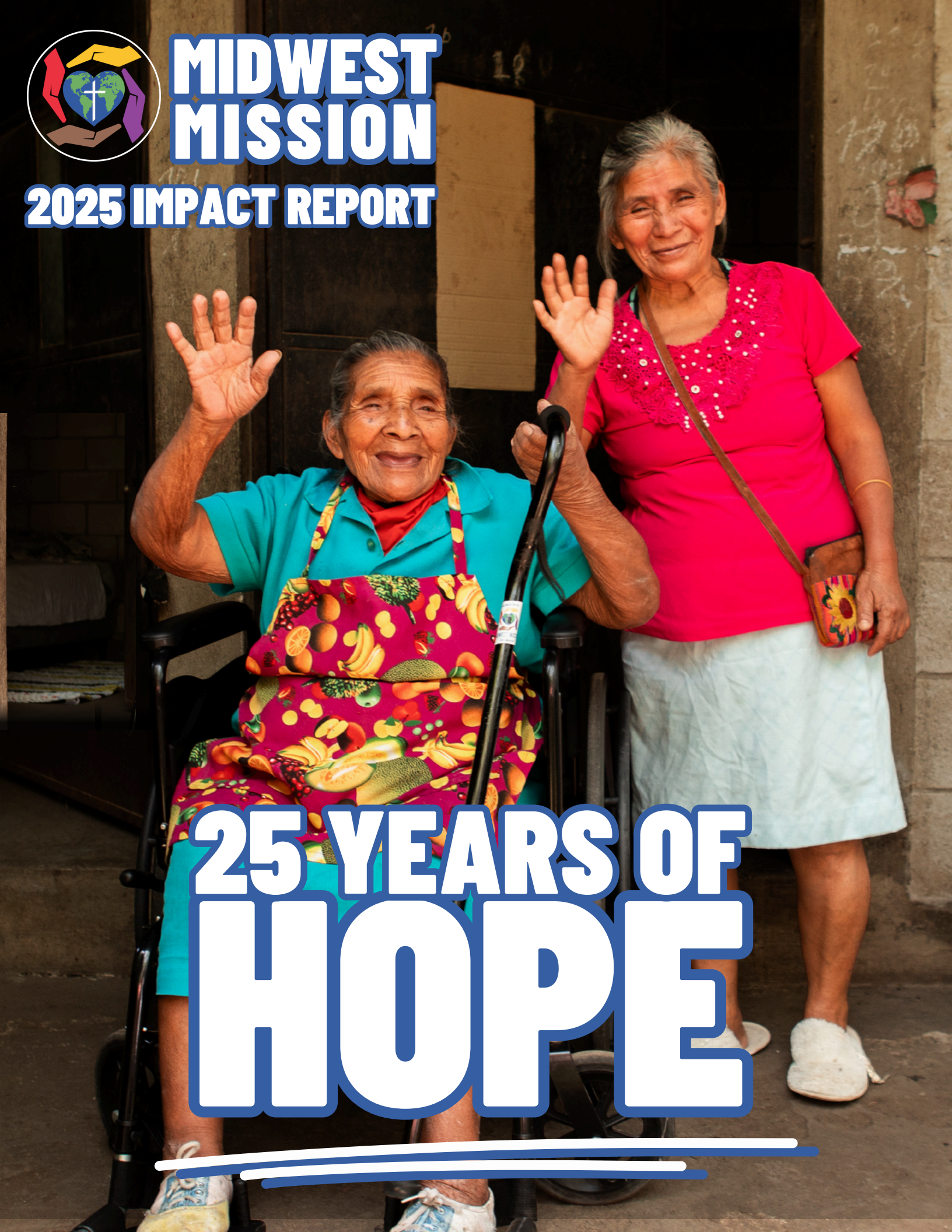
MIDWEST MISSION

2025 IMPACT REPORT



25 YEARS OF HOPE

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF MINISTRY

In 2000, what started as a dream in founder Jack Travelstead's heart became a reality after he had made several mission trips to Haiti, and after the Midwest experienced many floods in 1993. He saw the great need, but also saw how simple resources could transform lives. He realized the importance of quick response, especially in relation to disaster relief, but there was not a disaster response location in the Midwest— and he knew that one was needed.

Collecting items in a shed grew into a Kit room, then a warehouse, then two more, then another location in Jefferson, Iowa. God continues growing Midwest Mission so that more people can be transformed by resources and God's love.

Before passing in 2021, Jack had remarked multiple times that we are keeping the dream alive that started in his heart and felt that it was all part of God's divine plan. God is always working for the good of His people and for the good of the world. And Jack loved seeing the fruits of his dream happening in his lifetime at Midwest Mission helping those all around the world and even around the corner. And it continues today, over 25 years later. On one of his last visits, Jack said to Chantel Corrie, Executive Director, "Can you believe what this place has become?"

This Impact Report, includes some of our favorite stories from the past that made huge impacts in the world.



IN 25 YEARS, MIDWEST MISSION HAS SENT...

- $92 MILLION OF RELIEF
- 756 INTERNATIONAL SHIPMENTS
- 5,482 DOMESTIC DISBURSEMENTS
- WITH THE HELP OF 53,244 VOLUNTEERS

A DREAM THAT BECAME REALITY

by Pat Wright, Director Emeritus (2008-2017)

Who would have thought 25 years would go this fast? **We are celebrating a quarter century of service, compassion, and impact.** To our board members (past and present), volunteers, partners, donors, and friends ... we thank you. Each and every one of you have been a part of this story.

What started as a dream Jack Travelstead and a small group of friends imagined, has grown into a successful organization that sends hope and empowerment around the world and around the corner.

Over the last 25 years, we've touched millions of lives, built many partnerships, and created programs that I would have never dreamed of, that change lives every single day.

Since the beginning, we've been ready to respond to any disaster or crisis that may come our way. Many volunteers, donations, and shipments later, Midwest Mission has become a vibrant and growing organization. **Together, we have not just built an organization, but a family.**

To the founders: We thank you for the vision and the dream. To our board members and staff: Thank you for living out this vision and keeping the dream alive. To our partners, volunteers, and donors: Thank you for believing in this mission, and for joining us in making a difference for 25 years. **Here's to the next 25 years, and to the love and hope we can share!**



2025 In Numbers

Summary of Operations

$7.3 Million
Humanitarian Aid Sent

3.7 Million
People Reached



Disaster Relief

281,338
Blessing Bags

5,172
Hygiene Kits

192
Tornado Kits

1,688,028
People Fed

5,977
Cleaning Kits

1,081
Plarn Sleeping Mats

1,120
Menstrual Hygiene Kits

772
Bed Packs

963
Tarps

OUR MISSION

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

For every $1 spent, Midwest Mission sent $4 of in-kind supplies

202 Domestic Disbursements

69 International Shipments

1,883 On Site Volunteers

3,737 Donors

7,128 Off Site Volunteers



Micro Business

655 Bikes

501 Sewing Machines

- 393 Electric Sewing Machines
- 108 Treadle Machines

Health

$761,336.50 Worth of Medical Supplies

2,204 Birthing Kits

24,370 Personal Dignity Kits

19,448 Handmade Items

1,349 Feminine Hygiene Kits

3,048 Layette Kits

7,116 Home Care Kits

Education

486 Desks

28,482 Student Kits



WHAT WE DO

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

DISASTER RELIEF

MIDWEST MISSION SENDS RELIEF TO JAMAICA AFTER HURRICANE MELISSA



On October 28, a powerful category 5 hurricane roared through the Caribbean, leaving destruction, pain, and sorrow in its path. Jamaica was especially hit hard, making Hurricane Melissa the strongest storm to ever hit the island.

But, because of YOU, Midwest Mission quickly responded with disaster relief that brought HOPE! The needs were evident: Bed Packs, mattresses, and tarps. This is the first request that came in to provide safety and a place to rest for those who lost their homes. Because you support Midwest Mission all-year-long, hope in the form of requested items was promptly sent following the disaster. Within three days, the first container full of relief left the warehouse.



PHOTO FROM FOOD FOR THE POOR

Then, our partner on-the-ground, Food For The Poor, who has been in Jamaica for 40 years, shared that food was the top priority. Volunteers and donors stepped up in a HUGE way. **Through Blessing Bag Packs at Midwest Mission locations and churches around the Midwest, we sent 58,000 meals that fed 348,000 people in Jamaica!**

During the months following the hurricane, Midwest Mission responded with **six total shipments**, sending over **$650,000 worth of disaster relief** and impacting the lives of thousands.

Your response was overwhelming, and that level of disaster relief couldn't have happened without the hundreds of donors and volunteers who stepped up to help in the middle of Jamaica's worst crisis.

IN 2025, MIDWEST MISSION RESPONDED TO

11 INTERNATIONAL DISASTERS

DISASTER RELIEF SENT TO MILWAUKEE AFTER FLOODING

IN 2025, MIDWEST MISSION RESPONDED TO 7 U.S. DISASTERS

On August 9-10, severe flash flooding impacted the city of Milwaukee, Wisconsin and the surrounding area. A storm brought more than nine inches of rain within 24 hours, a rare event in this part of the country. Sewer systems were overwhelmed, and many basements flooded as the rain continued to fall. Because of the level of damage in so many communities, Milwaukee County declared a state of emergency.

Just days after the floods came, Midwest Mission was contacted by the Wisconsin Annual Conference's Disaster Response Coordinator, in hope that Midwest Mission had disaster relief supplies that could be sent to Milwaukee — and we definitely did! Because of your generosity, Midwest Mission is able to pre-stage disaster relief supplies on our shelves, so that when a disaster happens, we can quickly respond. We packed a semi full of 1,344 Hygiene Kits and 864 Cleaning Kits and delivered it to the Salvation Army. Families were given the basic supplies needed to clean out affected and damaged homes.



In total, three semi-loads of supplies were sent, completely emptying our shelves.

GET INVOLVED!

You can help Midwest Mission be prepared for disasters all-year-long. Donate Bed Packs, Personal Dignity Kits, garden rakes and shovels, and 5-gallon buckets to help stock the shelves, and be ready when disaster hits.

then

HURRICANE KATRINA RESPONSE: 2005

In August of 2005, Hurricane Katrina devastated New Orleans and the surrounding area, leaving its mark as one of the most destructive disasters the nation has seen. This is a disaster that many will never forget — but the overwhelming disaster response from people around the United States is also something that will not be forgotten.

Midwest Mission was still in its early days, but was more than prepared to send relief. Donations arrived daily at Midwest Mission in the months following, supplies being sent in from Illinois, the Dakota's, Michigan, Wisconsin, Indiana, Ohio, Iowa, and Nebraska, living into the roots of being a Midwest organization on mission!

A favorite God Moment from Pat Wright, Director Emeritus, occurred during this time. A blanket factory had closed in St. Mary's, Ohio, and there were 18 pallets that they wanted to donate. Midwest Mission received this donation just before they received a request for blankets for Hurricane Katrina relief!

By the fall of 2005, over 30 shipments were sent to aid victims of Hurricane Katrina.

HEALTH

LIFE-CHANGING MEDICAL SUPPLIES DELIVERED IN GUATEMALA

In August, we had the opportunity to visit our partners in Guatemala — Food For The Poor and the Order of Malta. These organizations have deep roots in Guatemala, helping the poorest of the poor. We were blessed to witness the distribution of medical supplies.

In Guatemala, **a wheelchair costs around $300** for a person to buy, but the average patient **only earns about $200 a month**, making it impossible for them to afford a wheelchair. The blessing of receiving a donated wheelchair or walker or cane — one that many of you have donated — is life-changing for the patients. It brings them hope and empowerment in an otherwise desperate situation.



One of the most heart-warming moments was at a home visit. The team pulled up to an unassuming home, and walked through the front door to the open-air home, with two covered bedrooms in the back. Ana, whose mother would be receiving a cane and wheelchair (pictured on the front cover), met them at the front door.

She led them through the winding path, covered with rocks and holes, to the back of the property. Her mother waited outside the bedroom, dressed in colorful print, with a wide smile on her face. The doctor with the team presented the elderly woman with the wheelchair and cane.

For the past months — potentially years — Ana's mother has been unable to attend church because she was no longer able to walk there. This was devastating to her, as **her faith is very important to her and her family.**

When she received the wheelchair and cane, she was moved to tears, knowing this meant she could finally attend church again — and **have her mobility and independence back.**

She needed both a wheelchair and cane, because her home is not able to support a wheelchair — steps, rocks, and tight spaces would keep a wheelchair from working. But, she now has a cane to use in her home. The wheelchair will sit by the front door, and her daughter will help her use it, and push her to church.

"Thank you very much," Ana said as she watched her mother try out her new gear. "I am very grateful and may God bless you so that you can continue helping those in need. There is a lot of need, not only here in Guatemala, but in other nations. **May God bless you as you do your best to help the poor."**

The team also was present for distribution day at a clinic, run by the local Parish. The room was full of eager patients and their families, awaiting their new-to-them, life-changing items. One by one, the patients were called forward, and the physical therapist presented them with their walker, cane, or wheelchair, taking the time to properly fit it to each individual.

Each of the following stories happened because someone like you decided the walker, wheelchair, or cane they were **saving for "some day" was better used by someone in need today.** You can give medical supplies a second life — and transform life for someone like Maria, Gloria, Toribio, and Timotea.



Maria received a wheelchair for her father-in-law who had heart surgery to install a pacemaker. ***"I am very grateful for Midwest Mission and what they did to support us."***



Gloria was very emotional upon receiving her cane. A few months before, she had fallen in the middle of the night. Her husband has passed away, and she is alone most of the time, except for when her children come to assist her with food. She had been in a lot of pain while walking. Now that she has a cane, her life is going to change. She will be able to move around more, be in less pain, and continue her business of making and selling goods. ***"Look at me, I am a strong woman. We thank God that we have good people who help us, and that they care about us."***



Timotea walked into the clinic, broomstick in hand to steady her. The doctor gave her a cane, fit just to her size. She smiled as she confidently walked—really walked—for the first time in years. Then, without hesitation, she handed over the broomstick. She wouldn't be needing it anymore. ***Overcome with gratitude, Timotea thanked the staff and Midwest Mission for their generosity.*** *The cane changed everything for her!*



Toribio received a cane and walker ***to replace the wooden stick he had previously been using,*** *that was too small to properly steady him as he walked.*

GET INVOLVED!

We have an ongoing goal of sending 1,500 wheelchairs to Honduras. Donate wheelchairs, walkers, canes, and orthopedic supplies to Midwest Mission. What you might need "someday," someone needs today!

THE MISSION AROUND THE CORNER: INDIANAPOLIS, IN

Oftentimes, when we think of missions, we picture children and families in foreign countries with hungry stomachs and a lack of resources. We often forget that there are also people in need of basic resources right here in the United States.



Mary Marty, who is a volunteer at Midwest Mission, arranged for Midwest Mission Kits and hygiene supplies to be delivered to Soup's On, a ministry in Indianapolis, Indiana that addresses the needs they see right in their community.

The ministry was founded out of Roberts Park UMC 26 years ago when a church member took notice of a need in the church's vicinity: all of the nearby shelters were closed on Sundays, meaning homeless individuals were going without food for a whole day, if not longer. This realization drove Soup's On to become a ministry dedicated to feeding those in need every Sunday at noon. Soup's On strives to meet guests' spiritual, emotional, and practical needs.

The need isn't always an ocean away, it just might be around your corner.

MIDWEST MISSION 25 years est. 2000

338,573 PERSONAL DIGNITY KITS

21,417 HOME CARE KITS

8,796 BIRTHING KITS

4,249 FEMININE HYGIENE KITS

SENT IN THE LAST 25 YEARS

then

THE INTERNATIONAL HEALTH & DEVELOPMENT NETWORK: 2006

Since 2006, Midwest Mission has partnered with the International Health and Development Network (IHDN), facilitating one shipment to Ghana almost every year. In 1996, IHDN was formed by a group out of Springfield, Illinois. Shortly after their formation, they began holding Health Fairs in Ghana led by Dr. Edem Agamah. When we first started shipping to Ghana, Dr. Agamah and his father were building a hospital. Now, 20 years later, that hospital is fully functional, and patients have access to medical care that would be otherwise unavailable. This is our longest-running partnership, and we are grateful to play a part in the great work IHDN is doing.



BLESSING BAGS BRING HOPE: NOURISHING THE MALNOURISHED

A Rice and Soy Blessing Bag is not just a meal, it's a hope-filled, life-changing source of nutrients. While in Guatemala, we met with a doctor at a local clinic that distributes Midwest Mission Blessing Bags. Their clinic sees a high number of children come in who are malnourished.

"The Rice and Soy meals are quite nutritious food, rich in protein," the doctor commented. "We focus on families. They get around 30 Blessing Bags to last them the month. They get creative with culinary arts — they add chicken, add eggs to make it into a casserole, mash it down into cakes, or even blend it into drinks!"

Rice is the nutritional base of the diet in Guatemala. If a family doesn't have to buy rice because they are given Blessing Bags, then they are able to use that money to add more protein to their meal by buying chicken or other meat. These meals help malnourished children heal, while the clinic teaches families about nutrition, and helps guide them towards a more sustainably healthy future.



IN 2025... 248,904 BLESSING BAGS WERE MADE IN 11 STATES AT 108 EVENTS FEEDING 1.5 MILLION PEOPLE

Nutritional food remains one of the top priorities for our partners on-the-ground in developing countries. With cuts in federal grant funding for nonprofits earlier this year, many organizations that had a source of food were left wondering where their next meals would come from. Because **Midwest Mission did not, and does not, receive any government funding**, we stepped into that gap and offered Blessing Bags to our partners — because of your donations and churches hosting events.

We only see the need increasing. You can be a part of the solution, and you can have a great missional experience with your congregation, group, or business right where you are. Visit **midwestmission.org/missionevents** to learn more and to **book a Blessing Bag Mission Event in 2026!**



GET INVOLVED — DRIVERS NEEDED!

SERVE WITH PURPOSE, DRIVE WITH FAITH, MAKE AN IMPACT!

To keep up with the number of Mission Events happening around the Midwest, and to increase our availability, we are looking for volunteer drivers who would deliver the event supplies, help run the event, and represent Midwest Mission. We are also looking for drivers for supply pickups. If you are interested, please contact Melissa Brookens, Director of Missions, at melissa@midwestmission.org, or call our office at 217-483-7911.

EDUCATION

STUDENT KITS REPRESENT TANGIBLE SIGNS OF HOPE

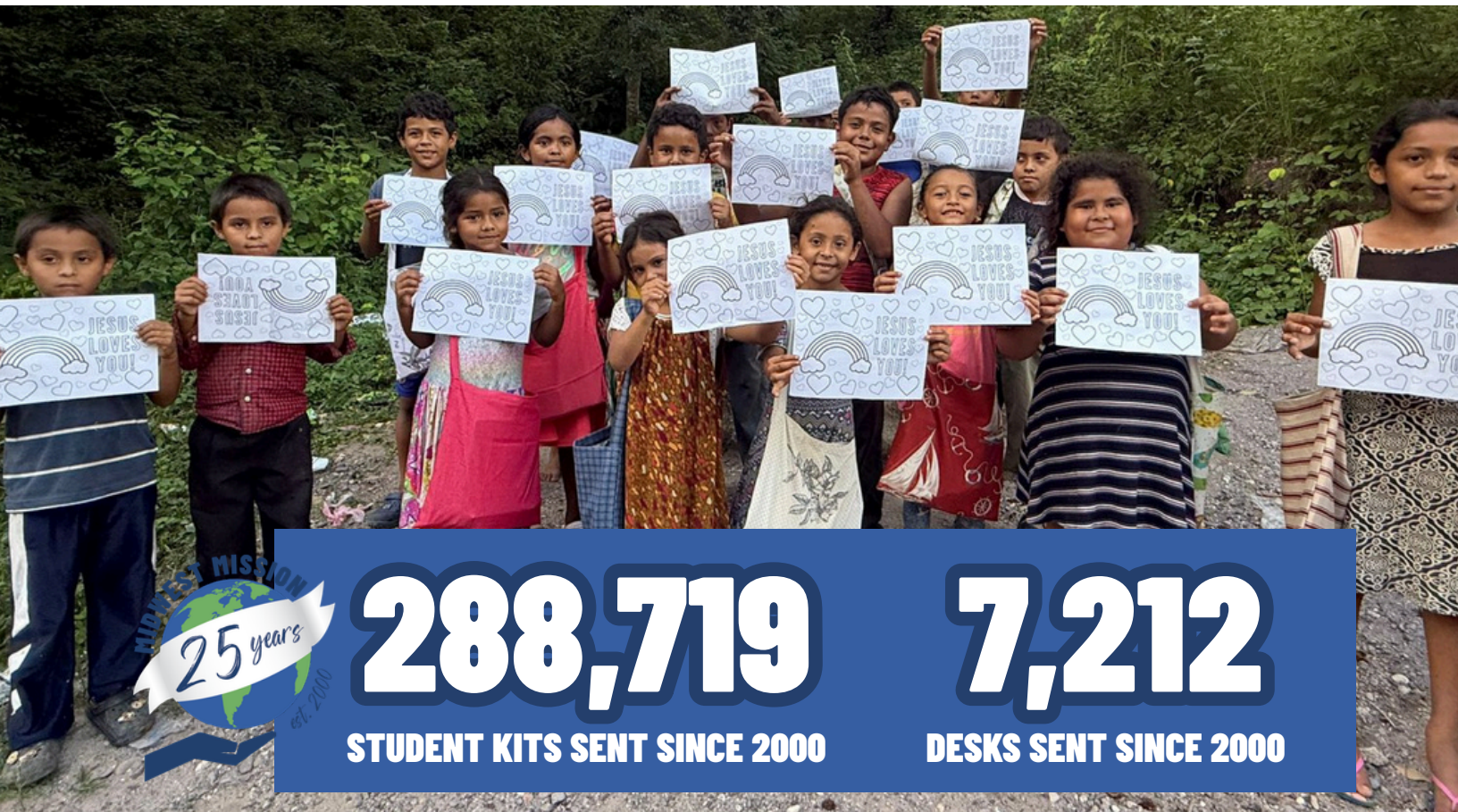


During the month of September, we had a goal of collecting 2,500 Student Kits to have enough to send for the remainder of shipments for the year. You surpassed the goal by hundreds of Kits! This was a big blessing as Hurricane Melissa hit in October, and there were plenty of Student Kits to offer towards disaster relief.

This year, our partner on-the-ground in Honduras, CEPUDO, delivered 190 Student Kits to the communities of La Victoria and Santa Cruz de Yojoa. To reach these places, they had to travel by ferry, as these are remote and difficult-to-access communities.

"Despite the logistical challenge," CEPUDO shared, "the effort was worthwhile. Upon receiving their supplies, the children expressed immense happiness: their smiles, looks of excitement, and words of gratitude reflected the importance of this support. **For them, these Kits represent not only school tools but also a tangible sign of hope."**

By partnering with Midwest Mission, you are bringing hope in the form of needed supplies every single day. The families commented that it is a blessing to know that there are **"angels"** who come to their communities to bring help and open opportunities. "This delivery not only strengthened the children's education but also their motivation and joy in continuing to learn."



SOUTHCOM HUMANITARIAN MISSION ON THE USNS COMFORT

In 2025, our partnership with the United States Southern Command (SOUTHCOM) expanded, as we sent supplies to six different countries for their annual humanitarian exercise.



Every year, Midwest Mission works with SOUTHCOM on one mission, and this year's was helping supply the USNS Comfort — a hospital ship owned by the U.S. Navy and operated by the Military Sealift Command. At each stop, they performed different medical and veterinary procedures, and also ventured into the local communities to help provide needed items during clinics.

Midwest Mission provided Personal Dignity Kits, Student Kits, walkers, canes, crutches, soccer balls and pumps, and puzzles. These supplies were distributed in Grenada, Panama, Columbia, Ecuador, the Dominican Republic, and Costa Rica! It is always an honor to work with the military in this way.

God Moment!

One of the servicemen on board recognized our Kit Boxes during the humanitarian exercise, and texted a picture to his mother, whose church supports Midwest Mission. She shared the moment with Karen Chumbly, Volunteer Leader, who brought the God Moment to our attention. It's a small world! It's amazing what happens when we all do our part to bring hope to people around the world.

then

DESKS ARRIVE IN BELIZE ON THE BACKS OF SOLDIERS: 2017

A favorite story of our Desk Shop volunteers (and many others) is the story of Midwest Mission desks finding a home in Belize. In May of 2017, Midwest Mission partnered with the U.S. Southern Command to send 108 Desks, 682 Children's School Bags, and 66 Teacher's School Bags (does anyone remember when we sent the Teacher kits?) to a mission school in Belize. Every time we see these pictures, we are in shock. The soldiers carried the desks on their backs to the school where they helped set up the classrooms! They traveled 7 miles through the mud and water, in the jungle — and each of these desks weigh approximately 70 lbs.



It's an amazing story, and we love looking back on it. One thing hasn't changed — these desks are needed by so many communities around the world, and you can help provide them. **If you hear about a school that is planning to remove their old wooden bleachers, please contact Midwest Mission!**

MICRO BUSINESS

SEWING MACHINES CHANGE LIVES IN GUATEMALA

In a small village in Guatemala, a sewing workshop is bringing hope and community to women in need. This sewing workshop is hosted at a local church by a seamstress who teaches people how to sew — using sewing machines Midwest Mission donated. Beginners come to learn a new skill that they can use to provide for their families.



One woman is dreaming of opening her own sewing shop, and was gifted a Midwest Mission treadle sewing machine to get one step closer to making her dream a reality.

Anjuli is 18 years old, and lives in a small, concrete home with her mom, dad, two brothers, and grandmother. Anjuli was invited to this sewing workshop, and was immediately hooked! Her grandmother and mother had both been seamstresses when they were younger, and Anjuli was eager to follow in their footsteps. She also knew that this is a way she could help provide for her family.

ONE BIKE BRINGS HOPE IN RECOVERY

Bicycles are transformational items for people both around the world and around the corner. The gift of a bicycle isn't just about transportation — it's the gift of time, safety, and opportunity.

The Jacksonville, IL Police Department collects bikes to distribute to people in need. But, many of the donated bikes need repairs. Midwest Mission offered to help. The bikes needing repairs were dropped off at Midwest Mission, and we supplied the police department with bikes that were ready to ride.

After the repaired bikes were delivered in Jacksonville, a need was immediately met. George* had just graduated from the Gateway Recovery Program and recently started a new job. But, his workplace was over two miles from home. He walked four miles every day just to get to and from work. Now, George has a safe, reliable way to get to work — a gift that's making a big difference on his road to recovery.



*George is a fictitious name to protect the identity of the recipient.

GET INVOLVED!

Your used bike (that's still in working condition) can bring hope to someone's life. Learn more at midwestmission.org/collect-donate

The problem was, the sewing workshop only happened one time every week, meaning she couldn't practice the skills she was learning at home. After talking with the teacher, it was decided that she would receive her very own sewing machine from Midwest Mission. This way, she could practice every single day.

"Thanks to Doña Ana, who gave us the opportunity and to you (Midwest Mission) for the machines, because without you we we would not have been able to have a sewing workshop," Anjuli shared, full of gratitude. "I also thank you for the machine that I was given. It means a lot to have my own machine. We only meet one day a week, and I didn't have a way to sew at home."



Anjuli hopes to continue learning how to sew more complex items, and use those skills to help others. "In the future, if God allows me, I hope to open a shop, perhaps not a big one, but to set up a small shop so I can sew here for the community, for myself, and for my family."

"I thank you all who were given the opportunity to help people like us. May God bless them and give them the strength to continue giving away machines, or other things that bless people."

This is just one story — and there are so many more. Each person who receives a sewing machine receives the hope and empowerment to make a better life for themselves and their families. Thank you for helping make that happen!

4,321
SEWING MACHINES SENT SINCE 2000

5,357
BIKES SENT SINCE 2000

then

SEWING MACHINES BRING OPPORTUNITY: 2000-Present

From a woman in the Philippines who received a sewing machine and could care for her family, to outfitting a sewing school in Liberia with treadle machines to create social enterprise, to the woman in Ghana who carried her hand-crank machine on her head and would sew beautiful dresses, and beamed when she talked about how she could now support her children and make her tithe to her church. Countless women have been given the opportunity to make a dignified living with an opportunity that would have never been in reach if they had not received this life-changing gift.



GET INVOLVED!

Donate your electric or treadle sewing machines so they can be transformed into life-changing gifts! Skilled in sewing machine repair? Volunteer at our Illinois or Iowa locations! Call 217-483-7911 or email office@midwestmission.org.

NEW AGRICULTURAL INITIATIVE: BASIC UTILITY VEHICLES

On small farms around Central America, they work hard to provide for their family and their community. Farmers work with what they have — oftentimes doing a lot of manual labor that could be made easier by machines. But, they just don't have access! In the past year, Midwest Mission has stepped into the Agricultural space. We know that improving the efficiency and capabilities of farms will bring sustainability that will bring hope and empowerment to entire communities and families for generations.

This past Giving Tuesday, we shared about a new opportunity — providing Basic Utility Vehicles (BUVs) to farmers in Central America. Because of you, we will be sending two BUVs early in 2026.

What are Basic Utility Vehicles? These agriculture and transportation vehicles are built by our nonprofit partner, DriveBUV, in Indianapolis, Indiana — to help transform lives and open doors to opportunity. These vehicles are a cross between a tractor and a 4x4 truck. You can learn more at drivebuv.org.

Why BUVs? BUVs are durable, affordable vehicles built from common, easy-to-repair parts. Their simple design makes them ideal for rugged, rural areas — but their impact is anything but simple. BUVs help communities **reduce poverty, promote agricultural success, and increase access to health care and education through reliable transportation.**



One BUV will go to a Cacao Farm in Peru through our partner, Food For The Poor. They have been working with this farm to promote sustainability and growth. A Basic Utility Vehicle will help the farmers increase productivity, and sustainability. The second BUV will be going to Honduras — potentially to a Bee Farm or an Agriculture School. We will soon hear where it is needed most!





Chantel in the community of Choloma in Honduras, alongside women who made one-handled bags with Midwest Mission sewing machines.

A LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In a world marked by division, human suffering, and the pull of greed, it is easy to feel overwhelmed or helpless. Yet God calls us not to focus on all that is wrong, but to faithfully do what we can. We may not be able to do everything, but we can do something. When each of us chooses to act with purpose, unity, and generosity, hope and empowerment begin to take root.

God calls us to be His light, and when we come together—each one shining—we illuminate the world. Thank you for shining your light through Midwest Mission. Through your service and generosity, you bring joy to the sorrowful and hope to the hopeless. In a world where greed often rules, you are a beacon of change—in your home, in your community, and far beyond.

For 25 years, Midwest Mission has brought people together to transform God's resources into humanitarian relief that changes lives. This work transforms not only those who receive the gifts, but also those who give them. Every sweater crocheted, blanket sewn, kit packed, fire suit collected, piece of equipment donated, desk built, bike or sewing machine repaired carries more than practical help—it carries love, dignity, and hope in Christ's name. We are excited for the next 25 years and all the lives that will be transformed.

This year, our goal is to impact 4 million people and feed 1.5 million—and we cannot do it without you. I invite you to consider **becoming a monthly partner of Midwest Mission**: $25 a month feeds 75 people, $50 provides school supplies for six students, and $100 delivers hygiene items to twelve people after a disaster.

Darla Holden, Board Chair, has issued a challenge to our Board of Directors—one I'd like to extend to you: **tell five others about Midwest Mission** and connect them to a project that aligns with their passions, so their love, too, can help change a life. Serving together brings people together, and together, we can accomplish far more than any of us could alone. Thank you for answering God's call and for being His light in the world.

Gratefully yours,

Chantel Corrie

Chantel Corrie

GET INVOLVED! Donate online at **midwestmission.org/donate** or send your donation in the included envelope. Learn about becoming a Monthly Partner at **midwestmission.org/monthly**

MISSION UPDATES

EXPANDING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES IN ILLINOIS

Midwest Mission is blessed to have an amazing group of volunteers who sacrifice their time to serve. Whether for one shift, or an entire week, each hour is vital to making the mission happen. **We see an average of over 275 volunteers in our building every single month.**



Over the years, we've run into a wonderful problem — more people want to serve than we have space for!

That's about to change. Starting in April, each shift will accommodate up to 32 volunteers — that's six additional volunteers for each shift. This is exciting growth for the ministry, because more resources will be transformed into humanitarian relief — and more people will have hope and feel empowered!

There is more growth and expansion on the horizon. Keep an eye out for more information coming soon!

1,384 VOLUNTEERS
SERVED AT MIDWEST MISSION (IL) IN 2025

$5.3 MILLION
WORTH OF SUPPLIES DONATED TO MIDWEST MISSION (IL) IN 2025

OTHER VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

BECOME A VOLUNTEER DRIVER

We need drivers to make local pickups for Midwest Mission in Illinois and Midwest Mission Iowa, and drivers for longer trips. Please call the office if you are interested — 217-483-7911.

BECOME A KEY VOLUNTEER

Key Volunteers are the individuals who serve regularly, show up with commitment, and help keep our operations running smoothly day after day. These volunteers mostly serve in the Shops on a regular basis.

If you are interested in being a Key Volunteer: in Illinois — call 217-457-4400 in Iowa — call 515-386-2236

MIDWEST MISSION IOWA: A PERMANENT HOME

Thanks to your generosity, Midwest Mission officially owns its building in Jefferson, Iowa! What began in 2023 as a small Permanent Collection Site quickly grew into a thriving ministry hub, welcoming volunteers, hosting Mission Events, and expanding its reach across Iowa and surrounding states.

In just two years, the location grew from collecting half a semi of supplies each month to three full semis with a bustling volunteer room — 123 volunteers serving in October alone.

Early in 2025, we launched a campaign to purchase the building and redirect lease funds toward ministry impact. Through generous giving, a $100,000 match from the Endowment Fund, and a gracious price reduction from the Greene County Development Corporation, Midwest Mission was able to purchase the building outright for $250,000 — completely debt-free.

We are deeply grateful to everyone who gave, prayed, and supported this effort. Because of you, Midwest Mission Iowa now has a permanent home to continue transforming lives around the world and around the corner.



Chantel Corrie, Executive Director, and Danille Curtis, Iowa Director, with Greene County Development Corporation representatives, Scott Weber and Greg Piklapp

We look forward to sharing our dreams and ideas for the future of Midwest Mission Iowa, continuing to grow so that more people have HOPE!

VOLUNTEER AT MIDWEST MISSION IA

There are now more opportunities for teams and individuals to come and serve at Midwest Mission Iowa! In 2025, Midwest Mission Iowa opened a Bike Repair Shop, a Sewing Machine Repair Shop, and a Sewing Shop for volunteers to use their talents to help send hope and empowerment. There is also more availability for teams and individuals.

Learn more and reserve your volunteer shift at midwestmission.org/iowa



499 VOLUNTEERS
SERVED AT MIDWEST MISSION IOWA IN 2025

20
SEMI-TRAILER LOADS OF SUPPLIES FROM IOWA IN 2025

SEWING PATTERN CHANGES

To continue sending the best items we can, we have made changes to a few of our patterns based on feedback we've received from recipients and seamstresses. You can **download the new patterns and instructions from our website at midwestmission.org/patterns.**



CHANGED PATTERNS:

- Layette Diaper (padding thickness)
- Day and Night Pad (size & padding thickness)
- Fleece Baby Jacket (pattern adjusted)
- Layette Gown (made smaller to truly be 0-6 months size)



GET INVOLVED!

Are you part of a sewing group, or you just love to sew/knit/crochet for Midwest Mission? **Join the Midwest Mission Sewing Group Zoom Call!** Every month, we get together on zoom to talk about updates, tricks and tips, and suggestions. If you're interested in joining this group, email Teresa Whitehouse, Project Manager, at teresa@midwestmission.org

SEWING LOVE FOR THE WORLD

AVA'S STORY

Ava, a fourth grader from Jefferson, Iowa, has been inspired to use the sewing skills taught by her great-grandmothers to give back to others! She's blown the seamstresses from her church, Jefferson First UMC, out of the water, sewing 34 bags for Midwest Mission Student Kits. She's also been sewing pillowcases for the local Food Pantry and has moved on to bags for the Feminine Hygiene Kits, even getting 10 done on a Sunday afternoon! She'll be doing diapers next for the Layette Kit.

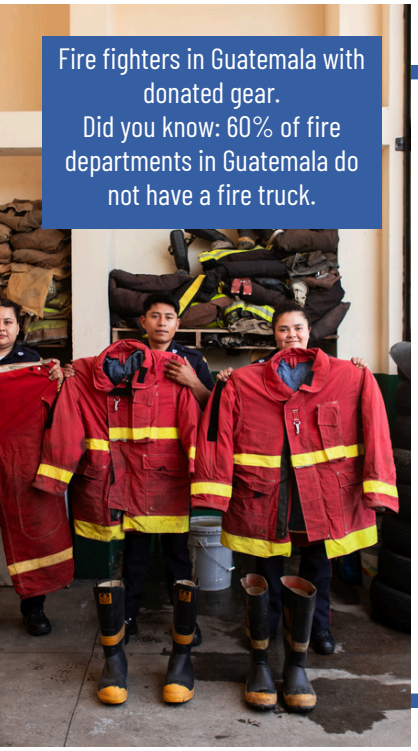


Pastor Heather Dorr noted that Ava has been present at each of the pre-worship packing events in September, helping side-by-side with other generations. **"It's reminding us all that when we teach our young people how to use their time and their talents, they can shine God's light in brilliant ways."**

DONATE LIFE-CHANGING SUPPLIES

One simple item can completely change someone's life. By donating new items for Kits, or used items like medical supplies, you are bringing HOPE to someone you might never meet.

Take a look at the enclosed Kits and Projects Brochure, or scan the QR code, to see what you could start collecting. You can also visit **midwestmission.org/collect-donate** to stay up-to-date on our current needs.



Fire fighters in Guatemala with donated gear.
Did you know: 60% of fire departments in Guatemala do not have a fire truck.

MOST NEEDED

USED SUPPLIES:

- Medical Gear: wheelchairs, walkers, canes, orthopedic supplies
- Fire Gear and Equipment: contact your local fire department to see if they have "expired" gear
- Sewing Machines: treadle and electric machines in working condition
- Bleacher Wood

NEW SUPPLIES:

- Bed Packs: twin sheet set, pillow, pillowcase
- Dish Soap (42-64oz)
- Liquid Laundry Detergent (max of 150 oz)

HANDMADE ITEMS:

Patterns can be found at midwestmission.org/patterns

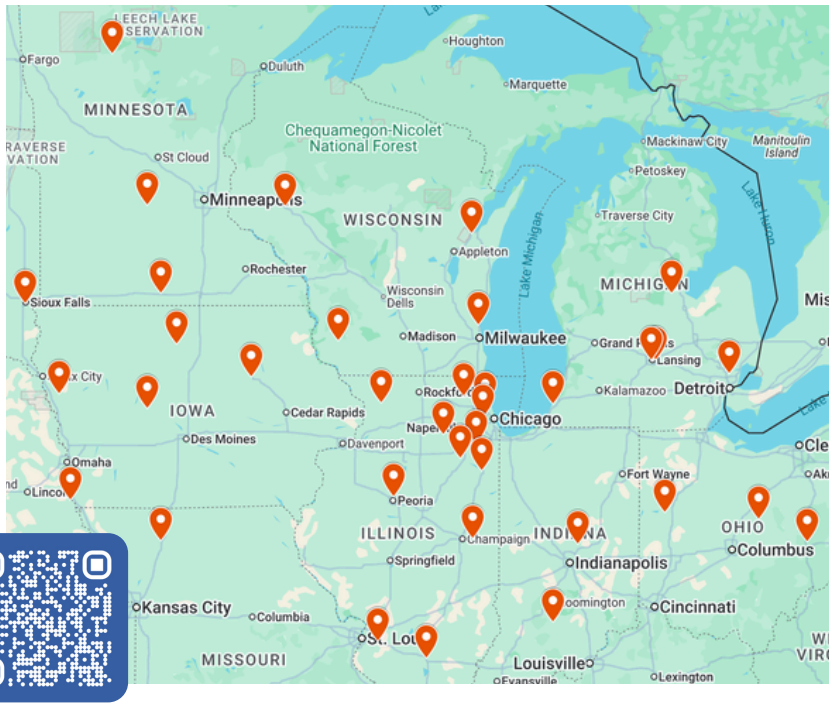
- Day and Night Pads
- Waterproof Bags
- Layette Kit Gowns and Sleepers

PERMANENT COLLECTION SITES

Midwest Mission has been blessed with volunteers across the Midwest who use the facilities God has blessed them with to provide a donation collection point for needed supplies.

You don't have to drive all the way to a Midwest Mission location to drop off supplies! To see the locations and details, scan the QR code or visit **midwestmission.org/permanent-collection-sites**.

If you are interested in hosting a Permanent Collection Site, contact Teresa Whitehouse, Project Manager, at teresa@midwestmission.org.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

ANNUAL CONFERENCE COLLECTIONS

Midwest Mission is blessed by the support shown by churches and individuals at Annual Conferences of the United Methodist Church. Midwest Mission will be collecting items at several conferences — even if you're not attending the conference, you can drop off supplies at the temporary collection site! Information will be updated at **midwestmission.org/annual-conferences**.

SERVING SEPTEMBER

Serving September is a month dedicated to serving others in Christ's name, and experiencing the JOY that comes from serving. Churches and groups can participate by collecting donated items, assembling Kits, making handmade items, or hosting a Mission Event at their own location. These activities not only meet real needs but also help revitalize congregations through meaningful service. Learn more at **midwestmission.org/servingseptember.**

WEEKEND WORKSHOPS

In 2026, Midwest Mission is launching Weekend Workshops at our Illinois location — dedicated time for volunteers to use their specific skills to help with tasks such as bike repair, sewing machine repair, sewing, and more! You can learn more and sign up for a workshop at **midwestmission.org/weekendworkshops**.

Upcoming Weekend Workshops:

April 18 — Sewing Retreat July 18 — Bike Repair Blitz October 17 — Sewing Machine Repair

HELP US SHARE THE STORY — BE AN AMBASSADOR

God is doing incredible work through Midwest Mission—and it's a story worth sharing, that the world needs to hear now more than ever. The Midwest Mission Ambassador Program invites passionate supporters to help spread the word in their own communities, using their unique voices, connections, and experiences.

Ambassadors share in ways that feel natural to them. Some speak at churches, businesses, or community groups, others help at local events, and many simply tell friends and family about the impact Midwest Mission is making. However you choose to share, you become part of multiplying hope and pointing others to Christ's love in action.

If you have a heart for Midwest Mission and a desire to help others discover how they can donate or serve, we'd love to connect with you. Together, we can reach more people around the world and around the corner. Learn more or fill out an interest form at **midwestmission.org/ambassadors**.



BRAD WALTON RETIRES
HONORING A LEGACY OF FAITHFUL SERVICE

For more than a decade, Brad has been a steady and trusted presence at Midwest Mission. After joining staff in 2013, he served 12 years in Operations, bringing structure, clarity, and a "see a need, fill a need" mindset that helped the mission grow and thrive. Under Brad's leadership, Midwest Mission sent 424 international shipments and nearly 12 million pounds of supplies to people in need around the world. His dedication, problem-solving spirit, and faithfulness shaped the way our mission operates today.



Brad retired on December 31, 2025 leaving behind a lasting legacy of service to people he may never meet—but whose lives have been forever impacted by his work. As he begins a new chapter consulting with growing organizations, his commitment to Kingdom work remains strong.

Brad went out on a high note with a record number of 69 international shipments in 2025. We are deeply grateful for Brad's years of faithful service and the lasting impact he has made at Midwest Mission!









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PRAY FOR MIDWEST MISSION



Join us in praying over the ministry of Midwest Mission:

Father, we pray for the Midwest Mission volunteers that use their hands and service to provide gifts of HOPE to those in need. May the staff and drivers be safe in their journeys and speak HOPE to all they meet. We pray that all who visit our facilities will feel the HOPE of Jesus and fall more in love with Him. And may the partners who walk with us speak of the HOPE they have seen in the people who have received our gifts.

Let us always point the way to you, Jesus.

Amen.

CONNECT WITH US

Search **Midwest Mission**

Join the newsletter: scan QR code or visit midwestmission.org/newsletter