

Global Mission Ministry

In 2009, the Global Mission Ministry continued the approach established in 2004 of giving with a consideration to personal ties and contacts between the recipients and Saint Mark, be it individual congregants, the church staff, networks of friends and families or the PCUSA's "Presbyterian Disaster Assistance" (PDA) and Mission Co-worker programs. We continue to work to strengthen mission partnerships with direct sharing of work and spiritual growth experiences.

Through the generosity of Saint Mark members and friends, the Global Mission Ministry was able to help support the following in 2009:

- Ngoro Parrish, Cameroon
 - Tchekos Dispensary, Cameroon
 - Shirley Hill & Jeff Boyd, PCUSA Mission Co-workers, Cameroon, eastern and western parts
 - David & Leah Preston, Wycliffe Bible Translators, missionaries, South Africa
 - Hearts with Haiti/St. Joseph Family Ministry Orphanage
 - Hearts with Haiti/St. Joseph Family Ministry Child Sponsorship
 - PCUSA CEPAD Ministry—Nicaragua
 - Several Mission Trips (see below)
 - + Choon & Yen Hee Lim, PCUSA Mission Coworkers, Aboriginal Campus Ministry, Hualien, Taiwan
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- Bread for the World, Covenant membership
 - Disaster Relief: Taiwan & Philippines (typhoons) & Pakistan's Swat Valley (refugee camp)
 - Living Waters for the World
 - Eric & Becky Hinderliter, PCUSA Mission Coworkers, Lithuania
 - Lithuanian Christian College, scholarship fund
 - Seed money for Tchekos, Cameroon Well Project (see below)

Mission Trips: 2009 was an active year for mission trips:

Haiti: A group of ten Saint Markers and friends (including six youth under age 27) led by Pastor Roy visited St. Joseph's House and Wings of Hope (orphanages), a Doctors Without Borders hospital project and other ministries to further develop our spiritual and missional connections to those who serve this impoverished country. June 2009.

Lithuania: Ellen Kiel and Battokok Bitekyi joined a group of Pennsylvania Presbyterians in Lithuania to teach and help paint classrooms at the Lithuanian Christian College. June 2009.

Nicaragua: Heather Banks, Saint Mark's "coffee lady", joined a PCUSA group in Nicaragua to work with and learn how Fair Trade coffee is grown, harvested and processed. Heather "is surprised coffee doesn't cost \$50.00/pound, given the amount of work involved."

Mission Visitors: We had the privilege of hosting four forums where we learned of mission activities first hand from those who are serving:

Cameroon: Shirley Hill, PCUSA Mission Co-worker, works to create AIDS and other health treatment and prevention programs in western Cameroon.

South Africa: David & Leah Preston, Wycliffe Bible Translators, missionaries, South Africa

Taiwan: Choon & Yen Hee Lim, PCUSA Mission Coworkers, teach and provide a student activities center, Aboriginal Campus Ministry, Hualien, Taiwan

US Campaign for Fair Food: Rev. Noelle Damico works to create fair wage and living conditions in the tomato fields of Florida.

A Water Well for Tchekos, Cameroon: We continue to work to help fund and find a way to have a well for clean drinking water constructed in Tchekos, Cameroon. Tchekos (pronounced "check os") is a village of about 2,000 people in the Center province of Cameroon, about 80 miles from the capital, Yaoundé. It is one of many small, rural villages in Cameroon with no water well (the women walk two miles for water and carry it back on their heads) and the home village of Battokok Bityeki. We hope to bring clean drinking water to this village. Pastor Roy and others visited Tchekos in 2001. Battokok visited Tchekos this summer along with PCUSA Mission Co-workers Shirley Hill and Jeff Boyd.

Equal Exchange Fair Trade Products: We continue to sell Equal Exchange fairly traded products (coffee, tea and chocolate) to Saint Markers and their friends. The sale of these products helps farmers in some of the poorest areas in the world earn a living wage, learn environmentally sustainable techniques, and develop community cooperatives that build local schools and clinics. In addition, the Presbyterian Small Farms project benefits from each order we submit.

Bread for the World: Saint Mark continued its giving as a Covenant Church with the Bread for the World (BFW) organization. Saint Mark pledges an annual donation to BFW to be used in the fight to end global hunger. Under the leadership of Saint Marker Sandy Champion, who is the Hunger Action Enabler for the NCP, Saint Mark again participated in the "Offering of Letters".

The Global Mission Ministry: Thank you to all Saint Mark members and friends who give time, talent and monetary support to the programs of the Global Mission Ministry. We welcome anyone who might feel called to participate in the life of Saint Mark by becoming involved in Global Mission.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Irons, Elder, Global Mission Ministry