

PARTNERS IN MISSION

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Kenya Partnership</i>	2
<i>Team Leader Training</i>	2
<i>South Texas Flooding</i>	3
<i>Missions FORUM</i>	3
<i>Dr. Hunt Conference</i>	4
<i>Cote d'Ivoire Partnership</i>	5
<i>Mission is a Journey</i>	6

Special points of interest:

- Prepare for disasters
- T-shirts available
- School supplies for Mexico
- Lon Morris College
- Mission FORUM flyer



HAITI— PIM ORGANIZING TEAMS

Working with the UMMV Haiti office, Partners In Mission is rapidly qualifying team leaders for Haiti. Each team leader must have previous experience in Haiti and have recently completed Team Leader Training before the Volunteer Coordinator for Haiti, Susan Meister, will schedule a team.

So far two teams from our Conference have served in Haiti. Each team member committed to lead a team from their own church or district in the next few months.

Teams serve 7 days and are made up of 5-10 people with a qualified team leader. The UMMV Haiti

office schedules all teams and will make site assignments so each project will be completed before moving to the next project.

If you want to join a team, the PIM office will connect you to a scheduled team. If you qualify as a team leader, Susan Meister will schedule your team. PIM will donate a portion of the project costs if you work through the UMMV Haiti structure. Scheduled now



are two additional TAC teams. In late January Kathie Mann will return with a team followed by Eddie Hilliard from Memorial Drive .

If you are interested in being on a team or becoming a team leader, contact

Kathie Mann
713-521-9383

texaspim@methodists.net

Haiti needs you!



NEW DIRECTOR FOR MISSIONAL EXCELLENCE

Rev. Diane McGehee has been appointed to serve as Director for the Center of Missional Excellence. Rev. McGehee has been serving the Bellaire United Methodist Church since 2006 as pastor to the Asian-American ministries.

When asked about her vision and call to minis-

try, Rev. McGehee shared the following: "It is my firm conviction that it is the work of the Church to care for Jesus in the least of God's children by entering into relationship with a suffering world through ministries of justice, advocacy, mercy, and hands-on, holistic mission that address whole persons and communities in body,

mind, and spirit, until all share in the abundance of God's grace both in this world and the next. I understand my call as inviting and equipping the Church to do that work."

Join us in welcoming Rev. McGehee to the Conference office.

KENYA ELEVEN YEAR PARTNERSHIP

Team Leader Training

2010

Sept. 18— Wesley UMC
Beaumont, TX.

Sept. 18—Falvey
Memorial UMC
Wells, TX

Sept. 24—Cypress UMC
Deaf and hard of hearing people

Oct. 16—St.Luke’s
UMC—Houston, TX

Nov. 6—Lakewood
UMC— Houston, TX

2011

Jan.8 —Wesley UMC-
Beaumont, TX.

Jan 15—St.Luke’s
UMC-Houston, TX

Feb 26- Clear Lake
UMC

*Registration required. Call
the PIM office or go to
www.partnersinmission.org
for more information.*

Beginning in 1997 with a visit from Bill and Jerri Savuto, newly appointed GBGM missionaries to Kenya, the Texas Annual Conference (TAC) began what has proven to be a long and successful partnership involving the Maua Methodist Hospital in northern Kenya. Sending the first team over in 1999, upkeep and new construction were priority projects. Each year more teams from TAC became involved, with 5-7 teams serving most years.



Stanley Gitari and Bill Savuto

Soon other conferences were asking to be part of this ministry which increased to an average of 12 teams per year. Because of the demand and awareness of the medical, construction and AIDS ministries at Maua Methodist Hospital, Presiding Bishop Stephen Kanyaru asked Kathie Mann to be the Individual Volunteer for UMVIM in Kenya. Eight priority projects were identified and added to schedule. For 2010, 12 teams from all over the U.S. are

serving in Kenya. Mission teams from Tennessee, Oregon, North Texas Conference, Louisiana, Illinois, and Texas Annual Conference have committed to building an AIDS orphans home in a nearby village and working on the Staff housing at the hospital. Some teams have medical professionals who can conduct training for the staff and work in the hospital. Several teams will present vacation bible school to the children at the churches.



Painting the Pediatric Ward

The AIDS Orphans home ministry is one of a kind and developed specifi-



cally for this area of Kenya. The homes are a project of the community, the hospital and local church with the mission team being the final contributor. Built according

to the desires of the village elders, these simple homes give the children new hope. Each team can complete one home in a week.

In addition to work in Maua, teams are also building school rooms and kitchen facilities at St. Matthews Methodist Church on the Isiolo road, a water system at Meru Bio-intensive Farm, church building at Kwangware in the slums of Nairobi and new construction at a Nakuru Orphanage.



New water system in Meru

This long standing relationship with Methodist Church of Kenya has brought about multiple ministries that the church teams are now supporting in a variety of ways. Close relationships with the Kenyans have also developed over the years, and the teams are always delighted to return to see how their “Kenya family” is doing.

If you are interested in leading a team or joining one, contact :

Kathie Mann
texaspim@methodists.net

MISSIONS FORUM— OCTOBER 2, 2010

Lakewood UMC at 11330 Louetta Road in north Houston, will again host the Mission FORUM. The FORUM is our yearly mission conference to educate and organize missionaries within our Conference.

“Thy Kingdom Come” is this year’s theme. Each participant will be able to choose three of eight workshops. The fourth workshop will bring everyone to the Global Village to have a first hand look at the myriad of mis-

sion ministries offered through our Texas Annual Conference partnerships. Visiting missionaries, Maggie Patchett of Belize, Willie Berman of Mexico and Diane Wimberley of Bolivia will also be in the Global Village to visit and answer questions about their programs.

Partners In Mission Project Coordinators who organize and recruit for their specific ministries will have booths set up in the Global Village. They will be ready to answer questions on all

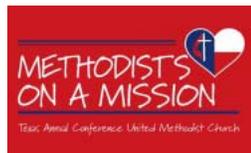
aspects of involvement. The registration flyer for the FORUM is available online through the Conference or PIM websites. Please make as many copies as needed to share with your mission committee and friends at church. Registration is needed so we can prepare correctly. Come ride a PETS or make a wooden toy! We look forward to seeing you on October 2, 2010 at Lakewood UMC.

Extensive Flooding along the Rio Grande River

has involved our Early Response Teams. Hurricane Alex was the start of the flooding but continued rains from disturbances in the Gulf of Mexico filled lakes to capacity. For several weeks, the water district released water out of these lakes which caused additional flooding. Word coming out of the Southwest Texas Conference requested food, water and ER teams. Our churches responded with two trucks of food and supplies. There will be continued need for teams to help with clean up once the flood waters go down.

Please watch the website for the Texas Annual Conference www.txcumc.org for current information.

Cook books for sale \$10 each. Four or more for \$8. Call 713-521-9383.



Individuals and teams can buy a PIM T-shirt to promote the mission ministry in their church. Also available are hats and Denim shirts with the PIM logo. Call Jan Bierwirth at 713-521-9383 to place an order.

LON MORRIS COLLEGE— MISSION SITE

Lon Morris College in Jacksonville, TX, is our United Methodist College for the Texas Annual Conference. Partners In Mission volunteer teams are supporting Lon Morris with their time, talent and supplies. Located in East Texas, the College is seeing an increase in enrollment thus needing to improve the campus facilities. The projects include painting, minor repairs, landscaping and more.

Donna Dean Hutcherson, Project Coordinator, has a list of work projects that can fit your volunteer team. Youth to Adult groups will find meaningful work here for one day or several. Teams can stay in area hotels or churches. Skill level of the team will dictate which job you will be assigned. There are places for every level of worker. After one team had completed their work, this

comment came from the college. ...”this team hit it harder than the NOMADS did. They don’t stop for anything and worked like there is no tomorrow. I am impressed.” Teams will need to work around the school schedule but can be hosted most of the year. Summer or holidays would be best. Please contact Donna Dean for more information and to schedule a team. 903-668-2249.

School Supply Collection for Mexico

These specific items are needed through the end of the year:

- Pack of 10 pencils
- 2 ball point pens
- 8 oz school glue
- 5- single subject, wide ruled notebook
- Pack of 12 colored pencils
- Pack of 16 Crayola Crayons
- Box of 8 water colors
- 1 calculator (=, -, x, /)
- 1 ruler (metric)
- 1 eraser
- 1 pencil sharpener plastic
- 1 pencil holder plastic
- 2 small glue sticks
- 1 pair of round tip school scissors

Deliver to the PIM office at 5215 Main St., Houston, Tx.

IKE RECOVERY UPDATE

With a new hurricane season well underway, our teams are still responding to Ike hurricane recovery. Work continues for the Houston/Galveston Recovery office as they strive to bring wholeness back to the families and communities along the coast. With schools now starting, families need to return home. The Recovery office is still recruiting teams to work on the remaining homes. This year 117 homes have been completed, in addition many churches have been repaired, parsonages and team housing have been renovated.

Our goal is to return all our clients to their homes, jobs and school. Families need to be in their communities bringing wholeness to the

neighborhood. Volunteer teams stay in church housing with use of the kitchen space and will be assigned work according to their skills.



Please contact Verronda to schedule a team:

832-895-6035

vflanagan@txcumc.org

To date the statistics for the Galveston area are:

Teams - 673

States - 38

Volunteers— 9,131

Days worked— 22,188

Hours worked - 194,168

Saved on Labor Costs

\$4,168,786.96

We want to express our gratitude to Angela Baker and her staff at the Beaumont office for the wonderful work and dedication to the recovery for victims of Hurricanes Rita and Ike. The Beaumont office closed this summer as they completed all their work in the eastern part of our conference.

Thank you volunteers for your dedication to the recovery!

CULTIVATING CULTURAL INTELLIGENCE –DR. HUNT

Dr. Robert Hunt, Director of Global Theological Education at Perkins School of Theology, will present four seminars to our mission volunteers on Saturday, February 12, 2011 at West Campus FUMC in Houston. The workshop topics will cover cultural awareness, exercises in becoming culturally aware, how to engage new cultures and concluding

with resources and discussion time.

Mission volunteers find themselves in places that are physically, culturally and spiritually challenging. Dr. Hunt is committed to helping our volunteers meet these concerns and process them appropriately through cross-cultural awareness. Volunteers who are sensitive and motivated to learn

about the cultures they are entering, are the most effective servants.

Please mark your calendar and save the date!

February 12, 2011

Dr. Robert Hunt
Cross culture Training

West Campus UMC
9 a.m.—3:30 p.m.

\$15 with registration includes handouts and lunch

PREPARING FOR HURRICANES

Hurricane Season began on June 1st and for those along the Gulf Coast it is past time to check our hurricane preparedness lists. We have already responded to flooding from Hurricane Alex in south Texas. TACCOR (Texas Annual Conference Committee On Relief) is encouraging each family, church, district and



the Conference to prepare now. Inter-Faith Ministries for Greater Houston offers "disaster preparedness" for local church's and families. Training can be arranged at the local

church on a weekend or week night. The cost is \$100 per church.

Contact:

Jennifer Posten
jposten@imgh.org

This is an excellent program for your family and church. Have a plan and emergency kit prepared. Be ready for hurricanes, flooding, tornadoes, fires or other calamities in 2010!

Plan -

- Know your evacuation route
- Emergency contact numbers
- Important documents
- Back up computer information on a CD
- Plan for elderly/disabled adults, children and pets
- Plan for securing your house

Prepare-

- Medicines/food/water/clothing
- Make a to do list
- Arrange for elderly/disabled adults, children and pets

Activate-

- Put plan into action and GO!

Emergency Kit

1. Map/plan evacuation route
2. List of contacts
3. Rendezvous contacts
4. Medicines and supplies for minimum of 7 days
5. Cash, check/ deposit slips
6. 3 complete sets of clothing for each family member
7. Put important documents in watertight containers.
 - Medical documents
 - Insurance—health, life, homeowners, renters, car, etc.
 - Birth Certificates, green cards, Social Security cards, custody, etc.
 - Titles— deeds, cars other properties
 - Bank/financial statements, tax return, accounts, mortgage, safe deposit box key
 - Licenses— drivers, marriage, professional papers
 - Photo's of possessions
8. Items for children/elderly/disabled/pets
9. Personal hygiene items
10. Blanket and pillow
11. Food/water/drinks
12. Cell phone, battery charger
13. Flashlight and battery operated radio

COTE D'IVOIRE TEAMS BEGIN WORK

The first team from the Texas Annual Conference to work at the Dabou Methodist hospital in Cote d'Ivoire was from Christ UMC, Sugarland. This was the first of many teams to upgrade the hospital so it can serve the people in Cote d'Ivoire to the best of its abilities.

The Dabou hospital is surrounded by a large population and to meet those needs, the Partners In Mission program is also shipping a 40 foot container of medical supplies. Partnering with Medical Bridges in Houston, a long inventory list of needed supplies and equipment is

now being collected. Medical Bridges, located in south Houston, collects refurbished and reusable medical supplies to send to overseas ministries through their application process. Many of our teams hand carry supplies to sites, but for this Cote d'Ivoire project we are in need of larger items. Some things to be included will be hospital beds, surgical instruments, wheel chairs, incubators and smaller items necessary in giving quality care to the patients.

Friendwood UMC has a team scheduled this fall. They will continue to work on the Adult ward with

painting, remodeling the bathroom, work on the electrical outlets, repairing mosquito screens and much more.

Teams can schedule for 2011 now. They will experience the joy of worship in a local church, the compassion of the hospital staff and the hospitality of the people in this wonderful country.



Contact Kalamba Kilumba
281-682-5693
kkilumba@aol.com

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*Christ's Love
in Action*



MISSIONS IS A JOURNEY— KATHIE MANN

For years we have used the term “Mission Trip”. But anyone who has served on a team knows that it is not a vacation! Each mission is a journey that only you and God can make together. Climbing up a mountain at 7000 feet through the tea fields to build an orphan home is a journey. Holding the hand of a child who’s parents are buried in the back yard is a journey. Sleeping in tents and understanding on the most elemental level what the Haitian people do daily, is a journey. Working hard under an equatorial sun, alongside a brother or sister of faith, is a journey. Rocking an abandoned baby

and praying that God will take care of this little soul, is a journey.

Each and every minute of a mission experience tests you in ways you never knew you could be tested. You have to learn new customs, eat and drink unusual things, visit the sick and hungry, listen with more intensity than you have ever done before because you know this person is telling you a story that has never been heard before. And God put you in that place, at that time, so that person had someone to lean on.

Mission is putting your soul on the outside. You have to feel more, give more, accept more, believe more, trust more,

and be more flexible than ever before.

When the journey is over, you realize that the whole time, God was by your side encouraging, lifting, carrying and even placing the right words in your mouth. This realization is so overwhelming that you need to fall to your knees in thankfulness for the test you have been through has strengthen your relationship with God.

Missions is not a vacation!
Missions is part of your faith journey!
Missions is redeeming!

Missions is where you meet God!