Service

A Publication of Mission Helps, Inc.

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Catch a Glimpse!

Step behind the curtain and see what God is doing through Mission Helps



Will Byler, President

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

CATCH A GLIMPSE

Good things in life don't usually just happen on their own. And many times, life's good things come our way because of unseen influences operating behind the scenes. Traveling by jet to a far-off destination sure beats driving, but do you ever wonder what

the pilots up front, air traffic control, and the mechanics do to ensure your safe arrival? It's hard to imagine a world without electricity that powers our homes. But do you ever wonder what goes into producing electricity, who makes it happen, and from where does it come?

Life's good things produce value and benefits to others because someone often unseen and committed is willing to make a sacrifice. Unseen - Committed - Sacrificial.

For years, the volunteer workforce of Mission Helps has been bringing good things of value to missions and missionaries. How? Through people who serve largely unseen, who are committed, and are willing to sacrifice.

Looking behind the scenes, this Servant issue is centered on what underlies our dedication, commitment, and sacrifice – in greater part because of the value and benefit to missionaries that helps to advance their mission in reaching lost men and women with the Gospel.

Consider the good things you've experienced that bring value and benefit to your life. Invariably you find there was someone somewhere unseen and committed, who made a sacrifice.

Jesus was the ultimate example... He hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him... He came into the world unrecognized (unseen) and lived with an unbending commitment to make sacrifice for our sins.

Good things don't just happen on their own in this fallen and sinful world. Each of us can be that person who makes a meaningful difference ... prepared to serve unseen, committed, and willing to sacrifice.

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Sewant is an annual communique to inform the general church public about happenings within the ministry of Mission Helps, Inc.

PR Director/Editor: David J. Evans main@missionhelps.com Graphic Designer: Heidi Hoffman *HJH Photography and Design* Email: hhsmiles4u@yahoo.com

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All monetary gifts to Mission Helps, Inc. are receipted for IRS tax purposes.

Inquiries concerning the various ministries of Mission Helps, Inc. may be directed to the Home office: P.O. Box 254, Lititz, PA 17543. Phone: 717-627-2976 E-mail: main@missionhelps.com

WHAT IF WE JUST CAUGHT A GLIMPSE?

Jonathan and Anna Lucas, Construction Services Manager

Construction Services isn't just about the cabins framed up in Alaska last July by a team of volunteers. It's not just about the repaired plumbing and the new paint on the walls of a missionary home for Society of Indian Missions in South Dakota in April. Neither is it about the new roofs in Grand Bahama, or the drywalled interiors of mission schools and churches. If we could catch a glimpse of the ripple effect of the results of work teams for missions, we would want to pull the curtain back and see a little further!

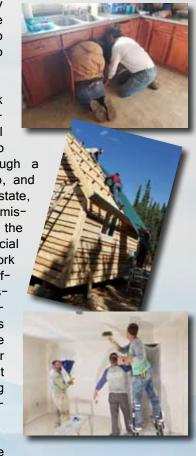
It might seem like all a volunteer is doing is milling logs and pounding nails for an Alaskan youth camp, but what about when the missionary leaves the work site to comfort a man who lost his wife a few weeks earlier? The work team may have no idea how their work freed the missionary to help a sorrowing man find relief and decide it's still worth it to come back to church where God's presence and loving relationships can heal his heart. What about the relationships forged when those same work volunteers participate in softball games with local Alaskan youth some evenings? The local youth win against the Lower 48 work team, and the excited youth decide to come to youth camps each year. One or more of the youth gets saved. They start to live for God, saying no to alcohol and drugs and sin. That youth goes to Bible College or gets a job and attends church, beginning a Christian family. Wow! We didn't know that setting trusses and nailing floor boards would result in someone's salvation and a Christian family established!

It might seem like all a volunteer is doing is spray-painting the walls of a run-down house for new missionaries on a Native American reservation on a sweaty day. But what if the hot wind blew the curtain aside for a bit and we could see beyond those work days? What if we could see the smiles on the face of the overworked president of Society of Indian Missions and know how he was encouraged to stick with his never-ending responsibilities because someone cared and simply came to help? What if we knew that the new missionaries who came to that newly-painted house would be instrumental in helping half a dozen native Americans and one white neighbor come to faith in Christ? What if the local bar went out of business because so few people were patronizing it? What if someone who was struggling with addiction to gambling was enabled to quit because the new

missionaries in the community loved them and provided Bible studies and game nights so they wouldn't be tempted to go to the arcades?

What if someone on the work team saw first hand the desperate need for vocational missionaries to reach out to the unsaved, whether through a school system or a local job, and decided to move to that state, reservation, or country as a missionary himself? What if the team members saw the financial needs and went home to work hard and send a generous offering to the struggling missionaries so they could purchase food, crafts, and prizes for outreach, and then some children or adults gave their hearts to Jesus? What if just one those children kept loving Jesus and became a missionary to his own people?

What if we could glimpse the "something beautiful, something good" that God could do as a result of our sweaty, mosquito-bitten work with our hands in construction services? If you could catch that glimpse with us, what would be something you could do?





The story behind this Servant

Last year's Servant explained the services we provide. This issue is a companion issue and considered to be the sequel to last year's Servant. This year we want to pull back the curtain and show a glimpse of how Mission Helps' services have impacted the Kingdom of God. We want to rejoice in the God we serve and His amazing power to take our small offerings and talents and multiply them beyond our wildest imaginations. Just as one small lunch fed 5,000, our small efforts with God's blessing can have long-lasting, salvation-producing, and Kingdom-building effects. We worship Him today for His ever-present help that makes the difference, multiplies the gifts, and empowers the believers to work as one body to bring His truth and light to the world.

Sit back and dream with us for a little while. What happens to all of the good deeds and sacrificial giving from our hundreds of Mission Helps volunteers? The truth is, we will never know. Our volunteering doesn't come with a typed-out list of results. In fact, so often we may feel like we didn't really make a difference. We volunteer and don't see the results. Most of the time the results of our efforts would be impossible to track or to calculate. That's why most of the things in this Servant are "thinking beyond" and trying to catch a glimpse of the far-reaching effects of our volunteers' efforts. Since results are impossible to calculate, we have created "for instance" articles to help you catch a glimpse, with the desire to inspire you to continue in the good work of the Kingdom.

Giving goes a long way!

A small drop can reach a long way! If a small object drops in the middle of a pool, the ripples will slowly grow until they lap up against the edges of the pool. One ripple causes the next ripple and the circle widens and continues to make ever-larger circles.

It would be interesting to track money given to missions that way, wouldn't it? It would be interesting to know how the money was used and the good it accomplished. Who knows? Maybe it went towards buying a Bible that brought salvation to a precious soul, and then it reached their family, and eventually rippled out to the whole community. Maybe it went towards the purchase of a church building, that brought light to a darkened community, reaching further into the surrounding areas, and a whole region caught a glimpse of the Light of the World. Maybe it was used to purchase food and clothing for a needy person or to take care of food, shelter, and travel for the missionaries. However the money was used, it all worked towards widening the circle and accomplishing the same goal: Making Christ known to the nations.

God has called each Christian to make disciples. As you give to Mission Helps, you are giving to a cause that lifts the load of the missionaries in practical, real-life ways and helps to fulfill the command of Christ.



What If She Hadn't Ordered the CAT Scan?

Hannah McDowell

The missionary mother washing dishes at the cement sink smiled contentedly as her children raced around the corner of the house, their ever-present puppy leaping and yipping as the three youngsters scrambled up a tree whose low-slung branches so invitingly begged to be climbed. For probably

the hundredth time, she sent up a quick, heartfelt prayer of gratitude. "Thank you, Lord, that Ruthie is able to keep up with her brothers again. I'm so grateful that You had just the right person there when we needed her so desperately but didn't even realize it." Her mind flitted back nearly four years and she shuddered again at the memory of how pale Ryan looked as he burst into the kitchen and blurted. "Mom!

the kitchen and blurted, "Mom!
You gotta hurry! Ruthie's hurt bad!" She would never forget
the panic that had grabbed her as she ran after Ryan and
first caught sight of her little daughter's unconscious form
lying so still, face down in the dust.

"Loving God, how merciful You were to allow that tumble off the bike," she breathed, although the thought of Ryan's miserable, tear-streaked face still tugged at her heart. Giving his little sister a ride on the handlebars had seemed like such a fun idea ... until a too-quick turn pitched her headfirst onto the path. The doctor at their small local clinic had been reassuring after his exam. "Still, it wouldn't hurt to message one of the Mission Helps medical volunteers," she remembered thinking.

The volunteer had been adamant that Ruthie needed a CAT scan of her head. "An x-ray can't show if there is damage to the brain itself," she told them. "I know where you can get it done." The referral had proven to be exactly what was needed, but not in a way that anyone could have anticipated as they bumped and twisted over the rocky dirt road toward the pediatric hospital they hadn't even known existed. Now, several surgeries later, Ruthie had recovered well, though not from any serious consequences from her fall. The problem that "coincidentally" showed up on the CAT scan was one that they would never have known about in time

for treatment had God not permitted the accident that led to its discovery.

What if there had been no one to give Ruthie's parents that advice? How might things have been different, not just for Ruthie, but also for many other missionaries who have been blessed by a medical provider with a servant's heart, willing to offer expert guidance on precisely

what treatment is needed for this serious case of Covid, that badly infected sore, or the other persistent high blood pressure? What about the significant financial savings as well, through reduced or no-cost lab tests and blood work provided to missionaries in the states on furlough? From Ukraine to Haiti, from India to Mexico and countries between, God is using our Medical Services team to help keep His laborers healthy and in the harvest fields so they can continue to reach a lost, hurting world with the message of hope and healing.

*Note: Ruthie's story is true, with names and some details changed for privacy.



Tech Services and the glimpse...

When a missionary needs a laptop, Tech Services serves can order the laptop, make sure it works properly, update it, and ship it to the missionary.

The computer becomes a valuable piece of equipment for the missionary. Schooling, banking, creating spreadsheets and powerpoints, posting media for their missions organization, and keeping people informed of their ministry are just some of the ways the laptop serves their needs

At times a person may wonder what type of impact Tech Services has on the Kingdom. One important aspect is keeping those "back home" informed. This is vital in order for the body of Christ to work together in reaching the world with the gospel. Computers play a large role in connecting missionaries and their supporters. Schooling for the children is often a great concern for missionaries as well. These computers can be a blessing to the whole education process, aiding the missionaries in the important task of educating their children. Each weight that can be lifted from the missionary frees their time for other endeavors.



start here \

This month pray for...

NOVEMBER 2021								
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MISSIONARY REFRESHMENT

in personal and family devotions

through rest and relaxation as a family

by a renewed sense of God's peace and presence

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MISSIONARY STRENGTH

Physical strength for the demands of ministry

Spiritual strength to fight temptation to press toward the prize

Emotional strength when lonely or overwhelmed

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MISSIONARY KIDS

that they would: desire to serve God

have peace and not be fearful

be guarded from bitterness

choose good friends

FEBRUARY 2022								
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MISSION HELPS

Guidance for the Board of Directors

Renewed vision for each manager

Outpouring of God's love flowing through each volunteer

Do you have a minute?

If we each pray one minute a day, it would be over 17,500 hours of prayer in a year!

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MISSIONARY PROTECTION

from harm as they travel

from the enemy's attacks

from illness

from uprisings and danger

AUGUST								
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MISSIONARY CONSISTENCY

maintaining biblical truth

keeping a steady, Christ-like walk

remaining faithful through hard times

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MISSIONARY COMPASSION

to serve with the love of Christ

to reach out to those in need

to find practical ways to build relationships

	APRIL								
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MISSIONARY EMPOWERMENT

to be filled with the Spirit for service

to proclaim God's Word without fear

to have wisdom when giving spiritual counsel to others

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MISSIONARY WISDOM

to navigate (solve) difficult problems

to understand cultural differences

to make wise decisions

19 20 21 22 23 24 26 27 28 29 30 MISSIONARY FRUITFULNESS

12

JUNE

that the eyes of the spiritually blind will be opened

that God's Word will take root in needy hearts

that Christ may be lifted up and draw all men to Him

Toin the one-minute-a-day challenge!

If each of us receiving the Servant would **pray one minute a day** for our missionaries throughout this coming year it would equal 17,641 hours of prayer! That's over 48 hours of prayer per day!! None of us can do that alone, but together, one minute at a time, mighty things can be done! Imagine the amazing things that could be accomplished for the Kingdom of God through these focused prayers.

Will you join us? Even if you can't do it every day, please join us! When we surveyed our missionaries on what means the most to them, prayer was at the top of the list. See some quotes from them on this page.

Please remove these center pages and post them where you will be reminded to pray regularly.

MISSIONARY QUOTES

What means the most:

"When people write us...on the field telling us they are praying for us."

"Know(ing) with certainty that people are praying"

"(When they) write just a short message to tell us that they were praying special for us that day."

"of utmost importance is prayer for the work."

"Prayers are probably the greatest blessing."

"(When others) let us know they were interested in the work and prayed for us."

SEPTEMBER 2021								
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MISSION ADVANCEMENT

that obstacles would be removed

that new doors would open

that cultural barriers would be bridged

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MISSIONARY PROVISION

for adequate funds

for daily health

for special grace

for spiritual discernment





Thank you, Mrs. Darlene Byler, for serving faithfully as Vice President of Mission Helps!

Thank you, Darlene Byler! For 33 years as Vice President

Mission Helps, Inc. is very grateful for the dedicated years of service Darlene Byler has given as Vice President of Mission Helps since its incorporation in 1988 through June of 2021.

Thank you, Mrs. Byler for the crucial role you played in the early development of Mission Helps even before it became incorporated. We honor you as the co-founder of Mission Helps serving by the side of your husband and president, Mr. Will Byler. You are a trusted and faithful advisor to the President.

We appreciate the many hours you have volunteered for mission projects and have planned and organized social events for Mission Helps. The policy forms you initiated and drafted are still in use today.

May God bless you as you continue to shoulder the home office workload and serve as Secretary of Mission Helps.



Intrigued and a little puzzled, we wondered aloud, "Who are these people?" "How did they get my name as a recommendation to serve on their board?" "Do they even hold common values with us?" Then . . . Darlene Byler and her husband Will stepped from their vehicle and we were pleasantly surprised!

Darlene has given the world a wonderful example of quiet influence. A gracious and graceful lady, a faithful companion, she worked as Vice President to Mission Helps partnering with her husband to birth and grow a vision. . . a vision that has now helped missionaries and mission works around the globe!

Darlene has been through and through a server, often tending to nitty-gritty details that would exhaust the reserve of a less patient soul. Planning, organizing, filing, taking phone calls, packing for trips, sitting for hours in board meetings, caring for meals for the board, and yes, ironing shirts, have all been regular duties for her. She has faithfully and conscientiously worked, giving her best in every task.

What has been the foundation for such a life of dedication? We all know... she has experienced the power of the risen LORD Jesus Christ in her own life and now seeks to do her part in response to his command to 'go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.'

Thank you, Darlene for worshiping God! Thank you for intercessory prayer on behalf of missionaries around the world and the unsaved people they are seeking to win to Christ! Thank you for giving your time, finances, service and self to make a difference in the world! Thank you for inspiring us to do the same!! — Tribute written by Steve Mowery



Welcome, Jeremy Reese! Vice President of Mission Helps, Inc.

Jeremy lives in central Pennsylvania where he is employed as a Herdsman for a large dairy and beef farm. He is responsible for the care and feeding of more than 400 head of cattle and maintaining the farm facility.

Mission Background

Jeremy was born on the mission field in South Dakota. (Society of Indian Missions) He spent the first eleven years of his life on the mission field before moving to Pennsylvania with his missionary parents, William and Hannah Reese.



After graduating from high school,

Jeremy attended Penn View Bible Institute for two years in the Missions Program.

Family

Jeremy and his wife Rebekah (Snyder) have been married for seventeen years and have five children.

Rebekah is a homemaker and part-time student continuing her music education at PVRI

Their passion is to raise a Christian family and pass on their Christian heritage.

Jeremy's Vision for Mission Helps

- Ongoing development and growth of the ministry to serve the changing needs of missions and missionaries.
- Greater effectiveness for the organization's ministry services.
- A heightened and continual awareness by missions and missionaries of services offered by Mission Helps.

Interests

Jeremy's interests include reading, hunting, construction, and bee keeping.



Join the one-minute-a-day challenge!

Please make sure to read pages 6 and 7! Together we can cover our missionaries and Mission Helps in prayer!

Here are some ideas on how to accomplish that goal.

Cut out the small monthly calendars and post them where you will see them daily:

- tape it to the mirror
- · stick it on your steering wheel
- post it by the kitchen sink
- keep it on the refrigerator door
- tuck it in your Bible or devotional book

Find a minute that can be redeemed while pumping gas or folding laundry or combing your hair and ask God to help in the different areas mentioned on pages 6 & 7.

Together we can make a big impact!

Notes of thanks

Dear Mission Helps Team,

Thank you so much for the CD's that you sent us. What a blessing! Your encouraging letter touched our hearts. It means so much to us to know that you folks care and are praying for us. May God richly bless you all.

Darlene Edwards & Nancy Messenger (Taiwan)

Dear friends of Mission Helps,

Thank you so much for the CD's of sermons and music. I really appreciate your thoughtfulness.

God bless you, Dios los bendiga! Rachel Steese (Peru)

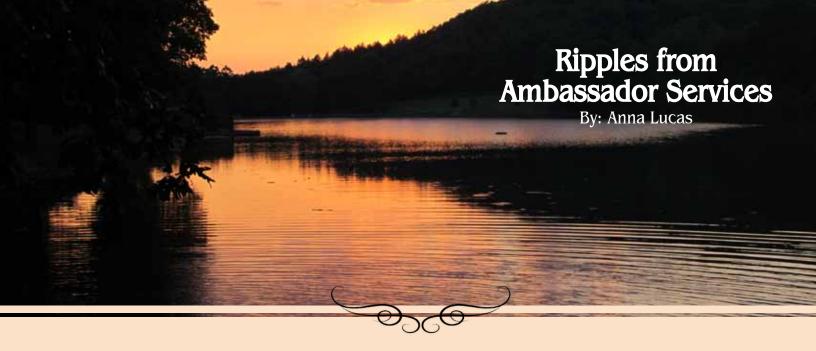
Dear Friends,

Thank you for sending the CD's at Christmas time. They are always a blessing and encouragement to us.

You all are a blessing to so many who are away from good spiritual services. Thanks.

Calvin and Martha McCasland (New Mexico)

Dear Friends from Mission Helps, Thank you so much for the CD's. What a blessing you all are! We really appreciate your kindness and all you do for us missionaries! God bless, Joel Newton Family (Mexico)



"I wonder if anybody cares about me anymore," a disheartened missionary ponders one sleepless night. "I've been gone from America so long. They've probably forgotten about me!" But the next day, here comes a birthday card from someone who was reminded by the Ambassador Program to send cards to missionaries. "Hey! People do remember!" the missionary realizes with relief. As the hounding devil slips away, the missionary returns to work with fresh courage--all because of a

As a church takes time during the monthly missionary service to pray for the requests presented by the Ambassador program, God moves in answer to prayer. New land is purchased, a church is built, and a community is touched by the witness of Christ. What an effect those simple prayers had!

birthday card from an Ambassador.

A child sitting in one of the Ambassador services really is listening, even while he doodles on his notepad. "Would you become a missionary for Me?" God whispers, and back home at his bedside, the child says, "Yes." Down the road, he becomes a missionary and God's kingdom advances.

"I wish I could do more!" a financially strapped widow thinks as she slips just five dollars into the offering plate for one of the mission projects that Ambassador program mentions. "It's so little!" But she couldn't see the children's Bibles purchased with that money, and couldn't know that more than one Sunday School kid came to know Christ through her gift.

Land is purchased, a church is built, a community is touched "What on earth am I supposed to tell about for missionary prayer meeting?" a weary Women's Missionary Society leader wonders as she hurries leftovers onto the supper table. Keeping monthly missionary news ready is as unglamorous as it gets, especially when only a few people show up for

service! "Oh! Ambassador has that prayer list and birthday list, and I can read the quotes Steve Sweigart shares each month!" What a relief! The work is already done for her.

If we could just catch a glimpse of the ripples of encouragement and inspiration that go out from Ambassador program's simple but faithful reminders, we would realize that God is glorified, and His Kingdom is advanced!

MISSION HELPS Scholarship Recipients

Thanks to all who gave to this fund!



Darin Baldwin God's Bible School & College



Benjamin Clark Hobe Sound Bible College



Rebecca Walter
Penn View
Bible
Institute



Allen Wittmer
Allegheny
Wesleyan
College



Only God Can Measure It!

Just imagine for a moment the effects of the prayers of one saint. An obscure person, but well known by God. Not popular, but faithful. Ordinary and human, but— she knows how to pray. She takes *Rope Holders'* requests and makes them her own petitions. She intercedes for the needs represented. She often does not have a full awareness of the spiritual battle that is raging, but she recognizes the need for prayer, so she prays humbly and often. Who can measure the effects of those prayers? Who can measure the hand of God that moves in answer to those petitions? No one but God.

Let's imagine for a moment that there's a family attending a mission church, their marriage is falling apart, and their children are broken. But this unnamed saint prays for

them. She doesn't know them, but she speaks their names in prayer. She prays specifically that God would bring healing to their marriage and stability to their broken children. She prays daily and she prays with passion. God hears and heals and restores their marriage. This miracle encourages the missionaries and boosts their faith. They find new courage to continue on in their ministry, strengthened by this victory. The restored family becomes a beacon in the community. Their neighbors see the change and wish they could experience it too. They come to church and hear the gospel. The visiting father finds Christ. His life is a testimony to his family and one by one they seek the Saviour. The church has grown as this new family starts attending, and the salt of the earth makes the community hungry. The ever-spreading waves of those answered prayers continue and hearts praise God for His power and grace! This whole scenario could be traced back to people praying for the initial request for a family in need. There's no end to stories like this.

Only in eternity will the effects of our prayers be seen.

Even a cup of cold water has its reward. May we be challenged to do our part, using the gifts God has given us to reach out, to give, and to pray. Let's go in His power and reach a lost world for Christ.

Mission Helps hospitality directory has been great!
Many people we stayed with have gone above and beyond what was necessary!

The hospitality booklet that Mission Helps puts out led us to some great new friends, We were treated with great kindness and care while on deputation.

What shall I more say? based on Hebrews 11

Heb 11:32 And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gedeon, and of Barak, and of Samson, and of Jephthae; of David also, and Samuel, and of the prophets:

Heb 11:33 Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions,

Heb 11:34 Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens.

Heb 11:39 And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise:

Heb 11:40 God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.

And what more can I say? For space would fail me to tell of Lodging Services, and of Equipment Services, and of General Services, of Media Services also, or of Counseling Services, and Medical Services, and of the Auto Repair services:

Who through volunteering saved stress for missionaries, offered pillows for their heads, tended to the needs of their bodies, fixed their cars, prayed for their souls,

Encouraged them with CD's, listened to their needs, provided stories for their hours of traveling, loaned them Kindles with great reading, refreshed their spirits with kind words, and lifted up their hands in the work.

These all volunteered in faith, not having seen the end results, but believing that God would bless their efforts:

We all labor together for the Kingdom of God, so that one without the other would not be complete.

11

Servant

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"Another area in which Mission Helps has been a HUGE blessing to us over and over has been a rivel viessing to us over una over ins been that the use of vans for deputation! Knowing that The use of varis for aeparation! Arrowing that a well-maintained vehicle is available for our use a weit-maintainea venicie is available for our use once we reach the U.S. takes a tremendous burden of stress and planning out of arranging a home assignment. I honestly wouldn't know where to assignment. I nonestry wouldn't know where to start if we had to buy, license, and insure some thing every few years. It would be a nightmare, but Mission Helps has us covered!

NOTES of THANKS

Headed to PA to return our van to Missions Helps. Wes has been a puzzle master at fitting in all the luggage!

Missions Helps is an amazing organization who has been such a blessing to our family! We cannot say enough good about them! Thank you... and your team, for your dedication to missions! Many blessings!

Wesley and Janna Cressman

Vehicle Services currently has a fleet of 6 vehicles for missionary use. Over a million miles have been traveled in Mission Helps loaner vehicles. You may have given and prayed for this service and then forgotten about it. Sometimes we don't hear or see results. But look at the ripple effect that your giving and praying can have.

We really appreciate the use of this vehicle, the projector and screen! Y'all truly are a blessing! Thank you so much for all you do to help your fellow missionaries!

I just wanted to say thank you once again for the use of the Honda Odyssey! It was (HIM-Slovakia) a lovely vehicle and served us so well! We really appreciate you and all the Mission Helps donors who make this possible for us! We are also so grateful for the use of the digital projector and Bluetooth speaker. Glenn and Stephanie Gault

> We really appreciate Mission Helps! I don't know what we would do without them! They are so helpful when we are doing deputation: the vehicle, projector, speaker, hospitality directory, etc. I don't know what we would do without them!

Valeriy & Maude Motovilov

People give and pray

Reliable vehicles are purchased for missionaries to USE The missionary saves money and doesn't have the stress of car shopping No Car insurance payments & no worry about where to keep the car while they are gone.

The Vehicle allows them to comfortably travel on deputation; many hear about the work and give and an They meet those who will faithfully pray and their ministry becomes more anointed, and the church of Christ takes a great step forward.

At one of their don.

At one of their deputation services, a person hears the call to missions and becomes a missionary and another ripple is started.