

HEART for the KINGDOM

TGBC Missions Newsletter



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Volume 16 Issue 3
Winter 2020

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AFTER THIS I LOOKED, AND BEHOLD, A GREAT MULTITUDE THAT NO ONE COULD NUMBER, FROM EVERY NATION, FROM ALL TRIBES AND PEOPLES AND LANGUAGES, STANDING BEFORE THE THRONE AND BEFORE THE LAMB, CLOTHED IN WHITE ROBES, WITH PALM BRANCHES IN THEIR HANDS, AND CRYING OUT WITH A LOUD VOICE, "SALVATION BELONGS TO OUR GOD WHO SITS ON THE THRONE, AND TO THE LAMB!"
REVELATION 7:9-10 ESV

The global need for missions is more urgent than ever.

- 154,937 people are dying daily without Christ.
- 4.5 billion unreached people in 7,070 unreached people groups
- The world population is growing by almost 1.5 million people per week, while it is estimated that evangelical Christians only share the gospel approximately 275,000 times per week.

Our vision is more attainable than ever.

- 47,530 churches cooperating with the Southern Baptist Convention
- 14,525,579 total membership reported in the SBC network of churches
- If 25% of Southern Baptists gave \$100 to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, we could raise nearly \$400 MILLION.

We are able to do so much more than if we chase this vision alone.

- ALL Lottie Moon Christmas Offering proceeds go toward supporting missionaries.

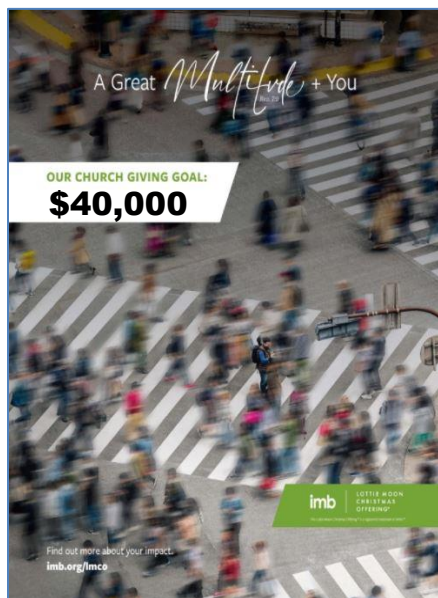
Your generosity...

- sends and sustains 3,623 IMB missionaries as of May 31, 2020.
- takes the gospel to the unreached with 89,325 new believers in 2019
- trains nationals to multiply disciples with 18,598 pastors trained in 2019
- meets tangible needs starting 12,368 new churches and baptizing 47,929 people

The Week of Prayer for International Missions is Nov. 29 – Dec. 6.

Look for your LMCO prayer guide on pages 2-3 in this newsletter. Give your Lottie Moon offering online through TGBC's web site or specify LMCO on your offering envelope or check and place it in the offering boxes at church.

Will you join us in ensuring those without Christ continue to hear the gospel message through your IMB missionaries?





DAY 1 • Sunday, November 29

NAIVASHA CHILDREN'S SHELTER, KENYA

Hundreds of thousands of boys sleep on the streets in Kenya, rejected by their families or seeking their independence for a number of reasons. They're marginalized, beaten, sexually abused, and arrested. Many Kenyans regard them as worthless and not to be trusted. They call these boys "trash eaters."

International Mission Board missionary Kristen Lowry and the staff at the Naivasha Children's Shelter in Naivasha, Kenya, see value and worth in the life of each boy. They seek out these boys and bring restoration to families and rehabilitation to broken lives.

If a boy is willing to be rescued, one of the social workers from the shelter schedules a time to pick up the boy from the street and bring him to the shelter. Once there, the boy learns skills, participates in counseling, catches up on education, takes responsibility for chores, and ultimately experiences love and a stable environment.

The shelter is not an orphanage but a place where each child receives personal attention and encouragement, all building to the goal of reuniting him with his family.

"If I could tell a friend on the streets one thing about the shelter, I would tell him, 'Come to shelter and change your life and find your family.'"
FRANCES, A BOY LIVING AT THE SHELTER

PRAY that Frances and other boys like him will find new life in Christ.

PRAY that as the boys are reconciled with their families, the families will also find hope in Jesus.

PRAY that God will bless the work of the shelter's staff as they reach out in love to boys who are hurting.



DAY 2 • Monday, November 30

ZAGREB, CROATIA, RADIO MINISTRY

After living in Croatia for more than 22 years, missionary Eric Maroney has witnessed the reluctance of people to believe the truth of the gospel and has endured their skepticism toward evangelical churches. Only one Baptist church stands in western Zagreb — an area of 250,000 people — where Eric's team lives and works.

As a church planter, Eric — who serves with his wife, Julie — looks for new strategies to share the gospel. Giving to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering® supports his efforts. In 2014, he embraced the idea of a radio ministry pitched by a Brazilian ministry partner. The team now includes nine local partners who serve as speakers, translators, and technical support.

The group fills the airwaves twice a week with a sermon, spiritual songs, interviews with believers, and questions from callers. Ratings reported from the radio station's director show that more than 40,000 people listen to each broadcast. In a country with only 7,000 evangelicals, the number of listeners is significant.

"We trust that the seeds that are being sown will one day soon bear fruit and that the churches that are being started will one day start other churches in the towns that surround them."
ERIC MARONEY, MISSIONARY

PRAY that more national partners will choose to be a part of sharing the gospel across Croatia.

PRAY that more church plants will result from the radio broadcast ministry.

THANK GOD for the tens of thousands who hear truth from God's Word each week.



DAY 3 • Tuesday, December 1

DOUG DERBYSHIRE IN THAILAND

Doug Derbyshire goes to many places in Thailand where there are no Christians, and it troubles him deeply. But the lack of a gospel witness in Baan Po troubled him the most.

For six years, Doug — a medical missionary with the International Mission Board — faithfully visited Baan Po. He brought medical teams from the US to host mobile clinics and tried every evangelism technique he knew, including knocking on countless doors. But there was still no church in Baan Po, and Doug couldn't let that rest.

So he pulled together another mobile medical team to take the gospel there in January 2020. After he and the other doctors would meet with their patients, a Thai Christian on Doug's clinical staff would sit down with the patient and say...

"This is medicine for your body. Now let's talk about what you need for your soul."
A THAI CHRISTIAN

On the first day, three people made decisions of faith, and Baan Po is no longer without a gospel presence.

PRAY none of the new Christians would fall away from the faith.

PRAY those who have yet to decide will choose to commit their lives to Christ.

PRAY for the formation of healthy churches in Baan Po.



DAY 4 • Wednesday, December 2

AKAWA' IN PERU

The small group of men boards a single-engine Cessna. After a two-hour flight, the men land on a small airstrip deep in the Amazon rainforest. From there, they board a boat and settle in for the ride. Their destination, an isolated village of the Akawa tribe, is still more than seven hours away.

Like many tribal people groups, the Akawa are animists who live in fear of the spirits that inhabit the world around them, said Joe Brewster, an International Mission Board (IMB) missionary. He and his team of IMB missionaries and local church planters began working with the small, unreached tribe in 2018.

"As animists, they tend to be pragmatic and go with what works as opposed to what may be right or wrong. They live far up an Amazonian tributary, just a step removed from the Stone Age."
JOE BREWSTER, MISSIONARY

Joe's team has a heart to reach them — and partners who share that passion. Edwin Blanco, a church planter who lives in the Amazon basin, is an integral part of that effort. As the administrator of an indigenous missions organization, he has a burden to reach the Akawa and other isolated tribes with the good news of Jesus. He and Joe are partnering for that purpose.

"Fulfilling the Great Commission is difficult work, much like carrying a heavy log out of the jungle. One man may be able to do it, but if we work together and help each other, the work is much easier!"
EDWIN BLANCO, CHURCH PLANTER

PRAY for Joe, Edwin and their teams as they share the gospel with the Akawa.

PRAY that many members of the Akawa will come to faith in Jesus.

PRAY that new Akawa believers will gather into groups and start churches.



DAY 5 • Thursday, December 3

A LIFE GIVEN IS A SACRIFICE

Throughout their 175-year history, Southern Baptists have maintained an uninterrupted witness among the nations, in spite of famine, war, and civil unrest. This commitment has not come without sacrifice.

About 60 missionaries and children have died because of tragic circumstances while serving with the International Mission Board (IMB) since the organization's founding in 1845, when it was known as the Foreign Mission Board. The causes include accidents such as drowning, automobile and aircraft crashes, and ships lost at sea. They also include deaths as a result of war and criminal or terrorist acts. In some cases, the missionaries were targeted specifically because of their faith or missionary service.

Of those 60, more than 20 IMB missionaries lost their lives "as a result of human hostility in a cross-cultural setting," according to Scott Peterson of the IMB global research team. While the IMB does not typically refer to or describe personnel who died in active service as "martyrs", the sacrifice of those who died while serving cross-culturally is no less significant than those who were targeted specifically for their faith.

Each life given is a sacrifice because of a life lived in obedience to Christ.

THANK GOD for the men and women who, with their children, have traveled to the ends of the earth to share the gospel with those who have never heard.

THANK GOD for the uninterrupted witness of Southern Baptists among the nations for 175 years.

ASK GOD to continue to protect missionaries and their families serving in cross-cultural and often difficult areas around the globe.



DAY 6 • Friday, December 4

WORTHYS IN ITALY

The Worthy family recognizes the importance of investing in relationships in Italian culture. For more than 17 years, Charlie and Shannon have invested their lives and ministry in Italy as International Mission Board missionaries.

Working alongside Italian and US partners, the Worthys bring the gospel to areas of Italy with little to no evangelical witness. Whether leading a group of students, a group of Baptist state convention executives, or a church group, they strategically place partnering groups in areas of Italy where the church does not exist. These partners are able to engage with the people there and create relationships that impact the kingdom for eternity.

As they invest in the people around them, Charlie and Shannon come alongside local Italian church planters to further the spread of the gospel. Partnering local church planters with US groups, they have seen the gospel pierce the hearts of many Italians.

By immersing themselves fully in Italian culture, the Worthys have made connections on a deep, personal level. As they live life as an American-Italian family in Italy, the Worthy family is pushing back the darkness and bringing the hope of the gospel.

PRAY that the Worthys will continue to build strong relationships in Italy.

PRAY that many Italians will come to faith in Christ as a result of the Worthys' witness.

PRAY that new Italian believers will gather into churches to reach the people of Italy with the gospel.



DAY 7 • Saturday, December 5

UNREACHED PEOPLE GROUP FROM SOUTH ASIA

For 20 years, the International Mission Board (IMB) fought to maintain a gospel presence among the Khaleela, a Muslim people group in South Asia.

After years of setbacks, Luciano and Sofia Serrano, a Christian couple from Brazil, moved to the region. The Serranos partner with Ralph and Lovie Adair, IMB workers who live in a neighboring area. Through the Serranos' witness, a woman from the Khaleela decided to follow Christ and is now being discipled by Sofia and two South Asian Christians.

The Adairs mobilize local Christians interested in serving among the Khaleela, provide ministry training for sharing the gospel with Muslims, and seek out prayer support for their ministry efforts.

"Make no mistake, the Spirit of Christ has always left Himself a witness among the Khaleela, even if we haven't seen it. But the time has come and is coming when bold national partners rise up to be committed to getting the gospel in a sustained way to the Khaleela."

—RALPH ADAIR, IMB WORKER

PRAY local Christians would be bold in sharing the gospel with the Khaleela.

ASK for discernment for the Adairs and the Serranos as they share the gospel and train local Christians.

PRAY the Lord would send more Christian workers to partner with the Serranos and Adairs.



DAY 8 • Sunday, December 6

YOUR GENEROSITY TRANSFORMS LIVES

Every day is appropriate to say thank you to Southern Baptists who give generously so that the gospel spreads to all nations. But in this season of giving, showing appreciation seems especially meaningful.

International Mission Board missionary Reid Karr, serving in Rome, Italy, offers his thanks. "I would like to take this occasion to thank our many faithful Southern Baptists who continue to give faithfully to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. You will never know the full extent to which your generosity is having [an impact] on the kingdom of God in many places around the world."

"We cannot adequately express our thankfulness for the support we receive through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. This year, because of your generosity, we were able to build relationships with national partners, share the gospel, teach the Bible, and even begin a new church!"

—DAVID AND SARAH MCNEILL

From Japan, missionaries Daniel and Tara Rice add their thanks. "The Tokyo Olympics have been postponed due to the current global health crisis. We see this postponement as a blessing and an opportunity given to us by the Lord. Thank you for your continued prayer and support."

PRAISE GOD for the continued work of Southern Baptists who have remained committed to reaching the lost for more than 175 years.

ASK GOD to send more individuals and churches who will be committed to the vision of reaching all nations and all peoples with the gospel.

THANK GOD for sustaining the work of missionaries through all circumstances, including the most recent global pandemic.

MISSIONS PROJECTS

LOCAL/ONGOING

Begin Anew
Renee Mathis

Dodson Elementary
Nancy Andrews & Eric Boswell

Human Trafficking Ministry Team
Dan Wilson

In His Grip
Joey Hickman

Let's Learn English Together (ESL)
Carmen McCreary

Pregnancy Care Center
Desha Hearn

*For more information about TGBC's
missions projects, contact the
church office.*



By Janet Konig

Operation Christmas Child went well this year. With many uncertainties all around us this year, the one constant is the love in the hearts of TGBC members for this mission outreach.

Approximately 200 boxes were filled with lots of love for kids all over the world. Way to go Tulip Grove! May blessings return to you in abundance.

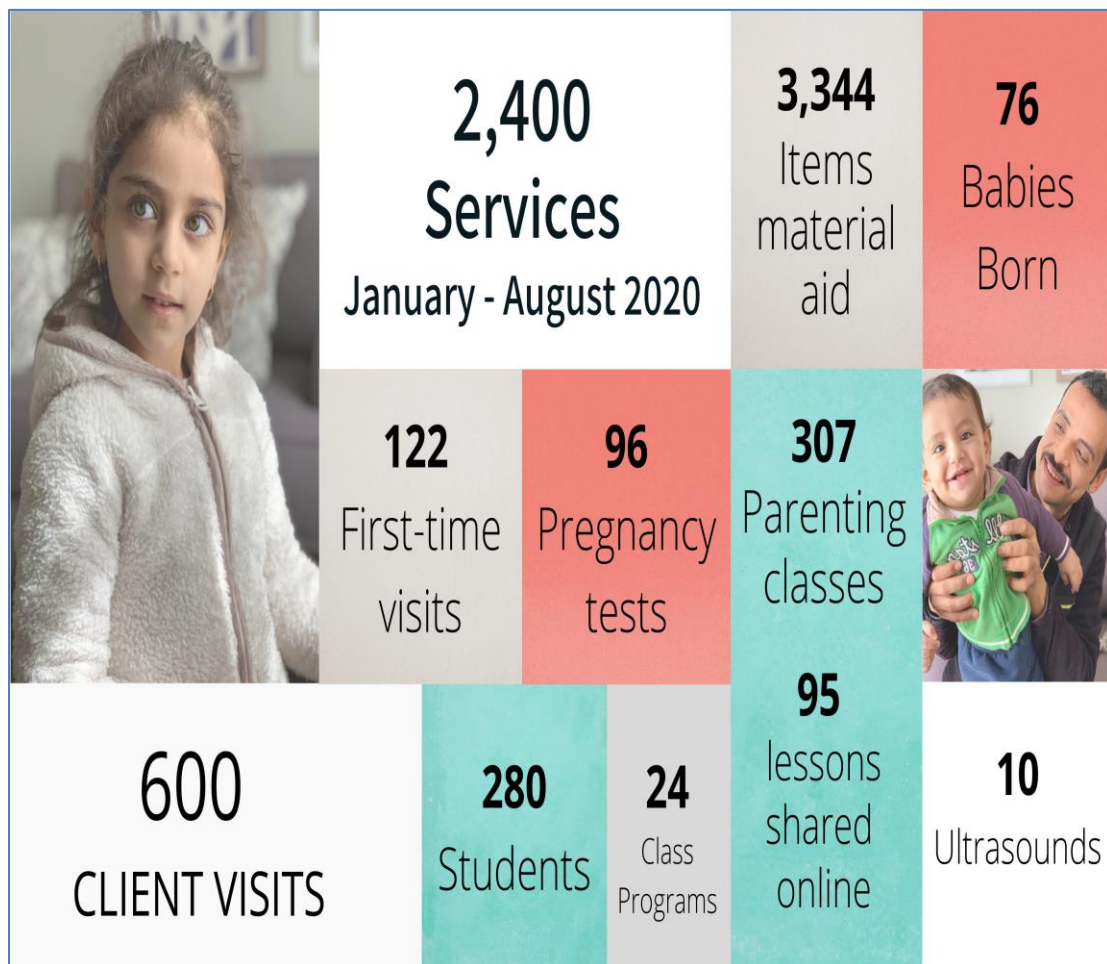
Pregnancy Care Center

By Desha Hearn

The Pregnancy Care Center wishes to thank everyone who watched, shared, and donated during their recent **LifeStream Virtual Fundraiser**. If you have not had a chance to view the informative and moving program, there is still time to do so! The video will be available through the end of the year by going to

www.PregnancyCareCenterTN.com/LifeStream.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the PCC has remained open to serve individuals facing life altering decisions and to help families in need of parenting and material support. The ministry continues to see lives saved and lives changed by God's grace and through the faithfulness of the staff, volunteers, and many financial partners.



Homebound Ministry

By Charlotte Maynard

Please come join us **Nov. 22 at 5 pm in Room 100** and learn how to be a blessing to our members who are homebound. (Cards and stamps are provided.) It is a great opportunity to reach out and bring some joy to others and share the love of Jesus through cards and phone calls. During this time of COVID most of our homebound are not allowed to receive visits, so these cards and phone calls are SO VERY IMPORTANT to keep their spirits up.

Let's Learn English Together

By Carmen McCreary

Have you had the heart to teach English to just one or two people? What about sharing your faith through the English language? You could meet the need of a newcomer to the United States by helping them just to learn English. Our classes have always been in person until recently, and like most activities, yes, we have gone virtual!

About a year ago we switched our curriculum from Side by Side to **Future: English for Results** by Pearson. It has an online virtual component to have homework assignments and exams on a platform called MyEnglishLab. **TGBC, you made this possible.** We are thankful for the monetary funding that helps cover some of the students' book needs and has made this online platform a reality. Teachers are able to see progress, assign homework and tests, and most importantly spend less time grading and more time speaking and sharing our lives as well as our faith with our students.

We still meet on Wednesday nights with two classes and now have four virtual classes. We like to keep the virtual classes at a maximum of 3-4 students. They are small, but now we have more genuine care and time in helping each student excel at their best. If you are unable to meet in person but would love to teach or assist in a virtual class we would love to have you!

For 2021, we need you. **We need teachers, helpers, and volunteers.** ESL Tulip Grove is ready to grow, and you can be a part of helping the peoples of the world in your backyard or California. Yes, we now have students in California, so if you have a contact in another city, they can be a part of ESL Tulip Grove as well. **Contact Carmen McCreary for more information.**

carmen@esltulipgrove.org

Craft Ministry

By Charlotte Maynard

Our ladies are excited to have a new ministry called **Martha's Song** located in Springfield. This ministry is eager to receive from us all sizes of hats, scarves, and lap blankets to be given to those in need.

Room In The Inn downtown has also asked if we could make hats for the men they serve. They have a few women but mostly men. We are always looking for new opportunities to help others with our hand crafted "treasures".

Our ladies have also been working diligently on purple-violet-lavender-lilac colored baby caps/hats for the **Veterans program** that provides information to their moms about the **Period of Purple Crying**. This group works toward the education of shaken baby syndrome and efforts to cease this from happening. These purple baby hats are added to the resource packets that are mailed out.

We would love to have you join us on the third Monday of each month. If you don't know how to knit or crochet, we can teach you.

We have had several yarn donations for which we are VERY thankful!



During fall break Carmen hosted a dinner for our students. Jessica Gant and Janice LaRoy provided an American chili dinner and spent time learning new words and speaking English. Rosario and Bety learned to make banana pudding!



The women on TGBC's WMU Leadership Team focused on unity at Lifeway's "One" conference Nov. 12-13.



Donna Davis, Charlotte Maynard, Renee Mathis, Linda Sharp

"...that they may all be ONE; just as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me."
John 17:21 (NASB)



Women on Mission Sisters

By Renee Mathis

Our WoM Sisters meetings have continued to be a challenge due to COVID-19. Our first meeting of the new church year was delayed to Tuesday, Oct. 6, at Renee Mathis' house. The focus was **Childhood Cancer Awareness** as our speaker, Errica Johnson, shared about her experience with her now college-age daughter surviving childhood cancer in middle school. She also helped us make 'welcome back' bracelets to welcome our ladies back to WoM Sisters.

Lani Bruce and Renee Mathis had a cookie decorating project with the ladies at **Rest Stop Ministries** Saturday, Nov. 7. The RSM ladies are always SO appreciative when we go as the hands and feet of Christ to build relationships and share His love with them.

Our December meeting is **Tuesday, Dec. 1, 6:30-8PM** in the youth basement at church. **IMB Missionary Shannon Worthy** will be our guest speaker and will share about her work with the women in Italy. Our project will be purchasing an item or animal in the Send Relief Christmas catalog (formerly Baptist Global Relief).

In January, Janet Konig plans to host WoM Sisters at her house and give us an update on **Room in the Inn** since our church was not able to have RITI guests this fall and winter. We will be collecting items for RITI.

In February, Nancy Andrews is coordinating a 'field trip' for a mission project at **Project C.U.R.E.** in Nashville.

Women on Mission is for all women 18 and up. **Join us the first Tuesday night each month 6:30-8pm** as WoM Sisters create multigenerational bonds where doing life together for His kingdom is our desire as we live out His mission!

Women on Mission Daughters of the King

By Charlotte Maynard

WoM Daughters of the King had their first meeting for this church year Monday, Oct. 12, with guest speaker Dr. April Jones, author of *No Mess No Message: Finding Strength in Struggle and Purpose in Pain*. The focus of the meeting was **Childhood Cancer Awareness** as April shared about her son Tyler who had his leg amputated when he was two years old due to a cancerous tumor. He is now a thriving 20-year-old athlete at MTSU with his own speaking engagements. Our WoM also made "welcome back" bracelets to welcome them back to the new church year.

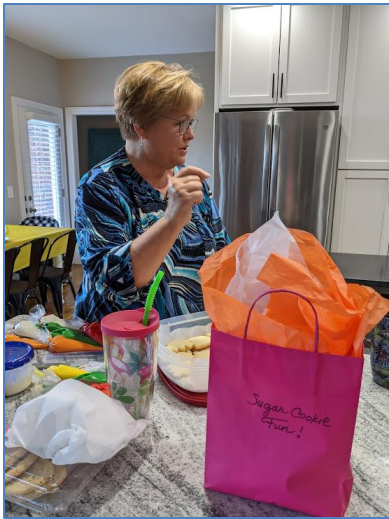
At our Nov. 9 meeting, we heard **IMB Missionary Shannon Worthy** speak about her ministry to the women in Italy.

We are always looking for more ladies who have a heart for missions to become a part of Women On Mission. We would love to have you come to our **December meeting Monday, Dec. 14, at 10am in the sanctuary**. Hope to see you then.

Women's Ministry

By Renee Mathis

TGBC's Women's Ministry coordinates **Theology Night** for women and the **Ladies Prayer Time**. They had a bonfire and time of sharing at Hannah Clark's house Oct. 23 and have led a Ladies Prayer Time on a Saturday each month since August to pray together for our church and staff. Watch the announcements for prayer dates.



Lani Bruce led a cookie decorating mission project for WoM Sisters at Rest Stop Ministries.



Mission Friends

By Linda Sharp

Mission Friends is blessed to be led by **Kathy Burgess** and **Jane Scott** this year. **Scotty Scott** also offers his assistance with our ESL children who attend Mission Friends. **Kay Whalen** has graciously subbed for us as well.

In September, Mission Friends learned about **missionary Kay Bennett from New Orleans**. Kay is the director at Baptist Friendship House. She is also the Christian Women's Job Corps site coordinator and WorldCrafts leader at Baptist Friendship House.

In October we learned about **Special Workers in Asia**. We had a really fun night learning about elephants from that region as well. We also **packed Christmas backpacks for TBMB** during October. Kathy, Jane, and Linda Sharp delivered them to the Missions Mobilization Center in Mt. Juliet, along with backpacks filled by our RAs and GAs. We donated 18 backpacks in all.

In November, we learned about **missionaries Roy and Cassandra Garza in California**. We also spent time praising God for our beautiful Fall season and thanking Him for our many blessings.

December will be a short month for Mission Friends. We will **celebrate Christ's birth** during this time.

In January we will learn about **Steven Sun** who is serving Living Water Chinese Baptist Church in Washington State.

February will find us learning about scripture accessibility featuring **Tom Ferguson, an ethnomusicologist serving in Africa**. It will be fun to learn such a big word and to learn what it means and how Mr. Ferguson uses his talent to tell others about Jesus!

Girls in Action (GAs)

By The GA Team: Robbie Boswell, Isabel Britton, Donna Davis, Kathy Wantland

The **GAs packed five backpacks for disadvantaged** children for Christmas. Thanks to all the girls who brought in supplies to put into the backpacks. They were stuffed! The girls also brought **food for the Tulip Grove food closet**.

During our study about **Friendship House in New Orleans, Louisiana** we got to enjoy beignets and snow cones. Thanks Pastor Eric for the treats.

December 9 we will be doing a **Mission Study for International Missions**. We will learn more about **Lottie Moon** and missions in **Mexico City**. We will also be enjoying a meal with foods from Mexico.

A very special thank you to Bro. Phil for making the CD of the GA song for our class. We are learning the song and enjoying putting missions to music.

Our focus in January is **Church Planting in Washington State (John and Xue Bai)**. Our focus in February is **Heart Languages of Sub-Saharan Africa (Tom and Tina Ferguson)**. Please help us pray for these missionaries.

Girls in Action are unstoppable!

CHILDREN'S
MISSIONS
DAY™ 2021

Saturday, February 13, 2021



The Missions Get-Together & Connection will be a virtual event. Watch for details to participate in small groups.

2020 Missions Offerings

Annie Armstrong Easter Offering
for North American Missions
Church Offering: \$11,006

Mother's Day Offering
for TN Baptist Children's Homes
Church Offering: \$2,770

Father's Day Offering
for TN Baptist Adult Homes
Church Offering: \$3,511

Golden Offering for
Tennessee Missions
Church Offering: \$6,884

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
for International Missions
National Goal: \$175 Million
Our Church Goal: \$40,000



563 Shute Lane
Old Hickory, TN 37138

2020-2021 Missions Leadership

- **Senior Pastor:**
Dr. Gerald Bontrager
- **WMU & WoM Sisters Coordinator, Missions Newsletter Editor:**
Renee Mathis
- **WoM Daughters of the King Coordinator:**
Charlotte Maynard
- **Mission Friends Coordinator:**
Linda Sharp
- **Girls in Action Coordinator:**
Donna Davis
- **Royal Ambassador Coordinator:**
Ryan Hayes
- **Youth on Mission Coordinator:**
Phil Lundy
- **Women’s Ministry Co-coordinators:**
Hallie Gipson
Hannah Clark
- **Men’s Ministry Coordinator:**
Ryan Hayes

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dec		
11/29-12/6	Week of Prayer for International Missions and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering	
1	WoM Sisters Meeting	6:30-8pm, Youth Basement
6	IMB Missionary Speakers: Charlie and Shannon Worthy	TGBC Sanctuary
14	WoM Daughters of the King Meeting	10am, TGBC Sanctuary
21	Craft Ministry	10am–2pm, Room 223
Jan		
5	WoM Sisters Meeting	6:30-8pm, Janet Konig’s house
11	WoM Daughters of the King Meeting	10am, TGBC Sanctuary
18	Craft Ministry	10am–2pm, Room 223
Feb		
2	WoM Sisters Meeting	6:30-8pm, Project C.U.R.E
8	WoM Daughters of the King Meeting	10am, TGBC Sanctuary
8-14	WMU Focus Week	
13	Children’s Ministry Day	
15	Craft Ministry	10am–2pm, Room 223