

# ACCF NEWSLETTER

News and Events from the Apostolic Christian Church Foundation

## Summer 2018

## Contents:

PNG	pg 2
Little Hands	pg 4
Canaan Land	pg 6
Nepomuceno	pg 8
Zambia	pg 9
Paraauay	pa 10

## ACCF News:

- Coming Soon: new and improved website at accfoundation.org
- Here now: new logo. Did you notice?
- Also here now: new ACCF accounting software- Realm. This allows donor options for giving- whether one time or recurring, donor access to past giving and receipts, and smartphone app based giving and account management (see page 7)
- Romanian Hymnals are still available. Please contact us for more information at YourACCF@gmail.com

 Ongoing opportunities are available to participate in work teams to help hurricane, flood and other disaster victims in North America through Mennonite Disaster Services. Contact us for more info at YourACCF@gmail.com



Lord willing, a missionary conference will be held prior to Eastern Camp this year to encourage, support, and bless some of our missionaries. If you would like one or more of these missionaries to visit your local Church after Camp, please contact Bro. Willie Ritzmann to coordinate: willie.ritzmann@accmbc.org or 519-577-1138

## Papua New Guinea

Spirit. None of us had ever been to a baptism that had that many baptized at the same time.

Our good Lord has provided the opportunity to allow us to report to you again about the work taking place in Papua New Guinea. In Dec. 2017 Willie Ritzmann, and a group of youths from the ICFG consisting of Judah Weinhardt, Luke Webel and David Scheuermann travelled to PNG to be an encouragement to the youth there.

We then went to the Honem area where the Women's ministry was having a graduation of students that had learned how to sew. We had previously purchased new sewing machines for them with donated funds, which was much appreciated.

The ICFG raised funds for musical instruments and related equipment to assist them in their praise services.

We also attended 2 other baptisms, with one in the riverbed at Marko where 216 were baptized. A few days later we drove to the Nipa area and attended another baptism of 64 people. They had held off baptisms in many areas and then grouped congregations together, knowing that we

in the areas where the majority of the Good News Christian

Churches exist. These earthquakes were devastating to

the people in the Southern Highlands, where complete

They were so thankful for the (as visitors) would be coming.

equipment, especially Simon Wak (of PNG) who organized

At the end of February, Papua New Guinea started to have major Earthquakes



the youth conference. (Left: some of the guitars we brought)

There were close to 3000 people in attendance for the youth conference, and on the last day

everyone was invited to attend the services, young and old. (Simon Wak below)

Not just were daily quakes taking place but there were torrential rains which created major mud slides because the soil had been disturbed by the earthquakes. Roads were blocked, rivers were

mountainsides came

down. (above and below)



We had the opportunity to attend a church service at Suma where a tent had been set up

and we witnessed the baptism of 64 souls. After the service, we all went down to a small creek where Rex Epi had gone out (at 4am) with a few others and dammed the creek so that it was waste deep to do the baptizing. (below left)



After the water baptism, the elders laid hands on the heads of the converts and prayed over them to ask God to seal them with the Holy

dammed in places never before seen and now, complete communities were flooded. A whole lot of events that no man had any control over.

Many of the major quakes were in the middle of the night so all were afraid to go to sleep, not knowing when they might need to run!



Above: displaced from their homes

The ACCMBC and the ACCF worked together with all the Apostolic Christian Churches in North America to supply rice to the affected people of the GNCCs whose gardens were destroyed due to all the

Because so

completely),

pastor houses

and many

damaged

were

many church

landslides. All of the communities along mountainsides had to hurriedly relocate, out of danger's way.

We shipped 7 truckloads of rice to the Hela and Southern Highlands Province. The Brethren were so grateful for the food that was sent to them and for the love and prayers that loved ones from North America were offering for them.



Food was distributed, on foot, to the remote areas from distribution points that were set up.

(with some also completely destroyed), our next focus will be to assist with labour and funds to rebuild as much as we can. Due to landslides, the church building (above right) is now right on the edge and will need to be relocated.

Our goal is to raise \$150,000, to rebuild structures. We are also trying to get the Federal government in PNG to match these funds.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE BRETHREN IN PNG!

## And please donate to this cause

We want to thank everyone who continues to support the work in PNG. The Good News Christian Church in PNG

needs your prayers, as does the General Secretary (Rex Epi), as he charts through challenging waters with changes in the Literacy Program, Bible School Program, Sawmill Program and Women's Ministries- all in the midst of physical disasters.



It probably goes without saying

that it is a difficult job to provide leadership for a church this size.

The Good News Christian Church (GNCC) extends their greetings to you all and appreciates your love and support.

If you are interested in helping to work on a project in PNG please contact Willie Ritzmann. Your help means a lot to the Brethren here.

Much thanks to the ACC Missionary Committee and the ACCMBC for the monthly contributions for Literacy, Administration, Bible School and special projects.

> With love and thanks, Willie Ritzmann and Missionary Committee Team

### For Donations please go to:

Apostolic Christian Church Foundation (within USA) www.accfoundation.org

ACC Mission Board of Canada (within Canada) www.accmbc.org

### For further information email:

willie.ritzmann@accmbc.org

## Little Hands Orphanage

shingles, but we now have very sturdy roofs over our heads. We are humbled by the love and generosity that came

As spring is coming to a close, we would like to thank our donors who have come together and blessed us during our own personal "season of growth" as we go through a couple projects which will prepare us better for the children yet to come, and for the growth ahead. In the past few months, the changes that have taken place include:

forth for this project. The Lord knows who each giving heart is and we pray He would bless you abundantly!

As far as the addition: This small one bedroom/bathroom home previously housed 4 kids and one caregiver,. We will now be able to comfortably house 5/6 children and

2 caregivers! This will be such a blessing moving forward, and also something that was required in order to fulfill the DIF's request for every home to have 2 people caring for the children. This home will now be a 3 bedroom/3 bathroom dwelling once the project is completed. There are still some finishing touches that have to be done, but we have been SO GRATEFUL for those who have come and physically worked to make these projects possible! There was a large group of 21 (headed by Brother Dushan Tomic as the project manager) that came out in March, then a smaller, local Californian team



### **NEW ROOFS/ SMALL ADDITION**

With many thanks to each of you who have contributed financially, we were able to repair/replace our roofing (some of which was leaking during the rainy season) and also put a small addition onto the second caregivers' dwelling. The roof looks so wonderful! We are looking forward to many leak-free years ahead! Much of the lumber had to be replaced, and of course, all of the





(headed by Brother Nandi Namenyi) that came in April to complete more of the "addition" project. The children truly enjoyed every second spent with these teams and the chance to get a hold of as many candies and cookies as their little hands could hold. As with every team, each member made a special effort to bond with our kids and show them the love of Christ that speaks every language. They never needed translators to let the children know just WHY they were here to help us, and we could hear the children talking amongst themselves: "all these people came because they love Jesus, and they want to help us!"

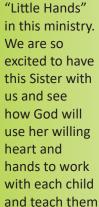
## SISTER REBECCA FLORICA

It is with such great joy in our hearts that we can say Sister Rebecca Florica will, Lord-willing, be joining us within the next couple of months! She is looking forward to becoming a caregiver, and joining our

### **FUNDING FOR AN ADDITIONAL HOME**

We are so thankful to the Lord, and to each of you who have been willing to be used by Him, to raise funds that will go toward the building of an additional home! We are so pleased to say that the appropriate amount of funds have been raised to begin construction of a house by the end of this year/ beginning of next (Lord-willing). Once again, we are humbled and at a loss for words, but we only pray God would open up the windows of Heaven and pour out His blessings, which would not even be able to be contained in your storehouses. And may each child who comes through these doors always know the unified Love of Christ's body that has made this dwelling possible for them. We are only small members as individuals, but He is showing us just how much can be accomplished when we are joined together. Every donation, every work-team, every visitor, every prayer

over this mission, is evidence of the Great God we serve, and that He INDEED is moving mountains, even to this day. Thank you to each of you for coming along-side us in this journey and making



about the Love of the Father. Please keep her and her family in your prayers as she makes this transition.



the impossible thing possible. The 19 children who have entered these gates since beginning operations 2 years ago are a testimony of what God is using each of you to do.

Least in Him,

**Daniel & Natasha Cervantes** 

## Canaan Land Ministries

Dear Loved Ones,

We are back again to share with you the news from CLM. God faithfully guides, protects, and acts in favor of His Kingdom, for He reigns in this place.

The newest member of our family is Maria Leticia (13). She is not unfamiliar with CLM. Her sister, Evelim (now Kathy Gibson) was placed at CLM Turvo due to high risk

77

within her family situation. Thankfully, several months later, her siblings, Jonathan and Maria Leticia (then called Letricia) were also removed from the family and sent to Turvo. When CLM Turvo was temporarily closed, the 3 siblings came

In Brazil, it is customary to have a very special birthday celebration for the first birthday of a

child and also the 15th birthday of a young lady and the 18th birthday of a young man. Since this year we have 3 young ladies who will be turning 15, and one whose fifteenth birthday occurred before she arrived at CLM and was not celebrated, we decided to combine them all together in one celebration. On April 28th, we had the 15th birthday party for Vitoria, Suzana, Patricia, and Maria Eduarda. We were able to have it at the ARCA, a party room in the colony. When we started asking people for donations for the party, we were overwhelmed with the response. The dresses and shoes were donated for the girls. A photographer donated his services. Food was donated and the list goes on, making the party totally free of charge to CLM. It was a very special and memorable event for everyone. The girls expressed that they felt very valued. Each girl was escorted in by one of the board members, who stepped into the role of her father for this special moment.

Change! This is something that happens frequently at CLM. The advantage of this is that it keeps all of us flexible and teaches us to rejoice with those who are rejoicing, while understanding those who are hurting. May 1st marked exactly one year since Claudio and Dani arrived from Curitiba to be caregivers at CLM. They were originally responsible for the 3 boys who had recently arrived from CLM Turvo--Lucas, Carlos and Samuel. Pablo and

lago also joined their family during the past year. In late March, Claudio and Dani came to the conclusion that their time at CLM was coming to an end and made plans to return to Curitiba at the beginning of May.

They also came to the conclusion that one of the main reasons God brought them to CLM was for them to adopt Lucas (whom many probably know as Luquinho). Lucas is 16 years old and had come to CLM at the age of 5. Although he has difficulty controlling his temper at times, Lucas is very intelligent and full of talents yet to be developed. He needed God to bring a couple and give them eyes to see the essence of Lucas as God sees him. God did so and also gave them the conviction that He was giving them a son. What an adventure Claudio, Dani, and Lucas have ahead of them! Claudio and Dani waited 20 years for a child, and Lucas waited 11 years to have parents. Praise God for answering their prayers!

### Maria Leticia

to Entre Rios. When Leticia was 7 years old, she was free for adoption and was at that time adopted by a widow. Six

years later, her mother died and Leticia was brought back to CLM. She has some complicated physical and mental problems. Her vision continues to be extremely limited and she takes several medications to control her anger and aggressiveness. Leticia is emotionally very needy and at times demonstrates inappropriate behavior for her age. We are trying to understand how to best work with her and meet her needs. She is living in Cristiano and Thais's house with the other older girls. Please pray for an eye surgery she needs that has been tentatively scheduled for June.

We have finally, after almost a year, received the first portion of the grant money from the state for the remodeling of the office, which will be located in the main building. However, even though the money is in CLM's account, we are waiting for a necessary signature to allow us to actually use the funds. So, the wait continues.

With the news that Claudio and Dani would be leaving, we prayed and put out the word that we were in need of a caregiver couple. Shortly thereafter, Leonardo and Gracielly from Sao Paulo got in contact with us and came for a visit.

**Caregivers:** Celia, Susana & Gerson, Thaís & Cristiano, Raphael & Dina, Leonardo & Gracielly

Internal Leadership: Mary, Bethany Tech team: Altair (psychologist), Luciana

(social worker)

Finances: Marilda, Raquel

Board of Directors: Anderson Kasnocha,

Nilson, Anderson Lemke, Juan

Visit CLM online at:

Website: associacaocanaa.org.br

Facebook: @clmhome

Instagram: @associacaocanaaclm

Twitter: @canaaclm

YouTube: <u>Associação Canaã - CLM</u> LinkedIn: <u>Associação Canaã - CLM</u>



Claudio, Dani, and Lucas

During the few days they were here, they both became convicted that God was calling them to participate in this ministry. Within two weeks, they were here to have training



Leonardo and Gracielly

and orientation
before beginning
their responsibilities
with a family group.
They have initially
adapted very well
and are excited
about all God is
doing in their lives.

God is indeed faithful. He seeks His children who are willing to obey and not cling to the material gains of this world. We covet

your continued prayers for God's guidance and provision at CLM.

In Him,

The CLM Team

## **Introducing Realm**

Realm is a software management system that helps the Foundation connect with you and you connect with us. Realm



allows you to manage your personal information and who is allowed to see it, as well as control your giving and keep in touch with the groups that matter to you. Our secure ACCF-Realm site is only made up of the people in the ACCF, it's not like a social network that's open to everyone. Realm keeps your data safe. Realm allows you to set up one time and recurring gifts, review your giving history, and view and print receipts.

To request access to ACCF's Realm account, please email your name, address, phone number and birth date to YourACCF@gmail.com and we'll send an invitation to join.

For more information, please visit the "What is Realm" page on our new website at ACCFoundation.org

## Nepomuceno

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As you are experiencing summer, Brazil is having its winter. Whatever the season, we are thankful for the faithfulness of the Lord. He has seen us through many challenges in the last year. We have looked for His hidden hand through the good times and difficult times, through the "yes's" and "no's", and we trust that He is working all things according to the good, perfect, and acceptable will of God.

We know Easter is long past, but we wanted to share with you all that we were blessed with a visit by a group

from our church in Guararema, SP. On Saturday, this group organized an all-day event with the participation of three local churches, Nepomuceno, Cana Verde, and Boa Esperança. The day's activities included powerful preaching, worship, a presentation of the Easter story, games, crafts, good fellowship and food. The boys thoroughly enjoyed the weekend, and we appreciated the

visit of these churches and the leadership in Guararema for organizing this event.

On April 4, Alessandro turned 11 years old. Alessandro is

pray that the Lord would do a mighty work in his heart, as well as his ears, and that

he would give thanks to the Father of all creation for this wonderful gift of hearing.

I have been reminded of my own "selective hearing" at times, choosing to obey the Lord's whispers when it is convenient, comfortable and easy. The Word says "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me." May we all listen carefully with ears to hear what our dear Master would speak to us today.

Thank you for your love and prayers and financial support for this ministry. We could not go on without you.

In Christ,

Juarez and Jane Toth

deaf and mute, but recently, started using a hearing aid. Having never heard a sound, to see the look on his face as he heard sounds for the first time, was humbling. He didn't even seem to recognize sound as sound, and he is slowly beginning to learn to train his ear to associate sounds with communication, thoughts and ideas. He has begun the long process of learning how to speak. Please

By knowledge the rooms are filled with all the precious and pleasant riches. - Proverbs 24:4

Gill's commentary explains the above this way...."yea, a man of knowledge increaseth strength; a spiritual man, a man

endued with spiritual knowledge, with the knowledge of Christ, and salvation by Him; as he has a degree of spiritual strength he

stronger and stronger..."



Basically, the point of the above stated verse is that we benefit from sound teaching, and

that is exactly what took place at LHS last week. We had a full week, chock-full of solid, biblical teaching. It felt like the room was "filled with pleasant riches" because truth was spoken into each and every life. Truths found in God's

word about marriage, physical intimacy and parenting, just to name a few. A woman out of Namibia, named Sylvia Holtzhausen, taught from a biblically based curriculum that she put together called the "Genesis Design". The best explanation of the material that

she taught is on Christ's Hope website which says that, "...the program teaches children the importance of sexual purity and the direct correlation that it has to abstinence before marriage, and then faithfulness in marriage. It is an outstanding AIDS prevention tool and gives young people

a strong moral foundation to base their lives and choices on in the future." And then, "The fundamental goal of Genesis Design is to see the next generation enter into Godglorifying relationships that lead to stable marriages and result in strong Godly families."

This teaching is vital for this generation of Zambians, so that they can break through the

traditional, cultural teachings on marriage and physical intimacy that are not biblical.

Alongside Sylvia, Bobby Waite out of Dallas, Texas taught the teachers about lesson planning and effective teaching strategies. To say that we have been blessed by this experience would be an understatement.

> In the last Newsletter I mentioned the fact that we have expanded the school to include Grade 8 - YAY! I just wanted to include the pictures of the new uniforms. The kids were jumping up and down when we handed the brand spanking new uniforms to them! It was so fun to be a part of that!

Zambia

May 1<sup>st</sup> is a holiday in Zambia, called Labour Day. We gathered at the school to celebrate our staff and to hand out awards to the "Employee of the Year". This year the award

went to Pauline, one of the cooks at the school that has been with us since we first started our feeding program. She is a widow, and has a number of grandchildren (whose parents have died) who stay with her as well. As you can imagine, she endures the financial strain of being a widow, on top of having the added responsibility of raising grandchildren. Let's make no bones about it, Pauline is poor. She is a very dedicated, hard working woman (as are most African women, I find) and tries to make the most out of her current situation... her house does not have a roof.

> Earlier this year we had a Vision Team come and visit. The team consisted of Louis Jahn, Doug Savin, Gary Tomic, Robert Ritzmann, and Peter Friesen. They visited the various aspects of the ministry,

> > and served to encourage our whole team. The Vision Team also brought 30 computers that were donated by the North Port church in Florida. All the kids were super excited about learning how to operate a computer!

> > Stay tuned for the next ACCF Newsletter submission for ZAMBIA because we have some great news coming your way!!

> > Till next time, grace and peace to you from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ!

> > > Dennis and Jasmine Delic



## Paraguay

The life of a missionary girl...

We would like to take this time to thank you all so much for supporting us throughout the years. It's been 32 years since I left the USA on a God-led adventure. One of my favorite verses throughout life has been Psalm 139.5 (KJV) Thou hast beset me behind and before, and laid thine hand upon me... and in (NLT), You



go before me and follow me. You place your hand of blessing on my head. Through the ups and downs of facing a different culture, an international marriage, raising kids and working in different ministries: church activities, school, prison ministries, etc. God has truly gone before us and behind us placing his hand of blessing on our heads.

As a young, teenage girl growing up in East Akron, Ohio, I was surrounded by a rich, cultural church group in downtown Akron. There were people from the east Akron neighborhood, farmers, European influences and a strong "Girl's Group" as mentors. Those childhood and teenage years were the foundation of who I am today.

I am a quiet, shy person with the gift of encouragement and hospitality. I have wide open arms for people of another culture or race, people less fortunate than myself, and just

people who need the Lord. God clearly showed me a rough draft of His plan for my life after hearing a missionary presentation from Paraguay, of all places!

After feeling convicted to search for something deeper, I was invited to work in Argentina, or to be worked on (!). I talked with the Apostolic Christian Church Foundation Missionary committee and was off to a new cultural adventure, financed by the American Legion Association. In Argentina, strong, Godly people continued cultivating God's calling for my life. I married Oscar, a Paraguayan, and even as we were invited to several other missions, God's hand of blessing was always keeping us in Paraguay.

We worked on several projects (spiritual activities as well as construction) during our first years of marriage: dorms and an open-air dining area for camps in San Pedro, a city about 300 miles north (where

Oscar grew up), a church building in Bañado, a church near the Paraguay River where there is often flooding and many social needs, we visited other outreaches building up families and ministries, and worked in the prison ministry.

When my two older boys were in school I would do volunteer work in their grades, teaching English. My principal always mentioned that every evangelical church should



have a private, Christian

school. That idea kept going around and around in my head and seeing the structure that was being built in our own church, and the need for the kids of the neighborhood, the seed was planted and the idea sprouted. Through moments of struggles and victories, a school project was born. With legal work, paper work, and a small infrastructure, Colegio Privado Adonai opened its doors in 2003.

During these 15 years, the Apostolic Christian Church Foundation has sponsored, supported and donated towards the groundwork and buildings as well as scholarships for students and families who could not afford the monthly fees. The school has grown from 58 original students to 340 students, from kindergarten to 12<sup>th</sup> grade; an inclusive program, serving families with special needs, also. There are 14 classrooms, offices, a cafeteria, air conditioning in all the rooms, a playground, and a fully equipped church.

The Colegio Privado Adonai School and initial local church have grown in infrastructure- economically and spiritually. This year, the nationals have formed a team of Brothers and Sisters highly qualified for each position of leadership, desiring to assume full responsibility for the school project and church ministry. We contacted the ACCF Missionary

Committee about the changes in the school leadership and we will no longer be involved personally or as missionaries in the school. We thank you for your support of the school while we were there. We leave behind a beautiful functioning school that teaches the word of God and plants the seed of God's word in young minds for the future.

New projects...

Five years ago, after much prayer between the national leadership, God led our family to Las Garzas to plant a new church in our neighborhood.

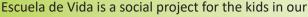


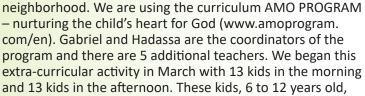
At that time we were having small group meetings in our garage and every week our group was growing. We were blessed by the congregation of the "school-church" to start up Sunday services, and, even though we went to school from Monday – Friday, we began the new outreach on weekends. Thankful for donations, once again from the

Apostolic Christian Church Foundation (both churches and individuals), we are about to inaugurate this new building in Las Garzas, San Antonio on May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

Three years ago, our son, Gabriel, felt lead by God to "work alongside dad" in the ministry. He and

his wife, Hadassa, are involved in church work, small groups, youth group, music, and Sunday school. Prompted by a growing Sunday school group, the idea of forming Escuela de Vida (Life School) was born. Hadassa is the daughter of a pastor from Brazil where she had been introduced to this project and worked on it there. Encouraged by the great need to work in our church and neighborhood and seeing that Colegio Privado Adonai is now self-sufficient and with an excellent professional team, after prayer and counselling with Godly advisors, we began Escuela de Vida.





are being trained, through biblical principles, to live and to love God. The helpers are all volunteers, young people who are being trained to serve. Most of the expenses (materials and a healthy snack) are provided by our local church. The kids pay \$4 for fees or copies. If you want to help, we are asking for sponsors for these kids (\$10 per month) for a t-shirt uniform, and other small expenses.

We are thankful for you all partnering with us in all of our projects and ministries. Thank you for investing in ME over the years. Thanks for trusting in me and giving me the opportunity to bless other

nations... Paraguay. If you are interested in supporting our ministries, all donations will go towards Paraguay Missions and Escuela de Vida.

God still goes before us and behind us. He still places His hand of blessing on our heads. Praise God for leading me to this calling, a cross-cultural way of teaching, hugging, encouraging, lifting up, and leading Paraguayans to be children of the Almighty.

Thank you for 32 years of encouragement and support.

Karen (Schley) Caballero

CC FOUNDATION DONOR SHEE South Pacific Island Ministries Nepomuceno Children's Home Jaballero, Oscar and Karen reeman, Brent and Debbie Cervantes, Jose and Cathy Date: **Huber**, Tim and Christine Jelic, Dennis and Yasna Zambia Harmony School School Sponsorships Schlatter, Vic and Elsie Zip: School General Fund Huber, Abe and Andrea Hrubik, Jeff and Becky Paraguay School Papua New Guinea For the work of: Bethany Project Amazon Huber, Angela Home Church: Gibson, Mary Paraguay State: General Fund (Tecate/Sonora) (formerly Yugoslavian Relief) ife Without Limbs- Nick Vujicic Jomestic Action and Projects Mexican Support Committee Green Olive Tree Ministries Total Amount Enclosed: \$ ACCF Disaster Relief Fund ACCF Administrative Fund Camp Argentina Missions Fund Eastern European Relief Revolving Building Fund Janaan Land Ministries **CLM Building Project** (Operating Expenses) Where Most Needed Tecate Orphanage European Projects ACCF Work Teams Street Address: **Benevolent Fund Medical Clinic** Your Name: Ghana

Nonprofit Org.
US Postage
PAID
Wooster, OH
Permit No. 20

OCC FOUNDATION

PO Box 72 Wooster OH 44691-0072

Phone: 330-264-5011 Email: YourACCF@gmail.com Thad Lumsden, Executive Director Website: ACCFoundation.org

## **Address Service Requested**



The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.

- Psalm 24:1

**ACCF PURPOSES:** Evangelization, visitation, service, education and publications, church buildings, representation, committees, and aid.

ACCF VISION: The Apostolic Christian Church Foundation serves the needs of our members and churches in North America and around the world, and assists in their efforts to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ.

ACCF MISSION: To provide information, programs, financial resources and other services to our churches in North America and missionary projects around the world for the purpose of spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ and the salvation of lost souls.