested, contact sites@midwestmission.org or call 217-457-4030.



Volunteer at Midwest Mission



Assemble Kits



Sew + Weave



Build Desks, Refurbish Sewing Machines + Bikes



Work on the Most Pressing Need

We have two locations offering volunteer shifts. Schedule your shift today!

Midwest Mission in Pawnee, Illinois:
Shifts available Monday-Friday 8:30am-4pm.
Visit midwestmission.org/at-midwestmission

Midwest Mission in Jefferson, Iowa:
Shifts available Monday-Thursday 8:30am-4pm.
Visit midwestmission.org/iowa

Take a Tour

During your time serving we will take you on a tour. If you would like to take a tour before serving on a trip, call 217-697-4681 or email tours@midwestmission.org.



Serve from Home

midwestmission.org/at-home



Assemble Kits



Sew Handmade Items



**Weave Sleeping Mats
Using a Loom**

We want you to show God's love in a practical way wherever you are. That's why we have opportunities for you to serve people around the world from right at home.

Get a Loom

We have looms available for a \$100 donation. Put the loom in a common space in your church or even in your household to make sleeping mats made out of plastic grocery bags. Visit midwestmission.org/loom for more info.

LIVED

Host an Off-Site Event

midwestmission.org/off-site



Rice Meal Pack



Student Kit Assembly



Personal Dignity Kit Assembly

Off-site mission events connect congregations, grow teams closer together, and deepen discipleship. 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 assistance

You provide:

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

Interested? Contact our Mission in Motion Manager at offsite@midwestmission.org or 217-697-4680

MIDWEST MISSION SUNDAY

celebrate the joy of service

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!

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



Learn more at midwestmission.org/mmsunday



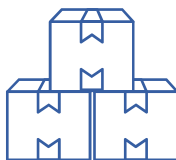
Assemble Kits



Pack Rice Meals



**Weave Sleeping Mats
Using a Loom**



Hold a Supply Drive



If you plan to participate,
scan this to fill out the form



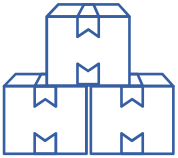
Starting a revolution to expose new people to the JOY of serving and connect them to Christ.



These sites are hosting Rice Meal Packs open to the public:

- September 16 – Webster City, IA
- September 16 – Memorial UMC, Terre Haute, IN
- September 17 – Asbury UMC, Sioux Falls, SD
- September 17 – Avon UMC, Avon, IN
- September 17 – Midwest Mission, Pawnee, IL
- September 17 – Midwest Mission, Jefferson, IA

Visit midwestmission.org/mmsunday for more details.



List of Permanent Collection Sites to take your donations:

- 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
- 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
- MINNESOTA COLLECTION SITES
 - Hope UMC – 12080 380th Ave, Blue Earth, MN 56013
- MISSOURI COLLECTION SITES
 - Pattonsburg UMC – 101 1st Avenue, Pattonsburg, MO 64670
- NEBRASKA COLLECTION SITES
 - NEBRASKA CITY FUMC – 1023 1st Ave. Nebraska City, Nebraska 68410
- 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

To see Permanent Collection Site hours and contact info, visit midwestmission.org/permanent-collection-sites



If you plan to host a mission opportunity for Midwest Mission Sunday, and want to open it to the public, email mallory@midwestmission.org. We will add it to the Midwest Mission Sunday webpage at midwestmission.org/mmsunday



MIDWEST MISSION

1001 Mission Drive Pawnee, IL 62558
www.midwestmission.org

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We are funded almost entirely by donations. To give a monetary donation online, go to midwestmission.org/donate. You can also send a check to 1001 Mission Dr, Pawnee, IL, 62558.



We are an organization that is grounded in faith and fueled by prayer. Pray for Midwest Mission, the volunteers serving, and the people we serve.



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Newsletter



SENDING HOPE AND EMPOWERMENT
around the world and around the corner

Search **Midwest Mission**

