

And he said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

Luke 10:2

LOCAL/REGIONAL/NATIONAL MISSIONS

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE TRINITY, CHICAGO, IL, INNER CITY CHURCH

- Good Shepherd has partnered with Trinity in the Chicago Bridgeport neighborhood across several project areas. Most recently we assisted them financially through Above & Beyond funds to replace the roof and repair the parapets of the church parsonage. Trinity had hoped to use the parsonage as an income generating AirBnB type conference/retreat center. God had other plans. An article about the renovations and Good Shepherd's donation to Trinity appeared in the Living Lutheran newsletter of the ELCA Metropolitan Chicago Synod. Franciscan Outreach picked up on the article, contacted Andrew Mack, a Trinity Church Council member and signed a 16-month lease to house 12 Franciscan missionaries doing inner city homeless and housing social services work. In Andrew's words, "This is super exciting for us, not only because we have regular tenants but also because they (Franciscans) are working towards the same mission as First Trinity." "We are so grateful for the partnership we have with GSLC."
- The "story" of Good Shepherd's relationship with Trinity starts with Andrew Mack. Andrew "grew-up" at Good Shepherd. He (and his brother Peter and sister Lindsay) went through Sunday School and Youth ministry at Good Shepherd. The Mack kids' Mom, Rena (who passed away in 2010) was the first Director of Volunteers and Communications at Good Shepherd Church. These relationships have helped foster Good Shepherd's partnership with "an inner city church."
- Plans are in development for shared worship with Trinity over the summer and for Student Ministry service projects at Trinity's God's Closet Clothing Pantry.

SHINE (SERVANTS HIGH IN ENERGY)

- The "story" of SHINE is that it started at Good Shepherd many years ago as a family oriented ministry. Some of their first projects included holiday gift baskets for Loaves and Fishes, CROP Walk, even Operation Christmas Child had it's Good Shepherd beginnings through SHINE, as did serving meals at Hesed House. All of these were early SHINE supported missions.
- On May 28, 2000 SHINE volunteers first served at DuPage County Convalescent Center.
- Over the years SHINE has evolved to focus on creating, staffing, organizing and coordinating the Sunday worship service at the (now) DuPage Care Center (DCC).
- On the fourth Sunday of every month anywhere from 16-22 Good Shepherd members set up a worship space for approximately 55-65 residents of DCC.
- The Good Shepherd volunteers provide escorts for wheelchair bound residents to the service, ushering them to a spot for worship in the "congregation."
- In addition to organizing the worship service, Good Shepherd volunteers provide the music (instrumentalists, soloists, and the GSLC All God's Children's Choir have served) and the preaching/teaching staff (Jud Olsen, a GSLC OWL is serving as the current "preacher").

HESED HOUSE

- On the second Wednesday/Thursday of every other month (January, March, May, July, September, November) Good Shepherd provides meals and fellowship in three different shifts at Hesed House.
- PADS® OES (Overnight Emergency Shelter) Dinner Shift is from 6pm-10pm, where 18-20 Good Shepherd volunteers prepare and serve dinner (and sack lunches for the following day) for around 200 Hesed House guests.
- PADS® OES Breakfast Shift is from 4am-7am, where 8-10 Good Shepherd volunteers prepare and serve breakfast to the OES guests.
- PADS® FS (Family Shelter) Dinner Shift is from 5pm-8pm, where 5-6 Good Shepherd volunteers prepare and serve dinner to around 60 parents and their children staying overnight at Hesed House.
- Some of the Good Shepherd volunteers also support clients on-site by providing locker access, guest registration, staffing the "store" where guests can get towels, sheets, toiletries, and similar items, and by providing fellowship with the guests.
- For each monthly serving opportunity, the church is responsible for providing all the food, supplies, and volunteers needed to support and serve both the OES and FS guests and families.
- During 2018-2019 almost 100 individual Good Shepherd members participated by directly serving at Hesed House (many serving multiple times).
- During 2018-2019 over 350 different individuals and/or families provided donations of either monies or materials (food) to support the dinner and breakfast meals served.
- The "story" of Hesed House is Good Shepherd contributed \$10,000 in Above and Beyond funds to assist Hesed House in renovating space to create the PADS® Family Shelter space. This renovated space allows families experiencing homelessness to stay together as a cohesive family unit. In many shelters the men must be separated from the women and children, thus splitting the family unit during a crisis event adding more stress to a difficult situation.
- The second "story" of Hesed House is the Faith In Action project of summer 2018 Vacation Bible School. The children participating in VBS collected over \$3,000 that was used to purchase towels, sheets, toiletries, medicines, and jammies to stock the Hesed House "store" for guests!

BRIDGE COMMUNITIES

- Over the past year, 6 Good Shepherd volunteers mentored a client, a single Mom and her child, providing assistance/coaching in housing, budgeting, parenting, job skills, life skills, bill payment, banking, household maintenance, and emotional support. The client "graduated" from the program with a stable job and housing. The mentors are now awaiting the assignment of their next client by Bridge Communities.

REBUILDING TOGETHER AURORA (RTA)

- RTA provides critical home repairs, home safety modifications and energy efficiency upgrades to help preserve homes and rebuild neighborhoods.
- RTA has completed work in over 1100 Aurora homes over the past 25 years while Good Shepherd members have served over the past 20 years.
- Five (5) Good Shepherd members are either past or present RTA Board Members.
- On April 26 & 27 2019 Good Shepherd volunteers will again hammer, saw, paint, rake, carry, lift, clean, serve and rebuild in Aurora during National Rebuilding Weekend.

RE-MEMBER FRIENDS OF THE LAKOTA; PINE RIDGE, SD

- The first Pine Ridge "story" for the year is recognition of Good Shepherd by Re-Member, Friends of The Lakota for 10 years of continual support and service to the Lakota Oyate (Lakota Nation) on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation.
- The second "story" is the twin disasters of spring 2019 flooding and the spring bomb cyclone blizzard hitting the reservation within 3 weeks of each other. Extra funds have been designated to support Re-Member as they reach out to the most rural stranded residents on the reservation some of whom were without fresh water and suffering food shortages.
- June of 2018 11 members of Good Shepherd spent a week on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation of the Oglala Lakota building bunk beds, wheelchair ramps, outhouses, decking & steps, and "skirting" trailers. Additionally, the team distributed new sheet sets for the bunk beds.
- Friends Of The Lakota participated in Gifts From The Heart Christmas Ministry and collected more than \$4820 in Target, Menards and Visa gift cards.

GLOBAL MISSIONS

FEED THE NEED 2019

- Of the over 6,000 volunteers at FEED THE NEED 2019 (FTN) more than 1200 were from Good Shepherd.
- 1,330,992 meals were packed over 36 hours.
- 3,646 children will be fed for a year.
- The “story” of this year’s FTN event relates to the Polar Vortex. Several fixed Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) packing locations in the Midwest were closed due to the extreme cold temperatures (including our local fixed location in Aurora). These closures resulted in FMSC falling behind in their meal preparation goals. FTN was asked to increase their meal-packing goal from 1.2M to 1.3M to help offset the lost production due to the Polar Vortex. Not only was this goal met, it was exceeded and the additional costs incurred to pack those extra meals was covered by the many FTN participants!
- The second “story” of this year’s FTN event was the opportunity for three (3) Good Shepherd members to travel to the Dominican Republic (DR) and witness firsthand the distribution of MannaPack™ meals to children in the DR. Good Shepherd members met Don Coords from New Jersey, the founder of Handfuls of Hope Ministry (HOH), who has made 101 trips to DR over the past 20 years. Don’s HOH Ministry is a distribution partner of FMSC in the poorest “bateyes” (sugarcane plantation labor camps) near Santo Domingo, DR. Additionally, the Good Shepherd Members met with Moises Sifrin, Administrator of the Good Samaritan Hospital of La Romana, DR. Good Sam is also a distribution partner of FMSC. Good Sam Hospital is as much a social service agency as a traditional hospital. The hospital is actively involved in community based wellness, education, and even coordinates almost 60 mission trips per year that bring needed medical and dental services to the areas surrounding the city of La Romana. Good Sam receives 2 shipping containers per month of FMSC meals for distribution. While visiting Good Sam, the Good Shepherd team members actually saw boxes of MannaPack™ meals that had been packed at the Aurora, IL facility! They were able to engage with the very children that have hope thanks to FMSC volunteers and donations!

BAUDIN DENTAL CLINIC; BAUDIN, HAITI

- Dave and Laura Schubert continued their work at the Baudin Dental Clinic, visiting Haiti multiple times during the past year.
- Dave has begun mentoring 2 dental students who are learning to operate the clinic as a “dental practice” so the clinic can function even when Dave and Laura are not on-site.

HEARTS IN MOTION; PUEBLO MODELO, GUATEMALA

- The “story” of Good Shepherd’s work with Hearts In Motion and Pueblo Modelo started many years ago, but really began in earnest in 2016 with meetings with local pastors, the local government council (cocodes), and with a community needs survey completed by local villagers and compiled by Hearts In Motion.
- The resulting research and discussions led to prioritization of projects needed/desired by the community.
- Projects included installation of home-based water filtration systems, construction and security of a community clothes washing “pila,” and ultimately, the construction of a multi-purpose community center in Pueblo Modelo. The vision for the community center was for a central building that could be used for things like: a pre-school; a “base” location for visiting Hearts In Motion mission teams that provide Physical Therapy, Medical, and Dental Clinics, and Music In Motion classes; community Bible study classes; and other community determined needs.
- Construction of the community center began in June 2017. The concrete roof was poured in January 2018. The community center (18 meters x 10 meters or approximately 1944 sq. ft.) was completed and “christened” in July of 2018.
- Construction labor was provided by neighbors, local fire fighters (bomberos), families of future students, local pastors and businesses, a number of mission teams (Good Shepherd and other organizations), and Hearts In Motion staff.
- The facility cost \$39,000 to build and funds were supplied through Above & Beyond grant monies.
- The Good Shepherd Learning Center Preschool inaugural class began on September 3, 2018 with 18 students and 2 teachers!
- When parents of the preschoolers were asked to sign documents enrolling their children, many had to sign using their thumbprint because they couldn’t read or write. But they want their children to have those skills!

PETE & ANGIE RAINERI; LAMORLAYE, FRANCE (PARIS SUBURB)

- Pete & Angie are Good Shepherd members serving as full-time missionaries through Greater Europe Mission (GEM).
- The ground-work for a church plant in Lamorlaye (north of Paris) has occurred over the past two years with opening services anticipated in September 2019.

CHERYL’S CHILDREN’S HOME; NAIROBI, KENYA (NEW NAME: CHERISH WATOTO LEARNING CENTER)

- The “story” of this year’s Cheryl’s Childrens Home is the August 2018 eviction of Cheryl’s from their 13 year home on Kenyan National Railway Right-Of-Way land and relocation to a rented 100’ x 120’ lot less than 2 kilometers from their previous site. Good Shepherd Church and several generous Good Shepherd members helped fund the deconstruction, relocation, and rebuilding efforts at the new Cheryl’s location. The reconstruction was staged to allow critical facilities to be built before the children were physically moved (latrines, kitchen facilities, and dormitories). However, the students still missed almost 6 weeks of educational instruction time due to the move.
- The long-term goals are to: establish a Kenyan NGO (non-governmental organization); use the NGO to find and “own” a permanent location for Cheryl’s; to construct or renovate permanent facilities for Cheryl’s; and to stay in proximity to the Kibera Slum so as to continue educational support of the poorest Kibera residents.
- Currently 84 children are sponsored through Good Shepherd Church, with 65 of those children sponsored by Good Shepherd members/families. The monetary value of these sponsorships is approximately \$53,000 annually.
- Forty-five (45) of the sponsored children are enrolled in the Cheryl’s K-8 school, while 39 students are enrolled in secondary schools across Nairobi and Kenya.
- In addition to the orphanage students, Cheryl’s K-8 school enrolls approximately 90-100 more students from the nearby Kibera slum.
- Good Shepherd paid 10 teachers salaries for the school year at a cost of \$17,700 per year. Teachers salary funding is provided through Above & Beyond grants.
- Between child sponsorships, grants, and other donations Good Shepherd supplies approximately 70% of Cheryl’s operating budget on an annual basis.
- A team visited Cheryl’s in February 2019. Team members delivered or purchased needed food, school supplies, shoes, clothes, and personal care items for students and staff. Additionally, several high school students were visited at their respective boarding schools.

GOOD SHEPHERD QUILTERS; LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

- In 2018 Good Shepherd quilters lovingly made 225 quilts. In September of 2018, 200 of those quilts were blessed at a Sunday Worship service and later that week were shipped to Lutheran World Relief (LWR) warehouse near Baltimore, MD.

- Earlier this year (2019), the quilters received a letter from LWR that their quilts had been distributed in Zambia through World Help and in Tanzania through the Christian Council of Tanzania.
- LWR has developed a bar code based system that allows church quilting groups to track their donated quilts from church, to the LWR warehouse near Baltimore, to the LWR partner organization in the country in which the quilts are distributed to those in need.
- Of the remaining quilts, several were hand carried by mission team members to Kenya and Guatemala for distribution to children at Cheryl’s and in Pueblo Modelo.
- The Good Shepherd quilting ministry was started about 28 years ago and currently has 10 active quilters.

EL AYUDANTE AND WORLD GOSPEL OUTREACH (WGO); HONDURAS

- August of 2018 twelve (12) individuals participated in a Mission Trip in support of El Ayudante. While the mission team installed home-based water filtration systems, poured concrete floors, and built latrines, the biggest “event” of the trip was the celebration of the wedding of two Honduran couples.
- Many Honduran couples never marry because they cannot afford to pay for the culturally expected large wedding celebration. Good Shepherd team members know how to throw a party! They helped the couples with dresses, hair, make-up, and food (lovingly prepared and served by Good Shepherd team members). The El Ayudante staff provided their facility for the wedding and reception and a local Honduran Pastor officiated both weddings.
- The 2019 “story” of El Ayudante is that God has called, and Good Shepherd has sent Jon Dunsmore, a member to full time mission work with El Ayudante. This call to mission work came following Jon’s one-week mission trip to Honduras in August of 2018.
- In October 2018 fifteen (15) individuals participated in the 19th consecutive World Gospel Outreach mission trip to Tegucigalpa, Honduras!
- The WGO trip focused on medical, dental, and eye clinics, with over 2000 people seen in 4 clinic days. Scores of children were provided with hair washing using anti-lice shampoo.
- All patients and children treated and cared for were invited to hear about Jesus and were prayed for and with following their clinic visit.