

HEART for the KINGDOM

TGBC Missions Newsletter



TULIP GROVE
BAPTIST CHURCH

Tulip Grove Baptist Church, 563 Shute Lane, Old Hickory, TN 37138
www.tgbc.org 615.883.1856

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Spring 2021

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"Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the Lord's work, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain."
1 Corinthians 15:58

The Mission Moves Forward

North America is a mission field of complex cultures and diverse religious practices. Missionaries here face challenges from secularism to language barriers to a historic health crisis. Yet, in spite of the obstacles, God's mission always moves forward. Your partnership helps make it possible.

Being a missionary is never easy. Whenever Christians answer the call to go to the mission field, they expect to encounter challenges, but no one could have planned for a global pandemic that would bring the world grinding to a halt. Our missionaries have displayed courage and vision to persist and even thrive in the midst of great challenges.

The Week of Prayer for North American Missions is March 7-13. Look for your AAEO prayer guide on pages 2-3 in this newsletter. Give your Annie Armstrong Easter Offering online through TGBC's web site or specify AAEO on your offering envelope or check and place it in the offering boxes at church. **Our church goal is \$16,000.** With your support, thousands of missionaries are resourced to serve unreached communities and make an eternal impact.

REVENUE

The North American Mission Board is supported through three main sources:

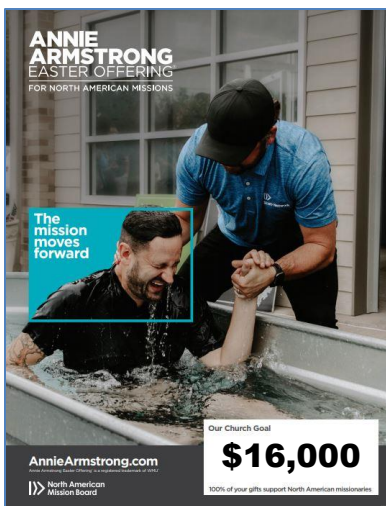
- Annie Armstrong Easter Offering 50%
- Cooperative Program 35%
- Other Revenue Sources 15%

ALLOCATIONS

Annie Armstrong Easter Offering 2018-2019

Total Gifts: \$61,600,104

- Missionary Mobilization 53%
- Church Planting 39%
- Evangelism 8%





SHAHID & MAROOFA
KAMAL
DELTA, BRITISH COLUMBIA

Sharing a Living God

Shahid Kamal's God is a living God—One who answers prayer. Shahid and his wife, Maroofa, spend their lives introducing Him to the more than 300,000 South Asians who call the Greater Vancouver area home.

"Hindus have many visible gods, and Sikhs have many gurus," said Shahid, who planted South Asian Community Church in Surrey, part of metro Vancouver. "In the midst of this complex situation, we are trying to help them to know, believe and receive Jesus Christ."

And over and over again, the Kamals see that transformation happens through prayer.

"Our prayer ministry is one of the successful connecting points," Shahid said. "Many came to our church for the very first time for prayer. They have specific prayer requests. And, praise God, God answered them and showed them that He's a living God."

PRAY

For the church's prayer ministry to continue to open doors for the gospel.

For South Asians in Surrey to be drawn toward Jesus.



RYAN & TRICIA
MCCAMMACK
AVONDALE ESTATES, GEORGIA

Loving a Diverse Community

DeKalb County, Georgia is a picture of diversity—and vast need.

There's a beautiful array of cultures but also brokenness. Many homes don't have dads in them. The abortion rate is high. There's division from racial and socioeconomic tensions.

When Ryan and Tricia moved their family to Atlanta to plant Gospel Hope Church, they wanted the congregation to reflect the multicultural community. To do that, Ryan worked with a diverse team of people who shared this vision.

But diversity isn't the ultimate goal, disciple making is. "The mission is to help those we come in contact with to take their next spiritual step and to be a church that loves all kinds of people, and let God bring all kinds of people."

"We believe the gospel brings hope to be reconciled to each other and to God," Ryan said.

PRAY

For the McCammacks to reach the diverse communities in their area.

For church members to display Christ's reconciling love.



VICTOR & LUDMILA
MOURA
SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS

Finding Identity in Christ

Victor and Ludmila Moura were comfortable in Brazil. He was a pastor of a growing church, and she was a government lawyer doing well in her career. Over time, though, they felt God leading them in an unexpected direction—to plant a church for Brazilians in Boston, home to one of the largest immigrant populations in the U.S.

Their goal is for the new church, with services in both Portuguese and English, to be a place where those struggling to find their identity can find it in Christ.

Identity issues are a complex problem, especially among second- and third-generation Brazilians who feel they don't fit anywhere, Victor said. But the church's most powerful strategy is a simple one—community. Missional house groups are their greatest outreach opportunity.

"The Millennials, they hate superficial stuff," he said. "I think the most effective strategy to reach them is being a friend."

PRAY

For Victor and Ludmila to successfully reach young Brazilians.

For new believers to grow into strong leaders.



ANDERS & JESSICA
SNYDER
NAMPA, IDAHO

A New Start for a Dying Church

Moving from Denver to a small town they had never heard of in Idaho was not in Anders' and Jessica's plans. But it fit where they felt the Holy Spirit was guiding them—to help a dying church come back to life and reach its community.

In 2018, they launched the replant of Calvary Church Nampa. The neighborhoods around the once-vibrant church are now aging and declining with a mix of Anglo and Hispanic residents. Drugs are a big problem—so are poverty and depression.

With a strategic outreach to get to know and serve their neighbors, the Snyders are seeing God move. More than 100 are now worshipping and growing in faith together.

"We're reclaiming ground that was already once won for the kingdom. It tells the story of a resurrected Christ in that the church can come back from the dead," Anders said.

PRAY

For the Snyders to have wisdom in how best to serve and reach their community.

For neighbors to be drawn to the hope of the gospel.



DAY 5

JOSHUA VALDEZ
FARMINGTON, NEW MEXICO

A Light in Darkness

Joshua Valdez says his city is a place of emotional and spiritual darkness. It's a melting pot of culture and religion. Its residents are mostly Hispanic and Navajo, and the Navajo are very much "a forgotten people," said Joshua, who also has both heritages.

The people have one common struggle—they often battle feelings of despair or worthlessness. He observes that as a church planter and at his job as an intervention specialist at a local high school.

"I see the hopelessness of the youth," he said. "Most of them are coming from really rough situations."

But many have grown to trust Joshua and visit his church plant, Higher Ground Church. During youth group gatherings there, he intentionally teaches the Bible verse by verse. Many are hearing it for the first time, and it's changing their lives.

PRAY

For more students to join Joshua's Bible studies.

For the members of Higher Ground Church to be a light to their community.



DAY 6

BOBBY & LAKEISHA WILLIAMS
SLIDELL, LOUISIANA

Picking Up the Pieces

Bobby and LaKeisha Williams have a simple goal—to meet the deep need of New Orleans with the even deeper love of Christ.

In the city, some buildings are still boarded up from Hurricane Katrina in 2005. The area around the Williamses' church plant is predominantly African American and low-income. "A lot of what we strive to do is provide resources," Bobby said. "We try to educate people spiritually, financially, intellectually, you name it."

That's how their church—Next Level Church—got its name. They want to see people take their life to the next level starting right where they are. The church provides its neighbors with multiple forms of assistance from health fairs to meal distribution, all with the goal of creating community and leading them to Jesus.

"Despite the challenges we've been able to make an impact, and we want to do even more," Bobby said.

PRAY

For Bobby and LaKeisha to persevere in ministry.

For the church's compassion ministries to open doors to share the gospel.



DAY 7

JACOB & FRANCINE ZAILIAN
SANGER, CALIFORNIA

Reaching the "Lost Cause"

Jacob knows the homeless, drug addicts and gang members of Sanger. He used to live among them before he went to jail and met Jesus there.

Now he and his wife, Francine, are reaching those who "would scare people who go to most churches," Jacob said. Through Set Free Church, they take the gospel to the streets to reach the people others might see as a "lost cause."

Church members distribute food, hot meals and hygiene supplies several times a week along with an invitation to worship and Bible study. Their acts of compassion are growing the church and changing lives. Jacob also connects addicts with Biblically based recovery centers and continues their spiritual growth through Set Free Church's discipleship house.

All of it, Jacob said, "is God"—God gave him a heart to help those without hope "because I was there once myself."

PRAY

For God to transform hearts in Sanger with the gospel.

For resources to maintain and expand the discipleship house ministry.

DAY 8

Steadfast On Mission

Kevin Ezell, NAMB President

Being a missionary is never easy. Whenever Christians answer the call to go to the mission field, they expect to encounter challenges, but no one could have planned for a global pandemic that would bring the world grinding to a halt.

Even so, I'm grateful to say that Southern Baptist missionaries have continued to see the mission move forward. By the grace and power of God, they did not stop when the pandemic restrictions went into place.

They changed course, innovated and discovered ways to continue sharing the gospel and making disciples. When needs in local communities arose, these missionaries stepped up to bring material help and eternal hope.

As these missionaries continue to reach North America for Christ, we pray that the coronavirus pandemic has opened doors for ministry that may have never opened without such a major crisis.

Our missionaries have displayed courage and vision to persist and even thrive in the midst of great challenges.

PRAY

That times of crisis have opened new doors to the gospel.

That they, and we, would not grow weary in sharing the gospel.

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.

Here is our Intro Level B class.
I promise they were excited as I
was as we learned about food!



Pregnancy Care Center

By Lisa Cathcart, PCC Executive Director

As we reflect on 2020, a year of unprecedented challenges worldwide, at the Pregnancy Care Center (PCC) we realize that we have so much to be thankful for. First and foremost, we are thankful for our Lord who has guided us and enabled us to redeem the challenges of 2020 turning them into amazing opportunities to further the life-saving work of the PCC. We are thankful for the opportunity to minister to hundreds of individuals in desperate need of compassion, hope, and help. We are thankful for the women, men, and children who have allowed us to walk alongside them sharing words of truth and bringing the hope of Christ into desperate situations. We are thankful for the many lives that have been saved, and the lives changed for eternity by God's grace through the work of the PCC.

We are also incredibly thankful for you and your faithful commitment over these past 12 years for your partnership in helping ensure the great hope we have in Christ is proclaimed to our community through the work of the PCC.

We know God is working to save lives, reconcile families, and give abundant life. We are honored to be a part of that work alongside our ministry partners at TGBC!

Let's Learn English Together

By Carmen McCreary

The world has been interesting and so has our world of teaching. Since January, we have brought all of our ESL students online through Zoom and require participation as well as weekly assignments through our English portal called MyEnglishLab. We have inquired about other successful programs, such as Begin Anew, which has 4-hour classes each week, and we have extended ours back to 2-hour classes. We do currently offer higher-level classes than Begin Anew in our area, so we do have an edge in our program. We no longer can just learn a language in just an hour a week. The 2-hour classes being online have helped our students concentrate better and log in to their class on time better than in-person classes.

Currently, we have seven classes with 15 weekly students and 22 enrolled. We are using The Story of Hope by Good Soil as a devotional before each class, and we have an active community on Facebook through our private group. Learning a language is all about relationships and caring about our students as they settle here in our country, and Facebook has made this connection possible with our students through the pandemic.

We want to grow and continue offering classes that motivate our students. We are starting to call our program an "Accelerated Program," where we can finish an entire level in 15 classes. After Level 2, we are encouraging our students to take their HiSET exam through Begin Anew if they do not have their high school diploma, but we need more teachers! You don't need to know Spanish or Arabic, we just need your heart to teach from the comfort of your home.

We are having two informative one-hour sessions called "What is ESL?" on Monday, March 1, and Wednesday, March 3, at 7pm. Check out our Facebook group facebook.com/esltulipgrove to join the event. If you can't meet at that time via Zoom, contact Carmen (carmen@esltulipgrove.org) for a one-on-one chat at a different time.

Homebound Ministry

By Charlotte Maynard

We welcome Amelia Green - our newest Homebound Team Member. Thanks Amelia for joining us in this great ministry. The Homebound need you!

Our Team did not meet in person in December due to COVID-19 and the previous meeting being attended by so few people. Our Homebound Team members are still hard at work, however, calling and sending cards to those members at home and at senior living facilities. Visits are not allowed in most places, but praise The Lord we can still show we have care, love, and concern when we call and send cards.

A special thanks to Barbara Helton who sends our updated email every other month. She's our "techy" person!

Thanks, team, for all you do to brighten the days of those at home alone! Keep up the GREAT work!

Craft Ministry

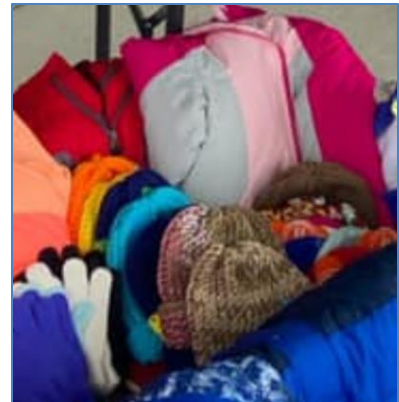
By Charlotte Maynard

We were so very blessed this past month with an anonymous \$200 donation. We were able to purchase 45 skeins of yarn in a wide variety of colors to be used to make hats, blankets, and scarves. A BIG thank you for that! We all signed a thank you card and left it at the office to be given to our donor. Another surprise donation of \$100 came from Jubilee Hills thanking us for the hats we delivered to them. After sending a thank you note to them, it was decided that the money should be used to purchase supplies for our group's "sewing ladies" such as cloth, binding, thread, and so forth for their various non-crocheting/knitting projects. Still another donation just in, 14 skeins of yarn along with a yarn keeper from one of our young moms.

This past month we were able to donate baby blankets to Pregnancy Care Center and Tulip Grove's Mother's Day Out for new moms, kids' hats for a Jubilee Hills Assisted Living event, kids' and adult hats to Mending Hearts, adult hats to all the residents at Jubilee Hills, and hats to the Veterans Hospital downtown. Darlene and Irma delivered men's and women's hats to Home Street Ministries and the TN Prison Ministry. Gwen delivered lap blankets and soft hats to Sarah Cannon Cancer Center. God continues to open doors for us to serve the community, and for that we are VERY thankful.

This past month we were blessed with a donation of lots of baby blankets plus other soft blankets that can be made into lap blankets and scarves. God is moving, and we are excited to be His hands and feet!

We were excited to have Carole Flood join us this past month. Darlene, our glorious teacher, showed her how to loom hats and now she is on a roll. We would love to have YOU come join us if you feel God is leading you to craft along with us. It's a wonderful group dedicated to serving the Lord!



Women on Mission Sisters

By Renee Mathis

WoM Sisters have continued to meet monthly either virtually using Zoom or in the youth basement to facilitate social distancing due to COVID-19.

In December we met in the youth basement with IMB Missionary Shannon Worthy who shared about her missionary work in Italy. For our mission project, we collected \$200 to provide 20 "A Safe Place for a Day" gifts in the Send Relief Gift Catalog to fight human trafficking by offering a protected location with physical, emotional and spiritual care to aid restoration.

Our January meeting was virtual using Zoom with Janet Konig giving us an update on Room in the Inn since our church was not able to have RITI guests this fall and winter. Our mission project provided a "Welcome Home" basket for a graduate of their program to help them live independently in an apartment.

Our February meeting was once again virtual on Zoom with Nancy Andrews sharing about her experience with Project C.U.R.E. in Nashville. This is one of the largest organizations in the world providing medical care and supplies to those in need. For our mission project, individual donations were made to Kits for Kids to provide personal hygiene and basic "medicine cabinet" items to children that are scarce in the developing world.

Mary Lamons is planning our March meeting in the youth basement with a guest speaker from The Next Door ministry. Jennifer Wallace and Linda Wolden are planning our April meeting with former IMB missionary Heather McAfee. In May we will wrap up our monthly meetings and plan a summer mission project that focuses on the women in our church.

Women on Mission is for all women 18 and up. Join WoM Sisters the first Tuesday night each month 6:30-8pm as we 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

Shannon Worthy was our guest speaker in November. She and her family are IMB missionaries and so dedicated and excited about the Lord's work. It was wonderful to hear her story and to get on board praying for them as they are stateside for now. We welcomed Karen and Olivia Sepulveda who visited with us.

A group of 16 met in December in the auditorium with social distancing. We welcomed Carol Flood, Jessica Crutchfield, and Phyllis McElhiney as our visitors. We were blessed to hear our guest speaker, Fran Hoogestraat, from the Life Recovery Center and to learn how God has been using her through the years to bless this wonderful group of men downtown. Her story is a fantastic one of how God can use women in His Kingdom. Her enthusiasm is overwhelming and contagious. Phyllis is a part of this ministry. Be sure to ask her to tell you about it.

A Gideon Bible donation was made in honor of Ms. Elise Reynolds who passed away. She was a faithful member of WoM for many years. She will be dearly missed!

Pat Malone spoke at our February meeting. She shared about the long-running NBA Toy Store which takes place every year around Christmas at Hope Baptist Church. There are so many families with young moms and children that benefit from this ministry. We pray that the Toy Store will be open in 2021 since it did not happen last year due to COVID-19. If it is, we will have many WoM volunteers to help in December.

We welcome Kathy Wantland among our group of 11 that met in February. We are so glad she could join us, and she plans to be back again. We would love to have YOU join us also.



VIRTUAL
GET-TOGETHER
& CONNECTION

March 20, 2021

8:30 AM - 2:30 PM (CST)



The Missions Get-Together & Connection for women and teenage girls grades 7-12 that is held in Gatlinburg each spring is virtual this year due to COVID-19. **TGBC is hosting it in the youth basement Saturday, March 20, 8am-2:30pm so that we can participate in the conference as a group.**

The conference includes:

- 3 Worship Sessions
- 3 Breakout Sessions (up to 10 sessions each)
- Missions Fair
- Silent Auction

Breakout sessions will be held in the classrooms downstairs. Individual breakfast and lunch items will be provided.

Registration fees are covered by our WMU budget, but you must contact Renee Mathis to sign up.

<https://www.tnbaptist.org/gtcon2021>

Girls in Action (GAs) and Royal Ambassadors (RAs)

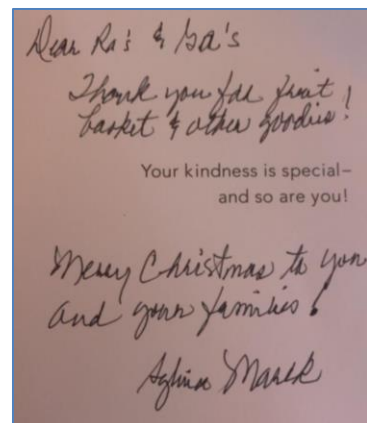
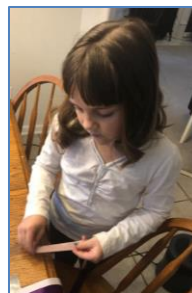
By The GA Team: Robbie Boswell, Isabel Britton, Donna Davis, Kathy Wantland

In December the GAs and RAs gathered for the International Mission Study. We studied about missionaries in Mexico City and the need for Jesus. They also studied about Lottie Moon. We had a Mexican dinner with a very special dessert made by Isabel Britton. She made flan for us. YUM. Of course, to end the study, we had a piñata. It was a night of fun and learning.

COVID-19 has tried to stop us from having GAs, but with the US Mail and a tank of gas we have managed to share a few lessons. The girls have read up on Missions in Africa and have crafts they can make at home.

Hopefully we get to start back with regular times soon. We are looking forward to Children's Mission Day so we can do a mission project together. This had to be moved due to COVID-19 and snow. Coming soon is North American Mission Study, church planting in New York and medical missions in Ghana.

Let's be unstoppable in sharing Jesus in and around our community!



Mission Friends

By Linda Sharp

December was a short month for us. Our focus was celebrating the birth of Jesus.

We did not meet during the month of January. However, our preschoolers received missions bags full of activities to do at home. Our focus was on missionaries from China who lead a church plant in Washington. Members of this church are immigrants from China, Taiwan and Malaysia. The church is focusing on training leaders who have a desire to serve the Lord.

We are excited to begin in person lessons again mid-February. We will be learning about missionaries from South Africa who work diligently to provide Bible stories in the heart languages of their country. A heart language is the first language a person learns as a child. These missionaries love to use their cultures music, dance, art and drama to tell Bible stories.

In March we will learn about missionaries serving in New York City as church planters. In April we will learn about missionaries serving in Ghana through media and healthcare. In May we will learn about a missionary serving in Georgia through the Baptist Collegiate Ministry.

Mission Friends do not meet during the months of June and July. We will resume our classes again during the month of August.

2020 Missions Offerings

Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American Missions
Church Offering: \$15,006

Mother's Day Offering for TN Baptist Children's Homes
Church Offering: \$5,280

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

Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions
Church Offering: \$8,144

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions
Church Offering: \$49,275



TULIP GROVE
BAPTIST CHURCH

563 Shute Lane
Old Hickory, TN 37138

2020-2021 Missions Leadership

Senior Pastor:

Dr. Gerald Bontrager

WMU Coordinator,

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mar		
2	WoM Sisters Meeting	6:30-8pm, Youth Basement
8	WoM Daughters of the King Meeting	10am, Sanctuary
7-13	Week of Prayer for North American Missions and Annie Armstrong Easter Offering	
15	Craft Ministry	10am-2pm, Room 223
20	Virtual Missions Get-Together & Connection	8am-2:30pm, Youth Basement and downstairs classrooms
Apr		
6	WoM Sisters Meeting	6:30-8pm, TBD
12	WoM Daughters of the King Meeting	10am, Sanctuary
19	Craft Ministry	10am-2pm, Room 223
May		
4	WoM Sisters Meeting	6:30-8pm, Five Oaks CC
9	Mother's Day Offering for TN Baptist Children's Homes	
10	WoM Daughters of the King Meeting	10am, Sanctuary
17	Craft Ministry	10am-2pm, Room 223
June		
20	Father's Day Offering for TN Baptist Adult Homes	